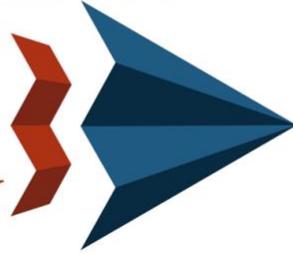


# MANHATTAN

## Virtual Academy



# Family Focus



### Calendar events:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Begins, January 3
- ACT Registration Deadline, January 4
- Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, January 21
- Freedom Bound - McCain Series, January 22
- Last day to add 2<sup>nd</sup> semester class, January 22
- Permanent Zero, January 27
- Parent Teacher Conference, February 4-5
- No School, February 8
- ACT Test, February 9
- Permanent Zero, February 17
- President's Day Holiday, February 18
- Last day to drop 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Class, February 25

### Study like it's 2019!

Happy New Year! Spring semester is here and classes have already started by the time you are reading this. And just to wrap up fall semester, we sent out grade cards at the end of the first week of January.

We are excited for the beginning of the new semester and all the learning opportunities and experiences planned for your student. There are several Academic Outings scheduled, and to make sure you have the information, check this publication as well as Facebook and Twitter. Students can also access the information in homerooms.

Remember, if you have any questions or need help with assignments, tests or quizzes, MVA teachers will be happy to assist you. Send your teacher a text or email to set up a help session. Another excellent way to communicate with your teachers is during their office hours on Thursdays.

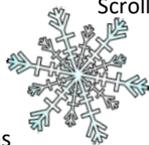
What's your student's word? We would love to hear about their word and what it means to them. Check out our [YouTube](#) channel for some of the MVA teachers' words and why they chose them. If they are willing, send a short video to us from your student telling us what their word is and what it means to them, and we will share it with #MVAfamily.

We are looking forward to another amazing semester! Don't forget to check [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) often!

### MVA Teacher Feature

This month we feature our Fine Arts Teacher, Mrs. Kathy Schmitz.

Mrs. Schmitz with her sister at the Denver Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit.



My word was kindness last year and it morphed into **listen** this year.

I have been teaching art for over 35 years and I still love to do it! It was what I thought I was given to do from a young age.

My favorite thing is to teach new skills to students like drawing etc. After that is done, I love to see the students take wing with their new knowledge and become creative people.

My favorite things are my cats: Sunny, Tiger and our new one named Buddy. All are rescues and I have been rescuing cats for many years.

My sewing machine is probably my favorite art utensil because I can put so many colors together and make up my own ideas quickly. Of course, I love other art materials as well!

My goal is to help people become strong and capable in their lives and emotions.



**Mrs. Kathy Schmitz**  
Fine Arts



## MVA Academic Outings Tuesday, January 22, 9:00 am

“Freedom Bound” is an original play with music that tells the tale of the most important incident in the history of the Underground Railroad in Ohio. Presented by the Mad River Theater works at the Kansas State University McCain Auditorium. To register, click here: <https://goo.gl/forms/a28y53U06maWZ2473>

Look for other Academic Outings during the semester!



### Are you ready for second semester?

1. Complete your schedule on page four of your Planner: When are your vClasses? Office hours?
2. Post your schedule, give a copy to your parents.
3. Have your teacher contact information handy.
4. Contact your teachers or the office if you have ANY questions.

Look for the Parent/Teacher Conference sign-up soon!

### ACT & WorkKeys – Dates and Locations

The Kansas Legislature appropriated funds to offer one free ACT assessment and one free WorkKeys suite of assessment to all public high school juniors.

The ACT and WorkKeys suite of assessment are also being offered free of charge to seniors who have not yet taken one or the other. This is a one-time offering. Juniors who do not take the assessments this year will not have the opportunity to take them for free next year.

**Why take these tests?** 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 you 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 will offer both tests on one day with the ACT in the morning and WorkKeys later in the afternoon so that students can take one or both.

We plan to administer these tests at the following times and locations:

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



### MVA Club News

Check your homeroom for the next club meeting. If you want to join, it's not too late!

- Astronomy Club
- Drawing Club
- Inspiration Club
- Pinterest Club
- Yearbook Club



### Graduation Countdown!

January: Order Cap and Gown, online

February 1: Drop individual senior photos in your Google folder

March 1: Submit Senior Survey Responses, online

March 1: Volunteer to serve on parent committee to plan and provide table decorations for reception following Graduation, meeting online

April 1: RSVP for Graduation

May 18: Saturday, May 18th at 2:00 p.m., Graduation Ceremony

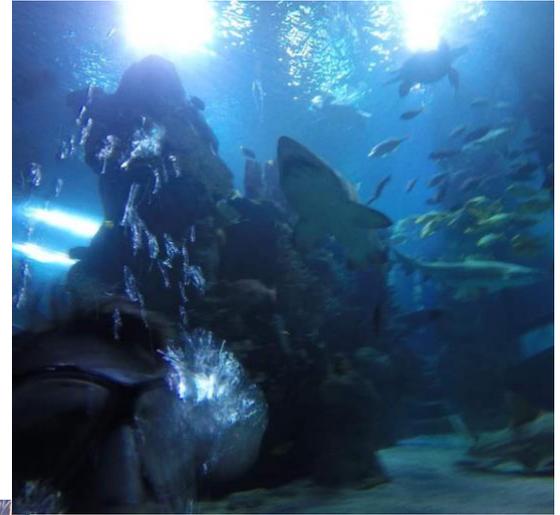


# Student Shout Outs

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!



**Leah and Noah Weiser** (pictured on the right in these pictures) won their divisions at the national Taekwondo competition. Great job team Weiser!



**Conner Aggson** had the amazing opportunity to scuba dive in the shark tank at the Denver Aquarium. What a great adventure!



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MVA College Scholarships

**Reed Boos** (pictured) has been offered a full rodeo scholarship to Cisco College in Cisco, Texas.

**Jack Easton** received a full chess scholarship to University of Texas - Dallas.

Congratulations Reed and Jack! We are so proud of you and excited for your next step in your educational journey!!



Mark your calendars for MVA 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition and 2019 Graduation. Saturday - May 18 at 2:00 at Manhattan High School.

## 10 Ways to Prepare your Teens for College and Work

#5 - Explain to your student that intelligence is not fixed, but can be grown with effort. If your student tells you that he or she cannot do something or is not good at it (e.g., "I will never be good at math"), ask why s/he thinks that. Talk about the brain as a muscle that grows stronger with exercise. Do not reinforce this self-concept with statements like, "I know, I was never good at math" or "our family is good at a lot of things but math is not one of them." Reinforcing the concept that ability can grow builds self-efficacy, which helps the student take on and master challenges.