

NOVEMBER 2011

# ADMINISTRATORS' ARENA



## Mount Clemens High School Secondary News

Dear MCHS Parents~

The first marking period has come to a close. You should be receiving report cards by November 11, 2011. Now is a good time to assess and plan the next steps for continued improvement. It is certainly not the time to relax or give up. Please use the PowerSchool Parent Portal to access your student's attendance and grades through a secure internet connection. Please e-mail [psparentportal@mtcps.org](mailto:psparentportal@mtcps.org) for more information on how to obtain your parent portal login information.

Your support at home plays a vital role in your student's success in the classroom. Please encourage your students to attend our after-

school tutoring programs on Tuesdays (Mathematics) and on Wednesdays (Science) in the high school media center immediately after school at 2:45.

The high school staff is busy preparing for a Quality Assurance Review as a required component of accreditation and school improvement. A parent group will be part of this review. If you are interested in learning more about the QAR, please plan on joining me at 7:15am, on November 28, 2011 in the high school media center for our previously scheduled "Second Cup of Coffee" social.

Currently MCHS students are collecting non-

perishable food items for our Feed-A-Family campaign (see page 3). All donations will go to help a local family in need this holiday season.

Also, MCHS Junior/Senior Prom will be held on the Infinity Yacht at Jefferson Beach Marina on May 4, 2012. Tickets are \$80 per person and are on sale NOW. A payment plan is in place for all students. See Mrs. Allen in Counseling for tickets/information.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday season!

Sincerely,

Michael Bruce  
Principal

Dear MCHS families,

The first quarter of the 2010/2011 school year is now completed and we have started the second quarter. We are happy to announce that we will be having an "Honor Roll Party" on Friday, November 18, 2011 from 2:45~5:00 pm. At this time, we'll be enjoying pizza, potato chips and pop before going into the digital theater for a movie with Ms. Ozar. All grades are in and honorees invited to the party will be announced on Friday, November 11, 2011.

In addition, all Honor Roll students will have the opportunity to receive a FREE ticket to a Red Wings' game when they purchase their first ticket for \$30.00. That's a great price....two for only \$30.00....and a great way to celebrate terrific work during the first semester of the year. All certificates for the FREE tickets and invitations to the party will be distributed on Friday, November 11, 2011. It's been a busy ten weeks, and we are happy to acknowledge our great students who performed at the highest level. Let's keep up the great work!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sharon Gryzenia, Ed.S  
Accountability Officer



# Mount Clemens High School Vision Statement

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Mount Clemens High School commits itself to excellence and equity in education. Each student will achieve a high level of academic performance, function effectively in the community, and make contributions to the broader society.

## Mission Statement

Mount Clemens High School will assist all students in planning for their success both during and after high school.

~Students will complete an educational development plan that meets their academic needs.

~While student's choices will vary, we will prepare students to pursue both a career direction and continued education.

~All members of the MCHS community will work together to realize this vision in an atmosphere of mutual respect where the contributions of all are valued.

## Belief Statements: The Clem Creed

1. Focus on Success
2. Give and Command Respect
3. Be Prepared
4. Participate Positively Each Day
5. Take Pride in being a Battling Bather!

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## Door Decorating Contest

*Congratulations* to Mrs. Keisic's 6th hour E2020 class for taking 1st place in the door decorating contest. Led by DeJuan, Quavon, Robert and Shyheim, these students designed and decorated the class door, depicting Bather Pride in both writing and pictures. The students celebrated with pizza, pop, cookies and candy. You're welcome to walk by and see the door.

## INTRODUCING PARENT PORTAL

Interested in having the ability to view your student's attendance and grade information? Please e-mail: [psparentportal@mtcps.org](mailto:psparentportal@mtcps.org) for more information on how to obtain your Parent Portal Login. You will be required to sign an Acceptable Use agreement and show your ID.

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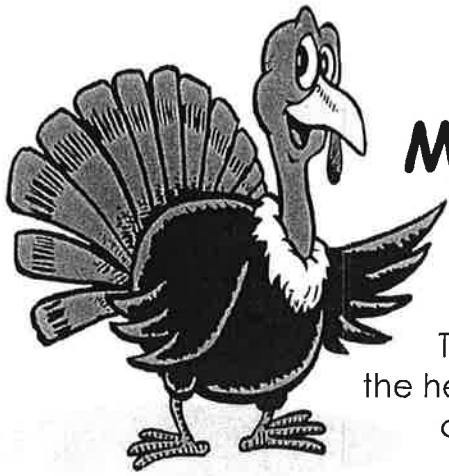
## Did you read me? I'm important!

Dear Parents/Guardians -  
Have you moved or recently changed your contact information?

Please contact Mrs. Allen at 586-461-3418. It is important to have current information on file for your student in the event of an emergency or illness. Thank you for your assistance!



Together with Mr. Linabury's Media 3 students, Ms. Clemens' Digital Media students will be putting out a digital record of the 2011/2012 school year. The finished product will be called "The Summit" and will contain, pictures with captions, video stories and music. It will be sold for \$20.00 and distributed in late May. "The Summit" will be the first DVD/YEARBOOK package in Mount Clemens High School history. See Ms. Clemens to order yours.



# MOUNT CLEMENS SECONDARY COMPLEX

## "FEED - A - FAMILY"

The "**Feed-a-Family**" program is one of many sponsored by Student Assembly (SA). With the help of Mount Clemens Junior High and High School students, Student Assembly is able to donate baskets of food to feed needy families during the Thanksgiving season. Staff and students may donate any non-perishable food item(s).

We'd also like to collect \$10.00 per classroom to help purchase a turkey for each and every basket. Our goal this season is to help 40 families.

**Please begin your collections on October 24, 2011**

**Food will be collected from classrooms on November 22, 2011**

Suggested (non-perishable) food items, staff and students may consider donating:

Soup	Gravy	Puddings
Potatoes/Rice	Hot Chocolate	Crackers
Yams	Flour/Sugar/Coffee	Macaroni & Cheese/Pastas
Candies or Nuts	Juices	Peanut/Jelly
Fruit	Stuffing	Cereals
Canned Vegetables	Paper Goods (plates, napkins, silverware, cups etc...)	

**Please remember someone else this holiday season.**



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# Positive Behavior Support Program

The Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Team and the Bather Council is kicking off their "Bather Buck" Program. Each teacher will receive 15 Bather Bucks to distribute to students in their classrooms for the month of November.

Students will be able to earn "Bather Bucks" by doing the following:

- ~Going above and beyond in class
- ~Scoring 80% or better on a test
- ~No tardies
- ~Attending MSU and/or Math tutoring
- ~Completing Career Cruising
- ~Completing College Applications
- ~Parents attending conferences

Students will be able to use these "Bather Bucks" to obtain the following:

- ~Free entrance to a MCHS sporting events (2 Bather bucks)
- ~Free art lesson with Mrs. Cusenza (3 Bather bucks)
- ~Free voice lesson with Mr. Emschwiller (3 Bather bucks)
- ~Free homework pass (2 Bather bucks)
- ~Items in the school store (priced according to value)
- ~Raffle ticket
- ~Fast food gift cards

We will conduct a raffle each month where students could win a larger prize such as:

- ~Bather wear
- ~Wal-Mart gift card (Scheduled for November 30, 2011)
- ~MJR movie gift cards (Scheduled for December 20, 2011)
- ~iTunes gift cards

We know our students will enjoy earning "Bather Bucks" and put the Bather Pride back into Mount Clemens High School.

To increase our "Bather Spirit", the Bather council has scheduled a holiday competition to be held on December 20, 2011 in the high school gym. Teams of students will be competing for a pizza party for their team.

We are planning competitions and activities to wrap up 2011 at our Holiday Spirit Assembly. The next meeting of the Bather Council will be held on November 9, 2011 at 2:45 p.m., in the College and Career Center. If additional students are interested in joining us and planning great activities for our school, please come!

To help finance the Bather Spirit Assembly, we are holding Penny Wars from November 1, 2011 through December 9, 2011. A penny war fundraiser is a fun and creative way of raising funds for special events.

The rules are as follows:

- ~Each grade has a jar, which will be located at the security desk.
- ~Put your loose change (in the jars) pennies in your grade level jar and silver money in other grade level jars.
- ~The class which brings in the most money in pennies wins!
- ~Pennies count as one cent, but silver coins and paper money count AGAINST that team.

All monies will be counted and tabulated each week. The winner of the Penny Wars will be announced December 12, 2011.

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## TARDIES ANYONE?

Beginning, November 7, 2011, we are amending the tardy policy to reduce the number of students coming to class late each hour.

~There will be hall sweeps daily. Students will be taken to E111 and will complete a writing assignment during the hour.

~Students with 4-7 tardies will receive a lunch detention. Ms. Cuthbertson will tabulate the tardies, complete and deliver the form for students to inform them of their detention. All lunch detentions will take place in E111.

~Students with 8-10 tardies will receive 2 lunch detentions.

~Students with more than 11 tardies will serve an after-school detention with a staff member. Students MUST bring work to this after-school detention to complete during the hour.

~Students with 12 tardies and their parents will meet with the Accountability Officer.

Lunch Detention A will be supervised by Mrs. Gryzenia  
Lunch Detention B will be supervised by Mr. Bruce.

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## A RAISIN IN THE SUN

The Fine and Performing Arts department of Mount Clemens High School is pleased to announce the production of A RAISIN IN THE SUN on November 11, 2011 and November 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., in the Large Auditorium. Tickets are now on sale. Have you bought your ticket yet? Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students

The Mount Clemens High School cast line-up is as follows:

Walter Younger-Arthur Knuckles  
Ruth Younger-KaDesha Millbrooks  
Beneatha Younger-Shakiela Hurt  
Joseph Asagai-Jonathan Williams  
George Murchison-Rashaw Biles  
Mrs. Johnson-Stefanie Jefferson  
Bobo-Kesihay Harvey  
Mr. Linder-Tyler Arntzen  
Lena Younger-Raven Mial

The cast portrays the roles of the Younger family and their desire to grow, live and make a better life for the entire family following the death of the father, Mr. Younger.

For more information, please contact Mr. Emshwiller at 586-461-3400 or via e-mail at emshwillerm@mtcps.org



HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

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# Counselor's

Dear MCHS Parents of Seniors: I had an opportunity to meet with seniors during the month of October, in their English class, to discuss the college application process, financial aid, scholarships/scholarship searches, dual enrollment, community service requirements/suggestions, career cruising/educational development plans and graduation requirements. They received an unofficial copy of their transcript, a senior checklist; an authorization to release transcripts form that needs to be signed by their parent and returned to the counseling office, information about scholarships, dates for taking the ACT/SAT and information about fee waivers for taking the ACT/SAT. Hopefully, your senior has shared this information with you during your educational discussions. We will be available on Thursday, November 17, 2011 at 2:45p.m. in the high school media center for any senior who needs additional help with the following: completing college applications, proofreading scholarship and/or admission essays, signing up to retake the ACT/SAT, completing NCAA Clearinghouse requirements, searching for scholarships etc... Parents are welcome to attend to work with their student during this process.

**College Applications:** Now is the time to complete college applications and to continue with scholarship searches. Parents of seniors are encouraged to visit potential colleges with their student to determine if that school is a good fit for their child. It is highly recommended that students complete the college application process no later than Thanksgiving. The majority of colleges/universities prefer that students complete an on-line application. Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch are eligible to receive up to three (3) fee waivers for in-state college applications. If students complete an on-line application, be sure to print the counselor page of the application and bring it to the counseling office. This helps us know where students have applied, and allows us to send any additional information that is needed (i.e.: transcripts, test scores, fee waivers, letters of recommendation etc...). We must have an authorization to release transcripts on file before we are able to send information to prospective colleges and/or universities.

**The Armed Services and Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)** test will be administered during school hours on Tuesday, November 15, 2011. This test is for juniors and/or seniors. Students will receive an interpretation of their scores on November 30, 2011. Taking the test does NOT constitute a commitment to the Armed Services. The test is FREE of charge. Students may still sign-up in the counseling office.

**Dual Enrollment:** Those juniors and/or seniors planning to dual enroll for the winter 2012 semester at Macomb Community College, who have not completed and turned in their paperwork to the counseling office MUST do so as soon as possible. Priority registration is November 7-14, 2011. Registration is open to all Macomb students on November 15, 2011. For additional information, please contact Ms. Simmons at 586-461-3419.

**Scholarships:** Seniors are encouraged to stop by the counseling office on a regular basis to check for new available scholarships, in addition to continuing their own scholarship search at home. Parents are encouraged to check with their banks, credit unions and jobs to see if scholarships are being offered. A number of major chains such as Target, Best Buy, Toys R Us and Burger King just to name a few, offer scholarships each year to seniors.

It is important that seniors take the time to turn in a quality application since they are competing with many high school seniors from all areas. The following scholarships are currently available to seniors in the counseling office: Old & Young Alumni Assoc (OYAA), 3.0 GPA required; Elks Scholarship, MEA, AAA, NSA and NROTC scholarships just to name a few. Students should have been or be in the process of gathering their letters of recommendations to have available when applying for various scholarships. Our local scholarships (available in March 2012) will require students to have a minimum of three (3) letters of recommendation and a 2.5 GPA to apply.

**Financial Aid Night:** Each year, we usually have Macomb Community College come to MCHS during the month of November to discuss with parents about the financial aid process. The podcast from last year is available on the school website. This year's financial aid representatives will hold four high school informational nights at MCC from 6:30-8:00pm. They are as follows:

November 30, 2011: MCC South Campus (14500 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren 48088), K Bldg, Room#: 324  
December 7, 2011: MCC Center Campus (44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Twp 48038), University Center PDC  
January 11, 2011: MCC Center Campus (44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Twp 48038), University Center PDC  
January 18, 2011: MCC South Campus (14500 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren 48088), K Bldg, Room#: 301

# Clem Corner

The school store or better known as "Clem Corner" is up and running daily in the High School.

Mr. Bourdeau's Retail Management and Advanced Business Management classes are responsible for the daily operations, inventory, cleaning and planning of this Mount Clemens hidden treasure. Clem Corner is selling a vast array of items such as: Keurig coffee, giant kosher pickles (yummy), t-shirts, beef sticks, cookies, chips and school bags.

"A good job is being done by all, but there is always room for improvement" said Mr. Bourdeau.

"We are currently trying out different products to see what is selling and profitable. Students from the

class are really taking ownership in the store."

One student in particular has exceeded expectations. Ms. Elizabeth Marshall, in Advanced Business Management, shows up three days a week at 6:40a.m., opens and operates the store before school.

"She is an extremely motivated young lady and goes above and beyond the call of duty and is doing a great job!" She has really taken a leadership role.

In addition, I'd like to recognize Airrica Waters and Carolyn Girdwood for going above and beyond the call of duty in this class! Well done, ladies. Profits from Clem Corner will

benefit the entire student body at Mount Clemens High School.

Clem Corner is open from 6:45 a.m. to 7:05 a.m. and during all lunches!



All Mount Clemens High School students have received their student ID's. These IDs **MUST, MUST** be worn at **ALL** times. They are required for admission to the cafeteria and any school events.

Replacement IDs are \$5.00 each.

## Counselor's

Juniors and seniors have had the opportunity to sign-up in the counseling office to visit with representatives from various colleges/universities. The representatives come in during the school day to meet with students to discuss the application process for their particular school, admittance requirements, tuition and financial aid, housing and other important details pertaining to their individual institutions. The following schools are still on schedule to visit MCHS: **November 14, 2011:** Bowling Green State University; **November 15, 2011:** Northern Michigan University; **November 17, 2011:** Paul Mitchell School of Cosmetology; **November 29, 2011:** Kettering University; **December 2, 2011:** Grand Valley State University. Students may still sign up in the counseling office to visit with these representatives.

The ACT is a test used for admission to all Michigan four-year college/universities, as well as many out-of-state schools. The ACT assessment measures skills in four curriculum areas: English, Math, Reading and Science Reasoning. Register on-line at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). Practice tests are also available on-line as an aid in preparation for the test.

The SAT is called the SAT I. Achievement tests are called SAT II subject tests. Together, they are known as the "Scholastic Assessment Tests". The SAT I and II are used by some out-of-state schools for enrollment. They are **NOT** required for Michigan colleges/universities, but can often be used in place of the ACT. Check with the college/university of your choice. Register on-line at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

The ACT/SAT tests dates for the 2011/2012 school year are as follows:

**ACT Test Dates:** Saturday, October 22, 2011; Saturday December 10, 2011; Saturday February 11, 2012; Saturday, April 14, 2012; Saturday, June 9, 2012. **SAT Test Dates:** Saturday, November 5, 2011; Saturday, December 3, 2011; Saturday, January 28, 2012; Saturday, May 5, 2012; Saturday, June 2, 2012.

Please visit the websites to see deadlines for registration for the test dates listed above.

NOTE: The ACT/SAT registration code for Mount Clemens High School is: 232-655

# Extra Credit Opportunities for English Students

English teachers are delighted that "Anonymous" opened at theaters nationwide on October 28, 2011.

The film, according to Internet Movie Database (IMDb), is "a political thriller advancing the theory that it was, in fact, Edward De Vere, Earl of Oxford who penned Shakespeare's



plays..." Since freshmen and seniors study plays by William Shakespeare, all three English teachers are offering extra credit to students who go to see this film and bring in a movie ticket stub as evidence.

In addition, MCHS will put on a production of "A Raisin in the Sun" on November 11 and 12, directed by Mr. Emshwiller and Ms. Jozefiak.

The play, written by Lorraine Hansberry, has survived the test of time. The themes are still relevant as the play touches on the subjects of discrimination, assimilation and exploitation. IMDb summarizes the play saying..."An African-American family struggles



with poverty, racism, and inner conflict as they strive for a better way of life."

As the play is taught in the junior year,

students are encouraged to attend this production as well.

Students should check with their English teacher about assignments related to the extra credit prior to going to either production.

## MCHS Dance Company presents Ray Mercer

Ray Mercer, Broadway cast member of The Lion King, has been a special guest at Mount Clemens High School from



November 7th through 9th working with the Dance Co. students on choreography.

Ray Mercer, is a native of Omaha, NE. He is currently in the Broadway cast of The Lion King, in New York. Ray started his dance training at the tender age of 17, where he studied at the Uni-

versity of New Orleans, Chicago and New York. No stranger to Wayne State University, he has worked as an artist in residence commissioning two works over the past two academic years. He has danced with Detroit City Dance Co./Detroit, Deeply Rooted Dance Theater/Chicago, and the Boston Ballet (guest artist). He has worked alongside Aretha Franklin, Rod Stewart, Stephanie Mills, Kevin "lega Jeff", George Faison, Louis Johnson and Garth Fagan. Ray was a 2011 Capezio Ace Awards Finalist. He has won Broadway's Gypsy of the Year Award in 2005. The Michigan Dance Council Award, and the Black Theater alliance Award in Chicago for his choreography.

Parents: Dance Co. members who are selected for the cast will be required to remain in rehearsal until 5:30pm Monday through Wednesday, November 7th through 9th. Dancers are also encouraged to bring healthy snacks for the extended rehearsal schedule.



## Mount Clemens High School Medical Academy Congratulates Shamiko Flagg!

Mount Clemens High School is proud to announce that Shamiko Flagg, a 2011 graduate, is the first student the Medical/Bioscience Academy to receive the State of Michigan certification as a Nurse Aide or Nursing Assistant.

As a high school senior, Shamiko enrolled in the Medical Academy Certified Nursing Assistant course. A one semester course consists of: anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, taking vital signs and patient care skills. Students get hands on experience at a nursing home as a requirement of this course.

Shamiko, completed her State of Michigan exam in July 2011, and is now eligible to pursue employment in the health care field.

Mount Clemens Community Schools is very proud of it's partnership with the Career Advancement Center in Healthcare Institute which provides a registered nurse as the instructor for this course.

Students enrolled in the Medical/Bioscience Academy are provided with a science intensive curriculum that prepares them for careers and post secondary education in the medical field.



Follow us on Facebook.com at:  
Mount Clemens Battling Bathers



Check us out...we're on the web!  
[www.mtcps.org](http://www.mtcps.org)



### Statement of Assurance of Compliance with Federal Laws

It is the policy of the Mount Clemens Board of Education that no person on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age, marital status, lack of English skills, or disability, be excluded from participation and be denied the benefits, or be subject to discrimination under program or activity and in employment; further the Mount Clemens Board of Education strictly adheres to provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, title IX the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Education policies and regulations prohibiting discrimination.

If you would like more information regarding this assurance, please contact:

Mr. Michael Bruce  
Principal, Mount Clemens High School  
Title VI/Title IX & Age Coordinator  
155 Cass Avenue  
Mount Clemens, Michigan 48043  
586-461-3491

Ms. Yvonne McQueen  
Director of Exceptional Education  
Section 504-Title II Coordinator  
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