

# The Learning Link

Parent & Family Newsletter



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## September 2020

Welcome back, Mapleton! The *Learning Link* is Mapleton's Monthly family newsletter. Do you have a story idea or a suggestion for our next issue? We'd love to hear from you! Email [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us).



nearly 6,500 students into our classrooms and greet another 1,800 students online. We could not do it without you!

Thank you for keeping your children home with they are sick. Keeping children home from school when they are sick or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 is perhaps the most important thing parents can do to help keep our schools safe and open. For more information, we encourage you to review the ["Can I go to School Today?"](#) flier on our website.

## Students share an important message through art at Crush Walls



Two of Meadow Community School's eighth-grade students got the unique opportunity to participate in Colorado Crush Walls, one of the nation's largest street art festivals. The event features artists from all over the globe and has been a catalyst for creative expression in Denver for more than 11 years. The students, along with their art teacher Mr. Jonathan Miner, assisted is designing and painting a



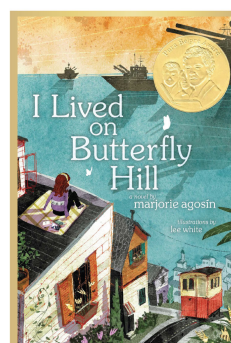
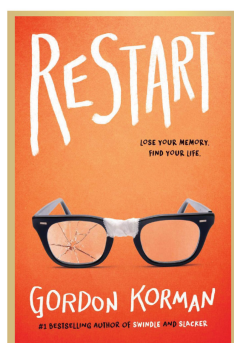
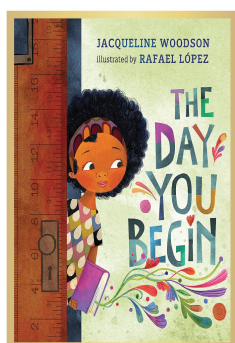


Mr. Miner asked his students to develop a sketch of something that was important to them. The design the students came up with was centered around peaceful protests for racial equality using popular Disney and video game characters leading the march. The opportunity allowed the middle schoolers to see their concept come to life on the Crush Walls, with them leading the charge on all aspects of the mural creative design process. The



response from the public was overwhelmingly positive and everyone involved left with a great sense of pride and excitement! To learn more about Crush Walls visit their website [here](#).

## Mapleton Reads 2020



During October 2020 through January 2021, Mapleton will promote the following book titles as a part of the district's annual **Mapleton Reads** community reading program:

***The Day You Begin* by Jacqueline Woodson**

***Restart* by Gordon Korman**

***I Lived on Butterfly Hill* by Marjorie Agosin**

**Mapleton Reads** celebrates the importance and value of literacy by encouraging a love of reading among our students, families, community members, and staff. The entire Mapleton community is encouraged to participate

## CDE launches *Read With Me* Campaign

The new Read With Me campaign from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) seeks to provide parents with tools and resources to help prepare and support their child in learning to read.

The Read With Me campaign's [website](#) features many necessary literacy tools, such as reading tips, parent resources, easy-to-use apps, activities, and downloads to start families on this important journey. By making reading a part of your child's life now, you can help them build a solid foundation for their future!

The Colorado Department of Education is dedicated to increasing early literacy rates in Colorado. The Colorado Reading to Ensure Academic Development Act (Colorado READ Act) was passed by the Colorado legislature in 2012, giving the state the guiding philosophy, structure and resources to get children reading at grade level by the end of third grade.

Parents and caregivers are their child's first teachers and have an amazing opportunity to encourage them to make reading an essential activity from day one. It's one small step that can have a huge impact on a child's life. Like food, water, shelter, and love, reading is just as essential for helping kids thrive. And it's never too early to start!

## PoP! Preschool on Poze opens to students





Preschool on Poze opened in the former home of Explore Elementary. The building, although too small to adequately provide for the needs of Explore's preschool through sixth-grade community (now a PreK-8 community), is the perfect size for 3-and-4-year-old children and toddlers to play, to grow, and to begin building a solid foundation for learning.

Over the summer, our partners at the Neenan Company completed modest upgrades to ensure the building was ready to host the big dreams and ideas that come from our smallest learners. These upgrades included 'right-sizing' the restrooms, moving the health room, and improving the entryway, among other modifications. The playground was also replaced with age-appropriate equipment and will be installed later this fall.

Preschool on Poze opened to students on Monday, Sept. 21. Nearly 40 students are enrolled in online preschool classes, which will begin on Friday. Spaces in both programs are still available. If you are interested in Mapleton's preschool program, call 303.853.1780, or visit [www.mapleton.us](http://www.mapleton.us)

Students adjusted quickly to their new home, enjoying tricycle races on the school's new racetrack, setting up classroom dollhouses, and stretching their imaginations with the many learning toys within reach. Preschool on Poze Director, Ryan Fiore, shared that they had a great first day and students were excited to be in their classrooms meeting new teachers and making new friends. The Preschool on Poze team also designed a gross motor room for students to use when they need a break and are working on opening a sensory space to continue to provide students with an engaging and supportive introduction to learning.



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## Remote Learning days for high school students

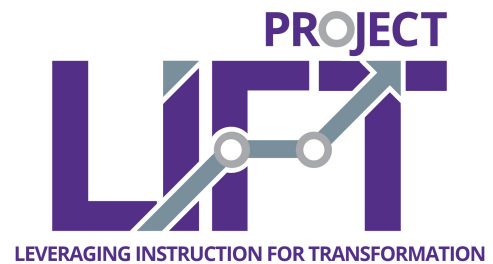
This year, as a part of our continued focus on improving student achievement through strong, focused instruction, Mapleton high school teachers will participate in Project LIFT – Leveraging Instruction for Transformation.

As a part of this improvement initiative, all Mapleton high school students will participate in 11 remote learning days, beginning on Thursday, Oct. 8. On these days, students will not report to school for in-person learning. Instead, they will engage with their teachers online, from home. Attendance will be taken, and students will be expected to participate in live, scheduled instructional time with their teachers and complete daily assignments.

remote and/or hybrid learning and training they will likely experience in higher education and in their chosen career field. The days will also provide high school teachers with sufficient professional development time to implement Project LIFT and strengthen high school instruction for your child.

**Scheduled Remote Learning Days for High School:**

- **Thursday, Oct. 8**
- **Tuesday, Oct. 27**
- **Thursday, Nov. 12**
- **Tuesday, Dec. 8**
- **Tuesday, Jan. 19**
- **Thursday, Feb. 11**
- **Tuesday, March 2**
- **Thursday, March 18**
- **Tuesday, April 13**
- **Monday, April 19**
- **Tuesday, May 18**

**Free meals continue in Mapleton!**

The USDA passed an extended waiver making it possible for Mapleton Public Schools to continue offering free meals to all children (up to 18 years old) in our community.

Mapleton Online students and non-district children (up to 18 years old) are invited to pick up free breakfast and lunch at three locations in Mapleton.

To ensure we have enough meals on hand, families need to [pre-order meals online](#) or call 303.853.1117 by Thursday of the week before. You do not need to be a Mapleton student to participate. Order your meals today!

**Days and Times:**

- Mondays and Wednesdays | 9 – 9:30 a.m. *(students will receive meals for two days on Mondays and meals for three days on Wednesdays)*

**Locations:**

- Global Primary Academy, 7480 N. Broadway, Denver, 80221
- Welby Community School, 1200 E. 78th Ave., Denver, 80229
- Clayton Partnership School, 8970 York St., Thornton, 80229

FREE meals will be available in all school buildings every school day for ALL students attending in-person learning. Students participating in in-person learning do not need to pre-order meals.



## Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3...are you registered to vote?

The 2020 Election is right around the corner...is your ballot on the way? Register to vote, check your voter registration status, view a sample ballot, and check your mail ballot status online, at [www.govotecolorado.gov](http://www.govotecolorado.gov).



### Important dates:

- **Sept. 18** - Early voting for Military and Overseas voters will be available for the General Election. [Access my ballot.](#)
- **Oct. 9** - Counties will begin mailing ballots. [View my sample ballot.](#)
- **Oct. 26** - deadline to register to vote or update your registration and still receive a ballot in the mail.
- In Colorado, you can [register to vote](#) and vote in person up to 7:00 PM on Election Day.

## Adventure Elementary is officially a TreeRing Yearbook School!

More than just preserving memories, this year Adventure Elementary's yearbooks will also help protect the environment. TreeRing is a Silicon Valley-based technology company that provides on-demand digital printing of customizable school yearbooks to schools in the United States and Canada. Not only does TreeRing care about students' memories and their schools, but the company cares about the environment as well. For every yearbook that a school sells, TreeRing's partner, Trees for the Future, plant the same number of trees in the school's name. Throughout the 2019-2020 school year, the staff at Adventure Elementary worked hard to sell 147 yearbooks, so 147 trees will be planted in Adventure's name! Adventure is incredibly excited for this partnership, and to be able to support our community.



October is National Principals Month! Each year, the National Association of Secondary Schools, the National Association of Elementary Schools, and the American Federation of School Administrators designate October as National Principals Month to recognize the dedication and tireless efforts of school directors (principals) and assistant directors (assistant principals).

Mapleton's Board of Education is joining school districts around the country in approving a proclamation recognizing October as National Principals Month in Mapleton. This month, and every month we celebrate our outstanding directors and assistant directors for their daily contributions to the education of our students in Mapleton Public Schools.

Help us celebrate Mapleton's school directors and assistant directors by submitting a photo of you and/or your child with your school director or assistant director along with a brief paragraph telling us how your favorite school director or assistant director helps your child achieve his/her dreams!

Please email your submissions to [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us). We will feature all submissions on our website and Facebook page this week!

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### **Classified School Employee Week**

During the week of Oct. 12 through Oct. 16, 2020, Mapleton will celebrate Classified School Employee Week! The Colorado Classified School Employees are an essential part of the State's education system by providing safe and orderly facilities where students learn and grow. Classified school employees perform the daily cleaning and maintenance of school property, safely transport students to and from school, prepare and serve nourishing lunches, maintain records and reports and assist in classrooms and on school playgrounds. Additionally, classified school employees continue to seek solutions to prevent school violence and are actively involved in school programs.

We urge all parents, students, and administrators to join us in saluting these dedicated men and women. Please share any photos of you and/or your child with a classified school employee along with a brief paragraph detailing the impact the employee has on your child's educational dreams! Please email your submissions to [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us).

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### **Free COVID-19 testing**

Free COVID-19 testing sites are located throughout the Denver-metro area. Free testing is offered every day from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the Water World parking lot, 8801 N. Pecos St., Federal Heights. [For additional sites or information, visit Tri County's website.](#)

Tri-County Health Department recommends to get tested today if you have [symptoms](#) or been around someone with COVID-19. The list below is updated weekly to give you the most up-to-date information.



**Doing our part! Wolverine yard signs are now available**

Thanks for doing your part! Show your school spirit and pick up a yard sign from Mapleton's Administration Building, Monday - Friday, between 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Our mailing address is:**

7350 N. Broadway, Denver, CO 80221

[www.mapleton.us](http://www.mapleton.us) | 303.853.1000 | [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us)

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