



CONNECTION

Volume 2, Issue 5
FALL 2013

Missouri School for the Blind
3815 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis

MSB students issue September fitness challenge



On Monday, September 30th 2013, MSB students challenged the staff to participate in a one-mile walk to kick off the 2013-2014 Fitness Challenge. A total of 39 students and 26 staff participated in the September Challenge which took place on the track at the Missouri School for the Blind. Each month the students or staff plan to issue a friendly challenge designed to motivate us all to participate in a healthy lifestyle.

MSB staff issue October fitness challenge



On October 28, 2013 the MSB staff issued a yoga challenge to the students for Fitness Challenge of the Month! Great job, staff and students!

The purpose of the Fitness Challenge is to bring awareness to the components of fitness including: Cardiovascular health, flexibility, muscular strength and endurance, diet, nutrition and stress reduction. Go Mules!!!

Be Happy, Be Healthy, Be Fit

We're all in this together!!



Future scientists... Future scientists...



On October 24, 2013, members of the Missouri Association of Blind Students, Independence Science, the National Federation of the Blind, and the American Chemical Society joined the students at MSB to explore new ways for the blind and visually impaired to learn science concepts. The students were divided into two groups, grades K-6 and grades 7-12. The younger children learned about the nature of matter using marshmallows and toothpicks to represent atoms and chemical bonds. They also participated in a program called "States of Matter" which compared matter in the solid, liquid, and gas states, and made a slimy substance called Gluep, which behaves like both a liquid and a solid. The older students did a lab using a Talking Lab Quest with a pH sensor to measure the pH of common household substances and to determine if they were acids or bases. The students had a wonderful time and learned how they can be more involved and active during science labs with limited assistance from sighted instructors or peers.

First Place.... First Place....



Blue Phoenix, the artwork entered by MSB 12th grader Michael Babusa, in APH InSights 2013, won **First Place** in the category for Grades 10-12.

APH InSights received nearly 400 entries this year. **CONGRATULATIONS, Michael!**

**MSB collects marked coke bottle caps and Box Tops for Education!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!!**



HAYRIDE, HAYRIDE, HAYRIDE!!!

Thank you to the Wentzville Lions for a fabulous Hayride and dinner for our residential students and staff at Mikus Farms in Wentzville, MO.



Fun and Games!

Our residential students participate in a variety of activities on campus at their "home away from home."



Missouri Instructional Resource Center (MIRC)



**Yvonne Ali,
Supervisor**



In 1879, Congress created a permanent annual appropriation for the specific purpose of manufacturing and furnishing books and other materials specifically adapted for the instruction of blind students. The Act to Promote the Education of the Blind named the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) as the administrator of the Federal Quota System.

Today the Federal Quota Program is still distributing textbooks and aids to eligible blind students in educational settings. MSB Outreach Services uses a model that is in place nationwide. Our MIRC, located on the MSB campus, provides the following:

- Conducts the annual registration of eligible blind/VI students for APH.
- Serves as a repository of APH products and large print and braille texts. The repository contains 1300 braille text, 3200 large print texts, over 900 pieces of equipment, and many of the over 300 products available from APH.
- Disseminates information about APH products via electronic communications or product displays
- Provides consultants, speakers and trainers to provide educators with hands-on experiences with products information on services available through the American Printing House for the Blind
- Assists local education agencies in locating and obtaining textbooks in alternative formats
- Our MIRC Supervisor, Yvonne Ali, serves on the national APH advisory board for review of products and services.
- For information on materials or services, contact Yvonne at 314-776-4320 (ext. 3256)



MSB students and staff participated in **White Cane Day** on October 18, 2013. The white cane is a tool used by blind and visually impaired people to increase mobility and independence. It also grants blind and visually impaired people protection and the right-of-way when traveling with the white cane. White Cane Day at MSB started with a reading of the history of the day. Then staff and students were divided into teams, and each team was given an iPad with a compass app and a route to follow through the neighborhoods surrounding the school. Their task was to navigate the route using the compass and their canes and return to the school. All teams navigated their routes safely and efficiently!



Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

- 4-8 ACT Fall Testing (11th & 12th Gr)
- 7 Brunswick Bowling, (residential)
- 11 Veterans Day Assembly @ 10:00am
- 14 Tech-IT-Up-A-Notch, Tech Day
- 21 *Sister Act*, Fox Theater - Residential
- 25-27 Staff Development – NO SCHOOL
- 25-29 Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL

DECEMBER

- 2 Classes Resume
- 4 Wrestling/Cheerleading Meet @ MSB
- 5-7 Junior Beta Convention, Branson
- 7 Wrestling/Cheerleading Meet @ Tennessee
- 16 Elks Christmas Party—Residential (evening)
- 19 Christmas Extravaganza!
- 20 Local Students Dismiss at 1:00pm
- Residential Students at 12:30pm
- 23-31 Winter Break – NO SCHOOL

JANUARY 2014

- 2-3 Staff Development (8:00-4:00) - NO SCHOOL
- 6 Classes Resume
- 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - NO SCHOOL
- 21 Classes Resume
- 22 2nd Quarter/1st Semester Ends
- 23 2nd Quarter/1st Semester Achievement Assembly at 9:00am
- 23-24 Wrestling/Cheerleading Conference Meet @ Kentucky



We  our MULES!!!!



Conference Champs



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