West Street Journal

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"NO HATE" TOUR COMES TO MHS

By Cassandra Marien

The No Hate Tour came to MHS on Monday, November 15th. Some of the top BMX professionals did an amazing performance with messages about anti-bullying, and how students should think about what they do. This special event was sponsored by the Marines, with the tour traveling to many different high schools.

This tour features both BMX bikers and skateboarders from different backgrounds, and you can read all about this amazing tour at https://nohatetour.com/.

This video at right is a clip from the tour and shows MHS Athletic Director, Marc Maurais, putting his faith in the skills of these riders.

POLL OF THE WEEK

Scan the QR with your phone or click the link to vote! Results in the next edition!



RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK
Nightmare Before Christmas!



Spanish Horror Stories

By: Daniel Sixon

Many people would agree that there is nothing quite as riveting as a good horror story. In light of the Halloween season, Spanish students were given the assignment of writing their own original "horror stories" on large posters. Using their knowledge of the language (and a significant amount of creativity), these students worked in groups to create some of the most frightening stories known to man. These stories included a wide variety of topics, from terrifying accounts of haunted houses, to chillingly descriptive narratives about bread. If you would like to read these enthralling horror stories, they all can be found in the hallway outside of the language department.

We have published a few for your entertainment.

¡Feliz lectura!

El Pan

Por: Jay Remelia, Cade Cloutier, Gage Tlapa

Hay un chico, se llama Gage. Gage vive en una casa grande, porque Gage tiene mucho éxito y dinero. Gage no es inteligente y no tiene cuidado. Un día, Gage tiene hambre. Él prepara pan, pero él tiene un ataca al corazón y se muere. Después él se muere, la casa no tiene personas por mucho tiempo. Después de cien años, una familia se mueve en la casa. A la familia le gusta la casa, y la familia tiene dos hijos y dos padres. Un día, el padre de los hijos quiere pan, pero cuando él va al pan, hay el fantasma de Gage. El padre tiene miedo del fantasma de Gage, pero él agarra el pan. De repente, el padre tiene un ataque al corazón y se muere también. Todos las personas quienes tocan el pan en la casa de Gage se mueren.

La Casa de el Spork Malo

Por: Avery Fuller, Beth Brooks and Catri Carter

Un día, una chica se llama Bella conduce con sus hermanos a la casa de sus abuelos. Bella tiene 17 años, y es bonita y alta. Los hermanos de Bella se llaman Ben, Lucas y Sofie. Ben tiene 13 años, Lucas tiene 8 años, y Sofie tiene 4 años. Hace dos meses, sus padres mueren en el accidente de carro. Ellos van a la casa de sus abuelos porque ellos necesitan una familia. Cuando ellos llegan a la casa, ellos buscan por sus abuelos pero no están aquí. Entonces, ellos ven a su abuela muerta en el soda, y su abuelo es muy muy loco. Su abuelo tiene un spork en su mano derecha. ¡Su abuelo mató a su abuela con un spork! De repente, ellos escuchan un ruido fuerte. Bella y sus hermanos tienen mucho miedo, y ellos corren muy rápido al carro de Bella. Ellos conducen muy lejos y no vuelven.

La Bruja en la Calle

Por: Robert Anderson, Ashe Bouchard, Daniel Sixon

Hay una muchacha. Se llama Maya. Una noche, Maya va afuera de su casa para sacar la basura. Maya es una muchacha antipática, y no le gustan otras personas. Cuando Maya está afuera, ella ve a una mujer vieja. Maya mira a la mujer y grita, "¡Eres fea!" La mujer dice, "Necesitas ser más simpática.". Maya grita, "¡NUNCA!". La mujer dice, "Si tu dices. Para tu información, soy una bruja, y ¡voy a comerte!". La bruja abre su boca y come a la muchacha. Siempre sé simpática, porque una bruja podría comerte.



Welcome to the creative corner!
This part of the newspaper is for drawings, photography, and all other types of art!

Creative Corner

By: Rana McCloat

Email cmarien@milfordk12.org or amccloat@milfordk12.org to submit your art and photography!









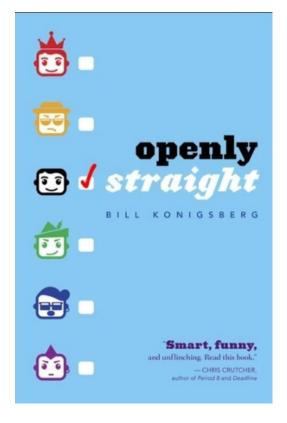
The Pop-Culture Corner

Book Review By Kyra Whitehead

Openly Straight is a YA novel written by Bill Konigsberg. The story revolves around a high school junior, Rafe, who has been openly gay since 8th grade. When Rafe moves schools from a public school in Boulder, Colorado, to a private all boy's school in Massachusetts, he decides to make a big decision and become "less gay." Well not exactly, "less gay," but he doesn't want to be known as "the gay kid." He wants to go unlabeled, and get people to see him, not his sexuality. His parents are not pleased with his decision, as they are incredibly proud and supportive of their son, but they want what he believes is best for him. As Rafe begins to make new friends, he also starts to find interest in one of his friends, something he desperately doesn't want.

As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, who also happens to be from New England, this book was a very fun read. I myself am a bookworm. The story was fun and relatable, but also had a deeper meaning deep down. What if we just decided to go labelless? Would we really be hiding a piece of ourselves? I would definitely read this book again:)

If you're interested in this book there is a copy of it in the MHS library!



Kindly Leave the Stage



Rupert (Daniel Solari) and Sarah's (Lily Kassin) marriage is falling apart, and their friends Charles(Liam Smith) and Madge(Maddie Bergen), both of which are lawyers, agree to take either side of the divorce. As the play continues, Rupert forgets some of his lines, and threatens to kill Charles in anger, as Charles has been having an offstage affair with his real wife, Madge. The other members of the cast try to continue with the original script, but Rupert continues to threaten him, now with a knife, until he's told to take cover in a cabin trunk. As the cast tries to get ahold of everything that's been happening, the backstage crew is no help, and they must begin to figure it out on their own.

As a club, we would like to congratulate Mr. Gallant and the MHS theatre program on a show well done. The set was built well and the play itself was put together by a strong cast! Well done, to Daniel Solari, Maddie Bergen, Liam Smith, Lily Kassin, Maddy Theriault, Jordan Gebro, Jared Lavoie, and Nora St Onge, along with many other people who worked behind the scenes on lighting, sound and set, worked hard to put together a well performed show.

Interviewing Mr. Kiley

By Tam Marien

Where are you from?

I am from Dorchester, Massachusetts by way of Lawrence, Massachusetts and currently live in Merrimac, Massachusetts with a game plan to move to THE 03055! ..indeed. ⊚

What's a day like as MHS assistant principal?

This year is the 26th time I'll have started the school year in an auditorium. I know what it's like to do all the incredible jobs of a teacher because I began my career in the classroom. I have served as a teacher-leader, coach, tutor, club advisor, assistant principal, and principal. I feel blessed that I was able to hold all of these roles within a school district (one not more important than the other). It has shaped my leadership-style and these positions have challenged me to be a facilitator, encourager, communicator, teacher, devil's advocate, resource person, organizer, and a questioner to name a few. The day at MHS is different every single day. I leave the school feeling a bit more inspired after each school day. Every single student has been a source of inspiration to me - whether I've met them or not. ...and I plan to.

What is a goal you have for MHS this year?

My overarching goal and priority is to observe and hold conversations with a variety of stakeholders to better understand and appreciate Milford High School's 61 years of rich tradition and strength of learning – students, staff, parents/guardians, alumni, community and business members...the list goes on. This strategic priority will focus on my developing strong relationships with all members of the Milford High School/District community and learning about the values and priorities of each constituent group. Fundamental questions around the MHS model of creating engaging classrooms, focused programs, and strategic systems to ensure a safe, well-disciplined, and productive learning environment for students will drive my process. These questions are part of an overall effort to spark and support productive conversation about culture and climate, professional learning, and other key topics, and the feedback gathered will be invaluable to me in forming the content of my strategic plan as an assistant principal....in short, my goal is to use SCHOOL CULTURE as the great equalizer ~ I truly believe that school culture is the most over-looked thing when talking about education reform. Culture influences everything that happens in a school...it is the "hidden curriculum." A healthy school must have high-level of agreement between the people – particularly the teachers and administrators. When there is a collapse of trust, you're in big trouble. My focus as Principal will be three-fold: Personalization, Engagement, Challenge (Rigor)...to be at a place where every minute is purposeful.

What do you like most about MHS so far?

MHS operates from a position of strength in so many ways and there are so many educators that are "ALL IN" at this high school. I aspire to serve in a community where people are "all in" and work together to make the school better for each and every student. I will collaborate with the administrative team, faculty/staff, students/families, and the community to cultivate a vision of Milford High School as the BEST high school around. My commitment will not be just a 4-year commitment. It will be a life-long commitment to many people in this community.

I've done thorough research on schools within this part of the state and I am very impressed with what this high school has to offer. This high school seems to have educators who are thoughtful and committed to learning. The teachers and students have been consistently honored for curricular and co-curricular efforts. The staff and students here are second to none in my perspective. In taking a glance at the profile, I am also very much drawn to the size of MHS. I also see forward momentum every day at this high school; a plan to improve incrementally each year – attendance, graduation rates, policies/procedures, extended learning opportunities, and PURPOSING what is done within the walls of MHS. I'm going to give everything I have to this high school.

...the students also have a next-level "sneaker game." ...sneaker-heads everywhere.

Do you have any hobbies outside of your job?

...my hobbies are napping, nail-biting, fashion/clothes shopping, being a good father, and being a good husband. I also like to write. Actually, I love to write...and I credit my 10th Grade English Teacher, Mrs. Crane. I also like to dominate my neighborhood in landscaping. Fact. See below:



Did you always want to be an administrator?

Nobody ever graduates from high school or college and says, "I want to be a high school principal/assistant principal." All I can say is that I am a first-generation college student in my family because of teachers and my high school principal. He always told me that I would remember 10% of what my teachers/principals TEACH me and 90% of how they TREAT me. He was spot on if I look back at my high school days. I credit the immeasurable impact that those educators have had on my personal development and their imprints of inclusion and life-long learning; I strive to honor those amazing educators and their heritage of leadership.

In short, no...my plan was to go to Chiropractic School but I started my career in law enforcement. I started teaching GED prep classes to inmates in Springfield, Massachusetts and immediately loved education. From there...Always Forward, Never Back.

Do you have any pets?

I have a cocker spaniel named Scooter and a punk bichon maltese named Rocky Balboa. I also have a hedgehog named Slash (from Guns n' Roses).

What is your favorite movie or book or/and favorite professional sports team?

It is my opinion that Principals must be professional development leaders and if you are not keeping up—and contributing to—current trends and best practices, than you risk being "stuck" in a rapidly-changing educational climate. I recently re-read my favorite book by Todd Whitaker 15 Things That Great Principals Do Differently – this book has helped shape me as a leader. I must have read this book 50 times. Awaken the Champion in You: Unlocking and Unleashing the Treasures Within and Basketball Junkie are also a book on my re-read list.

Movie:

Grosse Pointe Blank

Sports Team:

...the Boston Red Sox turn me into a 10 year-old again, so I bring them to the top of the heap.

Spartan Sports

The Varsity Football Team had sadly lost the championships, the score being 10-13. The football team did have a great season and ended out pretty strong! Good job to our wonderful football team!

The photo below is from a few weeks ago when football coach, Keith Jones was recognized for 20 years of coaching. Thank you Coach for the hundreds of players you have coached through the years.

The winter sports will start up soon! For now, there are no upcoming games.



Photo courtesy of Theresa Waller

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

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