



# ROUNDTABLE

NEWS AND VIEWS FOR AND FROM KNIGHTS

## MCS Honors Many During CSW2017



Mount Carmel School (MCS) recently recognized its 2017 Parents of the Year (from left to right): Vice Principal Helene Manning, Vice Principal Bobby Baldazo, Parent of the Year Armela Ham, MCS Board Treasurer Will Hunter, Parent of the Year Jocelyn Toaskas, Director of Institutional Development John Blanco, Parent Teacher Organization President Luis Camacho, and President Galvin Deleon Guerrero.

During last week's celebration of Catholic Schools Week, Mount Carmel School honored many individuals who have, in one way or another, embodied the school's values of Faith, Excellence, and Success, and have fulfilled the school's mission to "educate the whole person to see with Christ's eyes."

### PARENTS OF THE YEAR

At Friday's Family Night celebration, the school recognized Parents of the Year: Armela Ham and Jocelyn Toaskas. The school recognized the valuable contributions of parent volunteers like them. School president, Deleon Guerrero, shared with parents gathered, "These parents have generously given their time, attention, and commitment to Mount Carmel School. Their acts of volunteerism are necessary for Mount Carmel School to achieve its mission of educating the whole person to see with Christ's eyes. These contributions of time and energy also help build our school as a community of faith, knowledge and service."

### ALUMKNIGHT OF THE YEAR

At Saturday's "Night with the Knights" AlumKnight dinner, the school awarded its AlumKnight of the Year to 1968 AlumKnight, business leader, Jesus V. "JM" Deleon Guerrero. Upon receiving the award, JM remembered his parents who not only sacrificed many things in order to send him to Mount Carmel, but also helped in building the school during its early years.

In presenting the award, school president, Galvin Deleon Guerrero, recognized JM for being one of the founding fathers of the CNMI's most important industry, tourism. As Deleon Guerrero put it, "He has succeeded in business. He has laid the foundation for our most important industry. He has given back to his home island hundredfold." Deleon Guerrero added, "And he has done all of this without bravado, without fanfare, without ego. He is a humble and respectful family man that I have grown to admire deeply and am honored to call a fellow AlumKnight."

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## MCS Honor Societies Recognized in National Publication

from NEHS News

*The following is an article that was published in the Spring 2017 issue of "NEHS News" about Mount Carmel School's honor societies. The publication is sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals Foundation (NAESP)*

### Three Honor Societies are Better Than One at Mount Carmel

Whoever said three's a crowd never heard about Mount Carmel School. Located on Saipan, an island in the U.S.

commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Mount Carmel is a Catholic K-12

school that houses not

just one, but all three National Honor Societies available to students from 4th through 12th grade.

With three chapters under one roof, Mount Carmel is in the unique position of offering a true sense of continuity for those who are inducted as elementary or middle-level students. The older students get to serve as role models, while the younger students are able to see firsthand what it takes to excel over the long-term—and even be role models themselves by demonstrating how to be scholars and leaders for the grades below.

"Our Honor Societies are here to motivate students to be their best," says NJHS adviser Candida Bahillo. "They are here to make students well-rounded individuals and mold them as leaders."

Three years ago, Mount Carmel's NEHS chapter made its debut under the direction of Principal Frances Taimanao, who believed that the character development the Honor Societies afford would be beneficial to the entire school.



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## Announcements

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to our middle school boys and girls for a great season in the NMIFA Middle School Interscholastic Football League, and especially to the boys team as they advance into playoffs. GO KNIGHTS!!!

### Yearbook Club

Calling students with experience working with Shutterfly and who can commit to meeting after school and on weekends, at times, to create a yearbook for 2016-2017. Please see Mrs. Manning.

### Teen Poetry Slam

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic Violence is hosting its annual Teen Poetry Slam on Tuesday, February 28, from 6:00 to 6:00 pm at PIC's Charley's Cabaret. Open to ages 13 to 19. See your homeroom teacher for more information.

## In the Future

### Senior Game Night TONIGHT

### Senior Hot Lunch TOMORROW, Saturday, February 11

### Juniors Brownie Gram Monday, February 13

### Freshmen T-Shirt, Rose-Gram, & Shake Stand Tuesday, February 14

### Thespian Milkshake Stand Senior Bake Sale Wednesday, February 15

### NJHS Hot Lunch Thursday, February 16

### Sophomore Valentines Gram Friday, February 17

## Sports Calendar

### NMIFA Middle School Soccer Playoffs Thursday, February 16 MCS vs TMS @Hopwood at 4:00 pm

### CCOPSA Middle School Basketball Monday, February 13 MCS vs Agape @MCS at 3:30 pm Wednesday, February 15 MCS vs MBA @MCS at 3:30 pm

## CSW2017 Honors

*continued from front*

### CLASS OF THE YEAR

At the "Night with the Knights" event, the school also announced the Class of the Year award, which was given to the school's graduating Class of 1976. The award recognizes classes that have given back to their alma mater in a substantial manner and that represent the school's mission and philosophy. In addition to helping in various community outreach events, in 2016, the Class of 1976 started a fundraising drive for the school as part of its 40th year reunion efforts.

Members of the Class of 1976 were ecstatic to win the award, and pledged to continue giving back to their alma mater.

### TEACHER AND STAFF OF THE YEAR

On Tuesday, the school announced the 2017 Teacher of the Year, fifth grade teacher, HeJin Lee, and

Staff of the Year, Marlon Villafuerte. Three years ago, after earning her Bachelors in Science in Elementary Education from Northern Marianas College, Lee started teaching at the school. Since then, she has continued her education by completing various educational technology and literacy courses.

For his part, Marlon Villafuerte was recognized for his invaluable contributions to the school. School President Deleon Guerrero, was especially thankful for his service. "With a good heart, he helps in many ways, from repairing air conditioners, keeping our campus safe and clean, to setting up for various school events," Deleon Guerrero said. He added, "Our school thrives because of his unsung support."

Attorney Joseph Tajeron and social studies teacher Rosiky Camacho were also granted honorary diplomas declaring them AlumKnights for their twelve years of service at the school.

## Honor Societies

*continued from front*

School President and 1991 "AlumKnight" (as graduates are called) Galvin Deleon Guerrero explains, "As much of the research in child- hood development demonstrates, the foundation for lifelong success is laid in early childhood. So it's important to recognize and promote academic achievement and service with organiza- tions like the National Elementary Honor Society."

Each fully separate chapter is geared toward the age of the students who gain membership. Together, however, the trio

of Honor Societies at Mount Carmel is able to interact, thanks to the structure of the school. For example, in 2016, they held a joint ceremony where 66 students were inducted into their respective National Honor Societies as part of a celebration for the 20th anniversary of NHS at the school.

Something that all Honor Society students at Mount Carmel share, at every level, is an appreciation for the opportunity to engage in service and grow as a leader. As fifth-grade NEHS member Ranasia Bocago puts it, "This program helps shape my education by [helping me be] a role model to my peers; keep up with my studies; and help my community, my school, and especially those in need."

Sixth-grader Yurihana Sasamoto echoes Bocago's perspec- tive saying, "We are here to help everyone in our community."

The sentiment they share is translated into action on a regular basis, with members spearheading and participating in numerous service activities, from supporting community projects such as the annual Marianas March Against Cancer and American Red Cross Walk-a-Thon, to lending a hand at the Salvation Army's soup kitchen and several community cleanup campaigns.

Being a leader at school and in the community is some- thing that senior and NHS President Michael Ortizo—once a member of NJHS—takes to heart: "It is only by example that we can really learn and grow, and the National Honor Society acts as that example for everyone striving to become a good role model."

### ESLR of the Week

*#2. Consistently exhibit Catholic attitudes, values and behaviors.*

## KNIGHTS ROCK!!!



*The annual MCS Spelling Bee ran for 28 competitive rounds, with these students emerging triumphant: 1st Place Penelope Sablan, 2nd Place Yuribana Sasamoto, and 3rd Place Katherine Avendano-Woodruff.*



*Led by Math Court adviser and coach, HeJin Lee, Knight Matletes did well in the January 28th Math Court Competition. 1st Grade: 2nd place Layla Palacios in room E25, 2nd place Kevin Doronilla in room E26, Julius Sheu in room E26. 2nd Grade: Leah Lansangan in room C13. 3rd Grade: 2nd place Oscar Buenafior in E26. 4th Grade: 1st place Nathaniel Clark. 5th Grade: 3rd place Eunhyu Hong. Now, Nathaniel Clark, Tricia Palacios, Eunhyu Hong, and Eric Oh qualify for the CNMI-wide regionals.*



*Knight Paddlers recently took 3rd place in the 500 yard junior division of the Timmy Would Go Classic.*