



MTA Chalkboard

MTA CHALKBOARD

OCTOBER 1, 2008

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Breast Cancer Walk
- Dress Down Days
- Information



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Welcome Back!



With just a click of a button all your questions will be answered! Take five minutes to learn how the benefit fund can help you!



**Walk for a
Cure! Join us
today!**

**OCTOBER 19,
2008
Manhattanville
College**

The Walk **Sunday, October 19, 2008** ***Manhattanville College*** ***Purchase, NY***

Hope starts with you. Making Strides Against Breast Cancer is your opportunity to honor breast cancer survivors, educate women about prevention and early detection, and raise funds and awareness to help us achieve a day without breast cancer.

Clubs at the high school are participating in the walk this year! They have all made the commitment to donate \$5.00 each to support this worthy cause. Your matching \$5.00 could be all it takes to save a life! You can still donate if you can not make it to the walk!

Sign Up to walk in Making Strides. Register for the **NYSUT: MAHOPAC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION** team at

[http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/
MakingStridesAgainstBreastCancer/
MSABCFY09Eastern/332946684?
pg=team&fr id=11632&team id=317489](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/MakingStridesAgainstBreastCancer/MSABCFY09Eastern/332946684?pg=team&fr id=11632&team id=317489)

Hope to see you on our team website and also at The Walk.

Reminder that the walk is Sunday, October 19, 2008 with registration from 8:00 am to 10:00 am.

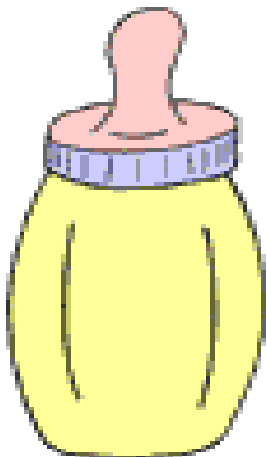
The Mahopac Team will meet by the NYSUT tent at 9:00 am for our team picture and will begin the walk at 9:30 am.

For more information, contact Ron Pollaro at the high school.

Congratulations on your wedding!
Jim Lieto (LV) and Kim Seckendorf (LV)
Maryanne Courtney (LV) and Lance LaRue
Jill Carolan (LV & AR) and Miguel Iglesias

Our Health Is In Our Hands Ms. Tuite's Sixth Grade Health Classes

To kick-off Ms. Tuite's 2008-'09 Health Classes the students have designed a banner *Our Health Is In Our Hands* to decorate the front lobby display case here at the middle school. Students created their own unique handprint and then added words, phrases and ideas that help define the concept of health. This colorful display is designed to educate all students, faculty, staff and visitors to the middle school as to the importance of making healthy choices. In addition the display is to remind everyone that one's health is often a matter of the personal decisions we make daily. It is our responsibility therefore to take the significance of health seriously and realize the actions of today can result in how 'well' someone lives their life. The students have been working on connecting their actions as young adults to the potential realization of future goals & dreams. The students did a great job and have shown great pride in the display.



Babies, Babies, Babies!

Sandy and Joe Bogdan
welcomed their first child,
Allison, in July.



Meet the New Kids on the Block!

Welcome to Mahopac! Five new high school teachers were asked the same ten questions. Here are the questions and how they answered them. Get to know the teachers you are working with!

1. What college did you attend?
 - a. Any prior experience?
2. What excites you about Mahopac?
3. What made you want to become a teacher?
4. What do you do when you are not teaching?
5. Have you traveled anywhere?
6. What is your favorite movie?
7. If you could choose to have any super power which would you choose and why?
8. If we took a look in your refrigerator what would we find?
9. What is your favorite food item?
10. What did you want to be when you were 12 years old?

Adina Ruskin –H.S. Spanish

1. Oberlin
 - a. I taught for 8 years in the “Leadership Program.” This program deals with violence prevention and self-esteem building.
2. I am really fond of the students I work with; their energy, enthusiasm and their sense of humor.
3. I realized how much I enjoyed working with my students from the Leadership Program. Just seeing how they inspired me and how I inspired them was enough to get me to teach
4. I spend my time with my two small daughters, write when I have a chance, and started a business. I started it with my husband and we make jewelry that adheres directly to the skin.
5. Argentina, extensively through South America, Scandinavia, etc. . .
6. Casablanca and Mary Poppins
7. I would like some kind of super power that would put some common-sense into world teachers to get them to stop hunger.
8. Greek Yogurt
9. Raspberries
10. Marine Biologist



Denise Goodliffe - H.S. Biology

1. SUNY Cortland and Iona
 - a. 6 years in Tarrytown
2. The students and the school spirit they have.
3. My high school Math teacher
4. Take my kids to hockey practices and games, coach soccer, and run when I have the chance
5. Europe, Antigua
6. Old School
7. To be invisible so I can be a fly on the wall
8. A mess. . . lots of cold cuts and vitamin water
9. Lobster!
10. TV anchor woman



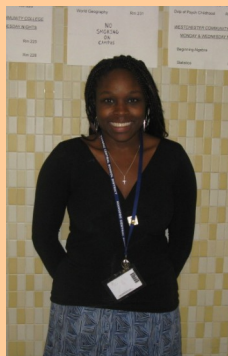
James Bannon - H.S. Special Education/Social Studies

1. Iona/Lehman
 - a. 5 years in Katonah
2. The new program where a special education teacher needs to be dual certified.
3. I had trouble in school and I wanted to help kids that had the same trouble I did.
4. Snowboard
5. Quebec, Jamaica, Antigua, Colorado, Tahoe, etc. . .
6. Planes, Trains, and Automobiles
7. Flying. So that I can get anywhere I want to go faster. Nobody else could fly except me.
8. Pizza dough, milk maybe some chicken but not much. It's pretty empty.
9. Chicken Parmesan



Danielle Bouvelle - H.S. Spanish

1. Muhlenberg College
2. The students are very outgoing and I work with a good department
3. My high school Chemistry teacher - I decided to become a Spanish teacher after I traveled to Spain.
4. I watch HGTV channel and I don't watch the news because it's always bad news.
5. Spain, Great Britain, Italy, and the Caribbean
6. Harlem Nights
7. I would choose time reversal so I can fix my mistakes and to get the winning lottery numbers of course.
8. A lot of space
9. Banana
10. A nurse



Nancy Rodrigue— H.S. English

1. Notre Dame
 - a. 15 years
2. The students
3. I worked with teens when I worked at Rye Playland. It drew me to teaching.
4. Try new recipes, Watch the Yankees, Hang around with family
5. I traveled to four times Ireland.
6. The American President
7. Grading essays instantaneously
8. I have a lot of stuff because I am constantly trying new recipes. You would see over 800 different condiments.
9. Sweet Potato



Your Election Connection 2008



John McCain



Barack Obama



Good Election Websites to use in your classroom

<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/election08/>

<http://www.pocanticohills.org/election/election.htm>

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/election2008.htm>

<http://www.c-spanclassroom.org/>

<http://www.nick.com/kpp/>

<http://www.weeklyreader.com/election/index.asp>

<http://www.johnmccain.com/>

www.barackobama.com



Disclaimer:

Make sure to play all videos and check all links before using in your classroom, some of these are meant to be informational for teachers and may not be appropriate for ALL students.

Smart Technology Helps Teachers Make Learning Fun!

Over here at Austin Road School, we have teachers utilizing the SMART BOARDS. One teacher in particular that I happened to notice was Eileen Geller. Eileen has been teaching 4th grade for many years now and may I say, doing so VERY well. This year, she happens to have a Smart Board and boy, is she using it effectively! The day I was observing, it was during pack up time. The children were reviewing Science vocabulary. By using HANGMAN as a game, Eileen added her science words into the software and the kids had to guess the word by choosing letters. If they were unsure, they were given a clue which was the definition. I was SUPER impressed. Instead of lots of noise at the end of the day-play a game instead! An educational game that actually helps the kids! Mrs. Geller needs to be recognized and I am just the person to do it!

-Written by Danielle Romano

INFORMATION STATION



ELL SHOTS

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2008

TIME: 2:00-6:00pm

PLACE: Middle School, room to be announced

COST: \$30

Contact Val Nierman for more information

Ask Mike Mahoney about the New member committee. The committee is a great source of information.

The Benefit fund website:
www.mtabenefitfund.org

Mentors and Mentees:

If you are a teacher under the initial certification program you should have a mentor. Make sure you contact Cat O'Connell if you need more information.



Dress Down Days

October Dress Down Days:
10/31—MTA Scholarships

November Dress Down Days:
11/09 –Toys for Tots

11/21—MTA Scholarships

Benefit Fund News

MTABF—TRUSTEES

Austin Rd.—Christine Jensen and Danielle Romano
Falls, Bus garage, & District Office—Jill Talcovitz

Fulmar Road— Cathleen Lang

Lakeview—Anne Birmingham

Middle School—Paul Hafemann & Kelly Kischak

High School—Kevin Finnerty

Recording Secretary—Joan DeMarzo

Michael Hunt—Union President

Website: www.mtabenefitfund.org

If you have only one smile in
you give it to the people you
love. - Maya Angelou

Please email me your stories
for the next edition of the
MTA Chalkboard.

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