

MIS Hears you...The Survey Results are In



I want to express a big thank you to the many families who participated in the ISACS online survey of MIS in February. Almost 60% of our parents and students and 100% of our faculty and staff participated and the results were very encouraging.

It is with much pride and delight that I report MIS achieved higher performance marks than the ISACS comparison in our innovative curriculum, professional development, commitment to diverse enrollment, and achievement of school mission. 96% of MIS parents gave high marks for our caring environment and our values and character development while 89% of parents gave high marks for our academic program.

MIS also received high marks for:

- Parents (involvement and their respect for faculty and administration)
- Faculty (teaching ability, role modeling, respect for administration and discipline)
- Students (respect for school, enthusiasm, spirit and commitment)

The surveys indicate that places to improve our performance include:

- Technology
- Building and grounds
- Alumni relations
- Extracurricular activities

Other interesting information:

- 61% of respondents were female with 37% male (2% took survey together)
- 54% of respondents support the MISsion Forward Fund
- 98% of respondents have a college degree and 61% have a post-secondary degree
- 38% of our families drive over six miles to the school
- 73% of survey respondents have been with the school for five years or less (23% are in their first year at MIS)
- 72% considered language immersion as their primary reason for attending MIS while 21% chose MIS for the IB program.
- 11% of the respondents indicate an ethnic origin other than Caucasian
- 22% of respondents indicate their household income is under \$50,000 annually, 33% between \$50,000-100,000, 25% \$100,000-200,000, 20% over \$200,000 (63% of ISACS parents make over \$100,000)

We appreciate all of the people who took the time to fill out the narrative portion of the survey. There were many insightful comments and concerns. We have spent many hours reviewing and consolidating those comments into a useful tool for improvement. The entire survey results are available for review in the office. Please feel free to discuss any aspect of the survey or results either with Julie Lennox, Head of School or Laura Bovard, Self Study Coordinator.

Global Collaboration VS. Global Conflict

As part of the **NAIS Global Initiatives** program, MIS middle school students teamed up with schools in California and Kenya this year to participate in the National Association for Independent School's *Challenge 20/20*, based on Jean Francois Rischard's book *High Noon: 20 Global Problems, 20 Years to Solve Them*. In the book, he articulates **20 global problems** from which the school team(s) chose to work on identifying and proposing local solutions.

The students in California chose to create and mount a permanent 8ft X 8ft mural on the wall of their school depicting their message about saving marine life. The students in Kenya teamed up with seventh grade students from Assam, India to research and report on river dolphins, an endangered species. Both schools shared their findings with the students of MIS.

MIS students created research teams and shared their work through a series of short films. The topics included: 1) The impact of the gulf oil spill on fish and fisheries, 2) the impact of introducing non-native lake trout into cutthroat trout habitats, 3) the impact of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch on fish and fisheries, 4) a colorful debate on methods for protecting native fish species, and 5) global perspectives on overfishing. MIS will conclude the project by teaming up with the Clark Fork Coalition on May 23rd to stencil the storm drains in the Rattlesnake area.

To see some of the creative perspectives and solutions presented by the MIS teams, visit the MIS YouTube channel!



<http://www.youtube.com/user/mismtorg>

5th Grade Exhibitions Taking Shape

On June 1st, students in the 5th grade will conclude their inquiries with an exhibition on the PYP central idea, "Conflicts Occur When People Struggle for Resources." Research will be presented on five topics, ranging from access to clean water to the benefits and challenges of power. All are welcome to join us!

REMINDER: Don't Forget to turn in your Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Soup labels before May 31st!

Contact Joy, angelsfluff@aol.com for more information.

Every Step Counts Spring Challenge



May 5th-May 27th



Can we count on your gifts to move us up today?

Your gift to the MISSION Forward Fund Spring Challenge allows MIS to climb higher, enriching all areas of the school.

It takes a few steps at a time from each parent, grandparent, teacher, and board member to reach our \$100,000 goal. When you receive the call to support the Spring Challenge, remember that every gift counts for MIS! Make your gift today!

Eat Healthy and Give to MIS

Thanks to MIS families who set up Good Food Store SCRIP accounts, donations to MIS amount to an average of \$5,000 per year. Sign up during Field Day on May 20th at the Spirit Shop table. Contact Director of Development, Bethany O'Connell, for more information: boconnell@mismt.org



Shop with Farm to Family MT (F2F), a local food delivery service in Missoula, and get 2% of what you spend donated back to MIS! F2F delivers local and organic groceries, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares, home and health products, and



Farm to Family
MONTANA

more to homes and businesses in Missoula. Every year F2F will calculate your spending, and write a check for 2% of your total to MIS. The annual donation will happen in June, but you may sign up any time. This is a great way to support our MISSION Forward Fund goal while feeding your family with delicious, local and organic food. Simply sign up and start shopping online at farmtofamilymt.com.

2011 Photo Album: Middle School Trip Memories

Teton Science School: Community Exploration



¡Viva la Mexico!



Teton Science School: Wildlife Exploration



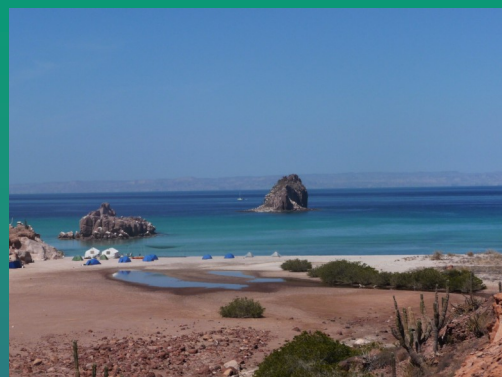
Community Garden Project



Teton Science School: Stewardship



Isla Espiritu Santo



Student Reflection from Day Two:

Tuesday was fun in the field. We saw 300 elk. We saw scat and a chipmunk! We also found very interesting wood that bugs have chewed on. At the Kelly campus we saw 14 moose and we went snowshoeing. We identified different types of trees and animal tracks.

Lynn Hudorovich Reflects on May 7:

We just got back from the island today. We snorkeled with sea lions, collected and studied sea stars and had lots of fun with the local friends. They learned about water conservation and desert-marine ecosystems. Thank you EPI and MIS for giving these kids this opportunity.



☺☺ Looking ahead...

MAY 2011		JUNE 2011	
20	Field Day! (see below)	1	5th Grade PYP Exhibition Day at MIS- details TBA
24	Playground Project Party after school. Bring gloves, shovels, and good cheer!	3	End of Year Graduation Program at 3:45 p.m. (NO AFTER CARE)
30 NO SCHOOL	Memorial Day	8	Last Day of School- Early out at 11:30 a.m. (NO AFTER CARE)
		9-10	Parent Volunteer Days- Trucks and organizers needed!

AGUA Water awareness has been an all-school theme this spring at MIS. Thanks to MIS parent Keegan Eisenstadt and Brita's Filter-For-Good program, students were able to purchase a video camera to help document their efforts as good stewards of water during the Earth Day clean up at the Bugbee Nature Preserve and Clark Fork River. Students collaborated with local conservation organizations and schools around the world to study marine ecology and the effects of plastics on marine life. These student-led efforts are just the beginning!

take the
FilterForGood
pledge



Field Day is Friday! Come Check out the **SPIRIT SHOP!**

Friday promises to provide movement, fun, and team challenges as MIS students gather in tribes for Field Day. MIS parent, Emily Musco, and P.E. teacher, Jessica Eirkson, have worked hard to organize the days activities and special surprises! All families are welcome to join the fun. Parents should make sure your child wears shoes for running, applies sunscreen, and brings a lunch because there is NO PIZZA.

Field Day Schedule:

9:15-11:30 a.m. Rotation through game stations

11:30 a.m. Practice all-school song for End of Year Program

11:35 a.m.- 12:25 p.m. Lunch and recess

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Obstacle course hosted by the National Guard

2:30 p.m.- Pickup Students return to their classrooms.

Have a Blast!



MIS Spirit Shop Price List

Junior and Adult T-Shirts \$20

Kids T-Shirts \$15

Hoodie Sweatshirts: \$40

Embroidered Hats: \$18

Stainless Steel Water Bottles: \$10

Stainless Steel Travel Mugs: \$12