



Kindergarten Registration Procedures for 2011-2012 School Year

Muhlenberg School District is pleased to announce the registration procedures for Kindergarten for the 2011-2012 school year. Parents of children who will be five years of age on or before August 31, 2011 and are not presently enrolled in the Muhlenberg School District will follow a four-step kindergarten registration procedure:

1. Return a completed census report form to Muhlenberg Elementary Center (MEC). The census report form is included in this issue of the *Muhlenberg News*. Additional copies can be found on our web site at www.muhsdk12.org. A registration packet containing all of the necessary forms will be mailed in early April to families who have listed a Kindergarten-age child on their census form. If the census form is not received by March 14, 2011, a registration packet will not be mailed to you. Please call the school office if you have completed the census form and have not received your "registration packet" by April 11.

2. Complete the registration forms at home before April 27, 2011.

3. Call the MEC office (610-921-8028) no later than April 15 to register for one of six Registration/Screening sessions: April 27, 28, or 29 at either 9:30 a.m. or 1 p.m.. An interpreter will be available at the April 28, 1 p.m. or the April 29, 9:30 a.m. sessions to assist second language families and their children.

4. Attend your scheduled Registration/Screening session at MEC with (1) the child you are registering, (2) completed registration forms, and (3) the following documents:

- Birth certificate issued by a state government, baptismal certificate, or other legal proof of age
- Record of required immunizations: four DPT (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis) shots with fourth injection being given on or after the child's fourth birthday; three polio shots; two MMR (measles, mumps and rubella (German measles)) shots with first injection

being given on or after the child's first birthday; three Hepatitis B shots with the third injection given after the child is six months old; and two Varicella (chicken pox vaccine) shots or proof that the child has had Varicella (chicken pox).

5. You must have two proofs of residency:

- Home Owners - If you own your home, one must be a tax bill or mortgage statement, the other can be a utility, insurance bill or bank statement.
- Renters - If you are renting, we must see an original lease and a utility, insurance bill or bank statement. The lease must list all occupants.
- Other - If you are residing in a home of a Muhlenberg Township resident, the owner must take our district form to a notary, showing proof of ownership and confirming that you are residing in the home with your child[ren]. You then have 30 days to bring in two proofs of residency with your name and that address (utility, insurance bill, or bank statement).

Both full and half-day Kindergarten options will be available for the 2011-2012 school year. Parents who prefer their child participate in a half-day program will need to complete a form that will be included in the registration packet that will be mailed in March. Parents of children who have completed kindergarten elsewhere and will be enrolling as first grade students may stop by the Muhlenberg Elementary Center office to complete registration forms after June 15, 2011.

Surplus auction

The Muhlenberg School District will be having a Surplus Auction of electronics, computers, hardware, classroom furniture on February 21, 2011 at Cole Intermediate Gymnasium from 5 to 8 p.m.

Community Library News

Library receives grant

The Muhlenberg Community Library recently was awarded a grant to become a Family Place Library.

Family Place Libraries™ is a nationwide network of children's librarians who believe literacy begins at birth. A Family Place library is a center for early childhood information, parent education, emergent literacy, socialization, and family support. Expanding the traditional role of children's services, Family Place offers a new opportunity for libraries to play a vital role in the life and health of their communities. Family Place Libraries offer parenting resource collections, designated areas for parents and children to play together, and a parent/child workshop program for toddlers and parents.

In support of this new designation, the Muhl Parent Pack collection, formerly housed in the elementary center library, was donated to the expanded parenting resource collection at the community library. Parents looking for books and videos on a variety of parenting topics should visit the Family Place area at the Muhlenberg Community Library. The new family place area will be completed and available for use after February 1.

Library Wins an Award

The Muhlenberg Community Library received the Outstanding Program Award from the Berks County Public Libraries for its collaborative Summer Reading Buddies program. The award is given to a member library for the presentation of a program of exceptional interest and creativity. The Summer Reading Buddies program was designed along with the Muhlenberg Elementary Center and focused on extending the literacy learning for English Language Learners from the MEC. Marcina Wagner, Muhlenberg Community Library Public Services Librarian and director of this project responded, "We at the library are proud to share this honor with the school."

Safety Corner

Get Active For Safety's Sake!

When the weather is cooler, we tend to stay inside more, but there are plenty of ways to get in great cardiovascular shape indoors. Walk the mall, take a zumba or aerobics class or play racquetball. Outdoor enthusiasts can snowboard, ski or ice skate.

Thank you to school board members

If someone asked you to take an unpaid position, devote an average of 20 hours a month to that job, and learn about things that may be out of your comfort zone like multi-million dollar budgets, textbooks and bus schedules would you take the position? Few people would, but thankfully you have nine dedicated members of your community who do just that - your local school board.

These elected volunteers are your voice in your school district. They are your friends, neighbors, community leaders, parents at your school and engaged senior citizens who make difficult decisions on budgets and finance, curriculum and paths to student achievement in your local school. They

make sure your concerns are heard and the unique challenges, values, culture and circumstances of the community are reflected in how your children are educated.

Through the efforts of these individuals, public schools are taking flight to new levels and greater achievement. Along with the teachers, school administrators and staff, board members are just some of the individuals working hard every day to make sure students are properly educated in preparation for life.

Local communities are encouraged to honor the contribution of their local school board members. Too often we neglect to recognize the commitment and hard work of these men and women who serve as advocates for our schools. The staff and students of our district are asking all members of the community to take a moment and tell a school board member: "Thanks for caring about our children."

So let's all salute the dedicated men and women who make it possible for local citizens to have a say about education in our community. We applaud our board members for their vision and voice to help shape a better tomorrow.

*Muhlenberg Middle School, The Wellness Council
and the American Cancer Society present*

Coach Ken Miller of Reading Express Indoor Football League

Monday, Feb 21, 7 - 8:30 pm
Muhlenberg Middle School

A survivor of tongue cancer diagnosed in his early 40s, coach Miller thought he was invincible! He chewed tobacco for 40 years and did not think of the consequences of the choices he made. He is now a passionate spokesperson on the dangers of chewing tobacco and is an advocate of healthy lifestyles choices!

Snow date Monday, February 28

High School to produce “Cats” for spring musical

Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber’s groundbreaking musical, *Cats*, will be presented as Muhlenberg High School’s 38th Spring Musical on Friday and Saturday, April 8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. This ensemble show will feature a cast of over 40 students in the rendering of this enormously popular classic.

The show makes a departure from the usual fare delivered by our students in that there is no dialogue; the story is told entirely through music and dance. *Cats*, an enormously difficult piece for high school students, has only been done one other time by a high school in Berks County. Because of the tremendous challenges of the show, the cast was chosen last spring and dance practices and vocal lessons were ongoing over the summer. Additionally, the production staff has met several times since announcing *Cats* to discuss and sort out the myriad of technical requirements necessary to stage the show. Audiences are in for a phenomenal evening of energy, excitement, and high-tech stagecraft. Mr. Leslie A. White, the director of *Cats*, will celebrate his 50th show at Muhlenberg by making a cameo appearance as Gus the Theatre Cat.

In addition to the performance dates, a free Senior Citizens’ performance will be given on Thursday, April 7th, at 7:00 p.m. We hope that the Spring Musical is a yearly

event for you and your family and will mark your calendars for this year’s landmark show. We expect tickets to go fast for this popular show, so reserve your seats early!! All tickets are \$10 and can be obtained in several ways:

1. Visit the box office in the high school lobby from 6:15-8 p.m. on the following dates: March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 4, and 5. In addition, tickets for the Friday and Saturday performances will be available before and after the Sr. Citizen’s Performance on April 7 as well as at the door on the nights of the performances.
2. Purchase tickets at the Muhlenberg Music Festival (Saturday, March 5).
3. Visit our website and download a ticket form to order your tickets via mail order: (<http://www.muhlenbergplayers.org>)
4. Fill out and mail in the following form. Tickets will be mailed to you. All mail orders must be postmarked no later than March 25.

(Note: Mail orders will be processed beginning March 8)

Mail Order Ticket Form

Cats – April 8 and 9, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

Please fill out and return the following form with your payment and a self-addressed stamped envelope. We will choose the best seats available at the time we receive your order. Please fill out the form completely.

Name _____

Phone _____

Date	# Tix	Cost/Tix	Total
4/8, 7:30	_____	\$10.00	_____
4/9, 7:30	_____	\$10.00	_____

Please check if you have a preference.

_____ Main Floor _____ Balcony

Please make checks payable to “Muhlenberg Spring Musical”

Send the above form, your payment, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Tickets, 3309 Fairfield Street, Laureldale, PA 19605

A REMINDER

To Residents of Muhlenberg School District Your Local Earned Income Tax Return for 2010 MUST BE FILED BY APRIL 18, 2011

Anyone who has earned income, regardless of age, for the year 2010, must file a tax return if they lived in the Muhlenberg School district. Even if your employer has withheld and paid your tax, this return must be completed. This obligation is incurred by anyone who is a wage earner, farmer, unincorporated business (including partnership and individual proprietorship) and ALL OTHERS who received earned income or profits for services rendered.

Failure to file on time will result in a penalty and interest charge of 12 percent per annum and additional costs of collection. Regulations also provide a \$500.00 fine for refusal to file or other violations.

Residents of Muhlenberg School District are required to file a tax return, EVEN IF THEY HAVE NOT RECEIVED A FORM THROUGH THE MAIL. Forms may be acquired by contacting the:

Berks Income Tax Collection Bureau

920 Van Reed Road, Wyomissing PA 19610
Telephone: 610-372-8439 • Fax: 610-372-1102
Website: berkseit.com

Juniors/Seniors attend the PASSHE Joint Recruitment program

On December 8, 2010, 37 students from the junior and senior classes had a chance to attend the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Joint Recruitment Program at Kutztown University.

The students had a chance to hear a brief presentation by all the 14 state schools and meet with the admission representatives from all of those schools during a mini college fair. A financial aid representative explained how paying for college works, and the students received a tour of the campus. The students were also treated to lunch at the college cafeteria.

This is a great program offered to Muhlenberg High School students from Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education in order to expose the students to the great schools that Pennsylvania has to offer.



Right picture: Ashley Pacheco, Vivian Melo. Left picture: Blailin Baker, Bruce Farrell, and Caitlyn Manmiller.



Above: Gabrielle Dessources, Darrien Butler, Tionna Thomas; Top right: Jasmine Santos and Dellanzia Abreu; Right: Jordy Salcedo and Christian Salcedo

Guidance NEWS

Middle School Career Fair

On Thursday, December 2, 2010, thirty-six community members came to MMS to share their enthusiasm and wisdom about their respective careers.

Eighth grade students operating in 40-minute shifts had the opportunity to interview three people about the careers they were most interested in as a potential future career. In addition, all students completed a “scavenger hunt” for skills sheet enabling them to see the skills required in most jobs.



William Sellars; Reading Express, with MMS student, Cameron Weidner

Welcome Ms. Mills

Muhlenberg Middle School is proud to welcome Ms. Casey Mills, Guidance Counselor, to the MMS family. Ms. Mills is a 2010 graduate of Gwynedd – Mercy College in Gwynedd Valley, Pa. She has extensive experience in Drug and Alcohol Counseling. Her time spent volunteering in education drove her to pursue a Master’s degree in School Counseling. She enjoys athletic pursuits outside of school, skiing, playing tennis, and is a former cheerleader. She is excited about the opportunity to work with the diverse population at Muhlenberg. Muhlenberg’s vision and mission for their students aligns with her graduate thesis research.

Alumni return to MHS

On December 21, 2010, 25 alumni returned to Muhlenberg High School to talk about their college, military academy, ROTC and work experiences. Graduates from 2007 through 2010 returned to talk to the current MHS students about college life. The juniors and seniors were able to talk to the alumni during the morning to ask them questions about what life is really like after high school. Several alumni went into different classes to talk to juniors and seniors about what it takes to get into college, succeed in college, and to manage their time wisely now and in the future. On December 22 a smaller group of alumni graciously woke up early to go to the middle school talk to ninth grade students in their Career Exploration class. The alumni talked about the need to make every year count and how the choices you make now can affect you later with your chance of getting into the college of your choice. This is a great networking system for the students to help them to be better prepared for their transition to college and to life after high school.



Top left picture: Leland Quinter and Ryan Lerch; top right picture: Chloe Focht and Ryley Behm; bottom left picture: Breland Moore and Bethany Berger; bottom right picture: Rachel Trupp, Emily Vogel, and Lydia Snow.

Electronic conflicts spill into Cole and other schools

Part of the guidance counselor's role is to assist students in resolving conflicts with each other so they can focus on academics while at school. Many of the conflicts that arise at C.E. Cole, as well as other buildings, result from communications among students outside of school involving social networking sites such as Facebook as well as text messages. In an effort to help students make good decisions regarding online activities, C.E. Cole's Student Assistance Team partnered with the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office to provide a student assembly about cyberbullying.

Children in 5th and 6th grade (and many older adolescents) often do not have the maturity level to handle online communications or cell phone texting with peers and may send inappropriate messages to others that they would not say if they were face-to-face with those people. Your child may be on the sending or receiving end of these messages, or may be caught in between other students who are involved in a conflict. Conflicts mediated at Cole and in other buildings stemming from social networking website entries and text messages have involved threats, name-calling, spreading rumors about other students, attempts to set up fights after school, and obscene content. When parents are contacted regarding a conflict that spilled into school, they are often unaware of the content of the electronic messages their child has been sending or receiving. The following excerpt is from Facebook's Privacy Policy: "No information from children under age 13. If you are under age 13, please do not attempt to register for Facebook or provide any personal information about yourself to us. If we learn that we have collected personal information from a child under age 13, we will delete that information as quickly as possible. If you believe that we might have any information from a child under age 13, please contact us through our help page."

If you choose to allow your child to have a cell phone with texting privileges or an account on a social networking website, please monitor incoming and outgoing messages on a regular basis. Also be aware that an individual can have multiple accounts on a social networking website (a child may show their parents a "clean" account while they engage in less appropriate activities under a different account one). Monitoring of your child's electronic activities will help prevent conflicts outside and inside school and will contribute to meeting the expectation our principal conveys in our daily morning announcements: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will demonstrate respect to themselves, others, and the environment and allow teachers to teach and students to learn.

Guidance
NEWS

CENSUS REPORT

Please help the school plan for our school district's future staffing and facility needs. Accurate completion of this survey will be greatly appreciated and allow us to plan for your children's education.

CHILDREN - BIRTH TO AGE 6

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	SEX (M/F)	DATE OF BIRTH mo/day/yr	ADDRESS

Please return this form to: Mr. Steve Baylor, Principal, Muhlenberg Elementary Center, 610 Sharp Avenue, Laureldale, PA 19605.

For additional copies of this census, please visit our website at www.muhsdk12.org

Food Service News

Dear Parents:

It has been our pleasure to serve your children breakfast and lunch for the better part of the 2010-2011 school year and we would like to keep you abreast of the enhancements to our program.

In the fall we were very fortunate to have farm fresh produce directly from our local farmers market. The fruit and vegetables were outstanding and I'm sure the vitamins contained within made for stronger bodies, better test scores, and athletic standings.

We celebrated National Pierogy Day on October 8, 2010.

In doing so, a contribution of \$400 was made to our local food bank and also a rebate was obtained from the pierogy manufacturer as a thank you to the schools.

Our students have been able to enjoy local restaurant fare on selected days. Being involved in our community strengthens our businesses and allows them to participate in revenue share.

We've also treated our upper classmen to a barbeque lunch which they thoroughly enjoyed.

As always, we are open to your suggestions on ways to improve our program, please call, Tony Brochu, Food Service Coordinator at 610-921-8000 x1224.

Transportation Reminders:

- Bus transportation is conveniently provided by the District for all eligible students.
- Individual child behavior and cooperation are necessary for a safe and expedient ride.
- Students must be at their stops 10-minutes prior to the scheduled pick-up. Pick-up times may fluctuate depending on road, traffic and weather conditions and/or bus difficulties.
- Stops are often situated near or adjacent to private property. Students are not at liberty to run freely, conduct in horseplay, intrude on or be disrespectful of our residents and their property.
- The District strongly recommends

parents/guardians of students in grades kindergarten through six escort their children to and from bus stops at all times. Except for students who ride special education vehicles, the District will allow all students to disembark from the bus with or without parents/ guardians present.

The Muhlenberg Student Bus Code is available on-line by visiting www.muhsdk12.org/board.asp. Scroll down to Article 3: "Students," furthering to section 3.23 or call us if a copy is desired. You will find most if not all the answers to your questions.

School District Residents

By Pennsylvania state law, in order for a child to attend Muhlenberg schools, a child must be a resident of the school district. With certain exceptions, a child shall be considered a resident of the school district only if his or her parent or guardian resides in the district. Please take notice that the Muhlenberg School District actively monitors residency requirements, will disenroll students not actually living within its boundaries, and will charge tuition, which is currently set at the secondary rate of \$50.48 per day and the elementary rate of \$46.57 per day, to the parent or guardian of any

child for the period in which such child has been enrolled in violation of the residency requirements. Muhlenberg School District has retained the services of a collection agency and unpaid tuition bills will be referred to the agency. Furthermore, any person who knowingly falsifies information for the purpose of improperly enrolling a child in the district may be prosecuted criminally. The Muhlenberg School District has and will continue to be vigilant of improper enrollments in order to ensure taxpayers' monies are used for providing the best education for our properly enrolled Muhlenberg students.

Muhlenberg IMPACT News

The Muhlenberg High School Impact committee continues to sponsor a cell phone recycling fund-raiser. Protect the environment and support our high school program. 100% of the proceeds will help fund our incentive program which rewards and encourages students to have a positive attitude, good behavior, attendance and academics. Please bring your old cell phones to Ms. Denise Zielinski at the high school.

We are looking for businesses, individuals and civic organizations to become involved with Muhlenberg Impact. You could sponsor student planners, cover the cost of awards, prizes, t-shirts, banquets, assemblies, and offer discounts on goods and services for students and/or faculty. Participants in our program have found that it increases the exposure of their businesses to teenagers and their parents, who often accompany them. Please contact Ms. Denise Zielinski at 610-921-8078 to find out how you can make a difference in our school.

Impact sponsored A "Fall Door Decorating Contest." Students that volunteered their time and talent received a special treat at lunch. Winning rooms were Mr. Fisher-Room 121 (Abby O'Keefe), Mrs. Green-Room 222 (Kassandra Rosario, Skye Schultz), Mr. Wolfe-Room 228 (Alyssa Delmonico, Jade Ebersole, Alexis Emery), Mrs. Lorchak-Room 237 (Darrin Baez, Vanessa Boyer, Andrew Clay, Edwin Cruz, Kelly Good, Jennifer Haines, Michael Moyer, Natalie Rodriguez, Esly Sanchez, Amanda Tangredi, Isadora Valerio, Audrey Yanacek), and Mrs. Hornberger-Room 239 (Marissa Frutos, Astrid Gomez, Tyler Knowles, Sara Loy, Ryan Morris, Freddy Pena, Tnodell Pierre Paul, Alex Piontek, Jessica Plesnevich, Shailynn Ruiz, Dwyane Suddler).

Several of our members helped at MEC's holiday shopping this year. Thanks to Christian, Burggraf, Christian Caba, Cindy Fernandez, Carolina Mayor, Lenae Parzanese, Naomi Salazar-Perez, Alec Piontek, Christian Salcedo and Megan Wentzel for giving up their study halls and lunch time.

Impact members helped NAMI (National Alliance On Mental Illness) with their December gift wrapping fund-raiser at the Fairgrounds Square Mall. Thanks To Christian Caba, Kyra Camilli, Samantha Feliciano, Kaitlin Gibson, Carolina Mayor, Katherine Mora, Jennifer Rivera, Jessica Ruppert and Katie Shaner!

First quarter Impact letters were handed out before Thanksgiving break. In addition to the regular quarterly rewards available, students that received honor roll could receive a free ski/snowboarding pass valued at \$40 each courtesy of Jack Frost/Big Boulder Ski Area and Ms. Zielinski.

Congratulations to Katie Shemanski and Andrew Levitz! They increased their GPA by at least .5 from the previous quarter and therefore received a gift basket made especially for them by Ms. Zielinski and Impact.

Congratulations to Jessica Belizaire! She was randomly selected from 41 seniors with perfect attendance from August 30 to December 2. To qualify, you needed to be truly perfect ... no tardies/no early dismissals. Jessica received a \$50 gift certificate for Buca Di Beppo from Ms. Zielinski and Impact. There is a direct correlation between attendance and success. Ms. Zielinski plans to have another \$50 gift certificate drawing soon. Bon appetite!

High School students attend annual Young Women Symposium

On Nov 5, 2010 eight young ladies from Muhlenberg High School attended the Sixth Annual Young Women Symposium: Pathway to Careers. The Symposium was held at Reading Area Community College and is sponsored by Junior Achievement. Approximately 90 professionals and 100 young women from the county were in attendance. The Symposium offers the opportunity for young women to learn more about their chosen career path by attending break out sessions with professionals in their career choice. The young ladies also attended sessions about Workforce Conduct and Finance. The symposium encourages young women to pursue their goals.

Girls in the picture, left to right – Aubrey Douglas, Courtney Fichthorn, Mandy Moya, Thao Nguyen, Caitlyn Manmiller, Samantha Zebert, Mia Bowen, and Jean Louise Hornberger.



Cole students re-visit writing lesson



Grace Rusk, Georgia Parsons, Elizabeth Rudderow, Kaylee Roth

Writing about vacation is a familiar topic for many students. However, the students in Stephanie Landis and Margie Miller's sixth grade class at C.E. Cole Intermediate School put a new twist on an old writing prompt. Rather than simply telling about their experiences, students worked on weaving fiction and nonfiction ideas together to create a uniquely illustrated story book.

Imaginative sixth grader Cavin Gehris, instead of simply telling about his visit to an aquarium, described a shark breaking free from its tank and raiding the exhibit, while Derreck Trythall detailed a giant hamster wheel ride at an amusement park. Brianna Torres intertwined facts about her family's vacation with an imaginary tale about unpacking the car by lifting it right through the hotel window.

At the conclusion of their assignment, students took their books along for a visit to Margie McGinley's first grade class at Muhlenberg Elementary Center.

All of the sixth grade students had the opportunity to read their story aloud and encourage their first grade partners to think critically about the ideas in the story. While the sixth graders honed their oral reading fluency skills, first graders learned to distinguish between fiction and nonfiction ideas. All of the students enjoyed the opportunity to collaborate on developing their language arts skills.

Top Musicians!

Seven Muhlenberg High School students were chosen to perform in Berks County and District 10 musical ensembles. Greg Wilson (tenor sax), Emily Hall, Allison Weiler and Larissa Sweitzer (all clarinets), Riley Seiders (euphonium) and Mike Bagenstose (percussion) were selected to perform with the MEBC county band. Mike Bagenstose and Cheyenne Baisch (violin) were selected for the MEBC orchestra. Four of the seven were accepted into PMEA District 10 select ensembles: Cheyenne into PMEA District 10 Orchestra and Allison, Riley and Mike into PMEA District 10 Band. Congratulations to all of these students and to all of the students who auditioned for representing Muhlenberg well. Tickets are available for all performances. Please check the school calendar for dates and times or contact Mr. David Luckenbaugh (luckenbaud@mail.muhlsdk12.org) at the high school for more information.

Muhlenberg Middle School to perform "Annie, Jr"

Since the beginning of January, around 60 Muhlenberg Middle School students have been staying after school for a couple of hours. Every day, they seem more concerned with "Tomorrow" than today, and they are smiling quite a bit - almost as if their outfit isn't complete without a smile.

These students have been hard at work on the MMS production of "Annie, Jr." the cast and crew have worked tirelessly to put together an entertaining version of this famous and familiar musical. Under the direction of Mr. Jeff Bezler, the music direction of Mrs. Leslie Deatrach, the capable managerial hands of Mr. Mike Arndt and the choreography of Ms. Angela Lattanzio, the students look and sound fantastic and are ready to share their hard work with an audience. This timeless show is entertaining, yet affordable. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$4 for students, with tickets available at the door on the night of the show.

Please join us on March 11 and 12 at 7:30 pm, or at the special senior citizen performance on March 10 at 4 pm in the Muhlenberg Middle School auditorium. "We think you're going to like it here."

Class of 2013 News

On Saturday, February 19 the Class of 2013 is planning a mini field trip to Shady Maple Smorgasbord. The bus for this event will leave the high school parking lot at 8:30 am. The cost per student is \$11. Please contact either Mrs. McCarthy or Mrs. Long if you plan on attending. The Class of 2013 also is planning a larger field trip to Six Flags amusement park on Saturday, May 7. Please keep this date open if you are interested in joining your classmates for a thrilling, fun-packed day. Class dues must be paid to attend either event.



Halloween at Dorney Park: Class of 2013

Modern Twist on Art History

The 2D and 3D Design Art electives are for the serious ninth grade art students who are contemplating one of the numerous careers in art or who is interested in developing their studio problem-solving skills. Developing those skills is helpful in a variety of careers not typically associated with the arts including architecture, engineering, science, medicine, marketing and any other field where creative problem solving is needed. In addition to creating art, students take a journey through art history studying the roots of our visual culture



*Top: Nichole Hyneman 9th Grade 2D Design
Bottom: Modern Mummy, 9th Grade 3D Design*

In the 2D Design Art elective students learn about prehistoric art the beginning of visual imagery. Prehistoric paintings were first discovered on the walls of the Altamira Caves in the late 1800s. Man still continues to paint on walls. Contemporary artist Banksy is a British graffiti artist and political activist. Banksy is known for his spray paint stencil technique. The 2D class used Banksy's stencil technique to make self portraits. Each student enlarged a photograph of themselves and then meticulously cut the drawing apart to create a stencil. They had to design a background, which would be considered their "cave wall". Spray paint was used as the media to put the stencil on the background.

In the 3D Design Art elective students learn about the art of the ancient Egyptian mummification process. They recreated modern mummies using clear packing tape. Mark Jenkins is an American artist known for his street installations that he creates using clear packing tape. His goal is to have people question their surroundings so he places his tape people in obscure places such as on top of a billboard. Students worked in small groups to create their own version of Jenkins' modern mummies.

Art Club Paints the Town!

A group of High School Art Club members kept busy this fall with requests from area businesses to paint windows for the holidays. The local Applebee's requested original window paintings for Halloween, Thanksgiving, Veteran's Day and, of course, Christmas and Hanukah. Both the students and Applebee's personnel said the Veteran's Day windows were their favorite display. Club members were also asked to help advertise the Salvation Army's "Toys for Tots" program by painting their store front windows with images reflecting the organization's Holiday Castles theme. The experience turned out to be a meaningful way for these high school students to share their time and talents with their community.



Left to right: Brianna Hnath and Nicole Silvia

Winter Sports Updates

Boys Basketball

Muhlenberg Boys Basketball team won the Exeter Tip-Off Tournament to kick off the 2010-2011 season. The Muhls beat Pottsgrove in the semi-finals and won the championship by defeating Exeter. Avery Price was the tournament MVP, and Robbie Nelson and Christian Burggraf made the all-tournament team.

Sports NEWS

Bowling Update

After a rough start versus Division 1, the boys and girls team are now ready to take on Division 3, with opponents in our Division 2 to follow. The girls team has a record of 3 - 12 and is lead by sophomore Captain Brooke Franco with a 172 average, followed by junior Brittany Quillman at 165. Junior Brianna Franco, and sopomores Kaylah Kerschner and Kira Shimp round out the starting five. The boys are 2 - 13 and are lead by freshman Michael Bortz at 183, followed by sophomore Chase Einsla at 177 and junior Kyle Leibensperger at 172. The starting line-up includes juniors Daniel Kochel and Zach Varcoe and sophomore Nick Wummer. The team holds their home matches at Hiester Lanes.

Muhlenberg Cheerleaders

The Muhlenberg Varsity Cheerleaders competed on Saturday, February 12 at Reading High School, and on Saturday, February 19 at Schuylkill Valley High School

Wrestling

The wrestling season is quickly coming to that critical time where skills are most tested. At the recent Newport holiday event, both senior Evan Brown and junior Zach Snow proved to be the best of class for the second straight year. Other high place winners were runners-up John Santiago and Blailin Baker. Devin Siebert took 3rd and Jason Brixter along with James Swietzer produced a 4th place medal. The Muhls as a team have struggled with injuries to key competitors, but have showed strong against several

powerful opponents. The grueling schedule has toughened the squad for a push during the January quest for a division title and county individual honors. The matches have all been loud and packed stands are the norm. Come see what the excitement is about.

Girls basketball thanks community with annual fundraiser for others

Each year around the holiday season, the Muhlenberg girls basketball team holds a charity event to give back to the community that supports them each year. This year the girls made Christmas wreaths in the high school commons area after a November practices. The team donated \$500 to Mrs. Shawn Weaver, a staff member who is battling illness, and bought Christmas presents for the Opportunity House.

Senior Megan Wentzel said, "It was a fun experience with the team, which helped us bond, while having fun. We gave to the Opportunity House and helped a family in need in our community."

The girls plan to continue this event each year. And would like to thank all their family, friends, and teachers who helped make this event possible.

Swimming Fundraiser

The Muhlenberg High School and Schuylkill Valley High School swimming and diving teams held a Coaches vs. Cancer fundraiser for the American Cancer Society on December 21. The event raised over \$1,340 for the organization.



2011 SPRING AQUATICS PROGRAM

REGISTRATION: Tuesday March 1 for Muhlenberg Township Residence and March 2 for residence and all others, from 6 -8 pm in the Pool Lobby at the High School. Registration for classes will be taken by phone if spaces are available. All activities require a minimum number of participants. Please bring identification of District Residency. There is an additional \$5 fee for Non-Residents interested in any classes except Recreational Swimming, which is only offered to residents of the Muhlenberg School District. ****PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE PLEASE CHECK THE WEB SITE FOR UPDATES****

SWIMMING LESSONS

There will be "four" 2-week sessions to choose from: March 21 to May 12. Classes are held Monday thru Thursday from 5:30 – 6 pm or 6:10 - 6:40 pm. There are a limited number of spaces available. Minimum age requirement is 4 years old.
Cost: \$45 Per Session

PARENTS & TOTS SWIM CLASSES

This is a 6-week session from April 5 to May 12. Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 4:50-5:20pm. Classes will be available for children 6 months up to their 4th birthday. Each child must be accompanied in the water by an adult.
Cost: \$45.00 Per Session

ADULTS LEARN TO SWIM

April 5 to May 11 Tuesday & Thursday from 7- 8 pm. This class will only be held if there is enough interest.
Cost \$50.

DEEP WATER AEROBICS

March 7 to May 11 Monday & Wednesday, classes begin at 6:45 pm (45 minute class). This is a 45-minute mid to high energy cardiovascular and muscular endurance class in the deep water. Water equipment is used in the toning portion of the class along with flotation belts.
Cost: \$55.

SHALLOW WATER AEROBICS

March 7 to May 11 Monday & Wednesday, classes begin at 7:30 pm (45 minute class). This is a 45-minute mid to

high level class that offers a cardiovascular workout. Will have to use pool ladder to enter and exit pool.
Cost: \$55.00

If you wish to combine this with deep aerobics your cost for both would be \$95.00

RECREATIONAL SWIMMING

March 11th to May 20th Fridays from 7 pm – 8:30 pm (The pool will be cleared 10 minutes before closing)

Rec Swim is provided for Muhlenberg School District Residents ONLY of all ages. Proof of residency is required at all Recreational Swims. Children 12 years of age or younger must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
NO NON-RESIDENT GUESTS.

Cost: Family Membership.....\$65.00
Individual Membership.....\$25.00
Daily.....\$3.00

POOL RENTALS The pool is available on most Saturday/Sunday afternoons to hold birthday parties and or pool rentals. Professional certified lifeguards are provided.
Cost: \$100 Per Hour

COMPETITIVE STROKE CLINIC

Please check the web site for updates

WATER POLO CLINIC

Please check the web site for updates

If you have any questions regarding any of our programs please feel free to contact the pool office at 610-921-8078 ext. 4223 or e-mail Connie Hillbish at hillbishc@mail.muhlsdk12.org or Chuck Stricker at strickerc@mail.muhlsdk12.org

MISSION

Muhlenberg School District is dedicated to providing a program of educational excellence that enables all students to reach their highest potential so they will lead us successfully and responsibly into the future.

SHARED VALUES

- All students have the potential to become responsible citizens in our society.
- The home, school and student have shared responsibility for student achievement.
- An informed and involved community is essential to the development of strong educational partnerships and quality programs.
- An effective school provides a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment.
 - Embracing diversity and individuality within the context of mutual respect promotes a positive learning environment.
 - Outstanding programs and effective instruction produce academic excellence.
 - Participation in extra-curricular activities fosters self-confidence and positive attitudes.
- Learning opportunities that integrate technology and develop higher level thinking skills empower students to succeed in a global society.
- High expectations and commitment to continuous improvement are fundamental for high achievement.

VISION STATEMENT

The Muhlenberg School Community will promote academic excellence in a safe and nurturing environment, while celebrating unity, respecting diversity, and empowering all students to become contributing citizens in a global society.

SCHOOL BOARD

Otto W. Voit, III, president

Lee R. Reiniger, vice president

K. Scott Long, secretary

Richard E. Hoffmaster, treasurer

Cindy L. Mengle, assistant secretary

John A. DelCollo

Terry L. Heckman

Barbara A. Nagle

Donald B. Raifsnider, Jr.

ADMINISTRATION

Theresa D. Haught, Ed.D., Superintendent

Vlacia Z. Campbell, Ed.D.,
Asst. Superintendent

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

February

15 - Jr County Chorus Auditions

21 - **School In Session;**

Snow Make-Up Day

22 - Jr. County Band/Orchestra Auditions

23 - MS Science Fair, 7-8 pm

24-26 - PMEA Region V Chorus Fest

March

1 - Music Assoc Mtg., HS, 7 pm
Title I/III (ESL) Parent/Student Night, EC Cafe/LGI, 6:30 pm

2 - Committee-of-the-Whole Mtg., HS, 7:30 pm

5 - Music Festival, HS, 4-8:30 pm

7 - Guidance Night, Gr 11 parents, HS A-117, 7-9 pm

8 - Spring College Fair for Juniors, Alvernia College

9 - Regional Science Olympiad, KU School Board Mtg., HS, 7 pm

10-12 - PMEA Region V Orchestra Fest

11-12 - MS Musical, 7:30 pm

12 - SAT, 8 am

14 -25 - PSSA Reading & Math Assessment Window (Gr 3-8, 11)

22 - HS Student Forum, S Cafe, 5:30 pm

24 - March Madness, HS Gym, 7-9:30 pm

28 - Apr 1 - PSSA Writing Assignment Window, (Gr 5, 8, 11)

31 - End of 3rd Marking Period

Possible Snow Make-up Days:

February 21, April 18-21 and April 25. Because of the unstable nature of PA winters, staff and students are cautioned not to make "firm" vacation and travel plans for the above dates. Any additional snow days will be added to the end of the school year.

Muhlenberg

Excellence in Action

Newsletter Deadline for next newsletter: March 4. Published for citizens of the Muhlenberg School District, **Newsletter** is printed at Key Printing, Reading, Pa. Submit news of school or community interest to Brenda Stein, Newsletter, at return address or email steinb@mail.muhsdk12.org. Include your name and phone number for verification purposes. Timely articles will be used as space allows. <http://www.muhsdk12.org>

Muhlenberg School District

801 Bellevue Avenue

Laureldale, PA 19605

(610) 921-8000

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Resident

It is the policy of the Muhlenberg School District not to discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, and national origin in its education programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX should be directed to office of the assistant superintendent, Title IX Coordinator, Muhlenberg School District, 801 Bellevue Ave., Laureldale, PA 19605, telephone (610) 921-8000, or to the Director of Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Washington, DC.