## Monday Montessorí Moments



Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## MANGE

March 13<sup>th</sup> History Fair

March 15<sup>th</sup> Love and Logic, 6 to 8 For Dads

March 17<sup>th</sup> Half Day, PD

March 20<sup>th</sup> No School, PD

March 21st Box Tops Store

March 22<sup>nd</sup> Love and Logic, 6 to 8 For Dads

March 25<sup>th</sup> 2017 Gala, 6pm Timbermine Restuarant

March 27<sup>th</sup>
SAGE Testing Begins

March 29<sup>th</sup> Love and Logic, 6 to 8 For Dads



April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> No School, Spring Break

April 18<sup>th</sup>
Box Tops Store

## A Message from MMA's Director, Ms. Stephanie

This past month was filled with numerous opportunities in which students had the chance to demonstrate rigor and commitment to their education. From student led conferences, Science Fair, and the Spelling Bee, all students from MMA excelled and exemplified rigor. I thought a great deal about this during the month because the call to increase rigor in schools increases daily. For more than 20 years, reports have described the lack of rigor in our schools. Since the release of A Nation At Risk (National Commission on Excellence in Education, 1983) the debate about the quality of America's schools has grown exponentially.

The first step toward increasing the rigor in our schools is to build a common understanding of rigor. While there are many definitions of rigor, there is no agreement on what it means. True rigor is creating an environment in which each student is expected to learn at high levels, each student is supported so he or she can learn at high levels, and each student demonstrates learning at high levels (Blackburn, 2008). Only when a school creates a culture of high expectations and provides support so students can truly demonstrate understanding do we have a rigorous classroom.

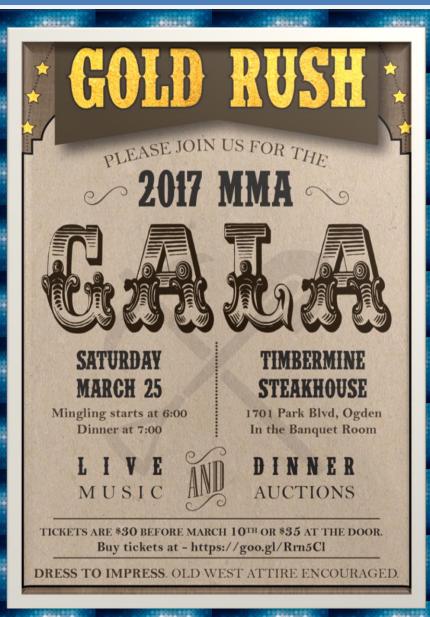
Rigor in the classroom is coupled with conversations on the state level as well. One of the ways that the state of Utah is looking to build rigor and solid content mastery is through the SAGE (Student Assessment of Growth and Excellence). Please take the time to review details about the SAGE and how it will affect your children. The following link <a href="http://www.schools.utah.gov/assessment/SAGE/FamilyBrochure.aspx">http://www.schools.utah.gov/assessment/SAGE/FamilyBrochure.aspx</a> contains key information. You can also take a practice/training test at <a href="www.sageportal.org">www.sageportal.org</a>. It will be helpful for you to gauge the wording and rigor of the questions to support your child throughout the testing window.

I would like to formally thank Ms. Paula for her leadership in planning and executing the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual MMA Science Fair. It truly is a capstone experience for many of our students and provides a springboard for numerous life-long educational skills. A big thank you to Ms. Kacee for overseeing our annual Literacy Week activities too!

Enormous amounts of gratitude also go out to the MAPA Teacher Appreciation Committee, whose hard work helped feed the entire staff during Parent Teacher conferences. They provided nutritious meals and satisfying deserts to give us the brainpower to ensure the success of conferences. Thank you to Mandee Stephens and the Book Fair Committee for another dynamic and fruitful Book Fair as well.

This month I look forward to seeing many, if not all, of our families at our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual MAPA Gala. The Gala is a wonderful way to spend an evening mingling with friends, make new connections, and help financially support the school with a variety of initiatives for the 2017-18 school year. Get your biding paddles ready! Ticket purchasing information is this newsletter or on your teacher's blogs.

Sincerely, Ms. Stephanie



## WE NEED YOU!

We are in desperate need of a crossing guard each morning, from 8:10 -8:40. This is a great way to earn your Required Volunteer Hours! Please contact Autumn Douglas at mrsrouglah@yahoo.com



