



The Tuesday Takeaway

Tuesday, March 12

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!

Grant funding to support implementation of team-teaching model at four schools

Pending Board approval at the end of this month, Mapleton will embark on an academic journey unlike any other. The Colorado Department of Education just awarded the district a sizeable EASI (Empowering Action for School Improvement) grant to implement a team-based teaching model at four of its schools over the next couple years. The pilot schools are Academy High School, York International School, Explore PK-8, and Global Leadership Academy.

In this model, Arizona State University's Next Workforce Model, a team of educators come together to collaborate around a shared roster of students in a room, rather than working in a silo, and those students benefit from relationships with multiple caring adults. Research supports the use of this model, citing many positive outcomes, including higher engagement from students, more personalization of learning, and greater teacher job satisfaction.

Grant funding will also subsidize a contract to provide eight new teacher residents to serve in the team teaching classrooms beginning this fall. Each resident would make a three-year commitment to Mapleton Public Schools. We will share more about this model as it is implemented, and are excited to get started!

Wellness survey results and Spring Into Motion

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Wellness Survey! Here are some highlights from your feedback:

- 87 employees completed the survey
- 99% of participants were interested in focusing on well-being
- Participants were interested in the following well-being goals:
 1. Increasing physical activity: 82%
 2. Eating healthier: 69%
 3. Managing stress: 66%
 4. Losing/managing weight: 56%
 5. Improving financial well-being: 37%

We are excited to use your feedback to bring new and engaging programs your way...including a program called *Spring Into Motion*, which starts April 1!

This physical activity program is a fun and inspiring way to move more. Whether you hike a mountain or jog around the block, you choose the activity — do the same thing each day or try something different — as you discover something new about spring each week.

So, get ready to take the first step toward a healthier you. *Spring Into Motion* registration will be announced soon.



Nominate an exceptional teacher for the 2025 Colorado Teacher of the Year

Do you know a standout teacher you think might be the best in the state? Nominate them for the Colorado Department of Education's 2025 Colorado Teacher of the Year!

Each year, the Colorado Teacher of the Year Program honors an exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled K-12 classroom teacher to represent the entire profession in the state. The selected teacher will automatically become Colorado's nominee for the National Teacher of the Year competition.

The Colorado Teacher of the Year receives many professional development opportunities and, along with the country's other teachers of the year, is honored at a special ceremony at the White House and gets the opportunity to go to NASA's Space Camp. The teacher also becomes a member of the Colorado Education Commissioner's Teacher Cabinet.

Complete this [brief online survey form](#) to make your nomination. Submissions are due Monday, May 20.

Please unplug your electronics over Spring Break

Please help us reduce our carbon footprint and save some district funds by unplugging your appliances and electronic equipment over Spring Break. Doing this can bring down our “phantom electricity” usage, which could save us as much as 10% on our electric bills. **In fact, last year we saw considerable savings following this process.**



Some examples of things to unplug are coffeemakers, televisions, and computer stations. Also, lighting and HVAC schedules have been adjusted for the break so if you have something planned in a building during this time, please have it scheduled in SchoolDude.

CDC updates COVID guidance

Please read this updated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of what to do if you contract COVID. If you get sick:

Step 1: Stay at home. As much as possible, you should stay home and away from others until at least 24 hours after both:

1. Your symptoms are getting better overall, **and**
2. You have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication).

Step 2: Resume normal activities, and use added prevention strategies over the next five days, such as taking more steps for cleaner air, enhancing your hygiene practices, wearing a well-fitting mask, keeping a distance from others, and/or getting tested for respiratory viruses. People can choose to use these prevention strategies at any time.

You can find [more detailed COVID guidance here](#).



Apply to bring SCFD organizations to your school

School directors and teachers, the Collaborative Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) Grant application is now open for the 2024-2026 school years. This two-year grant is open to a team of three to five interdisciplinary teachers from a K-12 public or charter school located in Adams County.

The grant provides \$2,000 to \$10,000 worth of programming from eligible art, culture, and science organizations throughout the Denver-metro area. Students receive workshops, field trips, in-school exhibits, assemblies, teacher professional development, and more! Bus and substitute support is also provided.

The deadline to apply is Monday, April 15. Before submitting a grant, remember to complete this [Internal Letter of Intent](#).

Visit the Collaborative's [website](#) to learn more, or email [Jannett Matusiak](#), or call 303-946-2089.



Mapleton's Air Force JROTC has successful first drill competition of the year

Mapleton's Air Force JROTC Stealth Raiders competed in their first drill competition of the school year this past weekend, at Pueblo County High School, in Pueblo, Colorado. The team competed in five categories – Unarmed Regulation, Armed Regulation, Inspection Team, Unarmed Exhibition, and Color Guard. The team took first place in Armed Regulation, out of seven teams, and took third place in Color Guard, out of 10 teams.

In addition to this success, Cadet Senior Airman Natalia O., of York International School, won the Drill Down, a competition that tests cadets' listening and military precision skills as they are given commands while in formation. Instructors eliminate cadets as they make mistakes. Natalia was the last cadet standing out of 200 total cadets.

Congratulations, Stealth Raiders!

Mapleton team raises more than \$5,000 for district Special Olympics team at Polar Plunge event

A group of Mapleton educators and community members raised more than \$5,000 for the district's Special Olympics program this past Saturday by conquering icy water and a 5K run at the Special Olympics Colorado Denver Polar Pool Plunge, at Washington Park. Thanks to generous donor support, the team raised \$5,410, ranking it fifth among all teams at the event.



Thank you to everyone who made a contribution. This community's commitment to making a difference is inspiring and showcases the power of teamwork and kindness. These funds will make it possible to give our Skyview Wolverines Unified Special Olympics team experiences to remember.

MESA students teach financial literacy basics to Monterey kindergarteners and first graders

Is it a want or a need? That's one of the financial literacy concepts 17 Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts (MESA) high schoolers taught kindergarten and first-grade students at Monterey Community School last week.

As a part of MESA's school model, students participate in community service projects based on their interests. These MESA students are interested in business, and over the last six weeks they developed and practiced basic financial literacy lessons for young learners.

MESA's students taught Monterey students about financial literacy using games, workbooks, and sticker sheets. Their lessons included things like what businesses are and how they impact a community, the differences between goods and services, and why people should spend money on things they need (or save it) before they buy things they want.



Thank you for this week's High Five submissions

Thank you to everyone who submitted High Five last week. It's heartwarming to see all your notes recognizing your colleagues' work and dedication. Read below to see the latest submissions.

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



Courtney Tinklenberg, Academy High School

"Thank you for working together with me on a month-long, cross-curricular project to challenge the research and writing skills of our freshmen. This was not easy, but I'm sure our kids learned a lot! :)"

Submitted by Kristy Vazquez

Esmeralda Loera and Barbara Vallejos, Welcome Center

"Transportation would like to recognize both Esmeralda and Barbara for going above and beyond! Even with their busy and tight schedules, they have been taking their valuable time assisting parents by registering the children online who will be riding the buses. Thanks so much!"

Submitted by Lola Rangel

Administrators and providers participating in RMTS

"I extend my sincere gratitude to each of you for your exemplary diligence in promptly completing the Random Moment Time Surveys. Your commitment to ensuring the timely submission of these surveys not only demonstrates your professionalism but also underscores your dedication to serving our children and actively participating in the Medicaid program. Thank you for your continued efforts, which contribute significantly to the success of this program."

Submitted by Alicia Howard

Sandra Herrera, Preschool on Poze

"Thank you so much for all you do for our student who leaves at lunch. It always brings so much joy to see how you two interact. Both of you are so fun to watch while you play before he gets picked up. He has also won his way to touch your things....no one else can touch your things, not even the adults! Keep it up!"

Submitted by Ryan Fiore

Melanie Crow, Preschool on Poze

"Thanks for always showing up and coming in early. It means so much to have people we can count on be here on time every day! I appreciate you holding down the fort at night to ensure all students are picked up and even staying late when parents don't show up on time! Thanks for all you do for the after care program!"

Submitted by Ryan Fiore

Nicole Buzard, Trailside Academy

"Nicole Buzard has demonstrated an exceptional ability to create a transformative learning environment for her students in a very short time. Nicole, or 'Ms. Buz' as she is affectionately known by her students, is the epitome of a warm demander. She balances high expectations with genuine care and empathy, fostering a classroom atmosphere where students feel supported, challenged, and valued. Her approach to teaching not only cultivates academic growth but also nurtures the holistic development of each child under her guidance."

Submitted by Anonymous

Camille Galaviz, Monterey Community School

"Let's celebrate Camille's exceptional dedication to children, evident in her willingness to go above and beyond, her meticulous paperwork completion, and her leadership in MTSS at Monterey. Her passion and unwavering commitment to children shine brightly, making her a true inspiration and a beacon of hope in education. Camille's tireless efforts leave an indelible mark on the lives of those she touches, embodying the essence of a true champion for our youth."

Submitted by Integrated Services

Integrated Services Team

"Thank you for the support of our staff at Clayton and for the wonderful breakfast! It meant a lot to have time to be together, and we appreciate your kind gesture."

Submitted by Anonymous

Murray Roberson, Achieve Academy

"Thank you to Mr. Roberson for going above and beyond the call of duty to help us create a welcoming environment during our February Community Meeting. It is always a pleasure to be in the presence of your friendly face and kind spirit!"

Submitted by Mrs. Sopher's Pack

Kevin Diep and Kelli Foster, Achieve Academy

"Thank you to Mr. Diep and Ms. Foster for your support the morning of our February Community Meeting. You were both quick to respond to our technology emergency, allowing us to showcase the work we put into our presentation. You are consistently helpful and friendly when we call on you for assistance."

Submitted by Mrs. Sopher's Pack

Monica Garcia Barhydt and Viviana Orozco, Achieve Academy

"Thank you Ms. Viviana and Ms. Monica for ALL the things you do in support of teachers and students, and especially for your help in getting us ready for our February Community Meeting. We are lucky to have you here with us!"

Submitted by Mrs. Sopher's Pack

Submit a High Five!

Mapleton Education Foundation



Catch a Colorado Rockies game while supporting Mapleton students and teachers

The Colorado Rockies have partnered with the Mapleton Education Foundation to invite all students, family members, employees, and volunteers to come enjoy an exciting baseball game on Sunday, April 21, for Mapleton Public Appreciation Day. The game starts at 1:10 p.m. and a portion of each ticket sold will benefit the Foundation's work for all Mapleton students and teachers. There will also be three alternate fundraiser games benefitting the Foundation on May 12, May 27, and June 15. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a game (or two) while supporting your local community.

To learn more about these upcoming events, visit our website at <https://mapletonedfoundation.org/news-events/community-days.html>

Join us for Topgolf event on May 23 to support the Foundation's Legacy Scholarship

Looking for a fun way to tee off summer? Then join us for the third annual Mapleton Legacy Association Topgolf Event on Thursday, May 23, from 4:30-7:30 p.m., in Thornton. Proceeds will benefit the Foundation's Legacy Scholarship.

The event will begin with a Tee-Party Welcome, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., to provide an opportunity to mingle with other participants before our 5:30-7:30 p.m. golf time. You can register as a golfer or spectator, sign up as a team of up to six, or sponsor a bay. Golfer tickets are just \$55, and spectator tickets are \$35. Heavy appetizers will be provided and a cash bar will be available.



Visit the [Mapleton Education Foundation website](https://mapletonedfoundation.org/news-events/community-days.html) to learn more or to register for this event. The registration deadline is Wednesday, May 15.

Integrated Services

Integrated Services providing extra-duty pay opportunities to teachers for homebound instruction

The Department of Integrated Services is providing extra-duty pay opportunities to a teacher, or teachers, for homebound instruction for an elementary aged student. If you are interested, please contact Rachel Coppingerr at 303-853-1151 or coppingerr@mapleton.us.

Teaching and Learning

Interim Quarter 3 After-Action Review

Teaching and Learning will be gathering feedback from teachers and support staff following the Quarter 3 Interim. The purpose of the After-Action Review is to get feedback from teachers on the Interims, priority standards, and curricular resource alignment. This feedback is used to improve their alignment and provide a way to gather themes from the system around areas of need or professional development.

These review sessions are voluntary for teachers but are a great way for them to have a voice in the process. The Quarter 3 After-Action Review session will be held on March 13, from 4-5 p.m. Here is the link to sign up: [After Action Review Q3 23-24 Sign-up.docx](#)

Please reach out to [Karla Gruenwald](#), ext.1021, if you have any questions.

Teachers, please complete the Collaborative Structures Survey by Friday, March 15

All teachers: Please complete the [Collaborative Structures Survey](#) by this Friday, March 15.

This survey is intended to gauge how people are implementing and responding to the collaborative structures within Mapleton, Instructional Design Teams (IDT), and Instructional Leadership Teams (ILT). The first section references the Instructional Design Teams that are built into the school day on a weekly basis, and the second section references your school's Instructional Leadership Team and its impact on your school. This survey data provides guidance for the system around support and next steps needed in collaborative structures.

Your perspective matters!

A reminder to staff about students observing Ramadan

This is a friendly reminder that students who observe Ramadan will soon be fasting during the school day. This year, Ramadan began on Sunday, March 10 and is scheduled to end on the evening on **Tuesday, April 9**. This will be followed by the Eid-Al-Fitr celebration/holiday, which is projected to commence on **Wednesday, April 10**. (Note: dates may shift a day due to the lunar calendar sighting).

Why is this important for teachers to know?

Many of our Muslim students will be fasting while attending to learning expectations. Teachers can expect students in grades 4-12 to be fasting full days while students in grades 1-3 may want to engage in “practice” by fasting a couple hours or half days, depending on their family’s cultural norms and expectations. While younger students may not fully engage in the practices, this is a family affair and the whole family participates in the spiritual routines and ritual of the observation of Ramadan. Mapleton serves Muslims from around the world. Each family will be practicing various traditions based on their cultural heritage and religious beliefs. The intersection of religion and culture will vary.

For Muslims, fasting during Ramadan means no eating or drinking from sunrise to sunset. Most students and families observe **Suhoor** (a pre-dawn meal) around 4 a.m. and end their fast (**Iftar**) at sunset, after 7 p.m., depending on when the sun actually sets. Many families also observe evening and night prayers, which can affect sleep patterns and schedules.

Considerations:

- Students who are fasting may have a reduced level of stamina than typical.
- Students may want to observe daily prayer between 1 and 2:30 p.m.
- Students may require a food-free place during lunch time. Consider opening your classroom or another area for students to go during lunch/snack time while still following health and safety guidelines.

Note: The 2024 CMAS window opens on April 8. Students that observe the Eid holiday will likely be absent on either April 9, 10, or 11, depending on which day Eid falls on, so schools may wish to plan accordingly.

Additional resources for teachers:

- Larry Ferlazzo- [The Best Sites to Teach & Learn About Ramadan](#)
- PBS ran a column titled: [How teachers can support students during Ramadan](#)

Questions can be directed to [Alexis Lauffenburger](#), at ext 1003.

We’re hiring camp teachers for the Gifted and Talented Summer Camp!

Mapleton is looking for teachers for its Gifted and Talented Summer Camp, which will again be offered to gifted and talent pool students in grades K-7. You can apply on Frontline from the district’s website, by clicking the “Careers” tab on the upper right of the homepage.

The teacher positions will be paid through a combination of extra-duty pay (pre-planning during April/May) and per diem (for the five days of the camp itself) per the negotiated contract. There will

also be opportunities for high school students to earn community service hours as teacher aides.

Questions can be directed to [Brad Russell](#), Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning, ext. 1905.

Summer professional learning opportunity now available for middle and high school social studies teachers!

Mapleton Public Schools is inviting social studies teachers to attend a five-day Constructing Meaning Institute, from June 3-7. Participants will receive at least 35 hours toward CLD re-licensure. Interested teachers can [reserve their spot here](#).

Constructing Meaning (CM) is a framework that can accompany any content area and work in conjunction with any resource. It provides a replicable process for backwards mapping the language demands connected to demonstrating proficiency in grade level content.

Features of Constructing Meaning instruction include:

- Designing “backwards” from a learning goal
- “Chunking” learning for the gradual release of responsibility
- Calling attention to the cognitive function
- Explicitly teaching “brick and mortar”
- Providing frequent opportunities to practice language
- Narrowing and scaffolding text for directed reading

There has been an influx of multilingual learners into our district. This opportunity provides a way to support language development throughout content. It is our goal to have all middle and high school science teachers, and now social studies teachers, trained in CM as part of providing language development to all levels of multilinguals throughout the day. The June CM institute is a chance to get ahead of the learning! Additional dates will be available during the 2024-25 school year for teachers unable to make it to the June session.

Pay will be per diem per negotiated contract. Questions can be directed to [Alexis Lauffenburger](#), Multilingual Program Coordinator, ext. 1003.

Upcoming Events

Monday-Friday, March 18 - 22 - Spring Break - No school for students

Tuesday, March 26 - DAAC meeting, 4:30-6 pm.

Thursday, March 28 - District Science Fair

Wednesday, April 3 - 2-hour late start - All Schools

Thursday-Saturday, April 4-6 - District Spring Play- "She Kills Monsters"



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)



Mapleton Public Schools

Mapleton is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters