



*The Mustang Connection*  
**MARCH 2014**  
**“ALWAYS A GREAT DAY”**  
*Mac Williams Middle School*



**FFA NEWS**

MWMS FFA students competed against 9 other high school teams in the county FFA Poultry Judging Contest in March and placed third. The State FFA Poultry Judging Evaluation Career Development Event was March 19<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh. Team members are: Bradley Suggs, Samantha Aiken, Noah McDaniel, Nicholas Brown, Celeste Blocker, Morgan Barker and James McDonald.

**MWMS ORCHESTRA**

In January, MWMS had 2 students to make the Cumberland County Middle School Youth Orchestra. They were: Samantha Aiken – 1<sup>st</sup> chair/viola – 8<sup>th</sup> grade; and Jonathan Piland – 1<sup>st</sup> chair/2<sup>nd</sup> violin – 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

**YEARBOOK**

Ready to buy your Yearbook for 2013-2014? You may go to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) to purchase a yearbook online. The cost is \$30.00. You can also order one with Mrs. Dawkins in room B5. Cash or check. Only 200 left. Make checks payable to MWMS.

**VFW CONTEST WINNERS**

The Journalism class wrote essays on “What Patriotism Means to Me” for the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization contest. The following students were recognized: Grace Thompson – 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$75; Preslyn Johnson – 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$50 and Allan Battles – 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$25.00.

**AMERICAN HISTORY ESSAY**

MWMS had 3 students win the AH essay contest for the Liberty Point Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Jonathan Piland; 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Matthew Raynor; and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Cameron Knudsen. In addition, Jonathan Piland also has won at the district level, and was announced as the 6<sup>th</sup> grade winner for the entire state of North Carolina.

**SPOTLIGHT**

Thirteen-year-old Hanbin Koo, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at MWMS was recently featured in the Saturday Extra of the Fayetteville Observer. Hanbin plays the flute and won the state and the Southern Division of the Music Teachers National Association Junior Woodwinds. She will compete at Nationals in Chicago later this month.

**SCIENCE OLYMPIAD**

Congratulations to the 2013-2014 MWMS Science Olympiad team on placing third out of more than 20 middle schools at the Science Olympiad Fayetteville Regionals. Mr. Luttrell and the team will be traveling to Raleigh on April 25-26 for the State competition at NC State University. This will be MWMS first time competing at the state level.

**Dates to Remember**

Mar 21	PTA Candle Fundraiser begins
Mar 25	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> reporting period
Mar 26	Make-up snow day
Mar 29	MWMS Colorguard Championship
Apr 2	Report cards go home
Apr 4	PTA Candle Fundraiser ends
Apr 10	Award Assemblies
Apr 12	3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Band Spaghetti Dinner-10:30-4:00
Apr 15	6 <sup>th</sup> grade Field Day
Apr 16	7 <sup>th</sup> grade Field Day
Apr 17	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Field Day
Apr 18	Make up snow Day – 2 hr early release
Apr 21-25	Spring Break
Apr 25-26	Science Olympiad State Competition
May 1	Spring Portraits-6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup>
May 2	Spring Portraits-8 <sup>th</sup> and Buddy
May 2-4	NC Honors Clinic @ UNC Chapel Hill
May 5-9	Teachers Appreciation Week
May 6	Progress reports go home
May 12	Chorus Concert – 6:30pm
May 19	Beginner Band Concert - 6:30pm
May 20	Advanced/Intermediate Band Concert-6:30pm
May 23	EOG Pep Rally
May 26	Pupil/Staff Holiday
May 28-30	EOG’s – Proctors needed – call the school
Jun 9	8 <sup>th</sup> grade Year End Awards
Jun 10	6 <sup>th</sup> /7 <sup>th</sup> grade Year End Awards
Jun 10	Last Day for students – 2 hr early release
Jun 17	Report cards mailed home

**PTA NEWS**

The PTA would like to thank everyone for their support this year. We had a 14% increase in membership this year! It’s still not too late to join. Membership is \$8.00. Our Great American and Celebrating Home Candle Fundraisers were very successful! We could not have done that without you. With those funds, we have purchased much needed items in the office and in the classrooms for teachers. On March 21<sup>st</sup> our last fundraiser of the year, Yankee Candles will go home. This fundraiser will run through April 4<sup>th</sup>. These items will be back in time for Mother’s Day. You can get your shopping done from home and support the school at the same time! Our last event this year will be the 8<sup>th</sup> grade field day. We will be having extra activities for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders to turn their field day into more of a carnival. Volunteers are welcome. Please be sure you have filled out a Volunteer Security form. Our last General Members meeting will be held near the end of April or early May. We will have some board positions open next year including President. If you are interested in serving our school through the PTA, please contact the school and let us know.

### PARENT PORTAL

During the month of November, all CCS parents were contacted by their child's school to set up their accounts in the new Home Base Parent Portal powered by PowerSchool. Schools provided access code letters to parents/guardians. Parents can link their students to their accounts, so they only have one login to access students at multiple schools. Parents now have access to assignment information, grades and attendance. This valuable tool provides parents a "real-time" view of their student's progress. If you have specific questions about the Home Base Parent Portal, please contact your child's school directly.

### MATHCOUNTS

In February the following students were the top winners at the 2014 school wide MathCounts competition: 6<sup>th</sup> grade – Jonathan Piland; 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Kaitlyn Cutler, Bilen Ghirmzi, Breyah Owens and Nick West; 8<sup>th</sup> grade – William Hall, Dean Masouras, Katie Osborne, Hallie Smith and Bryce Vorreyer. First alternate – Kaitlin Starling and second alternate – Dylan Frazee. The top ten mathletes represented Mac Williams at the District MathCounts Competition at Max Abbott Middle School on Saturday, February 15, 2014.

### PROCTORS

EOG's are just around the corner - Wednesday May 28<sup>th</sup>, Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup> and Friday May 30<sup>th</sup>. Proctors are needed each day 7:00 – 12:00pm. You must be 18 years or older. No experience is necessary. You will be given instructions upon arrival. Please be aware that due to testing regulations, you will not be allowed to be in the same room with your child. Please consider supporting your child's school and volunteer on these important testing days. **If it is at all possible, do not schedule medical appointments during school hours on these days.**

### PENNIES CAMPAIGN

The Student Council Association of MWMS recently held a Patients and Pasta Campaign for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society sponsored by Olive Garden Restaurant. MWMS raised over \$1700.00 for this worthwhile cause. Mrs. Nichols' 6<sup>th</sup> grade class placed first and will be getting lunch provided by Olive Garden. Thank you to everyone who participated.

### UPDATE INFORMATION

Please make sure that Mac Williams has your correct address and phone number in our system.

It is very important that we have up to date information for emergencies. The report cards will be mailed at the end of the year, so please make sure your information is correct. If you have any questions, please call the front office.

### DAR

The following MWMS students were winners in the Cumberland County DAR Essay Contest in February:

- 6<sup>th</sup> grade – Jonathan Piland – 1<sup>st</sup> place
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Matthew Raynor – 1<sup>st</sup> place
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Cameron Knudsen – 1<sup>st</sup> place
- Jessica Serbio – 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Jonathan Piland also won the District competition and was recognized by the Liberty Point Chapter of the DAR. His essay was submitted for state competition which he also won. He will be recognized in May in Raleigh NC.

### BAND

Congratulations to the following band students that made the 2014 North Carolina Honors on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> in Thomasville NC:

- Flute – Hanbin Koo
- Clarinet – Isaac Jones
- Tbone – Cade Holst
- Tuba – Allan Battles

They will represent our school at a 3 day clinic and concert on May 2-4<sup>th</sup> at UNC Chapel Hill. We are proud of all that participated. Congratulations to the Advanced Band for their straight A's and straight superior ratings for 18 years in a row. The End of Grade Band Test was score 4! Way to go – Big Mac Band!

### SOUTH RIVER EMC GRANT

Our Media Center received a grant of \$6500.00 to update technology at MWMS from South River EMC. South River is proud to provide a means for members to help the community where they live – and it proves that small change can change lives. Operation Round Up is a voluntary program to have your electric bill rounded up to the next whole dollar. By doing this, members can put their nickels and dimes to work and benefit our community. Operation Round Up will provide a financial boost for the community in the form of grants. Thank you South River for supporting our schools.