



Mount Clemens Community School District

Connector

October 2008



Breaking News...

Mount Clemens Rotary Club is donating a POHI playground to George Washington Academy.

Dates to Remember:

November

19.....Board of Education Meeting

December

9.....Seminole Concert

11.....King Concert

12.....High School Concert

16.....Washington Concert

17.....Board of Education Meeting

18.....Middle School Concert

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Basketball Coach Al Snyder Inducted into BCAM Hall of Fame

From 1971 to 2002, Al Snyder successfully coached at Mount Clemens High School. He had previously coached two seasons at Decatur High School. His teams won 469 times to only 247 losses. Under Al's leadership, his teams won 11 League Championships, 19 District Championships and two Regional Titles. Al has served Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan (BCAM) as the "Mr. Basketball" chairperson for the past 17 years. He has received a Varsity 400 Century Club Award and 200 Century Club Award from BCAM. He was named BCAM's Regional Coach of the Year in the 1985-86 and 1986-87 seasons. Al was named Macomb Daily Coach of the Year on three different occasions; coached the Macomb-Oakland All-Star game twice and was named the Detroit Free Press All-East Coach of the Year. Al was inducted into the Macomb County Hall of Fame and was also named MCHS Teacher of the Year in 2004. "Teaching and coaching is a great opportunity to teach life's lessons and it takes energy, enthusiasm and effort", says Al.



Our New Website

Mount Clemens Community School District announces its newly designed website, www.mtcps.org. This website will serve as an informative and interactive link between the community and the district. The redesigned site provides news and information of

interest for parents, students, teachers, community members and potential residents. Users will find information on each school, lunch menus, contact information and calendars for each school and departments. Finally, the new website features a podcast, links to teacher's email addresses and instructional pacing guides for each grade level. The website also includes information on athletic events, community partnerships and an alumni page.

Before & After School Learning Camps

Mount Clemens Community School District will be offering before and after school learning camps every school day throughout the 2008—2009 school year. Camps will be located at all elementary schools. Students will be tutored in core academic subjects by trained professional staff. Camps will offer extended learning opportunities with time for enrichment and homework. In this way, your child will be able to obtain small group tutoring in an area that meets the child's needs. For more information call your school or go to www.mtcps.org.

Congratulations Venus Tolliver Class of 2008



Last November Mount Clemens Community School District held a Name the Newsletter Contest Winner. Venus' submission, "CONNECTOR", was selected by the Marketing Committee from numerous entries. This is a great way to leave a lasting legacy here at *The Clem*. We wish Venus the best of luck at Wayne State University and with all her future endeavors.

Superintendent's Corner



Hello, I am Dr. Charles Muncatchy, Superintendent of the Mount Clemens Community School District. On behalf of the Board of Education and staff, welcome to our new school district newsletter. The CONNECTOR is one of the many ways that we are working to communicate with and involve you as a member of our Mount Clemens learning community.

We hope your excitement grows as you navigate through our new website, www.mtcps.org. You can explore our newly updated world-class curriculum, news from our schools, our proud heritage and discover many ways for you to become involved. I would like to take this opportunity to personally invite you to make a positive difference in a child's life.

We need volunteers, mentors, tutors and civic and business partners. Your investment means the world to our success. Research shows that schools with active volunteers have a more focused learning environment for their children. To find out how you can become involved or to learn more about our programs contact our Community Engagement Coordinator, Crystal Combs, at (586) 461-3749.

I look forward to working with you in our classrooms. Together we can give every student the support they need to become lifelong learners. I am proud of the fact that we offer the internationally recognized International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program for ALL of our Mount Clemens Middle School students and our ninth graders. Thanks to the dedicated work of devoted and passionate teachers, we launched a Small Learning Community for all of our freshmen this fall. This program features a college and vocational preparatory curriculum with career exploration and research. The curriculum is integrated with all subjects and coordinated with community business partners.

Mr. Michael Bruce joins us as principal of Mount Clemens High School. He brings eighteen years of teaching and administrative expertise from his work in San Antonio, Texas. His leadership in improving student learning has already begun to show results.

Please feel free to contact me with your questions and suggestions about anything in our school district. I know that the 2008 – 2009 school year will be filled with accomplishment thanks to the collaboration between all affected parties in our community of life-long learners.

Read 180 Reading Intervention

Mount Clemens Community School District students, grades 6 - 9, will utilize a computerized software program to engage them in reading and increase their skills.

Have you ever seen a student “do a 180”? It's a complete turnaround. Understanding replaces confusion. Motivation replaces frustration. Success replaces failure. READ 180 is a researched - based reading intervention program designed to raise the reading levels and test scores of struggling readers at all grade levels.

Students use the software independently, providing them with intensive, individualized skills practice. This engaging topic software, with video segments, builds background to help students form mental models. It provides customized reading instruction and practice with individualized, adjusted support to address each student's needs



Basketball Schedule **



**Game dates/times subject to change.

GIRLS JUNIOR VARSITY & VARSITY BASKETBALL

				J.V.	Varsity	
12/05/08	FRI.	MARINE CITY	HOME	5:30	7:00	
12/09/08	Tues.	Port Huron	Away	5:30	7:00	
12/11/08	THURS.	LAKE SHORE	HOME	5:30	7:00	
12/17/08	Wed.	L'Anse Cruese North	Away	5:30	7:00	
12/19/08	Fri.	Woods Tower	Away	5:30	7:00	
TBA		Motor City Classic	Away	TBA		
01/06/09	TUES.	DAKOTA	HOME	5:30	7:00	
01/08/09	Thurs.	L'Anse Cruese	Away	5:30	7:00	
01/14/09	WED.	COUSINO	HOME	5:30	7:00	
01/16/09	FRI.	LAKEVIEW	HOME	5:30	7:00	RED ALERT
01/20/09	Tues.	Grosse Pointe South	Away	5:30	7:00	
01/22/09	Thurs.	Anchor Bay	Away	5:30	7:00	
01/28/09	WED.	ALLEN ACADEMY	HOME	5:30	7:00	WHITE OUT
02/03/09	TUES.	MARYSVILLE	HOME	5:30	7:00	
02/05/09	Thurs.	Roseville	Away	5:30	7:00	
02/11/09	WED.	L'ANSE CREUSE	HOME	5:30	7:00	
02/13/09	Fri.	Cousino	Away	5:30	7:00	
02/17/09	Tues.	Lakeview	Away	5:30	7:00	
02/19/09	THURS.	G.P. SOUTH	HOME	5:30	7:00	
02/24/09	TUES.	ANCHOR BAY	HOME	5:30	7:00	SENIOR NIGHT

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

All games at 3:30 unless indicated

12/01/08	Mon.	LCC	Away
12/04/08	Thurs.	Algonquin	HOME
12/08/08	Mon.	AB-South	HOME
12/15/08	Mon.	New Haven	Away
12/18/08	Thurs.	Clintondale	Away
01/05/09	Mon.	LCC	HOME
01/08/09	Thurs.	Algonquin	Away
01/12/09	Mon.	LCS	HOME
01/15/09	Thurs.	Wyandot	Away
01/19/09	Mon.	AB-South	Away
01/22/09	Thurs.	New Haven	HOME
01/26/09	Mon.	Clintondale	HOME (4:00)

BOYS FRESHMAN / JUNIOR VARSITY / VARSITY BASKETBALL

				Freshman	J.V.	Varsity	
12/10/08	WED	DETROIT DOUGLASS	HOME	4:00	5:30	7:00	
12/12/08	Fri.	Harper Woods	Away	*	5:30	7:00	
12/16/08	Tues.	Center Line	Away	4:00	5:30	7:00	
12/18/08	Thurs.	Woods Tower	Away	4:00	5:30	7:00	
TBA		Motor City Classic	Away	TBA	TBA	TBA	
01/07/09	Wed.	Sterling Heights	Away	4:00	5:30	7:00	
01/09/09	FRI.	NEW HAVEN	HOME	*	5:30	7:00	RED ALERT
01/13/09	TUES.	LUTHERAN NORTH	HOME	4:00	5:30	7:00	
01/15/09	Thurs.	Marysville	Away	4:30	6:00	7:30	
01/21/09	Wed.	Mott	Away	4:00	5:30	7:00	
01/23/09	FRI	SAINT CLAIR	HOME	4:00	5:30	7:00	
01/27/09	TUES.	WARREN LINCOLN	HOME	4:00	5:30	7:00	
01/30/09	FRI	DETROIT CONSORTIUM	HOME	4:00	5:30	7:00	WHITE OUT
02/06/09	FRI.	STERLING HEIGHTS	HOME	4:00	5:30	7:00	
02/10/09	Tues.	New Haven	Away	*	5:30	7:00	
02/18/09	WED.	MARYSVILLE	HOME	4:00	5:30	7:00	
02/20/09	FRI.	MOTT	HOME	4:00	5:30	7:00	
02/24/09	Tues.	Saint Clair	Away	4:30	6:00	7:30	
02/26/09	Thurs.	Warren Lincoln	Away	4:30	6:00	7:30	
03/03/09	TUES.	CLINTONDALE	HOME	4:30	6:00	7:30	SENIOR NIGHT

*Indicates No Freshman Game

Red Alert

Wear all red.

White Out

Wear all white.

Senior Night

Senior Player & Parent Recognition Night



Quentin Hines Races Forward



Dr. Muncatchy congratulates Quentin on his great 07-08 track record.

Quentin Hines, Mount Clemens High School graduate, Class of 2008, has accepted a scholarship to continue his education, play football and run track for the University of Cincinnati, home of the Bear Cats. Quentin's Grandfather Willie Horton is very proud of Quentin's athletic and academic achievements. Quentin says, "My grandfather is a hard worker and want to see you work hard." Quentin will be working hard to complete his degree in sports administration. He hopes to be an athletic director and help teenagers. His Mentor, Thomas Hannah, influenced and helped him overcome many obstacles. Quentin's advice to incoming freshman, "Balance out dealing with peer pressure and academics." He says, "Hands down 4th hour Health was my favorite class. Mr. Randall Nelson was my favorite teacher because he is so understanding and he sees high school like the way students see it." Best of luck to you, Quentin!

Athletic Eligibility

Every three weeks High School and Middle School teachers evaluate the grades of all student athletes who participate in any athletic sport. The grades are then passed on to the Athletic Director who conveys the eligibility of the students to the coach of their team. The district takes the policy very seriously and hopes to set the precedent for all student athletes in the state and in the country.

The Board has adopted the eligibility standards set by the Michigan High School Athletics Association (MHSAA), except that in addition to the eligibility standards established by the MHSAA, to be eligible for any athletic activity a student athlete must:

- A. achieve and maintain at least a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better based on a tri-weekly progress report as of August 20, 2008, and thereafter. The High School Principal, may grant a waiver to a student showing progress toward a 2.0 grade point average or because of extenuating circumstances;
- B. not have failed more than one course in the semester prior to the semester in which s/he wishes to participate, effective the second semester of the academic year 2008-2009.

To be eligible to participate in any Middle School athletic activity, a student must have maintained a 2.0 grade point average.

You can review all Board Policy regarding athletics on www.mtcps.org under Board of Education, Policy Manual, Policy 2341– Interscholastic Athletics. Please direct your questions to the Athletic Department at 461-3740.

Mount Clemens Educational Foundation

The Mount Clemens Educational Foundation has established several objectives for the 2008—2009 school year. Most important is to establish a Universal Scholarship Program for Mount Clemens students who have attended Mount Clemens Community Schools at least for the four years of High School.

The foundation would like to improve the quality of education provided by the Mount Clemens Community School District. This would include improving the scores on state tests and improving the curriculum offered to assure post secondary ability. The members of the foundation feel it is imperative to ensure that our children are “World Ready.” In order for our children to survive in this economy and the world today we need to prepare them for a post secondary education and future employment. The foundation is working to change the community and student’s attitudes regarding this necessity. We want the students to understand the impact of life-long learning.

To help the Mount Clemens Educational Foundation reach the objectives set forth by its members they are asking for monetary donations. All donations will be used for Mount Clemens High School graduates. Please fill out and mail the attached form today.

Mount Clemens Educational Foundation

Contribution Suggestions

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$

Your Contribution is tax-deductible

Name: _____

Address: _____

Street

City

State

Zip Code

Make Checks payable to: Mount Clemens Educational Foundation

167 Cass Avenue, Mount Clemens MI 48043

Freshmen Find Success

Mount Clemens High School is actively engaging the 9th grade students in a Freshman Transitions Model. In 2009-2010, we will extend our focus and provide opportunities for students to choose an area of interest in the following academies:

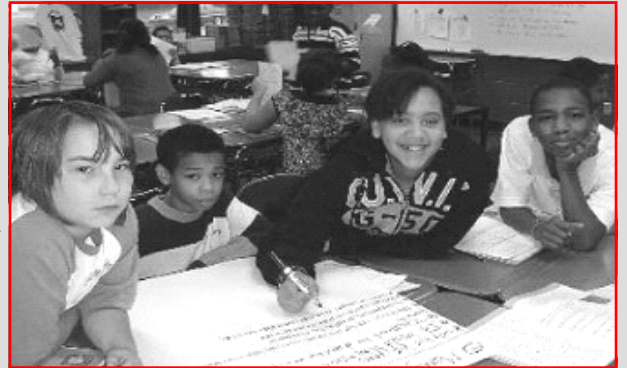
- Creative Arts & Communication
- Legal Studies
- Medical Bioscience

We have formed an Advisory Committee of community members who can offer expertise in their field. These members will visit a targeted academy and share their knowledge with our students.

If you are interested in being part of our Advisor Committee, please call, (586) 461-3747 We need you!

What a Difference A Year Makes!!

The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (MYP) provides a framework of academic challenge that encourages students to embrace and understand the connections between traditional subjects and the real world, and become critical and reflective thinkers. We focus on the development of the whole child as an inquirer, both in the classroom and in the world outside. The MYP promotes the education of the whole person, emphasizing intellectual, personal and social growth through all domains of knowledge.



Cairns Community Center

Serving the needs of the community!

Finally, a home for the community. Cairns Community Center's (CCC) mission is to provide a safe haven where young people and their families can go to interact with others members of the community. We specialize in providing learning opportunities, recreational activities and access to community services.

The CCC is open to everyone in the community
Monday thru Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Weeknight open gym runs

Monday thru Thursday 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Open Gym

Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Senior Programs

Monday thru Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Youth After School Programs and Tutorial Help

Monday thru Thursday 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Check the website for workshops and special events.

* * *

**Need a place to hold a meeting or special event?
We are open for Rental and Special events.**

Friday9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Call to check availability for other days and times.

For more information:

- Call Cairns Community Center at (586) 464-0728
- E-mail: wilsonte@mtcps.org
- Or visit us on the web at:
www.mtcps.org/schools/cairnscommunitycenter



2008—2009 District Calendar

Board of Education Meetings

July 9, 2008 6:30 pm
Public Library

August 20, 2008 6:30 pm
Public Library

September 17, 2008 6:30 pm
Public Library

October 22, 2008 6:30 pm
Lincoln Early Childhood Center

November 19, 2008 6:30 pm
M. L. King Jr. Academy

December 17, 2008 6:30 pm
Seminole Academy

January 21, 2009 6:30 pm
George Washington Academy

February 18, 2009 6:30 pm
Mount Clemens Middle School

March 18, 2009 6:30 pm
Mount Clemens High School

April 22, 2009 6:30 pm
Public Library

May 20, 2009 6:30 pm
Public Library

June 17, 2009 6:30 pm
Public Library



School Schedules

Mount Clemens High School
7:20 a.m. - 2:41 p.m.

Mount Clemens Middle School
7:20 a.m. - 2:32 p.m.

M.L. King Jr. Academy
8:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Seminole Academy
8:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

George Washington Academy
8:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Lincoln Early Childhood Center
(Morning Session) 7:30 a.m. -10:28 p.m.
(Afternoon Session) 11:53 a.m. - 2:36 p.m.

10/31/2008 End of First Marking Period

10/31/2008 Classes A.M. Only, Grades K -12

11/04/2008 ... No Classes, Grades K - 12

11/13/2008 Classes A.M. Only, Grades K - 5

11/13/2008 ... Parent Teacher Conferences, Grades K - 5

11/14/2008 ... Classes A.M. Only, Grades K - 5

11/14/2008 ... Parent Teacher Conferences, Grades K - 5

11/19/2008 Early Release

11/26/2008 Thanksgiving Recess

12/01/2008 Classes Resume

12/03/2008 Early Release

12/22/2008 Winter Recess

01/05/2009 Classes Resume

01/07/2009 Early Release

01/14/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades 9 - 12

01/15/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades 9 - 12

01/16/2009 End of Second Marking Period

01/16/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades K - 12

01/19/2009 No Classes, Grades K - 12

01/28/2009 Early Release

02/11/2009 Early Release

02/12/2009 Mid-Winter Break

02/17/2009 Classes Resume

03/04/2009 Parent Teacher Conferences, Grades 6 - 12

03/10/2009 No Classes, Grades 9, 10 & 12

03/11/2009 No Classes, Grades K - 10 & 12

03/12/2009 No Classes, Grades 9, 10 & 12

03/18/2009 Early Release

03/27/2009 End of Third Marking Period

03/27/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades K - 12

04/02/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades K - 5

04/02/2009 Parent Teacher Conferences, Grades K - 5

04/03/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades K - 5

04/03/2009 Parent Teacher Conferences, Grades K - 5

04/09/2009 Classes A.M. Only

04/10/2009 Spring Break

04/20/2009 Classes Resume

04/22/2009 Early Release

05/06/2009 Early Release

05/25/2009 No Classes, Grades K—12

06/02/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades 9 - 12

06/03/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades K - 12

06/04/2009 Classes A.M. Only, Grades K - 12

06/04/2009 End of Fourth Marking Period



Outstanding Partnership Award



Wendy May, USAG-DTA School Liaison Officer and Mount Clemens Community School District Superintendent, Dr. Charles Muncatchy receive the Pete Taylor Outstanding Partnership Award. Also pictured are General (Ret.) Tom Schwartz and Military Child Education Coalition Executive Director, Dr. Mary Keller.

Building Directory

High School 155 Cass Avenue	(586) 461-3400 Fax 469-7058
Mike Bruce, Principal Scott Johnson, Dean of Students Darren Keckes, Athletic Director	
Middle School 11 Grand Avenue	(586) 461-3300 Fax 469-7021
Paul Reeves, Principal Dr. Pam Bilbrew, Dean of Students	
M.L. King Academy 400 Clinton River Dr	(586) 461-3100 Fax 469-7006
Sharon Gryzenia, Principal	
Lincoln Early Childhood Center 91 Welts	(586) 461-3700 Fax 469-7096
Yvonne McQueen, Principal	
Seminole Academy 1500 Mulberry	(586) 461-3900 Fax 469-7027
Janice Hooks, Principal	
Washington Academy 196 North Rose	(586) 461-3800 Fax 469-7028
George Loder, Principal	
Cairns Community Center 58 Orchard	(586) 464-0728
Darold Gholston, Director	

When Washington Elementary Academy in the Mount Clemens Community School District experienced a problem with children in it's Physically or Otherwise Health Impaired (POHI) class receiving needed physical activity, the Detroit Arsenal's Selfridge Child and Youth Services (CYS) Youth Sports Program readily agreed to help.

The CYS group began going to the school twice a month to offer adaptive physical education classes for the POHI students. Parents, kids and faculty were so appreciative. The classes are offered once a week now to approximately 35 students. All the sports have been adapted to accommodate all of the children and their special needs. There are ramps for bowling so children in wheelchairs can participate, large soft soccer balls and scooters large enough for a child to lie on and be pulled around. The focus is on gross motor skills development, basic fundamentals of sports and having fun improving skills. Abilities of the children range from being in a wheelchair with very limited mobility, to children walking with braces or walkers, to mental disabilities or just having difficulty walking.

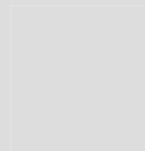
This award encourages and applauds the outstanding partnership between the Detroit Arsenal's Selfridge Child and Youth Services and Mount Clemens Community School District. The CYS demonstrates General Taylor's long-held belief that "goodness happens at the local level."

"Some children can not even talk, but all you have to do is look at the smiles on their faces and that says it all."

* * *



Mount Clemens Community School District
 167 Cass Avenue
 Mount Clemens, MI 48043
151 Years Strong!



**Mount Clemens Community School District
 Board of Education**

- Earl C. Rickman III President
- Steven C. Gravlin Vice President
- Michael Schichtel Secretary
- Larry G. Humphrey Treasurer
- Sallie Miller Trustee
- Shelby Money Trustee
- Joseph F. Rheker III Trustee

Mailing Address

**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 subjected 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 Acts of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and all Michigan Department of Education policies and regulations prohibiting discrimination. Lack of English skills will not be a barrier to admission of participants.

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

Title VI, Title IX, Age Act
 Mr. Michael Bruce
 Mount Clemens High School Principal
 155 Cass, Mount Clemens, MI 48043
 (586) 461-3400

Section 504
 Ms. Yvonne McQueen
 Director of Special Education
 91 Welts, Mount Clemens, MI 48043
 (586) 461-3700

Volunteers are the Key to Our Success

Everyone in Mount Clemens plays an important role in the success of our mission to educate. We have many resources that can be developed as a means of meeting the needs in the community and the school. The viability of our community and the schools is dependent on our collaboration and cooperation. The Mount Clemens Community School District and the Board of Education desire and encourage broad based community involvement.

Our school district will reach out to parents, community members, and business partners through our office of Community Engagement. The purpose of our Community Engagement Office is to identify and appropriately channel community resources (volunteer, material, financial, etc) to enrich educational experiences for students, to provide professional development for staff and to assure the maximum benefit for the school district and community.

One of the goals established by the district and the Board of Education is to implement a school wide volunteer program. The input of district staff, parents and community members is essential to the development and success of the program. Please contact the Community Engagement Office at (586) 461-3749 or combs-leec@mtcps.org to find out how you can become involved or to learn more about our programs.