

APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER



IMPORTANT DATES

- STUDENT COUNCIL SOCIAL
 - FRIDAY 4/4 7-9 PM
- PTO "PIE THE STAFF MEMBER" FUNDRAISER
 - THURSDAY 4/10
- TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY
 - THURSDAY 4/24
- SPRING BREAK
 - **SCHOOLS CLOSED**
MONDAY 4/14 - MONDAY 4/21
- **OPTIONAL** TRIP FOR 7TH GRADERS TO SOMERSET COUNTY VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
 - FRIDAY 4/25
- PTO OFF-SITE SOCIAL
 - FRIDAY 4/25 6:30-8:30 PM
 - IRON PEAK, HILLSBOROUGH

A MESSAGE FROM MR. BARBOSA

Dear UMS School Community,

Clocks have changed, the days are getting longer, daffodils are blooming and the weather is changing. Spring has sprung and UMS is ready for the last few months of school. I continue to be impressed with our amazing students, strong programs, and professional staff. Here are a few spring reminders for everybody to keep in mind:

- My father always told me that five minutes early is considered on time. What he meant was that if a meeting was at 2:00, I should arrive no later than 1:55 so that I would be ready to start on time. This advice has served me well and has allowed me the luxury of hardly ever being late. Students need to be in the classroom at 8:20, ready to learn. If you were to follow my dad's advice, students would need to be in the classrooms at 8:15 so they are prepared to start learning at the bell. Thank you in advance for working with your children to ensure they arrive at school on time, ready to begin learning at 8:20 each day.
- With the warmer weather comes summer clothing. Sometimes, spring and summer fashions are great for the beach but not necessarily appropriate for school. Take a few moments to review UMS's DRESS CODE with your child. If a student does not meet the dress code, they will be asked to have a change of clothes dropped off or to wear a sweatshirt or sweatpants over their outfits. UMS is air-conditioned, and temperatures can vary from location to location.

As we look forward to the end of the school year, we also look forward to welcoming the new principal of UMS. The search for a new principal has begun. Input has been collected from different stakeholders throughout the district. The goal is to hire the best candidate possible by the end of April, with a projected start date of July 1st. Until then, I am proud to serve as the interim principal of such a fantastic school.

Happy Spring,

M. Barbosa
Interim Principal

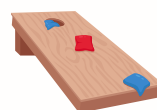


PTO HAPPENINGS



The PTO will be hosting **TWO** special events this month:

- THURSDAY, APRIL 10
 - “PIE THE STAFF MEMBER” FUNDRAISER
 - Students vote for staff members via donation, and the staff member(s) raising the most funds will be in the chair.
 - At the event, students can pay for a chance to be chosen to throw a pie.
 - Pie tickets will be sold 4/8-4/10 during all student lunches.
- FRIDAY, APRIL 25
 - OFF-SITE STUDENT SOCIAL (6:30-8:30 PM) AT IRON PEAK IN HILLSBOROUGH
 - Wiffle Ball and Corn Hole Tournaments
 - Watch for more information coming from the MMS PTO!



REMINDERS

STUDENT IDs

Please remind students that their IDs must be visible at all times during the school day and while on transportation. Any student without an ID will be required to wear a temporary ID until their school-issued ID is replaced. Replacement IDs can be ordered [here](#).

SNACKS

If your child brings a snack to eat before a late lunch, please refrain from sending in nuts and/or nut products whenever possible. Thanks!

STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

The parent drop-off doors, located at the rear of the building, are available for entrance from 7:55 AM to 8:15 AM. Please do not drop students off prior to 7:55 AM. Arrivals after 8:15 AM should report to the Main Office, not the rear of the building. We ask that when you are using the parent drop-off/pick-up driveway, you move up as close as possible to the car in front to make as much room as possible. Additionally, when exiting the parent drop-off/pick-up driveway you may not TURN LEFT and the UMS parking lot is NOT to be used as a U-Turn.

YEARBOOKS

Yearbook ordering is now available. Please scan the QR code or click the link to access the Jostens website:



CLICK OR SCAN

COUGAR PRIDE

UMS TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Karen Kevorkian, UMS Teacher of the Year, and Allison Doyle Smith, UMS Educational Support Professional of the Year.



UMS PHOTO CLUB

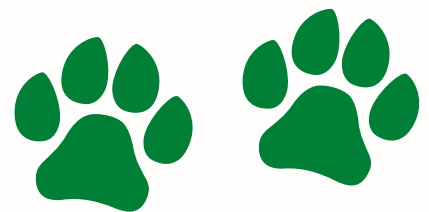


Last month, the Photo Club joined the "Monty Maker Fair" at the Montgomery Library! We were there with high school clubs like the People Project, Crochet Club, and Calligraphy Club, plus some fun activities from the library itself. The fair was a hit with the kids and their parents. Our club, led by Tanvi Ashokan and Harshita Ravada, set up a station where everyone could make their own photo frames, and it was a big success! The library generously awarded Tanvi and Harshita volunteer hours for their time.



VFW PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY CONTEST

Congratulations to Grace Liang for winning the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest entitled "My Voice in America's Democracy".



COUGAR PRIDE

UMS SPRING MUSICAL

7th and 8th Grade students had a wonderful weekend of performances of Disney's *High School Musical JR.* Friday February 28th and March 1st. The fun-filled 90-minute musical, designed for middle school-aged performers, was based on the 2006 Disney Channel Original Movie and the subsequent National Tour. The 7th and 8th grade cast included 42 students led by Sarah Talbot Coyle, Meghan Moore, & Neelam Makvana, and 30 crew members led by Sarah Juarez & Whitney Ehnert. UMS's very own drumline also performed in the Opening Number led by Vyom Pandit. We are so proud of the company's hard work, talent, positive attitude throughout the many rehearsals and weekend of outstanding performances.



AMERICAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

The American Mathematics Competitions (AMC) 8 is a 40-minute, 25-question multiple-choice exam that challenges middle school students to solve math problems. The AMC 8 is intended to help students build confidence in their problem-solving skills and prepare them for high school math. On January 22, 2025, over 60 of our UMS students took the AMC 8. Below are the results of the competition:

Third Place: Sophia Ji, Jaden Liu, Sean Song, Sahana Subburaj, Evan Zhao

Second place: Kaeden Lee, Jayden Lin, Emily Zhao

First Place: Athreya Yegneswaran

The following students also received the Honor Roll Certificate, which means they scored in the top 5% nationally!

Athreya Yegneswaran, Kaeden Lee, Jayden Lin, Emily Zhao

Congratulations to all who participated!