



ROUNDTABLE

NEWS AND VIEWS FOR AND FROM KNIGHTS

Celebrating Cultural Diversity



Clockwise from top left: Seniors gather for a group photo after representing India. 3rd grade students represent Malaysia. 2nd grade students represent Japan. Counselor, Tobed Smith (front right) joins Freshmen class adviser, Criselda Aldan (front left) in leading Freshmen in representing Palau. 6th grade students represent Samoa.

Despite fears about rain and a few sprinkles, the sun came out in full force last Friday just in time for Mount Carmel School's annual celebration of Cultural Diversity Day. As part of the festivities, MCS students celebrated over a dozen cultures with a parade, cultural dances, and performances. The celebration featured the following grade levels showcasing their respective cultural traditions: K4 - Philippines, K5 - USA, 1st - Korea, 2nd- Japan, 3rd- Malaysia, 4th- CNMI, 5th- Marshall Islands, 6th- Samoa, 7th- Micronesia, 8th- Thailand, 9th- Palau, 10th- Indonesia, 11th- China, 12th- India.

"Between the performances, the food, and all the fun, our students celebrated the cultural diversity that makes our school family truly special," said school president, Galvin Deleon Guerrero. "The kids were full

of energy and their performances were wonderful!"

Deleon Guerrero also recognized the value of the school's diversity. "As one of our longest standing traditions, long before the CNMI declared its own Cultural Diversity Day, it's heartwarming to see our students, faculty, and staff appreciate our cultural diversity so much. After all, we are a very culturally diverse school, so it's important that we value and validate who we are on a day like this."

Student Council President Erika Mendiola agreed. "This is something that I look forward to every year because everyone gets to celebrate." She added, "This is a time for us all to respect and celebrate the diversity that makes us who we are."

Dear Parents, Please Join Your PTA

by Amber Coleman-Motley for edutopia



Dear Parents,

As you rummage through your child's backpack you may come across a humble flyer asking you to join your school's PTA/PTO. Don't ignore it. Don't throw it in the trash. Pay the membership fee or donate to the fund and join.

The PTA/PTO is an important advocacy wing of the school. An active parents association lets the teachers, the principal, the board of education, and the county know that parents are actively paying attention and are engaged in the decisions that affect the education of the students in your school. It's important that those involved in educating our children understand that partnership opportunities with parents are available. We can't expect a school to do everything while we parents observe, active partnership and participation can take a school to the next level.

It get it... you work, or there's no time, or there's some other excuse why you "just can't". Consider this, someone is spending time and effort to make your child's experience better, why not make a small adjustment to assist in that process? Here are some tips to help you increase your participation by just 10%.

1. Join. Just join. Joining the parents organization at the school increases the numbers that are recorded at the state level. Sizable numbers (or percentage) send a message to the county and the board of education- the parents are paying attention at your school. When major curriculum, resources, and construction decisions are being made, the numbers at your school will not be forgotten.

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Announcements

Parent Subs Needed

Are you or anyone you know willing to serve as a substitute teacher for the school and get paid? We're trying to put together a group of parents to serve as substitute teachers as needed. Please contact Parent Council President, Luis Camacho, at 287-9753.

2017 Film Festival

The MCS Theatre Club proudly presents its 2017 Film Festival on Wednesday, October 18, at Hollywood Theaters. The festival will feature a number of short films, including "We Drank Our Tears: Francisco Babauta's Story", which was an official selection for the recent Guam International Film Festival and was a nominee for three major awards. \$10.00 admission. Tickets and permission slips are available in the Business Office. Buses depart campus at 9:00 am.

In the Future

NSDA/NJSDA Debate Meet

TONIGHT, 5:00-9:00 pm at Marianas High School

NSDA/NJSDA Meet

TOMORROW,
Saturday, October 14 @ Marianas High School

Junior Store

Monday, October 16

7th Grade Lollipop-Gram

Tuesday, October 17

2017 MCS Film Festival

Wednesday, October 18
Buses depart at 9:00 am

Senior Fried Oreo Stand

Thursday, October 19

Sports Calendar

CCOPSA Middle School Basketball

TODAY, MCS Boys v SIS @SIS at 3:30 pm

Monday, October 16

MCS v MBA @MCS at 3:30 pm

Wednesday, October 18

MCS v GCA @GCA at 3:30 pm

Soccer

Monday, October 16 at 3:30 pm @MCS

Girls exhibition game vs DanDan Middle School

ESLR of the Week

#4. Show leadership by being active participants within the community.

Dear Parents

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2. Attend. I get it... these meetings are after school or during dinner. But usually only once a month! Set the goal to attend 1 more meeting than you did last school year. Some PTAs provide child care and dinner on site so that parents can attend! If you can't make any meetings, make sure you read all of the notes that are released so that you stay in the know! (Also get to know your school's PTA President.)

3. Volunteer. Sign up for 1 more volunteer opportunity than you did last year. Schools need volunteers for stuff and the parent association or organization is a great opportunity for you to make a huge impact with sometimes minimal effort- man a table, donate your professional expertise, create flyers, help with crowd control- lend your time to help make your child's school better.

4. Donate. Parent organizations do a lot to support the learning of EVERY student in the school. No donation is too small and every dollar donated is greatly appreciated. If you don't think you can make any meetings this school year, try donating an amount per kid that attends the school.

5. Respect. Someone at your school has dedicated their time and resources to making sure the school dance happens or some advocacy issue improves. Make sure that you are respectful of that effort. It may not be the way you would have done it, but guess what, you can always pony up and volunteer!

PTO Corner

Parent Subs Needed

Are you willing to serve as a substitute teacher for the school and get paid? Then contact Luis Camacho at 287-9753.

Schedule of Meetings

November 8
Election of Officers
5:30 pm • Faculty Lounge

November 21
Turkey Trot

All parents are encouraged and welcome to join us for these important meetings.

For more information, contact PTO President, Luis Camacho, at 287-9753.

Listen... all families are pressed for time but participating in your child's school community sends a message to your child and their teachers. You're verifying that you are indeed a partner and participant (not spectator) in your child's education. Teachers and principals can't do it all and we parents must be active and engaged stakeholders.

P.S. A very important part of parent engagement is outreach. So, bring a friend along with you as you work to improve your PTA/PTO participation by 10%. Bringing a friend or your spouse/partner, will make it easier, and more fun!

2017 MCS FILM FESTIVAL

*Featuring a screening of
We Drank Our Tears:
Francisco Babauta's Story*

**Wednesday
October 18
Hollywood Theaters**

\$10.00
Tickets with permission slips
available in the Business Office
Buses depart campus at 9:00 am
Brought to you by the MCS Theatre Club

