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May 2013
Parent Newsletter

"Growing great minds and caring hearts"



## MIT Does It Again!

By Matt Smith

After setting recent records for the number of students on honor roll, MIT followed up with a great performance on the 10th grade California High School Exit Exam (the so-called *CAHSEE* test).

The number of students who passed on the first try set MIT records for both math and English, and the average score rose dramatically as well. Also gratifying is that our pass rates are now at or above the state average in both English and math – and amazingly, MIT had 11 students who scored perfectly on either the math or English section! Here are the numbers:

- Math pass rate: 90% (up from 84% in 2012, and the highest ever for MIT!)
- English pass rate: 91% (up 10% from 2012, and another record for MIT!)

And finally, our "perfect" students:

- Ethan Alvarez (450, math)
- Vanessa Dadson (450, math)
- Reniel Del Rosario (450, math)
- Freeman, Justin (450, English)
- Francis Galang (450, math)
- Johany Huinac De Leon (450, math)
- Jonalyn A Razon (450, math)
- Alex Silveira (450, math)
- Leah Superticios (450, math)
- Charline Tenorio (450, math)
- Darren Velasco (450, math)

Congratulations to all for their impressive achievements!

## **Important May Dates!**

F, 5/3: Multicultural Day

Sa, 5/4: Talent Show! Hogan MS, 6–9pm

Tu, 5/7: Fiscal Committee Meeting, 3:30–4:30 (room Z)

Board Meeting, 5:30–7pm (room Z)

W, 5/8: 8th Grade Portfolio Day, 8am–12pm

W & F, 5/8 & 10: AP exams

F, 5/10: Senior Bingo Night! 6–8pm, MPR

Sa-Sa, 5/11-18: Destination DC senior trip to Washington, DC!

W, 5/15: AAPA, 5:30–7pm (room Y) F, 5/17: Middle School Dance, 4–6pm

M, 5/20: ELAC, 6:30–8pm, (room Z) (last of year!)
Tu, 5/21: Pasta Pomodoro Fundraiser, 11am–9:30pm

W, 5/22: High School Portfolio Day, 8–12 Th, 5/23: Blood Drive, 8–12 (16+ years old)

W, 5/22 & 29: Not Minimum Days

F & M, 5/24–27: Memorial Day holidays – no school! Tu, 5/28–31: MIT Spring Book Faire! (room Z)

## Here Comes Summer School!

As in the past, MIT will be offering a full summer school program this year, for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders through exiting 12<sup>th</sup> graders. As in the past, we will again be offering "catch up" courses in the core subject areas (math, science, English and Social Science), as well as expanded incoming 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade programs. Check out these summer offerings:

- Academic Support / Credit Recovery, various middle and high school classes to support math and English deficits. Runs 6/24

  7/19 (see schedules below).
- Blended Learning, educational program in which high school students can make up failed coursework online with help from an instructor.
  - Runs 6/24–7/19: morning and afternoon sessions (see schedules below).
- Bridges to High School, incoming 9th graders and high school students new to MIT can take health and geography to get a jump on high school and complete 10 credits during the summer. Both sessions recommended. Runs 6/24–7/19 (see schedules below).
- 6th Grade Jumpstart, a four-day fun and engaging introduction to MIT that stresses MIT orientation, basic technology skills, and team-building. Runs 8/5–8 from 8:30am–2pm.

MIT summer school programs will run as follows:

#### HS Class Schedule (6/18-7/13)

7:30-8:04 Breakfast (optional) 8:04-12:04 Morning Session 12:04-12:44 Lunch (optional) 12:44- 4:44 Afternoon Session

#### MS Class Schedule (6/18-7/13)

7:30-8:04 Breakfast (optional)

8:04-8:44 Before School Program (optional)

8:44-12:04 Morning Session
12:04-12:44 Lunch (optional)
12:44-4:04 Afternoon Session

4:04-4:44 After School Program (optional)

#### MS Jumpstart (incoming 6th graders, M-Th, 8/5-8)

8:00 - 8:30 Breakfast (optional, drop in) 8:30 - 11:30 Morning Session (academic)

11:30 - 12:00 Lunch

12:00 - 2:00 Afternoon Session (fitness & games)

For more information, watch your mail, check the website, or contact Micah Studer at <a href="mstuder@mitacademy.org">mstuder@mitacademy.org</a>.

## 8<sup>TH</sup>-GRADE PROMOTION VENUE UPDATE – SEE YOU ON MARE ISLAND!

Parents, please note the following change to our 8<sup>th</sup>-grade promotion location, which will now be located at Landers Hall at Touro University on Mare Island (1310 Club Drive). 8<sup>th</sup>-grade promotion is Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup> from 4–5pm; each student will be given 4 tickets for preferred seating from 3–3:45pm, after which all interested guests will be admitted general admission. Be sure to arrive early to get the best seats!



## **Uniform Update!**

As directed by the MIT strategic plan, MIT will be implementing a uniform for the 2013-14 school year consisting of **khaki Dickies pants**, shorts, or skorts, and **white Dickies polos** (with **patch**). And though the uniform is required beginning next year, current students

will have one year to phase in the new uniform and can continue to wear their old dress-code appropriate clothes throughout next school year.

MIT's authorized uniform supplier is Victory Stores in Vallejo (435 Virginia Street), which carries approved MIT uniform clothing. Since Dickies offers a selection of khaki pants depending on age, size and gender, any of the following models are acceptable and can be found at Victory Stores:

#### **Boys Khaki Pants**

- 56362KH size 4-7 Small/Reg
- 56562KH size 8-20 Small/Reg
- 56062KH size 8-20 Husky

#### **Boys White Polos**

• KS4552WH sizes small-XL (and they'll throw in a patch too!)

#### Girls Khaki Pants

- 63305KH size 4-6 Small/Reg
- 63505KH size 7-20 Small/Reg

#### IR Ms. Khaki Pants

- The Worker-N882 size 0-15
- Original Lowrider-HH874ST size 0-20
- Bull Pant-NHH1011 size 0-15
- Simple\*-1HH size 0-15 \*(Discontinued no pockets)
- Plus Size-HH1003GL size 16-22

#### **Adult Authorized**

- Men's Khaki's-874 size 26X28 to 72X37 (unhemmed)
- Adult Polos-KS5552WH size Small-6X

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE FOLLOWING DICKIES ARE <u>NOT</u> ALLOWED — BEWARE THE "SKINNY" CUTS!

Unauthorized/Non-Uniform Dress Code Pants include the following:

#### Girls Pants-Unauthorized

- Original Lowrider Skinny-HH874SK
- 5 Pocket Classic Skinny-HH164GL

## Boys/Mens Pants-Unauthorized (not carried at Victory Stores)

- Slim Skinny Work Pant-WP803
- Skinny Straight Fit Work Pant-WP801
- Slim Skinny 5 Pocket Pant-WP810

## ...And Deb Says...

Our uniform coordinator, Deb Fliehmann, reminds parents about the following...

- The uniform consists of Dickies brand khaki flat front slacks and white polos (with MIT patch).
- Uniform items can be purchased anywhere as long as they are in compliance with the guidelines and Dickies brand; Victory Stores (on Virginia Street) will carry all required items. Patches will be available at Victory or from MIT for \$1 each.
- MIT will allow a one year "grace" period for parents to transition to the new dress code; i.e., current clothing that meets dress code will be accepted until such clothing is used up. Starting in 2014-15, however, everyone will have to be in official uniform.
- Starting in spring 2014, MIT will be setting up an exchange so parents can pick up uniform pieces at little or no cost. Stay tuned for that.
- Other questions, comments, or suggestions should go to Debra Fliehmann, who can be reached at <a href="mailto:dfliehmann@mitacademy.org">dfliehmann@mitacademy.org</a> or at extension 155.

Academic Recovery Going Strong! Despite record-setting numbers of students on the honor roll, we also have well over 100 students assigned to afterschool and Saturday Academic Recovery. Academic Recovery is assigned to students who are missing one or more assignments, and meets Tuesday and Thursday from 3:45–5:45, and Saturday from 8–noon. Academic recovery will continue through June, because it's never too late to raise your grade!

# Welcome *Naviance!*

Next year MIT Academy will be employing new software called *Naviance* that will help high school students organize and prepare for college. Naviance offers a variety of services that include:

- A web-based repository of all a high-schooler's academic information, including transcripts, SAT & ACT scores, letters of rec, etc.
- Interest and personality inventories that are aligned to a database of over 5,000 colleges;
- A dashboard that shows students' progress towards meeting their selected colleges' entrance requirements, as well as the likelihood they'll be accepted.
- FAFSA financial aid assistance.
- Electronic submission of college applications.
- An alumni tracker tied to the National Educational Clearinghouse.

Naviance is being used with great effect in other districts and we expect it to be an important element of our strategy to get 100% of our graduates into the top-ranked college of their choice!

#### It's Portfolio Season!

All students at MIT Academy present portfolios during the month of May. Students have researched post-secondary education, careers, strategies for academic success, high stakes testing, community service, and their place in our country and community. During the week of May 6<sup>th</sup>, 6-11<sup>th</sup> graders students will present their portfolios to Advisory classes and during the week of May 20<sup>st</sup>, seniors will take their turn. Formal portfolio presentations are an 8<sup>th</sup> grade promotion requirement and a 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduation requirement. If you would like to participate in the fun and celebration, including being an official judge, contact Barbara Greer.