



SMSA Booster Club

Newsletter | Vol 14 – September 2024

“Don’t let anyone rob you of your imagination, your creativity, or your curiosity. It’s your place in the world; it’s your life. Go on and do all you can with it, and make it the life you want to live.”

~ Mae Jemison, first African American woman astronaut in space.

Welcome everyone to the Saguaro MSA Booster Club’s fourteenth Newsletter. A copy of previous newsletters are available on the MSA Booster Facebook page.

We kicked off the school year in style with the MSA Booster Club hosting a Welcome Lunch for Saguaro teachers on July 30th.



2024 MSA Booster Board, General Meetings & Upcoming Events

- 09.11.24 - General Parents meeting
- 09.21.24 - Sisters in Stem Annual Convention
- 10.16.24 - MSA Booster Board meeting
- 11.13.24 - General Parents meeting
- 12.11.24 - MSA Booster Board meeting



09.11.24 - MSA Fundraiser @Barro’s Pizza [All Day]

8940 E Indian Bend Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85250

For MSA to get 20% on every purchase, please mention it is for Saguaro MSA fundraiser

09.14.24 - MSA Social - Welcome Party [4:00 PM to 6:00 PM]

Host Melanie Abts & family

(Pool for swimmers)

8335 E VIA DE LA GENTE, Scottsdale,
AZ 85258



Beginning of the year is a fresh start for all Student Clubs. Leadership positions are open for the 2024-25 election after the Club Rush event at school. Following is list of clubs active under MSA

Healthcare HOSA: Club Sponsor: Marcy Cameron

Biotech HOSA: Club Sponsor: Liz Bond (new this year)

HOSA is an international student organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Education (HSE) Division of ACTE. HOSA's two-fold mission is to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. Students work on service projects in the community and can participate in over 20 different events at the State HOSA Convention in Tucson.

Math League Club Club Sponsor: Ms. Kline

Mathleague sponsors a series of [high school math contests](#) each year to determine the individual and team state champions in several states, as well as national champions. Local qualifying tournaments are held throughout the school year at various sites in these states. Within space limitations at each site, schools may attend any or all of these tournaments in an attempt to qualify for the state meet. Each event has a cutoff score, and all students and teams attaining the cutoff score will be invited to compete at the state championship, provided their schools are members of [mathleague.org](#) and located in a state where [mathleague.org](#) holds a championship. State meets will be held in April; details will be emailed by early April to all schools with qualifying students.

Robotics Club Club Sponsor: Mr. Brandt (MSA) & Ms. Lindberg (MSA)

There are two different platforms for building a robot and competition, FIRST and VEX

FIRST Robotics Competition. The mission of FIRST® is to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership. Engage kids in kindergarten through high school in exciting, mentor-based, research and robotics programs that help them become science and technology leaders, as well as well-rounded contributors to society.

In the VEX Robotics Competition, presented by the [Robotics Education & Competition Foundation](#), teams of students are tasked with designing and building a robot to play against other teams in a game-based engineering challenge. Classroom STEM concepts are put to the test as students learn lifelong skills in teamwork, leadership, communications, and more. Tournaments are held year-round

at the regional, state, and national levels and culminate at the VEX Robotics World Championship each April!

Science Olympiad Club Club Sponsor: Ms. Lindberg

[Science Olympiad](#) is a National Science, Technology, Engineering and Math program that allows students to apply what they know in a competitive setting. Welcome to the exciting possibilities for you and your students that happen with Science Olympiad. Arizona Science Olympiad has three divisions divided by grade level: Division A is for grades 2-5, Division B is for middle school students, grades 6 through 9 and Division C is for high school students, grades 9 through 12. We can offer you information on integration of STEM education in your science and math classroom as well as numerous opportunities for your students to practice and compete in the various 20+ Science Olympiad events. Examples of some of the events are: Biology Lab, Chemistry Lab, Boomilever, Gravity Vehicle, Forensics, Cell Biology, Protein Modeling, Ping Pong Parachute, Mission Possible, Egg Drop, Disease Detective, Mouse Trap Vehicle, Rocks and Minerals, Reptiles and Amphibians, Expanding Universe and more. Explore the Science Olympiad site more.

SMSA/STEM Club Club Sponsors: Mr. Brandt (MSA) & Ms. Lindberg (MSA)

All SMSA students are part of the SMSA Club. The goal of both clubs is to increase critical thinking skills of each student through hands-on projects and challenges presented by the club members. Club members create activities to provide opportunities for students to engage in science, technology, engineering and math in multiple ways and in a supportive and fun environment. Members will learn from their peers to build interest in academic success and higher education while fostering an interest in additional STEM learning opportunities and careers. As with all clubs the goal is to give students an opportunity to socialize with their peers in a fun and safe environment.

CyberPatriot Club Club Sponsors: Mr. Brandt (MSA) & Ms. Lindberg (MSA)

CyberPatriot is the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association to inspire K-12 students toward careers in cybersecurity or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation's future.

At the core of the program is the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, the nation's largest cyber defense competition that puts high school and middle school students in charge of securing virtual networks. Other programs include AFA CyberCamps, an elementary school cyber education initiative, a children's literature series, and CyberGenerations – a cyber safety initiative geared toward keeping senior citizens safe online

Our CyberPatriot Club will focus on four initiatives

1. The competition-practice and preparation for the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition
2. Outreach to educate elementary school students K-6 on how to be safe online.
3. Outreach to educate senior citizens on how to be safe online.
4. Promotion and marketing of a book about keeping safe in a digital world written by two of our students.Me

Melody Makers

Melody Makers is a student designed and run initiative to bring a connection between STEM and music to elementary school students. Our students have created lessons on 3D printing, Sound waves, how amplifiers work and much more. They are always creating new lessons that they will teach to 3rd- 5th grade students at local elementary schools.



Upcoming Club Events

- ❖ Sisters in STEM** on 9.21.24 from 10 AM to Noon at Quad and IC.
- ❖ FRC State Championship in Robotics** on 9.27 and 9.28.



Tax credit

Arizona law allows taxpayers to receive a dollar for dollar tax credit of up to \$200 for individual filers and up to \$400 for married filers for contributions made to SUSD schools! You can claim the tax credit when filing your Arizona State Income Tax returns if you donate before April 15 of the following year. [Click here](#) to find more information about AZ Tax Credits. [Click here](#) to make an online donation, where you can indicate the school, specific program (MSA - T861), and the name of the student you'd like to support, or the funds can go to the general fund. Friends and neighbors can receive the same tax credit if they donate as well - so please spread the word!



MSA Booster Board Members

- Shanda Carrithers and Melanie Abts as Co-Presidents
- Swati Ghorpade as Vice President
- Sara Uribe as Treasurer
- Alix Wilson as co-secretary
- Jackie Bartoletti as co-secretary

* Election for 2024-45 pending

* Open positions - Fundraising, Event Coordinator(s), Grant writer, Volunteer(s),

We're looking for enthusiastic parents to join, contribute and be a part of shaping our students' future. Contact saguaromsa@gmail.com to get involved!



MSA Fundraising Report

Through the generosity of our MSA families, we hope to raise funds this year to support our growing program and activities. If every family donates just \$25-\$50 we can reach our goals and provide our students, staff, and Saguaro Community with excellent opportunities!!

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND DONATIONS: All donations are appreciated! MSA Boosters is a registered 501c(3) and we will provide a receipt for your records

Please include your name, the donation amount, and your address. Ways to Donate:

- Zelle: saguaromsa@gmail.com
- PayPal: Search Saguaro Math and Science Academy Boosters
- Check: Payable to "Saguaro MSA Boosters". Mail to: MSA Boosters, 6250 N 82nd St, Scottsdale, AZ 85250
- Passive donations - Fry's: Log into your Fry's account and select Saguaro MSA as a Community Rewards designation. Fry's/Kroger will mail a check every quarter to MSA. All donations are 100% utilized for MSA students, MSA teachers, and MSA events.

Thank you so much for your generosity!



Contact & Social Links



[MSA Booster Volunteer Registration](#)



[Saguaro MSA](#)



[Email - saguaromsa@gmail.com](mailto:saguaromsa@gmail.com)



[Saguaro MSA Calendar](#)



[MSA Booster Website](#)



[MSA Booster Facebook Group](#)