

# The Tuesday Takeaway

Tuesday, April 30

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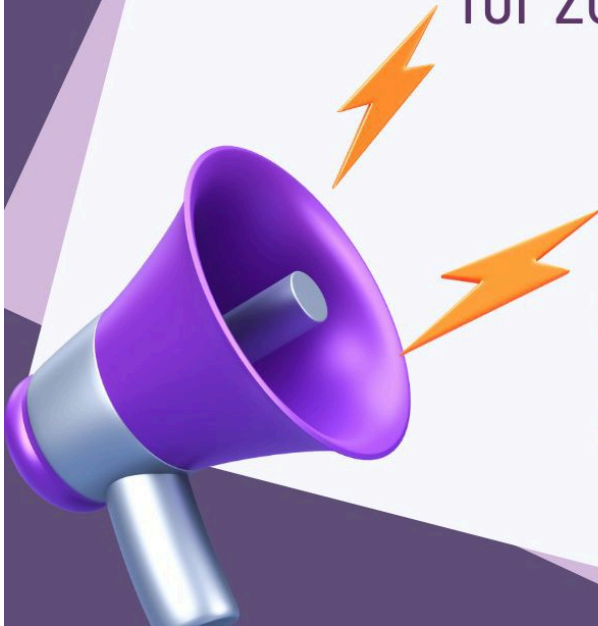
The *Tuesday Takeaway* is a weekly e-newsletter distributed to all Mapleton staff. This quick-hit-style newsletter contains the news you need for the week ahead!

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# OPEN Enrollment

for 2024-25 benefits

May 1-14



- Review your benefits.
- Enroll in coverage.
- Change plans.
- Add/drop dependents.
- Drop coverage.

## Get ready! Open enrollment begins tomorrow, Wednesday, May 1

Open enrollment is the annual period in which benefit-eligible employees may:

- Review benefits to ensure plans are meeting their needs.
- Enroll in coverage.
- Change plans.
- Add/drop dependents.
- Drop coverage.

**Open enrollment for the 2024-25 plan year is Wednesday, May 1 – Tuesday, May 14.** All changes made during open enrollment are effective July 1, 2024.

**Please review the information below carefully for important information about open enrollment.**

**Enrollment:** Whether you plan to make changes to your benefits or continue with the same benefits, you **must** log onto the [employee portal](#) to review and approve your plans. The Employee Portal will open on Wednesday, May 1. **More information about rates and updated iVisions links are available on Mapleton's [Benefits page](#).**

## An important note about rate increases effective July 1, 2024

Kaiser has informed Mapleton that our plans will incur a 15% increase in healthcare costs to operate the plan. While this is not what we had anticipated, Mapleton is committed to providing comprehensive health coverage while mitigating any financial strain on our employees. Additionally,

Mapleton will ensure that no employee experiences a reduction in their total take-home pay as a result of the increase in healthcare cost.

- Mapleton will absorb 2/3 of the total increase.
- The employee group will absorb the remaining 1/3 increase.

### **Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) – ACTION IS REQUIRED EVERY YEAR**

- [FSAs](#) require an active election each year. If you wish to participate you must make your election during open enrollment for the plan year July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.
- Healthcare Flexible Spending annual maximum of \$3,200
- Maximum healthcare flexible spending carryover amount to 2025 is \$640
- Dependent Care Flexible Spending annual maximum of \$5,000 or \$2,500 if married, filing separately.

### **AFLAC**

- Aflac Group products include:
  - Accident Insurance
  - Critical Illness
  - Hospital Indemnity
- [Visit Aflac to learn more about Mapleton's group products.](#)

### **VSP: 2024-25 New Enhancements added to the vision benefits.**

- Frame allowance is \$150 for both plans.
- [Enhanced Featured Frame](#) for both plans Additional \$50 for featured frame brands.
- [VSP LightCare](#) members can use both their frame and lens benefit toward non-prescription sunglasses or non-prescription blue-light filtering glasses.
- VSP Option 2: Choose your upgrade frame allowance increase to \$250.

### **Benefit Enrollment Assistance**

- **Employee Portal:** If you need help accessing your Employee Portal (username, password), please contact the Help Desk at 303.853.1057 or [helpdesk@mapleton.us](mailto:helpdesk@mapleton.us)
- **Benefits election:** If you need assistance electing/changing your benefits, or accessing a computer, please contact **Robin DeCarlo, Benefits Specialist**, at [decarlor@mapleton.us](mailto:decarlor@mapleton.us), **303.853.1004 to arrange an appointment.**

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## **Employee Experience Survey - Please take a moment to share your feedback!**

Mapleton Public Schools is dedicated to creating a positive experience for all whom we serve. Our partners at Studer Education are providing an opportunity for you to share feedback anonymously using the link below.

Your feedback is important and will contribute to our understanding of your needs and expectations, aid in identifying areas for improvement, and ultimately enhance employee engagement and well-being within our organization.

Please take a few minutes to complete the Employee Experience Survey at this link:

[Mapleton– Employee Experience Survey](#).

The survey will be open through Friday, May 10.

Your feedback will be used to celebrate our success and to create action plans for improvement. Your input is valuable. Thank you for your commitment to Mapleton Public Schools!

**Mapleton Employee Experience Survey - Click here!**

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### **Discounted toddler care and preschool opportunities for children of Mapleton employees**

Mapleton is pleased to offer employees discounted tuition rates for toddler care and preschool. Children and grandchildren of employees are invited to thrive in Mapleton's high-quality early learning environments under the care of expert and compassionate staff. Before and after-care options are also available.



If you are interested in learning more about toddler care and/or preschool for the upcoming school year, please contact [Terri Stowell](#), Early Childhood Education Administrative Assistant, ext. 1784.

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# Join Us!

Please join us to say “See you Later” to Superintendent Charlotte Ciano! Light refreshments will be served, great memories will be shared, and eras will be celebrated! We hope to see you there!

Thursday  
**May 30**

2:30-4:30 p.m.



at the Mapleton Arts Center  
7480 Broadway, Bldg 4, Denver, CO 80221

## Help us say "See you later" to Superintendent Ciano!

After serving as Superintendent of Mapleton Public Schools for nearly 24 years, Superintendent Charlotte Ciano will retire in June 2024. Join us for a special community event celebrating her time, work, and legacy in Mapleton. All are welcome!



## Read our senior spotlights ahead of graduation

It's hard to believe, but our 2024 graduation is Saturday, May 18! As we get closer to the date, we will publish senior spotlight stories on our website that highlight one senior from each high school. We will begin the series with a story about Victor P., from Mapleton Early Career Prep.

Victor, a standout student at MEC, has excelled in leadership roles, internships, and community advocacy throughout high school.

From teaching financial literacy to promoting environmental sustainability, he actively engages in real-world learning. Earning the prestigious Boettcher Scholarship, Victor plans to study Business at the University of Colorado Boulder, aiming for a career as a financial analyst while considering a minor in Spanish to support his community. [Read more about him here.](#)



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## MESA student wins T-shirt design contest for national conference

Congratulations to the Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts (MESA) Technology Student Association (TSA) for their outstanding results at the Association's state conference, held in late February, in Denver. This was the first time MESA participated in the conference, and every project they submitted made it at least to the semifinals of their respective categories, and one project won a state title!



The TSA is a national organization of students engaged in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). For championship events, members produce projects that apply technology, from drones and robots to movies and graphic design. MESA's club earned second place overall in the silent movie category. Sophomore Michaela D. won for her graphic T-shirt design, which depicts the state's mountains and was voted on by students at the conference.

Now the more than 250 Colorado students who qualified to compete at the National TSA Conference will be wearing the shirt Michaela designed at the event. Michaela said she was excited to win.

All four of MESA's small but mighty team of students: Jordyn W., Ezmeralda M., Amanda A., and Michaela, qualified for the National Conference, which will be held in Orlando in late June.

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## Hyland Hills Partnership Perks!



## Summer Special at Hyland Hills Fitness Center

Hyland Hills Fitness Center invites Mapleton staff, students (ages 12+) and family members to take advantage of their Summer Special!

To receive the deal all you need to do is mention the flyer and say you are with Mapleton Public Schools.

Stay tuned for more great news and events as we grow our partnership with Hyland Hills!



Mapleton Public Schools Hyland Hills Flyer

Download

3.7 MB

## Lots of days of appreciation coming up

There are some great opportunities to show your appreciation for your colleagues coming up soon.

This [Friday, May 3, is School Lunch Hero Day](#), an opportunity to raise awareness and applaud the many child nutrition professionals who have a positive impact on the lives of students.

**Wednesday, May 8, is School Nurse Day**, which serves to establish a better understanding of the role of school nurses in educational settings.

And next week, **May 6-10, is Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week**. The Board of Education issued a proclamation encouraging everyone to observe the week by taking time to recognize and acknowledge the impact of educators and support staff on the lives of our students.

Please send pictures, videos, or notes of appreciation for your colleagues with us, which we will share on social media, on our website, or in this newsletter via the High Fives section.

Email your thoughts to [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us).

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### **High Five hit 200 submissions!**

Thanks to people like you, we now have received more than 200 High Five submissions since we started in November. Thank you so much for these notes of appreciation! Below are nine more for you to read.

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

#### **Gena Rivera, Preschool on Poze**

"Thank you for always going with the flow. You are the first one to jump in and the last one to leave when support is needed! You always have EVERY student's interest at heart. You take such great care of our crew as well as all the littles in your space! You are seen and I appreciate you so much! Thanks for all you do at PoP!"

*Submitted by Ryan Fiore*

#### **Morgan Greer, Preschool on Poze**

"Thanks for all you do with your crew. They have grown so much! Consistency is key and you are learning that every day! Keep up the good work! "

*Submitted by Ryan Fiore*

#### **Tanya McCarty, Preschool on Poze**

"Thanks for always being a leader in the building. You support not only your crew but the crew of other classrooms as well. You always share the newest and best ideas to help support our Pre-K students. I appreciate all you do, not only with FLEX, but with all the other students here. Thank you!"

*Submitted by Ryan Fiore*

#### **Ashley Phelps, Preschool on Poze**

"Thanks for all your hard work this year. You have been a valuable member of our crew and I appreciate all your hard work and support. It is great to see the leader you are emerging as. You



work so hard with your class and are bringing ideas to the building. Your UVA work with me has been invaluable! Thanks for all you do!"

*Submitted by Ryan Fiore*

**Victoria Capobianco, Preschool on Poze**

"Thanks for working so hard with your crew on the Car Show! It was amazing to hear their stories and how they designed and built their cars. I know that took a lot of time as each one was individual! Continue working hard with your crew! They are doing amazing things! Thank you for all the hard work! "

*Submitted by Ryan Fiore*

**Ali Casillo, Explore PK-8**

"Ali Casillo is our talented and dedicated Instructional Guide. She cares deeply about the work we do, and she cares deeply about all the people at Explore. She works tirelessly to help meet student needs, and she is effective in making corrections and adjustments to our navigation as needed."

*Submitted by Anonymous*

**DeShannon Wilson & Garry Spencer, Skyview custodians**

"These guys are rock stars! They keep our school clean and have built great relationships with staff and students. They take pride in their work and it shows. Thank you guys!"

*Submitted by Kayla Campbell*

**Janna Scarpella-Straub, Mapleton Online**

Janna is the voice of Mapleton Online by recording our daily announcements. She has transitioned between a few jobs at our school over the past four years and is currently our Fine Arts teacher. She supported our students who placed at the district Art Fair and is always there for our staff and students. Thanks, Janna!"

*Submitted by Anonymous*

**Kat Vega, Global Intermediate Academy**

"Kat was made to be an educator! She is genuinely passionate about giving her students the best education and care possible. Kat's influence extends beyond her regular classroom. She takes on extra initiatives such as after school clubs, coursework, summer programs, etc., and meets with students in other grade levels during her plan time to ensure their needs are being met. We are thankful Kat is a GIA Puma!"

*Submitted by Anonymous*

**Submit a High Five!**

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## **Integrated Services**

**Monthly theme and Tier 1 resources**

## Mapleton Education Foundation

### Mapleton Education Foundation announces scholarship winners

The Mapleton Education Foundation is pleased to announce it has awarded 31 scholarships, totaling \$253,500. Congratulations to this year's Mapleton Education Foundation Scholarship recipients. Their names are listed below, followed by their high schools, the colleges they will attend, and the names of their scholarships. More information and students' photos can be found on the [Foundation's website](#).

Aliza B., Mapleton Early Career Prep (MEC) - Oregon State University

- Westerra Legacy

Alliton S., York International School - Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Adams County Scholarship

Angel J., Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts (MESA) - Colorado State University

- Building America's Future

Aralei A., MESA - Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Rotary Northglenn-Thornton

Braulio U., York International School - Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Adams County Scholarship

Cadence A., York International School - Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Mountain States Toyota Technical Scholarship

Cuauhtemoc C., Global Leadership Academy (GLA) - University of Colorado

- Frank Family- Energy and the Environment

Denise R., MEC - University of Colorado

- Adams County Scholarship

Gael G., MEC - Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Alan T. Hull

Harrison J., Academy High School - University of Colorado Denver

- Ratkovich Memorial

Jace L., Academy High School - University of Colorado Denver

- Music Educators & Adams County Scholarship

Jada K., MESA - McCook Community College

- John Byrd Athletic

Jashinna L., Academy High School - University of Colorado Denver

- Adams County Scholarship

Jeweliana B., MEC - Community College of Denver

- Building America's Future

Jocelyn G., Academy High School - Colorado Mesa University

- MEF Legacy

Jose V., GLA - University of Colorado

- Marco Olivas Memorial

Kacey C., Academy High School - University of Colorado Denver

- Adams County Scholarship

Kyra Ann D., North Valley School for Young Adults - Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Rising Star

Layla L., Academy High School - Aims Community College

- Adams County Scholarship

Lilliana M., GLA - Front Range Community College

- Mountain States Toyota Technical Scholarship

Madison Y., MESA - Red Rocks Community College

- Ratkovich Memorial

Milton M., MESA - Adams State University

- Adams County Scholarship

Misael L., Academy High School - Colorado School of Mines

- Raymond & Frances Memorial

Natalia E., York International School - University of Denver

- First Interstate Bank/Legacy

Nicholas G., York International School - University of Colorado

- Adams County Scholarship

Porscha M., MESA - Emily Griffith

- CoreCivic

Ruby T., York International School - Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Adams County Scholarship

Valerie V., York International School - University of Northern Colorado

- Ratkovich Memorial

Victor G., MEC - University of Colorado

- First Interstate Bank/Legacy

Yessenia H., MEC - Regis University

- MEF Legacy



### Register today for MEF's Topgolf event!

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://www.mapletoneducationfoundation.org) to learn more or to register for this event. The registration deadline is Wednesday, May 15.

## Teaching and Learning

Newcomer Summer Institute registration has closed



We are pleased to announce that we have more than 60 students registered for the Newcomer Summer Institute taking place June 3-14. Thank you, ELD Leads and coordinator Katalina Vega, for promoting this new opportunity for our new-to-country students in grades 7-12.

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## Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, May 1-Wednesday, May 15** - Open enrollment benefit window opens.

**Wednesday, May 1** - 2-hour late start

**Wednesday, May 1** - Jazz Band and Guitar, 7 p.m., MAC

**Friday, May 3** - 41st Annual Awards for Excellence, 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 8** - Choir Concert - Intermediate/Advanced Zero Hour classes, 7-9 p.m.

**Thursday, May 9** - Band Concert - Zero Hour classes, 7-9 p.m.

**Monday, May 13** - Collaborative Day - No school for students

**Saturday, May 18** - Graduation, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 21** - DAAC meeting - 4:30-6 p.m.

**Monday, May 27** - Memorial Day - District closed

**Thursday, May 30** - Last day of school - 2-hour early dismissal

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### 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](mailto:communications@mapleton.us).

**Email:** [communications@mapleton.us](mailto: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](https://facebook.com/MapletonPublicSchools)

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



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