

News Release

Dobbs Ferry Middle School TV Club Offers a “Daily Dose” of Morning News

Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. January 17, 2014—If it's 8:20 am at Dobbs Ferry Middle School it must be “Daily Dose” time. Each morning students and teachers in their homebase classrooms “tune-in” to a live television broadcast of the “Daily Dose” highlighting relevant news of the day. Beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance and spanning an array of topical features and timely announcements, the program has become a mainstay of the school's morning schedule.

The show is alternately hosted by five students who are part of the Middle School's extracurricular TV Club, formerly the Radio Club. The District's Television Studio Director Kevin Ridley is the club's advisor. Mr. Ridley, along with 11th grader Vincent Laino, serves as co-executive producer of the show. “Daily Dose has become so popular, I have half a dozen more students waiting in the wings who want to join the news team,” said Mr. Ridley.

In addition to the traditional morning announcements, which include weather, today's lunch, and clubs and sports information, the “Daily Dose” also encompasses special news segments. “Food for Thought” poses a tongue-in-cheek question for students to contemplate such as, “If you spill stain remover, what do you clean it up with?” Additionally, and on a more educational note, other features include a music wrap-up called the “iTunes Top Five,” an historical report “This Day in History,” and often a Biography “short” highlighting a famous person. “Bend Your Brain,” “Weird Facts” and the “Mentimeter Question of the Week” are also regular features. Students respond to the Mentimeter Question online via their cell phones or tablets. MAC Lab Teaching Assistant and yearbook advisor Bryan Korzen provides the TV crew with the survey question (covering topics such as social media, homework, clubs and sports) and the final results will appear in the Middle School yearbook.

The “Daily Dose” students are responsible for pulling together the entire show and arrive each morning at the studio by 7:30 am to review stories for the day's programming and begin researching topics for the week. They seamlessly rotate positions from being in charge of the teleprompter, designing graphics, operating the cameras and mixing the audio, to anchoring “on air.” The 3-5 minute “Daily Dose” broadcast is shown in every 6th through 8th grade classroom via the SMART Boards for easy viewing.

TV Club members include Amy Allen, Ashley Klein, Gabriella Torres, Amanda Distefano, and Alyssa Rivera. “The students are learning how to read the teleprompter, operate the camera, maintain a camera presence and deliver the news, while the crew runs the show behind the scenes,” said Mr. Ridley. “We use a virtual set that enables us to make it look like the anchor is sitting at a desk or standing in front of a window. With a new green screen we can also now use more students ‘on location’ to expand the broadcast.”

According to Middle School Principal Patrick Mussolini, “Daily Dose” is a hit with students and staff because it is much more engaging than the traditional announcements broadcast over the PA system. “Our students enjoy seeing their friends live onscreen and appreciate all the extras the ‘Daily Dose’ provides in addition to the day-to-day announcements,” Mr. Mussolini said. “I am extremely proud of the members of the TV Club. Who knows, one of these students may be the next anchorperson for a major network.”

[Click to View two recent broadcasts of the Dobbs Ferry Middle School “Daily Dose”](#)

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