



Manhattan Beach Unified School District

Superintendent's Newsletter

October 2016

Dr. Michael D. Matthews, Superintendent

Measures C and EE: Please Inform Yourselves about these MBUSD Ballot Initiatives!

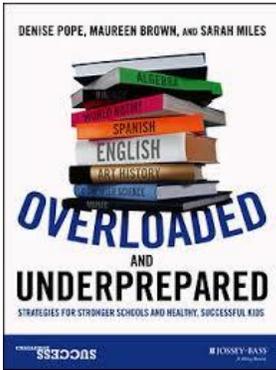


55% of the vote is needed for C and EE to pass on November 8. They are on page 8 of your ballot. I encourage you to [learn more about Measure C and EE](#), and to vote on November 8th!

TEDxManhattanBeach

TEDxManhattanBeach comes to Mira Costa on Saturday, November 5, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This is the 7th year of TEDxMB, and I look forward to attending and learning! Click [here](#) for ticket information and more.





Challenge Success

Helping our students to become healthy, balanced, and resilient adults is a topic that the MBUSD Board of Trustees has discussed many times over the past few years, most recently at our outstanding October 19th Workshop. Click [here](#) to learn how we are working toward achieving social and emotional wellness districtwide.

MBMS & MCHS Families Connected



We all want our children to lead healthy and fulfilled lives. But social media, stress, depression, peer pressure, and drugs and alcohol all challenge us as parents in our pursuit of this goal. Families Connected gives parents resources and people to talk to. Click the logos for more.



Join me at the Friendship Walk this Sunday

The Friendship Walk is this Sunday, October 23. It's not too late to walk or be a virtual walker. Our goal this year is to have more walkers than ever from MBUSD. Let's make it a record-breaking year! All of the proceeds from walkers and virtual walkers benefit MBEF, as long as you designate your school's team or MBEF. And the whole walk benefits the [Friendship Circle](#). Click [here](#) to register!

AP Scores

One of the MBUSD Board's goals is to have every MBUSD student who goes directly to 4-year college successfully take at least one Advanced Placement class before graduation. MCHS has a very high percentage of students (89%) who are eligible for admission to UC or CSU, with nearly 75% actually attending a 4-year school immediately after graduation. Since 2010, we have increased the percentage of Mira Costa graduates who have successfully taken an AP class and test from 48% to 61%! Click [here](#) for a report on our 2016 AP results.



Mira Costa Hall of Fame

In 2011 former superintendent Bev Rohrer and former board member Bill Cooper approached our administration with the idea of creating a Mira Costa Hall of Fame. On September 30, six outstanding Mira Costa graduates (actors, ambassadors, business leaders, and teachers) were honored and inducted for their positive contributions to our community and the world in our 5th annual Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame ceremony. Click [here](#) for the Beach Reporter article.



CHOICE: The MBUSD Transition Program

Here in MBUSD we have 18-22 year-old young adult Special Education students who continue their education in MBUSD as they transition from school to the working world. The CHOICE program works with key partners like the City of MB, Downtown MB Businesses, The Zislis Group, LA Car Guy, and Smashing Success to provide real-world work experience, vocational training, and life skills for our students. Our CHOICE students prepare the race kits (pictured) for the awesome and world-famous Pumpkin Races! We thank all who help to make this program such a great success! To read more click [here](#).



Mira Costa's New Astrophysics Class

Our creative Mira Costa teachers keep thinking of new courses to interest our students. This year alone, the Board of Trustees approved 10 new courses! One of those new courses is Astrophysics, taught by the always passionate and energetic Mr. Dan Bartlett. We have two sections of this class, and this week they had a late night field trip to observe the "Grazing Occultation of Aldeberan." Read more about Mr. Bartlett and this amazing new class [here](#).



I hope the first eight weeks of the school year (that went fast!) have been outstanding for your family. Thanks for all you do for our students and our schools and our #mbusdohana!



Mike Matthews
MBUSD Superintendent





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