

Solidarity Day on Monday, September 11th



Our Solidarity Day on Monday, September 11th was a sea of MTA Blue! Congratulations to all of the members that participated in this action. Stay tuned for our next action as we continue to achieve progress in Community Schools and as we prepare to negotiate in the fall.

The next Council is on **Tuesday, September 19th at 4:00 PM at the MTA Conference Center**. Please note that future Rep Councils are expected to take place in-person.

MTA Calendar

- September 14: How to Respond to Discipline on Zoom
- September 19: Council
- September 20: Transcendental Meditation Workshop
- September 26: How to Respond to Discipline on Zoom



Member Testimony: I Teach at a Community School and I Love It

By Lisa Quemada (MHS)

I teach at a community school. I love it. It's fun and funny, and so human. The question I'm most often asked about community schools is, ***"But, what *exactly* is a community school?"***

A community school is the heart of a community, uniting diverse and engaged community partners in support of the whole child. It puts humanity back on the map of public education. It's a chance for students to own their future— a real chance.

First, everything we do is steeped in humanity in order to address the barriers that hinder student success.

These 4 Pillars are the foundation to rebuilding educational justice:

- Integrated Student Supports (wrap-around services and embedded academic support)
- Family and Community Engagement (communal response to specific needs)
- Collaborative Leadership and Practices (shared leadership- parents tell us what they need)
- Extended Learning Time and Opportunities (support goes beyond the status-quo)

In order to facilitate educational equity, MTA has bargained for healthy educational structures:

- Community School Steering Committee at the district level (Pillar III)
- Appropriate class sizes (Pillar I)

So, what's different about MHS? Our community expressed a need for specific supports. For example:

- On site mental health/sexual health clinic
- Live, personal support for families who need help registering for medical insurance
- A free store with food, clothing, school supplies
- Quick access to vaccines
- OASIS- Academic Program- early academic intervention for lower classmen
- Futures-Academic Intervention Program for grades 11/12
- MHS Newcomer Academy- academic pathway for students new to the country
- AMP- Academic Mentor Program- Mentors support OASIS and Newcomer Academy
- Counselor with specific focus on newcomers

While MHS is still in the infancy of building our community school, we can already see the results of using the 4 Pillars as our guide. For the first time, we graduated more Newcomers in 2023 than we ever have before. Newcomers are visibly embedded in our school culture— active in athletics, clubs, and AP classes. It's a step towards justice, and this change has come slowly to us at MHS. Assuredly, we are not a perfect model. We won't be your model either. Your school will highlight your uniqueness, culture, gifts, and gains- incomparable to any other school. But, I can share with you what it is for me and my students.

MHS is a community school by name and necessity. But we are the manifestation of our community's dreams by choice and collaborative voice.

How to Respond to Discipline

Train with MTA

SEPT. 14 &
SEPT. 26

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Have you ever been called into a disciplinary meeting with your administrator?

Discover best practices on how to respond to your administrator and how to document the interaction. Empower yourself by learning your rights pertaining to discipline.

REGISTER NOW!

This meeting will occur over Zoom.

Session 1

Register for
September
14th
HERE



SCAN ME

Session 2

Register for
September
26th
HERE



SCAN ME

**MORE
INFORMATION**

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