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COLLEGE IN HIGH SCHOOL?

By Kris Gustin, MLHS Admissions Director



“Money does not grow on trees!” My father used to say this to me almost every week, when I would gather up my allowance, get on my bike, and head up to the gas station to purchase my weekly ration of baseball cards. I worked extra jobs around the neighborhood to be able to make more money in order to buy more baseball cards. Over time, this passion faded and I realized how much of my money had been “wasted.” That realization was very discouraging to me. Nobody wants to waste money, whether it is on baseball cards or tuition.

One of the most common statements we hear from families is they would rather spend money on college than high school. As we respond to that statement, two things stand out. First, ensuring that students get the best possible training academically, socially, and spiritually during their most formative years, the high school years, is worth the investment in tuition dollars. Second, the tuition dollars spent to send a student to Mayer Lutheran High School can literally pay off in terms of future education as well.

Mayer Lutheran is dedicated to providing students and parents the most for their financial investment. One of the ways we do this is by providing students three different ways to earn college credit while in high school. We offer traditional Advanced Placement courses. Upon completion of these courses students take the AP Exam. They can then submit their score on that exam to the college or university they are attending. Depending on the requirements of the school, they may receive college credits for this course.

Another way students can earn college credit is through the Post-Secondary Education Opportunity. This program provides students an opportunity to earn college credits while attending classes offsite at qualified colleges, such as Crown College or Normandale Community College. Students may also receive college credit through online courses. Students can

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CRUSADER SPIRIT EVENTS

FEBRUARY 12 & 19
MLHS Open House, 9AM-Noon

FEBRUARY 12-13
Boy's Basketball Tournament

FEBRUARY 12
Valentines Dance, 6:30-9PM

FEBRUARY 19-20
Girl's Basketball Tournament

APRIL 2
Spelling Bee, 9AM-4PM

MAY 6
Track Meet 9AM-4PM

the next generation



Crusader Spirit: The Next Generation

A PUBLICATION OF MAYER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL FOR JR. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.



Learning From

Mud



SINCE THE BEGINNING OF time man has been fascinated with dirt. As children, we roll around in it, build things with it, and add water to it to make mud. This fascination with mud extends to adults as well, who enjoy driving through mud, playing football in the mud, throwing mud at each other, even running in it. What many of us don't realize is the power, literally, that mud holds.



Sara Schmidt, a senior at Mayer Lutheran, has been enrolled in an Independent Science Study course this year. This course requires Sara to create a research project, conduct the research, and present her findings at a regional science fair.

Sara's project is entitled **"The Use of Anaerobic Bacteria in a Microbial Fuel Cell."** What that

means to you and I is that Sara is studying the presence of an electrical current produced by the bacteria that is found in wastewater.

The wastewater Sara is using is coming from the Minnesota River. Essentially, Sara collected mud from the area where a tributary flows into the Minnesota, which she then observed to discover how much electricity can be generated. She created an electrical circuit (seen in the photo) that runs through the mud, allowing her to measure the amount of electricity the bacteria can create through the releasing of electrons during the respiration process.

Sara also created a similar project using food waste. The bacteria found in the mud/wastewater are also present in food waste. Sara duplicated her electrical circuit, this time replacing the mud with food waste. While the food waste did create measurable electricity, the mud created more.

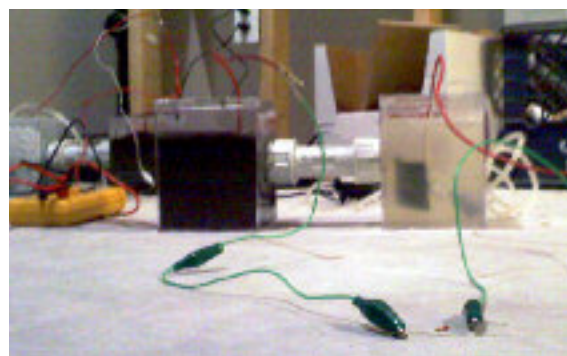
What does the future hold for this type of electricity? Researchers around the world are investigating if wastewater can be used to create electricity. One of the best things about the potential for wastewater electricity is that in the process of harnessing the electrical current, the water is also purified. Researchers hope that enough electricity can be generated to support the purification process. By using this process, poor nations may be able

to create clean drinking water without having to use any electricity, as it would be produced by the current created from the wastewater.

Sara will be competing in the regional science fair on February 19, 2011. If her project is selected as one of the finalists, Sara would qualify to continue on to the state science fair and perhaps even the national science fair, which is held in Los Angeles this year.



Below: Sara runs an electrical circuit through the mud, which can measure the amount of electricity bacteria can create through the releasing of electrons during the respiration process.



MLHS

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S**How often does Mayer Lutheran have chapel? Who does them?**

Mayer Lutheran essentially has chapel every day (there are a few days each school year which we do not have chapel). The majority of our chapels are done by area pastors, church workers and faculty. About once a week we have Praise and Worship chapel, a time of praise through music.

Does Mayer Lutheran have uniforms? A dress code?

We do not have uniforms, and yes we do have a dress code. Our dress code provides students the freedom to dress how they desire while also providing guidelines so that clothing does not become a distraction to the academic day.

How much time is there between classes at Mayer Lutheran?

Classes are 45 minutes long on a typical Mayer Lutheran day. Students have four minutes between classes. Our intimate campus makes it simple to navigate between classes while also providing an opportunity for students to stop at their locker and chat with friends in the hallway.

What type of religion classes do I take at Mayer Lutheran?

While this may change in the future due to our ongoing curriculum review process, students currently take Old Testament as freshman, New Testament as sophomores and electives as juniors and seniors. The electives we offer are Christian Leadership, Christian Ethics, Christian Worship, Christian Marriage and Family, Comparative Religions, Articles of Faith, and The History of Christianity. Students are required to take four of these courses for graduation.

Jr. Crusader Valentine's Dance

**7th & 8th GRADERS
YOU ARE INVITED!
(Bring your friends!)**

Saturday, February 12, 2011

6:30-9:00 PM at MLHS

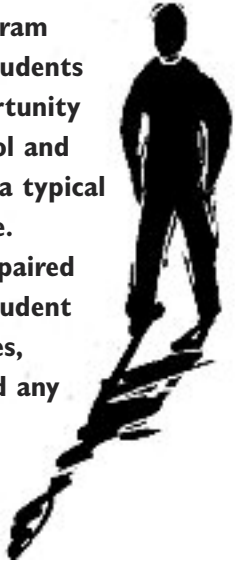
Admission: \$5

Pizza, drinks, and cookies provided!

**Haven't signed up? Call Renae Johnson
at 952.657.2251. x 222**

SHADOW PROGRAM

The Shadow program at MLHS offers students the unique opportunity to visit our school and experience what a typical day would be like. Students will be paired with a current student and attend classes, chapel, lunch, and any other activity as a Shadow. If you are interested in this program, please contact Kris Gustin at 952.657.2251 x 303 or at kgustin@lhsmayer.org.



Music Concert

On March 21, 2011 Mayer Lutheran High School will be hosting the **Annual Sacred Music Concert** in the auditorium. The concert begins at **7:00 PM**. That evening several local grade schools will also have students performing. The **Beginning Band** and the **Grade School Mass Band** will be performing that evening. All of the hard work and the hours spent practicing scales will be on display that evening.

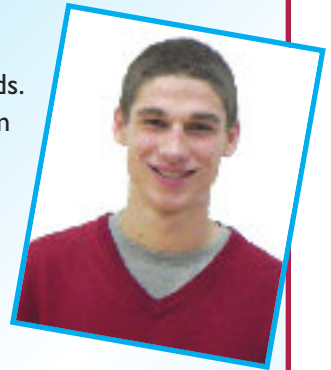
Come and support your friends and classmates as they perform for the glory of our risen Savior.

If you are interested in participating in the Mayer Lutheran High School Elementary Band Program, please contact James Dulas at 952.657.2251 x 232 or jdulas@lhsmayer.org.

My First Year...

by Joel Burfeind, Class of 2014

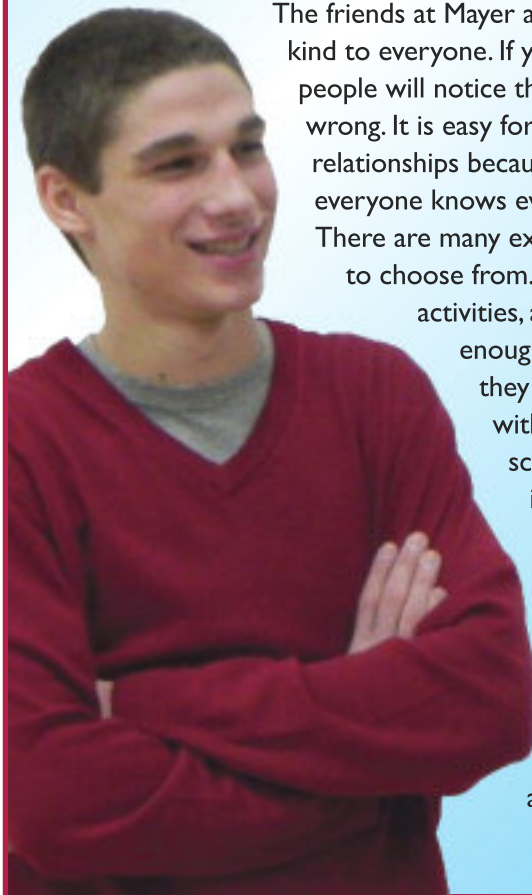
I chose to come to Mayer Lutheran for many reasons. The number one reason for coming to Mayer is to find a school with a Christian atmosphere. The teachers are terrific when it comes to that. They put God's love before anything else. It just shows how much that means to our school. Then there are friends. The majority of Mayer students come from a Christian background, which is a big bonus you don't necessarily find in the public schools.



There are more reasons. Mayer is a small school which gave me many opportunities: academically, socially, and through extracurricular activities. Academically it is a huge benefit. The teachers are looking to help you and it is easier to have one on one help if you need it. If they can't help you at that moment they will find an opening for them to come and help you. Their priority is you first, which you might not see in larger schools.

The friends at Mayer are great! Everyone is kind to everyone. If you're having a bad day, people will notice that and ask what's wrong. It is easy for you to build relationships because it is small and everyone knows everyone!

There are many extracurricular activities to choose from. They offer many activities, and if we don't have enough people for a team they will partner you up with a surrounding school. This partially influenced me to come to Mayer because I knew I could do anything, and actually participate. They find opportunities for everyone! Mayer is a terrific school!



Four Years Later...



GRETA SOWLES will be graduating from Mayer Lutheran High School this spring. Greta is Dan and Julie Sowles's fourth daughter to graduate from

MLHS. Greta attended Trinity Lutheran Elementary School. We sat down with Greta to ask her about how her four years at Mayer Lutheran have impacted her and prepared her for the next stages of her life.

How fast have the four years gone?

Oh my gosh. I feel like it was yesterday that I walked through as a freshman. Four years have flown by, and now I look at the freshman this year and think, I was that person.

Since it goes fast, what advice do you have for freshman?

Have a blast, don't get caught up in drama, take advantage of every moment. Appreciate the atmosphere of our school, don't take anything for granted. Make the best of your time at school. You may not always want to be in school and it won't be your favorite place, but the memories you make will last a lifetime.

Since you mentioned atmosphere, how would you describe the atmosphere?

It is very tight knit, like a family. It is small, but you can make it big because there are so many things to get involved in. The school is very Christ-centered. All the teachers and faculty have a true mission to help kids grow in their faith, which comes before even the core academics.

How have the academics prepared you for college?

Comparing myself to friends from public schools, I feel I have excelled here at MLHS. I see this primarily in my speech, my study habits, and my love for learning. I feel the Religion classes, on top of all of my other courses, have given me a

strong sense of the importance of faith and taught me ways to defend it.

How has MLHS prepared you to be a Christian leader?

The school challenges you to step out of your box, your comfort zone, and be on fire for Christ. Although it may not be acceptable in today's world, I feel I have become more comfortable and filled with a desire to be different. The school has really encouraged me to be a servant, to be the hands and feet of Christ. I have gone on several mission trips and done different service events locally; this has created a strong desire in me to become lesser so Christ can become more.

So if you had to do it all over again, your four years, what would you change?

There are little things you wish you could change, but little things can make a difference. I am content with how my four years have gone. I am not sure I would want to change something little in fear that it might alter something larger. God has a plan for the little things and the big things, so why attempt to change His plan. As you mature and get older you begin to see His plan and how God uses the little things in your life.



HELPING HANDS

By Chase Greenhagen,
MLHS Sophomore

MLHS's **Anapra Mexico Mission Trip** was a life changing experience for me. I was warned in advanced that I was going to be changed by this mission trip and I was. Families down there lived in houses the size of your room, but those houses were built out of trash. They had nothing, yet they had everything. They were happy with what they had, the little that they did have. One of the families that we were building a house for didn't even have a stove or anything to heat up their food, but when the kids came toward us they always had the biggest smile I have ever seen.

We didn't go down there to change the world; in fact, it probably changed us more than it did the people down there. We didn't go over there just to build houses, though. We went over there to bring more people into God's family. One of my friends told me as we were leaving that this mission trip is ending, but the next one is begging.



CRUSADER HOME GAMES

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Boys Basketball | Girls Basketball |
| 2/3 Holy Family | 2/1 NYA |
| 2/8 NYA | 2/4 Belle Plaine |
| 2/11 Belle Plaine | 2/7 Delano |
| 2/22 Sibley East | 2/15 Sibley East |
| 3/4 Concordia Roseville | 2/25 West Lutheran |



Students: Remember to bring your Crusader pass for FREE admission! **GO CRUSADERS!**

For complete Crusader sports schedules go to lhsmayer.org/activities

(College in High School? continued from cover)

work PSEO into their schedules, giving them time during the day to complete the coursework, take exams, and fulfill other requirements.

A third and final way MLHS provides opportunities for students to earn college credit is through our Onsite PSEO program. Through a partnership with Concordia University St. Paul, students enroll in a course taught at MLHS by a Mayer Lutheran teacher. If the student fulfills certain requirements, they receive both high school and college credit for the course. This credit can then be transferred to the college or university the student attends. MLHS currently offers Onsite PSEO for College Writing, Physics, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, and Dynamic Health and Human Movement.

Does this all pay off? Absolutely! We have had students who have graduated with enough credits to become sophomores as they enter college. This year's graduating class contained 36 students who graduated with some amount of college credit potential. The college or university the student attends ultimately decides what the courses will be transferred as, but even if the course is counted as an elective it is still "money in the bank." That is money well spent, and we all know that money does not grow on trees!



Who is this guy?

Award-Winning, Classically-Trained, and World-Renowned Master Illusionist

"What if everything you've based your life on to this point has been a clever illusion?" the illusionist asks. "How deep is the deception all around us, and how much of it do we accept without even questioning?"

His name is Harris, III ("Harris the Third"), and since receiving a magic set from his grandmother at the age of 9, he has been fascinated with magic, illusion and how easily the senses are deceived. At age 11 he gave his first public performance. Today, at the age of 27, he is a classically trained, award-winning, master illusionist, and an expert in the art of deception. He has performed before 1 million people in more than twelve nations on five continents.

Harris' performances not only amaze his audiences, but also awaken them to the lure of deception, the power of the senses, and the secret of living life based on deeper realities.

April 7, 2011 Master Illusionist BJ Harris III will bring his national tour "Mayhem and Misdirection" with special guests 3 2 1 Improve Comedy to Mayer Lutheran High School's Fine Arts Center.

This show will be amazing! The curtain goes up at 7 PM!

harrisiii.com to learn more about Harris III!





MAYER KNIGHTS

SUMMER '11 CAMPS!

- How about build a robot?
- Do you want to learn how to shoot an arrow?
- Would you like to improve your football skills, or how about work on your dribbling, or serving a volleyball?

Whatever your interests, **Mayer Knights** and the **Crusaders Summer Camps** have something for you! Brochures are in the mail and will be sent home with each student.

The **Summer Camps** registration deadline is **May 15, 2011** so please register now and reserve your spot!

Questions?
Please contact Barb Christopherson, Knights Coordinator, 952.657.2257 x 227, bchristopherson@lhsmayer.org, or go to www.lhsmayer.org and click on "Knights Program".

PLACEMENT TESTS

All incoming students take a placement test covering the areas of **math, writing, and reading comprehension**. These tests are used, in part, to aid in course scheduling. The tests will take approximately three hours.

To schedule a test, please contact Renae Johnson in the Admissions office at 952.657.2251 x 222.

The test dates are as follows:

Saturday, March 5 9 AM–12 PM
Saturday, March 12 9 AM–12 PM
Thursday, April 14 6 PM–9 PM
Saturday, April 16 9 AM–12 PM

Students who are interested in taking **geometry** should plan to take the **Math Mastery Test**. This test will be given on **Thursday, May 19, 6:30 PM** and again on **Saturday, May 21, 9 AM**.

MAYER KNIGHTS

Jr. High Activities Outreach of Mayer Lutheran High School

Knights Highlights!!



Barb Christopherson, Knights Coordinator 952.657.2251 X 227



The Knights 7th Grade Boys Basketball Team took 1st place at the Monticello Basketball Tournament!



The Knights 5th Grade Girls Basketball team took 1st place at the Columbia Heights Basketball Tournament!

ENROLLING AT MLHS

Early Application Discount: Feb. 28, 2011
 Tuition Assistance Application: Feb. 28, 2011
 Registration Booklet: April 28, 2011

Forms can be downloaded by going to our website lhsmayer.org, then click on enrollment on the left hand side of the page.

MAYER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

305 Fifth Street NE, Mayer, MN 55360

Questions about Mayer Lutheran High School? Call 952.657.2251 or go to our website www.lhsmayer.org

- Joel Landskroener: Executive Director
- Kevin Wilaby: Principal
- Kris Gustin: Director of Admissions
- Renae Johnson: Administrative Assistant
- Paulette Jopp: Office Manager



preparing
the **next**
generation of
Christian leaders

Mayer Lutheran High School admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its policies, financial aid program or other school-administered programs.

Open House! Feb 12 & Feb 19 9 AM–Noon

Visit Mayer Lutheran High School during our two Open House opportunities, Saturday, Feb. 12 or Feb. 19, from 9 AM–Noon. Meet faculty members and future classmates. Current students will be giving tours which include giveaways! Teachers and administrators will be available to answer questions about registration, academics, co-curricular activities, finances, and anything else you would like to know. Come discover why Mayer Lutheran is the best choice for preparing the next generation of Christian leaders!!

prepared



to **encourage**