MHS Chess Club Created

At the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year, Tenzing Andrugwang and Joseph Farah were playing chess in a school hallway and discussed the possibilities of a Chess Club. They both submitted proposals at the same time to Dr. Perella. When Joseph and Tenzing found out that they both had acted on their idea, the two worked to find an advisor and together co-founded the Medford High Chess Club. Mr. Nicholas Kain kindly accepted. The Chess Club set up its first meeting on a Tuesday in Mr. Kain's classroom. Joseph took over the role as president and captain after Tenzing received an amazing offer to intern at Tufts University after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For the first meeting, the fledgling club only saw a turnout of about four people. For almost the entire school year, only couple of people showed up per week every Tuesday, and almost never the same people. Then, in about March, the club moved from Mr. Kain's classroom to the library and almost instantly saw an explosion of people. The weekly roster went from four to more than twenty consistent members! Every week, students like Jake Kostick, Tenzin Kunga, Abdullahi and Saida Osman, Scott McGoldrick, Andrew Sauro, Matthew Avella, Ronaldson Bellande, Kyle Quach, Leighton Helleberg, Tripp Hill , Zaryaab Shafiq, Keni Patel, Finn Flood and many more can be found playing chess. The best part is, many members of the chess community this year love the game so much you can often find a good number of people playing after school on any day of the week, not just Tuesday.

The Chess Club's first tournament (made possible by a grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies) was held just a few weeks ago. To the member's pleasant surprise, they had an audience--several people showed up to watch the games in progress. After more than a dozen intense, timed games, Jake emerged as the victor, with Kyle and Abdullahi tied for second. He received a fifty dollar gift card reward.

Report Submitted by Joseph Farah