



MAINE VIRTUAL ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER



February 1, 2023

Issue 5

Dr. Melinda Browne Head of School

It's time to start thinking about Re-Registration! The Re-Registration Parent Enrollment Portal will open Feb 27th. Please keep in mind that seats fill up quickly. If you are undecided, we recommend that you confirm and complete your re-registration anyway. If you do not complete your re-registration, your unconfirmed seat will be open to the public after March 8th.

Why choose virtual education? Why MEVA? Virtual schooling provides families the opportunity to have more flexibility within their student's education. MEVA is able to individualize a student's learning experience through alternative course options, external programs, work study, post-graduation planning and more.

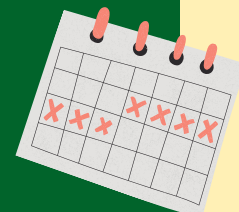
MEVA supports include the HelpDesk and various types of study group options. Parents are also able to be engaged by monitoring their students grades, logging their student's attendance, and requesting team meetings to review student progress.

Virtual education allows for students to be more focused on their studies, be free from distractions, and have flexibility in making up work and classes. Students are able to work in their own comfortable environment. Safety is perceived as a strength of MEVA.

Check out the rest of the newsletter for tips and tricks for virtual learning and more re-registration information.

Important Dates

- **Re-Registration**
 - February 27 Re-Registration Open Date (Parent Enrollment Portal)
 - March 8 Re-Registration Close Date (unconfirmed seats are opened to the public after this date)
- **School Holidays**
 - February 20 President's Day
 - February 20-24 February Vacation
 - April 17 Patriot's Day
 - April 17-21 April Vacation
 - May 29 Memorial Day
- **Save the Dates**
 - MEA In-Person Spring Testing Grades 7, 8, 10, Math/ELA Open May 15-19
 - MEA In-Person Spring Testing Grades 8, 11, Science Open May 22-26



23-24 School Year Re-Registration

- Parent Portal opens February 27-March 8
- Step by step instructions and guidance will be given to parents by e-mail soon.
- Keep an eye on your email with anything titled "MEVA Re-Registration".
- Students who are on track for graduation in June or earlier, need to still go into the portal and click "not registering".

Virtual Learning: Tips & Tricks

Brittany Bragg (3rd year at MEVA):

- A personal thing that helps me a lot is a Google list. I update it daily or weekly with my work and check it off as I finish.

Aimee Eivers (3rd year at MEVA):

- Always make sure you know when assignments are due, it is easy to forget and before you know it things can pile up.
- I always make sure I have time to take care of my pets, get breakfast, and get myself ready before class starts. I also like leaving a little bit of time before my first class starts to read a book or start assignments.
- I also make sure I have water near me because I tend to get so into my schoolwork I forget to hydrate.
- Another tip I have learned over the past 3 years is that not only do the teachers want to help you but your fellow classmates are always willing to help with anything even if it comes to helping you navigate Brightspace.

Easton Stuart (5th year at MEVA):

- Routine is going to be your best bet especially with some of the heavier workload classes like Chemistry.
- Set-up a classlist with not only your live sessions but other daily things too like making sure you eat lunch and have some relaxing time.
- When you can, some chill music of your liking is best for background sound.
- Taking notes despite the work can actually be really helpful.
- For someone who's not sure what to do, most students are more than happy to help one another and explain things, if you prefer HelpDesk is also good to chat with teachers.
- Frequently check your email and keep your desk as tidy as you can because it can really help mentally.

Congratulations Aztli Ortega Arriaga

Recently **Aztli Ortega Arriaga** participated in the statewide 2022 Maine STEM Film Challenge for which she created the video "Amazing World Of Ants". Her video won the overall "2022 MSFC Most Creative Video", as well as tied for 1st Place in the 9-12 grade category.

Aztli did all of the research, script-writing, voice-over, and video editing, as well as the drawings and animations. You can watch her video here:

<https://youtu.be/SGM2IRX1dxA>.

More details about the competition can be found here:

<https://www.mainerobotics.org/maine-stem-film-challenge.html>.

NWEA Testing

Thank you everyone for all of your hard work to get students tested in the NWEAs! The participation numbers were high and the make-ups were less than previous years. Student participation allows us to personalize learning plans to our students specific needs. Results are being mailed out now. Great job everybody!

Graduation Update

- Class Motto: "One step at a time but always forward"
- Yearbook Dedication Quote: "Do not follow where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."- Ralph Waldo Emerson
- Create a SWAG Design based on the Class Motto. We will vote on the winning T-shirt and Hoodie as a group. Winners will be announced on April 3rd! 2023 SWAG will be available for purchase from April-June.
- How to Create a Design: <https://youtu.be/l40exvVfsHI>
- The Graduation Activities Club is moving to Wednesdays from 11:30-11:55am.



ACE Conservation Crew

After graduation, many of our students choose to continue their education, enter a trade, or seek employment. Others may ask, "Where do I go from here?"

The American Conservation Experience (ACE) Conservation Crew program is for participants, aged 18–35 who are considering land management as a career. Working alongside staff from the National Park Service, US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and many other public land agencies, members gain invaluable career perspectives and mentorship in a variety of areas.

Crew members may apply for 3, 6, 9 month or longer terms. Member support includes a cost of living allowance, transportation and food on projects, and free common housing on off days in most locations. Participants are also eligible to earn the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award.

For more information, please visit <https://www.usaconservation.org/conservation-crew/>.

Save the Date: In-Person MEA Testing

Maine Educational Assessments (MEA) are mandatory *in-person* academic exams that will now be conducted **twice a year** starting the Spring and Fall of 2023.

MEVA tries to establish testing sites throughout the state to accommodate parents as much as possible. Since MEVA must secure dates and times with vendors to facilitate testing, we will not have specific test dates and times until we get a little closer to the testing window.

Annually we ask MEVA families to "Save the Dates" on their calendars so you are aware of when testing is being held and for you to have time to prepare.

- MEA In-Person Spring Testing Grades 7, 8, 10, Math/ELA Open May 15–19
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February Student/Teacher/Staff of the Month

Congratulations to our Students, Teachers and Staff of the Month for February! You have been recognized by your peers, teachers and school faculty as a standout individual. Great job!

Thank you to everyone who participated and voted.

To vote for March's Student/Teacher/ Staff of the Month, please vote before February 15th at this link: <https://forms.gle/MWULqrMkmPMQss7j6>.

7th Grade Student: **Elucia Seaberg**
7th Grade Teacher: **Clarissa Bernardini**
8th Grade Student: **Joseph Cooper**
8th Grade Teacher: **Lauren Sroka**
9th Grade Student: **Hayven Fancher**
9th Grade Teacher: **Gayle Langis**
10th Grade Student: **Teagan Saille**
10th Grade Teacher: **Anthony Barletta**
11th Grade Student: **Helena Cochran**
11th Grade Teacher: **Alex Campbell**
12th Grade Student: **Kallie LaBreton**
12th Grade Teacher: **Judy Wheeler**
Staff: **Holly Chapdelaine**

MEVA Contacts

Guidance Counselors

Mrs. Tyler (A-K)

HTyler@MaineVirtualAcademy.org or

Mr. Pierce (L-Z)

DPierce@MaineVirtualAcademy.org

For **laptop** and **gmail** issues contact the
Technical Department at
Tech@mainevirtualacademy.org

To report **absences**, please email Ms.
Mohammadi at
Attendance@mainevirtualacademy.org

How can HelpDesk help you?

HelpDesk is where you have access to the teachers for all of your subjects. In HelpDesk we ask questions, complete homework, and conquer missing assignments. You can even access one of our student tutors. Some students may be required to attend if your teacher(s) feels it is appropriate.

Please join us and see what you can accomplish!

HelpDesk meets everyday 2:00-2:50pm

For more information, please check the **HelpDesk** content called
Students Corner or email Nicole Hart at
nhart@mainevirtualacademy.org

Newsletter Ideas

Send your newsletter ideas to SCarter@MaineVirtualAcademy.org.

PET CORNER

Tater & Munchie



Charles Joseph's pups look so snuggly.

Kirby



Skyla Aubut's pet fish in a grumpy mood.



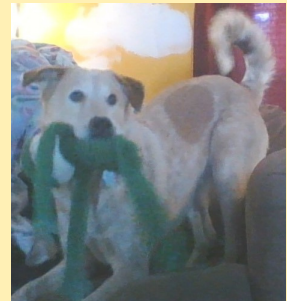
Baby



Abigail Silvano's dog is the queen of the house!



Nanaki

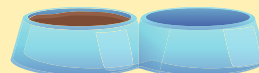


Braiden Malloch's pup loves to play.

Sky, Flick & Turtleroo



Dr. Chapdelaine aka Dr. C's pets!



Honey



Ms. Mohammadi's pup loves to cuddle and is very protective of her family!