

MHS Boosters
By Shanna Smith

It's that time of year again: the MHS Boosters Drive. Most Marblehead fall athletes probably just groaned when they heard this. However, what athletes later realize is what good the Drive does for the Marblehead community.

The Boosters Drive is an essential part of Marblehead High School's generous reputation because it provides scholarships to the phenomenal MHS athletes who deserve it. And it is always a massive success.

Last year, the Boosters Drive collected more than \$16,000 in donations to give as sports scholarships to lucky MHS athletes. Meeting this number took a small amount of work from each generous participant, yet everyone's contributions combined to create a massive effect in the long run. It's important for students to realize how much taking only a few hours out of their day can help dozens of families.

I, for one, can relate to athletes' hesitation to spend three hours on a Sunday afternoon walking door-to-door to collect donations. It didn't increase my enthusiasm either when I glanced out my bedroom window and it was pouring rain. But, as the day went on, I began to realize how important and generous the Booster's Drive really is.

The first thing about the drive that struck me was the faculty managing the Drive. When I walked into the cafeteria, I was greeted by a warm smile from everyone. In addition to this, the faculty made sure that volunteers weren't hungry or thirsty while they were walking around door-to-door; every year they provide pizza and water that each volunteer can take for free. This demonstrates how much the MHS faculty cares about its athletes.

One thing I find about the Drive that makes it different from any other volunteer work is that I know that I am helping people that I am already acquainted with. Yes, it is incredibly rewarding to help those who are homeless or severely ill. In fact, volunteering at a hospital may sometimes feel a lot more rewarding than the Booster's Drive. However, it is an incredibly good feeling to know that by spending three hours in the rain, I benefited someone that I've known for years. This gives every athlete a personal reason to participate in the Boosters Drive.

And for those of you who still don't care about what good the Drive has done to the MHS community, there's a bonus: community service hours. MHS makes sure to give every volunteer credit for helping these athletes win a scholarship. So, there really is no good reason to skip the Booster's Drive because everybody wins.