

MANHATTAN

Virtual Academy



Family Focus

Calendar events:

- ACT Registration Deadline, November 2
- STEM Academic Outing, November 3
- Photo Contest Entries Due, November 16
- Thanksgiving Break, November 19-23
- Permanent Zero, November 25
- ACT Test, December 8
- Permanent Zero, December 9
- Final Exams, December 10-14
- Winter Break, December 17-January 2
- 2nd Semester Begins, January 3
- ACT Registration Deadline, January 4

Hand turkeys submitted by creative MVA teachers & staff



Dr. Paul Smith
MVA Music Teacher



Photo by Jonathan Walton

Thanksgiving Break

Only six weeks of school until Winter Break! One of those weeks is the Thanksgiving break, and your student can use that time to get caught up on assignments and improve their grade if they need to. Your student's success is our number one goal, and we appreciate the chance to work with you to make that happen.

The MVA STEM event is Saturday, November 3. We hope to see you there. You can see photos, taken by senior Jonathan Walton, of our Art Museum Tour and Black Violin McCain Performance event in the Student Shout Out section, as well as a picture from the Oz Fest Authors event. We had a great time at all of our face to face events in October. We will keep you up to date on future outings as we get the information.

Students – do you want to share your word with the MVA family? We are continuing the My Intent "What's Your Word" project and teachers are sharing their word through video, which you can find on our YouTube channel. Take a video using your phone, computer, or tablet, then send it to us at our office [gmail](mailto:info@mva.edu). Please let us know if we have permission to post it on social media. We would love to hear your word and why it is special to you.

Remember - check [FaceBook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) often!

MVA Teacher Feature

This month we feature our Music teacher, Dr. Paul Bodene Smith.

Dr. Paul Smith has taught for over 20 years in public school, and public and private universities and is presently on faculty at the Manhattan Virtual School and Central Michigan University. Originally from the Chicago area, he relocated to Europe to advance his singing career. After twelve years and some 1500 performance in thirteen different countries later, Dr. Smith and his family returned to Illinois where he finished his studies before he began his teaching career. He holds degrees from Roosevelt University and the University of Illinois. His 21-year old twins, who were born in Germany, are both in college here in Kansas. His wife of 31 years works in the Wichita Public School system. As a musician he is a life time learner.

What's your word?

The word I have chosen, PROCESS, is what has helped me make it through many years of study. I say study, because during my performance career, academic studies and teaching I have always found a process to acquire knowledge. As I progressed as a performer and later as a Doctorate student, my process became more solidified. For me to succeed I lay out a process or series of tasks that I undertake to reach my final goal. My processes, although similar, are tailored to match the task at hand. They always contain a clearly mapped put plan to arrive at the finished product by achieving a set order of smaller goals. I also have to admit I drive my wife a little crazy when I share my process and all the contingency plans that I construct if

Academic Outings

STEM at KSU College of Engineering – November 3

Join other students and MVA teachers to experience real-world applications in science, technology, engineering and math that matter for all 21st century careers. To register, click this link: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=10Hdi-CkGJPkoxunowA3kS1UviafNNGWYAJREc6Agt3s>



Fall 2018 Finals – Dates and Locations

Fall finals week for grades 9-12 is December 10th through the 14th. Look for an email before Thanksgiving to sign up for your location. The schedule is:

- December 10 - 11 – Manhattan Zoo (Monday) Library (Tuesday)
- December 11 - 12 – Topeka Rasmussen Campus
- December 12 - 13 – Kansas City Rasmussen Campus
- December 12 – Dodge City Public Library
- December 13 – Allen Community College in Iola
- December 13 - 14 – Park City Public Library

Look in the December Family Focus for finals tips!



ACT Opportunity for Juniors and Seniors

The Kansas Legislature appropriated funds to offer **one free ACT assessment and one free WorkKeys suite of assessment to all public high school juniors. They are also being offered free of charge to seniors who have not yet taken one or the other.** For example, if a senior has taken the ACT, he or she may take WorkKeys at this time. If a senior has taken WorkKeys, he or she may take the ACT at this time.

MVA will offer both tests on one day with the ACT in the morning and WorkKeys later in the afternoon so students can take one or both. If you are interested, please sign up here: <https://goo.gl/forms/EPpDnFqOldFcn29j2>

These are the times and locations:

- Manhattan on February 20, 21
- Kansas City area on February 22 (tentative)
- Dodge City on February 26
- Topeka on February 26 (tentative)
- Wichita on February 27
- Iola on February 28



Should you take one or both of these tests? Here are some of the benefits of each: The **ACT** is required by many four-year universities and accepted at many two-year colleges so why not take it while it is free? It helps colleges find and recruit you, and high scores can earn additional scholarships. **WorkKeys** helps you stand out to employers, provides you with a better understanding of your job skills and helps students match their skills to the right job.

MVA Club News

Astronomy Club meets every second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm in the Homeroom vClass.

Inspiration Club will talk about how to succeed in sports and life regardless of physical ability/disability on November 8th at 11:30 in Homeroom vClass.

Yearbook Club meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 8:30 am in the Homeroom vClass.

Pinterest Club meets November 8th at 1:00 pm in Mrs. Kirchoff's vOffice.



College Priority Dates are here! For more information, <http://kasfaa.wixsite.com/kasfaa-fact> for the FAFSA priority dates in Kansas.



Student Shout Outs!

We love to recognize our students and the amazing things they do both in school and out in their communities, so feel free to send your student's information to us to share. Thank you to all the students who let us share their stories!



The **KSU Beach Museum of Art and McCain Performance Series Black Violin Academic Outing** included *The Art of Observation* tour, designed to explore visual thinking through the practice of intentional observation and develop creativity, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking. The Black Violin concert was an amazing performance, and a way for the duo to achieve their goal of showing students that they are capable of expressing themselves in ways they have never dreamed. *Photos by Jonathan Walton*



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This ozsome **Academic Outing**, in conjunction with the **Wamego Oz Fest**, included the chance to watch, hear from and talk to authors Paul Miles Schneider and Gabriel Gale. Paul, former pen pal of Margaret Hamilton, is the author of several highly regarded contemporary Oz novels, including **Silver Shoes** which won the Kansas Notable Book award. Gabriel is the conceptualizer and coauthor of **Ages of Oz**, the new Simon & Schuster book trilogy for children and young adults.



We are thankful for every one of our amazing MVA students and all of our families! Happy Thanksgiving!!

10 Ways to Prepare your Teens for College and Work

#3 - Students will often find themselves in situations where they need to apply personal principles to make tough choices. You can help your teen act with integrity in those situations by making your expectations clear, and by candidly discussing the challenges of adhering to a personal system of beliefs when there are factors like peer pressure. You can use current news to talk about the types of decisions an individual made that resulted in them acting with, or without, integrity.