



MANHATTAN
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Connections

For everything there is a season, and a time for every
purpose under heaven.
Ecclesiastes 3:1

OCTOBER 2024

ISSUE 2

VOLUME 25

Our 62nd Annual Harvest Festival

Aly Feddes and Brittany Braaksma, Co-Chairs of the Harvest Festival

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to you for attending and volunteering at the 62nd Annual Harvest Festival at Manhattan Christian School. What a beautiful day filled with countless blessings! Your time and dedication played a vital role in the event's success, and we are incredibly grateful for your commitment to our community. We hope you enjoyed the food, games, auctions, and fellowship. Events like this highlight how strong, generous, and supportive our community truly is. We appreciate you all so much; your selflessness has brought our school's theme for the year to life. Many Members, One Body: Just as a body, though one, has many parts, all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. - 1 Corinthians 12:12

As co-chairs of this year's festival, we feel deeply honored to continue the legacy of this cherished tradition, even though we did not personally attend Manhattan Christian School. Our husbands, who are alumni, hold the school close to their hearts, and it's truly inspiring to witness the ongoing support from generations of families. We are also incredibly grateful for the new families who joined us this year, as their involvement strengthens our community and helps ensure the continuation of this wonderful tradition for future generations. Together, we are building on a foundation of love, faith, and commitment that makes our school so special.

We are excited to share that this year's festival raised an incredible total of \$98,993, which will go directly toward supporting the students and programs at Manhattan Christian School. Your participation made a meaningful impact, and we look forward to continuing this tradition together in the years to come.

"Together, we are building
on a foundation of love,
faith, and commitment
that makes our school so
special."

Why We Love Working at MCS:

I love working at Manhattan Christian because of
the rich heritage and culture rooted in this
community.

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ROTA RY

student of the month

Please join us in congratulating September's Rotary Student of the Month, Heidi Dyk-Stainer. Heidi was chosen by her teachers because she is known to display high character, leadership, and community mindedness both at and away from school.



Meet Manhattan Christian Senior, Heidi Dyk-Stainer.

How long have you been at MCS?

I have attended MCS since Kindergarten. I even attended the Early Learning Center!

What extracurriculars are involved with?

I am a very active member in the Belgrade FFA chapter. I've been involved for three years and this year I'm serving as the 2024-2025 chapter Parliamentarian. I am also in 4H, where I am currently showing lambs. This year will be my 11th year in 4-H.

What awards have you won during your time in those extracurriculars?

Last summer I won Grand Champion Senior showman, Grand Champion Carcass, and Reserve Champion Market Lamb in 4-H.

What have some of your favorite classes and teachers been while at MCS?

I have always loved any art classes I can be a part of. Art is something that I enjoy very much and find myself incorporating it in everything I do. I also love the new Ag science class this year where we are studying animal and plant science.

What are some of your best non-academic memories?

Probably when Mr. Hope told me I won this month's Rotary Student; I was shocked!

What goal have you set for yourself during your senior year?

My goal is to prepare myself for my future, whether it be in school or outside of school.

What are you working on for your Senior Project?

My Senior project was to plan, lead, and organize the Gallatin Valley Rodeo Bible camp this last summer (2024). Every year this camp takes a lot of hands to make it happen. This year I took on the task of planning the camp theme, which included coming up with scripture focus, chapel service topics, and designed apparel that goes along with the theme I chose, which was "Rooted in Christ" (Colossians 2: 6-7). The second task I took on was leading the craft projects during camp, which included, project planning, material gathering, and onsite instruction. The third area I worked on was planning the awards given to campers based on their learning and willingness to pursue our motto of being a "champion in the arena, and in life". The awards I gave out were belt buckles. For the last three years we had the same design, but I created new designs for all of them. The camp went so well, and I got tons of amazing feedback from everyone about it!

What are your plans for after graduation?

Ever since I started thinking about what I'm going to do after high school, college was an immediate NO because school isn't my strong suit. I had planned to go straight into the work force. But thanks to my job and the Ag science class I have found a deep passion and interest for animal sciences. I now plan on hopefully attending Sheridan College in Wyoming to get my associates degree in Animal Science to become an AI (artificial Insemination) tech. I now strongly look forward to my future and college because I know it's something I will love learning and I will be able to thrive in the environment.

2024 Homecoming Recap

Sydni Taber, Senior Advisor

Once again, Manhattan Christian had an action-packed Homecoming Week. From carrying school supplies around in a microwave all day, to choreographing a performance to an NSYNC song, to the revival of Powder Puff football, it was a week to remember.

As is tradition, each day had a dress-up theme. Monday's theme was "Barbecue Dads vs. Soccer Moms" and the halls were filled with aprons, grilling utensils, seasonings, and half-time snacks. Tuesday's theme was "Duo Day" which resulted in several very elaborate group costumes including a s'more, Stanley cups, and a group of NFL coaches. Wednesday was "Generations Day", which had the Freshmen dressed as babies and wearing adult diapers, the Sophomores dressed as little kids with their Crocs on the wrong feet, the Juniors dressed as adults, with their pearl necklaces and briefcases, and the Seniors dressed as senior citizens with walkers and white hair. Thursday was anything but a Backpack" day which made the students find creative solutions for carrying their school supplies around all day. The high school hallway was full of laundry hampers, a cowboy hat travel case, and even a battery-operated mini Jeep.

Wednesday afternoon, students and spectators gathered down at the football field to watch the girls from each class compete against each other in a Powder Puff flag football tournament. Powder Puff is a tradition that has come and gone over the years, and it was fun to bring it back again this year! The ladies of the senior class were victorious over the sophomores in the championship game. Following Powder Puff, everyone headed to the gym for the annual He-Man volleyball tournament. Unfortunately, this tournament was short-lived due to a power outage that affected a large majority of the Churchill area. The Juniors and Seniors were able to meet up at a later date to play a championship game, and once again, the Seniors were victorious.

Homecoming Week wrapped up Friday afternoon with the annual parade. The parade theme was Bible stories, and all of the classes did a fabulous job choosing their story, and building their float. The Freshmen showed up with their canoes and all of their fishing gear as they rode through the streets on their "Fishers of Men" float. The Sophomores dressed as fish, Israelites, and Egyptians to reenact Moses parting the Red Sea. The Juniors built a Nativity scene, complete with a dog dressed up as a sheep, and two newborn calves! Last, but not least, the Seniors showed up as pairs of bears, turtles, tigers, cows, and even T-rexes, and climbed into Noah's Ark. Except for the T-rexes that is- they missed it.



The MCS Network Podcast: This Week @ MCS and What's Up Wednesday

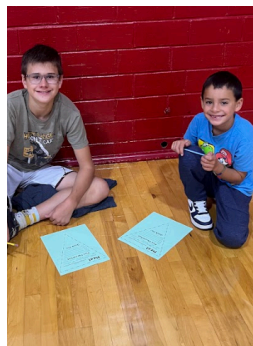
Have you heard? Last month we launched the newest way to stay in the loop: the MCS Podcast, The Network. Marketing and Communications Director, Lexi Glaus hosts every Monday morning to give you a quick overview of the week in five minutes or less, and What's Up Wednesday is hosted by School Board Member, Head Football Coach, and parent, Ben Holst, to get the inside scoop straight from the source. Go back and listen to senior projects from Bella Triemstra, Dominic Holst, Rance Hamilton, and Isaac Hoekema; Harvest Festival Co-Chairs share how they got involved in this annual event; fall coaches, Hanna VanDyk and Nate TeSlaa give a mid-season recap on volleyball and cross country; and more!



Scan to listen!



2024-2025 Buddy Program



2024-2025 "Bigs" and "Littles" have been matched, and we have already enjoyed a get to know each other craft and a Buddy Chapel. The Buddy program is such a special piece of our school. Our Deep Hope for the Buddy program is for there to be unity across all grades, in fellowship and fun to the glory of Christ, and in doing so, remembering what it means to live in the story of the family of God. A big thanks to Ms. Rudd for planning and organizing the quarterly all-buddy activities, and new this year, paired buddy teachers are organizing monthly activities to do with their classes together!

Vocational Skills: Cookie Sales!

Caroline Cok, Resource Room Director

A few weeks ago marked the first of many treat sales from the high school girls in the resource room. A big thanks to MCS parent and local baker, Julie Bussis for sharing her time and skills with us as we learned the art of baking the perfect chocolate chip cookie! Julie plans to help in subsequent bakes, but if you would like to be a part of this baking and selling program, please reach out to Caroline Cok to schedule a time to share your gifts.

Not only have they been busy baking, Nikki, Sophia, and Molly have been working hard daily to keep our coffee bar stocked and the machine clean. They also brought Pumpkin Spice Cappuccino to our coffee bar this month, too!

With the earnings from the cookies sold, Nikki, Sophia and Molly plan to take a field trip to either the movie theater, Hot Springs, or Museum. They baked and sold over 150 cookies! Thanks to all the students and teachers who stopped by the cookie sales table during the high school break or pre ordered cookies. We are all so thankful for your support of their work. We are excited to supply baked goods throughout the school year!



Assistant XC Coach, John Scheffer, Celebrates 50 Years of Coaching

I started teaching in 1969, at the age of 21, at LaCenter, WA. I was there for 7 years and I coached Jr High boys' basketball & football, which led to coaching High school JV boys' basketball, and I started the golf program. I then moved to Shumway Junior High in Vancouver, WA (700 plus kids in grades 7 - 9.) Here I started coaching Track - the 800 and mile runners; also 7th grade girls' basketball. And I ran long distance myself, completing three marathons. In 1979 I moved to Arlington High School, north of Everett, WA. I coached girls' and boys' JV Basketball, Track, and Cross-country - eventually focusing on distance running. Besides teaching I was the Dean of Students for 6 years; then I retired and moved to MT. in 2003.

In the mid 80's at Arlington High School I was with the cross country team behind the football stands and I noticed some PVC pipe lying there. Since one of the runner's father was a grounds-keeper I asked him to check if I could have the pipe, and if he would then cut in into 16 to 18 inch sections. When I had the pieces, I explained to the team that we would practice proper arm swing by using these pipes. If the runner keeps the pipes swinging parallel to their side, it will keep their arms from crossing the body. Our arm swings improved immensely and it helped to propel the runners forward. I have shared this tip with Nate and with other teams & coaches - even this year.

After taking five years off, I started coaching at MCS and this is my 16th year here. After teaching at public schools for 32 years, it was a real blessing to coach at a Christian school! I helped coach middle and long-distance runners in Track. Then I persuaded Nate TeSlaa to take the cross-country position when it became open. I wanted him to be the Head Coach since I am not on campus, and I would help him. We've been working together for many years, and I love working with the students. This is my 50th year of coaching. In December I will be 77, and I'm not sure they will let me quit!



"In December I will be 77, and I'm not sure they will let me quit!"
-Coach Scheffer



SAVE THE DATE
CAMPAIGN DINNER
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

senior project SPOTLIGHTS

For my project, I am planning a spiritual retreat for the junior and senior boys. We will spend a weekend at a Forest Service cabin, where we will clean up Forest Service trails, practice conservation, learn outdoor survival skills, and grow in our relationship with the Lord. I plan to have the trip over Thanksgiving Break.

Wylie Donaldson

Carson Heidema

For my senior project I chose to take the 4th and 5th grade classes to Plain Vista Dairy to teach them how a dairy operates and where some of their food comes from. I am also going to bring a few aspects of the farm to the school to teach the K-3rd grade classes a few things about a dairy. The main focus of my project is to teach the kids where a portion of their food comes from. Roughly 68% of Americans don't know where their food comes from and I want to help change that. So far I have brought the 4th and 5th graders to the dairy and that went really well. I'm still working on setting up the presentation for the K-3rd grade classes but I am excited for how it will turn out.



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The Manhattan Christian Network on Spotify



Manhattan Christian School Foundation

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Become a member today by filling out the form to the left or visiting our webpage at Manhattanchristian.org/support-mcs/mcs-foundation.

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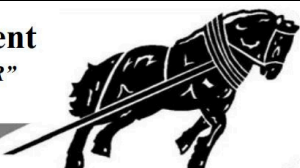
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