



The Husky Howl

MCI Clubs & Activities



I am happy and excited to bring you the first issue of The Husky Howl. There has been a lot of excitement in MCI Clubs & Activities during the last few months! Thank you again to our dedicated faculty & staff who continue to provide wonderful opportunities for our students outside of the classroom.

Aviation Club

The Aviation Club explores the many aspects of flight, from the roles and responsibilities on the ground at the airport, to learning how to fly. Taking place at Curtis Airfield, students can register and begin flight instruction if that is their desire. We also look at the physics of flight and aircraft design and maintenance as well as the functioning of the airport: Students enjoy this discovery learning process about all aspects of aviation, flight, and engineering--a true STEM club

-Mr. McDonald



Aquaponics Club

In early October, Maine Agrotech introduced a STEM Garden (Aquaponics) to the MCI community. Jeff Giallombardo, an alum of MCI '98, is the owner of this company. Partnering with his brother, who is the Director of Academic Affairs at MCI, both wanted to bring this unique learning opportunity to MCI students and the community. An Aquaponics Club has been established, who will maintain the STEM Garden throughout the academic year.

"The STEM Garden is a turnkey, commercial grade, media based aquaponic system.

Aquaponics combines the technologies of hydroponics (growing plants in water without soil) and aquaculture (farming fish or other aquatic organisms into one integrated system.

Aquaponics is a sustainable & extremely efficient method of growing food. In fact, it uses up to 90% less water than more traditional forms of agriculture, all while achieving superior crop yields.

The STEM Garden is a fully functioning ecosystem with plants, fish, microbes, fungi, nematodes, and even composting works living together symbiotically.

As its name suggests, the system is designed to deliver STEM-based education to students.

From teaching basic to advanced concepts in Biology, Chemistry and Physics, to preparing students for careers in emerging industries like aquaponics, hydroponics, aquaculture and controlled environment agriculture, the STEM Garden will engage students and facilitate the transfer of knowledge and skills to real world applications".

-Mr. Giallombardo



Student Council

We welcomed new and returning members to the 2019-2020 year. Our members are President Riley Max; officers Annie Street, Isaac Tardy and Jarica Wiles; representatives Sherman O'Brien, Riley Nelson, Riley Louder, Olivia Lasselle, Olivia Allen, Leah Dechaine, Jagoda Nowak, Hyeonjee Rho, Sayaka Tada, Jeremy Collamore, Natalie Hodgins, and Jungmin Son. Our first event was Theme Week, which kicked off with an all-school assembly on Monday. We received many positive comments about the presentations and activities. We've also hosted 2 "mixers," events held on campus in the evening to provide a chance for residential and local students

to mingle and have fun together. Meanwhile, the officers have worked hard to improve the internal organization of the club, innovative ways to recognize members who go above and beyond. We held our annual Yankee Candle sale; thank you to everyone who supported us! (Note: You can still support us by ordering on-line with our code - Group # 99875370.) Our most recent event was the first-ever Forum for Student Voice. There was an excellent turnout for the forum on November 7 and the discussion was purposeful and honest. Want to know more? About once a month, StuCo members will lead a forum (no adults present) to gather input about student concerns and

positive experiences. What's next? Follow-up committees for the prioritized items brought forward at the Forum on November 7 are soon to meet. The next step is to communicate with Mr. McDonald and the administrative team and then, together, to address the concerns, keeping the student body informed as we go along. Want to get involved? Contact any StuCo member if you are interested in serving on a follow-up committee. Keep your eyes and ears open for dates for our next forum as announcements, postings and posters will have that information.
-Mrs. Kingsbury

Robotics Team



Generational Connections Club

The new Generational Connections Club is off to a great start with fantastic enthusiasm from our students! This new club is an opportunity for students to go to visit residents at Pittsfield Community Care (a residential facility here in town) and participate in different activities. We have had lots of fun getting to know each other while playing games, coloring, and doing crafts - the residents especially enjoyed painting pumpkins with us and the students had a great time as well. Generational Connections is operating with support from Healthy SV, a division of Northern Light Healthcare and is helping to establish stronger connections between MCI students and our surrounding community.

-Mrs. Verrill



Frisbee Club

Thanks to everyone who came out to play Ultimate Frisbee with us this fall. We'll resume in the spring, but in the meantime, pop into Mr. Brownell's room during Husky Time on Thursdays for Tabletop Games!

-Mr. Brownell

Masardis

Masardis has hosted an inaugural coffeehouse in September which featured a lot of familiar performers and some surprising new faces. Chuck performed a number of songs on his guitar. Some of our students shared music they had been working on over the summer, notably Isabelle Grignon and Isaac Tardy. Kermit and his camel friend made an appearance searching for a roommate. We were also introduced to Cereal Addiction, Sam Leonard performing Lana Del Rey and Chomin singing Sam Smith. Many other great improvisational, musical, and instrumental performances happened. The October coffeehouse featured a variety of performers again with paranormal encounters and ghost stories shared by faculty and students. Both coffeehouses included new art displays from Ms. Aidan's art students. These images were a welcomed addition to our celebration of MCI's arts community. Ms. Aidan, Shaelyn Brooks, and Thomas Ulrickson really had people spooked! The next coffeehouse is scheduled for November 15 at 6:30!

-Mr. Buys

Outdoor Adventure Club

OAC had an active fall including our second annual hike up Mt. Katahdin. This year we tried out the new Abol Trail where we had good weather until we got to the top and there were gusts of up to 50mph! Our other big hike was up Tumbledown in Mt. Blue State Park. This fall was our most active fall for "on-campus" local trips as well. We went on a couple of canoe/kayak paddles on the Sebasticook River, both above and below the Waverly Dam. We took 2-3 biking trips and were able to determine that bikes DO go faster when you get caught in a thunderstorm!

-Mr. Libby



Kindness Krew

Kindness Krew has had a busy start to the school year. We began by preparing and hosting a student lead flex period to celebrate National Yoga Month in September. MCI's Edith Tierney was kind enough to lead a group of students through a beginners lesson. Kindness Krew is currently in the middle of the Thanksgiving Dinner Project. Baskets will be collected from advisor groups the week before vacation and members will get together on Tuesday of vacation to bake pies and deliver the baskets to the food pantry. The goal is to have 30 complete meals to help those in need. We are also beginning to plan for the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony which will be held after the holiday concert on December 5th. Please join us on front campus for hot chocolate, baked goods and caroling to celebrate!

-Mrs. Libby



Youth & Government

The MCI Youth & Government delegation headed down to Augusta for YMCA Youth & Government at the State House. It was an excellent weekend of discussion, debate, learning, and fun. There was some thoughtful, progressive, and even silly discussion and legislation. Some of our kids' bills even made it to become public law:

Nick Carter: LD 101 An Act Relating to: Finally Enacting Change About Lackluster Management of All Toilets

Tenured in Every Recreational area

Sherman John O'Brien: LD 801

An Act Relating to: Increased abundance of sidewalk trash receptacles

Randy Starbird also ran for governor this year against two other strong candidates.

Unfortunately, he did not win, but put up a good show in the gubernatorial debate and speech.

He lead a strong campaign, and has already started his plans for next year's conference. I'm super-proud of Randy for putting

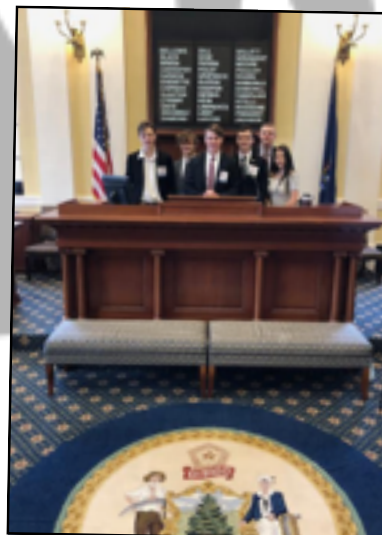
himself out there and all the kids who made meaningful connections to get him votes. I was impressed with our kids' leadership, willingness to get out there, and charisma. The MCI delegation worked hard and played hard - they made interesting political allies and friends from around the state (ask them about OPE).

-Mr. Brownell

Key Club

Key Club has continued to cultivate a culture of giving through the first months of the year. We sponsored the homecoming dance, which was very well attended and enjoyed by all, and raised over \$1300 for our Community Christmas Project. We again participated in Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF and collected donations from our members that our club is matching. Key Club kicked off our annual Community Service Day and our inaugural Wellness Day, energizing the crowd and leading by example. We are gearing up for our annual project with the Kindness Krew, collecting food donations in advisor groups that will be paired with pies we bake and deliver to the Pittsfield Food Pantry. We're heading into the "Season of Giving" and are looking forward to caroling at the Community Home with the Kiwanis and shopping for gifts for several local families. We're sure to help with other projects as needed!

-Mrs. Hughes



Fencing Club

The MCI Fencing Club is off to a great start this year with more students signed up than ever before!

Practices are on Thursdays from 225pm-400pm. We have been fortunate enough to use Wright Gym for our practices over the past several weeks, and the students have made significant improvements in their footwork and accuracy! Some students have begun attending fencing tournaments locally.

We instruct students in the three Olympic styles of fencing: Foil, Epee, and Saber. The club has loaner gear if you want to give it a try. Did you know that the United States Fencing team has become a significant fencing power over the past several years, and that several world class fencers have come from rural areas? Don't say it can't happen here! If you have any questions, see Mr. Grover or any of our fencers. En Garde!

-Mr. Grover

Aomori Program

We had a great showing at this years Clubs and Activities Fair here on the MCI campus. Members of our community are excited to not only host our friends from Aomori, Japan but also travel to Aomori in the fall of 2020. A group of students from Aomori Minami Senior High School will visit the Pittsfield community next fall. During their time in Maine, students will stay with MCI students and their families to learn about New England traditions, attend classes at MCI, and provide cultural presentations and performances for the younger students in our local district. Shortly after their visit we will be traveling over 3,000 miles to Tokyo, Japan. We will tour the city of Tokyo and then take the Shinkansen "Bullet Train" to the northernmost prefecture, Aomori. MCI students will stay with host families in Aomori while attending classes at Aomori Minami Senior High School. Our club members will be excited to share their experiences with other students upon their return from Japan.

-Mr. Robinson

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society held its annual induction ceremony on October 21st. Twenty-three new members were inducted which brings our total to forty-one. This years officers include Isaac Tardy, Edith Tierney, Abigail Shea and Bartianna Brown. Each officer will be charged with leading a group of other members that plan and lead one of four selected community service projects. The group is in the process of brainstorming and selecting the four main projects that will be this years focus. We are currently working on ways to promote and support the Coats for Kids campaign in the local area.

-Mrs. Libby & Mr. Allen



Fall Community Service Day

A cold, wet and rainy November 31st did not stop MCI students, faculty & staff from rescheduling the Annual Fall Community Service Day! While the event was postponed and moved to Monday, November 4th, our student population showed up with plenty of energy and enthusiasm, making this an awesome event for our community!



FCA

The FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) club has been meeting every Thursday morning from 7:00 to 7:40. During this time students enjoy food, and partake in what we call "training time." Training time is a group study session where members read, reflect, and discuss biblical principles, and how they can apply those principles to aid them in becoming better athletes, teammates, and students here at MCI. The group is currently working on ideas to raise some money that will enable us to do some activities together outside of the school day. **-Mr. Day**

Quidditch Club

The Quidditch club did not get a chance to get out this fall due to a lack of members but we did continue to celebrate all that is Harry Potter with our loyal members. We had fun playing Harry Potter themed games and now that the weather has turned cold, we are enjoying a marathon of Harry Potter movies with popcorn and Hot Butter Beer (Hot Chocolate). We meet on Fridays during Husky time and are always looking for new members! So if you are a Harry Potter fan - stop by and join us in Weymouth 405 on Fridays at Husky Time! **-Mrs. Palonis**

Robotics Team

Team 6337 – The Terror Bytes are excited to have a home on our campus! As we are getting ready for our 2020 season, we would like to invite anyone interested in checking Robotics out to come join us Tuesday evenings 6-8pm. You can also message us on Facebook (MCI Robotics Team – 6337) or send us an email first.team6337@gmail.com.

We will be competing at WPI in Worcester, Mass March 21st-22nd and again at the Androscoggin Bank Coliseum in Lewiston, Maine on April 3rd-4th. These matches will be live streamed, the link will be found on our Facebook page as the dates get closer.

We are still looking for more members. Remember this is more than just the robot. We need writers, media, spirit team, fundraisers, web developers, build team and coders. The really cool thing about FIRST Robotics Competition is...all skill levels are welcomed and needed, technical or non-technical.

-Mrs. Basford