

Excellence in
Bilingual Deaf
Education
Pre-K—8th
Grade

The Blazers Times

Volume 1, Issue 1
September 26
2008

MDS Students Create School Newspaper!!!

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Deaf Events:

- St. Cloud Deaf Club Sept. 27 @ Sammy's Pizza 3:00 p.m.
- MDS PTG 6:30-8:00 October 7th
- New Family Orientation Night @ MDS Oct. 14; dinner/daycare -6:00—8:00 p.m.
- MDS Board Mtg Oct. 15 5:45 p.m.
- No School Oct. 16-17
- Kids' Halloween party @ Thompson Hall Oct. 18 Noon; Adults Oct. 25 7:00

This past summer JP Beldon got the idea about starting up a school newspaper for students, parents/guardians, staff and friends to read so they know what's up with MDS. So, he talked with Dyan and they arranged the meeting to get it going. Eleven (11) kids decided to join the newspaper committee. The committee made assignments and duties and designed the newspaper, giving it a title, too. They decided to try send out the newspaper every two

weeks for while, then if everyone gets used to doing it, it will get published weekly.

This first newspaper has taken us 4 weeks. We are learning how to do it with Dyan's help. We work after lunch and sometimes in the morning on it.

JP and Dyan also had the committee write and sign letters to companies for their support.

We are happy

with our first newspaper. If you have questions come up to us and ask or share ideas for more articles!

-K. Hatfield



Students create The Blazers Times!



Sorenson VRS St. Paul donates \$200 dollars to The Blazers Times!

Sorenson VRS St. Paul just donated two hundred dollars to Metro Deaf School this week for our newspaper. The newspaper committee has

asked different Deaf companies to donate money for our newspaper to help with making our newspaper. Sorenson VRS is our first company to donate money! We were very

excited to get the money from them and we bought a camera for the newspaper. The rest of the money will be use for publishing. Thank you Sorenson! -K. Vogt



Meet Courtney Lauer, New 8th Grade Student

you join?

Yes, volleyball right now and maybe basketball.

Why did you decide to go MDS this year?

Just to have new experience, meet some new people, learn some new things, and LEARN MORE.

Where was your old school?

Anne Sullivan in Minneapolis, MN.

Do you like MDS so far?

Yes, because it is challenging, more social, and more activities to attend.

What is your favorite subject?

Math, because I like to figure out

the answers.

Where was your hometown?

Fargo, North Dakota.

Do you have hearing or deaf family?

Hearing, I am only one deaf person in my family.

Where do you want to work later?

At a hair salon.

Which High school do you want to go?

North Star, because it is more closer to my house, I heard that it is a good school, and I can go home by bus everyday.

How old are you right now?

14 years old.

What is your hobby?

I like to hang out with my friends.

What are your pet-peeves?

Reading books, homework, and being bored.

Will you join some of MDS' sports? If so, what sports will

Meet Jack Williams, New Para

Where is your hometown?

Burnsville, MN

Is your family deaf or hearing?

All of my family is deaf.

Where did you go for elementary school?

Gideon Pond School

Where did you go for your high school?

MSAD for 7 years.

Where did you go for college? Also, what kind degree did you get?

RIT in New York. I got my degree in photography/art history degree.

What is your hobby?

Running, biking, and camping. I don't like to sit around.

Did you join any sports before?

Football, softball, track, basketball,

and men's volleyball.

Do you enjoy being in here (MDS)?

Yes, I love it here! It's fun to have social time with different people.



Director's Corner (AKA Dyan Sherwood)

As you can see by reading this newsletter, we are off to a great start to the 2008-2009 school year! We have had a very large influx of new students enrolling since summer! We hope to host a "New Families to MDS Night" sometime soon (Oct) as we want to formally welcome all of them to our MDS Community. The



Working away the day!!

new staff, returning staff and all the students seem to be settling in very well! Teachers have been doing newsletters to keep you all "in-the-loop" regarding their classrooms.

This year I am VERY busy as we did not fill the Assistant Principal's position when Lisa left! Besides having my main focus be MDS, I am also working hard with other Board members on the future combining of MNOSA with MDS. There is much work to be done for this big undertaking but we have been working on it

since last winter and things are moving along well. More information regarding this big project will be shared by the Board in the coming weeks. It is very exciting!

Our attendance at Curriculum Night was about 65% - we always strive for 100% - we want you to be part of what we do at school! As always, contact me with any ideas, suggestions, etc. and come visit! Hope to see you at the Oct. 7th PTG meeting. Thank you.

NEW "AR" THEME THIS YEAR!

This year the Accelerated Reader program has a new theme! The theme is all about RAINFORESTS and the AMAZON RIVER! The Accelerated Reader program is a program on the computer for us to take quizzes after reading a book. Each book is worth points. We must pass a quiz by 80% to get the points. Points earn miles on the Amazon River. If you get 100 percent of your goal by the end of trimester, you will go to a party to celebrate or get a prize.

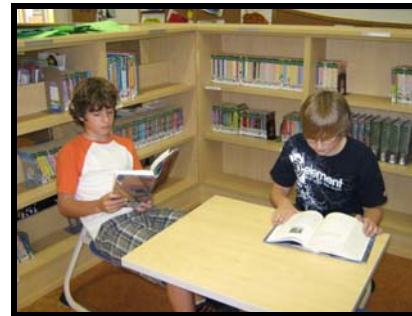
The goal is to travel by boat 4,000 miles on the Amazon River. How do you get miles by

passing a test? It all depends on the # of pages of your book. If we all (whole school) did make our goal of 4,000 miles then we will go to a surprise party at the end of year!

On Friday , September 26th after lunch time, Black Team (Middle School) will present reports on different subjects that are related to the Amazon River or Rainforest for the AR Kickoff. Elementary grades will present on Monday the 29th. If you want to know what details are or times for the presentation, ask Erik Queen. He is the coordinator of A.R. Mandy is the AR Coordinator for the library.

This year all MDS students will try our best! It will be SO FUN! COOL! A.R. will start after the presentations.

-T. Anderson



Sports: Volleyball

The girls won the volleyball game V.S Hill-Murray. The previous games they lost. So far they lost 2 times and won

once. The team players are: Kelsey Fetcher, Kelsey Prickett, Raelyn Fuechtmann, Emelia Beldon, Shania Strandberg, Shaylyn Towers, Courtney Lauer, Kalleen Hatfield, Tiffany Anderson, Eliza Linstaedt, Katherine Gelhar, and Meghan Hatfield. Congratulations to them for their hard work! Coaches are Alissa Olson and Tiffani Lattier.

-K. Lauderbaugh



Update: Girls beat Hill-Murray in a game this week! They have one win and 2 loses. Go BLAZERS!

Do we want football at MDS?

Would you join MDS football team for 6th-8th grade? If MDS has a team in the future then you need to buy a white or red helmet, football jersey with white and number black, pants will be red and you will need to buy pads, too. You will need to buy football cleats. MDS could have cheerleaders in red with black skirt or white dress and red

pompoms.

MDS would try to find a place for MDS football team to practice. If you know of someplace let us know!

We will need a coach and assistant coach, too! We can establish a football team but we need you! Next month we will do a survey about MDS football. We will ask

you if you think it's a good idea or not. We want football team at MDS! We will survey for other sports and clubs, too.



-W. Warner and M. Issa

Meet New Teacher, Sandra Germinaro

What is your full name? Sandra Germinaro

What do you teach? Kindergarten to 5th grade science, and Deaf Studies for Middle School.

Where are you from? Grew up and just moved from southern California.

Where did you graduate? High school at Moorpark High School in California. And went to Gallaudet

University in Washington D.C.

What did you graduate college with? BA- biology, another BA- secondary education and MA- ASL/ English bi-lingual deaf education.

What brings you to MDS? Because MDS has bi-lingual philosophy.

What are your hobbies? Taking pictures, snowboarding and teaching!

Are you deaf? What about your

family? Yes I am deaf and only one in family. I have older sister.

EXTRA! I own 2 cats! I am married to Frank. My husband works at

Minnesota North Star Academy.



Meet New 8th Grader - Shaylyn Towers

What is your favorite thing to do?

Playing games on computers and chatting with friends.

How long did you go to Anne Sullivan??

I was at Sullivan almost 8 years and I kind of enjoyed it there with my friends!!

What kind of sports do you play?

I will play Basketball and Volleyball this year.

What is your favorite subject?

My favorites classes are Science and

Deaf Studies this year.

How do you feel about MDS?

I feel great to be here. I thank my Mom—she is my favorite person because she sent me here!

Have you made a lot friends?

YEAH!!! I am a very sports person and I make lots of friends!

How you know sign language?

My mom taught me when I was 3 years old then I went into pre-school the teachers taught me more.

What is your favorite sport? Basketball.

Do you keep yourself busy?

Yeah, this year WOW! Its tough! I am busy!!

How you know anyone here?

I know most of them from Camp Sertoma and Courage North camp.



Shaylyn Towers

Meet New Math Teacher—Tricia Masanz

Where was your student teaching before you came?

2 student teaching experiences, one here at MDS in spring 2007; 2nd at MSAD in 2008. It is her first time being a teacher.

What colleges did you go to?

She said University of Minnesota for 1 year then went to RIT graduated there with Bachelor of Science math and Master of Science (deaf education).

What is your favorite thing to do?

Being Outdoors, with friends, play volleyball and socializing with her family.

Do you enjoy teaching kids?

Yes. She wanted being teacher during her childhood.

What school did you went?

Como Park Elementary and high school at Highland park

What is your favorite sport?

Volleyball.

Do u play sports?

Volleyball, Softball, Basketball.



Deaf or hearing family?

Hearing family

How do you communicate with your family?

Uses ASL with her family

Do you have any technology for communicate to your friends?

Pager and E-mail

What is your favorite Subject?

Math - of course!!!



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New Students and Staff

MDS has 18 new students and 11 new staff. MDS has 68 students and 46 staff in total. MDS is thrilled that they joined our school!



New students and staff

Who is on the Blazers Times?

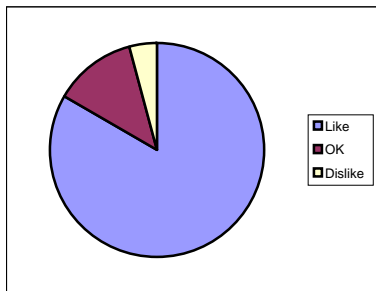
- JP Beldon, Editor in Chief
- Kaleen Hatfield, Writer and Photographer
- CJ Oldfather, Layout Design
- Raelyn Fuechtmann, Copy Editor
- Musa Issa, Marketing and Survey Reporter
- Kevin Peacock, Copy Editor
- Kyle Lauderbaugh, Sports Writer
- Logan Waldo, Photographer
- Trevor Anderson, Copy Editor and Writer
- Kaylah Vogt, Deaf Events and Writer
- Shaylyn Towers, Layout Design
- William Warner, Marketing and Survey Reporter
- Dyan Sherwood, Supervisor

Since we do not have a class of just these students who are volunteering for this newspaper, we work in the mornings, during lunch time and when we can find time to get assignments made, reporting done, pictures taken, editing as they go and doing layout. I am adding a "Director's Corner" to each newsletter and because I have been so busy doing this (among other things) I have not sent out my own "update", so the timing is perfect!



I am very excited to be part of this wonderful effort, and I hope you enjoy reading their work as much I as I have enjoyed helping them. As a former Editor of my high school newspaper, I find this very rewarding work. This is their first edition of many more to come!! Hands waving!!!! -D. Sherwood

I am so impressed with how hard these students have worked getting this newspaper up and running! When you empower students to be involved and do things that they are 100% invested in, the output is amazing!!



YEARBOOK SURVEY

We surveyed MDS kids about the yearbook. Most all kids liked it, some didn't. The 8th graders will work on the yearbook with teacher Tricia Masanz. It is a hard work. We will make some changes and make it better!

-JP Beldon, Editor in Chief