

5/26/23

Dear Meridian Families,

I just wanted to take a minute to thank everyone in our community for your contribution to what was truly an awesome 22-23 school year! Our theme for this year was to approach the year with “an open heart & open mind.” Throughout the year, as a community, we definitely lived up to this mission. One point of pride this year is the way our students responded as we implemented a new, more rigorous literacy curriculum called Benchmark Advanced. I routinely heard students saying things such as, “This is hard, but it’s helping me learn” and “CMAS was easy compared to Benchmark.” After students and teachers began to unpack it and figure out the routines, I can say that it truly was rigorous, worked to target student individual needs, and we could see students make a ton of growth. We, of course, won’t see CMAS scores until the fall, but this conclusion is evident in the growth we have seen as a school on MAP testing from fall to spring. I am proud to say that in the reading portion of the MAP test, all 5 grade levels (1-5) reached their growth projection goal, and in 3 of the 5 grade levels, 75% or more of students reached their growth target. This is truly an accomplishment and is among the best growth scores seen across the entire district!

Beyond the great year we experienced academically, we also saw our kids grow socially, working to create well-rounded citizens of our community. One highlight of the year was being able to honor students every week by highlighting the wide range of “superpowers” that students and staff across our school offer the world. In addition, our students continue to report in high numbers feeling a sense of ownership over their school, feel welcomed and seen, and most of all, feel proud to be a part of something bigger than themselves. Our staff was at the center of our success by making sure every student felt connected to each other and adults, engaged in rigorous discourse with one another, and that students received the feedback at the needed level that creates intrinsic motivation. I would also like to send out a huge cheer to our PTO, who came through, as they always do, to partner with the school to reimagine new ways to reconnect and celebrate while maintaining important traditions. It was so great to gather again for the Mustang Mile, Trunk-or-Treat, hold a Luau Dance, and once again, have a full Field Day.

This time of year is often bittersweet as we say goodbye to our 5th graders, departing staff, and close out the school year. However, it is also an exciting time as we begin to welcome in a new class of kindergartners, have new families moving into our community, and bring new staff members on board to care for our children. As we look forward to the 23-24 school year, Meridian is poised to do even greater things because of the positive trajectory we were set on this year due to the contributions of everyone in partnership for our kids!

I wish everyone the best possible summer and I can’t wait to see all the bright shining faces back with us for the first day of school on August 14.

Take Care Everyone!

Mr. Gooding
Principal

Staffing Updates for 2023-2024 School Year:

We are happy to wish some of our departing staff the very best in their new endeavors while also welcoming in some fantastic new staff members to our community.

Departures;

- *Mrs. Malecha* (2nd grade teacher) will be moving on to a new role within the education field.
- *Ms. McHale* (5th grade teacher) will be starting a new career in the Emergency Management field.
- *Ms. Cozart* (our art student teacher in the fall and in-building guest teacher 2nd semester) has accepted a position as the art teacher at Stukey.
- *Ms. Tonya* (para in our SLS program) will continue in a classified substitute role.
- *Ms. Ashlee* (para in our SLS program) has accepted a position at Children's Hospital

New Arrivals & Staff Movement:

- *Ms. Raney & Ms. Weiher* will be joining Mrs. Salter & Mrs. Clark in 2nd grade.
- *Ms. Kim Mackenzie* (who was a long-term sub for us for Mrs. Mullins in 20-21) will be joining us in 1st grade.
- *Mrs. Courtney Sumida* will be joining us in 5th grade.
- *Ms. Brianna Hintz* will be joining us as our new in-building guest teacher.

Report Cards

Report cards are now available in the IC Campus Portal. Parents can log in to the portal to view their student's report card. Click on More/Adams12 Tools/Report Card to view.

SEL

[SEL Newsletter](#)

Dates to know

- Online Check-In - Online check-in opens July 10. All families **MUST** complete online check-in in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Look for an email from the district with more information in July.
- Teacher Assignment/Schedule - Parents can view teacher assignments beginning August 4 in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal **if** you have completed Online Check-In.
- Back-to-School Night - Thursday, August 10th (more information to come)
- First Day of School - Monday, August 14th (class start time will be 7:50 with the soft start beginning at 7:35)

End of Year Highlights

Enjoy a few pictures of events that happened at Meridian over the past week.

Soup Opera



Field Day





5th grade continuation



Kindergarten Celebration

