



The Lion's Roar

October 2015
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Millennium Charter Academy Events Worth Roaring About



MCA Hosts Mayoral Debate

The MCA Upper School recently hosted Mount Airy mayoral candidates, Mr. Steve Yokeley and Mr. David Rowe, for a debate. Our eighth grade students worked with their history and social studies teacher, Dr. Rusty Roberson, to create questions for the candidates. Students submitted eleven pages of questions that were then consolidated and reduced to nineteen questions for the debate. Lastly, the nineteen questions were prioritized to make the most of the scheduled thirty-minute debate. During the debate both candidates repeatedly remarked about the sophisticated level of the questions, which covered issues ranging from downtown redevelopment, to local infrastructure issues, to how the candidates hoped to attract and keep young people in the area, to whether or not the candidates supported charter schools.

Having the students create the questions and attend the debate is directly in line with MCA's vision of helping students be aware of themselves as members of a community, have a devotion to intellectual and moral integrity, a respect for the rule of law, and an appreciation of American constitutional democracy.



Mr. Steve Yokeley (left) and Mr. David Rowe (right) took questions from MCA students.



Sixth grade English teacher, Mrs. Ann Moore, expertly moderated the debate.

Yokely and Rowe shake hands after the debate.



Mount Airy News Editorial - Thumbs Up

Reprinted with permission from The Mount Airy News, October 24, 2015

"To the folks at Millennium Charter Academy, and to Mount Airy mayoral candidates Steve Yokeley and David Rowe, for putting on a debate for the students there. The faculty at the school, along with both candidates, realize how important it is to involve the youth of our community in the electoral process, even now when they're too young to vote. This gives the students an understanding what a representative democracy is about, and hopefully awakens in them a desire to take part in public service as they grow older.

And a thumbs up to the students, who clearly took the effort seriously. They asked some excellent questions. We're just sorry they didn't get a chance to pose some of those questions to all of the candidates running for city commission seats."

Living Up to MCA Expectations

MCA fourth graders attended a field trip to Hiddenite, NC, to learn more about North Carolina geology. MCA office personnel were alarmed when, long before the students were scheduled to return to school, a call was received from the Hiddenite gem mine, asking to speak to the headmaster. Turns out, the Hiddenite staff had called the school because they were so impressed with the exceptional behavior of our fourth graders! Thank you to our fourth graders for being such wonderful ambassadors of our school.

The Lion's Roar IS A PUBLICATION OF

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SCHOLARSHIP * CHARACTER * COMMUNITY



MCA's First Ever Very Own Book Fair

Traditionally each year MCA holds a book fair coordinated with Scholastic Books. This year, however, MCA librarian and Challenge Center teacher, Mrs. Lori Spencer, had a different idea. She worked with Pages Bookstore from downtown Mount Airy to conduct our first "Turning Pages at MCA" book fair. As a result, MCA is working with a local business and providing many more books especially chosen to complement the MCA curriculum. As an added benefit, our library has a greater than ever potential for financial gain. On Thursday night, November 5, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM, there will be a special family night at the book fair. Credit cards will be accepted during these three hours, and it will be a great place to get started on holiday shopping.

Book Fair Hours

Monday – Thursday, November 2-5, 7:30AM to 3:30 PM

Thursday, November 5, 4 – 7 PM – Special Family Night

Friday, November 6, 7:30AM to 1:00PM

Left: Mrs. Lori Spencer hams it up for the camera at the book fair.



MCA Wins at Model UN

Several MCA students recently participated in the 2015 Fall Session of Model United Nations (Model UN) at Appalachian State University. Model UN is extra-curricular activity in which students roleplay delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees. It fits the MCA philosophy by providing a club that employs higher level thinking skills for our students. This year, students were able to participate in a variety of special UN councils: the Security Council, the General Assembly, and the Human Rights Council. MCA students worked with teams from other schools to develop resolutions for issues such as international cooperation for spaceflight development, free speech on the internet, and improving living conditions in refugee settlements. MCA students performed very well in the competition.



Gathering in the international hall in the ASU student union are front row: **Brooksie Lawson, Cooper Motsinger, Russell Sapp, Mary Jones, Madison Lawson, Drew Tilley, Sadie O'Neal, Jordan Rierson, Jessie Hinson, Alyssa Collins, Maggie Glenn** ; second Row: **Andrew Brooks, Colton Marion, Cameron Shaw, Brianna Bantén, JT Tucker, Emily Brooks, Jenna Overfelt, Olivia Mallone**; back row: **Braydon Legere, Nate Hayes, William Marshall, Anna Gibbons, Grant Routh, Jack Campbell, Quinn Cullen, Sadie Williamson, Georgia Chapman**

Jack Campbell and **Quinn Cullin**, representing the country of Jordan, received a first place award. **Emily Brooks** and **JT Tucker**, representing the country of France, also received a first place award. **Brooksie Lawson** and **William Marshall** received a second place award for their work representing the United Kingdom, and **Sadie Williamson** and **Jenna Overfelt** received an honorable mention representing the United States.