Career and College Readiness Corner

One of the core values of Manitou Springs School District is opportunity. Many define this as the multitude of things we offer for kids to participate in...everything from academic opportunities such as athletics, music, and drama productions to AP and concurrent enrollment courses. While those are all true, there is more to it. That more takes a willingness to look beyond, and at times, work a little harder for the good that comes from diversity. In our career pathways, we are charged with creating environments that have been traditionally held by one gender to becoming welcoming for all. Recently, a community member reached out to us regarding our Careers in Construction Program. As the owner of a construction and landscaping business, she will be able to offer our students a perspective on how their coursework will support their goals and aspirations.

Computer science, the highest demand field in the Pikes Peak region, is boasting almost 50 percent enrollment of young women in that pathway. Next year, this pathway will include two AP courses in which students can get ahead in college coursework. This is imperative because many women report the college setting was not a welcoming space when it came to enrollment in STEM classes. Early research is showing that women who engage in computer science work prior to college stay in the program and field longer. These are high paying jobs with continued growth potential.

Please reach out to Kolleen Johnson (kjohnson@mssd14.org) if you are interested in you or your company supporting students’ opportunities (e.g., internships, mentoring, etc.) in the areas of STEM. We are thankful for the many community members who currently support our students and staff in tremendous ways.

Employment opportunities

MSSD14 is currently hiring! We have several positions open in our Buildings and Grounds Department, as well as bus driving and coaching opportunities! Please visit https://www.mssd14.org/join_us/employment_opportunities and become a part of “The Herd!”

New MSSD14 Facebook page!

Please follow us on Facebook @manitouschools. We post announcements and events to this page regularly and it’s a great way to stay up-to-date! Looking forward to seeing your “likes.”

No school Monday, Feb. 17 – President’s Day

MSHS students receive All City Band recognition

All City Honor Band students for 2020 were Anton A., tuba – 4th chair symphonic band; Hailey M., clarinet – 2nd chair concert band; and Devin R., trumpet – 1st chair concert band. Manitou students had a great time competing and performing with schools from the Colorado Springs area and represented our school exceptionally well, performing challenging and incredible music. We couldn’t be more proud of our Manitou musicians!

Manitou Springs Elementary Winter Dance

Hundreds of Manitou Springs Elementary School students and parents attended the annual Winter Dance on Friday, Jan. 24, sponsored by the MSES Parent Action Committee.

PAC parents decorated the gym beautifully and offered pizza and drinks in the commons while the DJ entertained the young dancers with popular hits and dance tunes.

All the kids were wonderfully behaved and had a blast dancing the night away!

UPS Nest Boxes Project

At the end of February, all Ute Pass students will be assembling nest boxes for local birds and learning about their specific bird. This amazing opportunity has been supported by the Aiken Audubon Society.

UPS is looking for volunteers that are comfortable with some carpentry to help students out with the assembly, hammering and drilling. There will be support from the MSHS shop class, school and district employees and other community members. If you are interested in helping, please sign up to support a classroom at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4CAAA82FA0FF2-bird

We will also need some additional tools and supplies to help with the construction. If you have hammers, cordless drills, drill bits, Philips head screwdrivers, hole saws or clamps, please bring them with you.

If you are interested in purchasing one of the birdhouses for $15, please contact UPES Sixth Grade Teacher Miles Groth at mgroth@mssd14.org.

Manitou Springs High School students receive All City Band recognition

All City Honor Band students for 2020 were Anton A., tuba – 4th chair symphonic band; Hailey M., clarinet – 2nd chair concert band; and Devin R., trumpet – 1st chair concert band. Manitou students had a great time competing and performing with schools from the Colorado Springs area and represented our school exceptionally well, performing challenging and incredible music. We couldn’t be more proud of our Manitou musicians!