

MSMHS FISH TALES



BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION!

that are true from the desk of Dr. Spera

Week of August 19, 2013

MSMHS RANKS 10TH IN THE STATE FOR OVERALL CAPT SCORES!!

TOP 10 CT HIGH SCHOOLS CAPT PERFORMANCE IN ALL 4 AREAS

#	CONNECTICUT HIGH SCHOOLS
1	Joel Barlow HS -Region 9
2	New Canaan HS
3	Staples HS - Westport
4	Ridgefield HS
5	Darien HS
6	Wilton HS
7	Weston HS
8	Acad Aero & Eng HS – CREC
9	Avon HS
10	MSMHS - LEARN

GROTON, CT - The teachers and students did it again! With the mindset that '**effort creates ability**' and the **grit** to battle through tough concepts and skills needed for success, the class of 2015 outperformed all but nine high schools in the entire state of Connecticut!

This past year, the MSMHS teachers did an outstanding job of using multiple sources of data to create lesson plans in the classroom and in CAPT Boot Camp to improve the skills of our 70 students. Through the grit and incredible effort of our students, the 70 students were able to place themselves 10th overall in percentage of goal and above in all four areas (mathematics, writing, reading, science) on the CAPT. The students placed 8th overall in Mathematics, 12th in Reading, 13th in Science, and 16th in Writing.

In addition to these results, 17 MSMHS students scored an 'Advanced' (5) in all four areas of the CAPT! These students will be honored as CAPT Scholars and will be recognized by the State Department of Education later in the Fall.

Please take time to reflect on the tremendous efforts that were put forth by our teachers and students to allow these results to come to fruition. We are humbled by the mindset of our teachers, parents, and students who truly believe that **EFFORT DOES CREATE ABILITY!**

This is a great example of what happens when **ALL stakeholders give tireless support and amazing school pride!** Thank you for making MSMHS great with all your efforts.

Welcome Our New Staff to the MSMHS Family

MSMHS is excited to announce the new teachers and staff that will join MSMHS this Fall. We have hired a group of All-Star teachers who will enhance the culture and climate of MSMHS. Below is the list of new teachers and staff:

Jill Andruskiewicz, *Mathematics*
Missy Barnes, *Mathematics*
Kristin Walker, *Mathematics*
Catherine Pereira, *English*
David Iler, *English (UConn Cert)*
Alison Schroeder, *Social Studies*
Nicole Blondin, *Latin*

Chris Campbell, *Special Ed*
Kate Hespeler, *Special Ed*
Nicole Sklar, *School Psych*
Sarah Ramsey, *Biology*
Bill O'Leary, *Biology*
Ben Wildeboer, *Physics*
Moheba Sayed, *Guidance*

Please welcome our new teachers to our MSMHS Family!

NO ERROR: LAND & SEA DAY MAY BE MIXED

Some students and parents have called or emailed us noticing that their student's schedules contain a "Land Day Course" on a Sea Day or vice-versa. This is not a mistake.

Due to the increase in students, grades, number of course offerings, limited classroom space, and the effort to keep class sizes at the appropriate sizes, students may have a class such as Latin or Civics on their Sea Day. We estimate that 15% of our students have this mixture within their course schedules. Please know that all efforts were made to give our students their course requests as approved by teachers and administration this past Spring. The exciting news is that we have been able to answer the request of our parents and students with each student having a built-in study hall this year.

In the coming years, we are looking to add exciting marine science electives and more University of Connecticut credit course offerings. Thanks for your support!



UPCOMING EVENTS/PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21st

Freshman Orientation - 9 am to noon (All Freshmen)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28th

First Day of School!! Class Begins @ 7:30 am

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th

PTO Meeting @ 6:30 pm;

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th

Back to School Night @ 6:30 pm

TELL OUR MSMHS STUDENTS THAT DR. SPERA SAID:

"GET YOUR HOMEWORK DONE!"

Be sure **ALL STUDENTS** read *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell, complete the Outlier writing assignment, and read a non fiction novel