



# Messenger



## This year it's GAME ON!!



### How do you get your game on?



From MVA Counselor, Ms. Tami Simkins: Game on means striving to level up within the game of life by balancing self-care, learning, family, personal goals, and professional goals. To level up this year I will be working to complete the requirements for my Professional Counseling License, improve advisory lessons, provide more online community opportunities for students, and enjoy time with my family.

The 2023-2024 school year has started and we are going all in for Game On! How do you get your game on? What does it mean to you? Throughout the year we'll find out what that means for our students, for our MVA teachers and for our staff. We are so happy that all of you are along for the educational experience.

This year our vClass web program is a little different and we are working on upping our game with the new features the program offers. You may have noticed the program has a few bugs and glitches, since we are early adopters we are helping identify and work through those challenges.

If your student would like to have an ID card, please send a head shot to the MVA office at [manhattanvirtualacademy@usd383.org](mailto:manhattanvirtualacademy@usd383.org) and we will be happy to create the ID and send it to you in the mail. We'll also use this picture for the yearbook at the end of the year.

We love to see pictures of your student doing things they love, working in the community or pursuing their passion. Please feel free to share those pictures with us so we can feature your student in our Student Spotlight on the last page of our monthly newsletter.

Last year's yearbook focused on our Quest for Excellence and is amazing, we love to see pictures of our students and reflect on the year. You can download it [here](#).

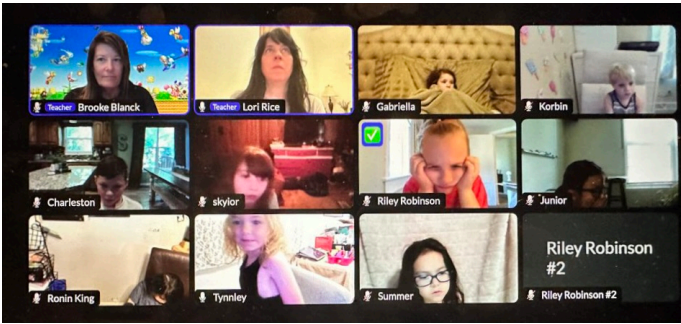
Parent Square is a new communication tool we are able to use with the USD 383 district. If you haven't used it, there's more info on page 3.

We are excited for the year and can't wait to see our student excel and shine! Let's get our game on!

### SEPTEMBER

- Sep 1 - Last day to add class
- Sep 3 - PZ Week 1
- Sep 4 - Labor Day - no vClasses
- Sep 7 - All School Assembly  
Online Back to School Night.  
K-5 at 6:00, 6-12 at 7:00 pm
- Sep 11 - Mandatory Log in #1
- Sep 17 - PZ Week 2-3
- Sep 20 - Online Parent Teacher Conference
- Sep 25 - Mandatory Log in #2

# Elementary



Game on is a fun theme for our K2 students as we learn through a play. We explore many of our concepts and ideas through gameplay with dice and cards and online resources. This year we will definitely level up our learning as we play and learn together. The students did a great job of creating their slides and talking about them during boot camp week!



Elementary students - Clubs start up this month! Lego Club will be on September 11 and September 25 at 2:00 pm. Come join the fun!



Game On! in grades 3, 4, and 5, means that we bring our best each day to level up in our abilities to problem solve, have fun, show GRIT, and do our personal best

FASTBridge District Assessments are underway! Our district requires screening of all students to ensure we can adjust instruction to meet the needs of every student. Students will participate in a reading and math screener during this screening Fall 2023 window. They will conduct these screenings with their advisory or grade level teacher. Once screenings are complete, you will be able to check scores of your student(s) during our first round of parent/teacher conferences! Please feel free to reach out to Lydia Huninghake, our MTSS Coordinator, if you have any further questions - [lydiah@usd383.org](mailto:lydiah@usd383.org).



MVA teachers and staff spent a fun two days meeting to plan out the 2023-2024 school year.



## What does Game On mean? Here is what some of our MVA sophomores said:

Game on for me means to keep a level head during every step of the journey, and not become too overconfident about the past or live in fear the future.

To me game on means to not give up on accomplishing your goals and face all your challenges head on with a positive attitude.

Game on means to setting a goal and sticking to it even if things get hard you keep going.

To me game on means lets get to work.

Game on to me means even when things get tough, push through it. It always gets better.



# MVA Clubs schedule for September

Club Name	Meeting Day	Time
Art Club	1st Thursday	12:30 - 1:00 pm
Astronomy	2nd Wednesday	2:30 - 3:00 pm
Book Club K-5	Last Monday	2:00 - 2:30 pm
Cooking Club K-5	2nd Thursday	1:00 - 1:30 pm
Cooking & Culture	2nd Wednesday	11:00 - 11:30 am
Gaming	Discord	Ongoing
Harry Potter	2nd Wednesday	2:00 - 2:30 pm
Lego Club K-5	2nd & 4th Monday	2:00 - 2:30 pm
Photography	2nd Thursday	12:30 - 1:00 pm
Other clubs to be announced!		



ParentSquare is the school communication platform this year. An account for each parent is automatically generated with enrollment, using the parent's preferred email address and phone number.

## Here's what parents/guardians can do with ParentSquare:

- Receive messages from the school via email, text, or app notification
- Choose to receive information as it comes or all at once with a daily digest at 6 pm
- Communicate in your preferred language - ParentSquare works with Google Translate and has access to over 100+ languages
- Comment on school postings to engage with your school community
- Direct message staff
- Participate in group messages
- Sign up to volunteer

ParentSquare connects teachers and parents by simplifying the communication process. Instead of trying to reach each other via email or cell phone, teachers and parents can easily communicate through the ParentSquare platform. And instead of having numerous communications tools among schools, all schools will be using ParentSquare.



## Monarch Mornings

MTW 8:00 - 8:20 am & MTW 9:30 - 9:50 am

Monarch Mornings are an opportunity to get to know other students and do some fun activities together. We will come up with many of the activities together. We will begin with a sweet 16 coping skills/self-care activity to level up our self-regulation game.

## Lunch Bunch

MTW 11:30 - 11:50 am & 12:30 - 12:50 pm

Lunch Bunch is an opportunity to grab your lunch and hang out to level up our relationships and build community. We will share stories and watch videos. Game on! It is also a great time to share outside accomplishments and projects.

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9848119564?pwd=VzYrL2lCRnFzTDJlJR1FOekROSHU0Zz09>

## Academic Outings

We have some exciting outings planned this year, keep your ears open for news on what we're doing and how to sign up. In the past we have done STEM events, pumpkin patches and trips to the state capitol and art museums. We'll let you know the game plan - we can't wait to go adventuring!



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!

# Student Spotlight



**Maddix Small** showed cattle at the Interstate Fair last week in Coffeyville, KS. His LimFlex heifer was Bred and Owned Reserve Champion and 3rd Breeding heifer overall. He also won 3rd Senior Showman. His brother exhibited another heifer they raised together to 3rd Bred and Owned Heifer and Reserve Champion heifer Overall. Maddix is looking forward to more cattle shows this fall and winter with the flexibility that MVA allows him to compete and attend classes.



**These amazing MVA teachers and staff** had their game on even in the horrific heat of August to hand out back to school bags to our students. They are the best!! If you didn't get your bag, contact the office to make arrangements.



Rodeo students competed in the KHSRA state finals in May at the Prairie Star Arena and MVA was there to cheer them on. We had such a great time watching our students compete, they did an awesome job. Good luck in the 2023-2024 season.



## Manhattan Virtual Academy

2100 Poyntz Ave

Room E146 Manhattan, KS 66502

Phone: 785-587-2100 ext. 8073

Email: [manhattanvirtualacademy@usd383.org](mailto:manhattanvirtualacademy@usd383.org)

Website: [manhattanvirtualacademy.org](http://manhattanvirtualacademy.org)

FaceBook: [www.facebook.com/MVAKansas](http://www.facebook.com/MVAKansas)

