



The Tuesday Takeaway

Tuesday, Sept. 17

The *Tuesday Takeaway* is designed to be a quick-hit-style newsletter with stories most pertinent to employees at the top and stories including student celebrations toward the middle. If you scroll toward the bottom, you will find information relevant to specific employee groups, such as important updates from Teaching and Learning for teachers.

If you have an idea for a story, like one about your school, students, or department, [please send it our way!](#) We'll do our best to fit them in an upcoming issue.

[Past issues of the Takeaway are available on our website.](#)



Thank you to Clayton Partnership School's fourth graders for sharing their "I Am" poems with us to display at the Administration Building! We look forward to showcasing other student projects and art work here throughout year.

Attendance Awareness Month

Attendance Spotlight: Welby Community School boosts attendance by fostering connection and belonging

Welby Community School is improving its student attendance by fostering a sense of community and belonging to make the school a place kids want to be. Like many schools, Welby faced challenges with attendance after the COVID-19 pandemic, but thanks to focused efforts, its attendance increased from the mid-80% range to as high as 91% by the end of the last school year and is still on the rise.



Principal Danielle Dickson said a major reason parents have allowed their children to miss school was a misconception, from the pandemic days, that online learning or at-home study can replace classroom instruction. But she said, "Kids need to be here every day, on time, so they don't fall

behind." She added that missing even a few days of school can quickly add up, creating gaps in learning that are hard to bridge.

In the last few years, the school has developed activities like whole-school community assemblies and smaller, multi-age group meetings to help students connect with each other and their teachers. Every student knows they are a valued member of the school, which motivates them to attend regularly. Teachers even personally call the homes of absent students, letting them know their classmates miss them, reinforcing the importance of being part of the school community.

The school has also taken steps to reduce tardiness, like now asking parents who arrive after the bell rings to walk their children into the school and sign them in. This has led to about a 25% reduction in late arrivals. Dickson said it's important for parents to understand that while missing 20 or 30 minutes of a school day may not seem like much time, in a 6-hour school day, that can be a big chunk of math or reading instruction.

Welby's goal is to reach 98% daily attendance and ensure students are prepared for middle school and beyond.

Do you want your school to the star of our next Attendance Spotlight? Let us know what you are doing to encourage students to be in school, on time, every day! Email communications@mapleton.us.



Join Mapleton's fall walking challenge – Walktober! Oct. 1-31

Walktober is a fun and inspiring way to take advantage of autumn's cool temperatures and spectacular views as you step out and step up to better health. You'll be taken on a virtual color tour through some of the world's most vibrant, breathtaking landscapes – while boosting energy, improving mood, and making walking a priority for life!

As you fill up your Walktober tree with red, orange, and gold leaves based on step totals each day, you'll reveal vivid autumn landscapes from around the world! Your goal is to collect one leaf each day when you log 6,000+ steps for the 31-day program. You can use a tracking device, enter manually, or add exercise minutes that convert automatically.

[Get ready to walk...registration opens on Monday, Sept. 23!](#)

TODAY is National Voter Registration Day!

National Voter Registration Day is today! This nonpartisan day aims to raise awareness about voter registration opportunities and reach voters who might not register otherwise. So today, or any day between now and Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5, take a moment to either [register to vote](#) or ensure



your [voter registration is up to date](#). If you've moved or changed your name since the last election, you'll need to update your address in your registration.

Need help? [Find my voter registration](#)

High School Voter Registration

Colorado also allows and encourages pre-registration for all eligible voters starting at 16. Additional requirements to register

include:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be a Colorado resident for at least 22 days before the election
- Must not be serving a sentence of confinement or detention for a felony conviction (Note: Those on probation or parole **are eligible** to vote.)

Learn more - [High school voter registration](#)

Mapleton's first "I voted" sticker design contest!

Mapleton is excited to announce the district's first "I voted" sticker design contest!

We are inviting aspiring artists and creative creators grades K-12 to share their best ideas for an "I voted" sticker. Interested students are encouraged to submit hand-drawn or digital artwork now through **Friday, Oct. 4**. One winner from each category will be selected, for a total of three winners. Winning designs will be printed and distributed in Mapleton on and around Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5. Sticker designs can be submitted via email to communications@mapleton.us or in person at the District's Administration Building. A sticker design template is attached below.

Categories:

- K-4
- 5-8
- 9-12

A few rules:

- Designs must say "I voted."
- Submissions must be non-partisan.
- Students and/or parents must be willing to allow Mapleton to use the artwork for upcoming elections.
- Entries must include the student's name, grade, school, and one or two sentences about the design.

For questions or more information, please contact [Melissa Johnson](#), ext. 1018.



I Voted Sticker Competition.pdf

[Download](#)
631.6 KB

Nutrition Services updates

Mapleton's school breakfast and lunch participation is on the rise!

Mapleton's Nutrition Services team saw an 8% increase in breakfast participation and a 10% rise in lunch participation this past August compared to August 2023. The team credits the boost partially to new menu items, like a delicious whole grain croissant breakfast sandwich and breakfast pizza bagels, and popular lunch items such as cheesy mozzarella bites and grilled cheese ciabatta sandwiches.



Increased meal participation means students are more focused in class, with breakfast helping them concentrate in the morning and lunch keeping them engaged throughout the afternoon. The higher demand also allows Mapleton to staff kitchens appropriately to make more scratch-cooked meals and prepare fresh, nutritious options.

School kitchens now offer one vegetarian entrée option per day

Mapleton's school kitchens now offer a vegetarian entrée every day, catering to broader range of dietary preferences, including those who follow a "flexitarian" diet. Flexitarianism, a flexible approach to vegetarianism, encourages eating more plant-based foods and less meat when people want. To meet this need, the district has worked hard to provide daily options like cheese pizza kits, salads, PB&Js, and muffin or granola baskets. These meals not only adhere to meal pattern regulations set by the Colorado Department of Education but also offer students a variety of nutritious, non-meat choices throughout the week.

Up for grabs – Watermelon Meal Benefit Trophy!

Every year, most Mapleton schools have the opportunity to win the (sort of) coveted Watermelon trophy for being the first school to get 100% of their families to submit their meal benefit applications.

All Mapleton students can enjoy a healthy breakfast and lunch every school day at no cost thanks to the Healthy School Meals for All program approved by Colorado voters. However, it is still important for families to complete the meal benefit application.



Why?

When families complete the [2024-25 Meal Benefit Application](#), families also receive access to other essential resources, including:

- **Opportunities for school-related fee waivers**
- **Discounted internet, phone, and utility services**
- [SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, or FDPRI](#)

Who is winning?

Below is a list of schools and the number of families that have yet to submit their meal benefit application:

- Academy High School: 70 families remaining!
- Achieve Academy: 69 families remaining!
- Adventure Elementary: 108 families remaining!
- Clayton Partnership School: 83 families remaining!
- Explore PK-8: 177 families remaining!
- Global Intermediate Academy: 63 families remaining!
- Global Leadership Academy: 85 families remaining!
- Global Primary Academy: 78 families remaining!
- Mapleton Early Career Prep: 88 families remaining!
- Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts: 109 families remaining!
- Meadow Community School: 84 families remaining!
- Monterey Community School: 84 families remaining!
- Preschool on Poze: 51 families remaining!
- Trailside Academy: 147 families remaining!
- Valley View Innovation School: 57 families remaining!
- Welby Community School of the Arts: 80 families remaining!
- York International School: 191 families remaining!

For questions or more information contact [Lindsay Hull](#), ext. 1126.



York International School juniors put "medbots" to the test in robotics class challenge

York International School juniors deployed self-built "medbots" in a complex, hospital delivery scenario last Friday morning for the students' latest challenge in their Robotics and Automated Systems class. After building the robots and plotting their courses, the student teams had to program their robots to drive to pretend patient rooms, represented as squares on a mock-up of a hospital map, as if to deliver medications. After each delivery, the robots

had to return to a pharmacy station, factoring in wait times at different locations.

The class is now a required science course at York as part of its Career and Technical Education Engineering and Technology Pathway. While the class provides students 21st century skills, the class's teacher, Kari Dusenbery, said her students also learn valuable critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills, which are needed in many other careers.

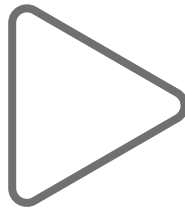
Academy High School science teacher Mellissa Pfaff receives 2024 Colorado Association of Science Teachers Award

Congratulations to Academy High School science teacher Mellissa Pfaff on receiving the 2024 [Colorado Association of Science Teachers](#) (CAST) Excellence in Science Teaching Award!

Ms. Pfaff will receive a commemorative plaque and \$500 for personal use. She will later be recognized for her accomplishments at the Colorado Science Conference on Friday, Oct. 25, at the CSU-SPUR, in Denver. We are truly honored and proud to have Ms. Pfaff here in Mapleton!

Watch the video below to see Academy students and Principal Edgar Torres announce the selection to Ms. Pfaff.

14 reactions | 2024 CAST Excellence in Science Teaching Award - Ms. Pfaff | Congratulations t...
[Science Teachers Excellence in... | By Mapleton Public Schools, Adams County School District 1 | Facebook](#)



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MESA hosts Freshman-Parent Orientations to support high school transition

Last week, Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts (MESA) hosted three freshman-parent orientation meetings, recognizing that a strong ninth-grade year is crucial for students' success and graduation. These sessions are designed to help families transition alongside their students, providing important information about high school. Led by MESA's Ninth Grade Success Team, the meetings also served as an opportunity to begin building meaningful parent-teacher relationships.



The first session, held on Tuesday evening, filled the MESA/Mapleton Early Career Prep (MEC) Project Center. Staff shared key information about MESA, including start and end times, the importance of attendance, and essential contact details. The highlight of the evening was demonstrating the Infinite Campus Parent Portal, ensuring all parents could access this valuable tool. Parents appreciated the ability to regularly check their child's academic progress and communicate with teachers as needed.

North Valley School for Young Adults hosts Vision Board Workshop to inspire students



Last Friday, the North Valley School for Young Adults held its first-ever Vision Board Workshop for 50 of its students, led by an external corporate trainer. The workshop aimed to help students clarify their goals and dreams for life after graduation.

Vision boards are collages of images and words that represent personal and career aspirations. Students spent an hour cutting out pictures from magazines and organizing them to reflect their future plans. For example, Rafael B., graduating in December, used

images of a lawnmower and chickens to represent his dream of owning land, possibly a ranch.

"This was a good idea because it really helps you figure out what you want to do," Rafael said, expressing interest in attending trade school or college.

The idea for the workshop came from North Valley's principal Jim Lefebvre, who emphasized the importance of students finding their "why" to develop a sense of purpose and keep pushing when things get hard.

Flu vaccinations are now available at Kaiser Permanente locations

Kaiser Permanente is now offering members no-cost flu shots. Find a flu shot near you by [clicking here](#).

Walk-In flu shots available Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at most Kaiser Permanente medical offices. Saturday walk-in flu shots are available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at select locations on September 21, 28, October 5, and 12.

The high dose flu shot is available for individuals 65 and older or those with a compromised immune system. Flu shots are available while supplies last. Please bring your Kaiser Permanente ID card to get the flu shot at no-cost.

"High Fives" are picking up again!

We're picking up momentum on our "High Fives" and received eight more of these notes of gratitude in the last week. Four from one school! Have a look at what people are saying below.

[If you know someone who deserves a "High Five", submit your appreciation using this form.](#)



Warehouse Staff: Martin Sanchez, Jeremy Cortez, Jimmy Bath

"Great job in supporting the needs of the staff and students of Mapleton! The District wouldn't run without you!"

Taylor Nelson, Monterey Community School

"Taylor takes the time to show interest in not only his students, but his fellow teachers and every guest teacher and member of our staff. He is honest and transparent when he or others have a need. He is empathetic, caring, and compassionate. No matter who you are, you feel like part of the team when he is around. He teaches every class and every grade level, and still takes time to walk a student to class when they need to have a chat."

Submitted by Julie Najera

Karina Riscos, Alicia Howard, Beronica Gutierrez, Suzy Ott

"A huge thank you to these ladies for taking time out of their busy schedule to come over to the Welcome Center and help answer phones and assist families. I know their time is precious and I really appreciate them."

Submitted by Esmeralda Loera

Tiffany Dragoo, Global Leadership Academy

"As the principal of GLA, Tiffany Dragoo works tirelessly to ensure that both teachers and students feel valued and supported in their educational journey. Her dedication to creating an inclusive and empowering environment is truly inspiring, and her relentless drive to help everyone succeed is evident in everything she does. Whether it's advocating for the best educational opportunities for students or providing guidance and mentorship to staff, Tiffany always goes above and beyond—so much so that sometimes I wonder if she's secretly a robot! I've been fortunate to learn a great deal from her, and her leadership has had a profound impact on our entire school community."

Submitted by Meghan DeKam

Jeff Krause, Global Leadership Academy

"Jeff Krause, our dedicated special education teacher, works tirelessly to ensure that every student is successful in their classes. He is passionate about students' learning and collaborates creatively with teachers to find the right accommodations, ensuring that all students can access and engage with the material. Jeff is always ready to jump in wherever he's needed, and his commitment to his students is evident in everything he does. He strikes the perfect balance between making the work environment fun and maintaining a serious dedication to his role. Jeff's dedication truly makes a difference in the lives of our students."

Submitted by Meghan DeKam

Noelle Roni, Global Leadership Academy

"Noelle Roni, our dedicated school counselor, is always working to find the right resources for our students and their families. Whether it's a simple question or a complex situation, Noelle is ready with an answer and provides support in any way she can. Her commitment to our students is unwavering, and she tirelessly ensures they feel safe and supported. The impact of her guidance is clear—our students thrive under her care, learning not only academic skills but also how to navigate life's challenges with confidence."

Submitted by Meghan DeKam

Sandra Trejo, Global Leadership Academy

"Sandra Trejo, our school secretary, is doing an amazing job. She has quickly adapted to working with our team and manages the office so the school can run as efficiently as possible. The students

are always excited to see her, and the staff feel truly supported by her efforts. Sandra brings a fun and positive energy to the office, but she also deeply understands the importance of her role and takes it seriously. Her dedication and enthusiasm make a huge difference for our school community. We love you, Sandra!"

Submitted by Meghan DeKam

Global Campus Parking Lot Crew

"I would like to recognize Tiffany, Jackson, Laura, Lindzy, Lindsey, Emily, Brie, and Brian for the outstanding job they do at dismissal. They are so in sync with students, parents, and employees."

Submitted by Cyndi Valdez

Teaching and Learning

District-wide PD Day about responding flexibly is this Friday, Sept. 20

The District-wide Professional Development Day about responding flexibly is this Friday, Sept. 20. Principals will receive staff individualized schedules to distribute to all teachers soon. Be sure to bring this schedule with you on Friday to ensure you know which sessions you are scheduled to attend and in which locations, such as schools and room numbers. Please be on time.

District staff have been assigned to specific locations based on the following general distribution list. Be sure to verify which location you will be at prior to Friday:

- **K-5 (MEC/MESA, Skyview Campus):**
 - o K-5 classroom teachers
 - o K-8 SPED teachers

- **6-8 (Global Intermediate, Broadway Campus)**
 - o 6-8 classroom teachers
 - o K-8 specials teachers (art, music, PE, etc.)
 - o K-8 ELD Leads

- **9-12 (Global Leadership, Broadway Campus)**
 - o 9-12 classroom teachers (all content areas)
 - o 9-12 SPED teachers
 - o 9-12 ELD Leads

Day-of-Event Reminders:

- Parking is limited, so please plan to carpool.
- Bring your staff ID and key card. All staff key cards will work for the building(s) you are assigned on Friday!
- Please bring your computer and power cord as some sessions will require computer usage.
- Lunch will be provided and delivered to your PD building's cafeteria.
- Bring a refillable water bottle for the day.

Friday's Schedule Overview:

- 7:45-8:00 a.m. Participants Arrive and find their opening session
 - **8:00-9:30 a.m. Opening Session** (90 minutes)
 - 9:30-9:45 a.m. *Transition*
 - **9:45-11:15 a.m. Session 1** (90 minutes)
 - 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. *Lunch (1 hour)-lunch provided in cafeteria*
 - **12:15-1:45 p.m. Session 2** (90 minutes)
 - 1:45-2:00 p.m. *Transition – Snack Break in cafeteria*
 - **2:00-3:30 p.m. Session 3** (90 minutes)
-

Deadline to recommend newcomer students for new English literacy course is Monday, Sept. 30

We are proud to announce a new course, titled, "**Introduction to English Literacy for Newcomers**," which is designed to support high school newcomers with foundational literacy skills. We plan to launch the course Quarter 2! Please recommend students for this course by Monday, Sept. 30.

Details about the course are below.

What is it?	<p>Introduction to English Literacy for Newcomers is an <u>extended day</u> opportunity for selected multilingual students. This invitational course was developed to serve and support multilingual students who have had interrupted schooling or limited opportunities to learn foundational literacy skills needed for success in high school.</p> <p>Students will develop reading skills, such as decoding, vocabulary instruction, and comprehension. Students will also develop writing skills such as encoding, expressing ideas, constructing sentences and organizing writing into a paragraph.</p>
When and where does it take place?	The course will take place as an extended day option during Zero Hour, 7:10-8:10 a.m., on the Skyview Campus.
Who can attend?	<p>Student entrance requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teacher recommendation (PSOCs and ELD Leads collaborate to determine who is invited)• Newcomer status• Needing foundational literacy skills
Do students earn credits for this class?	Introduction to English Literacy for Newcomers is an elective class bearing .25 elective credits per quarter completed.
How do I recommend a student?	<p>PSOCs and ELD leads in each building will work collaboratively to recommend individual students for invitation.</p> <p>The recommendation and invitation processes are ongoing. Students who meet the entrance requirements may be recommended to take this class at any time throughout the year.</p>
Important Dates and Deadlines	<p>Recommendations are an ongoing process. To have students start on the first day of the quarter, all student recommendations need to be in by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarter 2 start, Monday, Sept. 30• Quarter 3 start, Monday, Dec. 16• Quarter 4 start, Monday, March 3

Mapleton's focus on Primary Literacy

Below are Mapleton's literacy goals for the 2024-25 school year.

- 90% of Mapleton Kindergarten students will be at or above on the EOY benchmark by May 2025
- 70% of Mapleton 1st grade students will be at or above on the EOY benchmark by May 2025
- 70% of Mapleton 2nd grade students will be at or above on the EOY benchmark by May 2025
- 70% of Mapleton 3rd grade students will be at or above on the EOY benchmark by May 2025

Literacy Guarantees for Grades K-2

The Literacy Guarantees for K-2 grades are the essential foundational literacy skills students need by the end of each grade level to gain the word recognition skills to make meaning of text and spell.

Upcoming Events

Friday, Sept. 20 - Professional Development Day

Friday, Sept. 20 - [Mapleton Education Foundation Gala](#)

Monday, Sept. 23 - Instructional Planning Day

Wednesday, Sept. 25 - Board of Education Business Meeting, Administration Building, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 1 - October Count Day!

Friday, Oct. 11 - Homecoming (all schools 2-hour early dismissal)

Monday & Tuesday, Oct. 14 & 15 - Instructional Planning Day. No school for students

[Skyview Wolverines Athletics Calendar](#)

[District Performing Arts Calendar](#)



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

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