

THE CLASS OF 2011



This year's senior class have walked the halls of MMSTC for the last time as students, and we are proud to introduce them as alumni! Their accomplishments and future plans were shared at the Senior Dinner held on Tuesday April 26, 2011, at the Sterling Inn, where a record crowd of family, friends, and home district representatives celebrated their dedication and hard work. A highlight of the evening was the inspirational speech by former staff member Mrs. Carole Gerling. MC's **Karoline Papiez (Center Line HS)** and **Eric Yoskovich (Cousino HS)** did a great job as hosts. The Senior Council and MMSTC staff worked hard to organize this memorable event. See pictures on page 8.

SENIOR SKI TRIP

On February 11, 2011, a group of seniors went to Hanson Hills in Gaylord, MI to experience the relationship between distance, velocity and acceleration live through downhill skiing, snow tubing and cross-country skiing. This calculus adventure in derivatives and integrals (acceleration is the integral of velocity and velocity is the derivative of distance!) offered many students their first experience with these sports. A collage of memorable pictures appear on page 7 of this newsletter! Thanks to Mr. Supal, Mrs. Kincaid Dewey, Mrs. Duddles and Mr. McMillan for organizing and chaperoning this trip!

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MMSTC at CEDAR POINTE

Tuesday May 17, the Juniors and Seniors of MMSTC attended the annual field trip to Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio with Mr. McMillan and Mrs. Cybulski. Students learned the importance of raincoats

The Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center

focuses on building a brighter future for its students through a rigorous curriculum; however, the students have not forgotten about the future of those that come after them. During the past four years, the Class of 2011 have participated in many events. From competitions, science fairs, exams, and preparing for college, the seniors realized it was about time to reach out to

and extra socks as the skies were cloudy, windy and wet all day. Fortunately, the rain kept the crowds small and lines were short all day.

While at the park, Physics students were required to collect data, make observations and do calculations. They calculated the acceleration of the Millennium Forces first drop, the amount of G-Forces on the Top Thrill Dragster, power of the Power Tower and observed the Laws of Conservation of Momentum on the Bumper Cars. What was not calculated was the increase in rest mass due to calorie intake via Funnel Cakes and Hot Chocolate throughout the day!

The projects, which were counted as a Physics test, were turned due early in the afternoon so that students had the rest of the day to enjoy the park and keep warm.

Giving Back at Susick Elementary!

By Juzzlyn Perry (Mott HS, 2011)

Susick Elementary. In May, a group of MMSTC seniors made a visit to the elementary. The seniors divided into groups and helped several teachers with their classes. Whether they read to the kids, helped them with projects, or even drew pictures, they were constantly interactive and hands-on. After merely two hours, the seniors developed a close relationship to the elementary students. As the time came for them to leave, the students gave the seniors a few presents in the form of cards and even tears.

Mr. Cavanaugh received positive feedback from all the teachers and would love to have another group visit in the future. Cavanaugh, along with the MMSTC staff, hope that all students gained a valuable experience that would influence their future in some way. "I'm not sure whose faces had the bigger smile; the MMSTC students or the Susick Elementary students that were read to, tutored, or assisted. Both groups benefited from the experience and walked away with a new friend or two," said Mrs. Brown, MMSTC counselor.

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the community's younger members.









2010-2011

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When am I ever going to use this? Interior Design: Application of Skills Learned through MMSTC

By Kylie (Diem) Bodiya (MMSTC, 2003)

Michigan State University has a campus newspaper called "The State News". During my senior year, I convinced the paper to do a feature on the Interior Design department. It was great – we had a full color picture on the front page and a long article about our studies. Something unexpected happened: students lashed out on the newspaper's website that "interior design is a stupid degree" and "it's for lazy girls" and "interior design is just decorating pretty houses". Well, I'm here to tell you that they are all completely wrong!

Interior design is a lot like architecture. It is a multi-faceted profession in which creative and technical solutions are applied within a structure to achieve a built interior environment. We do building code research and space planning. And yes, **MATH** and **TECHNOLOGY** are a huge part of our daily career. Geometry is one of the most important math courses for an interior designer. I have to calculate square footages and surface areas of three-dimensional components. Technologically speaking, I have to utilize different complex computer programs to create a set of construction drawings. At my company, **Swarovski**, I am one of two designers that design the retail stores around the United States. I couldn't do this without the use of computers. My technical skills allowed me to solely implement a new computer program in our company to help the construction team be more efficient and more skilled at what they do. I use a database structured computer program. Using my SQL computer program. This, in turn, allows me to better understand the type of scheduling that is used in the program. This, in turn, allows me to better manipulate the data. I was much better prepared for this career because of my math and technical background.

Of course, I still love to decorate and paint and be creative. Having the educational background that MMSTC provided, I was able to bring a lot more to the table and be more successful in today's workforce. I've survived a layoff only to find a new job within a month in one of the hardest hit industries (no one's building anymore!) because of my technical skills and knowledge of a very complex computer program.

You may think that MMSTC students are destined to become a scientist, doctor, or engineer, but you'd be surprised how many fields benefit from the knowledge that you learn at MMSTC!

After graduating from MSU in 2008 with a degree in interior design, Kylie is now a retail interior designer for Swarovski North America. She designs retail stores throughout the United States. She married her high school sweetheart (**Brian Bodiya**, also an MMSTC 2003 Alumni) in 2009. They both live in Southern Massachusetts with their two dogs. Crouton and Luna.



Class of 2011 Senior Council

This year, seniors elected members of a Senior Council who took responsibility for organizing events related to seniors and MMSTC students in general. Many thanks to Juzzlyn Perry (Mott HS), Jackie Close (SHHS) and Nate Peddar (SHHS) for your hard work!



FRESHMEN ZOO VISIT

In keeping with tradition, the freshmen class closed out the school year with an exciting trip to the Detroit Zoo. Students and parents were exposed to

a variety of new exhibits at the renovated

Detroit Zoo. **Mr**. **Acre**, **Mrs. Duddles**, and **Mr. Estapa** had a unique experience with Dora the Explorer in the 4-D movie theatre.



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Timmy Jones (SHHS) found the trip to be most exciting when socializing with all the new friends he made on the playground while making peacock noises. Rachel Quesnelle (WWT) enjoyed skipping with her group to find

the ice cream stand. Of course, everyone enjoyed finding all of the answers to Mr. Estapa's questionnaire. ⁽¹⁾ Mrs. Dimech was the chaperone of the trip as she was able to tame a wily

bunch of boys. In fact she referred to them as a bunch of "angels".

All in all, the freshmen, and their parents, had a fun, informative visit.

Lawrence Technological University: For the Future Sophomores Attend Career Exploration Day

By: Maryia Duffy (WWT, 2013)

Lawrence Technological University hosts an Exploration Day that is designed to get high school students of all grades to think about their future career plans. The sophomore class at the MMSTC had the privilege of attending the exploration day in March. Many of the students at MMSTC are interested in going into a science, mathematics technology or engineering (STEM) studies, so this was an excellent opportunity to explore STEM related fields of study.

Exploration Day offered a variety of classes. Each student was able to create a "class schedule" of three courses that they would like to take. Many of the courses were hands-on, getting the students involved in the application of these fields of study. In the forensics class eggs were blown up and the students made gun powder that they later ignited. In the interior design class, students were asked to decorate a dorm room and then present their masterpiece to the rest of the class. Architectural design used magazines to create design boards to illustrate how they would build a restaurant, classroom, or a courtyard scene.

The field trip succeeded at allowing MMSTC sophomores to explore fields of study that interest them so that they may better select a major when they begin their college studies after high school graduation.

Ninth and Tenth Grade: A Planning Guide for Parents

Grade 9

- 1. Create a four-year high school plan. Once your child is settled into ninth grade, introduce the idea of preparing an overall plan for high school that relates to his or her goals.
 - Make sure you and your child know what high school courses are required by colleges and that your child's courses are on the right track.
 - Familiarize yourself with the various levels of courses offered by your child's school.
 - Familiarize yourself with the Michigan Merit Curriculum.
- 2. Start your child thinking about careers. Encourage your child to develop a tentative career goal. Of course it will change often, but it's the process that counts.
 - Help your child identify interests, both academic and extra-curricular.
 - Encourage your child to discuss career options with others.
- **3.** Suggest extracurricular activities. Encourage your child to actively take part in a sport, school club, music or drama group, or community volunteer activity.
 - Remember that colleges would rather see real involvement in one activity than a loose connection to several activities.
- **4. Save for college.** It's still not too late to start a college savings plan, if you haven't already. Every little bit helps!
- 5. Meet with the school counselor. The school counselor can help you get the most out of high school. Make sure your child has an opportunity during the school year to discuss post-high school plans.

Grade 10

- 1. Ask if the PSAT/NMSQT is offered to tenth-graders. While this test is usually taken in the eleventh grade, it is also often offered in the tenth. That's because it provides invaluable feedback on the Student Score Report where any disclosed academic weaknesses can be worked on while there is still ample time to improve them.
- 2. Is your child interested in attending a U.S. military academy? If so, he or she should request a pre-candidate questionnaire and complete it.
- **3. Attend college and career fairs.** These often take place in the fall at local high schools.
- 4. Support your child's participation in a school activity or volunteer effort. Extracurricular activities help students develop time-management skills and enrich the school experience.
- 5. Tour college campuses. If possible, take advantage of vacation or other family travel opportunities to visit colleges and see what they are like.
- 6. Meet with the school counselor—again. Check to see that your child is taking any prerequisites to advanced level junior and senior year courses. Discuss summer opportunities, study skill strategies, and future plans.

Macomb All-Academic Team

Fifteen MMSTC students were honored at the Macomb Daily All-Academic Team banquet this year. Honorees are recommended by their home school counselor based on grade point average and ACT scores.

Pictured are the honored students for this year: Centerline: Karolina Papiez & Aurora Seidenwand Cousino: Stephanie Brown Lake Shore: Tayson Lin & Eric Walton Lake View: Frank Woo (2010 MMSTC grad) Sterling Heights: Megan Adams, Mario Cale

(not pictured), **Ryan Kreiter**, **Genevieve Lee**, **Nate Pedder**, **Nathan Sanchez**, and **Nhi Tran-Huynh**.

Warren Mott: Monica Hawkey Warren Woods Tower: Kyle Hildebrandt

Congratulations to the Macomb All-Academic Team and to the entire MMSTC Class of 2011!



MMSTC'S FIRST ENVIROTHON TEAM

By Dylan Twardy (Cousino, 2013)



Since mid-winter, five MMSTC students, Josie Patalon (Cousino HS), Kaitlin Soper (Fitz HS), Rasika Patil (SHHS), Mike Richards (Cousino HS), and Dylan Twardy (Cousino HS), rigorously prepared with MMSTC teacher Mr. Supal to compete in the Michigan Envirothon. Each team was subjected to several written tests and presented a community outreach project. The MMSTC team had a community outreach project that involved the impact road salt has on Michigan's freshwater ecosystems. After weeks of research and testing, the team was also able to find an alternative to road salt (ground corn and thistle). Through flyers and phone calls,

the team tried to spread awareness of their project's cause.

After the presenting and testing at the regional level, the MMSTC team advanced to the state level competition. At the state level, the MMSTC team (chaperoned by **Mrs. Kincaid Dewey**) participated in a two day activity camp where they learned skills relating to the environment and competed with 24 other teams in more testing and presenting.

The team did well in their first year and had more fun than they thought they would! Their community outreach project placed fourth. The MMSTC Envirothon team hopes to compete again next year – we will be looking for three new team members.





SENIOR SKI TRIP PHOTOS

2011 Science & Engineering Fair of Metropolitan Detroit Results

This year four MMSTC Senior Research Teams entered their Senior Research Projects in the 2011 Science and Engineering Fair of Metropolitan Detroit. We are proud to say all four MMSTC teams placed and most received professional awards. This year's MMSTC award winners are:

The Nature of Light from an Extinguished Source (4th Place, Outstanding Project) Juzzlyn Perry (Mott HS) & Troy Nemeth (WWT)

The Effectiveness of Slug Mucus as a Medical Adhesive(4th Place Outstanding Project & Special Recognition from the United States Air Force)Natalia Kumar (SHHS) & Nhi TranHuyn (SHHS)

The Effect of Running Style on Resultant Forces(3rd Place, Special Recognition from United States Navy & United States Air Force)Ryan Krieter (SHHS) & Nathan Pedder (SHHS)

The Effect of Bleach on Lignin in Paper

(3rd Place, Special Recognition from United States Navy & Ricoh Corporation, Eligible for a \$50,000 Competition) Josie Lynn Patalon (Cousino HS) & Kaitlin Soper (Fitzgerald HS)

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MARS ROVER COMPETITION BRINGS ACCOLADES -- and PRIZES -- FOR MMSTC STUDENTS

Two groups of students competed at the University of Michigan's Mars Rover High School Design Contest. The goal of the project was to design a manned vehicle for planetary exploration on Mars. were required to research The students atmospheric and geological conditions on Mars and develop their vehicle to navigate the rugged terrain. This year's theme was modularity -- a vehicle had The Rover had to be to be reconfigurable. designed in such a way that it was possible for astronauts on Mars to easily replace broken



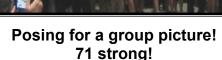
modules or add components to the Rover to make it perform specific tasks. For example, with different components installed, a rover could serve as a single-person transport (like an ATV), an emergency response vehicle, or a robotic assistant for science missions.

Students at MMSTC used Solid Works to complete their designs. In April they competed against other high schools. They had to present their completed projects to a team of engineers at U of M and explain how their Mars Rover met all the requirements of the challenge. The senior team from MMSTC took first place in the Mars Rover Competition for a second year in a row and won \$600. Shown above in the back row is the senior team comprised of Troy Nemeth (WWT), Nathan Pedder (SHHS), Kyle Hildebrandt (WWT), Alex Birch (WWT), and Ryan Kreiter (SHHS)(not shown). Also, MMSTC had a tenth grade team who took third place and won \$100. They are shown in the front row and are Marla Nazee (SHHS), Gretchen Grade (SHHS), and Sarah Myers (SHHS).

SENIOR DINNER PIX

Courtesy of Patty Szczepanski









A Freshmen Rite of Passage – the GAT Tower Project

The final cumulative project in GAT is the infamous Tower Project. The Class of 2014 did a phenomenal job with this challenge, including this year's twist – a floor with a builtin aquarium. **Connor Roach (Cousino HS)** even went so far as to include real fish in his model -- with the stipulation that they had to stay alive!! Themes ranged from camping to animals under a Big Top! Below are samples from **Ashley Meerscheart (Cousino HS)**, **Ireland Portalski (WWT)**, **Madeleine Holsinger (WWT)**, **Maxwell Morgan (FHS)** and **David Pokriefka (WWT)**. Great job Freshmen!



Advanced Math in a Children's Book? You Bet! An FST Project



FST students read *The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure* by Hans Magnus Enzensberger in May and found -- to their surprise -- many of the 2nd semester FST topics contained within! As a final activity, they then completed a creative project using the book as a jumping off point. Students could choose from a list of projects or develop one of their own and then gave a short presentation to their classmates. Projects ranged from a new chapter about logarithms or probability and posters that explained the FST connections in detail to videos about the "Forgotten Night" with new FST content and Jeopardy-type multimedia

games. Students enjoyed this cumulative task and found it a good way to review for the final exam. At left is part of a project by **Matt Forsgren (SLHS)** and **Robin Smith** (LSHS) –Matt is the artist.

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Michigan Statistics Poster Competition Sophomores Take 1st and 2nd Place

First and Second places were claimed by this year's MMSTC sophomores who entered the Michigan Statistical Poster Competition hosted by Grand Valley State University. Second place was claimed by **Kevin Weinert (SHHS)** and **Michael Richards (Cousino HS)** with their poster

titled "Extra Credit?" in which they compared the number of extracurricular activities students did to their grade point average. **Nick Higgins (Cousino)** and **Sydney Kieler (Cousino)** took first place with their poster titled "Red vs. Blue." They tested how colors affect the behaviors and moods of students. These posters will move on to the National Statistics Poster Competition.



On Wednesday, May 25, **Dr. Robert Kushler**, Statistics Professor from Oakland University and **Dr. Kathleen Peterson**, retired Statistics Consultant from the Macomb Intermediate School District, both representatives from the American Statistical Association, came to MMSTC to present this year's poster winners with plaques, certificates and checks. These students along with all the students receiving Honorable Mentions for their posters were recognized at our first MMSTC Award Ceremony held in the Commons.

Honorable mentions went to many students namely, **Jake Hackmer** (**Cousino**) and **Travis Conte** (**Cousino**) for their poster titled "Are You Pro: Life or Choice?" Jake's and Travis's poster also qualified for the National Competition. Other Honorable Mentions included: **Alex Mardlin (LSHS) & Blake Sitko (LSHS)** "Trick or Treat"



Emily Caretti (Cousino) & Joshua Denzler (LSHS) "Disproving the Dumb Jock Resport

Theory," Eric Klug (Cousino) & Joseph Stackpoole (Cousino) "The Status of Stem-Cell Research," Max Livernois (Cousino) & Austin Serraiocco (Cousino) "Welcome to Facebook," and Marla Nazee (SHHS) & Kayla Mough (FHS) "Where's My Christmas Present?"

Congratulations to all the winners and to the whole sophomore class who worked very hard collecting, displaying and analyzing the data for their poster!

Spirit Week 2011: Twin Day!







Advanced Chemistry Senior Projects

What do a taco, The Wizard of Oz, and slime all have in common? MMSTC senior AP chemistry students! The culmination of the MMSTC AP chemistry experience is a series of independent study projects that allow the students to let loose and have fun with the curriculum that they have been working so hard to master all year. The project begins with the "Chemistry in the Movies" project. Through this learning experience students explore the intersection of film history, chemical history, and the public perception of science. Students select a clip from a movie or television show and create a presentation that emphasizes the movie's chemical theme and an outline of the science of their selected scene. This year we learned why a bee dies after it stings (Bee Movie), how thermite can burn through an engine block (Burn Notice), and most importantly the science behind a Jedi's lightsaber (Return of the Jedi).

The project concludes with small group ventures, where students work in groups of 2-4 to create a variety of projects. This year Kevin Yu, Natalia Kumar, Nhi TranHuynh (SHHS), and Tayson Lin (LSHS) adapted the children's game "Chutes and Ladders" to a chemistry theme by creating "Burners and Cylinders". In this game, students must work their way up the Periodic Table rolling the die and answering chemistry questions to see who can make it to the top first, all the while hoping they can climb up a graduated cylinder or slide down a Bunsen burner.

Other groups created video presentations about laboratory safety. Eric Walton (LSHS), Cat Rayos (Mott HS), Taylor Goodfellow (CLHS), and **Rebbeca Donovan (Mott HS)** took the creative approach of telling their lab safety story through the theme of The Wizard of Oz. Dorothy (Donovan) found herself in the "Lab of Oz " where the Wicked Witch (Rayos) practiced poor lab techniques. To watch this production, as well as one by Amanda Ladach (Cousino HS), Nicole St. Louis (Mott HS), Kaitlyn Pipp (FHS), and Monica Hawkey (Mott HS), visit Mrs. Hilliard's website

(http://www.wcskids.net/mmstc/staff websites/hilliard.html).

Some students explored the confines of the Periodic Table's design. The limits of the table's two-dimensional rectangular shape have been debated for centuries, resulting in thousands of alternate designs. Shannon Barber and Shannon Watkins (LVHS) (Shannon²), and Aurora Seidenwand (CLHS) explored the "Galaxy Model". In this model, art and science are combined to arrange the elements in a way that emphasizes the idea that the elements are both micro and macroscopic. The last option was to create a chemistry magic show for the amusement of the underclassman. Students selected four demonstrations to wow their peers with and debunk the magic by explaining the science behind each demonstration.

Overall, this year's AP chemistry end of the year projects have been an excellent culmination of the curriculum. Not only did students have a fun time producing presentations for their fellow students, they reviewed topics from throughout the year and investigated the details behind new topics too. And some may have come to the conclusion that chemistry actually is fun.



New Addition to MMSTC Family!

Elizabeth (Libby) Joy Tallman arrived on June 14th, 2011, the day after underclassmen exams were completed! She weighed 5 lbs. 11 oz. and measured 18 inches. Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Tallman as they welcome the joyful addition to their family!

MMSTC Earth Day Outreach

Laura Sowers (Mott HS, 2011)

On April 28th, 2011, MMSTC had its own Earth Day celebration. Kids from local middle schools, including **Grissom Middle School** and **Carter Middle School** were all in attendance. Senior students from **Mr. Supal's** IDS class acted as guides for the rotating station set-up, and all presented a different Earth friendly topic. Some of the presentation topics included solar panels, solar cars, insulation materials, and the Windspire. The middle school guests seem very interested in each presentation, and could be seen having fun and learning about the environment all over the Commons. Students from MMSTC and the middle schools are pictured below





Research Draws to a Close – a Wonderful Freshman Year!

The IDS, Math and Science departments and students are delighted to report that the Freshman research is completed. The student presentations were completed on Thursday June 9th with the greatest care given to detail. Student groups of two were required to professionally produce a presentation that communicated the findings of their semester long research project.

Guided by **Mr. Estapa**, this year the ninth grade biology topics ranged from studying the use of temperature and ethyl alcohol to producing resistance in *Staphylococcus epidermis* in hand sanitizer to testing the response of pupil dilation of the human eye. Many students selected bacteria as their main topic of research. All of the research was sure to inspire some new scientific discovery. This year as always the staff required the students to find commercial applications for the research work that they completed.

Students also prepared their first formal scientific research paper and presentation in IDS **Mrs. Duddles** did an excellent job of preparing the students for this task as well as the rigorous question and answer session that followed each presentation. The ninth grade students performed with the greatest of professionalism to make this year presentations the best yet. Special thanks go out to our superior math department, especially **Mr. Acre** for his work with the students in selecting the proper statistical analysis to support their scientific research results.

The entire MMSTC community congratulates the freshman class on a job well done!

2010-2011 TRIG-STAR STATE COMPETITION WINNERS!

A **TRIG-STAR** is a mathematics student who has demonstrated in competition that they are the most skilled among approximately 1,000 Michigan students in the practical application of trigonometry. The competition for the honor is a timed exercise which is the solving of trigonometry problems, including a real-life problem mirroring typical situations that professional surveyors encounter every day. The contest helps to promote careers in surveying and mapping to students at the high schools across the country. The award



is sponsored by the National Society of Professional Surveyors and the Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors. Local sponsor, **Craig Amey** from **Anderson**, **Eckstein and Westrick**, **Inc** worked with MMSTC teacher **Mrs. Kincaid Dewey** for this year's event.

1ST PLACE WINNER: **Michael Drake (WWT)** Perfect 100 points in a record time of 18:54 He received a **\$1000 award**, a chance to participate in the national competition and an invitation to the Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors conference next February in Ypsilanti where he will be honored at a luncheon.

3RD PLACE WINNER: Henry Kernen (FHS) 100 points in a time of 20:28 \$250 Prize



4th PLACE WINNER: Jamie George (Cousino) Perfect 100 points in a time of 23:36

Congratulations Michael, Henry and Jamie as well as the rest of the class of 2013 for their exceptional performance on this year's contest! A total of **eight** sophomores scored 100% on this contest...a new MMSTC record!

The United States Air Force Academy Appointment



Patricia Pasque (Cousino HS) was one of four students from the 12th Congressional District who were offered appointments to the United States Service Academies. At a reception hosted by **Congressman Sander Levin** at Ferndale High School Patricia, surrounded by her extended family and staff members from Cousino and MMSTC, officially accepted her appointment from the Congressman.

Each year the Academies receive over 10,000 applications and only admit approximately 1200 students. We are exceptionally proud of Patricia and her accomplishments and admire her desire to serve our country. Patricia hopes to study and train to become a fighter pilot. We wish her all the best.

ANNUAL MMSTC SPIRIT WEEK ENDS WITH SPIRITED BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



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Lauran Hoven, Director of Special Programs MMSTC Newsletter Committee: MMSTC staff Editor: Christine Kincaid Dewey Printing and Distribution: Secretarial Staff



MMSTC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Macomb Mathematics Science Technology Center, in partnership with families and community, is to create the best innovative environment which fosters excellence and vision in teaching, learning, and discovering the relationships of mathematics, science, technology, and society.

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Student Achievement

A focus on measurable student achievement in our Professional Learning Communities.

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Clear Expectations

Clear expectations for every stakeholder, including students, staff and parents.



Strong Relationships

Strong relationships among all stakeholders, including: teacher-student, parent-teacher, principal-teacher, and superintendent-board member.

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