



# The Learning Link

A newsletter for Mapleton parents and families



January 2020

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## Construction Update

Crews at Explore PreK-8 are putting the finishing touches on the nature-based playground equipment, including the swing set and zipline! On the west side of the building, the

preschool playground has a tractor-themed jungle gym setup, perfect for Explore's youngest learners. In the grand hall, the fireplace stonework is done and crews are painting the drywall in the cafeteria, offices, and library. In the east wing of classrooms, the floors are polished and covered. Casework, light fixtures, backpack hooks, and paint remain ongoing throughout the school.

Global Intermediate Academy's library is now fully enclosed by the Kalwall translucent wall panels. The library will allow natural daylight to flow through the area with glare-free usable light during school hours and a unique glowing effect at night. For the next few weeks, crews will focus on the exterior primer, stonework, and installation of the last precast windows. Drywall has started enclosing the first-floor classrooms and hallways, and will soon move upstairs.

Both Global Intermediate Academy and Explore PreK-8 are on track to open in August. To learn more about our construction projects, or to enroll in Explore, Global Intermediate Academy, or another Mapleton school, please visit [www.mapleton.us](http://www.mapleton.us)

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## News & Announcements

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### **2021-22 Academic Calendar Options and Survey**

Mapleton Public Schools is seeking your input on the 2021-22 academic calendar. We are encouraging all Mapleton families to take a brief survey to provide feedback on the three proposed calendar options.

- [2021-22 Calendar Option A](#)
- [2021-22 Calendar Option B](#)
- [2021 -22 Calendar Option C](#)

The calendar survey is available online ([English](#)) ([Spanish](#)).

The final 2021-22 calendar will be created using the results of this survey and will be reviewed by the Board of Education during their business meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 25. For additional information please email [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us) or call 303.853.1050.

The 2020-21 calendar, which was approved last spring, is available on the [School Calendars](#) page.



## **Data-driven instruction in Mapleton**

### **MEC students embrace data to inform community-building events**

Mapleton schools are using data-driven instruction to improve knowledge, understanding, and skills for all students. Teachers at all Mapleton schools meet regularly and review classroom data to uncover gaps in student understanding and find opportunities for more relevant instruction.

It comes as no surprise that Mapleton students are also turning to data to improve their school communities.

Four pizzas, eight students, and an endless supply of positivity and bright ideas described a typical meeting of Mapleton Early College High School's Student Community Group. The group meets every Monday during lunch to, "discuss community issues within the school and brainstorm positive and inclusive ideas."

Wanting to plan events and activities aimed at building even better relationships at MEC, but not knowing exactly where to begin, the group decided to start with data and

composed a student survey.

“To help MEC we had to understand MEC,” said Karly, a junior.

The survey asked students to weigh in on MEC’s sense of community, academic rigor, internship program, and support for student learning. At first, the Student Community Group wasn’t sure what to expect.

“I thought data can sometimes be unreliable, because people might not always take surveys seriously, but doing this survey completely changed my attitude,” said Shane, a senior. “People were honest and gave feedback that will improve our school community.”

The group got some good news – very good news – about their school community. Students said they feel like they belong as a member of the MEC community, that their internships provide them with meaningful learning experiences, and that they are proud of the projects they presented at their Exhibition.

The group also got some great ideas of areas they can work to make positive improvements. Planning is underway for some exciting community-building initiatives.

*Every month we will share examples from different schools of how data-driven instruction is improving outcomes for students in Mapleton and how families can use data to support learning at home.*

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### **Stay healthy this flu season**

How can you and your family stay healthy this flu season? The Tri-County Health Department has the answer. Please see the fliers below for information about the flu and how to prevent the flu.

[Flu facts \(English\)](#)

[Flu facts \(Spanish\)](#)

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### **Free tax assistance**

This tax season, Mapleton is partnering with the Denver-based Piton Foundation to provide free tax preparation services to families through Tax Help Colorado. IRS-certified Mapleton



juniors and seniors from Global Leadership Academy and Academy High School will help prepare and file tax returns free of charge for household incomes that were less than \$56,000 in 2019.

The free tax assistance will be offered at Global Leadership Academy/Global Intermediate Academy (7480 N. Broadway, Denver, 80221), every Tuesday from 4 – 7:30 p.m., beginning Tuesday, Feb. 4 through Tuesday, March 17.

Students have been trained to ensure that the individuals that they serve get the best refund possible by helping them claim tax credits meant to help working families. This tax service is free and confidential.


For more information, visit [TaxHelpCO.org](http://TaxHelpCO.org).

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#### **Paw Pass replacement payments can now be made online**

Families now have the option to pay for Paw Pass replacements online using [MySchoolBucks](http://MySchoolBucks). Paw Pass replacements are \$3.00. Families may use their existing [MySchoolBucks](http://MySchoolBucks) account to order a replacement Paw Pass, or create an account. The Paw Pass helps Mapleton's Transportation Department offer an additional layer of safety and security for all students who ride a Mapleton bus from home to school and from school to home. As a reminder, any Mapleton student who rides the bus from home to school and from school to home needs a Paw Pass.

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# Mapleton Public Schools

DISCOVER

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# ENROLL

ONLINE TODAY!

**ONLINE TODAY!**



**Now enrolling grades PreK-12  
for the 2020-21 school year!**

**[www.mapleton.us](http://www.mapleton.us) | 303.853.1780**

**It's enrollment season!**

If you have a student in preschool, in sixth grade at Adventure or Welby, or in eighth grade at Achieve, Clayton, Meadow, Monterey, or Trailside, it's time for you to choose a school for your child for the 2020-21 school year!

Mapleton offers several resources to help you choose the best school for your child for the upcoming school year. To learn more about our schools that are small-by-design, we invite you to:

- Visit our website, [www.mapleton.us](http://www.mapleton.us), and select the 'Our Schools' tab.
- Contact our schools directly to schedule a visit.
- Call or visit our Welcome Center, 303.853.1780. The Welcome Center is located on the Skyview Campus, 8990 York St., Thornton, 80229, and is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., no appointment necessary.

Families with students rolling up into the next grade level at their current school will be asked to complete the online Annual Update (formerly known as registration) in April.

**New to Mapleton students and current Mapleton families needing to select a new school for the 2020-21 school year:**

- **February: Enrollment and School Placements**
  - School placement letters emailed to families.

- **March 2** - Enrollment for out of district families begins.
- **February - August:**
  - Ongoing enrollment and school placement (school placement is processed as applications are received)
  - **Waitlist:** Parents may add their child to the waitlist if their first-choice school is full. The waitlist resets at the end of each month.

### **Preschool Enrollment Timeline:**

- **January 2020**
  - Preschool applications for enrollment are accepted - [apply online!](#)
  - Evaluations for eligibility-based assistance will be scheduled in May 2020
- **March 2020**
  - Apply for preschool by March 31 to be included in the first round of screenings and lottery placements
- **June 2020**
  - Eligibility-based assistance appointments and school placements
- **June - September 2020**
  - Ongoing eligibility-based assistance appointments and placement
  - Out-of-district placements made if space is available

[Ready to submit your application? If you are new to Mapleton, click here.](#)

[If you already have a child enrolled in Mapleton Public Schools and need to select a new school for the upcoming year, click here. You will need your Infinite Campus Parent Portal Account. If you do not have one, please contact the main office of your school.](#)

For answers to all of your enrollment questions, contact the Welcome Center, 303.853.1780.

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### **STEP is accepting new volunteers!**

The Mapleton Public Schools Senior Tax Exchange Program (STEP) provides opportunities for Mapleton's senior citizens to reduce their property taxes by volunteering at one of Mapleton's many district-wide events or individual schools.

STEP is for senior citizens 60 years of age or older who own a home within the Mapleton boundaries. As a STEP volunteer, senior citizens may earn up to \$154.50 (a rate of \$5.15 per hour for a maximum of 30 hours) to apply toward property taxes. Shortly after the first

of the year, the Adams County Treasurer will automatically deduct the amount earned as a STEP volunteer.

To apply, visit Mapleton's Administration Building, 7350 N. Broadway, Denver, 80221, to fill out an application. Please bring your photo ID so we may conduct a background check. Call 303.853.1018 for more information.

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### **Upcoming Athletics registration**

Winter sports are well underway, which means spring sports registration is just around the corner. In the spring, Mapleton offers girls soccer, girls tennis, baseball, and boys/girls track and field.

Registration opens on **Monday, Feb. 17** and closes on **Friday, Feb. 28**. The first practice for spring sports is on Monday, March 2.

**[Visit the Skyview Athletics website for more information.](#)**

### **Baseball preseason meeting**

The Skyview baseball program is hosting a parent/coach pre-season meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at 6 p.m. in the Skyview Student Center on the Skyview Campus (8990 York St., Thornton). All high school students interested in playing baseball are invited to attend to meet coaches, review expectations and get ready for the upcoming season. Visit the [baseball information page](#) for additional information.



GRAND OPENING

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OFF

USE CODE  
**GRANDOPENING19**  
\*EXCLUSIONS APPLY



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STORE

**SHOP NOW**

### **New year, new Skyview Wolverines gear!**

Skyview Wolverines gear is back and better than ever!

This year, Mapleton has teamed up with BSN Sports to bring you the very best gear on the market! Stock up on all your favorite brands like Under Armor, Nike, New Era, and more. Products include shirts, pants, hoodies, hats, bags, sweats, polos, and more! You can also customize each item with your team number, different Skyview logos, and embroideries. Click the link below to learn more and find the design that's right for you.

[CLICK HERE TO ORDER!](#)

## Resources for families

Mapleton makes the following resource publications available to families to provide assistance for any who are interested in seeking community resources. Mapleton Public Schools does not endorse or take responsibility for the agencies listed herein.

### Community Resource Brochure - Updated June 2018

- [Community Resources Brochure](#)
- [Recursos Comunitarios](#)

### Area Health Care Resources

- [English brochure](#)
- [Spanish brochure](#)

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## ICYMI (In case you missed it)

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### High-Five Friday

The 'high-five' is a nearly universal symbol celebrating and acknowledging a job well done.

To encourage the celebration of Mapleton's 'high-five' moments, we are thrilled to have launched "High-Five Fridays." Every week, families, students and staff are invited to share who in the Mapleton community deserves a high-five and why. All high-five moments from the week will be shared every Friday on our district website and social media. To share your 'high-five' celebration, email [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us).



[The High-Fives have been pouring in! Click here to view them all!](#)

### **How to submit a High Five:**

**Step 1:** Select an individual or group deserving of a High-Five.

**Step 2:** In an email to [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us), answer the following questions:

1. Individual/Group deserving of a High-Five:
  2. Individual/Group Affiliation (school or department, grade level taught, etc.):
  3. Brief Description of why Individual/Group deserves a High Five:
  4. Photo if you have one, or time we can stop by to snap a photo:
  5. Recognition submitted by:
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## **Mapleton Education Foundation**

### **It's scholarship season!**

Scholarship season is upon us! Graduating seniors are encouraged to [apply online](#) now through Monday, March 2, for 13 different scholarships. Scholarships vary in amount and criteria, including four-year post-secondary institutions, two-year institutions, certificates, the judicial system and more. The Mapleton Education Foundation will award a total of \$250,000 to Mapleton seniors. For more information contact [Danielle Ramacciotti](#), Executive Director of the Mapleton Education Foundation, 303.853.1033.

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### **DriveSafe online driving school**

Mapleton Public Schools is partnering with DriveSafe Driving Schools to offer students an interactive, online driver's education program. The DriveSafe state-certified online program costs \$74. The course is 100 percent online, no textbooks or software needed. It is self-paced, offers easy to follow lessons and is fully interactive with animations, games, and videos. The goal of the course is to increase a new driver's confidence and knowledge in a variety of driving situations. The program is designed to be equivalent to an in-person classroom experience but can be completed from anywhere with an internet connection. DriveSafe focuses on defensive and safe driving habits to help make new drivers become a safe driver for life. To enroll in the online program, visit <http://mapletonschools.bedrivingus.com/enroll>. DriveSafe will make a donation to Mapleton Public Schools for every Mapleton student that enrolls in the program!

DriveSafe scholarship essay competition - In an effort to teach teenagers about the importance of making safe choices, DriveSafe Driving Schools is pleased to announce the **DriveSafe Scholarship Essay Competition**. On April 15, 2020, DriveSafe will award a scholarship of \$1,500 to a high school senior or graduate who plans to attend college in 2020.

To compete for the scholarship, students must complete the application by March 1, 2020 and write an original essay of 500 words or less about safe decision-making and the role it plays not only while behind-the-wheel but in all aspects of life.

The scholarship details and requirements can be found on the scholarship web page: <https://www.drivesafecolorado.com/scholarship/>.

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### Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, Feb. 12** - District Spelling Bee - visit [www.mapleton.us](http://www.mapleton.us) for more information

**Friday, Feb. 14** - Collaborative day - no school for students

**Monday, Feb. 17** - President's Day - no school for students

**Friday, March 13** - Teacher Trade day - no school for students

**Monday, March 23 - Friday, March 27** - Spring break - all schools closed

**Wednesday, April 15** - District Art Show

**Monday, April 20** - No school

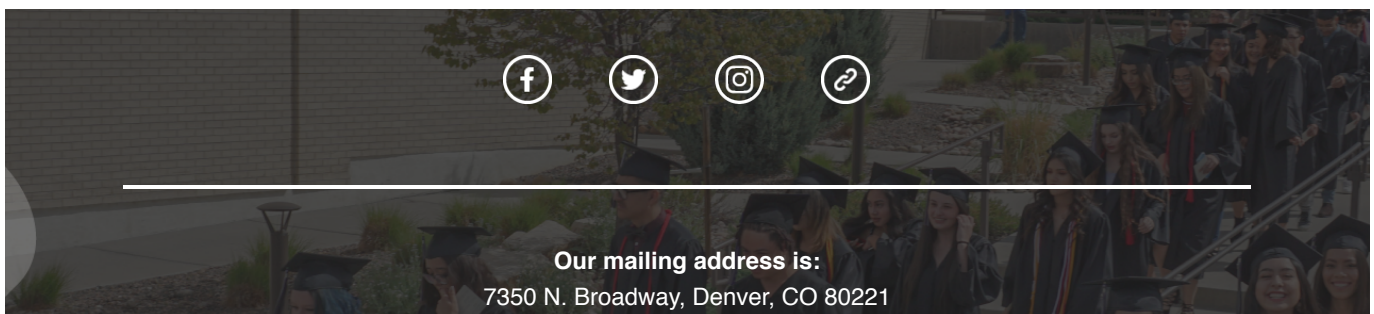
**Friday, May 8** - Collaborative Day - no school for students

**Saturday, May 16** - District Graduation

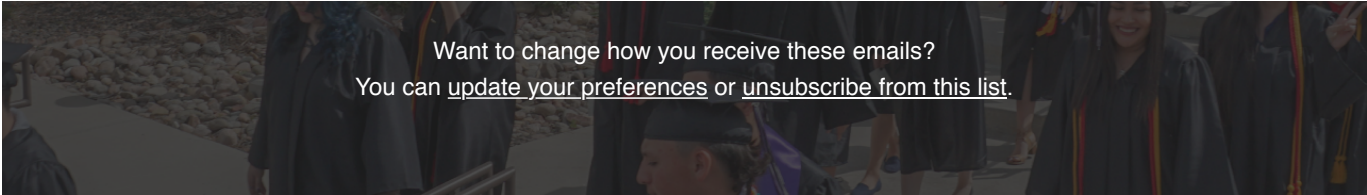
**Thursday, May 28** - Last day of school - all schools dismiss two hours early

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Help us improve our family newsletter! What do you want to see in the **Learning Link**?  
Email your questions or comments to [Communications@mapleton.us](mailto:Communications@mapleton.us) or call 303.853.1018.







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