

MASH NEWS

All the Mauro-Sheridan News that's Fit to Print ~ 191 Fountain St., New Haven, CT

SPRING 2023



MASH Staff at Dayton Street Apizza.

After School Pizza!

By Aya El Filali and the Staff of MASH News

The MASH News team went on a field trip to a pizza shop! Dayton Street Apizza is located near Mauro-Sheridan, in the Westville neighborhood. It's just a five-minute walk away from this school. MASH News reporters had the chicken pizza, cheese pizza, and pepperoni pizza. We recommend going there to try their pizza!

Sara Rubino is the owner of Dayton's. She started working at the shop while going to school. Later, she ended up marrying the owner, Chris Guerra. "He taught me so well. Sadly, he passed away in 2016," said Ms. Rubino.

When he passed away, he passed the business to his daughters, one who was 3 years old at the time. Her name is Charley.

Charley didn't want that big responsibility, so now her mom is in charge. Now Charley is in 4th grade. She misses her mom when she goes to work. When she comes back from school, she makes herself a little pizza. She also helps make boxes.

Their largest order was 100 pizzas for a church. It took three trips for the delivery drivers to bring all the pizzas!

The number of pizzas sold on a Friday are 50-60. The number of pizzas sold in a whole week is an average of 200. They also delivered large orders to the tennis stadium.

The busiest night of the year is Halloween. "People are so busy getting their kids dressed in their costumes that they don't have time to cook. At 5 p.m. every year the orders come streaming in," Ms. Rubino said.

"Also, the night before Thanksgiving is very busy and we do a big business on Super Bowl Sunday."

The most expensive pizza is clams casino because clams are expensive. (It costs \$34 for a large clam pizza.) The shop has never made any huge pizzas, just small, medium and large sizes. The large measures 18 inches across.

The biggest party they ever had was 40 people. We asked whether they get many "Karens," or demanding customers. Ms. Rubino said most of her customers are nice.

Do you have the best pizzeria? "There's a lot of good pizza in New Haven, but yes, ours is one of the best. Certainly it's the best in this neighborhood, Westville, it's the best." They deliver to Mauro-Sheridan!!!

Save the Date for Daedream

By Lacey Charles and Hafsa Makhmarat

Daedream is an after school program that helps kids express themselves through dancing their dreams away. Daedream helps kids to achieve their dreams of performing on stage. You can be a part of Daedream starting at age 5 years to adult. Daedream charges a fee to participate that varies from year to year.

One of the directors of Daedream is Marlon Harris. He is 25 years old and loves to teach dance to kids.

This year at Mauro-Sheridan they are rehearsing a play called "ROAR." Harris said. This play is about an evil magician who turns humans into animals and now they are dancing their way to freedom. This play will take place at Willbur Cross High School on **Friday June 2nd and Saturday June 3rd**. This will be a fun show for parents and kids to enjoy.

In Daedream there are about 50 students, but next year they are hoping to get even more. They are also hoping to get their own building.

Daedream was founded by Ms. Kim Francis who is a former New Haven Public Schools teacher of 35 years. "I started Daedream because I grew up with music and dance in my family and wanted other people to be able to experience it in an affordable way," she said. "Daedream has a lot of meanings," said Harris. "For me, I see Daedream as a family. Daedream means I'm helping others. Yes, we do dancing, singing, acting and stuff. But our main goal is to make good people. We want the kids to grow up to be great adults for the world that we need."

Every day, one of the Daedream staff comes to your classroom and picks you up. They bring you upstairs to do your homework then they bring you downstairs to start dancing.

It is a five day a week program. There are currently 19 staff members. All the Daedream staff are very proud of all the students in Daedream for doing a great job for these past couple of years. Speaking of all these years, Daedream has been at Mauro Sheridan for 15 years and has been running 35 years altogether.

All the Daedream staff are very nice, kind, and respectful. All the dancers {kids} are very lucky to have such kind staff, they take care of their dancers and treat them how they need to be treated as a dancer. Some of the past students from Mauro-Sheridan are now staff for Daedream. If you would like to learn more about performances, how to join and how to donate you can visit the Daedream website. (daedreamnh.org)

That is all about the wonderful Daedream and we hope to see you at the play!



Daedream rehearses dancing

Girls on the Run Returns!

By Lacey Charles and Hafsa Makhmarat

What is Girls on the Run? Girls on the Run is a track program, but it is also about positivity and cheering your friends on!

Girls on the Run is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-5:00. There are 11 girls participating. They are: Rana Boulguid, Reem Boulguid, Jennilee Camacho, Lacey Charles, Kaylen Davis, Aya El Filali, Aya Elkacimi, Kenniyah Graham, Kamarra Jones, Janae Lee, Arielle Masoperh, Cierra Morton and Madison Webbe.

All the girls are 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. The coaches are Denise Wagner, Sarah Vaughan, and Lisa Brody!

“In addition to learning to run and having fun, the program is also about girls’ empowerment,” said Wagner, an advanced practice registered nurse who works for the New Haven school-based health clinics.

“You also make friends and learn how to work as a team,” said Vaughan.

After completing the program, the girls will run a 5K race on a Saturday. Five kilometers is 3.1 miles!

GOTR is short for girls on the run so if you come to the race don’t forget to yelp “GOTR RULES!”

Girls on the run is a ten-week program. Lots of the girls on the team are also in the journalism class. Here is a quote from a person in the program.

“Girls on the run makes me feel like I can do anything,” said Kenniyah Graham.



Girls on the Run team 2023

New Haven Middle Schools Need More Sports

By Amarie Hunter

Calling all athletes, New Haven Middle School sports needs you! Here at Mauro-Sheridan we have a girls basketball team. As I learned from the Mauro-Sheridan basketball coach, Jason Cartwright, his team consists of athletes that attend five different schools.

Wouldn’t it be great if we had a baseball team too? Maybe we should model the proposed baseball team after the basketball team and include other schools.

This would help us make more friends! Baseball is fun and the teammates are helpful. The coaches tell you what to do, they teach you what to do and how to do it.

Why is it fun? We can meet people from other schools, you can do sliding, and hit home runs. Some problems are that you can get hurt, you need a lot of players, you need a lot of equipment and those cost money.

R.J. Voelker, the athletic director for New Haven middle schools, said that across the school district we offer: volleyball, football, soccer, cross country, basketball, baseball and softball.

Now if we have a team, I would play on a baseball team. I would like the team to be called the Dodgers. I could hit home runs and I can slide, but I still want to learn more. I would like to have a coach to coach me.

Brandon Stovall, an 8th grade student at Mauro-Sheridan, like me, has also never been on a team but plays for fun. Both he and I have hit at least one homerun. If he had his way our school would have its own boys’ basketball team too.

Ethan Daley, a 5th grader, would also like to have more teams at our school. He wishes we had a football or soccer team. It seems like the students at our school and the district's choice of sports offered are similar. I hope they let us know when tryouts are for these teams!

Should Kids Have Cell Phones in School?

By Lariah Cotten, Bryce Fernandez and Khloe Henry



Eden Edwards is a student in 6th grade who believes that we should be allowed to use our cell phones during school hours.

“We should have cellphones in school because if something happens someone will know,” Eden said.

For example, if you have a private emergency, like someone hurts your feelings and you don’t want to get the teachers involved, you can just call your mom on your cell phone.

“I think cellphones in school are a distraction and should be put away or left home. If they're found out, I think a parent should have to come and pick it up,” said Ms. Amanda Moreno, a paraprofessional.

“I think cell phones are a distraction,” said Coach Cartwright, a gym teacher. “I wish schools could block service so even if kids bring them, they won’t work.”

Mr. Rich Vancil, a volunteer in journalism says students SHOULD be able to have cell phones in school.

“Students should hide them in their backpacks so that if something bad happens, they can let their parents know, or if they get sick, they can let their parents know so that their parents can take them home and they can feel better,” he said.

Cell phones are not supposed to be used during school and should remain in kids’ backpacks, said Mr. Slusky, who teaches 7th grade English. Are cell phones a problem at Mauro-Sheridan?

“Cell phones could be useful if we found a way to make them useful for teaching and learning, but right now they are too distracting,” said Mr. Slusky. “Most of our students try to follow the rules, but social media is so tempting that sometimes it's difficult for the students to do the right thing and turn off their phones.”

Harmony and the Lady Grizzlies Show Out

By Kenniyah Graham and Rana Boulguid

Many people don’t know that Mauro-Sheridan has a girls’ basketball team. We have had a team for two years! There are 18 girls on the team, and the coach is Jason Cartwright! He's a boy, by the way.

Let’s talk to the team captain Harmony Thomas. Harmony said her whole family plays the sport and we think that her awesome basketball genes are fantastic and impressive.

Harmony loves her team now, but when she was little she used to play with Barbie dolls until she started to play basketball. She loves citizenship, and citizenship is the theme of our school at this moment.

She thinks of being a basketball player for the WNBA. If it doesn’t work out, then she will be a basketball coach to teach little kids.

Harmony is 13 years old and a really bold and a strong team captain for varsity basketball. She plays point guard and loves trophies and the attention she gets from the crowds. But she also says that when she is angry, she plays basketball to soothe her stress and to calm herself down.

Questions for Jason Cartwright:

Q. What's the hardest thing that young players have to do?

A. Six different schools have to come together to become a team so the hardest thing is working together with people from other schools. (The schools are Davis, Katherine Brennan, King Robinson, Wexler Grant and Clemente and Mauro-Sheridan).

Q. How do you motivate your players?

A. Some people self-motivate. It's a miracle we have such good players.



Jason Cartwright at the left end



Team captain Harmony Thomas doing the salsa!

Learning Journalism at Mauro-Sheridan

By Aya El Filali

Journalism is the reporting of news and events. The after school class of Journalism at Mauro-Sheridan writes mostly about school news. The news is published on the MASH News site. There are 13 students in this program. Alix Boyle is the current teacher of journalism and she has a co-teacher named Richard Vancil who, by the way, brings the best snacks that keep us energized for writing. The current gym teacher of Mauro Sheridan, Jason Cartwright, is also teaching this class.

We interviewed Ms. Alix about the newspaper and she said, "The MASH News was founded in 2010 by Ms. Judy Nacca, Ms. Jodi Schneider, and me. Ms. Caroline Apgar was our faculty advisor for a few years. Most years, we take a field trip to interview an interesting person in the neighborhood. One year it was the manager of a local McDonald's, and of course, we got to sample the food! Another year, we visited a fashion designer and saw how his shop was run. We have also had many interesting visitors, like the mayor of New Haven, an alder and an expert on mindfulness meditation."

Ms. Alix has said that she has always loved reading and writing, and she didn't like math, so she became a journalist. In middle school she started writing for the school newspaper. But, she didn't always want to be a journalist. She said that she wanted to be a gym teacher when she was smaller. She also said she would like to do more journalism.

"Kids should have lots of opportunities to write and express themselves, and I think a school newspaper is a great way to do that. I love working with kids and am happy to share what I know about journalism and teach them to write a basic news story. On another level, lots of newspapers are closing, so that some communities don't have any paper at all. Newspapers play an important role in society informing citizens about government and politics. We can't have informed voters without newspapers. So I hope that by learning the basics at the MASH News, students will be curious and involved in the political process later in life," said Ms. Alix.

This is why it is important to have a newspaper program like journalism. It is important because it tells people the news that they want to hear. It is good for kids to learn how to read a newspaper.



School Food: A Review

By Crosby Bennett, Imran Nakhi and Evyn Edwards

We are going to start with a positive note about the school food at MASH.

We have had some pretty good food such as meatball subs, chicken Alfredo, and Sloppy Joes. The recent restart on the salad bar has made school lunch better.

But it's not all good news. The steak and cheese sub tastes like cardboard, and the flavors are dull. We can't taste the steak. The chicken teriyaki tastes sweet, but otherwise flavorless.

Though the school says the hamburgers are beef they are actually made of turkey. The hot dogs are said to be beef, but are turkey too. Same with the meatball sub (basically all the meat at MASH is turkey).

We don't know why, maybe it has to do with budget, but the school does not describe the food for what it really is. The food is pre-cooked and it is frozen and reheated and then it is served at the school cafeteria.

The MASH News interviewed Ms. Aimee, the head cook.

"Every Monday is a vegetarian lunch for everybody," said Ms. Aimee. "For example, we serve black bean burgers. Nachos are another vegetarian offering, but some parents complained because it's just chips, not a real lunch. You have to grab five food-types including fruit, milk, and grains." Ms. Aimee also said "We might add donuts because there is just enough, but not too much, sugar in the donuts, and they are not too big."

We know the school is doing the best with what they have. MASH does their best job to serve a school lunch that is tasty and healthy.

The MASH news thanks all of the students whose opinions are in this article.



Save the Date for the Tragedy of Julius Caesar June 6, 7 and 8, 2023

By Hafsa Makhmarat and Aya El Filali

What is Shakespeare? Shakespeare is an after school theater program. You can express your feelings on the stage, so if you are a child and want to be an actor, Shakespeare would be happy to have more people like you.

This year's show is **Julius Caesar**. The date is June 6th, 7th, 8th 2023. The directors of this production are Justin Pesce and Aleeki Shortridge from Elm Shakespeare.

The play is about this man called Julius Caesar, a popular Roman leader and general in ancient Rome. His friend, Brutus, is jealous of how powerful Caesar is becoming.

"Brutus and a group of Romans together, the conspirators, are all concerned about how much power Caesar is growing into, and they all plot to commit his assassination. They do it for the good of Rome," explained Ms. Sarah Bowles, the director of education for Elm Shakespeare. "Brutus doesn't kill Julius Caesar alone."

Brutus then gives a speech to the citizens about why they did it. Following that, Caesar's friend Mark Antony gives a second speech that questions the motives of Brutus and his group, and that riles up the citizens to revolt.

By the way, there will be a lot of drama and we are looking forward to it. The tragedy of **Julius Caesar** is very dramatic how in Rome they were concerned about one person having too much power! They thought that it was not fair.

Every year at MASH, we do a Shakespeare play. This is the 14th year. It is a free program for kids in 5th through 8th grade that was started by Ms. Jodi Schneider, who is still the coordinator. Ms. Amanda Moreno helps kids learn their lines, too.

Shakespeare is a person from hundreds of years ago. His full name is William Shakespeare and he used to do shows 400 years ago and now to this day we are still doing Shakespeare. Shakespeare is all about acting and having fun.

We all hope we can see your beautiful faces at the play!



Shakespeare rehearses

OPINION

The “One Person at a Time” Rule

By Aya El Filali

The rule of only one student leaving a class at a time should be changed. At Mauro Sheridan I think the school made this rule because, if more than one person goes out of class together, they will just mess around.

I think this rule should change because then more things could be done faster. If it was to be changed then students and teachers would have a more clean and better schedule. It would save a lot of time.

Teachers would also have the advantage of not having to choose who to go first and who is last but they could send two or three students at a time. This would help students and teachers. It would help teachers because they wouldn't have to keep track of who is going. It will help students by letting them go to the bathroom when they need to and they wouldn't have to hold it until it is their turn.

I have actually experienced having to hold it and not going to the bathroom and when it was my turn I was running just to make it in time.

Another example of the “one person at a time rule” would be when somebody has to go get their instrument because it is needed for music class. If one person at a time had to go to get their instrument, it would use up all the time for class, just for everyone to get their instruments.

This is why I think that the rule of “one person at time” I should change.

Assigned Seats Should Not Be a Rule

By Eden Edwards

I don't personally understand why we have assigned seats because there are only a few kids who can't handle themselves next to their friends. Without assigned seats, we could meet many new people. On the first day before even giving anyone a chance to make a choice, teachers just assign seats. What if I don't want to sit next to this person? What if this person talks to me while I'm working? Students will do their work correctly if they're not sitting next to someone distracting. How do teachers and principals expect students to work in a loud space? Ask questions about a story? To be completely honest, these “rules” are preposterous. School is just as hard as work, so why don't we get paid?

We Should Not Have to Wear Uniforms in School!

By Ethan Olmos

The school wants us to wear uniforms because they might think we will bully other people because of what they wear. Other people might also not be able to buy fancy clothes.

But I believe that the rule requiring us to use uniforms should be changed and other students agree with me that we should have no uniforms.

We should dress how we want. When we wear our own clothes we can express who we are. That is why we want to dress up and not in uniforms. We could get this done by us asking our teachers for more dress up days because I feel more comfortable wearing sweatpants. So this is why we want No Uniforms any more.

Mom - Please Make My Bed for Me!

By Amarie Hunter

My mom's rule is that my room should be clean and my bed should be made. Every day!

I don't like this rule because making my bed is boring. I don't think it's important to do it before leaving because I could do it when I get home. On top of having to make my bed, I also have to clean under it. This doesn't seem fair. When I visit my friends' house they don't have their beds made, so why do I need to make mine?

My mom likes the house to be clean. She cleans the house at least once a week. Her bed is perfectly made everyday. When I make my bed, it is a little bit curved, but I would like it to be straight like mom's. This is one reason why I think she should make it because hers is always straight.

If I don't make my bed my parents would be upset with me. The only reason I make my bed is for the reward. Rewards that motivate me can be as simple as a compliment. But things like money, special foods, phone time, and VR time are extra motivating. When I don't make my bed my dad will take my stuff and that makes me mad.

A Rule that Should be Changed: Gaming on Weekdays

By Kristopher Amaker-Lewis

The rule at my home is: no gaming on weekdays. Why I would like to change that rule: I would like to change that rule because gaming in my opinion is a big part of my life. Lots of people around me get to game while I don't. If I were the parent I would like to let my child game because sometimes gaming can start relationships. Speaking for myself, I get homework done on time, I am a good student, and I strive for the best in school. I would like the privilege of gaming as a good student.

Facts

- 6 A+s & 1 B+
- Good Student
- Gets Homework Done

I would like to game because it's stated that gaming can improve children's moods, promote relaxation, and reduce anxiety. It can also connect people and help them to be able to make more friends. It also is their second school. It can help to them learn and make strategies, organize, show emotions and other thoughts or feelings. It can increase hand to eye coordination, and help you to become better at multitasking.

WE GET THE POINT: My parents always say “Gaming hurts your eyes or it turns your brain to mush.”

1. It's not physically possible
2. It actually helps the brain and can make your brain stronger and better in academic studies.

Thank you!

I Kristopher Amaker - Lewis Approve this message as America's Best Reasons Gaming!

No Homework!

By Reem Boulguid

I think there should be no homework because the work we do in school is just a lot harder when we have to take it home. And why do we need homework anyway? Homework is really just schoolwork. So, why can't we just keep it at school?

The homework we should be doing are the things that we cannot do at school. Like relaxing and playing and eating and sleeping. If we don't get these things done at home, we won't be in very good shape for the next day of school, tomorrow!

And once you get to a higher grade, it gets harder. And then we will need to get into college. And it is just too hard, like it makes me mad.

When I am trying to play with my friends, why should I have to do my homework?

My parents then think they are my teacher when I am trying to do homework. But parents are not your teacher and sometimes they don't know the answer like the teacher does. And they get mad at us for not getting an answer right!

So we should not have homework because it doesn't help us and it is harder than what we do at school!

More Black History, Please!

By Ethan Daley

I think it is important to Black people to have an event celebrating themselves, but it is more important for kids to know their history.

I think it's so important for us to celebrate Black History Month because we had segregation. I think segregation is bad because it separated people based on their skin color.

I think it is a cool month. It is good for us to have the month, but I wish it was more like three months long. That way, we could learn more about Black history and celebrate it more.

I want to learn more about John Lewis, a U.S. representative and civil rights activist. He led peaceful protests and marched with Dr. Martin Luther King. In July 2020 John Lewis died. His dad was a sharecropper.

MASH NEWS MASTHEAD

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MASH News was established in 2010

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