

FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL

Menlo-Atherton High School
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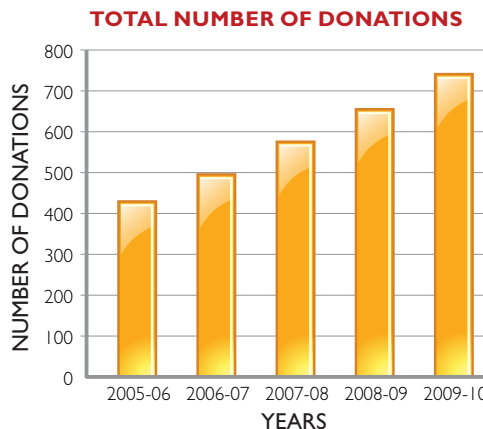
WHAT'S INSIDE!

- **M-A GRADUATES ARE GOING PLACES**
- **A MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL ZITO**
- **TEACHER AND STAFF AWARDS**
- **NEW "FACULTY WEEK" BENEFITS 2010-11 ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**
- **ANOTHER WINNING YEAR FOR M-A ON EBAY**
- **FRESHMAN FAMILIES STEP UP**



FOR M-A STUDENTS, THE FUTURE IS NOW

More and more M-A families and community members are supporting our students every year. Since 2005, the Foundation has experienced phenomenal growth in the size of our donor base, increasing 72%! These growing ranks clearly recognize the critical role that the Foundation plays in making M-A one of the best high schools in the state.



M-A GRADS GOING PLACES



The Class of 2010 had a lot to celebrate at their graduation on June 3, 2010. Among their ranks, they count 5 National Merit Scholars, 10 National Merit Finalists, 2 National Merit Hispanic Recognition Scholars, a National Achievement Scholar, 5 Presidential Scholar candidates, and dozens of AP Scholars. Top athletes will continue to play sports at their respective colleges, including a number at the Division I level. They are moving on to all parts of the country, to attend colleges and

universities, public and private, and to pursue a variety of educational and vocational options.

Over 96% of students are continuing their education this year. The University of California continues to be a popular choice, with 46 students attending one of the UC's. An additional 26 students will be attending one of the California State universities, and 113 will be attending a 2-year college.

Over a quarter of students (88) will be attending out of state 4-year colleges, and a tenth (33) will be attending California private colleges, including 6 at Stanford. Students are heading to 5 different Ivy Leagues (Brown, Cornell, Dartmouth, Princeton and Yale) as well as a variety of colleges and universities in many states.

For 17 years, the Foundation for the Future has helped provide an exceptional high school experience that prepares M-A students for the world beyond.

BACK TO SCHOOL FOR M-A TEACHERS

For the third straight year, the Foundation made a grant of \$100,000 to fund M-A's innovative and Kent Award-winning Professional Development Program. The program has two prongs—the first provides teachers time to work on collaboration projects, and the second gives teachers small grants for self-selected advancement such as workshops, conferences or classes. Over the three years, 129 collaboration proposals and 175 individual growth opportunities have been funded.

This summer, an exciting third prong was added to the Program with the addition of "Faculty Week," which brought our teachers back to school as the students departed. From June 8 to 10, teachers met to share common practices and strengthen curriculum across the spectrum, from revising the Algebra I pacing calendar and developing lectures and assignments for the new Pre-Calculus textbook, to developing a matrix for Foreign Language and strengthening the AS English curriculum framework.

"The single most important determinant of what students learn is what their teachers know," says noted Stanford University professor, Linda Darling Hammond. To that end, the Foundation continues to invest in our teachers' learning, helping M-A to attract and retain outstanding faculty.



IT'S A GREAT DAY @ **M-A!**



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Matthew Zito greets the crowd at the Freshman Parent Coffee.

Just as our graduating seniors tossed their caps in the air to celebrate their completion of high school, it was time to welcome our incoming freshmen and families to the Menlo-Atherton community. Four years goes by quickly, and at graduation, I am struck by the transition our students make from underclassmen to young adults. It is a testament to our faculty, staff, students, and families that 96% of the Class of 2010 is continuing their education.

Each class plays an important role at M-A, and I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight our freshmen experience. While the transition to high school is a substantial one and can appear daunting, the reality of high school is much less tumultuous than it's made out to be. To help with the adjustment, our Foundation sponsored two spring events to welcome incoming freshmen parents—and plans yet another, a Freshman Parent Coffee (see announcement below) for the morning of Freshman Orientation on August 16th. Our freshmen class has been generous in return. Last year's freshmen, the Class of 2013, met a participation challenge, with the number of freshmen families donating to the Foundation increasing 42% over the prior year.

It's not just freshmen families, but sophomore, junior and senior families, as well, that are needed to help us meet the financial challenges ahead. While the budget crisis in Sacramento continues to impact California

public schools statewide, and while charitable giving nationwide fell about 5% last year, we are fortunate that donations to the Foundation have remained steady. Indeed, the Foundation has measured great growth in total donations in the past five years, despite the economic downturn, which is a testament to the strong support that we receive from our community.

The needs of the school are as great as ever. The Foundation has committed to again raise over \$1 million, funds necessary for M-A to remain one of the best high schools in California. At almost 6% of our annual budget, the Foundation funds provide flexibility and continuity for critical programs. The school counts on the support of every family that can—veterans and newcomers alike—to help ensure an exceptional education for every student at M-A.

Respectfully,

Matthew Zito

“M-A ON eBAY” BREAKS RECORD!

When the gavel fell to close the Foundation's third annual online auction in April, lucky bidders had won nearly 140 items, including vacation homes, parties, sports events, and more. But the big winner was M-A. Exceeding expectations, the auction raised approximately \$110,000, some \$20,000 more than last year's auction! Proceeds from the auction, like all donations to the Foundation, go directly to support educational programs at M-A. Don't miss out on your chance to win a trip or dinner with Mr. Zito. Watch for M-A on eBay next year!

ATTENTION ALL INCOMING FRESHMAN FAMILIES!

FRESHMAN PARENT COFFEE

Please join us for a parent coffee on the morning of Freshman Orientation

MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER CAFÉ

Drop your freshman off and join us for a cup of coffee and pastries. Meet M-A Principal Matthew Zito and learn more about M-A!

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For more information:

Cindy Folker, Executive Director
Email: cfolker@seq.org
Tel: (650) 322-5311 x 5206

www.mafoundation.org

The Foundation for the Future at Menlo-Atherton High School thanks our talented photographers: M-A teacher, Betsy Snow, and Foundation board member, Bruce Deal.

Design by ApinUnoCreative.

FOUNDATION RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING TEACHERS & STAFF

Every year for the last sixteen years, the Foundation for the Future has recognized those teachers who have demonstrated excellence in the classroom. In 2003, an award for Classified Staff was introduced. The recipients are nominated by fellow colleagues and reviewed by a committee made up of administration, certificated and classified staff and Foundation. Additionally, every month we recognize teachers and staff who have a measurable positive impact on campus with Impact Awards. Finally, every year all new teachers receive a Foundation grant at the beginning of the school year to help defray the costs of classroom supplies.



Foundation Teaching & Classified Staff Award Recipients: (L to R) Kristen Trent, Rachel Andres, Patrick Maier, Keith Perkins.

TEACHING AWARDS

Rachel Andres teaches the full range of math students at M-A, from our CAHSE students who need help to pass the exit exam to accelerated students in Geometry 9. And she is loved by them all. In addition to teaching math, Rachel took on the huge responsibility this year of coordinating the AVID program, whose mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing students “in the middle” for college readiness and success. Rachel is committed to the program, and spends many hours outside school ensuring that her AVID students are on track.

Patrick Maier began his career at M-A as an English, then Academy teacher; Patrick is now M-A’s own Music Man, teaching the school’s choral and guitar classes. On many Fridays, his guitar students can be heard on the front patio during lunch, and “jamming” after school with staff. Under his expert direction, students performed the finale at the Center’s opening, and opened the graduation ceremony with a beautiful rendition of the national anthem. A previous Foundation Impact Award winner and a Sequoia Union Board of Trustee’s Innovative Teacher for 2010, Patrick deserves our hearty congratulations!

Kristen Trent is a stand-out math teacher at every level—geometry, algebra II, pre-calculus and CAHSEE—Kristin balances high expectations with a sense of humor. Her school day begins well before and ends well after the bell, as she makes herself available daily to students for outside help. In addition to her outstanding teaching, Kristen has served on the school site committee for three years, as well as volunteered for the Academic Integrity, Silent Sustained Reading, and Bell Schedule committees. Quite simply, M-A is made all the better by her enthusiastic and exceptional service.

CLASSIFIED STAFF AWARD

Keith Perkins is a well-known and beloved figure on the M-A campus. For 29 years, he has been helping teachers, parents and students with whatever needs doing on campus, setting up or taking down the myriad and often overlapping events. Whether it is setting up the band shell in the Performing Arts Center; opening the pool early mornings for summer Junior Olympics, or delivering tables too heavy to budge for Senior Farewell or the Fashion Show, Keith can be counted on to keep M-A up and running, always with a smile. Thank you, Keith!



Impact Award Recipients: Back row, (L to R) Jennifer Payne, Kristen Trent, Rachel Andres, Ana Ventura, Linda Ryne. Front row, (L to R) Judy Duran, Jeff Chin-Sell, Naomie Wade, Lara Sandora, Kristen Budde, Paul Snow, Keith Perkins

Not pictured: Lilli Baker, Michele Breen, Tim Bowler, Jacinata Fakahau, Rick Longyear, Angie Sotiras, Natalie Stuart, Susan Tadday