



Douglas MacArthur High School

North East Independent School District

2923 MacArthur View, San Antonio, Texas 78217
(210) 356-7600 Fax (210) 650-1195

November 30, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

WELCOME BACK! – I hope that you all had a great Thanksgiving holiday. I usually do some traveling, but the current situation made that unfeasible. It is amazing how quickly a week passes. What matters most is the time that I spent with my family, albeit at a smaller scale. The investment of time is so critical and has long lasting impact that often makes the difference in the lives of our families. We can replace just about anything we give our families, except for the time that we spend with them. Now that I have had some time with my personal family, I look forward to the time that I will spend with my MAC family. Please remember that the first semester will end on December 18th, which is only 15 days. We will have semester exams before the break, so it is very important that your child be participating in school every day. This will give our kids a chance to test while the information is fresh, and they have the best opportunity for success. I look forward to a great rest of the semester, but it will only happen if we work together.

Changes - Since students and employees began returning to school, we have been able to put many safety processes into place. These measures have proven to successfully mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within NEISD. As with any new situation, it is necessary to occasionally evaluate these processes and look for areas which may be improved. The communication, cooperation, and support from employees, parents, guardians, and the community has been so helpful in allowing us to respond to different COVID-19 situations appropriately.

Face coverings help reduce the spread of COVID-19 by reducing droplets **if the face covering is worn securely over the nose and mouth.** According to the CDC, cloth face coverings offer some protection to you and are also meant to protect those around you, in case you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and don't have any symptoms. Certain types of face coverings are more effective than others. **Beginning November 30, 2020, masks with valves will not be permitted for students or employees. Gaiters and bandanas will only be permitted for outdoor use.** We will have extra masks for those that do not have them. Below are some diagrams that outline the safe use of face coverings. Remember that we are all in this together, and we are only successful if we all follow the necessary precautions. Go Brahmas!



Is your friend or neighbor not receiving updates from NEISD or MacArthur?

If you know of any MacArthur family that is not receiving updates from our school or NEISD please share these directions below with them.

Stay connected with NEISD via text, phone, and email

www.neisd.net

If you have unknowingly 'blocked' messages in your Skyward account, click here to find out how you can unblock your number

Here is all the news for the week:

ANNOUNCEMENTS-

PROGRESS REPORTS - Progress Reports will be available this Friday, December 4th. The Progress Reports are available electronically through family access and student access.

If a parent does not have a family access account, they can also get the report through their child's student access account. Parents needing help can call the NEISD Help Desk.

EXAM EXEMPTIONS - Due to the COVID – 19 pandemic, attendance requirements for exam exemptions will be waived for the 2020 – 2021 school year only. The previous baseline course semester average of 80% has changed to an 85% due to attendance not being part of the semester exam exemption criteria for this school year; all other criteria still applies. The attached document contains additional detailed information on semester exam exemptions for the 2020-2021 school year.

SCHOOL CHOICE – The school choice application window for the 2021-2022 school year will open on Tuesday December 1st at 7:20 am and will close at the end of the business day on February 26th. No exceptions will be made. Students on school choice do not have to re-apply.

Students going from Middle School to High School must submit a new school choice application. The application will be available on the district website starting on December 1st.

SATURDAY SCHOOL: For students who may need to make up time due to absences, Saturday School is held at MacArthur from 8am – 12pm(noon).

Our next Saturday School will be Saturday, December 5th. To sign up, go to the MacArthur webpage Link below

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSczVhJW1cML8sSyfDawnWpRiKjJyOXWK3yHpWD18Et8rpOGdg/viewform>

Students MUST register by 4:30 pm the Friday before the date they will attend. The cost is \$8.

Students must have work to do during the 4 hours of Saturday School. Students who complete the 4 hours will earn 5 hours credit towards absences.

MAC Athletic Program - Our Brahma Booster Club is very proud and appreciative of the strong community that supports our MacArthur Brahmas and would like to share some exciting news with you!

We are thrilled to announce that we are now offering **4 Different Media Guides Featuring and Highlighting All Sports.**

The 4 Media Guides will be as followed:

1. Football, Cheer, and Dance (Fall Release)
2. Volleyball, Tennis, Cross Country (Fall Release)
3. Girls/Boys Basketball, Swim/Dive Team, Wrestling (Winter Release)
4. Baseball, Softball, Track & Field, Soccer, Golf (Spring Release)

You may now purchase an Ad and be featured in our Winter and Spring Programs. This is a great way to promote your business, wish your student a great year, share how proud you are of their hard work and accomplishments or feature best friends. We invite you to be part of these keepsake programs and honor your child involved in athletics, cheer, dance, band, academic teams, clubs, or special groups. For complete information, please see the attached flyer.

BAND FUNDRAISER – Our awesome Brahma Band is holding a fundraiser. They are selling some very durable clear backpacks. These backpacks will hold up to a lot of wear and tear. Our band boosters have a limited number of backpacks in blue and black available for immediate delivery. However, there are more color options available through the supplier. You can see all of the options at the following link:

shop.thesmartyco.com/band

The fundraiser will only run from November 30th through January 8th. For more information, please see the attached flyer. Go Brahma Band!!

NHS INDUCTION – Due to the COVID shutdown in the Spring, we were unable to hold an NHS induction. However, on Tuesday November 17th, we had a virtual induction for the students who would have been inducted in the Spring of 2020. Congratulations to our inductees. For those who would like to watch the presentation, you can access it at this link:

<https://youtu.be/e2qn7ejvTaM>

Bo Brahma NHS!!

SCHOOL NUTRITION –

2020-2021 FREE/REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS – Breakfast and Lunch are currently free for students this year. However, you should fill out the Free and Reduced Lunch Application if you qualify. Applications are available online. To apply go to the following link: www.schoolcafe.com/NorthEastISD

If you need assistance, Child Nutrition contact number for assistance: 210-356-9113

You may also Email for assistance: mealapplication@neisd.net

STUDENT PICTURES – School pictures were available for ALL MacArthur HS Underclassmen (9th-11th grade) including On-Campus and Distance Learning. When Lifetouch sent out the parent alert email it had instructions on how to order. However, for your reference, Parents can log in to www.mylifetouch.com to order pictures. The event number is: EVTFZXZZ7.

SENIORS - Seniors that have not had their senior portraits taken yet, should book an appointment at the Prestige Portraits Studios NOW.

Click on the following link to make an appointment:

https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/170x50rs/10?location_id=657&e_id=2744

The deadline for seniors to be photographed and included in the 2021 yearbook is Dec. 12, 2020.

ATTENDANCE QUESTIONS: I have received several emails asking why parents get an absence call when their child is doing the asynchronous work. If your child is only doing asynchronous work and not the Zoom meetings, then the teacher has to mark them absent during the day because they are not there during the scheduled class time. If they do the work before the next day, then the teacher sees it and changes the attendance to show they attended asynchronous. The district has an automatic system that sends out the phone message to parents for the absence that was entered for the ZOOM session during the scheduled class time. We have no control over that as it is sent automatically. However, as long as they are logging in and getting the assignments done before midnight each day, are marked as present the next day or as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS -

As we continue to return students to our campus, it is essential that we remind parents and students of important expectations. Below are important expectations that you should review especially if you are returning to campus this week.

RETURN TO SCHOOL:

School begins promptly at 10:00 am. Starting at 9:50 am, students will report to their assigned classes. Administrators and faculty will be posted around campus to direct students to their classes. Students will attend their classes as scheduled.

Students who arrive before 10 am will be required to wait in designated areas until 9:50 am, unless they are at a practice for one of the extra-curriculars.

ARRIVAL and TRANSPORTATION:

As much as possible, we highly recommend that parents transport their children to and from school as they return during Phase In. Students should arrive no earlier than between 8:30 and 9:00 am.

If your child needs to ride a bus to and from school, you can check the bus number and pick up times at the following link:

<http://www.infofinderi.com/ifi/?cid=NEI05464638120>

Buses will begin arriving at MacArthur starting at about 9:15 am. Students will be directed to the cafeteria or designated areas until 9:50 am.

Classes will end at 3:25 pm. If you are transporting your child, you may pick them up at the front of the school after 3:25 pm. Buses will arrive between 4:15 and 4:30 pm. Students who must wait for a bus will wait in designated areas until buses arrive unless they are participating in an extra-curricular practice. Students will have the opportunity to engage in Blended learning online from 3:30 to 4:30 pm.

STUDENT DROP-OFF – Please do not drop off or pick up your child on the street. This creates traffic issues, and it is not safe. The same is true at pick up time. In the past I have even seen parents picking up kids in the middle of the street. This is VERY dangerous, and you can be ticketed. Please keep your child's safety in mind. The few minutes you believe you save can never compensate if something bad happens. Thank you.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING:

The front circle is open for drop-off only in the morning. It will be locked at 9:30 am and is not re-opened until approximately 4:40 pm. There are Student Parking Tags available. All parking tags are sold on a first come first served basis. The cost for a parking tag is \$30. Students must have a visible parking tag in order to park on campus. This is in effect on the first day of school. Student vehicles without tags will be ticketed and can possibly be towed. If your child does not have a parking permit, please remind them that they may not park on campus.

- **There is no parking allowed on the Band Practice field.** Student pick up after activities will be in the front circle area.
- **Traffic Flow - The front parking lot has a one-way entrance and exit.** It is very important that we observe the traffic flow to allow easier and safer access to and from the front lot. Failure to follow posted traffic flow can cause dangerous situations and, for students, it can result in the loss of the parking tag. The entrance is in the area closest to CVS. The exit is in the area right by the front circle. We also ask that parents picking up their students to please park in the available parking spaces to wait for and pick up your child. I have attached an arial photo of the school showing the entry and exit as well as the pickup/drop off area.

SCHOOL SAFETY:

As you know, all NEISD schools have additional security measures that were put in place last year with additional Safety measures required due to COVID 19. Below are some important considerations:

- **FACE MASKS** – Students must have a face mask, and they will be worn at all times except when eating lunch.
- **WATER BOTTLES AND SANITIZERS** – Students should bring a water bottle with them. Water fountains are available only to refill water bottles.

Every classroom will have approved hand sanitizers. Students may bring a small personal bottle of hand sanitizer, but it may not be shared with anyone.

- **HALLWAYS** – All Hallways and Stairwells are 2 ways. **However, for safety, all students should walk on the right side of the hallway at all times.**
- **ELECTRONIC DEVICES** – While students will be in face to face instruction, **all students should bring their electronic devices, power cords and earbuds/headphones, so that can work as needed during their classes.**
- **BREAKFAST AND LUNCH** – Thanks to available federal support, Breakfast and Lunch are free of charge. The only charge will be for A La Carte items, and if a student gets a second tray. Students can bring a lunch from home.
Due to COVID restrictions, we cannot accept food deliveries and we cannot let students out to get food from you. That may change as we move forward with the transitions, but we MUST adhere to this expectation. In addition, MacArthur is a closed campus, and students may not leave campus for lunch.
- **CLEAR BACKPACKS** - All students must have a clear backpack. This applies to any bag the student may use to carry their books and/or school items such as messenger bags, briefcases, etc. It does not apply to small purses, gym bags, band cases, dance/cheer equipment bags. **Remember, Clear Backpack or No Backpack!**
- **CAMPUS ACCESS** - All exterior doors will remain locked. The gate at the bus circle going into the courtyard, and the gates at the front circle will be closed at 10:00 am. Anyone arriving after 10:00 am will have to buzz in for entrance.
- **STUDENT ID'S** – Students should have their student ID with them. We will try to provide ID's during the first week for freshmen and those who do not have an ID.

DRESS CODE – As always, dress code is in effect the first day of school. We need your help in ensuring that your children are properly dressed for school.

- Girl's skirts, dresses, and shorts must be of an appropriate length.
- Boys must wear their pants at their waist and should have a belt to secure their pants.
- No halter-tops, bare midriffs, or muscle shirts allowed.
- No translucent or see through clothing.
- No hats of any type for boys or girls.
 - **Students should not bring hats or caps to school because they will not be allowed to wear them at any time.**
 - This includes hanging them on their belts, backpacks or anywhere else. They are subject to confiscation.
- Hair should be a neatly groomed and not distracting.
- No piercings anywhere other than the ears. Students will be required to remove any facial or other visible piercings and they are subject to confiscation.
- Please help us with this issue. Remember that students who are out of dress code are subject to disciplinary measures.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR:

TOBACCO/VAPE PRODUCTS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY – The following is directly from the NEISD Student Code of Conduct, which can be found at:

<https://www.neisd.net/cms/lib/TX02215002/Centricity/Domain/205/2019-2020%20District%20Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf>

North East ISD prohibits the following in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 38.006 and Texas Health and Safety Code Section 161.081:

1. Any adult and/or student from smoking cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco products, **electronic, vapor, smokeless or any other substitute form of cigarettes, tobacco or tobacco-like products**, as well as the use of any devices which are used for the purpose of ingesting or transmitting any type of tobacco or tobacco-like products at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property.
2. Students from possessing or using cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco products, electronic, vapor, smokeless or any other substitute form of cigarettes, tobacco or tobacco-like products, as well as the use of any devices which are used for the purpose of ingesting or transmitting any type of tobacco, or tobacco-like products at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property.

North East ISD will ensure that school personnel will enforce the tobacco/vapor rules. State law prohibits the possession, purchase, consumption or acceptance of an electronic cigarette, cigarette or tobacco product by an individual who is younger than 18 years of age. An offense under state law is punishable by a fine. Additionally, **students will face disciplinary consequences which could include a DAEP placement or an expulsion for a THC or CBD related violation.**

Vaping has become epidemic with our teens. It is something we address on almost a daily basis. In addition to our concern over the health risks this behavior poses, we have seen a number of students expelled for the possession or use of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol, the principal psychoactive ingredient in marijuana). **We want to reiterate that possession or use of THC on campus will result in a recommendation for disciplinary placement up to and including expulsion for students who are found to be vaping THC or have THC in their possession. This strong stand is imperative not only to remain compliant with state law and the North East ISD Student Code of Conduct, but also to help to deter a behavior that is endangering our students.**

Regardless of personal opinions on this issue, possession and use of e-cigarettes/vaping devices remains illegal under state law for persons under 18. All devices, oils, and other paraphernalia are explicitly prohibited by the North East ISD Student Code of Conduct for students of all ages. Confiscated devices, cartridges and oils will be subject to immediate on-campus chemical testing. Students who are in possession of any item which tests positively for THC will be recommended for DAEP placement or expulsion as such possession is a state jail felony. Note that possessing or being under the influence of any controlled substance as detailed above can also result in separate criminal penalties as determined by law enforcement.

For the safety and wellbeing of our children, please help us to reinforce the serious safety and disciplinary consequences, which can result from vaping. You can access <https://www.neisd.net/escapethevape> for additional resources, which may help you to initiate this conversation with your child. Thank you for your continued collaboration as we strive to ensure the safest possible educational environment for all students.

BULLYING, THREATS, HARRASSMENT:

Any threat to engage in any type of violent act against another student, a staff member, or the school itself, will not be tolerated. This includes any threat made via social media. Consequences will include disciplinary action and could result in criminal prosecution. Additional information regarding threats is detailed on page 36 of the Student/Parent Handbook, which can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.neisd.net/cms/lib/TX02215002/Centricity/Domain/205/2020-2021%20ENGLISH%20Secondary%20Handbook.pdf>

The Student Code of Conduct can be found at the following link:

<https://www.neisd.net/cms/lib/TX02215002/Centricity/Domain/205/2020-21%20English%20SCOC.pdf>

Students, parents, and guardians should immediately report any information concerning any apparent threat to student or staff safety to campus administration. Information may also be provided to the North East Police Department at 407-0911 or via NEISD's anonymous 24-hour tip line at 655-CARE (655-2273).

ATTENDANCE:

Student attendance will continue to be based on their being in school and in class on a daily basis.

- Students who are out can still retain their attendance by logging in to the Google classroom and completing the assignment for the day before 12 midnight.
- If you are picking your child up early for an appointment or any other reason, they must be signed out at the attendance office. They will be called to the front office. Thank you for your cooperation.

IMMUNIZATIONS:

Student immunizations must be current, or the student will not be allowed to attend classes. Immunizations will be checked for all students.

URGENT NOTICE! – Whenever we receive returned mail, we are required to get a new verification of residency. As we begin the new school year, please be aware that any student for whom we have received returned mail will not be allowed to attend school until we have a new verification of enrollment. In addition, any student attending MacArthur on a Power of Attorney (POA) or a Living With must have renewed the POA or Living With before the start of school. If your child (ren) fall within any of these categories, you will be contacted to provide the necessary documentation or pick up your child until the necessary documentation can be provided. We want your child (ren) in school, but these are legal requirements that must be fulfilled.

UPDATE EMAILS - Many of you do not have a current or correct email address in our system. You are missing out on important communication. Please make sure you take time to go into your Family Access account to update or ensure that you have a correct email entered so that we can adequately communicate with you. The sooner you do this, the better.

MAC FOOD PANTRY - The food pantry has been on campus for 4 years. The MacTEACH food pantry, or the MacTEACH Mini-Mall, came about because of the program's fundamental belief that all students matter, and the emotional and social wellbeing of each student must never be ignored. This belief was tested as they learned that many students throughout the district, including

MacArthur, come to school hungry each day, a health issue having too many unfortunate consequences. Collectively, they felt compelled to do something about it. With the support of Cristina Esparza, the school's STAN Counselor, the MacTEACH students learned what provisions were most needed for the students having to deal with hunger issues. Before we knew it, all kinds of food items were arriving, including new and gently used clothing, toiletries, and school supplies. The food donation drive came about because we had several requests for food and we literally had nothing to give. Mrs. Jaramillo and I were brainstormed ideas and thought about our athletes. We approached Coach Hirst with the possibility of asking for food donations from his athletes, he was very supportive. He stated that "this was a perfect opportunity for our students to give back to the community since the community supported them with their fundraisers." Ms. Esparza and I put together a list of nonperishable items and Coach Hirst took care of the rest. It was so heartwarming to see how the students stepped up to the plate and delivered for a very worthy cause.

If someone wants to donate, how can they?

There are a couple different ways people can donate. They can drop off any nonperishable food items at the front office and let the ladies know it's for the Food Pantry. Another way to donate is to contact us and we would be happy to pick any monetary donations or nonperishable items. Our contact information is to follow: Elizabeth Jaramillo Molina, Family Specialist – ejaram@nesid.net; 210-356-7709 or Ms. Esparza, STAN counselor cespar1@neisd.net; 210-356-7934

Who does the food pantry benefit and why is it important to have this resource on campus?

The food pantry benefits the students and families at MacArthur as well as any family within our cluster that reaches out to us. We are all in this together and by joining forces we are able to reach more students and families in need. It is about helping to eliminate barriers that might prevent our students from being successful in school. It is about one family or one student at a time.

HEALTH and WELLNESS - Our North East ISD community is facing more obstacles than ever in and out of the classroom. This is always a challenge; teachers, staff, students, and parents are now navigating the unknowns of the COVID-19 pandemic. While mental health and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) have always been important to NEISD, the added pressures brought on by COVID-19 prompted the District to focus our support systems so help is more accessible to our community.

NEISD wants its employees and families to put their own mental health, and overall wellness needs first. The District's Student Leadership & Well-Being team launched a [new website](#) focused on offering adult wellness resources, from mental health hotlines to virtual fitness classes, professional counseling, and more. This one-stop webpage houses the many programs available to NEISD staff and families.

Mental health education and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) remain a priority for NEISD. To help empower and train staff and parents, the District has partnered with health centers like Laurel Ridge, Deer Oaks, Clarity Child Guidance Center and Communities in Schools.

Visit adultwellness.neisd.net to learn more about the programs and resources that are currently available.

ACTIVITIES –

BRAHMA FOOTBALL – On Saturday, November 21st, our Brahmas were back in action against Churchill. Playing with several key players out with injuries, it was a tough first half, but the Brahmas played hard as always and gave their best effort. In the second half the Brahma held the Chargers to only 1 touchdown. The Brahmas only score came off the right foot of Marshall Manriquez, who put a 30-yard field goal through the uprights. Congratulations also to Carlos Urtado who stepped up and had 29 rushing attempts for 126 yards. Also, Ryan Zuehl who had 2 receptions for 15 yards, and Blas George who had a 12-yard reception.

The day after Thanksgiving, the Brahmas traveled to Farris Stadium to take on Clark. The Brahma defense put up a good fight, holding Clark scoreless in the first quarter. The Brahmas welcomed back Jaxson Deason, who rushed for 75 yards, and Jonah Dunlap who rushed for 27 yards. The Brahmas single score came off a 16-yard pass from Jaxson Deason to Nicolas Castillo for the TD and the extra point by Marshall Manriquez.

This week the Brahmas will play Madison in our annual M&M Bowl. This year's M&M Bowl will also be a part of the Peanut Butter Bowl series. They have identified our game with Madison as the "Goal Line Push" to reach their goal of 20,000 jars of peanut butter. The peanut butter collected will be given to hungry kids in San Antonio. So far, they have collected 17,212 jars. We can help them reach their goal by donating jars of peanut butter either at the gate on Thursday or in the bin outside Coach Hirst's office. You can also donate online, \$2 per jar, at PeanutButterBowl.com. Let's help the hungry kids in San Antonio!

Through Thick and Thin: I know this has not been the best year for our Brahmas, so I felt I should share the following thought.

I am a Cowboys fan. I am also a SPURS fan. Most important I am a Brahma fan! I watched the Cowboys, cheered loudly. That has not changed. I have been to a number of SPURS games, wore my t-shirt and even wore my SPURS tie to work. I have cheered loudly for them from my home or at the AT&T Center. That has not changed. I have been at every MAC football game. I have cheered loudly all the way through the very last minute of each game. That will not change. It is easy to be a fan when things are going well. The real fan sticks with their team through thick and thin. In fact, they need us more when things are rough. They need to know that we still believe in them. They need to know that in our eyes, they are the best. I have had the pleasure of standing on the sideline and watching our kids give their all. I have seen them play with poise and determination. They have shown a perseverance and strength of character that we don't always get to see. As Heywood Broun said, "Sports do not build character, they reveal it." I believe in all of our Brahmas and our coaching staff. The Brahmas may be down from time to time, but we are never out. This week, as we play Madison, I want everyone to know that I am proud of my Brahmas, and I am equally proud of every fan that stands behind them through thick and thin. Keep going Brahmas, we believe in you. Go Brahmas! Now more than ever we need to keep our Brahma Pride alive, and remember, no matter what, we are STILL THE BRAHMAS!! Let's get those horns up and get ready to cheer on the Brahmas!

Brahma All-Stars - We would like to Congratulate **Courtland Stephens** and **Byron Elimon** for being selected to play in the San Antonio Sports All-Star Game. They both will play on Team Black. The game will be held on January 30 at 2 PM at Heroes Stadium. These two young men have represented our program with class since day one. They both are well deserving of this honor. Go Brahma Football!!

Please remember that masks are required for spectators at all time, even when seated.

Due to the limited seating you should plan to arrive early. We look forward to a great evening with our Brahmas.

I have attached a broadcast schedule of all varsity games at NEISD stadiums. Please feel free to share with relatives and community members that are unable to attend.

ESPN links-

<https://www.facebook.com/ESPNSanAntonio> <https://www.youtube.com/c/ESPNSanAntonio>

TSP- will be aired on television KCWX Channel 2.

TSP- <https://www.texasportsproductions.com/calendar/live-video-streams/>

TNL- Thursday Night Lights TV broadcast CW 35

TICKET SALES: Please see the QR code below for online football tickets. This QR code will allow you to buy tickets online for games at Blossom Athletic Center (BAC), and Heroes.

The ticket prices are still \$7 adult pre-sale \$3 student pre-sale, and everything is \$8 at the gate. Please note that all of our tickets at our stadiums are general admission this year due to the capacity and spacing issues at our stadiums.



BRAHMA BASKETBALL –

Girls’ – Our Lady Brahmas have been busy these past two weeks. On Tuesday the 17th, they traveled to East Central. Our Brahmas came out shooting and never looked back. After 4 quarters, they walked away with a 48 to 29 win. On Friday November 20th, they traveled to Harlan to take on the Hawks. Our Brahmas put up a good fight against Harlan but came up short at the final buzzer. On Tuesday, the 24th, the Brahmas traveled to Edison to take on the Golden Bears. It was a tough battle, but our Brahmas prevailed, taking a 44 to 38 win. On Saturday they were back at MAC in a match against Incarnate Word. The Brahmas dominated the first half, but Incarnate Word adjusted and pulled away with the win.

This Tuesday they will open district play at 8 pm against Brandeis at Paul Taylor Field House. On Friday, they will be back at MAC to face off with Johnson at 7:30 pm. Let’s get out and support our Lady Brahmas as they start their district run! Go Lady Brahma Basketball!

Boys’ – On Tuesday the 17th, our Brahmas traveled to New Braunfels to take on the Unicorns. It was a tough game from start to finish, but the Brahmas put up great offense and defense. A late surge by the Unicorns gave our Brahmas a 4-point loss. On Friday, the 20th our Brahmas were back at MAC to go up against Memorial. The Brahmas took an early lead and kept Memorial at bay. At the final buzzer, our Brahmas took the 76 to 38 victory. On Saturday, the 21st, our Brahmas were back at BAC going up against John Jay. This was a tough battle from start to finish. Our Brahmas had the lead at the half, but a late surge by Jay ended in a 1-point loss for MAC. On Tuesday, the 24th, they traveled to Northside to go head to head with

Marshall. The Rams took a lead in the first quarter, but the Brahmas lit it up in the second quarter and never looked back. At the final buzzer, our Brahmas took the 52 to 41 win over Marshall.

Next up the Brahmas will be at BAC on Wednesday at 8 pm to take on Warren. Then on Friday they will travel to Wagner to take on the Thunderbirds at 8 pm. Come on out and cheer on our Brahmas as they continue their pre-district run! Go Brahma Basketball!

MACARTHUR BASEBALL 2020-2021 - Planning on Trying Out for BASEBALL?

Anyone planning on **OR** interested in trying out for Baseball for the upcoming season, please fill out this [GOOGLE FORM LINK](#). Completion of the form will provide our Baseball Coaches with the proper information to send you a **ZOOM LINK** for a scheduled ZOOM MEETING where information regarding all the particulars leading up to tryouts and the upcoming season will be covered. **The meeting will be scheduled for Monday December 7th at 7:00 pm.** Please have the form filled out prior to that date/time to provide adequate time for our coaches to email you the ZOOM LINK.

If you have any questions contact Head Baseball Coach Tom Alfieri at talfie@neisd.net. You can also contact Coach Nathan Braun at nbraun@neisd.net or Coach Matt Wilson at mwilso13@neisd.net. Go Brahma Baseball!!

MAC ORCESTRA – The week of the 9th, several MacArthur Orchestra Students auditioned and were chosen for the TMEA Region 12 Philharmonic Orchestra. Congratulations to the following Brahmas:

Violins

Lily Corby Anissa Avina Carl Donoughue Isabel Holland Erik Aviles
Maria Holland

First Chair Bass

Sebastian Mendoza

These students join the following Brahma TMEA Region 12 Symphony students:

Hannah Kim Valeria Tuesta Emily Rivera Caleb Aguiar Ruben Rueda Claudia Banda
Jonathan Villegas Matthew Hsu Stella Marti Marisol Gonzalez Katherine Beebe
Barrett Brown Evan Martin

Amidst challenging situations, these students continue to excel in their music. Congratulations to all our awesome Brahmas!! Go Brahma Orchestra!!

MAC BAND - Though it has been a strange year with zoom lessons, virtual auditions, and recordings, we are pleased to announce that 16 students from the MacArthur Band Program will be advancing to the 2020 TMEA Region 12 Band! Students submitted recordings on their three pieces of music to be judged against the top students in NEISD, Comal, San Marcos, and New Braunfels. These students will record and submit again at the beginning of December for an opportunity to advance to the "Area" band. Please join me in congratulating the following students:

Alex Lemire, 12 – Piccolo
Claressa Castro, 9 – Flute

Doryann Mueller, 11 - Flute *Ranked #1 in this round
Zane Lajjas, 11 - Oboe

Marco Balatbat, 12 - Bb Clarinet Diego Fernando, 12 - Bb Clarinet
Keytt Reynoso Hidrogo, 9 - Alto Sax Sergio Tapia, 12 - Bari Sax
Jbyr Reynoso Hidrogo, 11 – Trumpet James Stephenson, 11 - Trumpet
Michelle Lopez, 11 – Trumpet Stephen Shook, 11 - Horn
Paige Gaston, 11 – Horn James Garcia Gallegos, 11 - Trombone
Weldon Reagor, 10 - Bass Trombone *Ranked #1 in this round!
Christopher Moa, 12 - Euphonium

Congratulations to the following students as well for their selection to the "District" band. These students were just underneath of the Region designation, but they will receive a patch and be recognized for their accomplishments.

Ariana Gonzales, 10 – Piccolo Sterling Sparks, 10 – Flute Joshua Wall, 9 - Bb Clarinet
Marshall Apopot, 12 - Alto Sax Simon Whitus, 12 – Trumpet Jay Hidrogo, 11 - Trumpet
Blake Leavitt, 10 – Horn Cade McBride, 9 – Trombone
Ramon Chapa, 10 - Bass Trombone Brooke Veltman, 12 – Percussion
Dylan Lair, 10 – Percussion
Go Brahma Band!!

MAC JROTC – Th week of November 9th, our Brahma Battalion had a good week of competitions.

Thursday 12 NOV - CyberPatriot All Service Division

Jack Sledge, Gus Roberts, Charles and Vitor Padilla

Final Round 1 Score (Perfect 300 points in 5 hours and 16 minutes)

6th place out of 745 teams nationwide!!

Friday 13 NOV - Air Rifle competition portion of Reagan Skills Meet

Vyolette Martinez - 4th place Noelle Collier – 5th place William Allen – 7th place

Emma Radlet – 15th place Overall Team – 2nd place

Saturday 14 NOV - CyberPatriot Open Division

Reilee Gaumond, Andrew Lockett, Johnathan Flores, Caleb Funes and Luke Dekan

Final Round 1 Score 244 out of 300 in 5 hours and 54 minutes)

732nd place out of 1702 teams nationwide

Saturday 14 NOV - Physical Fitness and Drill Competition portion of Reagan Skills Meet

Still awaiting full results for PT portion but our team did not place in the top 3

Drill. We did not compete in unarmed. Two of critical armed team members were not able to attend. Kudos to Jack Sledge. He filled in last minute for color guard learning the routine in just one practice session on Friday morning.

Armed Inspection – 11th place

Armed Regulation – 12th place

Armed Color Guard – 4th place

Armed Exhibition – did not compete

Armed Overall – 10th place

Congratulations to all of our awesome cadets! Go Brahma Battalion!!

MU ALPHA THETA (Math Honor Society) – MAT Math Honor Society is about inspiring keen interest in mathematics, developing strong scholarship in the subject, and promoting the enjoyment of math.

Meetings are 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (school days only). We will meet via Zoom at 9:20 AM. If you are on campus, you can come to room S105 for the meeting. Upcoming meeting dates are Dec 8 and Jan 12.

We will have some upcoming math contests that we will complete during some of our future meetings.

Requirements to be a member:

***Completed** 2 years of college preparatory mathematics (including Algebra and geometry)

***Currently** enrolled or has completed a 3rd or more advanced math course

*Done so with distinction, at least a 3.0 grade point average on a 4 point grading scale (**an 80 average or above**)

*Dues will be \$15 (one time for all of high school career)

***Have you only completed one year of algebra or its equivalent with distinction but still want to be a part of this great opportunity? That's okay! You can be an associate member of Mu Alpha Theta and can participate in all math contests.

Join our Google Classroom for Zoom link and other Mu Alpha Theta information. Code: coey7yj
Join our Remind for meeting updates and group information. Text @macmat to 81010. If you have any question or are interested, login to a future meeting. Everyone is welcome. Hope to see you there. Go Brahma MAT!!

2020-2021 MACARTHUR HIGH SCHOOL FISHING CLUB - Our mission is to share the passion of fishing and the outdoors with students at MacArthur. We have a strong desire to promote conservation so that people will be able to enjoy the sport of fishing for years to come. Throughout the year we will meet on campus to discuss all aspects of fishing from tackle and techniques and everything from freshwater to saltwater.

Fall 2020 Fishing Club Meetings: Every other Thursday; 9:15-9:45 am in Room D253

Oct. 22nd, Nov. 5th, Nov. 19th, Dec. 3rd, Dec. 17th.



DEPARTMENTS-

FROM OUR MAC LIBRARY –

Library Services Moving Forward:

- **Library Book Check Out:** We are currently offering an Online Hold and In-Person Pick-up System for **on campus** students to check out library books.
 - Students can place up to 5 books on hold.
 - **Students must pick up their own books and have their student ID card to check out books.**
 - Book Pick-up will be available in the library from 9:00-9:50 AM
 - Online holds must be made by 3:00 PM to be eligible for pick up the following morning. Monday pickups must be placed on hold by 3:00 PM on the previous Friday
 - Holds that are not picked up will expire in 2 days.
 - All returned items will remain in quarantine for 5 days prior to being available for checkout
 - Please see the attached instructions for how students can start placing books on hold. We also have an instructional video: https://youtu.be/qMKLEOj_zLs
- **Maker Monday:** The library will offer free makerspace activity kits for students on Monday mornings. They will be available for pick up in the library while supplies last. Each kit contains a QR code where students can submit a picture of their finished creations for a prize drawing!
- **Library Open Before/After School:** Due to our current safety guidelines and social distancing, student entrance to the library will be very structured and focus on academic needs
 - The library will be open before school 9:00-9:50 AM and after school 3:25-4:00 PM
 - Before school, students will enter and exit the library using the Library Courtyard doors. After school, students can enter through our main library doors nearest the A-wing.
 - Students will be allowed entrance for one of three purposes:
 - Pick up library books (our Online Hold and Pickup System will still be in place until it is safe to allow students to browse the library shelves)
 - Work on homework on a computer (computer stations are assigned for contact tracing purposes)
 - Work at a table with no more than two seated at table (tables are assigned for contact tracing purposes)

Library Promotions:

- **Mustache Book Review Promotion (Last chance to participate!):** November is Men's Health Month. To celebrate "No Shave November", students can [choose a book from our virtual mustached book display and submit a book review](#) by the end of the month to be entered into a drawing for prizes.
- **Holiday Reading Wish List Promotion:** You've been good this year, so tell us what books you would like to add to our library collection in our [Holiday Reading Wish List Promotion](#). Simply fill out the online form to make as many recommendations as you like. We can't guarantee that we will be able to accommodate every request, but we'll do

our best to include as many as possible into our next book order. All recommendations should be made by December 11th.

Library Updates and Reminders:

- **Get to Know Your Library Digital Resources:** There are a wealth of digital resources available to students through our Library Resources folder in Launchpad. See our [NEISD Electronic Resources Guide](#). The icons on the list show how students will see them in Launchpad. Each icon on the list also links to a basic tutorial as well. Explore our [Sora Reading App Learning Menu](#) to find out more about features of the Sora online reading app and see a quick start video.
- **Expand Your Sora Collection with San Antonio Public Library:** Students can connect their NEISD Sora account to the San Antonio Public Library for access to even more digital titles. [Click here to see instructions](#)
- **Online Textbook Guide:** Not sure how to access your course's online textbook? See our [Online Textbook Guide](#) to figure out how to access your online textbooks in Launchpad
- **College, Career, and Military Readiness:** Check out [Learning Express and PrepSTEP](#), a fantastic college, career, and military readiness resource that is available in the Library Resources Folder in Launchpad. Students can create their own free account to save their progress on online practice tests, career prep resources, and college and scholarship searches.
- **Library and Technology Refreshers for Students:** In this [8 Things You Always Wanted to Know About the Library but Were Afraid to Ask](#) learning menu, you can find important library and technology refreshers for digital resources, ebooks, digital note taking, MLA style, turnitin.com, [student logins, and email accounts](#).
- **Parent OverDrive Accounts:** Students already have their own OverDrive accounts, but if you would like to have your own parent account to access ebooks and audio books in OverDrive, please complete this [Online OverDrive Parent Registration Form](#). Please allow 2-3 days for the account to be built. Existing parent accounts must be renewed each year by completing the registration form.

Stay Connected: Follow us on twitter and Instagram @MacArthurLib. Visit our [Mac Library Website](#) for more great resources and information

Go Brahma Library!

MAC COUNSELORS' CORNER –

Counseling Google Classrooms: If your student has not joined the Counseling Google Classroom, please encourage them to do so! We are sharing lots of important grade-level specific information in the google classrooms!

Counseling Support Line: We have a counseling support line available students and parents can call Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm for counseling questions and concerns. The number for MacArthur is 210-356-7619.

Important Upcoming Dates:

December 8-11 - STAAR Testing

Go Brahma Counselors!

FROM OUR CCMR SPECIALIST – The following is from our College, Career, and Military Readiness Specialist, Mrs. Lisa Garcia.

- The next ASVAB Test on campus is scheduled for February 3, 2021. Registration will open in December.

Go Brahma CCMR!

COLLEGE & CAREER ADVISING –

Form: <https://forms.gle/YJFA4fv7mtNjCJdo8>

Are you the parent/guardian of a senior? Do you have questions about your student's post-high school plan? Julia Poage is the college adviser at MacArthur. She can assist with college, financial aid, and scholarship applications; career planning; connecting you with your student's military recruiter — along with answering any other questions you may have about your student's college or career plans. You can email her at jpoage@trinity.edu or set up a meeting with her using this link: <https://calendly.com/jpoage>.

FROM OUR FAMILY SPECIALIST –

For the latest from our Brahma Family Specialist, please click on the following link:

<https://www.smore.com/9vg6q-macarthur-high-school?ref=email>

HERE TO HELP!: As we consider the days that are ahead of us, we know that Covid-19 will continue to bring many challenges to all of us. Be certain that the MAC team is ready to assist you in any way we can. All you have to do is reach out to us. We want for parents and students to know that our Family Specialist, Ms. Jaramillo is available for any assistance you might need.

FROM OUR MAC CLINIC – Please remember that students must have current immunizations, even for online learning. This is a legal requirement. Please make sure that your child's immunizations are up to date.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT-

MAC ORCHESTRA BOOSTERS – Below is an invitation from our President of the MacArthur Orchestra Parents Association, Mrs. Torgerson, to our next parent zoom meeting on Monday, the 30th. I appreciate all the encouragement you are giving the orchestra students as we travel through our music learning circumstances. We hope to see you and talk to you on zoom this Monday, 6:30 p.m. Thanks so much for your support of music education. Dr. J. Garverick
From Mrs. Torgerson, President of MOPA

Hello Orchestra families!

Monday's MOPA meeting will be held via Zoom at 6:30 pm. At this the meeting, we will approve the minutes from the last meeting, hear from Dr. Garverick and/or Ms. Loveland about what the students are working on, and will also get an update from our AP sponsor, Daniel Moczygemba. After that, Tina Marti will give the treasurer's report, and let us know how we can now pay our dues online. Hope to cyber see you Monday!

Join our MOPA Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77354685606?pwd=OFBnNVp1QTRiZnlmQTVUTEtBVW5vZz09>

Meeting ID: 773 5468 5606

Passcode: MOPARocks!

If your child is a part of Mac Orchestra, you need to be a part of this great group of parents. All are welcome. Go Brahma MOPA!

MAC CHOIR BOOSTERS – If your child is in choir then you need to come out and join this great group of parents and support MAC Choir. Go Brahma Choir Boosters!

MAC BAND BOOSTERS –

Fundraiser - Our awesome Brahma Band is holding a fundraiser. They are selling some very durable clear backpacks. These backpacks will hold up to a lot of wear and tear. Our band boosters have a limited number of backpacks in blue and black available for immediate delivery. However, there are more color options available through the supplier. You can see all of the options at the following link:

shop.thesmartyco.com/band

The fundraiser will only run from November 30th through January 8th. For more information, please see the attached flyer.

Join the Band Boosters - If your child is a member of our awesome Brahma Band, then you need to come out and be a part of these awesome parents.

Please remember, for the latest updates and information as well as current news, information, and schedules, join us on Facebook (Mac Band Parents), Twitter (@MacBandParents), and Instagram (@MacBandParents), or log in to your Charms account. Go Brahma Band Boosters!

MAC ATHLETIC BOOSTERS –

MAC Athletic Program - Our Brahma Booster Club is very proud and appreciative of the strong community that supports our MacArthur Brahmas and would like to share some exciting news with you!

We are thrilled to announce that we are now offering **4 Different Media Guides Featuring and Highlighting All Sports.**

The 4 Media Guides will be as followed:

5. Football, Cheer, and Dance (Fall Release)
6. Volleyball, Tennis, Cross Country (Fall Release)
7. Girls/Boys Basketball, Swim/Dive Team, Wrestling (Winter Release)
8. Baseball, Softball, Track & Field, Soccer, Golf (Spring Release)

You may now purchase an Ad and be featured in our Winter and Spring Programs. This is a great way to promote your business, wish your student a great year, share how proud you are of their hard work and accomplishments or feature best friends. We invite you to be part of these keepsake programs and honor your child involved in athletics, cheer, dance, band, academic teams, clubs, or special groups. For complete information, please see the attached flyer.

Join the Boosters - There is still time to join our Athletic Boosters. If your child is a Brahma Athlete or you are just looking for a way to be involved, you need to come out and be a part of these great parents. If you want to keep up with our Boosters, check out the Brahma Booster Club Facebook page link: <https://www.facebook.com/brahma.booster.90>

Go Brahma Athletic Boosters!

PTSA – Thanks to our awesome and amazing PTSA. This year we could not have the usual Pie Harvest with all the wonderful treats that PTSA always provides. But that did not deter our Brahma PTSA! They provided individually boxed mini pies for all our staff. It was creative as well as delicious. Thank you to our PTSA for the wonderful treat.

Join PTSA!:

It is never too late to join PTSA and get involved at MAC. PTSA can also still take your donations (Brahma Bucks) which go right back into the school. The MacArthur PTSA is a vital link in connecting with our parents and families and a great way for every parent to be involved. The beginning of a new school year means it is time to show your support for our students, our school, and our community. We invite all students, parents, and teachers to join! The PTSA is here to advocate and positively influence the lives of all children and families. Make a difference and get involved! To join PTSA, please go to the following link:

<https://www.joinpta.org/>

We want to remind the Mac Family and community to please remember to check out the PTSA website and blog for important information on what is happening at MacArthur!

This is a great resource and it can be found at: www.macptsa.com. Go Brahma PTSA!

COMMUNITY-

COMMUNITY EDUCATION - Community Education will be offering virtual college prep classes this fall! Join Caleb Pendleton in How to Win Scholarships for College where he will share tips and techniques to apply for and win college scholarships. Doorway to College will be offering PSAT/SAT and ACT Exam Prep classes this semester as well. Visit www.doorwaytocollege.org/webinars and use coupon code: **NEISDTestPrep** upon checkout for a discounted rate. Click **here** to view a digital flyer or call 210-407-0145 for more information. Community Education is also excited to continue offering driver education to students all over the District! Classes this semester will be online, while behind the wheel instruction will continue with COVID precautions in place. For more information, click [here](#) or call (210) 407-0170! We hope you will take advantage of these great opportunities from our NEISD Community Education! For complete information on Community Education offerings, please click on the following link:

<https://www.smores.com/41sp6>

VOTER REGISTRATION – By law, every high school principal is a deputy voter registrar. As such, I make sure that we have voter registration cards available here at MAC in the principal office. However, you choose to register, if you are able to vote, then please make sure to do so. Voting is a precious right, and it is your right to exercise and let your voice be counted. I encourage all of you to register and participate in our civic duty. “We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate.” - *Thomas Jefferson*

<https://www.votetexas.gov/register/index.html>

Go Brahma Voters!

BRAHMA FANS –

The following protocols are to be followed at all NEISD venues:

- The clear bag policy is in effect for all NEISD Facilities. You can access the policy at the following link:
 - <https://www.neisd.net/cms/lib/TX02215002/Centricity/Domain/139/Clear-Bag-Policy-main.pdf>
- Everyone should self-screen prior to coming to an event and we ask that you do not attend if you or someone in are household are experiencing any of the following:
 - Cough or sore throat
 - Shortness of breath
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Chills
 - Diarrhea
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Feeling feverish or temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Known close contact in the last 14 days with a person who has COVID-19
- All spectators including all adults and students must have a face covering to enter an event, and must adhere to social distancing and wearing of face coverings at all times
- There will be no parent spirit lines on the field.
- Spectators, including band parents, will not be allowed to cross the field except for after game shows in order to manage equipment.
- **Seating is marked so that rows with blue X's are rows where you cannot sit.**
- **There are green dots in the general seating areas indicating 6 foot spacing.**
- **There are decals in the student section where we ask for a maximum of 2 students between each decal. Please see the photo below.**
- **Please note that due to spacing requirements, the student section has moved to the area closest to the ticket booth. Please see the photo below.**
- Members of the same household, and those who arrived in the same vehicle are allowed to sit together.
- While waiting to enter the event and at the concession stands, we ask that you observe distancing and wearing of face coverings.

Please know that we want everyone to enjoy the event and support our teams. However, we must all do our part to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone.

We want to remind all of our parents, students, and guests who attend games or any event at home or away, that we need your assistance to ensure that we observe appropriate spectator behavior. This includes observing COVID safety requirements. Spectators are required to wear a mask or face covering at all times while in the stadium. Please observe social distancing with persons who did not travel to the game with you or are not members of your immediate family or your household.

Also, it is okay to disagree with a call and to be a little loud when supporting our Brahmas. It is not okay to be disruptive or engage in personal attacks or confrontations with Coaches, referees, or students. Cursing, making profane comments or threats will not be allowed. Anyone causing a disturbance or verbally abusing the officials, coaches, or students will be removed from the game and may face removal from all athletic events. Please let the coaches take care of the

coaching and dealing with the officials. It is extremely important for us to model appropriate behavior at any function. Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated. Go Brahmas!

Here are the events going on in Brahmaland:

- a. **Monday 113020:**
 - i. **MAC Choir Pre-Area Auditions (virtual) All Day**
 - ii. **CIC Meeting (virtual) 4:30 pm**
 - iii. **MOPA Meeting (Virtual) 6:30 pm**
- b. **Tuesday 120120:**
 - i. **MAC Choir Pre-Area Auditions (virtual) All Day**
 - ii. **PTSA Board Meeting (Virtual) 5:30 pm**
 - iii. **PTSA General Meeting (Virtual) 6:30 pm**
 - iv. **MAC Girls' Freshman BB v. Brandeis @ Brandeis 5:30 pm**
 - v. **MAC Girls' JV BB v. Brandeis @ Brandeis 6:45 pm**
 - vi. **MAC Girls' Varsity BB v. Brandeis @ Paul Taylor 8:00 pm**
- c. **Wednesday 120220:**
 - i. **MAC Choir Pre-Area Auditions (virtual) All Day**
 - ii. **All Teachers Conference Period 9:00 am to 9:55 am**
 - iii. **MAC Boys' JV BB v. Warren @ MAC 6:00 pm**
 - iv. **MAC Boys' Varsity BB v. Warren @ BAC 8:00 pm**
- d. **Thursday 120320:**
 - i. **MAC Varsity FB v. Madison @ Heroes 7 pm**
- e. **Friday 120420:**
 - i. **Girls' Freshman BB v. Johnson @ MAC 5:00 pm**
 - ii. **Girls' JV BB v. Johnson @ MAC 6:15 pm**
 - iii. **Girls' Varsity BB v. Johnson @ MAC 7:30 pm**
 - iv. **Boys' Varsity BB v. Wagner @ Wagner 8:00 pm**
- f. **Saturday 120520:**
 - i. **MAC JROTC Raider Competition @ NEISD Course All Day**
 - ii. **MAC JROTC Target Sprint Competition @ NEISD Course All Day**
 - iii. **SAT @ MAC 2nd Floor A-Wing 7 am to 2:45 pm**
 - iv. **MAC Freshman FB v. Madison @ MAC 8:30 am**
 - v. **MAC JV FB v. Madison @ Madison 8:30 am**
 - vi. **Mac Swimming v. Johnson @ Davis 11:30 am**
- g. **Sunday 120620:**
 - i. **N/A**
- h. **Monday 120720:**
 - i. **N/A**

Have a Great Thanksgiving Break!

Peter Martinez

Principal, MacArthur High School

“An Investment in our children pays the best interest of all.”