DONATE

We are pleased to announce a new initiative: Rev & Gram Emergency Family Fund. This charitable fund will meet the emergency needs of our students in extraordinary situations.

Families, teachers, and staff are asked to contribute and funds will be disbursed to students and their families in times of need to minimize the impact on the students and keep them in school. No gift is too small.

To make a donation to the Rev & Gram Emergency Family Fund or for more information, please visit: www.macsk8.org/donate.

IMPORTANT DATES

August 21........ Teachers Return
August 24........ Meet Your Teacher Day
August 28........ First Day of School
September 21.... Family Night
October 20...... Parent/Teacher Conference

LETTER FROM MR. SCOUMIS

Next time you see Ms. Frankie or Ms. Baldwin, ask them if they thought they would be here 20 years later. Ask Mr. Jones where he was twenty years ago. Ask Ms. Tria how many basketball championships she thought she would have. Ask me, because my plan was to stay about two months. Yet here we are, closing out year number 19.

Almost closing in year three, but bouncing back and winning a National Blue-Ribbon award – membership in Schools That Can and the Middle States with academic, extracurricular & athletic awards adorning the front wall and making it to 20!

Who do we thank? Certainly, Dr. and Rev Robinson – the founders. The Board, from the beginning until now, a dedicated force that both protects and leads with little accolades. Manchester Youth Development Center – our mother and brother and sister – our number one. Our neighbors and partners throughout Manchester, the Northside, and Pittsburgh. Our parents, who want nothing more than the best for their children. A dedicated staff, working and teaching to provide the best education that the parents and students deserve. And of course, our most amazing children, some of whom are the second generation (We are almost 20!), which keep growing, flourishing and coming back with positive stories and production in our neighborhood.

Over the next year, MACS will be asking for, collecting and sharing stories from the last 20 years and as well as making plans for the next 20.
RIF & ECKERT SEAMANS PARTNER WITH MACS

MACS has teamed up with Reading is Fundamental Pittsburgh to promote reading out of school with our students. A kick-off event took place with current first grade students. A selection of students were invited to Pittsburgh law firm, Eckert Seamans, for a lunch time reading buddy program. Students were able to have lunch and participate in activities that had been designed to give children some idea of what lawyers do, and to get our students excited about reading! RIF Pittsburgh gave each student a book for them to take home and keep. We are excited about this partnership and can’t wait to watch it unfold in the fall.

FROM THE DESK OF MS. COOPER

MACS Families,

It has been an amazing school year and I can’t wait to see what next year has in store for us! This past school year we have learned a great deal of new things, together. I’d like to keep that going and continue to support students, teachers, parents, families, and the Manchester community. It is extremely important for everyone to always keep the line of communication open no matter the circumstance; big or small.

If your child participates in extracurricular activities outside of MACS, we’d love to share with the entire school community. Highlighting our students and reminding them to be the best academically, at all times, is a huge component towards success.

Speaking of success, here at MACS we strive to ensure all students are set up for a bright and positive future ahead. Have a blast this summer, stay safe, and come back for another successful academic school year in August!

In Partnership,
Haeshah Z. Cooper
Director of Communications

SUMMER READING LIST

We’re all excited for summer! We can’t wait for our favorite activities -- swimming, hanging out with friends, riding bikes, and READING! While reading might not be the first thing on some kids’ minds, it’s important to keep it as part of the daily routine even when school is out. Significant loss in reading fluency and comprehension can occur over summer months, so enjoy your summer by making sure that reading is a part of it.

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh came to MACS Elementary on June 1st to promote their Summer Reading program. Signing up for a library card is free and easy and so is signing up for the Summer Reading program. They have tons of great activities and prizes for kids who participate. There are programs for all ages, so even older or younger siblings and parents can sign up, read, and show their kids how much fun it is to read in the summer.

Tips for making reading a fun part of your summer:

1.) Sign up for Summer Reading at any branch of the Carnegie Library -- Make it part of your summer routine to swing by the library and check out some books every week or two. Kids are more likely to read books they choose themselves. Let them experience browsing the shelves and seeing what appeals to them. Kids often say they don’t have any good books to read over the summer -- giving your kids access to hundreds of new and interesting books through a free library card will solve that problem.

2.) Read a chapter book as a family -- Pick a book from our Family Reading List to read with kids (from about age 6 and up). You can just read a chapter a night, but it’s likely they’ll ask for more! Your older kids can take turns being the reader too. Or let your kids pick one of their favorite books for you to read together. You know they read Junie B. Jones, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Dork Diaries, and others, but have you read one? You’ll get some insight into the reading life of your kid when you experience one of their favorites, together.

3.) Set some goals -- Do you want to read 20 minutes each night? Do you want to read five books by July 1st? Do you want to read the entire Harry Potter series? Do you want to read a graphic novel or fantasy for the first time? Set some goals and choose a celebration when you meet them -- like renting the movie version of the book or going out for ice cream!

Family Reading List:
• Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone by J.K. Rowling
• The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis
• The Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum
• Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo
• The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary
• James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl
SEA PERCH

This May, eight students from MACS middle school as well as one fifth grade student, were part of a group of female students that traveled to Atlanta, Georgia to observe the national SeaPerch competition. The students had been a part of a robotics program, sponsored by Dr. Andre Samuel’s Citizens Science Lab, that allowed female students to create underwater robots. These robots were created from the SeaPerch kit and designed by students who could add only $25.00 worth of materials to enhance or improve their robot design for efficiency and speed.

Although our students did not earn a qualifying time in the local competition to be able to compete nationally, the students were able to observe the national competition that took place at the Georgia Institute of Technology. There, the students were able to get ideas on how to improve their designs for next year. While in Atlanta, the students visited the MLK Center, Six Flags over Georgia, the CNN Center, and the Georgia Aquarium.

We look forward to trying again next year in the hopes that our team will earn placement in the national competition.

MACS NJHS INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

On Wednesday, May 17, MACS Jr. High inducted eight new members into its chapter of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS).

The eight students were nominated for NJHS based on their grades, known as “Scholarship”, and four other pillars that identified them as exemplary students: Leadership, Service, Citizenship, and Character.

We are very proud of our 2017 National Junior Honor Society Inductees and look forward to them having a great impact on our school and community!

List of 2017 Inductees:
Roderick Armstrong, 6th Grade
Jahzia Ely, 7th Grade
Kinverlyn Fleming, 6th Grade
Jordan Graham, 7th Grade
Ryen Harrison, 7th Grade
Denia Henderson, 7th Grade
Nyla McGinnis, 6th Grade
Kevaughn Price, 7th Grade

CAREER DAY

What do you want to be when you grow up? This is a familiar question that is often asked to elementary and middle school students. Most students aspire to be a doctor, lawyer, or teacher. MACS wanted to expose our students to other careers outside of the common professions.

We invited the following professionals: helicopter mechanic, mail carrier, cosmetologist, graphic designer, and a writer... just to name a few. Although these professions are not always a student’s first choice, we wanted to showcase them other careers to get their mind going in order for them to begin setting goals to achieve. A special thank you to all of our guests who attended and made our school-wide career day a huge success!

PARTNERSHIPS

Your organization has made a huge impact on the life of our students this past school year and we would like to acknowledge your help, support, and the impact that you have made to everyone.
OUR MISSION:
We foster the dreams of all children by providing an outstanding and dynamic education in a nurturing environment.

OUR VISION:
We will continue to be an educational center of excellence and become a community pillar of support where students excel, families are engaged, teachers are empowered, and alumni flourish.

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Virginia Crawford, Ph.D., Pro Tem Secretary

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