



Tuesday Takeaway

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023

The *Tuesday Takeaway* is a weekly e-newsletter distributed to all Mapleton staff. This quick-hit-style newsletter contains the news you need for the week ahead!



UGLY
SWEATER DAY

Ugly Sweater Day is Thursday, Dec. 14!

Calling all ugly sweaters!

Mapleton's annual ugly sweater celebration is on **Thursday, Dec. 14!** Staff members wearing an ugly sweater are also invited to wear jeans. Please note, your ugly sweater does not have to be a holiday sweater. All ugly sweaters are welcomed and encouraged.

Send photos of your ugly sweater and the ugly sweaters in your building to communications@mapleton.us.



MESA students in the spotlight at the National EL Education conference

Fourteen Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts (MESA) students got to showcase their leadership skills and artistic talents at the national conference of the EL Education Network. The conference which was hosted in Denver, brought together more than a thousand educators, researchers, and students from across the country to collaborate on how to best create classrooms where students achieve more and actively contribute to making the world a better place. At the EL Network's request, MESA selected 14 students to serve as student ambassadors at the conference. The students had a variety of roles, from serving as student expert panelists to leading welcome activities with younger ambassadors. MESA also hosted a site visit to introduce guests to their school's culture and character. Great job, MESA!



Support the Mapleton Holiday Shop and Giving Drive through donations or by volunteering

The third annual Mapleton Education Foundation Holiday Shop and Giving Drive is less than two weeks away, taking place on **Saturday, Dec. 16, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**, at the Skyview Campus.

Integrated Services has invited Mapleton families in need of support this holiday season to select gifts in the Foundation's pop-up toy store and wrap gifts at our wrapping station – all while their kids watch holiday shows and make holiday crafts. This special event is made possible by our generous partners at A Precious Child and YOU! Please join us in spreading some holiday cheer by supporting this year's event. There are several ways to get involved!



Host a Drive: We are now accepting the following new items by Friday, Dec. 8:

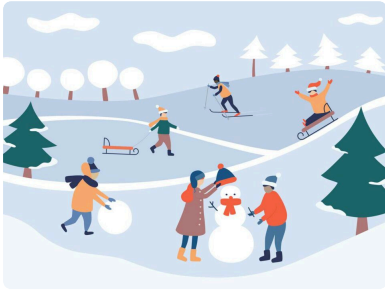
- Hygiene products
- Hats
- Gloves
- Coats
- Socks
- Toys (ages 0-15)
- Wrapping paper
- Large/Oversized gift bags
- Gift cards

Donate to the Holiday Shop: Through the [MEF Donation Page](#), or the [2023 Holiday Shop Wishlist](#)

Sign-up to volunteer at the Holiday Shop: [2023 Holiday Shop Volunteer Sign-up](#)

Reach out to MEF at mef@mapleton.us or 303.853.1033 to learn more!

**Please note, this is an invitation-only event. The Integrated Services team is contacting families to directly extend an invitation to the event.*



Winter Break is almost here! Here are the dates you need to know

Winter Break is almost here, and we hope you will all be able to enjoy some well-deserved time off. This year, Winter Break for schools runs from Wednesday, Dec. 20 to Wednesday, Jan. 3.

We are thrilled to share that the Performing Arts School on Broadway students and staff will be returning to their school building in January! To prepare for this exciting move, the **Administration Building will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 20, and Thursday, Dec. 21.** Staff will be available from remote locations. The Administration Office will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 2.

For a closer look at how the upcoming holidays will affect your days off, [click here](#). If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Talent Management team directly, hr@mapleton.us. You can also view and access your [Employee Calendar here](#).

Thank you for sending us your latest round of "High Fives!"

Thank you to everyone who sent us "High Fives" last week to celebrate your colleagues! "High Fives" are a great way for you to recognize Mapleton staff members who make a positive impact on your life and in the Mapleton community. "High Five" submissions will be published in the Tuesday Takeaway every week.



Do you know someone who deserves a "High Five"? Submit your appreciation using [this form](#).

Tara Clemons, Operations

"Tara is extremely generous with her time. She is always fair with how she treats others. She's sincere, resourceful, reliable, diligent, and an excellent team player. I truly appreciate her always going above and beyond for her team."

Submitted by Zuleika Leon

Ali Casillo, Explore PK-8

"As our Instructional Guide, her knowledge and understanding of data and how to guide instruction has assisted in my better understanding of planning for instruction and meeting my students' needs. Her willingness to answer all my questions and take time to watch my class so I can go and observe colleagues has been beneficial. Her efforts to align our primary grades have been stellar. I

feel more confident in where each of my student's strengths, challenges, and goals are headed to meet every learner's needs.."

Submitted by Joyce Martinez

Gabriela Eckert, Adventure Elementary

"Gabby has been such gift to our school this year! She jumped right in, building positive relationships with both students and staff. Her consistency and hard work to meet the needs of our students is seen every day. We are lucky to have her!"

Submitted by Maya Valdivia

Dr. Bill Hahn, Global Leadership Academy

"Bill has a great technique for teaching using the mindset of servant leadership. He is dedicated and passionate about his student's success."

Submitted by William Arrington

The Finance Team

"I want to give a high five to the Finance Team. We made it through audit season with a clean audit!!! I want to thank each of them for working diligently on the audit requests while keeping up with their day-to-day tasks. I appreciate each and every one of them."

Submitted by Jennifer Meyn

Walter Masten, Integrated Services

"Thank you to Walter!"

"Let's take a moment to celebrate an individual who embodies flexibility, positivity, and an unwavering willingness to go above and beyond—Walter!"

"Walter, your dedication to supporting various schools has not gone unnoticed. Your flexibility in navigating different environments and situations is truly commendable. Whether it's adapting to new challenges or jumping in to lend a helping hand, you bring a positive energy that uplifts everyone around you. Thank you for your flexibility as many hats have been thrown your way, we appreciate you! Thank you for being a team player, a source of inspiration, and a true asset to our community. Here's to you and the incredible impact you make every day!"

Submitted by Integrated Services

Lauren Hamner, Explore PK-8

"Lauren has unwavering positivity and dedication to her students is her number one priority. Her infectious enthusiasm has created a nurturing and vibrant learning environment, making each day a joyous experience for her little ones. Thank you, Lauren, for always prioritizing the well-being and academic growth of your students!"

Submitted by Anonymous

Cayla Goluszka and Melissa Gallegos, Meadow Community School

"Thank you for always helping support our middle schoolers who are in distress during these tough weeks between holiday breaks."

Submitted by Jeannine Stout

Mapleton Education Foundation



Today is Colorado Gives Day!

Today is Colorado Gives Day! Please consider making a gift to the Mapleton Education Foundation by tonight, while you can still increase your impact. Thanks to leading Incentive Fund partner,

First Bank, and community partners from around the state, the \$1 Million Colorado Gives Day Incentive Fund amplifies the amount of every donation made today.

Here's how it works: All nonprofits receive a percentage of the fund equal to the percentage they raise for Colorado Gives Day of the \$1 Million Incentive Fund. Colorado Gives Day is a great way to support the Mapleton Community. You can donate on the MEF Colorado Gives Page at <https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/mef-co>. Thank you for your support.

Air Force JROTC cadets tour Air Force Academy

Last Friday, eight of our Air Force JROTC cadets traveled to the Air Force Academy, in Colorado Springs, for a campus tour. The cadets were freshmen, sophomores, and juniors from Mapleton Early Career Prep, Global Leadership Academy, Academy High School, and Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts.



The tour started at the Academy's Visitors Center with a briefing and video put on by admissions staff. The cadets then toured the dorms, library, the outside of the dining facility, and various static displays around the cadet area of the campus.

By complete chance, the cadets also ran into the director of the Air Force Holm Center, who oversees all ROTC and JROTC programs in the Air Force. The Mapleton cadets loved the experience and were inspired by their trip.

Valley View Innovation School kindergartners enhance learning through Virtual Reality goggles

After students in Anna Scarlett's Valley View Innovation School kindergarten class finished a PLTW module on extreme weather, they experienced the storm through virtual reality goggles from their Technology Studio. One student even said, "I'm in the tornado!"



Pairing the curricular resource with the VR goggles provides an engaging and interactive learning and language experience for all students.

Academy High School students' psychology lessons come to life at museum field trip

Last week, students in Academy High School's Advanced Placement Psychology class visited the Museum of Illusions Denver, a new museum in downtown Denver that uses interactive illusions to connect visual fun with the science behind it.

The field trip allowed the students to physically experience and immerse themselves in concepts they learned about in their "Sensation and Perception" unit, which covers how senses and views affect people's thoughts and behaviors. Those concepts included themes like depth perception, illusions of movement, and theories of color vision.

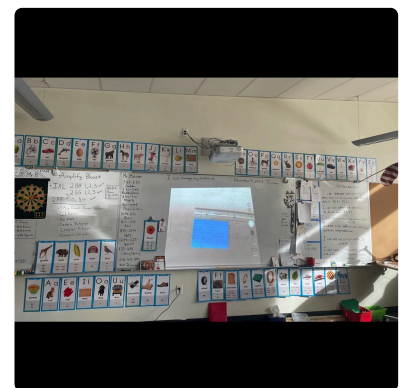


The students had a great time and took lots of pictures. Later, they looked through all their photos and worked together to describe how particular exhibits demonstrated concepts from their unit.

Teaching and Learning

Primary Literacy Classroom Environment

As we continue to refine our practices around primary literacy instruction, we know students need many opportunities for practice and application of foundational skills and concepts. Posting and referencing phoneme/grapheme cards allow students to use these cues as needed to develop the reading and spelling brain. This picture is an example from a second grade classroom at Clayton Partnership School that includes all the letters, A to Z, along with concepts taught so far this year. It is evident and obvious that the current concept being taught is posted on the board.



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Dec. 6 - Two-hour late start - All schools

Wednesday, Dec. 20- Wednesday, Jan. 3 - Winter Break - No school for students

Thursday, Jan. 4 - Teacher Work Day - No school for students

Friday, Jan. 5 - Collaborative Day - No school for students



Tuesday Takeaway Call for Submissions

Let's brag about it! Is something happening in your school that you would love to highlight or "show off?" We know you are awesome, so let's celebrate it! Please submit a paragraph and pictures detailing your good news to communications@mapleton.us.

Email: communications@mapleton.us

Website: <https://www.mapleton.us/>

Location: [7350 Broadway, Denver, CO 80221, USA](#)

Phone: [303.853.1000](tel:303.853.1000)

Facebook: facebook.com/MapletonPublicSchools

Twitter: [@mapletonschools](https://twitter.com/mapletonschools)



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