
WARRIOR SPEARHEAD

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Manasquan 8th graders

As the school year starts drawing to a close, there is an air of finality in everything the 8th graders do. This issue is a dedication to our years at this school, and all the things still to come.

What to expect

The Warrior Spearhead is looking for editors and contributors for the next school year, 2017-2018! We want your best poems, short stories, and artwork. We want people who want to write about things that are important to them, and the amazing activities that are happening around the school.

If you are interested, please see Mrs. Trischitta or email her at atrischitta@manasquanboe.org.

MES teachers and students, we will be having writing contests next year and will also be asking you to submit your students' best work! Please let the Warrior Spearhead staff know when your class is doing something awesome so it can be in the newspaper!

A special thank you to Riley Brennan for her hard work in creating the team for the *Warrior Spearhead* and her creativity and knowledge.

Where I'm From

I'm from Here and There. Everywhere and Nowhere. A place across the ocean, a place across the bridge, a place where a long stretch of beach lies, and I with it.

I'm from a time of backyard exploring and lightsaber wars, dirty basement rehearsal spaces and learning how to curse at the knee of the older kids. Teaching myself how to read and never stopping, always making my own entertainment.

I'm from scraped knees and Allstars, hoodies and jean jackets, waking up and putting on a bikini instead of clothes in the summer, sun-lightened hair and sun-darkened skin.

I'm from "Exile on Main Street" and "Rearview Mirror". I'm from "A Day at the Races" and "The Best of Bessie Smith", forcing my family to listen to Queen in the car for hours on end, playing and singing for hours upon hours.

I'm from F.R.I.E.N.D.S, Spongebob Squarepants, and The Mr. Men Show. Watching 27 Dresses with my mom after a bad day. I'm from The Moulin Rouge, Roman Holiday, Fantasia, Edward Scissorhands, Star Wars, The Professional.

I'm from That's out! Gee whiz, It's just the minimum you have to do to be a person, I'm Miley Cyrus, and *you're* watching Disney channel.

I'm from actors and first-generations, artists and doctors. French and Korean, New Jersey and New York, Los Angeles, and Paris.

I'm from late nights and early mornings at the beach with friends, reading my mom's interior design books, watching lightning from my window in the summer.

I'm from love and resentment, from triumph and turmoil. I'm from certainty and uncertainty, serendipity and hope.

by Lucie Chantepie

I Am

I am an equestrian who never backs down from a challenge

I wonder what jumping six feet feels like

I hear the nickers of ponies

I see an open country side

I want a horse to call my own

I am an equestrian who never backs down from a challenge

I pretend I'm a Grand Prix show jumper

I feel the leather of the reins in my hands

I worry about the wellbeing of my horses

I cry when I lose a horse

I am an equestrian who never backs down from a challenge

I understand the language of the horse

I say comforting words to steady my horse

I dream of living on a ranch in the country

I try to help save every horse I can

I hope to become the best rider I can be

I am an equestrian who never backs down from a challenge.

-RaLee Wall

Nothing Gold Can Stay

Camping with my family is always fun, to be honest it's probably when some of my best memories take place. So when talking about this poem, those times definitely come to mind. The smells of a campfire, roasting marshmallows, and clean air always rush back to me at the thought. I just wish that it could happen every day, but I guess the best thing about good things is if it happens every day, it's no longer special. What makes camping gold, is how rarely I get to go. Going away for even just one week is expensive, and we only go once a few years. So the way to keep it gold, is to keep those memories dear, and make new ones. I heard we're going this summer, I'm really excited!

The Art of Doodling

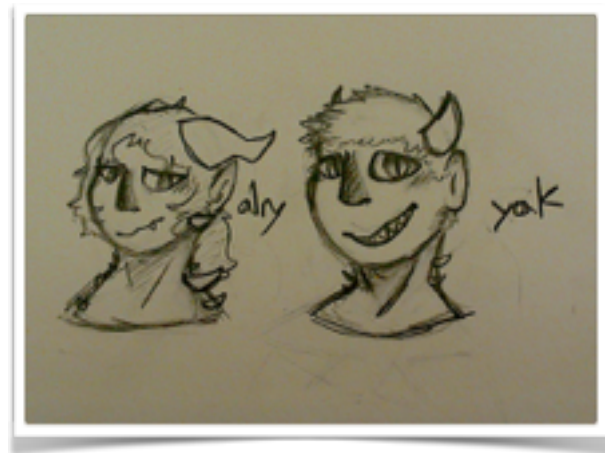


Art has always been in my life, ever since someone put that pencil in my hand when I was a kid. It's the huge world that I can escape to if I'm in trouble, or bored enough that I could chew my own arm off. I need breaks from even my closest friends sometimes, so you know where I go? I go to my world, where a pencil and paper are the strongest weapon.

I draw characters from TV shows, cartoons, and web comics. I also draw characters that I made up with my own two hands. I used to have plenty of characters, but as I progressed, my characters became more complicated and real. No more rainbow cats, and dogs who are as thin as cardboard. I see my story, flaws, and friendships, in

theirs. And as a result, I can see them move and interact in my head. Their speech is soft and slow if they're more of a romantic, they speak quickly and abruptly if they're young and excited.

I lay in my bed at night and think of things that I could do in the morning, 50% of that is art, or animation. I can't get much done once I wake up because I rather play video games, but it's in my head, and the idea is still alive. My sisters encourage me a ton, and I look up to them.



They're so much better than me, and know so much more. Maybe I'll actually finish a project one day. Maybe I'll actually stick to an idea, instead of moving on to the next one after giving up. Maybe I'll have the determination to get it done, and have the guts to show it to people. I'm just waiting for that door of golden opportunity to open and invite me in. -by Cassandra Wooley



Words Can't Speak Themselves

I look into the mirror. My own reflection is barely visible through the cracks and dust. But I spend so many mornings this way, glancing at this grimy glass, that I barely even need the mirror anymore. I have memorized the pattern in my light amber eyes. I know the exact coordinate of every freckle that marks me. And of course, I can recite the words of my Marking in my sleep. The careless letters that appear to be scribbled on my skin have been there since birth.

The thing is, no one else can see it. Doctors can get a feel for where it is on your body, using a painful, invasive scan, but even they are unable to see what it really reads. Everyone is born with a Marking, but you and you alone can see what it announces. It holds your "Destiny." It holds your future in the world of love. And if the doctor is unable to find your Marking at the mandatory scans, you are declared Companionless and executed. Children, mostly, are the ones convicted.

Lillian was convicted at two years old. So now I'm an only child.

Destiny is a cheesy word to use, I think. And I always thought there was more to destiny than finding a Companion. Mayor makes the whole thing such a big deal. I couldn't care less about my soulmate's and I's exchanging of words. It's a pain in the ass to have this ugly, permanent thing on my forearm. Isn't enough to love myself? Is it possible to create my own Destiny? Can't a person simply enjoy being alone? Mother and Father have always shut down those ideas.

My Marking reads "I was just saying how I can't believe how hot it is."

I look into the mirror again. I take in my flaws. I take in my imperfections. The freckles that are too big and too many. The extra fat at the bottom of my stomach that shakes when I laugh and sags when I slouch. I take in myself as a whole. Beautiful? Don't know. But beauty is skin-deep. So I don't really care.

I hear Mom calling from downstairs. I can't make out the exact words, but I assume it's something along the lines of "Clare! You have to Learn in 10 minutes and you're not even dressed yet! Come on!" because that's usually what she says. My mother is punctual and proper and poised. She expects the same of me, but her expectations are usually let down. By usually, I mean 10 out of 9 times. Today would be one of those days. I race down our pristine, white stairs but I trip on the fourth one from the bottom, which sends me sprawling to my mother's feet. "Falling is *not* ladylike, Clare."

Ignoring her, I brush my hair out of my face and send her a glare as poisonous as summer ivy. I rush out the door before she can say anything else. I look back at my house.

Except for the house number, fifty-seven, our house is identical to every other on the street. Yellow door for happiness, which I drew on with black marker when I was five. White

walls, both interior and exterior, for purity, which have gathered all kinds of stains over the years.

The morning is crisp and the wind is my enemy as I trudge to the Learning Center. There is an unfamiliar boy strolling a couple feet in front of me. He is quite tall and has much lighter skin than mine. I pop in my Learn Phones to get my mind stimulated before I get to the center. Or, actually, I pop in my Learn Phones, which stream heavy metal music into my ears. It's banned, yes, but it brings me happiness and no one can hear it except for me.

I don't notice at first when the unfamiliar boy speaks to me. I'm much too focused on the electric guitar and the drums and the heaven that is screaming its way into my brain. I take out the phones and apologize. "I'm sorry, I didn't hear you over the monotonous voice of my Learn Phones." Perfect white lie. "What did you say?"

He seemed taken aback for a moment. Maybe he wasn't talking to me at all? God, I am so unbelievably awkward. And the way that I seemed so into the Learn Phones doesn't help either.

"I was just saying how I can't believe how hot it is."

My forearm tingles. My cheeks blossom red rosebushes of crimson.

Now I understand.

He's my soulmate.

My words are written on his body, and his on mine. They have been there since the days of our births.

"That's what my Marking says," I hesitantly choke up. His eyes are shaking like the sea during a monsoon.

"Mine says what you just said, about the monotonous Learn Phones." He seems much more distressed than I would have predicted someone to be, had they found their soulmate. And at such a young age, too. I am only sixteen. Maybe he was nervous? "Look, this must be a mistake."

I am very confused. Mistake? How could this possibly be a mistake?

He continues. "Look at your skin. You can't be *my* soulmate. We can't be together. Don't you see? Don't you understand?" I don't. I shake my head slowly, then more forcefully.

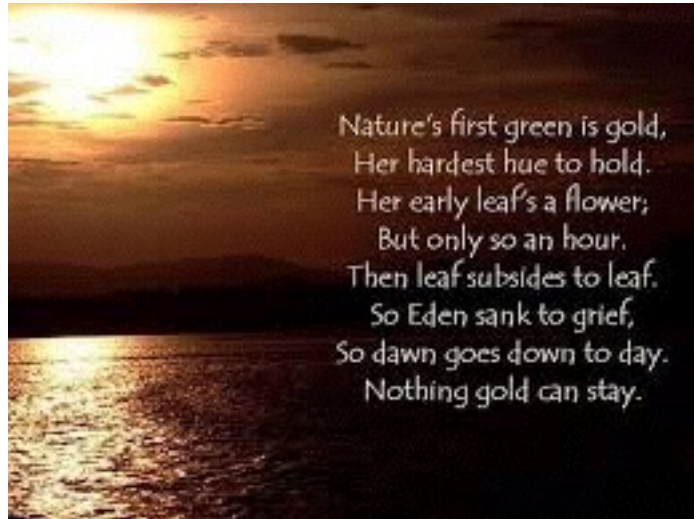
I don't understand.

He runs off with my future. He didn't even give me his name. I trudge on to the Learning Center. I don't have the heart to put my metal music on again. It wouldn't make things better.

-Brigid McCarthy

The True Meaning of Gold

Gold. What is gold? When people hear this question they immediately think of a mineral that makes you rich. But really, gold has a much bigger meaning than a solid stone worth money. Yeah it's shiny and pretty but if you look at the deeper meaning of gold, it has a different story to each individual person. Gold to one person could be your dog, to another person it could be your friends. Your personal gold is anything you couldn't live without. To me, my gold is my parents.



Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

My parents are golden. I don't think I'd survive without them. The amount of work they put in to put a roof over our heads or food on the table is unbelievable. And I know that I speak for everyone when I say that we don't give our parents enough credit for all that they do for us. All it takes is to say "thank you" and you make your parents day. Even to simply say "I love you". Saying these phrases shows your parents that you appreciate all they do for you. To just see how happy my parents get when were happy is something that can never be taken away.

In more than one way our parents relate to gold. Gold is very heavy, and so are your parents. No, they're not heavy in the way you're thinking but the kind of heavy that acts as an anchor. Your parents are the anchor of your family, they hold your family in place and make sure that you don't go anywhere. Parents are the two heavy pieces of gold that you could be lucky to receive, and even luckier to hold on to forever.

All it takes is one "thank you" or "I love you". Just take one second out of your day to just say thank you and show your parents your appreciation. Grab onto the gold and don't lose it. The gold can keep you in place and is worth a million. My parents are my gold. Mom, Dad I love you, and don't forget that. You are my gold.

by Gianna Attardo

Where I'm From

You have made me cry over a hundred times and you have made me think to the point of mental exhaustion. You have broken down my body and made me immune to Advil. But at the same time you have made me smile over a million times and taught me to persevere through the mental and physical pain. But most of all you taught me how to help myself.

There is no question that you are one of the hardest sports out there. Swimmers need to be fit in every part of their body, not just in their legs or their arms. EVERYWHERE. Not just the training is relentless. The clock has no mercy and neither our coaches nor it will hear our excuses.

And even when we are positive that we pushed as hard as we can and we put our all into you, sometimes the race doesn't go our way. Because mental strength is just as important. We have to know how to make our bodies do exactly what we want them to do right at the exact moment that they have to. And if we make one mistake, it could cost us a half a second. And a half a second could mean everything.

As much as you have destroyed my confidence, you have built it right back up. You have made me discipline myself. You taught me how to prioritize. But mostly you have taught me how to keep pushing even when it gets hard. And it took me a while to realize how strong you have made me, especially after my grandpa passed away.

Even though I haven't been swimming for a long time I have seen so many people quit and give up. I have asked myself why I swim and the answer is always simple: *I love it too much to give it up.*

You have made me the person that I am. You have made me someone who always wants to lower the number on the board. And I don't think that that desire and drive will ever go away. I believe that that desire is what makes us true athletes. The relentless, never good enough attitude and always wanting us to do better. Thank you for making me want to be not just a better swimmer but better in every aspect of my life.

You are a huge part of my life. You're a team sport, but if we mess up, it's all on us and only us. You are physically challenging but you also force us to be in incredibly good mental shape. And nothing can teach someone true dedication like staring at a black line for over 20 hours a week.

Even though I hate you sometimes when you break me down on the pool deck, you have made me so much stronger emotionally, intellectually, and academically and that is why I keep coming back to you. And I would not trade that strength for anything.

Thank you for presenting me with my most challenging moments and forcing me to be strong no matter how bad I want to give up. Thank you for allowing me to make mistakes, and making me realize that's its ok and no one is perfect. Thank you for being my home. My safe haven. My happy place. I love you with all of my heart and I always will.

by Maddie Condon

Fears of the Darkness

Some consider it a bliss to sleep and escape the stress and fear that the world provides. To enter another world where anything you can imagine will appear. Me? No. I can't stand the word sleep. When the clock strikes 10 and that chime echoes through the halls of my house, I freeze with a paralyzing fear. I can hear their laughter from the cracks under my bedroom door. Even my dog, a german shepherd that my police officer dad gave me when he failed, whimpers and cowers away. I see why he failed now. Too scared of a creature that may not even exist. Even during the day he doesn't think of entering my room. Only when I pass him on his bed next to the couch the following morning does he greet me with a cheerful bark.

You may be asking me, *if it's your room that causes you trouble, why not sleep somewhere else?* Cute, really, that you try too little too late to solve my problems. For what my nightmares have created seeped somehow to my room. A haunting of sorts. *Then do a seance or call over someone who can help you.* But who can help me escape the grips of the demons in my own mind? A therapist? I don't think someone with no skill at all can help me. Besides, I've found out some of it's methods. Scare me whenever I'm off the tip of my toes. When I'm inert and despondent, just make the feelings of fear deeper than before and this time implant them into my mind. Create scars that never appear in the broad daylight and only in the darkest of nights. So you see, I can't be helped.

But last night was the worst so far. A soft growl came next to my ear during the period I tried to think of happy thoughts before I slip into the darkness of my own mind. It was low and raspy and just seconds after, a dark laughter followed the growl and I shot up from my bed. Nothing was there except the wind that came from my open window. That was all was repeated, over and over and over again, in my dream that night. I looked all over but found nothing but just a few specks of light. They seemed like stars. Illuminating a soft glow of false hope.

So as the grandfather clock hands land on the 12 and 10, I drag my feet in dread as I enter my room. My dog's loud whimper wants me to stay with him. Saying he would protect me. But I knew it would do me no good. I can't escape the demons and ghost that elude my mind. The evil side.

by Makenzie Wiseman

Hi! I hope you enjoyed *Fears of Darkness*, especially since I'm the one who wrote it. My name is

Makenzie Wiseman, and I love to write stories. I've started a few things that could end being more short stories or longer, but I guess I just have to finish them to see. But I can't always think of stories on my own. I sometimes go online and look up prompts or pictures that could potentially spark an idea in my head. For example, this short story was created with the help of the photo below.



Squan-A-Thon

Manasquan High School held its seventh annual Squan -A- Thon on April 15th. Squan -A- Thon is a twelve hour dance a thon that runs from 8 o'clock Friday night to 8 o'clock Saturday morning and raises money for pediatric cancer. The participants were the high schoolers at MHS. The public was allowed to go from 8 to 11. Donations were accepted throughout the night, raking in more and more donations.

There were many fun activities that took place throughout the night. There were inflatables from 9 to 3, game trucks from 9 to 12, and various other activities throughout the night. The big showstopper of the night came at around 9 p.m. when arguably the best motivational speaker in the world, Eric Thomas, showed up. He came in and talked to all of the dancers about what they were doing there that night, and some moral principles to help get through it. Everyone thought that he was magnificent, even those who didn't know who he was thought that he was great. Some of the other activities included karaoke, Zumba, and a cafeteria full of ping pong, pool tables, and fooseball. All in all, it was very fun and a great success. The final reveal showed that in total, the dancers raised \$106,899.57.

-by Joe Battaglia

Being a Part of Stage Crew

The spring musical is a big deal at MES. What you may not know is that you don't have to be on stage to be a part of the show. Stage crew is another big part of play, from painting sets to decorating the stage, there is a job for everyone. What people don't understand about the drama club is that you get to talk to people you may have never talked to before. You get to know people you may have never gotten to know otherwise. You become a team. Although stage crew may not be performing, we have something in common with the performers, we all want to put on a great show. So, all 6th, 7th and 8th graders, come help make next year's play the best one yet!

by Jillian Moran



Original painting by

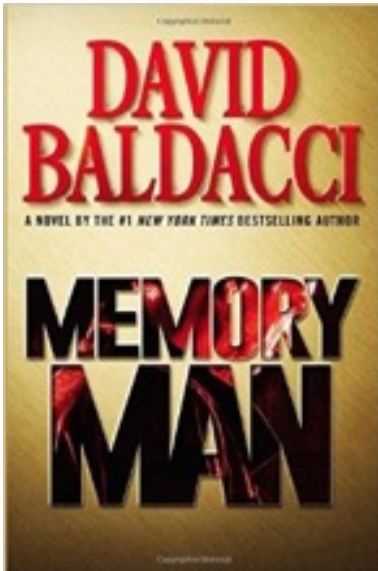
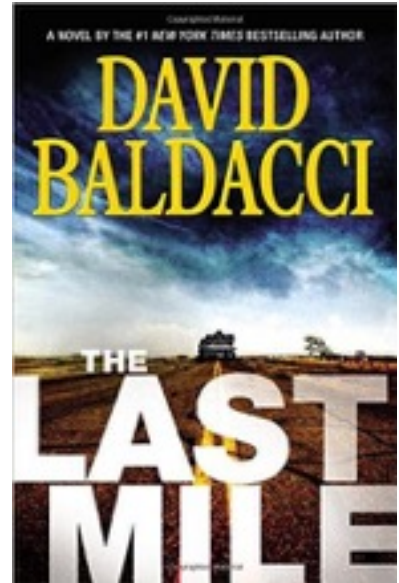
Liz Roberts

David Baldacci and His Favorite Cardigan

By Brigid McCarthy

David Baldacci is a bestselling author in countless places around the globe. He has written over 30 novels for adults and a few novels for young adults, as well. His books have been translated into more than 45 languages and have been adapted to motion pictures and television shows. He cofounded a nonprofit organization called Wish You Well which helps illiterate people around the world. He is a millionaire.

And he also decided to pay our puny town of Manasquan a visit for the release of his new book, *The Last Mile*. What a valuable visit it was.



I was incredibly lucky enough to go to an exclusive meet-and-greet at 6 o'clock, right before the general event at 7 o'clock. The small audience was made up of mostly high schoolers, with the exception of 8th graders Brooke Jenkins and Perri Jost, and seventh graders Jack Hamilton and me. I sat barely three feet from a millionaire, a successful writer, a guy with endless creative ideas and a marvelous mind. It was mind-blowing to think about.

One of the things Baldacci said which stayed with me after the event was "Writing isn't a job, it isn't an occupation. To me, it isn't a hobby anymore. It is my lifestyle." He told us how he got inspiration from everything around him, anything from empty hallways to faded photographs to baseball games.

He tries his hardest to publish one book per year, which is ambitious to say the least, but really increases one's admiration for this wonderful author. It was such an honor to be in his presence and for him to be gracious enough to pay our humble town a visit.

by Brigid McCarthy

Dodgeball Tournament

On April 8th the student council hosted the first ever dodgeball tournament. Students have been asking for a dodgeball tournament for many years and were happy to make teams and participate in this tournament. There were a total of ten teams that participated. Fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders were allowed to make teams and compete in the tournament. The teams were made up of boys and girls and consisted of six players each. Although many teams entered, only one team was victorious.

“Da Peeps” claimed the first ever dodgeball tournament title. They defeated their opponents and fought their way for the win. The team consisted of Jack McHugh, Jack Collins, Stephen Schmieder, Luke McHugh, Tommy Rice, Nick Peeples, Christina Giunco and Fredi Ramire. James O’Neill, who did a



great job making plays and keeping his team pumped up, coached the team. All of them played their hardest and were rewarded with a great win. They won an ice cream party for winning the tournament.

The cost to play was \$3 and the student council made almost \$200 in total. All of the money went to the Squan-A-Thon, which later raised \$106,899.57. Every team played their best and had fun while doing it. A dodgeball tournament has been asked for for many years and this year, the student council, along with the help of Ms. Kopec, were able to pull it off. This was a huge success and hopefully there will be another one next year!

by Stephen Schmieder

High School Horrors

The only high school that I pictured going to was East High with Troy Bolton and Gabriella Montez from “High School Musical”. I obviously never really pictured myself going to a “real” high school. I never really thought about what it was going to be like away from MES. I’d be lying if I said



that I had never thought about high school, because I have. I have thought about my brother going to high school. I’ve thought about how the seniors must feel so big compared to the rest of the school and the little elementary school across the street but, I’ve never really pictured myself going to high school. I guess it never really sunk in that *I* would actually grow up. It’s really weird to think of myself as student in high school considering that I still feel like a fifth grader.

All throughout my life, people told me that I should enjoy being a kid, because time flies, and someday I will miss going to

school every day rather than going to work every day. I always just brushed it off because I don't know why, but I thought that it would be fun to be an adult. Now, I actually realize that before I know it, I will be a senior graduating high school. It's kind of scary to think of that, because I have been so accustomed to Manasquan Elementary. I'm so used to seeing the same kids and the same hallways and teachers every day. (I'm being completely honest right now, but I'll probably get lost quite a few times in the high school.) Even though I might say that nine years at a school is a long time, I'm really going to miss it. I mean, I really don't know what I'll miss exactly, but I'll miss it. There are a whole lot of memories that have been made in those nine years. That's probably what I'm going to miss. The memories.

I really don't know what high school will be like. I don't really think that I can trust what anyone says about it, because everyone says that eighth grade was going to be pretty hard, but, for me, it's been a breeze. I hope that I can learn how to stay focused and study in high school, because I have a bit of an issue with that right now. (I would be studying for like ten minutes, and then I feel the need to check my phone for a few hours.) I really hope that high school won't be as boring as middle school was. I'm being completely honest, but there were times in middle school when I wouldn't pay any attention to what the teacher was saying, and by the time the test rolled around, I would ace it. There were other times when I would fall asleep for a minute, or I was

wondering how I wasn't asleep because class was so boring. I really hope that high school will be somewhat different.

High school must be really cool in the way that you go from about seventy kids in your grade, to about 200-300 people. That must be really big change for everyone, unless they already came from a school that has a lot of people, because then it would just be getting used to a new school. I think that it will be weird because I will go from knowing almost everyone in my grade for nine years, to not knowing almost anyone in my grade. The first time that I really thought about that, was when I was writing this. I really don't know what's going to happen on the first day of school. I don't know why, but I can guess that my whole freshman year will be pretty weird. It's going to be weird being the new kid in a giant school.

Even though I am terrified of going to a new school, there is something exciting about it. It's exciting that I will have pretty much no clue of how high school will go. It's exciting that everything will change, and I won't have the same routine for the whole year, and years to come. I, honestly, hope that I will grow as a person in high school. I hope that I will eventually learn to speak what is on my mind, and they the things that have been stuck in my head for quite a while now. I am still terrified to go to high school, and going from being the biggest kids in the school, to the smallest kids in the school.

by Perri Jost

Brooke's Declassified School Survival Guide

- **Coming here in kindergarten with no idea about what is to come, I guess I could say I was a little, no, a lot scared. Throughout my years here I acquired knowledge about many things. Multiplication tables, cursive, how to get on the teacher's good side, and I also learned a lot about people and change. And here are my tips and tricks on how to make it to graduation day.**
- Best friends can turn to strangers within the school years as groups form. You can unknowingly be put into the "Other" category along with "The Popular Kids", the "Weird Kids", and the "Shy Kids". But no matter what category you find yourself in, remember you are not a soup can, you cannot be labeled.
- It is never guaranteed the friend you have this year will still be there for you next year. Nothing in life is guaranteed, getting a good grade on the science test, getting the biggest slice of pizza at lunch, but part of advancing forward and making it through is accepting that. You have to face reality with bravery, humor, love, and apprehension. You have to accept that you are growing up, you have more responsibility and your teachers expect a lot more from you.
- Of course everyone has their bad days, their bad tests, their bad experiences. But mulling over it and kicking yourself for it won't do anything. Move on and try your hardest. And I know some days it's hard to get out of bed, it's hard to walk through those doors with a smile, but it gets better. Listen to some new music, watch a new series on Netflix or Hulu, or watch some YouTube videos about puppies or people falling.
- Just because you don't have the new iPhone or you don't have the "right" body type to get noticed, it's fine. As you grow you learn that it is okay. It is okay to be different, it is okay to love yourself no matter how much people will put you down. Like the band you like, whether it be pop, emo, or cultural, read the books you like, comic books, mangas, murder mysteries, romance, never feel ashamed.
- If you need to talk to anyone, please do so. Talk to a teacher you trust, your family, your friends, or the guidance counselor. But if it's really bad, therapy is a good road go down, although it wasn't my cup of tea, therapists usually help a lot.
- Get on top of things. For the love of God do your homework and ask your teacher for extra credit opportunities. Put effort into your projects and always face your schoolwork with a positive outlook, pretty much everything when you're older counts. If you see a grade you don't like, try to get it up.
- Cut off the negative people in your life. If they make you feel bad about your interests, your personality, or your body, leave them stranded in the dust. And let someone know about it, because maybe they could help.
- Always let the teachers, lunch ladies, principals, substitutes, classmates, and everyone in between know that you appreciate them. It can be stressful teaching a class, especially to some kids that could care less about the subject. It can also be hard trying to orderly give food to ravenous children, a please and thank you can go a long way.
- And, just a word from the wise, don't get on Mr. Kirk's nerves, just don't. He's human too, and he's pretty much the head of the school. Even though I've never been a principal and never seek to become one, I can understand how stressful it is. But if you ever do something to rattle his bones just know his bark is worse than his bite. **-Brooke Jenkins**

From Paddling to Teaching: The Life of Mr. Manser

We know and love one of our favorite math teachers, Mr. Manser. But do all of us know what happens when the textbooks close and the sun comes out? Mr. Manser is the proud owner of Paddle Out. Mr. Manser started teaching in 2007, but his love of paddle boarding he could not hide. He started paddle boarding at age 25, and has worked with his family at paddle out 2013. From seeing things like Octopi and seals, paddle boarding is always a fun adventure for everyone. There are a ton of things to see out on the ocean, like different types on fish or a boat coming by. Anyone can work at Paddle Out at age 14. He enjoys paddle boarding with his family, especially in the morning, but has to say that he likes teaching more. A good recommendation is paddle

boarding in the ocean. They offer a ton of things to do at Paddle Out, which includes paddle boarding, kayaking, lessons, and tours! They're open 7 days a week, opening at 8:00-6:00. So, come out and support Mr. Manser's paddle boarding business this summer because paddle boarding is a blast!

By Grace O'Boyle



The Chemistry Behind the Softball Team

Manasquan Girls Softball Team has started the season of strong winning their first two games. They mercied every team they have played so far, and look to be the best team in the league, not to be cocky. Although the team's success is partially from the hard work that the girls put in, it is also due to the wonderful coach, Thomas Glenn. Mr. Glenn is a super positive, enthusiastic man, who also knows a lot about softball. He has a very strong personality that everyone loves.

During the games, Glenn is always cheering his team. He gives compliments to everyone on the field, including the other team, letting them know if they made a good play. He does not yell much, unless you get him really angry. Not only do we learn a lot at practice, but we have a lot of fun as well. "This may be my most talented team yet," said Glenn after coaching many teams. Not only is Glenn a fabulous coach, but he is also a chemistry teacher at Manasquan High School. I can't wait to take his classes! If you are not busy in the fall you can also join the High School Bowling Team. Do you enjoy robots? Glenn is also the leader of the robotics club. Thank you Glenn for making both Manasquan High School and Elementary School a better place and hopefully leading this year's softball team to the championship. And don't forget to come out and support the softball team at their games right after school.

-By Megan Priest and Katie Dingler

Star Wars: The Force Awakens

Star Wars VII came out in theaters on December 18, 2015. Since *Star Wars VI: Return of the Jedi*, the last Star Wars movie from the original trilogy, came out 32 years ago, and since it was an original movie, the stakes were very high for this new Star Wars movie. The original trilogy began in 1977 and the prequel had begun in 1999, creating a total of six movies.

The Star Wars series was epic, and many people were excited and anxious to see this new movie. I, personally, was thrilled that a new Star Wars movie was coming out, partially because I am such a big fan, and also because I had never seen a Star Wars movie on a big screen. The action in all of the Star Wars movies are amazing, and to be able to see ships flying around in space in the theaters was very exciting to me and many people.

The new Star Wars movie also created a lot of anxiety for me. Not only did this movie need to be great on its own, another two movies will follow, and all need to live up to the galaxy's expectations. But, the box office for *The Force Awakens* was over 2 billion dollars, and

trilogy, and Han Solo was still the same, funny, heroic Han Solo that he was 30 years ago. Rey was a scavenger, but knew her destiny was beyond just that. Finn was a First Order stormtrooper who wanted to escape Kylo Ren and his plan to destroy the galaxy. BB-8 held what all of



the galaxy was looking for, and Chewy and Han made it a priority that they find their Millennium Falcon. Po was a pilot who could fly anything, and wanted to destroy the First Order. Kylo

is *still* out in theaters. This proves that people were eager to see what The Force would bring this time around.

I saw the movie twice, and both times I laughed, cried, and found something new.

.....
The humor in the seventh movie was just like the humor in the original

Ren was the leader of the First Order and wanted to finish his grandfather's job. General Leia helped find the map to Luke Skywalker.

I absolutely loved how many of the original characters made a showing in *The Force Awakens*. That was really important to me and I felt that that made the story more real and interesting, and it meant more to me. I loved the movie, and

I thought that J.J. Abrams picked up right where the great George Lucas had left off. Although *Star Wars V: The Empire Strikes Back* was my favorite movie, *The Force Awakens* was very well directed and written. If you haven't seen the movie, I *highly* recommend seeing it, especially if you are a Star

Wars fan like me. Even if you're not, and you haven't seen any of the movies, you can still go see it and love it as much as I did.

I have seen it twice, and I would definitely go see it again.

.....
~ McKenzie Ramire

MES 8th Grade Trip

On May 16th the MES 8th grade class set out for Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, bright and early! After a few hours of driving, we stopped at Valley Forge to have a quick look around Washington's headquarters during the Civil War, then *forged* our way to Amish country. While in Amish country, we were able to learn more about the culture, meet some people, and eat some great food. After dinner and two hours at the nearby sports complex, it was lights out!

The following day, we rode to the grounds of the Battle of Gettysburg, where we learned about what actually happened during the battle, whilst standing where it took place! Here's what some other kids had to say about our trip:

Gracyn Devine

Overall experience: Super fun and I want to go back
Favorite part: Gettysburg tour
Least favorite part: The mini golf at the sports complex

Jane Antonucci

Overall experience: I thought it was a great time. We got to have fun with friends and do some learning.
Favorite part: The sports complex
Least favorite part: The Gettysburg bus tour
Advice to incoming 8th graders: Don't take this trip for granted! It's a really fun trip and have fun while you can.

Ralee Wall

Overall experience: It was an awesome time! I want to go back!
Favorite part: Learning about amish Country and going to cool battle spots.
Least favorite: The pretzel place was closed.
Advice to incoming 8th graders: Bring money for a Quillow

**We want to thank Mr. Kirk and the other chaperones for volunteering to go on this trip!
We're going to miss you so much!**

Congratulations Class of 2016!

Where is the Class of 2017 heading next year? Read below to discover where the eighth grade class will go to high school, what they hope to become, what they will miss about Manasquan Elementary School, and whom they would like to thank for their achievements.

Gianna Attardo

Gianna is attending MHS and is looking forward to meeting new people and having a choice of classes. Her aspirations are to become a chef or baker, and from her sweet treats she has brought to share in class, she has an “Iron Chef” future! She wants to be remembered as the one who could “turn that frown upside-down.” Gianna would like to thank Mrs. Yellovich, Mrs. Trischitta, Mrs. Berra, Mr. Batista, and Mr. Manser for their support. Her advice for future eighth graders is to stay focused and put schoolwork first, and do “do your thing.” Gianna will miss the teachers and traditions at MES.

Jane Antonucci

Janie is attending MHS and is most looking forward to meeting new people! She wants to be a TEACHER when she “grows up,” and thanks every single teacher at MES for

their support. Her advice is not to be afraid to do something new. “Everyone will be there for you and help you through it. You just have to ask.” Jane will miss everything about MES because “this school is amazing.”

Vanessa Bautista

Vanessa is attending MHS and is looking forward to making new friends. She dreams of doing something with music as a career. Vanessa would like to be remembered for her hard work and effort, and thanks every teacher at MES for their help. Vanessa’s advice is to remind everyone that “you are in eighth grade once, so you should have lots of fun with your friends.”

Josie Borghoff

Josie is heading to MHS and is looking forward to all the clubs MHS offers. She wants to become a special effects make-

up artist and would love to be remembered for her creativity. She would like to thank Mrs. Burke, Mrs. Yellovich, and Mrs. Trischitta and all her teachers and friends for the great memories.

Riley Brennan

Riley is attending Communications High School next year, and is looking forward to the variety of clubs. She aspires to be a creative writer and a musician, and thanks Mrs. Trischitta who always said that Riley’s novels would “one day be on her bookshelf.” Riley’s advice is to always do your homework on time. Riley will mostly miss her friends.

Jake Brown

Jake, or “Brownie” is attending MHS. He is looking forward to playing sports, which leads to his goal of being a general manager for the NHL. Jake

would like to be remembered for his athletic talents and being a friend to everyone. Jake gives a shout out to Mr. Schaad, Mr. Manser, Mr. Reid, Mr. Russoniello, and Coach DeMuro for helping him with his achievements. Jake's advice is to go on every field trip and participate in every club because "you will remember them forever."

Luke Butkus

Luke is attending MHS and is commonly referred to as "The Savage." He is looking forward to high school sports, particularly football, and dreams of joining the NFL. He wants to be remembered as someone who always wanted "to win," and thanks Mrs. Trischitta, Mr. Manser, Mrs. DeMattia, and Mrs. Berra for their positive influence. He advises students to "study and make middle school your best years!"

Lucie Chantepie

Lucie, fondly referred to as "Lucifer," is heading to Red Bank Regional High School. She is most looking forward to independence. Lucie aspires to be a musician or actor, and thanks Mrs. Trischitta for believing in her, Mrs. Yellovich

for making her laugh, Mr. Bautista for teaching her how to read music, and Mrs. Rostron for encouraging her even when she thought she was the worst at art. Her advice is: "don't procrastinate under any circumstance, and remember that middle school is really highschool preparation, so get in that mindset early!" Lucie will miss the camaraderie that comes from a small school and the MES drama club.

Brielle Cook

Brielle is attending MHS and is looking forward to field hockey and meeting more new people! Brielle would like to be an interior designer, and suggests that you "try as hard as you can and don't give up!" She would like to thank Mrs. T because "she always understood me," and will miss the teachers and the close-knit feel about MES.

Jack Cunningham

Jack is attending Red Bank Catholic and is looking forward to the sports. He wants to be remembered for being a nice guy and playing sports, and aspires to be a professional football player or coach. He thanks Mr. Manser and Mrs. Trischitta and will miss his friends and all his teachers.

Jack's advice is to "do whatever interests you in sports or clubs, study, and don't take advantage of the tablets!"

Gehrig Cupo

Gehrig is attending MHS and looks forward to taking honors classes. He would love to be a session musician and wants to be remembered for his musical abilities. He thanks all of his teachers, and advises students to "study hard."

Dean Damen

Dean is attending MHS and is looking forward to the quality education and sports. He would like to be in informational technology, a coder, an engineer, or pursue business as a career. Dean is proud of his math skills and thanks all of his teachers. His advice is to "be a savage."

Michala D'Anton

Michala, affectionately known as "KK," is attending MHS. She can't wait to be in a new environment, even though she loves being in eighth grade! She wants to be remembered for her "fire roasts," and thanks Mrs. Yellovich because she is a great teacher who always finds a way to make her students

smile or laugh. KK aspires to own an interior design company or her own restaurant. She advises others to “be a part of many, many things and to take chances!”

Meg Dayton

Meg is attending MHS and can't wait to make new friends. She wants to be a photographer and social studies teacher, and thanks Mrs. Yellovich for getting her to love history. She also thanks Mrs. Trischitta for “showing me who I really am” and Mrs. Silwoski for helping her improve in singing and “showing me that I do have potential.” Meg hopes that her friendly personality will be remembered when she graduates and advises others to “always do your work and don't be a slacker.” She also encourages everyone to be nice and trustworthy. Meg will miss all of her teachers, from kindergarten up. “This school has been my second family and leaving it is unreal. MES is special because you become so close to your teachers you never want to leave.”

Matt Dellegrippo

“Matt Dell” is attending MHS and looks forward to being in advanced honors classes. He

would love to be an Imagineer, an engineer for the Walt Disney Company, and thanks Mrs. Taft for “giving me the confidence to do the things I want to do and always being there for me,” and Mrs. Yellovich, for being “the best teacher ever.” Matt wants to be remembered for his acting abilities. His advice is to “believe in yourself. If you want to do something, just do it.” Matt Dell will miss everything about MES.

Gracyn Devine

Gracyn, “GBD,” is excited to attend MHS. She is looking forward to the better lunches and meeting new people! GBD wants to work with kids, and thanks Mrs. Demattia, Mr. Manser, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Faul for making school so awesome. Gracyn wants to be remembered for her ability to make fabulous puns. Her advice is to “study science, and join teams you normally wouldn't.” Gracyn also advises it is best “to stay on Mr. Kirk's good list.” Gracyn will miss the “family environment” at MES and all the wonderful teachers.

Brogan DiLucio

Brogan is excited to attend MHS next year.

Danny Dingler

Danny is currently undecided where he will go for high school as he hopes to pursue his motorcross career. Danny knows he will be remembered for his many absences, and wants others to remember to “do your homework” if you want to do well in school. Danny thanks Mr. Russoniello, Mrs. Yellovich, and Mrs. Jones for their support.

Matthew Driscoll

Matt, or “Driscoll,” is headed to MHS where he is excited for the better food as well as meeting new kids. He aspires to be a teacher or lawyer and gives a shout-out to Mrs. Trischitta, Mrs. Kelly, and Mr. McCann. Driscoll hopes to be remembered as the “kid who can't stop smiling,” and shares this advice: “don't be the annoying kid. You can joke around, but don't overdo it.” Driscoll will miss knowing everyone, and every teacher he has had.

Anabel Ferraro

Anabel, or “Annie Shmannie” to her friends, is going to Communications High School. She is excited to meet new people and having more

freedom. Anabel one day hopes to work behind the scenes of a television show. She wants to especially thank Mrs. Buss, Mrs. Femenella, and Mrs. Ward for their awesome teaching. Anabel would like to be remembered for her academics, and advises future eighth graders to “make your last year in this school count.”

Kate Gomez

Katie, or Katie GoGo, is attending MHS in the fall. She is excited about the food, but will miss the amazing teachers, including Mrs. Yellovich. Katie wants to be a cosmetologist and also wants to study photography. Katie would like to be remembered for her kindness, and advises students to remember that “it may be April or May, but that doesn’t mean it’s the end of the year. That’s when you have to try your hardest.”

Tyler Guagenty

Tyler is headed to MHS and is looking forward to basketball. He would love to obtain a sports-related job. Tyler is known as “that salty kid from China,” and wishes to thank Mr. Reid who helped his math skills. Tyler will miss middle school sports.

Ella Hayes

Ella is attending MHS and is excited to meet new people. Wanting to be remembered as a “savage,” Ella aspires to be a forensic scientist. She wants to remind everyone to have fun in their eighth grade year, and thanks Mrs. Trischitta for always being there “whenever I needed her.” Ella is going to miss all of her teachers.

Brooke Jenkins

Brooke, or “Brookie,” is attending MHS and is excited for lunch! She aspires to be a language arts teacher and thanks Mrs. Trischitta in particular. Brooke will miss all the teachers at MES and the sense of security. She says that “doing your homework” is the key to success.

Adriel Jiminez

Adriel is attending MHS and is excited for the lunches. Although he isn’t sure what he wants to do in life, Adriel had a great role-model with Mrs. Yellovich. He is thrilled to be moving on from MES, and encourages students to “do your homework.”

Perri Jost

Perri, or “Pearbear” to her buddies, is attending MHS. She is looking forward to working harder to get better grades and making new friends. Perry does not have a career plan yet, but with her “uncanny ability to raise one eyebrow,” and her own advice to “do your best. It will come back to haunt you if you don’t,” Perri will find her way.

Emily Kave

Emily, “Em,” “Peanut,” or “Emilio” is headed to MHS. She is eager for the classes and the new environment. Emily wants to become an astronomer. Emily wants to thank Mrs. Faul, who taught her to “let go without even knowing it.” She also thanks Ms. Burke and Mr. Reid, who are “just great teachers.” Mr. Reid is credited with influencing Emily to never be ashamed of yourself. Emily wants to be remembered for her style and being true to herself. Of eighth grade, Emily says, “It goes by so fast you’ll look back and say ‘wow, it’s already June!’ Get set. It’s a crazy ride. This doesn’t mean you won’t enjoy it.” Emily will miss everything about MES.

Alexander Kave

Alex is eager to attend MHS to reach his goal of becoming an architect or engineer. He thanks Mrs. Kappy, Mrs. Faul for teaching in a fun way, and Mr. Reid for making math interesting. Alex advises others to “stay away from the people who don’t care about school and bullies,” and will miss Miss Sliwoski and drama club very much.

Aidan Kelly

Aidan is attending High Technology High School. He is looking forward to his engineering classes and would like to be a computer engineer. He will be remembered as “the kid in geometry,” and wants to thank Mrs. Yellovich and Mrs. Martucci for their support.

Peter Kraus

Peter is attending MHS and can’t wait to play football. He aspires to be U.S. Marine and own a video game company. Peter loves to make people laugh and hopes others will “have fun while you can.”

Kristie Lavalla

Kristie is headed to MHS where she is excited for the

new classes and new people. She knows she wants to be successful when she grows up, and wants to find a field that is “exciting.” Kristie wants to thank Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Berra and Mrs. Trischitta, Mrs. Wahl and Mr. Markovitch, and Mrs. Yellovich for being the nicest social studies teacher ever. Kristie also says she will never forget Mr. Menafra. “Make your eighth grade year the best year ever and get involved in school activities.” Kristin will miss all the teachers and her friends, especially those who are going to different high schools.

Olivia Lynch

Olivia, often called “Liv” or “Livvy,” is headed to MHS. She can’t wait to try new things that lead her to her goal of becoming a fashion designer, artist, or even a writer. Olivia wants to be remembered as the person who turned someone’s bad day into a good day, and for always being herself. Olivia wants to thank Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Reid, Mrs. Trischitta, Mrs. Wahl, and, most importantly, Mrs. Rostron. Olivia encourages others to “do your homework, be on time, ask for help, be respectful, and don’t worry about where you sit at lunch,

because you only need one friend.” Olivia said that her teachers have become her second parents and will never forget all the great memories at MES.

Nolan Maraziti

Nolan is heading to MHS next year.

Andrea Martinez

Andrea is headed across the street to MES, where she can’t wait to make new friends, improve her grades, and get involved. Andrea would love to become a doctor, but is not sure of her specialization. She wants to be remembered for her smile and helpfulness. Andrea thanks Mrs. Sanders for encouraging her to always do her best, and Mrs. Trischitta for always being there. Andrea advises students to “do well in science, take care of their tablets, and do your work and hand it in on time.” Andrea will miss the phenomenal teachers, eighth grade because it is so fun, and Mr. Kirk walking through the hallways.

Jillian Moran

Jillian is attending MHS where she looks forward to meeting new people. She would love to

be a chef and hopes to take advantage of the opportunities in culinary arts at MHS. Jillian would like to thank Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Trischitta, as well as EVERYONE from MES.

Jack McHugh

Jack Jack is attending Communications High School and is looking forward to COLLEGE! Jack would love to become a sports agent, and advises others to “study a lot.” Jack will miss everyone at MES, and gives a special thanks to Mrs. Yellovich, Mrs. Trischitta, Mrs. Kelly, Mr. Akins, Mr. DeMuro, and Mr. Kirk.

Shane McCutcheon

Shane will be attending MAST next year, and looks forward to learning new things there. He aspires to be in the Navy when he grows up, and would like to thank Mr. Reid for making him a better all-around student. He will miss being comfortable at MES the most.

Wendy Morales

Wendy is going to MHS and looks forward to meeting new people that she can relate to there. She would like to thanks Mrs. Crawley for helping her so much in 2nd grade and Mrs.

Buss for being the best teacher ever, and Mr. Markovitch because she got an award in science. Wendy will miss the swings and the teachers from MES.

Owen McMenaman

Owen is headed to MHS where he looks forward to the less strict environment. He wishes to thank “every teacher” for getting him to this point, and his advice for future eighth graders is: “Don’t be obnoxious.” Owen will miss knowing everyone at MES.

Audrey Moran

Audrey is heading to MHS where she can’t wait to make more friends. She loves making others laugh, and hopes everyone will try their best and make sure they always have fun while at MES. Audrey would like to thank Mrs. Sayre, Mrs. Trischitta, but most importantly, Mrs. White, because she has “been there for all of my years at MES. Mrs. White really loves us, and I thank her for that.”

Tommy Murphy

Tommy is attending MHS and is most looking forward to graduating! He would love to

be a professional paintball player. He wants to thank Ms. Burke for her help, and will miss “being the big kids” in school.

Michael Navarra

Michael is attending MHS next year.

Jackson O’Brien

Jackson is headed to MHS next year where he is excited to play with his band “Slapjack,” which Jackson hopes will make him famous. Jackson credits Mrs. Trischitta for help with writing, and all his other teachers for their support. Jackson would like to remind future eighth graders to “study.”

Ryan O’Keefe

Ryan is attending MHS and is looking forward to playing football. He wants to be a CEO of a company. Ryan wants to be remembered for his athletic achievements, and thanks Mrs. Leher, Mr. Russoniello, and Mr. Reid for their help along the way. Ryan will miss his friends who are attending different high schools.

Victoria Parell

Victoria is headed to Point Pleasant Boro High School where she looks forward to getting a new start. Victoria wants to become a teacher, and wishes to thank two role-models Mrs. Yellovich who “always has a smile and gives great advice” and Mrs. Trischitta who is “the nicest person ever and gives everything she can to make you succeed.” Victoria reminds younger grades that middle school is “a lot harder than younger grades, so make sure you do your homework and study.” Victoria will miss knowing everyone and the welcoming MES environment.

Nicholas Paslawsky

Nick is attending MHS and would like to thank Mr. Manser for all his support.

Liam Pastelak

Liam is excited to attend MHS where can meet new people and continue his studies in science, working toward his goal of becoming a weatherman. Liam would like everyone to remember his love of science!

David Pelech

David, or D.J., is heading across the street to MHS is is excited for every new opportunity.

Although David came to MES in seventh grade, he would like to thank his teachers for everything. He will definitely miss the positive atmosphere at MES.

Chris Pierro

Chris, also known as CJP, is headed to MHS where he is looking forward to the freedom. He wants to be a professional soccer player and play for the national team.

Chris would like to thank Mrs. Sayre, because “she is one of the best and nicest teachers I will ever have.” Chris advises students to “make sure you do your work on time, study for tests and quizzes, and make sure you make the most of your eighth grade year.” Chris will miss all the teachers at MES.

Paige Reichy

Paige is attending MHS and can't wait for study hall! Paige would like to be a dentist or physical therapist. She would like to be remembered for her athleticism and sportsmanship, and sends out a special thank you to Mr. Manser. Paige

advises never to miss Algebra class!

Onali Rosado

Onali is attending MHS and is eager to enlarge her social circle. She aspires to be a teacher and credits Mrs. Yellovich for always being so nice, and Mr. Reid for making math fun. She advises students to “do well, and don't be afraid of Mr. Reid, because this has been my best math year yet!” Onali will miss all her teachers and her friends who are going to different schools.

Sophie Roe

Sophie will head to MHS next year and plans to get into lots of activities, make lots of new friends, and get into honors classes. She can't pinpoint what she would like to one day be, but includes a “chef, traveler, actress, singer, athlete, gamer, photographer, and masseuse” in her list of ideas. She hopes she will be remembered for drama, chorus, honor roll, and always having a smile to get her by. Sophie wants to thank Mrs. Hill for always caring, Mr. Russoniello for his sense of humor, Mr. Manser, Mrs. Kehoe for her kindness and humor, and Mr. Reid for making eighth grade

so great. Sophie advises others to “be prepared for hard courses, stress, but to stay balanced and never lose the magic.” Sophie will remember all her teachers and friends from MES.

Camryn Rothery

Camryn, known to buddies as Cammy or Cam, is going to MHS next year. She is looking forward to trying out for sports and being a part of the drama club and photography club. Camryn would love to continue horseback riding, but doesn’t want to “rush time,” so she doesn’t know what she wants to be when she “grows up.” She always puts a smile on others’ faces even though she may be shy and quiet. Camryn would like to thank Mrs. Boyes, Mrs. Kirk, and Mrs. Buss for making her early years at MES so wonderful, and Mrs. Yellovich, Mrs. Trischitta, Mr. Manser, Ms. Burke, and Mr. Reid for her great middle school years. Camryn says that “life is a journey so enjoy every moment.” She will miss all of her teachers and friends.

Evan Rupertus

Evan is attending MHS and can’t wait to be part of the MHS hockey team. His goal is

to play professionally for the NHL. Evan wants to be remembered for being a good person, and believes “handing your work in on time” is one of the keys to success. Evan thanks his supportive and understanding teachers.

Devon Russo

Devon is headed to MHS where she awaits a new environment and new people. She hopes MHS can help narrow down her choices of what she hopes to do in life, but for now she encourages others to “live in the moment and don’t worry too much.” Devon would love to thank several teachers: “Mrs. Jones for going at the perfect pace and all her support, Mrs. Sayre who was always positive and you could tell she was happy to be there. Mrs. Faul because we had so much fun all the time, and Mrs. T who inspires all of us and is a great example of someone who loves what she does.”

Karen Sanchez-Sorto

Karen, or KK, is heading to MHS, and she is excited to make new friends. Karen wants to join the FBI or become a dance instructor. She wants others to know that she

showed her real voice by singing and joining chorus, and wants people to remember how much she cared about her friends. Karen thanks all her teachers who cared for her and were always there for her. Karen suggests that you should do your homework and not be late for school, and will miss “everything” about MES.

Erik Sarmiento

Erick is attending MHS and is looking forward to the track team. He has many ideas of what he would like to be, an author, illustrator, doctor, or scientist. Erik wants to be remembered for his capabilities to try new things, even though others may not see it. Erik thanks his eighth grade teachers, and advises others “not to put off homework and save it for ‘later.’”

Luke Sepe

Luke is heading to MHS and wants to thank Mr. Reid for his support. Luke encourages students to “do their homework.”

Emily Scranton

Emily is crossing the street to MHS and is excited for challenging classes and sports.

She would love to become a trainer or physical therapist. Emily wishes to thank “Mr. Reid for all the extra help he gave me when I was confused.” as well as “Mrs. Yellovich for being so kind and understanding.” Emily wants future eighth graders “not to stress too much” and hopes people remember her for her smile and positive outlook.

Caroline Schwier

Caroline is attending MHS and is excited to choose her courses. Her goal is to become a doctor. Caroline would like to be remembered for her cleverness, and gives a shout out to Mr. Reid “because he is a great teacher, and the only one with a sense of humor.”

Caroline will miss all her former teachers who helped along the way.

Noah Spader

Noah will be crossing the street to MHS. He can’t wait to take the art electives MHS offers, for he would like to be a graphic designer. Noah wants to be remembered for his art skills and his ability to make people laugh. Noah advises others to “stay smart and don’t follow the ‘crowd.’” Noah is definitely going to miss his

teachers, but not the cafeteria food.

Tanner Toole

Tanner is heading to MHS next year and thanks all of his teachers for their guidance and learning along the way.

Griffin Veasey

Griffin, or “Griff-Dog,” is going to MHS and is looking forward to students from different towns in his classes. He would like to be a firefighter. Griffin would like to be remembered for always having fun, and advises others to have fun in your eighth grade year. He will miss Ms. Burke and Mrs. Jones, and all his teachers.

Rachel Wall

RaLee is heading to Biotechnology High School, and is eager for more freedom, more projects, and learning outside the textbook. Ralee’s dream is to become a forensic scientist. RaLee wants to be remembered for her “mad knowledge about Djibouti in Model U.N.” RaLee thanks Mrs. Taft for making learning fun and challenging. Mr. Menafra for the Ugly Sweater Contest and Greek Myth dioramas, Mrs. Berra for

making work interesting and just “being there,” Mrs. Trischitta for “helping me perfect my writing, perfecting my grammar, and Hope for Paws,” and Mrs. Yellovich for “introducing me to Model U.N. and Djibouti! Thank you to Mr. Reid for my good time in Algebra, and Ms. Trumbour for always give me a place to hang and talk!” RaLee will miss her classmates, knowing everyone in the school, and being able to ride her bike to school.

Jamie Waltsak

Jamie is attending MHS and looking forward to meeting kids in all grades. She would like to be a dentist. Jamie would like to thank Mr. Manser and hopes others “study hard” in school.

Michael Walsh

Mike is attending MHS and is excited for the food and honors classes. He wants to be a plumber or mathematician, and will definitely be remembered for his wit, his smile, and his good-nature. Mike “Lebron” would like to thank Mrs. Yellovich, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Trischitta, Mrs. Ward, and Mrs. Van Wickle. Michael hopes future eighth graders will not

“be stupid and use common sense.” He will miss his friends next year.

Michael Wilson

Michael “Beef-a-Tron” Wilson will be attending CBA and wants to be a hockey player when he grows up. He would like to be remembered as “being the best”, and wants to give a shoutout to Mrs. Faul and Mr. Manser. His advice for future MES 8th graders is ‘do your homework’. Michael will miss having fun at MES.

Cassandra Wooley

Cassie is headed to MHS where she can’t wait to join clubs. She aspires to be an animator and hopes she is remembered for her “skill with a pencil.” Cassie wishes to thank her eighth grade teachers who helped the most, and advises others to “do your homework” to ensure academic success.

We will be losing some of our own to these great schools next year!

Good luck to all MES graduates!

Come back and visit!

Red Bank Regional

Christian Brothers Academy

Biotechnology High School

Communications High School

Point Boro High School

High Tech High School

Red Bank Catholic

