



Maine School of Science and Mathematics Parents' Association

Summer, 2009

Dear parents of newly-accepted MSSM students:

Welcome to the MSSM community! As a parent of an MSSM student, you are now also a member of the MSSM Parents' Association (MSSMPA). For many of us, being active in the MSSMPA helps us remain *informed, and connected* to our children and other parents in our situation, as we experience the transition of our children going to boarding school.

Each parent decides upon his and her own level of participation in the MSSMPA. The more parent help we have, the more we can accomplish; so we encourage you actively to participate. The MSSMPA fills a number of roles. A priority for us is providing information and support to parents throughout the year. To this end, we maintain a website and a Yahoo Group for parents. The Yahoo Group provides features for sharing photos and school information, as well as an email listserv. The MSSMPA also helps with student activities; engages in fundraising; and offers support to the MSSM faculty and administration. Our web site url is www.mssmvoice.org. The link to the Yahoo Group is on the site.

The MSSMPA always has tasks we would like to share! Whether you want to work on one or more discreet projects, or be a 'go to' person throughout the year on a more as-needed basis, please reach out to us and let us know. You will find names and contact information at the end of this letter for the MSSMPA Executive Committee and Yahoo Group Administrator.

Enclosed with this letter are three attachments: a paper entitled "MSSMPA Tips and Tricks," packing information, and a list of "Lodging in the Limestone Area." These evolving compilations have been gathered from current and past MSSM parents and students. If you ever think of anything we should add or remove, please let us know!

Our first opportunity to meet one another will be at "New Student Move-In Day" on August 15, 2009. We will hold an informal meeting that day to share tips, concerns and questions. Our next meeting will be on Friday, September 18, 2009 during the first Parents' Weekend of the year. Notice about the place and time of these meetings will accompany the agendas that the school sends to you for those events. We hope you will partner with us to support our children, one another, and the school. Our approach is open, collaborative, and positive.

Very truly yours,

Nora Sosnoff
MSSMPA President 2009