

MHS Newsletter, February 2022

Good morning MVNA,

Happy Valentine's Day to you all. This is a great time of year as the sun is shining a little warmer and staying out a little longer, and we can start thinking about Spring arriving relatively soon. There is a lot to celebrate at Monterey High School and I wanted to bring some of it to your attention.

The Winter season definitely brought a Covid-19 spike on our campus, but I am strongly encouraged by our recent numbers that suggest this wave is nearing its end amongst our students and families. We are not out of the woods completely, and we must remain vigilant, however we can see reasons to be optimistic about the near future.

This week we were notified that our Sports and Recreation Careers Academy (SPARC) was named a **Distinguished California Partnership Academy**, one of only three to be named as such in the entire state. This is a monumental achievement for our school and along with the Arts, Media and Performance Academy (AMP) and the Monterey Academy of Oceanographic Science (MAOS), I am proud that we are able to offer educationally rich and varied opportunities for students who wish to pursue career-oriented education among the myriad of curricular options available at Monterey High School. The SPARC team will be honored in Sacramento at the Educating for Careers Conference in March. Congratulations SPARC team and to all of the Green Machine community!

Also, this past week we celebrated "Love Week", a week of theme days focused around connection and Valentine's Day. The week's festivities culminated in Friday's Love Day Street Faire, which saw a student band, multiple arts and crafts exhibitions, games and other fundraisers on the lower fire road. I participated and offered up my own face to be pied along with MPC Business Teacher Max Feldman as this was a designed fundraiser that served as a project business model where students had to create the fundraiser, advertise, and alter strategies in real time based upon supply and demand along with a variety of other factors. There was no shortage of students (and teachers) who wanted to take a chance at throwing a pie at me and I believe it was a successful project judging on how I smelled of whip cream for about 24 hours.

Last week, **IB Specialist Nikki Ahrenstorff** and I ventured into **Mr. Nicholson's** DP Chemistry class where we had the pleasure of watching students participate and showcase their Internal Assessments. One of the highlights was student **James Dodson's** experiment where he was investigating how the concentration of hydrochloric acid affects the rate of reaction with calcium carbonate. It was a joy to watch and Ms. Ahrenstorff was actually invited to assist in a small portion of logging data at timed intervals.

As we enter into the Spring athletic season and watch the Winter sports finish, I would like to invite members of the MVNA to come and support our Dores! The Spring season is such a unique time as it is when the largest number of our athletes are out working hard for their and their team's best. We have Boys Golf, Baseball, Softball, Boys Volleyball, Boys Tennis, Boys (first time ever!) and Girls Lacrosse, Swimming and Diving, and Track and Field all happening at the same time. Athletics are an incredible opportunity for our students to grow as individuals, to learn about how they react to adversity and to become better versions of themselves and I am proud to say we will continue to grow our athletic program and provide the best co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities as possible.

Finally, please plan on attending our student-directed production of the “Lord of the Flies”, which had its first shows this previous weekend and will be on again this Friday at 7:30 pm and Saturday and Sunday at 2pm. The quality of the productions that our Theater Program continues to produce never cease to impress me and I hope you consider coming out to support our Dores!

We look forward to seeing many of you come and see our students in action!

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Life to the Fullest
 Thomas Newton
 Head of School
 Monterey High School
 IB World School MYP/DP
[MHS POST](#)

GO DORES!

Events (Please join us for our school play)

| Sport/Event | Date/Time | Opponent |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Girls Basketball (Playoffs) | Feb 18 7:00 | King City |
| Lord of the Flies | Feb 18 7:30 | |
| Boys Basketball (Playoffs) | Feb 19 7:00 | Unknown |
| Lord of the Flies | Feb 19 7:30 | |
| Lord of the Flies | Feb 20 2:00 | |
| Baseball (Sollecito Park) | Feb 23 3:30 | RLS |
| Baseball (Sollecito Park) | Feb 26 11:00 | Santa Cruz |
| Boys Volleyball | March 1 5:00 | Mt. Madonna |
| Boys Lacrosse | March 3 3:30 | Christopher |
| Baseball (Sollecito Park) | March 9 3:30 | Carmel |
| Golf (Del Monte Golf Course) | March 9 3:00 | Palma |
| Boys Lacrosse | March 10 3:30 | Watsonville |
| Softball | March 14 4:00 | King City |
| Softball | March 15 4:00 | Pacific Grove |
| Girls Lacrosse | March 17 4:00 | Harbor |