

# APRIL'S THEME: INTEGRITY

## *The Trail Blazer*

### **Mackinaw Trail Middle School**

8401 South Mackinaw Trail  
Cadillac, Michigan 49601  
(231) 876-5600

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 25, 2008

### **Principals' VOICE**

Dear Parents,

Last week we had an opportunity as a staff to play a basketball game against eligible students. It turned out to be one of the best celebrations at the end of the marking period we've had in quite some time. (Although I am sure the adults that played felt a little sore the following day). We continue to stress the importance of being eligible and strive to celebrate with students who have accomplished this goal.

Next week we move into the month of May. This school year is winding down quickly. Spring is a wonderful time of year. Encourage your children to spend time out of doors after school. Fresh air and exercise can help energize and de-stress your student before they settle into their homework in the evening.

Have a wonderful weekend with your family!

Mr. Brown  
Principal

#### **VOCABULARY WORD OF THE WEEK**

**Inflection: an alteration in pitch or tone of the voice**

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Thurs, May 1 – 4:00pm**  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Track Traverse City West JHS @ Cadillac  
**Mon, May 5 – 4:00pm**  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Track Traverse City East JHS @ Cadillac  
**Wed, May 7 – 4:15pm**  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Track Benzie Central Quad @ Benzie  
**Sat, May 10 – 8:00am**  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Track Greenville Invitational @ Greenville  
**Mon, May 12 – 3:30pm**  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Track East Jordan Invitational @ East Jordan  
**Tues, May 20 – 1:00pm**  
7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Track Big North Conf. Meet @ Gaylord HS  
**Thurs, May 22 – 7:00pm**  
6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Band/Orchestra/Choir Spring Concert/Art Show  
@ HS Gymnasium  
**Mon, May 26 – No School**  
Memorial Day Holiday  
**Fri, June 6 – Last day of school**

#### **SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Don't forget to check out the website for the Cadillac Area Public Schools! Log on to [www.vikingnet.org](http://www.vikingnet.org).

#### **... To Report Absences or Leave a message for a student...**

The direct line to the Student Office at Mackinaw Trail is **876-5602**. Please dial that number when you wish to report an absence or leave a message for a student.

### YEARBOOK

Yearbooks will be here soon. The price will be \$13.00. They will be sold in the principal's office the week that they arrive. Please make checks payable to MTMS.

### GIRLS ON TRACK

(The middle school version of Girls on the Run)

Girls on Track practices every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45pm-4:15pm in the MTMS gym. Please contact Mrs. Falan on the Starquest team with any questions.

### AFTER SCHOOL INTRAMURALS

After-school intramurals are now being held on **Mondays** and **Wednesdays** from 2:45 – 3:30pm.

### YMCA TEEN SCHEDULE

The YMCA Teen Center's April schedule is available in the Student Office. This month the YMCA is celebrating animal cruelty prevention. They will be holding a pet supply (dog and cat treats, food, toys, collars, leashes) drive all month to benefit the Wonderland Humane Society. They are also promoting the teen center as a dog walk stop for anyone walking their dog in the park near the teen center. They will provide dog treats, bowls of water, and informational handouts

### TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Any change in transportation for your child needs to occur before 2:00PM. We have nearly 500 students in the school and the end of the day gets extremely busy. Our secretaries are doing the very best they can to accommodate, but an earlier time for such arrangements will be necessary. We will not guarantee that a message to a student will be delivered if we are notified after 2:00PM.

### PARENT CONNECT

Please take time to consider our new progress reporting system called Parent Connect. This online program will enable you to stay "Connected" with assignments and grades of your child any time you log into the site. You may register on line but need to see Mrs. Boerma at the Student Office to receive your password. Please bring a photo ID as well.

### Cadillac Footliters Junior Players

The Cadillac Footliters Junior Players are offering a six-week workshop to students ages 8-18. The workshop will introduce youth to theatre by focusing on character development, costumes and props, set design, lights and sound effects, make-up, musical theatre and then putting it all together in a short skit for family and friends. If you're interested in participating, please pick up a brochure in the Student Office.

### ART FOR LIFE

On Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> band, orchestra, choir and art classes will have a spring concert/art show at 7:00pm in the High School gymnasium. A photo story presentation for all visual art students will be shown at the concert. Come and enjoy!

### SPARTAN LABELS

The Information Center is collecting Spartan Labels. Just cut the UPC code off of any Spartan product and have your student bring them into school.

### GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS

The Protostars Teams is collecting General Mills "Box Tops for Education." Please save and return the coupons to Mrs. Austin's room #360. Thank you!

### DISCOVERY STUDENT EDITORIALS

#### I Don't Want to Share My Water

I don't think we should share the Great Lakes water with anyone! The United States used more than 148 trillion gallons of water in 2000. One state, Florida, used 2.4 trillion gallons of fresh water. In 2006, guess what happened? I'll tell you what happened. People used 8.3 billion gallons of just bottled water. The average person used 28.3 gallons of bottled water that year. I don't think we should share our water. It won't last until 2020 at this rate. We need to stop using so much water.

By: **Kylie Moore**

#### Keep Your Hands Off Our Water

The Great Lakes States should keep their water away from other states or have them pay! New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson said, "The upper Midwest is awash in water." We were awash in water, but the lake levels are dropping. If Governor Richardson wants our water, which is what it sounds like, then he will have to pay for it. Since global warming could lower our lake levels even more, we should keep most of the water for our people. Eventually it will run out. Even if it takes two hundred years, it will run out. If we want water to spare, we need to be more "green". If other thirsty states and countries want to take the Great Lakes water, they should pay a higher price for it.

By: **Ben Macioszek**

#### Water in the United States

We need to protect the Great Lakes water. Bottled water adds to global warming. 8.3 billion gallons of water were sold in 2006. That averages to 28.3 gallons used by each person. I think our water supply will run out.

By: **Phuong Nguyen**