Mapleton Public Schools

The Tuesday Takeaway

Tuesday, Oct. 8

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.

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Tuesday Tech Tip of the Week

*Welcome to **Tech Tip Tuesday**, a new feature in our staff newsletter. Every Tuesday, we'll spotlight handy tech tips and tools designed to streamline your workflow. Whether it's a clever shortcut, a useful app, or a time-saving feature you didn't know existed, we've got you covered. Stay tuned to learn how small tech tweaks can make a big impact in your day-to-day tasks!*

Tech Tip: If you would like to transfer a phone call to someone's voicemail, **dial *55 and the person's extension.**

Mapleton News

One week left to take the District Services Survey

The District Services Survey closes Tuesday, Oct. 15! Please take a moment to share your feedback! As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we're partnering with Studer Education to gather insights on how well we provide service across various departments. Your input will help us identify areas for improvement and ensure excellence in five key areas:

- Accessibility: Can you easily reach someone?
- Accuracy: Was the service/product correct?
- Attitude: Was the experience pleasant?
- Operations: Are day-to-day operations running smoothly?
- Timeliness: Was the solution delivered on time?

The survey is confidential, and Studer Education will manage data collection and reporting. Select the departments you've interacted with over the past year and evaluate them based on the above categories. Your feedback is crucial to enhancing our services.

Access the survey here: District Services Survey.

Take the District Services Survey

Celebrate Mapleton's Classified Employees!

This week we're celebrating Mapleton's dedicated classified employees who keep our schools running smoothly! These incredible individuals are the backbone of Mapleton's educational system. More than 400 classified staff members play crucial roles in the district every day, including:

- Keeping our schools and buildings clean, maintained, and operational
- Transporting students safely to and from school, field trips, and other activities
- Preparing and serving nutritious meals
- Managing busy school offices
- Maintaining important records
- Balancing our district's budget
- Hiring and onboarding new staff and supporting the needs of current staff
- Keeping our technology up and running
- Assisting in classrooms and on playgrounds
- and SO much more!

Send your photos and stories of gratitude and appreciation to communications@mapleton.us.

And let's thank our principals, too, for National Principals Month

October is also National Principals Month, when we acknowledge our incredible school leaders. School principals are expected to be educational visionaries, instructional leaders, assessment experts, managers of student behavior, community builders, public relations experts, budget analysts, facility managers, special programs administrators, and guardians of various legal, contractual, and policy mandates and initiatives, as well as being entrusted with the education and development of young people, our most valuable resource. We extend sincere appreciation to school principals and assistant principals in their individual and collective commitment to the success of all students in Mapleton Public Schools.

Help us celebrate our principals and assistant principals by telling us about one who helps Mapleton students achieve their dreams. Please email your submissions to communications@mapleton.us.

Mapleton Reads is back!

Mapleton Reads, the district's community reading program, is back for its 12th year!

Everyone is invited to read along! Copies of the selected titles will be available in all schools and departments this week. Pick up your copy and let us know how you are participating in *Mapleton Reads*! Titles selected for this year include:

"Noticing" by Kobi Yamada (K-3rd Grade)
This is a story about noticing the little things, the grand big things, the imaginary, and sometimes, hidden things. It's a tale about embracing what's possible. Written by New York Times best-selling author Kobi Yamada, Noticing follows the discoveries of a painter and her young protégé. Together, they explore what it means to observe with your heart and use your imagination to expand your vision.

"The Other Half of Happy" by Rebecca Balcarcel (4th-8th Grade)
The Other Half of Happy by Rebecca Balcárcel is a heartfelt and captivating coming-of age novel that explores themes of cultural identity, family dynamics, and the journey to self-discovery through

the eyes of a young girl named Quijana. The story follows Quijana, a girl torn between her Guatemalan and American heritage, struggling to find her place in the world. Balcárcel skillfully weaves together the complexities of Quijana's multicultural background, her internal conflicts, and the external pressures from her family and peers. One of the most compelling aspects of the novel is its portrayal of family relationships. Quijana navigates the challenges of having a father deeply rooted in Guatemalan culture while her mother embraces American ways, creating a tug-of-war in Quijana's own identity formation. Through these familial tensions and bonds, Balcárcel delves into universal themes of belonging and acceptance.

The Measure by Nikki Erlick (9th-12th Grade)
The Measure takes you on a journey of 8 strangers who soon become connected in ways that are not expected. It seems like any other day. You wake up, pour a cup of coffee, and head out. But today, when you open your front door, waiting for you is a small wooden box. This box holds your fate inside: the answer to the exact number of years you will live. From suburban doorsteps to desert tents, every person on every continent receives the same box. In an instant, the world is thrust into a collective frenzy. Where did these boxes come from? What do they mean? Is there truth to what they promise? As society comes together and pulls apart, everyone faces the same shocking choice: Do they wish to know how long they'll live? And, if so, what will they do with that knowledge?

YMCA before and after care programs in Mapleton

Did you know Mapleton Public Schools partners with the YMCA of Metro Denver to provide before and after school care to Mapleton students, 5-12 years of age?

It's true!

Before and after school care is available at three sites in Mapleton. The YMCA does charge a fee for these services. Mapleton's Transportation team provides bus services for students, taking them from before-school care to their school, and from school to after-school care if they do not attend a school that has a YMCA site. Please see the attached chart for details.

The YMCA partners with the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP) which provides child care assistance to families who are working, searching for employment, or are in training, and families who are enrolled in the Colorado Works program and need child care services to support their efforts toward self-sufficiency.

Registration is handled through the YMCA of Metro Denver. If you have questions about programs in Mapleton, including times, or cost to participate, please contact **Meredith Sutherlin, YMCA of Metro Denver, 303.704.3427, or visit the YMCA of Metro Denver website.**

Out of School Time Care Registration

Our Out of School Time (OST) program provides a welcoming and transformative home away from home for your child, and our experienced OST staff are preparing for an exciting new year of physical, academic and recreational activities. No registration fee. $25 non-refundable deposit due at the time of registration.

denverymca.org

PDF **YMCA Care Flier 2024.pdf** Download 1.6 MB

Homecoming is Friday, Oct. 11

Join us for Homecoming this Friday, Oct. 11! To ensure all students, families, and staff can prepare to participate in or enjoy the parade, **all schools will dismiss two hours early**. Afternoon (PM) preschool is canceled.

Schedule of Events:

- 2:45 p.m. – Parade staging at the Skyview Campus
- 3:45 p.m. – Parade begins
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. – Festivities at the Skyview Campus (food, games, and more!)
- 7 p.m. – Kickoff at DiTirro Stadium. Cheer on the Skyview Wolverines as they take on the Conifer Lobos! Mapleton students and staff may attend the game for free with their Mapleton ID. Mapleton students in grades PreK-6 must be accompanied by an adult to get into the game for free.

For a schedule of events and parade map, visit our website.
Homecoming parade route and dance flyer are attached below.

PDF **Skyview Homecoming Parade Map 2024[14].pdf** Download 1013.6 KB

PDF **Mapleton Homecoming 2024 (Standard PDF).pdf** Download 15.2 MB

Update from the Benefits Committee

The Benefits Broker solicitation was published on Friday, Oct. 4. Responses are due Thursday, Oct. 31. The Benefits Committee will review the responses and select firms to interview. Interviews will be conducted on Wednesday, Dec. 4, and Thursday, Dec. 5. The award recommendation will go to the Board of Education during their regular Business meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 18. The contract for the new broker will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025. You may review the RFP here.

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, a time to raise awareness about online safety. Below are some of the best practices to help protect yourself and others:

- **Use Strong Passwords**: Create complex passwords with a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols. Use a password manager for secure tracking.
- **Enable Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)**: Add extra security by using 2FA, like Mapleton's Microsoft Azure MFA, which sends a second verification code.
- **Watch for Phishing Attempts**: Be cautious with suspicious emails. Verify the sender, avoid unknown links, and report phishing attempts to IT.
- **Keep Software Updated**: Regularly update your system. Mapleton automatically provides updates, so schedule time to complete them without interruption.
- **Secure Devices**: Lock screens and ensure your Wi-Fi is secure when working remotely.
- **Browse Safely**: Only use secure websites and limit the sharing of personal information.
- **Report Suspicious Activity**: Immediately notify the Help Desk if you encounter anything unusual.

Stay vigilant and help keep our network secure!

Save some energy with us on ENERGY STAR Day, tomorrow, Wednesday, Oct. 9!

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites you to join us for ENERGY STAR Day on Wednesday, Oct. 9! This is a day to raise awareness about all the opportunities for buildings to save energy through efficient energy use.

To help you save energy, here are some simple tips:

- Shut down computers when not in use
- Limit coffee pots and refrigerators to the breakroom
- Close windows and doors when the AC is running
- Ensure products are rated for commercial energy use
- Unplug devices not in use to reduce "phantom" energy consumption

Why does it matter? Conserving energy supports our economic, environmental, and social well-being. Plus, Colorado public buildings report energy use annually, striving to meet efficiency benchmarks.

Our Operations Office will soon share each building's ENERGY STAR score for educational purposes. To schedule an energy audit, contact Dave Sauer or Tara McMachen to help increase your score. Let's work together to make a difference!

Points of Pride

"Where is Mapleton?" story series debuts tomorrow

"Where is Mapleton?"

If you live, work, or attend school in Mapleton, this is a question you are likely asked a lot.

Mapleton is not a sprawling county. It's not a town on any Colorado map, and it's no longer a neighborhood of family truck farms. But Mapleton *is* a very special place to be.

Mapleton Public Schools is located in the "heart" of metro Denver. It's likely many people who don't know where Mapleton is drive through it every day, as Mapleton is where major Colorado arteries, including Interstate 25, Highway 36, Interstate 270, and Interstate 76, converge.

Mapleton Public Schools, originally known as Adams County District 1, is said to have gotten its name from the maple trees that lined Washington Street generations ago. At a modest 25 square miles, partially in Thornton and partially in Denver, the district boundaries are Huron, Zuni, and Franklin Streets on the west, 52nd Avenue on the south, and Colorado Boulevard on the east. On the north side, the boundary reaches as far as 108th Avenue in one small area.

Although Mapleton might not be a place on the map, our graduates, students, current staff, and retirees continue to put Mapleton on the map by making a lasting mark, achieving their dreams both globally and within the district.

That's why we are starting "Where is Mapleton?," a series of stories we will publish on a regular basis about where we've been, where we are, what we're up to, and all the things that make Mapleton the only place you want to be! New stories will be posted on our district website, with previews available on our Facebook page. Stay tuned to learn more about what makes Mapleton a remarkable place!

Do you have a "Where is Mapleton?" story idea? Email communications@mapleton.us!

Teacher candidates beginning field experience in Mapleton classrooms

Nearly 30 junior and senior high school students from our district have joined the inaugural class of the Teaching for Tomorrow Teacher Prep Program. These future educators are diving into essential questions like "Why teach?" and "What makes a great teacher or school?"

Since mid August, the students have been attending classes four days a week in the district's Idea Lab. Now, they are embarking on the next phase of their journey—gaining real-world experience. Two days a week, they'll spend time in classrooms alongside their cooperating teachers, applying what they've learned and discovering what it truly means to be an educator.

The students have been paired with 30 dedicated district teachers across the York, Skyview, and Broadway campuses. Both students and teachers are excited about this collaboration and its potential to shape the next generation of educators.

Thank you to everyone who has supported and continues to support the Teaching for Tomorrow Program!

Take a look at this week's "High Fives"

Here's a few "High Fives" from the last week to put a smile on your face.

If you know someone who deserves a "High Five", submit your appreciation using this form.

Nutrition Services team, Chef Pete, and Melissa Johnson
"A special shout-out to the Nutrition Services staff who work hard everyday to feed Mapleton students fresh, nutritious meals. I am truly grateful to each and every one of them for their hard work and dedication to feeding our kids. Thank you for a wonderful, successful Colorado Proud Meal Day on October 1! We served more than 4,380 lunches that day thanks to the gorgeous salad bars and well-presented menu! I am honored to lead this amazing team of Child Nutrition Professionals.

Thank you to Chef Pete for appearing on Colorado & Company with me to showcase Mapleton's Colorado Proud menu. Also, thank you for creating the delicious Colorado Proud dish! It was a huge hit with students!

Thank you to Melissa Johnson for assisting me with logistics for our segment on Tuesday. Your patience, inspiration, and positivity was much appreciated, and I am grateful for the support you provided.
Submitted by Lindsay Hull

Edith Mendez, Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts
"Despite just beginning her journey here at Mapleton, she has already demonstrated incredible skills in our School Health Services program- EzEdMed. Her ability to quickly excel in her work speaks volumes about her talent and commitment to the students. Thank you, Edith!!"
Submitted by Alicia Howard

Ismael Aldana and Monica Ycaza, Integrated Services, and Karina Kucherova, Communications
"Muchas gracias por ofrecer su tiempo como voluntario en el panel de oradores de la Herencia Hispana de Adventure. Sus historias personales hicieron que todos se sintieran inspirados y

orgullosos de ser bilingües, biculturales y bialfabetizados."

“Thank you so much for volunteering your time on Adventure's Hispanic Heritage speaker panel. Your personal stories made everyone feel inspired and proud to be bilingual, bicultural and bi-literate.”

Submitted by Sarah Kopperud

Tabby Godfrey, Global Primary Academy
“Tabby is a valued member of the GPA team. She is always willing to do whatever it takes to support kids, and they all adore her. WE WILL MISS YOU, TABBY! Good luck at VV!"

Submitted by Global Primary Family

Integrated Services

Professional Development Day - Tuesday, Oct. 15

All licensed SpEd Providers (Team Leads, OTs, SLPs, SpEd Generalists) will be attending a full day of Professional Development with CDE hosted by the Integrated Services team on Tuesday, Oct. 15 (PD Day).

Location: Garden Level of the Administration Building (7350 Broadway, Denver, 80221)
Date: Tuesday, Oct. 15 (PD Day)
Schedule:

- 8:30-11:30 a.m. – OHI
- 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – Lunch on your own
- 12:30-3:30 p.m. – SED

Special Education Paraprofessionals will not attend this day and have the day to be in their buildings.

Some paras will need to attend/have already signed up for CPR Recertification Training, which will be offered in 90-minute blocks throughout the day.

If you are a licensed Sped Provider and are signed up for CPR Recertification, please contact Lead District Nurse Monica Ycaza, ext. 1247, and **reschedule your CPR Recertification**. Licensed Sped Providers will need to attend the full-day PD on Tuesday.

District nurses (not health assistants) will attend the OHI training.

Teaching and Learning

Gifted and Talented professional learning courses available in October and November

The deadline to register for the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Gifted Learners has been extended through tomorrow, Wednesday, Oct. 9. This 22.5-hour course starts with an in-person introductory session on Thursday, Oct. 10, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., in the Administration Building's Trail Ridge Training Center.

Only the first meeting is in-person; the rest of the course is completed asynchronously online via Canvas. This course also qualifies for CLD relicensure hours for those teachers still needing to meet the 45-hour requirement. This course can be used for standard relicensure credit and/or salary advancement. Optional graduate level credit can be purchased through Adams State University.

- **Click here to register**

For questions, please contact Brad Russell at ext. 1905.

Upcoming Events

Friday, Oct. 11 - Homecoming (all schools 2-hour early dismissal)
Monday, Oct. 14 - Instructional Planning Day. No school for students
Tuesday, Oct. 15 - Professional Development Day. No school for students
Tuesday, Oct. 15 - DAAC Meeting, 4:30 p.m. Microsoft Teams
Wednesday, Oct. 23 - Board of Education Business Meeting, Administration Building, 6 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 1 - Teacher Trade 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
Facebook: facebook.com/MapletonPublicSchools
Twitter: @mapletonschools

Mapleton Public Schools

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