

# COLLEGE FAIR

By Lisa Wasilowski, School Counselor

*"We build the foundation, so they can build their future."*

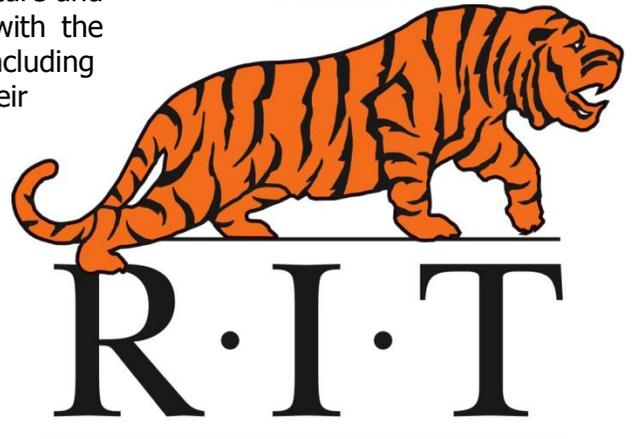
This vision statement rang true on October 21, 2009 when we hosted a College Fair for our college-bound juniors and seniors. There were five colleges from different regions in Minnesota and out-of-state as well represented. They were:

- University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
- Minnesota State University – Mankato
- South Central College – Faribault
- Gallaudet University – Washington, DC
- Rochester Institute of Technology – Rochester, New York

Each college representative described what they have to offer in all areas: academic, student life, and support services through 30 minutes presentations. Each varied in unique traits and attractive amenities, particularly in specific degree programs like agriculture and veterinary science. Students had the opportunity to meet with the representatives asking questions and gather information including college applications and financial aid forms at each of their respective exhibit booths. Last but not the least, we had a special MSAD alumni and staff panel who were all college graduates from different colleges. They did a fabulous job sharing their own college experiences including their rationale for choice of college, student life, and selected major, just to name a few. Not only did our students benefit by gaining the opportunity to learn and prepare for their future, they also enjoyed their day!

MSAD provides our juniors and seniors college and financial aid resources like the College Fair so they can be more prepared in their future college planning. If your need any assistance with college and/or career planning, please feel free to contact the following staff:

- Carmen Adams, School Social Worker – [carmen.adams@msad.state.mn.us](mailto:carmen.adams@msad.state.mn.us)
- Paula Detjen, School Counselor – [paula.detjen@msad.state.mn.us](mailto:paula.detjen@msad.state.mn.us)
- Jean Correll, Transition Coordinator – [jean.correll@msad.state.mn.us](mailto:jean.correll@msad.state.mn.us)
- Lisa Wasilowski, School Counselor – [lisa.wasilowski@msad.state.mn.us](mailto:lisa.wasilowski@msad.state.mn.us)



# Focus On Health Services

By Jill Kes, RN, LSN and Helen Jandro, LPN

The health services clinic at MSAD is located in Tate Hall where we are very fortunate to have all licensed nurses on staff. We have Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses, and Licensed School Nurses. We provide school based nursing services which focus on student health and wellness. We look at the whole child and how health and nutrition play in role in good learning. "A healthy learner is a better learner."

Daily duties in the health clinic include medication set-up and administration, documentation, review of doctor's orders, and daily treatments. Each day we plan for the expected and the un-expected. We are never sure what type of illness, injury, or condition we may need to deal with.

Our goal is to help keep students in the classroom. There are times however when it is best for a student to rest in the clinic or go home. This year has been especially challenging with the appearance of the H1N1 virus. Clinic staff is closely monitoring all students for fever and other symptoms of influenza. We receive guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health and also the Center for Disease Control regarding when to exclude students from school or the dormitory.

Our focus in health services is not only treatment of acute illness but prevention of disease. Education is very important. Each encounter with a student is an opportunity for teaching whether it is to remind a student to wash his/her hands, drink more water, get enough rest, or instruct him/her on how to manage illness. We know it is important for students to learn how to manage illness so that when they become adults - they will know what to do if they are ill. Determining when to seek outside health care; when to stay in school (or at work); and when, what kind, and how much medication to take for relief of symptoms are important life- long skills for students to acquire. When students come to the clinic, they often want instant relief of the problem they are dealing with. Often - time can be the best healer which can be discouraging for students. Education is so important because if we can explain what the issue is and how long it may take to resolve - it can be very helpful.

Coordination of care with other school based services is very important. We work closely with parents, teachers, support services, audiology, OT/PT, dormitory etc. to help each student be successful. Working with families who live a long distance away can be very challenging. Travel time, insurance coverage, and parental input become more difficult. Each situation is unique and we work closely with families and school districts to deal with health issues that need immediate attention.

Working in the school/residential setting brings its unique challenges but also its unique rewards. We work with great children and each child is special. Our job is to make sure that each student is as healthy as possible. Education, health screenings, treatment of illness, coordination of services, medication administration, daily treatments, communication, identification of health issues, planning and implementation of services, emergency planning, immunization monitoring, and staff education are some of the services provided by staff in the health clinic. MSAD is a great place and the health clinic staff is proud to be a part of it.



**The most enjoyable part of working** with deaf students is seeing a child new to sign language, blossom into understanding and being able to communicate their thoughts, feelings, and desires. THAT IS SO COOL!

**The greatest challenge** of my job is the time it takes to teach the students about their health needs and helping them learn to manage their health care independently. Sometimes it's easier and faster to "take care of it" myself.

Helen Jandro, LPN for Shared Services since 1985

**The favorite part of my job** is working directly with students and seeing smiles on their faces.

**The most challenging part of the job** is trying to manage the duties at both MSAD and MSAB. It is impossible to be in two places at one time - and sometimes this can be very difficult when there are things that need to be done at both places.

Jill Kes, RN, LSN, Health Services Director



**The thing I like most about my job** is the kids; they make me laugh every day!

**The most challenging thing about my job** is learning sign language, deaf culture, and overcoming barriers to communication.

Karlene Bleninger, RN for Shared Services for 3 years

**I have enjoyed** everything about the Academies, but most of all getting to know all the wonderful people-students and staff-at MSA.

**The most challenging part of my job** has been figuring out how to find who I need to talk to and where to find them. After a year, I think that I'm getting better but still find that I need to ask for help quite often. What's great is that then I get to meet even more wonderful people!

Cindy Koziolk, RN, LSN - Third Party Billing Coordinator



# FOUNDER'S DAY

By Chet Virnig, High School Teacher

On September 25<sup>th</sup> we celebrated MSAD's 146<sup>th</sup> birthday with special guests from the Class of 1959 during their visit for their 50 year class reunion. Sue (Virnig) Pedersen and Norman Nelson gratefully accepted the honor to present to the student body on, "What it was like at MSAD 50 years ago." As you can imagine there were plenty of differences between 1959 and 2009 such as how students dressed, the types of classes offered, routines, weekends, rules, and more. Photos from the 1959 yearbook were shown on the large screen and students enjoyed finding pictures of Sue and Norman. One thing remained the same over the years... students are here for QUALITY EDUCATION!

# Amazing Race

MSAD students had the opportunity to meet Luke and Margie Adams from the 15<sup>th</sup> season of The Amazing Race on CBS. Students enjoyed their presentation about their experience on the race where they placed third overall.



# Halloween Party

By Rachel Baker, ECE Teacher

Elementary students enjoyed their annual Halloween Party. The morning started out in the Quinn Hall Auditorium with activity rotations. Students hooted in delight when they got a strike during pumpkin bowling. They enjoyed answering questions which helped them make a jack-o-lantern at the pumpkin graph station. Halloween bingo was a blast as Raggedy Ann called out the cards. Frosting and decorating pumpkin cookies wrapped up the activities. The highlight of the day came at the end of the party when the students, and teachers, dressed up in their costumes and trick-or-treated around campus for treats and trinkets.

# PeaceBuilder's Day

By Carmen Adams, Social Worker

We recently held our first school-wide **PeaceBuilders'** assembly for this school year. This time the assembly was led by our selected student Peace Coaches. Peace Coaches are student leaders to trained provide positive support and to build character traits in others by their own modeling and actions. Peace Coaches assisted with the **PeaceBuilder** Pledge, recognition of **PeaceBuilders** for the month of September, gave Praise Notes to students and facilitated the Praise Yarn activity. The praise given focuses on a positive character trait noted in the other person. They did an awesome job!

The Praise Yarn activity was a fun way for students to give praise to each other in small groups by first rolling the ball of yarn to the person they wanted to praise. When the person receives the ball of yarn, they listened to the praise given, said thank you and then, passed on the ball of yarn and praised someone else. At the end, we saw a cool pattern created by the yarn on the floor, showing how we are all connected and most importantly, feel supported by others.

We also challenged ourselves with the Praise Yarn activity by attempting to do it in one large group with every student present. It took some time, but we were able to complete the activity and give praise to everyone!

We are looking forward to a great year of character development at MSAD!



# Best of the Fest





# MSAD Volleyball

By Michele Heise, Volleyball Head Coach

The MSAD volleyball team is **HOT, HOT, HOT!** Our trip to the Oklahoma School for the Deaf for the GPSD tournament was awesome. Seven Deaf School teams participated in the tournament. The players played 9 games in two days. They were very exhausted at the end of each day. They played phenomenally and worked hard to cinch the **GPSD Championship title for the 8<sup>th</sup> time in a row.** They are an unbelievable powerhouse. They were in high spirits and showed great passion to win the championship. Assistant Coach, Sabrina Overlie-Hubmer, and I really enjoyed watching them play together and seeing the nice teamwork. They have improved so much since late August. They are unique players. Rachel Novella and Cindy Siebert were both selected for the GPSD all-tournament team.

The Lady Trojans also won the **EMAC championship.** The EMAC has 10 conference teams. We played a one day tournament on Saturday. We fought our hearts out to win the EMAC championship.

We finished our volleyball season with 25 wins and 12 losses. We are going to miss our 2 seniors who will graduate at the end of this school year. Coach Hubmer and I want to applaud each player for their efforts and for not losing sight of their goals. This year all the girls kept the MSAD Volleyball tradition strong through focused efforts and positive teamwork. We are very pleased with our volleyball season. Good job and way to go Lady Trojans!

# MSAD FOOTBALL

By Kevin Rademacher, Sr.; Kevin Rademacher, Jr.; and David Olson: Football Coaches

Our MSAD Trojan's football season was not exactly what we expected. Our recent history of winning every game was not to continue this year. This was a year for growth and improvement. We were a very young group and the future of our football season looks very bright. We started the season with fifteen freshmen, three 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and one 7<sup>th</sup> grader. We only had two returning seniors.

On Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>, we lost our first game to Wisconsin School for the Deaf, 6 to 52. We handed over the Hilltopper Axe for the first time in 7 years. Congratulations to Wisconsin. We'll be fighting for it next year!

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, we lost to the Kansas School for the Deaf, 0 to 64. On our homecoming day, September 26<sup>th</sup>, we lost to the Iowa School for the Deaf, 0 to 54. On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, we played our best game vs. the Missouri School for the Deaf but in the end we lost, 42 to 60. Our boys have demonstrated a lot of improvements in last few games and that is a great sign for next year. We look forward to working with these boys over the next few seasons and watching them grow into a strong team.

Our homecoming game for next year is scheduled for October 12, 2010. Mark your calendars now.