



# MAINE VIRTUAL ACADEMY

## NEWSLETTER



April 1, 2023

Issue 7

### Dr. Melinda Browne Head of School

Spring is finally here! We are sure everyone is looking forward to warmer weather.

In April, we will be emailing individual links and codes to the **Panorama School Climate Survey** to our four stakeholder groups – students, families, teachers, and staff.

The Panorama Survey results help MEVA find out if we are meeting the expectations of our students and families, and if we provide the conditions for students to be successful.

We would like to achieve one hundred percent participation. Everyone's voice contributes to our continuous school improvement process. We utilize the data to adjust our school operations in the following school year.

Coming up in May, we will be conducting the Spring NWEAs virtually, for grades 7–11, and the Maine Educational Assessments (MEAs) in-person, for grades 7, 8, 10 and 11. If you have any questions or concerns about your student's participation please reach out to your guidance counselor as soon as possible: **Ms. Tyler** (A–K) or **Mr. Pierce** (L–Z).

Are you interested in continuing academic progress this summer? MEVA runs an optional, six-week, summer session each year. Teachers provide instructional sessions for students studying self-paced courses and offer a Help Desk for on demand tutoring.

Please take advantage of everything MEVA has to offer. If you are interested in summer school, let your guidance counselor know.

### Important Dates

- May 2–4 NWEA Spring Virtual Testing
- May 15–19 MEA **In-Person** Spring Testing Grades 7, 8, 10, Math/ELA Open
- May 22–26 MEA **In-Person** Spring Testing Grades 8, 11, Science Open
- June 2 Graduation Day
- June 9 Last Day of School
- June 20–August 4 Summer Session

#### SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- April 17 Patriot's Day
- April 17–21 April Vacation
- May 29 Memorial Day
- June 19 Juneteenth
- July 3–7 Summer Session Break
- July 4 Independence Day

### Spring NWEAs - Virtual

The Spring assessment window is soon approaching, plan now to complete your Spring NWEAs May 2–4.

It is critical to evaluate and track student learning progress, especially as we strive to fill gaps post-pandemic. The NWEAs allow us to see the growth that each individual student has made and to plan an individualized path for them the following school year.

## In-Person MEA Testing

We are working to confirm the In-Person Testing Sites and will announce those soon. This will be a great opportunity to meet with your teachers and connect with your classmates. If you have any barriers which may prevent you from attending in-person testing, contact your Guidance Counselor NOW!

The Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) for Math and Reading will be held the third week in May. This assessment is administered to all students in 7th, 8th, and 10th grade. The assessment will allow us to measure student's progress towards grade-level proficiency.

The Science MEA will be held the last week of May and is administered to all students in 8th and 11th grade. We depend on your participation to help show our schoolwide progress toward grade-level proficiency on both MEAs.

- 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

## FAFSA Deadlines

To be considered for federal student aid, please complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. FAFSA SY23-24 Maine deadline is 5/1/2023; Federal deadline is 6/30/2024.

Check with all schools you are applying to so you can determine their deadlines. Regardless of deadlines, it is best to file the FAFSA as soon as possible. Please click [here](#) for more information.

## FAME

Seniors and Early Graduates: For help filing the FAFSA, you can sign up for a free help session with FAME (Finance Authority of Maine)! Sign up here: [FAME](#)

## Graduation Update: Seniors Yearbook Page

Attention Seniors, the deadline is fast approaching to complete your yearbook page - April 14th!

- To create an Individual Yearbook Page go this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSS5Xo6I7M8>
- You can find the 2023 Yearbook Template here:  
<https://www.canva.com/design/DAFMUdsbXV4/ys9K8W628fk6N9LEkIBhFw/edit>
- The yearbook will be available for sale in the spring, and turned into a video for our graduation ceremony!



## MEVA's Honor Roll

The Honor Roll announcements continues! Congratulations to MEVA students for Semester 1 Honors recognition! Our apologies for the late announcements!

- T. Saile 4.0 Highest Honors
- Z. Hemond 3.95 Highest Honors
- K. Rich 3.74 Highest Honors
- E. Knowlton 3.66 High Honors
- G. Kimball 3.4 High Honors
- D. Keniston 3.28 Honors
- A. Shankland 3.13 Honors

## MEVA Science Fair

Thank you to all our students who participated in our Virtual Science Fair on March 23rd. If you did not have an opportunity to attend, you can view the Zoom recording [here](#) (password: a4KzfM\*2). We are very excited to share in your exploration of science! You can also view the projects at our Maine Virtual Academy Science Fair [website](#).

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## Vision Screening for 7th and 9th Graders

We recently emailed information to our 7th and 9th grade parents/legal guardians about vision screenings. If you completed the form, thank you!

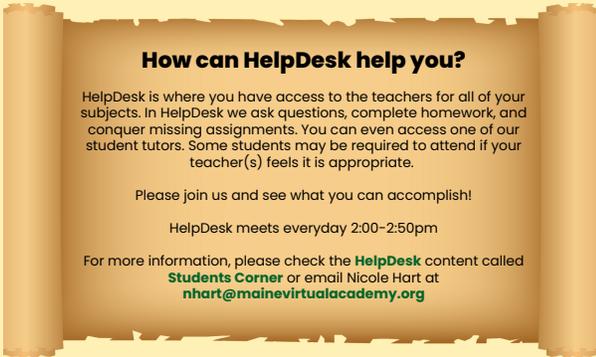
We are requesting MEVA parents/legal guardians of 7th and 9th graders to please complete the survey at the following link to update the status of your student's last vision screening: [Vision Screening Form](#).

The MDOE requires schools to conduct vision screenings and/or refer students to vision screenings who are in grades 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9. MEVA audits students in the 7th and 9th grades to ensure screenings were conducted either in the previous school or by private effort. By completing the form, you are assisting us in that process.

We provided some links to resources back in our November Newsletter. If you would like those resources emailed to you, please email [Guidance@mainevirtualacademy.org](mailto:Guidance@mainevirtualacademy.org).

## Laptop and Technology Issues

Learning virtually requires a working laptop. If you are having ANY issues (hard drive failure, power issues, sticky keys, cracked screens, password, charger, not able to connect, etc.) with your MEVA issued laptop, please complete the [MEVA Laptop Tech form](#) for fastest assistance. We are available Monday - Friday.



### 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](mailto:nhart@mainevirtualacademy.org)

## External Credit

Are you working or volunteering? Do you have extensive experience outside of school? Complete the External Credit Form so your guidance counselor can review it. Your hard work may qualify as credit! [MEVA External Credit Form](#)

## Worthington Scholarship Application

The deadline to apply for the Worthington Scholarship is April 15th! If you are interested in applying, please email [emily@worthingtonscholars.org](mailto:emily@worthingtonscholars.org).

## York County Resources

My Place Teen Center (MPTC) is located in Biddeford at 208 Graham Street (the former DHHS building behind Burger King) for teens and young adults ages 13-24. The Westbrook location is at 755 Main Street and is open to youth/teens ages 10-24.

MPTC offers job and life skills. Social skills are their bailiwick. They offer free meals. They focus on building strong, trusting relationships. The programming is based upon four categories: Restaurant Job Training Program, Making Proud Choices, Adulting 101 (this program is for young adults ages 18-24), and Youth Leadership Academy, which encompasses Social Emotional Learning, Health and Wellness, Workforce Readiness, Civic Engagement, and STEAM. Typically they offer two programs per day, but can also be a place to hang out and socialize.

For more information and calendar of events, please visit their website at [www.mylaceteencenter.org](http://www.mylaceteencenter.org).

## Student/Teacher/Staff of the Month

To vote for May's Student/Teacher/Staff of the Month, please vote before April 15th at this link: [Student/Teacher/Staff of the Month Form](#).

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## News from the Art Department

Scholastic Art Award Winner:  
Lindsey Bartman



Honorable mention for her painting  
"Emotional Stages of Reflection"

Scholastic Art Award Winner:  
Erin Norbert



Gold key for her painting "Comfort in the Cattails"

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## PET CORNER

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### The O'Grady Pack



Mrs. O'Grady's thinks her pack is pretty great!

Top left corner: Diesel (12)

Top right corner: Fynn (5)

Bottom left corner: Deacon (3)

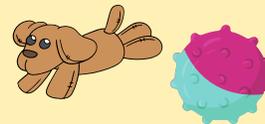
Bottom right corner: Bishop (8 weeks)



### Waly



Dr. Browne's granddog, Waly, out for a snowy run.



#### Newsletter Ideas

We are happy to highlight the successes of MEVA Students. Send your newsletter ideas and shoutouts to [SCarter@MaineVirtualAcademy.org](mailto:SCarter@MaineVirtualAcademy.org).