



# The Learning Link

A newsletter for Mapleton parents and families



August 2019

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## Welcome to Trailside Academy!

Trailside Academy, the newest addition to Mapleton's menu of schools that are small-by-design, opened to students on Monday, Aug. 19. This PreK-8 school is located at 2300 W. 68th Ave., in the new Midtown neighborhood. This school building was designed to be the

bridge between older brick homes to the north and newer developments to the south. Inspired by urban art, the school's innovative layout makes the most of the five-acre plot and is already receiving rave reviews from students and staff. The construction of Trailside Academy was made possible by the community-supported 2016 bond.

We're moving into phase three of our capital construction plan, which includes upgrades and renovations to Monterey Community School and Achieve Academy, as well as the construction of the Performing Arts Center on Broadway and the transformation of the current Explore school building into a district preschool center. [Construction updates are available on our website, www.mapleton.us!](#)

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### **Adventures in Mapleton begins with 6MAX**

Adventures in Mapleton (AIM) is a new initiative that enriches student learning by providing unparalleled, experiential, authentic learning outside of a traditional classroom setting.

As a part of this program, this year all sixth graders in Mapleton will have the chance to 'elevate' their learning by attending camps at either Cal-Wood Education Center or Keystone Science Center. Sixth graders will spend two nights and three days learning about STEM and environmental science up in the beautiful Colorado mountains. Trips will begin in September, with two schools attending camp each month through April.

Engaging experiences provided through AIM foster the growth and development of a child's public spirit and sense of social responsibility. AIM reinforces Mapleton's commitment to nurturing the whole child and the idea that all growth requires risk. Information about additional AIM programs will be shared throughout the school year.

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### **September is Attendance Awareness Month**

Mapleton's teachers pack a lot of learning into every school day. How much, you ask? [Check out this video to see all of the amazing things that can happen in just one school day in Mapleton!](#)

According to [Attendanceworks.org](#), students who missed fewer than two school days in

September typically have good attendance rates for the entire year. On the other hand, poor attendance in the first month of school is often a predictor of chronic absenteeism, defined as two or more absences per month, for the entire school year.

A good school year starts with good attendance! Mapleton continues to prioritize consistent attendance for every student in an effort to raise student achievement. At their August business meeting, Mapleton's Board of Education adopted a proclamation recognizing September as Attendance Awareness Month. For tips and resources on how you can support your child's attendance habits, check out the [2019 Attendance Awareness Campaign](#).

Throughout September, watch for more information on how you can help your family build a habit of good attendance.

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### **Important winter weather reminders**

Winter weather is just around the corner. Cold weather can sometimes cause Mapleton Public Schools to delay school start times or close schools for the safety of students and staff. We will try to give families plenty of notice before a weather-related school delay or closure. Mapleton will be using a two-hour delayed start on those days when storms hit overnight but may be gone by mid-day.

On a delayed start day, the school will begin two hours later than the usual start time. For example, if school normally begins at 8:10 a.m., a two-hour delay would mean it begins at 10:10 a.m. Bus pick-up times would also be delayed by two hours. If your child is normally at the bus stop by 7:30 a.m., on a late start day they would need to be at the bus stop by 9:30 a.m.

A two-hour delay would also mean that Zero Hour classes will be canceled for that day as well as morning (AM) preschool. Full-day preschool will begin two hours late and afternoon (PM) will start on time.

Families will be notified of either a late start or cancellation through Infinite Campus with either a call, text or email. If you don't have an Infinite Campus Parent Portal account, please contact your child's school to create one or update your contact information. Local television and radio stations will have weather-related delays and closure information as well as Mapleton's Facebook and Twitter pages and website, [www.mapleton.us](http://www.mapleton.us).



### **Apply online for free/reduced lunch**

Mapleton Public Schools knows well-nourished students have better attendance, are more attentive in the classroom and have more energy to give their very best during the school day. That is why every school day, Mapleton strives to meet the nutritional needs of students by providing healthy, from-scratch meals and fresh fruits and vegetables at all schools.

As part of this commitment, Mapleton Public Schools is pleased to provide breakfast to all students at no cost.

To receive lunch at no cost, students must qualify for reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program. [Fill out your free and reduced form online today!](#) It's secure, it's easy, and it will help us provide your child(ren) with nutritious, made-from-scratch meals all year long. Families must keep their annual Federal Meal Benefit application current. Only one form per family is needed, which must be filled out every year. The application is secure and confidential. **The information provided by families on the free and reduced-price application will be used only for determining eligibility for meal or milk benefits and verification of eligibility.**

We also have a convenient online service site, free to our Mapleton families, that allows you to securely pay for your child's meals online using your credit/debit card or electronic

check.

The online service site allows you to:

- Set up automatic recurring payments
- Track and review meal history
- Create low balance alerts
- Make payments with the mobile app

Create a secure account and never worry again about sending cash or checks with your child to school. Registering for your free account is easy! Sign up now by visiting [www.MySchoolBucks.com](http://www.MySchoolBucks.com). For more information on the menu items, free breakfast, and free or reduced-price meals, call Mapleton's Nutrition Services Department, 303.853.1117, or email [foodservice@mapleton.us](mailto:foodservice@mapleton.us).

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**The Skyview Campus LAB (Learning After the Bell) is officially open for the 2019-20 school year!**

The LAB is hosted at the MEC/MESA Project Center on the Skyview Campus (8980 York St., Thornton), and is open from 3:45 – 6:45 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Seventh through 12th-grade students in Mapleton are invited to use the LAB for tutoring, computer access, or for a safe, quiet place to work and study after school. Spanish tutoring is available on

Thursdays.

Transportation to major neighborhood stops is provided, and buses depart the LAB at 6:30 p.m. Healthy snacks are offered by Nutrition Services.

For more information, please call 303.853.1972 or email [SilipoJ@mapleton.us](mailto:SilipoJ@mapleton.us).

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**If you see something, say something**

In Mapleton Public Schools, the safety and security of your child is our top priority. It is our goal to ensure all of our schools provide our students, staff and community with safe environments to learn and grow. As the school year gets underway, we'd like to encourage you to have conversations with your children about "if you see something, say something."

Remind your child there are many caring adults in their schools to help him/her, including teachers and school staff, parents and other family members. If your child does not feel comfortable speaking with an adult about a situation, please remind him/her to visit [safe2tell.org](http://safe2tell.org) to file a report.

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**Keep in touch!**

There are lots of ways to stay in touch with us this year. Every day, Mapleton shares good news, important announcements and eye-catching photos across multiple platforms.

Stay in-the-know and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

- Facebook: Mapleton Public Schools Adams County School District 1
- Twitter: @MapletonSchools
- Instagram: @MapletonPublicSchools

Also, don't forget to check out our district and school websites, [www.mapleton.us](http://www.mapleton.us)!

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**Bookmark these pages!**

Don't miss out on the great events happening in Mapleton this year. Be sure to check the following calendars often to attend upcoming concerts, plays and games.

- [Performing Arts calendar of events](#)
- [Athletics calendar of events](#)

### **Gate fee? We've got you covered!**

Thanks to the Mapleton Education Foundation, Mapleton students can attend any home Athletic or Performing Arts event for free!

- **Students in 7th - 12th grade** will need to show their Mapleton student ID for free admission.
- **Students in preschool through 6th grade** need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian for free admission.

### **Gate fee information:**

Adults - \$5

Non-Mapleton students - \$4

Children under 3 - Free

### **Skyview Wolverine Season Pass - \$35**

One (1) adult admission to all Skyview Wolverine home games during the 2019-20 school year. Season passes are available at the gate of any Skyview home game.

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### **Get your official 'Wolverine Territory' yard sign!**

Show your Wolverine Pride with the new Skyview Wolverines and Mapleton Public Schools yard sign! The 'Wolverine Territory' yard signs are free and are available at Mapleton's Administration Building, 7350 N. Broadway, Denver, 80221, and at all home athletic events. Supplies are limited! Show your team spirit and pick up your yard sign today!

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Fireflies & Starry Skies

 **MAPLETON**  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
The path to great starts here.

**Save the Date**

**2019 ANNUAL GALA**  
Friday, October 25, 2019

LOCATION	TIMES	RSVP
<b>The Westin Westminster</b> 10600 Westminster Blvd. Westminster, CO 80020	<b>5:30 p.m.</b> Cocktails and silent auction <b>7:00 p.m.</b> Dinner and live auction	<a href="http://www.blacktie-colorado.com">www.blacktie-colorado.com</a> event code: 15mapleton

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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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**Our mailing address is:**  
7350 N. Broadway, Denver, CO 80221

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