

MSMHS FISH TALES



that are true from the desk of Dr. Spera

Week of April 20, 2015

Dr. Spera and Mrs. Hanrahan to be Honored by UConn



STORRS, CT - This Thursday, April 23, 2015, Dr. Nicholas Spera and Mrs. Annie Hanrahan will receive two of the six awards being given by the University of Connecticut at the UConn Early College Experience Awards & 60th Anniversary Celebration Reception held at the Alumni Center at UConn Storrs. Dr. Spera will be receiving the *UConn Principal of the Year Award for Program Support and Advocacy* and Mrs. Hanrahan will be receiving the *UConn Rookie of the Year Award for Excellence in First-Year Course Instruction*.

Dr. Spera's support of the UConn ECE program has led to MSMHS ranking tops in the state and area for students enrolled in ECE courses and the number of ECE courses offered in two divisions: very small schools (under 299) and New London County schools. Dr. Spera has developed strong relationships with the UConn Storrs and the UConn Avery Point campus that led to the Memorandum of Agreement signed this Fall which allows MSMHS students to take marine science themed courses that are not offered in traditional high schools. Next year, MSMHS will offer 13 ECE courses that add up to a total of 49 UConn credits! Furthermore, 92% of seniors and 81% of juniors have signed up for an AP or ECE course next year! Dr. Spera was the past recipient of the 2013 Connecticut Association of Schools First Year Principal of the Year Award and last year's 2014 PTO Anchor Award.

For Mrs. Hanrahan, this will be her second major award in the past three years. In 2013, she received the MSMHS Teacher of the Year Award. Last year, she was named the NEASC Co-Chairperson for MSMHS' accreditation visit in March 2016. The Rookie of the Year Award is for the ECE US History I & II courses that allows students to earn 6 UConn credits.

Dr. Spera and Mrs. Hanrahan will be supported and cheered on by 18 fellow faculty, friends, and family members along with Executive Director, Dr. Howley this Thursday at UConn. Both would like to thank the MSMHS Family of teachers, students, and parents for the nominations and the incredible support of their careers.

4 ADULT SPELLING BEE TEAMS STILL NEEDED FOR THIS FRIDAY'S BEE!



There will be quite a BUZZ this Friday, April 24th at 7 pm in the Great Hall at the MSMHS. The 4th Annual PTO Adult Spelling Bee has finally arrived and there will be plenty of excitement and spirit in the room.

There will be four swarms (rounds) of this year's Bee: Family Bees (parents), Company Hive (teachers), MSMHS Worker Bees (students), and Taking Care of BEES-ness (companies & friends). Two teams from each swarm will advance to the Championship Round where the Champion will be stung with trophies and the ultimate bragging rights.

The event will be emceed by NBC30's George Colli (*above*) will be supported by the three judges for the event: Mayor for the City of Groton, Dr. Marian Galbraith; SUNY Maritime College President/Rear Admiral, Dr. Michael Alfultis; and the *King Bee*, Dr. Spera. Mr. Regan will serve again as the *Dean of Spelling* with the *Enforcer*, MSMHS parent James Johnson.

Join us a spectator, cheerleader, or form a team this week! Great food, amazing silent auction items, and a great basket raffle. **Don't miss out on the fun!**



UPCOMING EVENTS/PROGRAMS

A/B SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 20th

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
B Day	A Day/ Advisory	B Day	A Day	B Day/ Advisory

Next PTO Meeting: Finalized Plans for Spelling Bee

Wednesday, April 22nd @ 6:30 pm in the Great Hall
PTO Social from 6 to 6:30 pm

Upcoming Project O Boat Trips

- Thursday, April 23: *Marine Studies II* (Blocks 1, 3, 4)
- Tuesday, April 28: *Marine Studies II* (Blocks 5 & 8)
- Tuesday, May 5: *Marine Studies I* (Blocks 1, 2, 4)
- Thursday, May 14: *Marine Studies I* (Blocks 5 & 8)