



# MARTENSDALE- ST. MARYS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

June 1, 2011

Message from Dr. Bob Newsum  
Superintendent

Greetings:

As we officially 'close the books' on the 2010-2011 school year and complete our planning for 2011-2012, it is important that you and your children take a few minutes to review the past year. In my January newsletter article, I suggested that your family take a few minutes shortly after the end of the school year to reflect on the past school term. Celebrate your successes and classroom experiences that you were particularly proud of and consider those instances when things were not as positive or did not turn out as you would have planned. For those less than positive experiences, set goals for your family and your children to increase your chances for success next year.

The Martensdale St. Marys High School Chapter of the National Honor Society held the induction ceremony for new members on Monday, May 16, 2011. Congratulations to Danielle Broadbent, Kayla DePauw, Kelsey DePauw, Katrina DeVore, Troy Harding, Cody Harvey, Hannah Hill, Carli Kenyon, Megan Krumme, Marshall Lynch, Cassidy Phillips, Courtney Scovel, and Ally Wetzler for being selected as the Class of 2013. It is indeed an honor to be selected as members of the National Honor Society.

Two of our teachers were recently selected as Martensdale St. Marys Community School District Teachers-of-the-Year for the 2010-2011 school year. Congratulations to Mr. Mike McAlexander, secondary special education teacher, and Mrs. Tish O'Mara, third grade teacher. These honors are well-deserved and reflect favorably on the positive contributions that Mike and Tish have made!

Thirty-eight senior students were graduated from Martensdale St. Marys on Sunday, May 22, 2011, and the graduation program was very dignified and respectful. Of this year's graduating class, twenty-two students completed their high school career with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. This standard for academic performance speaks very highly about the quality of this year's graduating class and certainly sets a high standard for excellence for future classes to achieve.

Our summer sport seasons have gotten off to great starts, with the varsity baseball and softball teams winning their season-opening games. The Blue Devil Baseball Team was

ranked as the preseason top-rated Class 1A Summer 2011 baseball team and we expect our Blue Devil Softball Team to receive a preseason ranking at or near the top of Class 1A.

Recently, you received a 2011 Spring Quarter District Newsletter at your home and one of the articles in that newsletter was a request for candidates to honor with an 'Alumnus Spotlight' feature in the Summer Quarter newsletter. If you know of someone who graduated from Martensdale St. Marys and has brought honor and pride to our district, community, and family through special achievement, invention, discovery, philanthropic activity, or in some other noteworthy manner, please call Bob Newsum, Superintendent, at the district office (641-764-2466), on his cell phone (641-203-8893), or via email [bob\\_newsum@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us](mailto:bob_newsum@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us) with your nomination. I will collect important biographical information for the person selected for the next quarter's Alumni Spotlight and include a recognition article in the next newsletter.

One of the new programs for high school students that were implemented during the 2010-2011 school year was the one-to-one laptop computer program. This is an excellent program, but requires continual repairs and upgrades for the computers. At the regular May 10 board meeting, your Board of Education approved a \$50.00 computer use fee for all high school students and this fee will be included with other registration fees for 2011-2012.

From the Desk of Mr. Crozier  
Secondary Principal

Principal's Message

The Graduation ceremony on May 22<sup>nd</sup> was a celebration for our community. I am very proud of these 38 students who completed the requirements for graduation. You are now ready to go out into the world. Some will continue their schooling at a post secondary school, some will enter the military, and some will enter the work force. I wish the best of luck to all the seniors who earned their diploma this year. Congratulations to all of you and your parents for a job well done.

I want to say thank you to everyone who made the Every 15 Minute project possible. A special thank you to the Martensdale and St. Marys Fire and Rescue teams that participated. I know some of you took the day off work to make this event possible. Thank you to Veronica Knickerbocker, Liberty Davidson, and Manda Gibson for volunteering their help with photography and make up. The

entire community helped make this project happen. This shows how much you all care about the youth in our community. Thanks again for caring about our students.

I want to congratulate next year's class officers:

**Seniors**

President- Robert Walker  
 Vice President- David Walker  
 Secretary/Treasurer- TJ Foster

**Juniors**

President- Cassidy Phillips  
 Vice President- Megan Krumme  
 Secretary/Treasurer- Katie Schrodt

**Sophomores**

President- Eddy Kraber  
 Vice President- Dylan Gibson  
 Secretary/Treasurer- Luke Ancil

**Freshmen**

President- Hailey Clark  
 Vice President- Emily Murphy  
 Secretary/Treasurer- Bethany Phillips

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

President- Gabe Happts  
 Vice President-Jack Murphy  
 Secretary/Treasurer- Reid Fredericksen

**7th Grade**

President- Andrew Shutt  
 Vice President- Kalli Gibson  
 Secretary/Treasurer- Anthony Dahmen

These students will play a vital role in leading their class and the student body. They will also be involved in leadership activities.

Congratulations to the students of the year:

- Senior – Brittney Kubik
- Junior – Josh Butcher
- Sophomore – Carli Kenyon
- Freshman – Riley Dunn
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Emily Murphy
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Jack Murphy

Have a great summer!

Michael Crozier, Secondary Principal  
[mike\\_crozier@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us](mailto:mike_crozier@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us)

**From the Desk of Mr. Peterson**  
**Blue Devils Activities Director**

**Congratulations to the girls track team for winning the Class 1A Regional Championships held at Blue Devil Stadium on May 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Place winners for the girls included:**

<b>Laura Lacquement</b>	<b>100 Meter Dash</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>
<b>Jordan Williamson</b>	<b>100 Meter Dash</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Laura Lacquement</b>	<b>200 Meter Dash</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>
<b>Andria Harper</b>	<b>200 Meter Dash</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Laura Lacquement</b>	<b>400 Meter Dash</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>
<b>Katie Schrodt</b>	<b>400 Meter Dash</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Morgan Halverson</b>	<b>800 Meter Dash</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>
<b>Riley Dunn</b>	<b>800 Meter Dash</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>
<b>Katie Butcher</b>	<b>1500 Meter Run</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Michaela McIlravy</b>	<b>3000 Meter Run</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Meagan Streiffeler</b>	<b>100 Meter Hurdles</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>
<b>Beth Rucker</b>	<b>100 Meter Hurdles</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Meagan Streiffeler</b>	<b>400 Meter Hurdles</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>
<b>Dani Trom</b>	<b>400 Meter Hurdles</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Danielle Broadbent</b>	<b>High Jump</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Riley Dunn</b>	<b>High Jump</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Beth Rucker</b>	<b>Long Jump</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Cori Williamson</b>	<b>Long Jump</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Hannah Shnurman</b>	<b>Discus</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>
<b>Katrina DeVore</b>	<b>Discus</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Place</b>
<b>Devan Donato</b>	<b>Shot Put</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>

<b>4 X 100 Meter Shuttle Hurdle Relay</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>
<b>Dani Trom</b>	<b>Hannah Shnurman</b>
<b>Beth Rucker</b>	<b>Meagan Streiffeler</b>
<b>Cori Williamson</b>	

<b>4 X 100 Meter Relay</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place</b>
<b>Hannah Shnurman</b>	<b>Jordan Williamson</b>
<b>Cori Williamson</b>	<b>Cassidy Phillips</b>
<b>Beth Rucker</b>	<b>Andria Harper</b>

<b>4 X 200 Meter Relay</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>
<b>Hannah Shnurman</b>	<b>Dani Trom</b>
<b>Cori Williamson</b>	<b>Cassidy Phillips</b>
<b>Katie Schrodt</b>	<b>Andria Harper</b>

<b>4 X 400 Meter Relay</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>
<b>Morgan Halverson</b>	<b>Katie Schrodt</b>
<b>Laura Lacquement</b>	<b>Meagan Streiffeler</b>
<b>Riley Dunn</b>	<b>Dani Trom</b>

<b>4 X 800 Meter Relay</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>
<b>Riley Dunn</b>	<b>Katie Schrodt</b>
<b>Katie Butcher</b>	<b>Morgan Halverson</b>
<b>Laura Lacquement</b>	<b>Paiten Gavin</b>

<b>Sprint Medley Relay</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place</b>
<b>Jordan Williamson</b>	<b>Cori Williamson</b>
<b>Andria Harper</b>	<b>Katie Schrodt</b>
<b>Beth Rucker</b>	<b>Dani Trom</b>

<b>Distance Medley Relay</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place</b>
<b>Dani Trom</b>	<b>Andria Harper</b>
<b>Riley Dunn</b>	<b>Morgan Halverson</b>
<b>Katie Butcher</b>	<b>Cori Williamson</b>

Listed below are the events the girls qualified for in the Class 1A State Track Championships and their times and places at the meet.

- 4 x 800 (Riley Dunn, Katie Schrodt, Katie Butcher, Morgan Halverson) 7th Place 1:06.13 School Record
- Shuttle Hurdle Relay (Dani Trom, Hannah Shnurman, Beth Rucker, Meagan Streyffeler) 1:11.85
- Distance Medley Relay (Dani Trom, Andria Harper, Riley Dunn, Morgan Halverson) 4:34.90
- 4 x 200 (Hannah Shnurman, Cori Williamson, Andria Harper, Cassidy Phillips) 1:56.48
- 100 Meter Hurdles-Meagan Streyffeler 16.84
- 800 Meter Run-Morgan Halverson 2:34.30
- 400 Meter Hurdles-Meagan Streyffeler 1:09.69
- 4 x 400 (Morgan Halverson, Katie Schrodt, Laura Lacquement, Meagan Streyffeler) 4:14.75
- 400 Meter Dash-Laura Lacquement 1:01.73
- Hannah Shnurman – Discus 87-05
- Dani Trom - 400 Hurdles 1:11.23
- Sprint Medley - Jordan Williamson, Cori Williamson, Andria Harper, Katie Schrodt 1:59.99

Congratulations to the Boys' Track Team on finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> at the District Meet held at Martensdale on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Place winners for the boys included:

Zach Wood	400 Meter Dash	5 <sup>th</sup> Place
Trent Verwers	800 Meter Run	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Zach Wood	800 Meter Run	6 <sup>th</sup> Place
Trent Verwers	1600 Meter Run	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Trent Verwers	3200 Meter Run	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Kyle Bown	110 Meter Hurdles	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Jake Schrodt	110 Meter Hurdles	4 <sup>th</sup> Place
Kyle Bown	400 Meter Hurdles	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Jake Schrodt	400 Meter Hurdles	5 <sup>th</sup> Place
Kyle Bown	Long Jump	4 <sup>th</sup> Place
Philip Hand	Long Jump	7 <sup>th</sup> Place
Dillon Coates	Discus	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Lucas Ancil	Discus	4 <sup>th</sup> Place
Dillon Coates	Shot Put	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Garrett Gehringer	Shot Put	8 <sup>th</sup> Place

4 X 100 Meter Relay		5 <sup>th</sup> Place
Elijah Shnurman	Philip Hand	
Dillon Coates	Josh Defenbaugh	
Cody Harvey	Austin Streyffeler	

4 X 200 Meter Relay		8 <sup>th</sup> Place
Lucas Ancil	Garrett Gehringer	
Jake Ancil	Marshall Lynch	
Josh Defenbaugh		

4 X 400 Meter Relay		7 <sup>th</sup> Place
Trent Verwers	Zach Wood	
Cody Harvey	Jake Schrodt	
Josh Butcher	Kyle Bown	

4 X 800 Meter Relay		4 <sup>th</sup> Place
Zach Wood	Troy Harding	
Cody Harvey	Josh Butcher	
Jamie Swihart		

Distance Medley Relay		5 <sup>th</sup> Place
Dillon Coates	Elijah Shnurman	
Cody Harvey	Josh Butcher	
Zach Wood	Trent Verwers	

4 X 110 Meter Shuttle Hurdle Relay		3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Jake Schrodt	Elijah Shnurman	
Philip Hand	Kyle Bown	
Lucas Ancil		

Listed below are the events the boys qualified for in the Class 1A State Track Championships and their times and places at the meet.

- Trent Verwers:
  - 3200m Run- 10:26.48, 17th place
  - 1600m Run - 4:36.83, 10th place - *This time broke a 32 year school record held by Jim Huss back in 1979 his time was 4:37.21*
  - 800m Run - 2:00.91, 5th place – ran his personal best time
- Kyle Bown
  - 110m Hurdles- 16.33, 13th place
  - 400m Hurdles- 57.54, 12th place
- Dillon Coates
  - Shot Put- 45-08.25, 16th place
  - Discus- 131-05, 14th place

Thanks to everyone who helped at the Regional/District Track Meet and our other home events. Your help was greatly appreciated. Have a super summer.

*From the Desk of Mrs. Sowder*  
*English Department*

#### YEARBOOK NEWS

Community Members and Students: If you take any great digital photos over the summer of our students at work, at play, or in sports, please feel free to e-mail them as jpeg images to [amy\\_sowder@m-stmarys.k12.ja.us](mailto:amy_sowder@m-stmarys.k12.ja.us) all summer long, or upload onto the Josten's ImageShare program until June 20, 2011 at the following Web site

<https://images.jostens.com/login>.  
Username: 40052135.

Password: mstm.

The 2011 yearbooks will be delivered in September. If you did not purchase a yearbook, you may order one of the extra yearbooks in September for \$52.00, while supplies last. The 2010 yearbooks did sell out.

### **From the Desk of Mrs. Kirvin** **Health and Wellness**

Biggest Loser!

This year the MStM staff got together for a friendly little weight loss competition and produced some television worthy results!! We had 25 staff members volunteer to play for 8 weeks. If you decided you wanted to participate you could do individual weight loss or create teams of two. Everyone chose their own method of losing the pounds, and we started seeing results almost immediately. Weigh in was on Fridays and it was always fun to see who the winner for the week was going to be!

Weekly winners were awarded a most coveted prize...the ability to wear jeans for a week! Everyone danced, ran, lifted, boot camped and dieted their way through an 8 week journey that was occasionally frustrating, but usually gratifying, and on our final day we crowned our biggest losers!! Mrs. Franey was our Individual Biggest Loser and Don Hatcher and Lori Hager were our Team Biggest Losers.

Congratulations go out to everyone that participated because when all the weight loss was calculated our 25 staff members lost a total of 385 pounds, and that is amazing.

Several staff members have chosen to continue on with their weight loss or maintenance of their new lighter versions of themselves....so we will be seeing them at the scales on Fridays. Good luck to everyone who is working on choosing a healthier lifestyle!

We are looking forward to adding more fun ways to improve our health through our wellness program so look for more articles in the future!

### **From the Desk of Ms. Skellenger** **Media Specialist**

This second semester of library was spent mostly in the computer lab learning tech skills. Students from kindergarten to sixth grade learned how to use the computer, its software, and some websites to expand and/or express their learning. Some of the most important things we discussed were internet safety, copyright, and how to tell good websites from bad.

In addition to learning about internet safety, students also learned how to look up information and apply it to something new. First grade researched different animals ([www.worldbookonline.com](http://www.worldbookonline.com)), second grade did an amazing job researching different planets

(<http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/kids/index.cfm>) and then creating PowerPoints for their information. Third grade also created PowerPoints as they learned different things about Iowa. Fourth and sixth grade created online posters called Glogs ([edu.glogster.com](http://edu.glogster.com)) to show the information about the topic they researched, which they were allowed to choose themselves. Finally, fifth grade extended their biography projects from their reading class and created PowerPoints too. They also spent some downtime learning about and creating fun stories on Storybird.com, which is a fabulous collaborative writing website for all ages.

While the older students were researching, kindergarten was also getting computer experience through author websites. In library, we'd talk about different authors, read some of his or her books, and then visit the author's website. I think the kindergartens favorite author site belonged to Mo Willems ([www.mowillems.com](http://www.mowillems.com)), where they learned more about the various characters from Mo Willems books and were able to play some games.

Overall, it's been a fun semester and a great year in library.

### **From the Desk of Mrs. Sherwood** **Physical Education**

The physical education classes took the presidents physical fitness test the last few weeks of school. The following students passed all five parts and will receive a patch for their work. In eighth grade, Nicole Shutt, Gentry Davidson, and Emily Murphy. In the high school Shannon Snyder and Cassidy Phillips completed the tests.

### **From the Desk of Mrs. Clark** **Vocal Music Dept.**

Elementary music helps students with all aspects of their education. We learn to have a steady beat (spatial), fractions of notes, rhythm patterns, reading music (applying the X and Y axis), and using symbols. These are all math skills. With reading, students learn new words as the language of music is Italian. We learn teamwork as we play games for assessment. This year I have included using the internet for music learning. One of my favorite sites is [Classicsforkids.com](http://Classicsforkids.com). This web site has music education and games that children love to play! Another favorite is Finale Notepad found at [www.finalemusic.com/notepad](http://www.finalemusic.com/notepad), this allows you to download a free music writing program. It's great! There are others of course that you can choose from, but this one works for me.

Early in May, students welcomed R.J. Hernandez to MStM. He taught us about the instruments of Mexico and even allowed the children to play them! The next day after the workshop, Hernandez brought his professional group and they entertained the students and teachers with their mariachi music! His name around school is "Mr. H." and all the children appreciate him and his love for music!

Next year, the elementary music students will be located in the high school music room. All music classes will be taught in

this room. There have been a few changes of rooms, and this will be one of them. Thank you to all the students who have helped move all of the musical instruments and supplies!

The high school Treble Chorus participated in Large Group ensemble at Earlham and earned a III (3) rating for a good chorus!

Both the junior high and high school choruses will be entertaining at Adventureland on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Students have been looking forward to this trip all year!

Looking ahead to next year, several of our high school students will be attending the All-State music camp at Iowa State in August.

Thank you to all the parents who have supported their students' musical education with their presence at concerts supported the fundraiser, and all the cookies for the receptions! Thank you to the Music Boosters for all of their help both physically and financially! Thank you to the administration for supporting the music education of MStM students!

***From the Desk of Mr. Olson***  
***Instrumental Music***

As we wrap up another exciting year, I would like to congratulate all of the fifth and sixth grade band members for their dedication to the band program. I am very proud of all of our elementary band students and am excited to return next year to work with all of you.

The fifth and sixth grade band had their first concert on May 13. After two combined rehearsals, the group did a wonderful job of performing their concert selections and learned a lot about concert preparation.

In the month of July, I will be sending information to students and parents about the "Kickstart Program" designed to give all students a head start in band for the upcoming year. More details will be available at that time.

Have a wonderful summer!  
Mr. Olson, Music Specialist

***Teacher of the Year and  
Fine Arts Ceremony***

**2010-2011 National Honor Society and Inductees**



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**MARTENSDALE-ST.MARYS**  
**2011 SECONDARY**  
**TEACHER OF THE YEAR**  
**"MR. MC ALEXANDER"**



(Presenting the award is Mr. Crozier, Secondary Principal)

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**MARTENSDALE-ST.MARYS**  
**2011 ELEMENTARY**  
**TEACHER OF THE YEAR**  
**"MRS. O'MARA"**



(Presenting the award is Mr. Wood, Elementary Principal)

**MR. MOSER PRESENTING THE OUTSTANDING**  
**ENGLISH STUDENT AWARD**  
**RECIPIENT - SHANNON SNYDER**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
2011 REGIONAL GIRLS TEAM CHAMPIONS!**



**Girls State Track Results**

- 4 x 800 (Riley Dunn, Katie Schrod, Katie Butcher, Morgan Halverson) 7th Place 1:06.13 School Record
- Shuttle Hurdle Relay (Dani Trom, Hannah Shnurman, Beth Rucker, Meagan Streyffeler) 1:11.85
- Distance Medley Relay (Dani Trom, Andria Harper, Riley Dunn, Morgan Halverson) 4:34.90
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- 4 x 400 (Morgan Halverson, Katie Schrod, Laura Lacquement, Meagan Streyffeler 4:14.75
- 400 Meter Dash-Laura Lacquement 1:01.73
- Hannah Shnurman - discus 87-05
- Dani Trom - 400 Hurdles 1:11.23
- Sprint Medley - Jordan Williamson, Cori Williamson, Andria Harper, Katie Schrod 1:59.99

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
2011 BOYS TRACK DISTRICT RUNNER UP!**



**Boys State Track Results**

- Trent Verwers: 3200m Run- 10:26.48, 17th place
  - 600m run Run- 4:36.83, 10th place - This time broke a 32 year school record held by Jim Huss back in 1979 his time was 4:37.21
  - 800m Run - 2:00.91, 5th place - ran his personal best time
- Kyle Bown in the 110 Meter Hurdles and 400 meter Hurdles
  - 110m Hurdles- 16.33, 13th place
  - 400m Hurdles- 57.54, 12th place
- Dillon Coates in the Discus and Shot Put.
  - Shot Put- 45-08.25, 16th place
  - Discus- 131-05, 14th Place
- The shuttle hurdle relay team of Jake Schrod, Elijah Shnurman, Phil Hand, and Kyle Bown are possible qualifiers based on their time, but are awaiting verification from the state.
- The shuttle hurdle team of Jacob Schrod, Elijah Shnurman, Phil Hand and Kyle Bown broke the school record in the shuttle hurdles running 1:02.99.

**From the Desk of Mr. Wood**  
**Elementary Principal**

**Make Quality Time Out of Everyday Activities**

You hear a lot about “family time,” but what does it really mean, and why is it important? Learn the essentials by reading these tips:

**TV time, surprisingly, can be turned into family time.**

You wouldn’t think that watching a TV show or movie with your children could be counted as family time but, with a little bit of creative effort, it can be. Use commercial breaks to mute the sound and talk about what you’re watching. Share your feelings about whether the story is believable. Ask their opinions about what they think will happen next. See if they can compare what you’re viewing with the story plots in other movies or books.

**Turn everyday chores into a time to bond.**

The key to making quality time out of the most ordinary everyday chores (like cooking, picking up, cleaning, and doing laundry) is to turn them into opportunities to talk with your children. Folding your child’s sports clothes together can lead into a conversation about how the team is doing and how he or she feels about the activity. Grocery shopping can spark an interest in teaching your child to prepare a meal. Even good-natured griping together about how messy a pet is, or how much trash there is to take out that day, can create a kind of quiet kinship and bond between parent and child.

**Remember to chat, rather than interrogate.**

The quickest way to shut down good family time is to turn it into a type of police interrogation. Certainly there may be times when you need to prod your child for answers about things that are concerning you, but make sure that during casual family time together you keep the “interviewing” to a minimum and concentrate on relaxed conversations.

**Homework time can be a time to bond, too.**

Try to schedule your bill-paying and other household paperwork for when your children are doing their homework. Give them a sense that you’re all in it together—it’s just that each of you has a different kind of work. You’ll be providing encouragement just by being with them while they work, and being available if they have questions or need extra help.

**One-on-one time is extra special.**

If you have more than one child, try to find time each week to do something special alone with each of them. It can be as simple as a walk after dinner or an out-of-the ordinary errand (you’d be surprised how many children find it fascinating to go along to the auto mechanic, for example). Just showing them that you value them as individuals can mean the world to them.

**Split households need to unite in their commitment.**

If you and your child’s other parent live separately, try to make an agreement that each parent will work on spending quality family time with each child each week. Discuss how quality time means interacting with the child, not just being in the same household.

**Games never go out of style.**

Board games and card games are ideal ways to get families together to relax and have fun as a group. Look for games that appeal to your child’s interest and age level (garage sales can be goldmines for inexpensive games that kids have outgrown), and set aside a bit of time every week to play a few rounds. Yes, you’ve got a lot to do—and so do your children. But when you think about it, there’s really no better way to spend your time than by strengthening the bonds between your family members. The pay-off is priceless.

**From the Desk of Mrs. Pribil**

**Counselor’s Corner**



Wow! It’s hard to believe that this is the last newsletter for the school year. During the month of May your child finished learning and discussing our last Character Counts pillar Citizenship. We also did some career awareness activities in grades 3-6. It’s always fun for kids to share what they would like to be when they grow up. Every class got the chance to read cards made by the students in the grade above them. This gives students the opportunity to find out what they will learn

about next school year. Ask your child what he or she is excited about for next year and if they have any concerns. Talking about these things will make transitioning to the next grade go much smoothly.

I hope everyone has a fun and safe summer break! See you in August ☺

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 7, 2011**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law, on Thursday, April 7, 2011.

Members Present: Nicole Bunch, President; Dave Shutt, Vice President; Wade Gibson Amy Harper, Scott Anderson, together with Superintendent Robert Newsum and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

The President called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Supt. Newsum reviewed the agenda items for the Monday, April 11, 2011 Board Meeting.

Harper moved to adjourn, seconded by Anderson. Roll call: 5 ayes. Time: 5:40 p.m.

APPROVED

*Nicole Bunch*  
Board President

*Jill C. Gavin*  
Business Manager

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 11, 2011  
6:30 P.M.**

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR  
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT LEVY PROGRAM**

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District met in regular session, pursuant to law, on April 11, 2011.

Members Present: President, Nicole Bunch; Vice President, Dave Shutt; Scott Anderson, and Wade Gibson, together with Mike Crozier, Tom Wood, Josh Moser, Superintendent Bob Newsum and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: Amy Harper

Bunch called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

No public comments were made.

Shutt motioned to close the public hearing for the Instructional Support Levy Program, seconded by Anderson. Roll call: 4 ayes. Time: 6:45 p.m.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING APRIL 11, 2011

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Members Present: President, Nicole Bunch; Vice President, Dave Shutt; Scott Anderson, and Wade Gibson, together with Mike Crozier, Tom Wood, Josh Moser, Superintendent Bob Newsum and Business Manager Jill Gavin.

Members Absent: Amy Harper

I. Welcome Board President  
Bunch called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and welcomed all guests.

II. Consent Items  
A. Approval of Minutes Board President  
B. Approval of Agenda Board President  
C. Approval of Bills and Secretary's Report Board President  
D. Approval of Hot Lunch and Activity Reports Board President  
Shutt motioned to approve the consent items seconded by Gibson. Roll call: 4 ayes.

III. Celebrations  
Mr. Wood thanked Officer Randy Spurr for another successful DARE program. The program was well organized. Mr. Wood was impressed with the essay winners for getting in front of their peers and in front of a large audience and sharing their personal stories. The students did a good job. Officer Spurr organized a dance afterwards for the rest of the Elementary.

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, the Preschool, Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classes performed their Elementary Concert. Mr. Wood said they did a nice job.

Ron Peterson introduced Jordan Fisher from Fisher Tracks Inc. Mr. Fisher presented a plaque to the Martensdale St. Marys School District from the American Sports Builders Association. The Martensdale St. Marys Athletic Complex received the Distinguished Outdoor Track Facility Award in Recognition of Excellence in Design and Construction. Our distinguished award is also being recognized in the 2010 American Sports Builders Association Outstanding Facilities of the Year publication. The Board was honored to receive the award and the recognition and thanked Mr. Fisher for presenting it to the Board personally.

Mr. Crozier announced that the Junior High will compete in the POI ITBS contest. Preliminary results show that we will probably receive a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish. The contest involves scores for Reading Comprehension, Math and Science.

IV. Public Comments E. M. Steffy, IA Xplosion

1. Announce the IA Xplosion games on Fridays before their weekend game.
2. Kettle Korn Sales
3. Receive 25% of concession to help fund team.

V. Old Business  
A. Reports

1) Facilities Report – Bunch asked if we have rented the land for farming this season and Mr. Newsum confirmed this. Gibson caught kids swimming in the pond at the Athletic Complex Saturday night and there are kids horsing around at the Athletic Complex late at night. The Board discussed putting up signs at the pond and hours of operation at the Athletic Complex. More discussion will be made at the next facilities meeting.

3) MStM Music Booster Minutes – Treasurer's Report for April 1, 2011 was presented.

4) MStM Athletic Booster Minutes – Minutes were provided from the February 9, 2011 meeting.

5) MStM PTO Minutes – Minutes were provided from the March 1, 2011 meeting.

B. Presentations

1) Principal's Report Tom Wood  
Mr. Wood presented to the Board the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Honor Roll for 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

He presented the Character Counts for Students Demonstrating Fairness.

- PK: Aaylah Crow and Lucas Johnson  
K: Brice Jones and Jenny Wilson  
1: Tristin Moulton and Zarrick Mortale  
2: Zachary Clark and Brooks Trom  
3: Cole Cassady and Haley Meier  
4: Maddy Miller and Jena Wenck  
5: Haley Hart and Kolton Fisk  
6: Courtney Gehringer and Abby Clark

Mr. Wood presented the DARE Graduation Essay Winners.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Essay: Jake Bakerink and Joel Criswell  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Essay: Kallie Gibson and Bridgette Ouimet  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Poster: Lauren Noga and Bridgette Ouimet  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place Poster: Courtney Gehringer and Abby Clark

Mr. Wood announced that the State Essay Winner was Dakota Gibson and he will be going on to compete against other DARE winners in the state. Congratulations!

2) Principal's Report Mike Crozier  
Mr. Crozier will be having the Student Council Retreat on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Crozier and Ron Peterson went over the 8 Step Parent Protocol. Mr. Crozier announced the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Honor Roll and statistics for the past three years. He gave an update on the 15 Minute Program and shared an email from Lisa Riebkes who has offered to help in any way.

Mr. Crozier announced upcoming events.  
JH/HS Band and Vocal Concert – April 29<sup>th</sup>  
Academic and Fine Arts Awards Night – May 16<sup>th</sup>  
Baccalaureate, Joint Ceremony with I-35 held at MStM – April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Crozier updated the Board on the NHS Blood Driver. The numbers were a little low this year and they received 12 units of blood.

Mr. Crozier announced the March 2011 Students of the Month.

7<sup>th</sup> Ashley Kraber  
8<sup>th</sup> Carrie Schultz  
9<sup>th</sup> Jacob Herrera  
10<sup>th</sup> Carli Kenyon  
11<sup>th</sup> Josh Butcher  
12<sup>th</sup> Taylor Gavin

3) Curriculum Director's Report  
Josh Moser

Mr. Moser will be presenting a Data Day on April 13<sup>th</sup> for grades 3-12. He has begun planning for professional development days for 2011-2012 and developing expectations for technology. He attended a Curriculum Network Meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup> where they discussed and shared documents, strategies, common problems and successes. During the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, Jason Glass, the new Director of the Iowa Department of Education, presented to the group and discussed clarity in standards and new accountability systems, the Iowa Core and Common Core merger and what the distinct role for the State in education is.

Mr. Moser is currently working on changes to secondary English/Language Arts, Science, and Technology for 2011-2012 school year. He announced to the Board that the District was not selected for the Qwest Mini-Grant application but received

many suggestions to improve the application for next year.

The Quality Support Committee Spring Meeting will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Items on the agenda include the Annual Progress Report, setting 2011-2012 goals, the Iowa Core/Common Core Overview, the 1:1 Laptop Initiative, and the 2011-2012 Professional Development days.

4) Superintendent's Report  
Supt. Newsum  
Mr. Newsum informed the Board that he has developed transportation logs for the activity vans, and he is in the process of setting meetings with the different classified groups and revising the Classified Handbook for 2011-2012.

## VI. New Business

### A. Approve Personnel Recommendation

Supt. Newsum

The search is still on for a JH Baseball Coach. A couple of interviews have been done and an ad in the Indianola paper was done and the job description was added to the REAP program.

Shutt motioned to approve Brian Spanhut as JH Girls Track Coach due to the numbers on the team, and Amber Walker as JH Softball Coach pending on the return of the background checks from both applicants, seconded by Anderson. Roll call: 4 ayes.

### B. Approve Expenditure of Funds to Distribute Quarterly District Newsletter Supt. Newsum

Mr. Newsum, Mrs. Harper, and Mr. Anderson have been meeting with the District Communications Advisory Committee to consider strategies and methods for improving our communications with community patrons. The district currently publishes an electronic monthly newsletter and Mr. Newsum has described his plans to create a quarterly printed newsletter and mail it to all district box holders who reside in Warren and Madison counties. One of the cost savings decisions made by the board last spring was to eliminate the distribution of a printed newsletter. We have calculated the cost for creating, printing, and mailing a quarterly printed newsletter and those costs are listed below:

Postage permits to distribute printed newsletters to box holders (one time annual expense) \$ 85.00

Actual postage to mail quarterly newsletters to 550 box holders \$122.00 X 4 quarters \$488.00

Cost per page to print an 8-page quarterly newsletter  
\$0.009 X 8 pages times 550 newsl. X 4      \$158.40

Cost for paper ledger size X 2,200 pages per quarter  
X 4 quarters      \$125.00

Total:      \$856.40

Mr. Newsum recommend that the board authorize the \$856.40 expense for publishing a printed newsletter for all district box holders who reside in Warren and Madison counties, beginning with this spring's issue.

Gibson motioned to approve the funds to distribute a quarterly newsletter beginning with this spring, seconded by Shutt. Roll call: 4 ayes.

C. Approve Supplemental Resolution – ISCAP

Supt. Newsum

Shutt motioned to approve the Supplemental Resolution authorizing and providing for the issuance and authorizing and directing the final terms and conditions of the sale and delivery of Warrants for the Fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and amending the Master Resolution, seconded by Anderson. Roll call: 4 ayes.

D. Approve 2010-2011 Budget Amendment

Supt. Newsum

Gibson motioned to approve the 2010-2011 Budget Amendment that was published in the Record-Herald and Indianola Tribune on March 23, 2011, seconded by Shutt. Roll call: 4 ayes.

E. Approve 2011-2012 Budget Supt. Newsum

Gibson motioned to approve the 2011-2012 Budget that was published in the Record-Herald and Indianola Tribune on March 30, 2011 at a tax rate of \$19.22194 with the intent to possibly lower the rate to the current property tax rate of \$18.73 after the Legislature sets the Allowable Growth rate for FY12, seconded by Anderson. Roll call: 4 ayes.

F. Approve Resolution of Participation in Instructional Support Levy Supt. Newsum

Director Scott Anderson introduced and caused to be read the Resolution hereinafter set out and moved its adoption; seconded by Director Wade Gibson; after due consideration by the Board, the President put the question upon the adoption of said

Resolution and the results of the roll call vote were:

Aye      Scott Anderson, Wage Gibson,  
Dave Shutt, Nicole Bunch  
DIRECTORS

Nay      \_\_\_\_\_  
DIRECTORS

Whereupon the President declared said Resolution duly adopted as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board deems it necessary and desirable to provide additional funding for the Martensdale St. Marys Community School District generated by participation in our Instructional Support Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to duly published notice, the District held a public hearing on the question of participation in such a program; and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to take action to adopt a Resolution to participate in an Instructional Support Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the Martensdale St. Marys Community School District, in the County of Warren, State of Iowa, as follows:

The Board of Directors of the Martensdale St. Marys Community School District in the County of Warren, State of Iowa, does hereby resolve to participate in the Instructional Support Program for a period of five (5) years, to levy annually, as determined by the Board, an instructional support property tax upon the taxable property within the District commencing with the levy of property taxes for collection in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and an instructional support income surtax imposed annually for each budget year, the percent of income surtax (not exceed twenty percent (20%)), to be imposed upon the state individual income tax of each individual income taxpayer resident in the District on December 31, 2012, and each year thereafter.

The funds thus collected, when combined with Instructional Support State Aid shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the regular program district cost, including the budget adjustment pursuant to Iowa Code § 257.14

for any budget year. Instructional Support Program funds may be used for any general fund purpose.

That all resolutions or orders or parts thereof in conflict herewith be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Passed and approved April 11, 2011.

G. Confirm – Next Meeting Dates Supt. Newsum

Due to upcoming track meets the Agenda Meeting will be held on May 6, 2011 at Noon by a conference call and the Board Meeting will be held on May 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Gibson motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Anderson. Roll call: 4 ayes. Time: 7:44 p.m.

APPROVED

  
Board President

  
Business Manager

It is the policy of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District not to illegally discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices.

There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact the district's Equity Coordinator.

MStM's Equity Coordinator is Mike Crozier, secondary principal. His address is MStM Community School, 390 Burlington, Martensdale, Iowa 50160. His phone number is 641-764-2686 and his email address is: [mike\\_crozier@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us](mailto:mike_crozier@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us)

*The Martensdale-St.Marys District Newsletter is published and disbursed by the end of the preceding month.*

*The newsletter is available for pickup in the Superintendent's office and the Jiffy station, which are located in Martensdale. Copies are also available at Kum & Go in Bevington. You may also view it on the <http://mstm.us/> website.*

*Questions or concerns may be addressed to:*

*Mrs. Tomlinson  
Martensdale-St.Marys  
Superintendent's Office  
390 Burlington  
Martensdale, Iowa 50160  
[karen\\_tomlinson@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us](mailto:karen_tomlinson@m-stmarys.k12.ia.us)*

*Office: 641/764-2466 Fax: 641-764-2100*

*Enjoy your summer  
and we will see you  
in the fall of 2011.*



## Des Moines Arts Festival Nurturing A Student's Vision

Artwork from some of Central Iowa's youngest artists will be on display as Hubbell Homes, in association with the Des Moines Art Center and the Des Moines Arts Festival, presents **Nurturing A Student's Vision: Celebrating Artists K-12 Student Art Exhibition**. Students from kindergarten through high school will be featured in the exhibition, which highlights the creativity and diversity of Central Iowa students.

**Artwork will be on display on June 25 at the Des Moines Art Festival.**

Representing Martensdale-St. Marys:



Katelyn Amfahr, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade; Jena Wenck, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade; Angel Castro, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade; Caitlyn Pote, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



Claire Snyder, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Laura Lacquement, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade; Bill Frondle, 10<sup>th</sup> Grade; Kate Cook, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade