Dear Mahanoy Area,

Here we are again beginning a new school year. This year brings many positive changes to our school. We have added the honors courses which will challenge our students academically. In addition, we still are very fortunate to have AP and dual enrollment courses in our school.

In the area of extra-curriculars, we have a new set of football coaches who have been very positive regarding the hard work our players are exhibiting throughout the summer and now into the upcoming season. Our cross country runners have been out there running long and hard for much of the summer. Girls’ volleyball is in full swing and the golf team, with the addition of their new facility, are already competing. The band, band front and cheerleaders have also worked all summer to prepare for the fall season. Our clubs and chorus are just getting started with initial meetings and rehearsals. Get out and support our teams and activities or better yet, join something.

We have a new random drug testing policy, eligibility policy and a modified dress code policy. All of these should help create a positive school environment and can be found on the MA website.

We want the public to see our student body in the best possible light and that is why we have incorporated this newest policy as follows: “In the event that a student in grades 5-12 engages in misbehavior at a Mahanoy Area activity or sporting event that results in his/her removal from that activity by a faculty member or security staff, the student will not be permitted at any further games or activities during that season.”

The seniors who are responsible for our school making adequate yearly progress on the PSSA exams will celebrate on October 30th with a “Make your own sundae” social in our high school cafeteria. We are proud of their efforts and salute them! The time will be announced.

Let’s go BEARS!

Remember...
“Together everyone achieves more.”

Mrs. Henninger

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**BLOOD DRIVE**

**OCT 1, 2009**

Mahanoy Area will be sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Oct. 1, 2009 in the HS gym from 9am to 2 pm. Anyone interested please call Carol Blue, HS nurse at 773-3443- EXT.4061 for an appointment.

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**HOMECOMING:**

**OCTOBER 2**

Homecoming will be held on Friday, October 2. Homecoming parade is at 5:15, any alumni that would like to play with the band should contact Mr. Shughart. Crowning is at 6:30. Homecoming semi-formal is on October 9 from 6:30 until 10. Sterling Entertainment is the DJ.

Homecoming candidates are Kylie Allen, Allison Amershek, Rachael Burke, Ellen Brylewski, Crista DiCasimirro, Candace Fegley, Sarah Hannock, Katie McCarthy, Madison Miller, Stephanie Price, Jackie Roberts, Emily Sabol, Chloe Tarson, Erin Techentine. Homecoming Spirit Week begins on Tuesday, September 29. Dress up as follows: Tuesday Jungle Day, wear your favorite animal print, Wednesday is Decade day, Thursday is Rock n Roll day, Friday Black and Gold day.
For Sale

2010
yearbooks
See Ms. Scic in the art room
Price of the book is $60.00
Payment must be made in full.
Books from the following years are also available
2009 - $35.00
2008 - $25.00
2006 - $15.00
2004 - $10.00
2003 - $10.00
2002 - $10.00
1993 - $10.00
1992 - $10.00
1989 - $10

Are you or a friend...

...Having problems keeping your grades up?
...No longer feel like hanging out with friends or family?
...Not enjoying your favorite activities like you used to?
...Being bullied or harassed?
...Feeling like you just can’t seem to get it together?
...Experimenting with or using alcohol or other drugs?
...Adjusting to a new school?
...Close to someone or have a family member serving in the military?
...Having thought of hurting yourself or someone else?
...Feeling emotionally overwhelmed?
...Always worrying?
...Thinking about suicide?
...Dealing with the breakup of a relationship?
...Being hurt physically or emotionally by someone?
...Dealing with major changes in your family like your parents’ divorce?
...Dealing with the illness or death of someone close to you?

The Student Assistance Team is a group of school and community staff that is here to help you deal with problems that are stopping you from doing well in school or stressing you out. The staff will respect you and your parent’s/guardian’s privacy at all times. Members include Mrs. Blue, Mrs. Stone, Ms. Pollack, Ms. Scic, Mr. Vavra, Mrs. Bet, Mr. DiCascimiento, Mrs. Caufield, Mrs. Henninger, Mr. Wetzel and Ms. Brzostowski.

DRUGS 101
BIG SUCCESS

On September 16, 2009, Mahanoy Area School District sponsored “Drugs 101: What Parents Need to Know”. A mock bedroom of a teenage drug user’s room served as a back drop to the presentation. Close to 80 parents attended the program in which more than 70 trendy drug indicators were unveiled along with signs, symptoms, and current drug trends were presented. The program also included “live” role playing demonstrations to help parents initiate and engage their child. Thanks to the many community donations, there were many prizes awarded to attendees including a 42” flat screen television. More information regarding upcoming prevention activities can be found on the school website at www.mabears.net

On Oct. 9th at 8:15 a.m. we will have an assembly in the auditorium. We are to be recognized as a “No Place for Hate School.” Mark your calendars.

ATTENTION SENIORS:

YOUR SENIOR PHOTO FOR THE YEARBOOK IS DUE TO MS. SCIC BY OCTOBER 13. SEE HER ASAP IF YOU CANNOT MEET THIS DEADLINE.
“Porcupine Pat” Visits Mahanoy

Cargill Meat Solutions of Hazleton sponsored a Ways of Wildlife presentation in Dr. Legutko’s science classes on September 18th. “Porcupine” Pat McKinney, Environmental Education Coordinator for the Schuylkill Conservation District spoke with students. Betty-Jo Bowers, Environmental Health & Safety Manager at Cargill, was responsible for arranging the visit.

First Annual Buddy Walk Scheduled for Schuylkill County

A “Buddy Walk” to promote the acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome, the first to be held in Schuylkill County is scheduled to take place on October 18, 2009 at Veterans Memorial Stadium @ Pottsville Area High School from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

The goal of the event is to show those with Down syndrome the support of their community and to show the community that people with Down syndrome are more LIKE the rest of us than they are different. Please feel free to contact Bridget Schwartz at (570)628-5161 with any questions.

Poster Contest Entry Form

The following information MUST be on the back of each submission

Current Calendar Year: _________

Student's Grade: _______

Student’s First Name: ____________________________

Student’s Last Name: ____________________________

Student’s Home Address (including city and zip):

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

Student’s Home Phone Number: (____)_______________

School Name: ____________________________

School Phone Number: (____)_______________________

School District Name: ____________________________

County: ________________________________________

SubmitEntries to:
Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board
Bureau of Alcohol Education
Northwest Office Building, Room 602
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17124-0001
1 (800) 453-PLCB or RA-LBEducation@state.pa.us
www.lcb.state.pa.us/edu

Allpostercontest submissions become property of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board and will not be returned.
**Reality Tour©**

Dramatic journey with a teen ‘heroin addict’ from arrest to overdose and funeral!

The Tamaqua Area Drug Prevention Program, in partnership with Schuylkill County Drug and Alcohol, will present the **Reality Tour©** on September 30, 2009. The tour will be held at Lehigh Carbon Community College in Tamaqua and will start at 6 p.m. and is scheduled to end at approximately 8:30 p.m.

The **Reality Tour©** program was created by Norma Norris of Butler, PA in 2003, and is now promoted through the nonprofit organization CANDLE, Inc. Schuylkill County Drug and Alcohol in Pottsville, PA has purchased the **Reality Tour©** Program for use in Schuylkill County. The tour is recommended for children age 10 and up when accompanied by a parent. Advance reservation is required as space is limited and parental consent is required.

Participants will follow the fate of a fictitious teen addicted to heroin. The tour uses Protection Motivation Theory, which includes an Arrest and Prison Experience as well as dramatic Emergency Room Overdose Scene and Funeral Home scene. A narrative by the ‘addict’ precedes each scene and includes the constant reminder to the audience that, “I'm just like you.”

Each attendee will be given a drug abuse profile to adopt during the program, so that participants can become familiar with different addictive drugs as well as gateway drugs. At times attendees share their ‘story’ of addiction in small group

"**The Reality Tour© was developed as a response to the rising drug use among teens who mistakenly think THEY won’t become addicted.**"

The original **Reality Tour©** was so widely accepted that at times the Butler **Reality Tour©** has experienced a two month waiting list for reservations. (Newspaper articles at [www.candleinc.org](http://www.candleinc.org))

The **Reality Tour©** will also touch on methamphetamines, fast becoming the new illegal drug of choice. It is a much harder habit to overcome than heroin and associated with violent tendencies. (Law enforcement currently encountering meth users state, “You will wish your child was on heroin!”)

Upcoming **Reality Tour©** dates are Oct. 28, 2009 and Nov. 18, 2009. Dates for 2010 will be determined upon room availability at Lehigh Carbon Community College.

Registration forms are available at all county schools, Schuylkill County Drug and Alcohol, or by contacting Diana Sweigert at 570-778-2316

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**EARN A FREE 2010 YEARBOOK**

Fundraising catalogs were given to 9th, 10th and 11th grade students interested in earning a free or discounted 2010 yearbook on Friday, Sept 25 in homeroom. Students who sell any 30 items from the catalog will receive a free 2010 yearbook. Students who sell less than 30 items will receive $2.00 off the price of the book for each item sold. orders for this fundraiser are due on October 13. The price of the yearbook is $60.00. Seniors receive their books for free as long as all dues and fines are paid.

High school picture retake day is set for November 5th. If you need a picture form please come to the office. Attention vo-tech students currently at vo-tech please have your picture taken before you get on the bus in the morning. This is the last opportunity to have your picture taken.
Youth Advantage Program Scholarships Available

The Youth Advantage Program is an eight month community service project in which a student develops an ongoing relationship with an adult mentor and receives a training course through the Dale Carnegie Institute. Full scholarships for Dale Carnegie training are valued at $1500. Students ...
• must be in the 10th, 11th or 12th grade.
• must attend all eight Dale Carnegie training classes and complete the required course work.
• will benefit from the development of character enhancement skills such as personal goal setting, communication, leadership, self confidence, and coping with stress.
• will participate in an ongoing mentoring relationship with an adult who is an active member of the community.
• will complete a community service project or serve on a community based board, task force and/or committee in order to enhance youth participation in the community. (Students who complete the program will be eligible to receive one college credit.)

Guidance News

Representatives from the following schools are scheduled to visit next week: Kutztown University, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Lebanon Valley College, Seniors interested in meeting with a representative should speak with the Mr. DiCasimiro.

The Practice S.A.T. (Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test) will be administered on October 14. Cost is $13.00. Register in the Guidance Office.

Scholarship Available

Any Senior who is interested in picking up an Elk’s Scholarship may do so from Mr. Donnelly in Room 139. Any student that has a relative who is a member of the Elk’s can pick up a Legacy Award Application from Mr. Donnelly.

Sign ups for ski club are posted outside Mrs. Fegley’s room. New members are welcomed.

Sock It To Us

The Mahanoy Area School District is assisting the Senior Corp of PA and the Schuylkill County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program with their Make a Difference Day Project. They are collecting socks for adults and children throughout the county who are in need. Please send a new pair of socks to school with your child if you wish to help this cause by October 24, 2009.

Elementary students can bring the socks to Mrs. Brylewski, middle school students can bring socks to Mrs. Scheeler and high school students may drop the socks in the bin in the high school office.
MAHANOY AREA
ANONYMOUS DRUG ACTIVITY TIP LINE

570.773.3048

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
Do you know someone who needs help with a drug problem?
Did you witness legal drug activities?
Do you know of drug dealings taking place anywhere in the area?
Do you suspect of drug storage or processing in your neighborhood?
Help us combat drug activity by letting us know it.

Working in partnership, we can make a difference!
The Mahanoy City Police Department ANONYMOUS DRUG ACTIVITY TIP LINE is for the confidential and anonymous reporting of information and non-emergency incidents to the Mahanoy City Police Department. The line has been set up so that members of the community and students of the Mahanoy Area School District can report information that they may otherwise be reluctant to report. The Tip Line is a voice mailbox with a recorded message. A caller can leave a message containing the information that he or she wishes to share with the police department. There is no way to identify the caller or the line the caller is calling from. A caller is welcome to identify themselves and leave contact information if they wish and are encouraged to do so if the situation requires follow-up contact. The information left on the Tip Line will be checked frequently, and investigated as necessary. The Tip Line is a non-emergency line. If an incident is an emergency or requires an immediate response, call 911.

Help us take back our community by reporting illegal drug activity on the Tip Line!
Yuengling

“Hot Music on September 26th”

Saturday
September
26th
2009
@ 6:30pm

“Songs from Broadway, Romance & Standards”
Featuring Gary MacCready Ensemble with Bernie Brilla, Jenna McBreen & Dennis Sninsky

Admission
$5.00

Refreshments

Everyone Welcome!

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1440 Mahantongo St.
Pottsville, PA 17901
570-622-2788
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EDGAR ALLAN POE

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MYSTERY EMERGE FROM HIS
PAGES IN OUR SPECIAL TRIB-
UTE TO THE MASTER OF THE
MACABRE.

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THE ARTS AND CULTURAL
CENTER PROVIDES AN IDEAL
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ROOM TO ROOM, EACH WITH
A READING OF ONE OF POE’S
19TH CENTURY SUPERNATU-
RAL CLASSICS

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6:00 PM AT THE SCCA
1440 MAHANTONGO ST.
POTTSVILLE, PA 17901

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