

# MALIBU MIDDLE SCHOOL

## MONDAY MESSAGE – January 29, 2024

### *A Message from Principal Schellenberg:*

This week included some profound experiences for our Middle School students. The grade level activities with HumanUtopia provided our students a safe place to explore answers to the question, “Who Am I?”

We are grateful for Mr. Graham Moore from HumanUtopia who spent three full days with our middle school students. Graham talked about all of the events in our lives that make us who we are - including both the great things and the tough things. At one point, each grade level listened to Graham talk about the disparaging things we hear from others that “fill up our trash can” with negativity. Students had the opportunity to share some of the things said to them - hurtful, impactful comments. Graham was so skilled in building up the students who courageously shared - then he flipped it to allow for students who have made insulting comments to others to acknowledge, apologize and commit to moving forward differently. During the afternoon, students were paired up with other students they never choose to speak with to share details from their life, their hopes and dreams.

Our three days with HumanUtopia will have a positive impact on our school culture and community. As a school, we will follow up with students to try to keep this momentum going. HumanUtopia offers additional student programs we may be interested in exploring in the coming years.

You can learn more about HumanUtopia and Graham Moore at <https://www.humanutopia.com/>.

## SCHOOL NEWS AND INFORMATION:

**NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR MMS ATHLETIC COORDINATOR:** We are reaching out to the community to spread the word about this new position to launch an athletics program for middle school this spring, starting with soccer, volleyball and track & field. If you, or someone you know is interested, please have them apply ASAP as applications are due TOMORROW (Tuesday, 1/30). (Job Description: [https://ptsamalibu.membershiptoolkit.com/assets/04310/Athletic\\_Coordinator\\_for\\_Malibu\\_Schools\\_-\\_Job\\_Description\\_-\\_1\\_24\\_24.pdf](https://ptsamalibu.membershiptoolkit.com/assets/04310/Athletic_Coordinator_for_Malibu_Schools_-_Job_Description_-_1_24_24.pdf)). Questions? Ask [PTSAmalibu@gmail.com](mailto:PTSAmalibu@gmail.com)

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK ON SALE NOW!** Purchase your Malibu Middle School Yearbook now at the best price of \$35 [HERE](#). Get it now before the price goes up! You can also purchase your dedication ads – full pages, ½ page, or ¼ page.

**ENROLLMENT FOR 2024-2025:** Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year for new families is open! If you have friends, neighbors, colleagues with children (who live in the MMS boundary) interested in joining our Malibu Middle School community or any of our Malibu schools, please have them email the registrars, for MMMS that is Beth Soloway at [bsoloway@smmusd.org](mailto:bsoloway@smmusd.org). If they do not live in the MMS boundary, they must first apply for an inter-district permit which will be available soon on the school and district website.

**VOLUNTEER TRAININGS:** Interested in volunteering on campus, during the school day in any capacity? Then you must be processed and cleared as a Level 1 volunteer which includes completing volunteer packet, TB questionnaire, and attending an in-person training. The next Parent Volunteer Trainings (mainly for Friendly Faces) will be offered VIA ZOOM on **Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 10:00 am, and in person on **Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>** after the POMS meeting (approximately 11:00 am.) To prepare, parents can begin to complete [the volunteer packet for Level 1 volunteers here](#).

**GUM/TRASH:** We have seen an increase in the amount of gum thrown on the ground or stuck on furniture and an increase in the amount of trash being left on tables and the ground. In grades 6-12, it is not unreasonable to expect students to be able to put their gum into the trash cans and to put their trash into the trash cans. We are asking for your help in reminding your child the importance of doing so. As a community, it is all of our responsibility to keep our campus clean, safe, and well presented. We have new buildings, new furniture in most rooms, new sidewalks that are getting destroyed simply because a student can't walk 3 feet and put their gum in the trash can. We need to care for our campus better and care for our environment better, the ocean is yards away and yet kids leave trash for the winds or birds to carry to the ocean. We have one daytime custodian - he is not employed to pick up student trash. It is the student's responsibility to throw away their trash.

**YEARBOOK PICTURES:** Attention Middle School Families! Please send any photos of middle school events and your children to our Middle School Yearbook Chair, Amber Vanderbilt, at [amber.mmsyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:amber.mmsyearbook@gmail.com). These can be activities from outside school. If you can also help out with the yearbook please let her know. Thank you!

**CHECKING PROGRESS REPORTS/REPORT CARDS: AERIES PORTAL VIDEOS (STUDENT & PARENT):** These videos help explain to students & parents/guardians on how to access their portals and check grades. [Student Portal](#) [Parent Portal](#)

**THIS WEEK AT MMS:**

**FOOD TRUCK DAY:** As a part of the MHS Spirit Week, food trucks will be on campus for lunch on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Make sure you bring cash!

**CJSF DRIVE:** All 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders! The CSF/CJSF spring membership drive is coming up! It will run from January 29 through February 2. Your counselors will be out at lunchtime at the table (near the student store). You must be a current member during spring semester to be eligible to attend the annual awards breakfast and Universal Studios fieldtrip, so don't forget to visit the CSF/CJSF table, bring your \$5 for membership dues, and sign up! Reminder for seniors, to earn your lifetime membership gold seal status, you must remain eligible so don't forget to see your counselors during the membership drive!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**SMMUSD BOARD MEETING:** The next SMMUSD school board meeting is **Thursday, February 1 at 5:30pm** at the district office. The agenda for the 2/1/24 regular board meeting is posted [online](#).

**SAFETY DRILL:** Our final planned Safety Drill is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 7 at 10:30am**. This drill will include both a drop/cover/hold on earthquake drill and a fire/evacuation drill.

**MALIBU MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL:** The 2024 Malibu Middle School Musical will be Frozen JR. and the show dates are **February 8th-10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM and February 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM**. Come enjoy a story of true love where two sisters experience mysteries of magic, tragedy, and a long journey to find their confidence and inner powers. The sisters, Anna and Elsa, deal with matters of friendship, family, and love with some irresistible characters along the way including Olaf the snowman, Sven the reindeer, Oaken, Pabbie and Bulda and the Hidden Folk. It is truly a magical frozen tale! Tickets and more info at [www.malibums.smmusd.org](http://www.malibums.smmusd.org)

**WINTER INTERIM ASSESSMENTS:** Students will be taking interim assessments in their math class and English Class February 12 - February 23. Students must use their district Chromebook to take the test. Students should charge their school Chromebook and restart their Chromebook to ensure all updates are completed prior to these dates.

**NO SCHOOL:** Malibu High School and all SMMUSD schools will be closed on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> in observance of Presidents' Day.

**END OF GP4:** The end of the first grading period of the spring semester is **Friday, February 23rd**. Progress reports will be available in the Aeries Parent Portal the following week. Please remember, this first grading period will only reflect a handful of assignments so ensure that you are completing all tasks asked of you on time, and to the best of your ability.

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION:

**POINT DUME PRESERVATIONISTS MONTHLY VOLUNTEER EVENT:** Join others the second Wednesday of the month at the Point Dume Preserve at Birdview & Cliffside Drive to keep the headlands poison-free. Please bring gardening gloves and be prepared to do some hand weeding with some of your wonderful neighbors from 9a-noon. [Sign Up Here.](#)

## BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF MALIBU TEEN CENTER:

The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu aims to provide a fun, safe, and creative environment for all Malibu youth to thrive, find support through positive mentorship, develop important life skills, and receive social and emotional support. We are currently offering programs for teens to use as a social, developmental, and supplemental tool. Current offerings include:

- **BGCM Membership Enrollment is LIVE.** Enroll at [BGCMALIBU.ORG](https://bgcmalibu.org) Available for incoming grades 6th-12th. Programs will include: service learning trips, field trips, social emotional wellness, outdoor activities & more! [Enroll Here](#) | [Inscribirse Aquí](#)

**THIRDS**PACE  
A PROJECT OF THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF MALIBU

- **Third Space Valentine's Day Sip & Shop** Tuesday, Feb 13 4-6p at Third Space (23357 Pacific Coast Hwy, next to Malibu Village books) Come join us to enjoy complimentary champagne, sweet treats, fresh flower arrangements, and more while finding the perfect gift for your valentine and giving back to community!

- **Third Space is OPEN at Malibu Village!** Third Space is a storefront, gallery and an innovation space for youth to be mentored and inspired. A project of the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu, made possible by many generous community contributors. A percentage of all store purchases benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu:

- o Safe spaces after-school
- o Mental health services for youth, families and aging population
- o Drug and alcohol prevention programming
- o Innovative and inspiring opportunities for youth
- o Regenerative systems and educational initiatives

Here, in our vibrant community, we value care, connection, and creativity. We offer youth, families, and visitors of all ages the chance to explore products from local, sustainable and social entrepreneurs. To learn more, visit [thirdspacemalibu.org](https://thirdspacemalibu.org) Follow us on IG/FB: @thirdspacemalibu

- **BGCM Scholarship Opportunities:** BGCM offers scholarship opportunities tailored to support graduation goals, mental health advocacy, and fostering a positive Club environment through kindness. If your teen is interested in applying for these

opportunities, kindly email Violet at [violetway@bgcmalibu.org](mailto:violetway@bgcmalibu.org). This opportunity is open to 12th graders only.

- **Goals for Graduation** for grades 9th-12th. Monthly workshops to support college and career readiness. Meetings will take place on the school campus, once a month, on Monday's during lunch. Students do not have to be Club members in order to participate. The next meeting is on 2/5. To sign up, please email [violetway@bgcmalibu.org](mailto:violetway@bgcmalibu.org)

- **Brent's Club** is an incentivized social-emotional wellness program focused on racial justice, youth advocacy, drug prevention, and building peer support by connecting with other Brent's Clubs and youth from diverse communities. Meetings are bi-weekly on Mondays, during lunch, on the school campus. Lunch will be provided every meeting! Email [violetway@bgcmalibu.org](mailto:violetway@bgcmalibu.org) for more info.

- **BGCM Wellness Center Parent Support Group Feb 1-March 14**

Join the BGCM Malibu Wellness Center, in partnership with SMMUSD, to participate in a weekly interactive series for parents. This group is designed to help navigate many of the challenges faced during different developmental stages of your teen's life. Open to parents of children of all ages. Topics include: understanding your child/teen, connecting with your child/teen, enforcing rules, talking about the tough stuff, and planning for the future. Taking place every Thursday (6 week series via zoom) Register for free <https://bit.ly/ParentGroup2024>

- **BGCM Wellness Center & Social Support Offerings** The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu Wellness Center operates remotely and also in-person to provide no-cost social support & mental health counseling to all in the community. Visit <https://bgcmalibu.org/wellness-center/> to learn more or to request services for you/your teen. There is currently NO WAITLIST for services. PSA: Parents! If you've missed any parent workshops, they are available on our website at <https://bgcmalibu.org/wellness-center-resources/>

\*To contact the Club please call [310-457-1400](tel:310-457-1400) (Admin) or [310-241-3675](tel:310-241-3675) (Programs) Email [info@bgcmalibu.org](mailto:info@bgcmalibu.org) For updates on Club news & events, subscribe to BGCM E-Newsletter [Here](#)