

## Week 17

# TMS Student & Family Bulletin: Week 17

### Important Dates:

- Jan 4: First day of school after winter break
- [Jan 6: 6pm Pathway Forward with Dr. Holmen](#)
- [Jan 11: Spelling Bee registration closes](#)
- Jan 12: 7 - 8.15pm TMS Choir, Band, Orchestra online concert
- [Jan 13: Virtual Freshman Parent Night](#)- Presented by RHS
- Jan 18: No School - MLK Day Observance
- Jan 19: Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Registration Due
- Jan 22: last day of quarter
- Jan 22: Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade Registration Due

### Path Forward: Live Event Message by Superintendent, Dr. Jon Holmen (January 5<sup>th</sup>- 6:00PM)

Dr. Holmen will provide information and details about our Pathway Forward in the new year. This [live update](#) will be recorded for staff and families that are not able to view the live broadcast. You can expect to receive information about:

1. Updates on the state of the virus as it relates to our efforts in Lake Washington SD
2. Information and lessons learned from our implementation of in-person learning for students with special needs that started in early September
3. Plans and timelines for transitioning to a learning model that includes in-person and remote learning for younger learners
4. Considerations for secondary learning models

Any updates from the Governor, Public Health or OSPI will be discussed at the live broadcast on January 6. Have a question you want us to include in the event, or in an FAQ following the meeting? Complete this [Microsoft Form to let us know your questions](#).

### This Is My Story Campaign: This Month's Focus- Stories of Difference

Throughout the school year, individuals will have an opportunity to tell their story through a monthly focus. This month's focus is on stories of differences. In hopes that our community consider and include all voices in our daily actions, the venue of storytelling will allow us to learn from perspectives and experiences that differ from our own and also help reinforce connection. It will allow us to focus on personal experiences that may connect us through shared experiences, brighten our spirits due to a lens of positivity or hope, or even help us grow empathy as we hear about the struggles of hurts of others.

This campaign is focused on the collective efforts of staff, students, and families. **Together, we are striving for a school community that truly feels authentically inclusive and for a community where all stories matter. Because, when we know better, we do better.** We want to honor you and ask that you participate at your comfort level. **We do deeply encourage you to find some way to join in this month's focus of differences.** Whether it is through family discussion around the dinner table, or joining us in an event, we will be better when our efforts are combined. Below are ways to get involved.

Student skill focuses:

- Develop better listening skills
- Develop an ability to be reflective on the impact of your own words and actions
- Better understand the unique experiences of people different from us within our own community
- Better understand how to disagree kindly and respectfully
- Better understand your role in creating a

Activities to practice skills:

- **This is My Story of Difference Kick Off (January 4<sup>th</sup>)**

As a population, we have common experiences and we also have unique experiences that may relate to the different labels or groups we identify with. We hope you choose to share about a unique difference you might have and how that difference has impacted or shaped your life. What might others different from you need to know to better understand you? Some possible differences may include stories related to:

- |  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| -Gender or non-binary differences          | -Religion                           |
| -Race or culture                           | -Age/grade level                    |
| -Physical and health impacts               | -Sexual orientation                 |
| -Obstacles relate to money/resource        | -English is not your first language |
| -Challenging life or family event          | -Impacts of being a Quest student   |
| -Impacts of being a special ed/504 student | -Other differences                  |

Our hope is that by sharing your story of difference, we will better understand the unique experiences of others within our school community and create a more inclusive and safe community to be yourself. Students, families, and staff are encouraged to share stories either anonymously or at personal comfort levels, by using their name. Click the link here to share your story of difference:

<https://tinyurl.com/StoryShowcase>

- **MLK Assembly (January 14<sup>th</sup>)**

Focus: Understanding the historical influences of MLK, Jr. and how to nurture unity and differences within our current world

- **Pack Time Lessons related to Differences**

- January 7th - Pack Time Lesson- Understanding and celebrating differences
- January 21st- Pack Time Lesson- Counselors present information about different career pathways unique to individuals' strengths and interests
- January 25th- Pack Time Lesson: Community testimonial stories about their own unique career paths and different experiences related to education and career choices
- January 28th- Pack Time Lesson: Understanding the value of differences and how to nurture unity with people who are different from you or who disagree
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- **Book Study: *So You Want to Talk About Race?* (Meeting #3: Week of January 20<sup>th</sup>-Feb 1<sup>st</sup>)**

We currently have 11 monthly book study groups learning about the differences of race; all incorporate 92 staff and family attendees. For those participating, reading from chapters 9-13 will be debriefed. Your facilitator will send you questions and the meeting invite directly by email.

- **This Is My Story of Difference Live Event (February 1<sup>st</sup>- 6:00PM)**

Stories of differences will be selected and read in a live event by the writers who submitted stories or by Timberline staff members. Stories will be shared from the following schools: Baker, Parks, Timberline, and Redmond High School. The link to the live event is here: [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_MjE2MTI5ZTMtMzY2Ni00MTQxLWE4MjgtNGY4MDAwMjc4M2M0%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%221fd4673f-df96-4621-8638-a1d88c4c85d7%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%224ddee34e-00f9-45aa-b15b-53ba09790f4a%22%2c%22isBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MjE2MTI5ZTMtMzY2Ni00MTQxLWE4MjgtNGY4MDAwMjc4M2M0%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%221fd4673f-df96-4621-8638-a1d88c4c85d7%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%224ddee34e-00f9-45aa-b15b-53ba09790f4a%22%2c%22isBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d)

### **Clubs Running at Timberline during the Month of January**

Attached to this email is the most updated list for Timberline clubs. We are proud to share that there are currently 31 clubs available to students during Friday Flex times. Participating in clubs is a great way to develop new friendships, have fun outside of the classroom, and stay connected with peers and staff!

Whether you are a student or a family member at Timberline, I hope your week back from winter break brings you a sense of accomplishment and continued connection with others!

All the best-

Heidi Paul- Principal

Timberline Middle School