

# The Tuesday Takeaway

Tuesday, Dec. 10

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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**, where every Tuesday, we spotlight handy tech tips and tools designed to streamline your workflow.

**Tech Tip:** Expand your vocabulary in Office 365 documents by using the built-in thesaurus. Right-click on any word and select "synonyms." You will get a full list of alternative words

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# Mapleton News

## Mapleton's Annual Ugly Sweater Day - Wednesday, Dec. 18

It is almost time to break out those ugly sweaters! **Mapleton's annual ugly sweater celebration is Wednesday, Dec. 18.** Staff members wearing an ugly sweater are also invited to wear jeans. Please note that your ugly sweater does not have to be a holiday sweater. All ugly sweaters are welcomed and encouraged.



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## Upcoming district closures and 260-day calendars

Per the Board approved 2024-25 academic calendar, the District (all schools and offices) will be closed on the following dates:

- Monday, Dec. 23, 2024: Non-workday
- Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024: Board Holiday
- Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024: Board Holiday
- Thursday, Dec. 26, 2024: Board Holiday
- Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024: Board Holiday
- Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025: Board Holiday

**The District will be OPEN (limited services and offices) but closed for public business on:**

- Friday, Dec. 27, 2024
- Monday, Dec. 30, 2024

\*Please note that District services, including but not limited to technology and custodial support, may be limited or unavailable on Dec. 27 and Dec. 30.

\*\*260-day employees are the only employee group scheduled to work on Dec. 27 and Dec. 30.

**FOR 260 DAY EMPLOYEES ONLY:**

Please note that per the [260 Day Employee Calendar](#), both Dec. 27, and Dec. 30, are scheduled workdays, even though district schools and offices will be closed for public business. 260-Day employees are required to choose one of the following options:

- Report to work
- Use a vacation day
- Use a personal day

If you are a 260-day employee, please ensure that you notify your direct supervisor (as soon as possible) of your choice for Friday, Dec. 27, and Monday, Dec. 30, to ensure appropriate plans can be determined for the department.

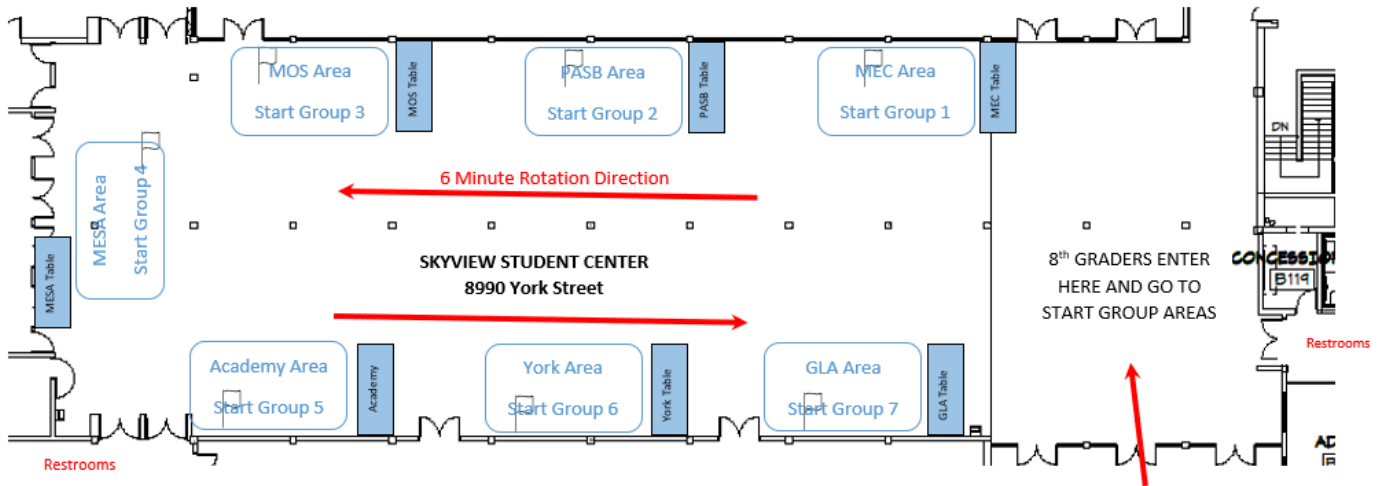
**FOR ALL EMPLOYEES:**

To view and access your employee calendar, please visit [Mapleton Public Schools website](#) and select the appropriate calendar to view.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Human Resources directly at [hr@mapleton.us](mailto:hr@mapleton.us).

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# Highway to High School 1/22/2025



## Plans for 2025 "Highway to High School" are set!

Below is logistical information and planning items for this school year's "Highway to High School" event, scheduled for **Wednesday, Jan. 22**, at the Skyview Student Center. The event helps eighth graders learn about each high school and make informed choices for their ninth grade enrollment.

### Event Schedule:

#### **Global Intermediate Academy** (85 students)

- On-Site Time: 9-9:45 a.m.
- Sending School Bus Departure: 8:35 a.m.
- Event Bus Departure: 9:50 a.m.

#### **Monterey** (60 students) and **Explore** (43 students)

- On-Site Time: 10-10:45 a.m.
- Sending School Bus Departure: 9:40 a.m.
- Event Bus Departure: 10:50 a.m.

#### **York** (59 students) and **Meadow** (45 students)

- On-Site Time: 11-11:45 a.m.
- Sending School Bus Departure: 10:40 a.m.
- Event Bus Departure: 11:50 a.m.

#### **Achieve** (45 students) and **Clayton** (58 students)

- On-Site Time: 12-12:45 p.m.
- Sending School Bus Departure: 11:45 a.m.
- Event Bus Departure: 11:50 p.m.

#### **Trailside** (51 students) and **PASB** (33 students)

- On-Site Time: 1-1:45 p.m.
- Sending School Bus Departure: 12:30 p.m.

· Event Bus Departure: 1:50 p.m.

## HW2HS Planning Action Items:

### High School Leaders

- Invite **charismatic staff** to attend. Career and Technical Education (CTE) will pay for sub coverage for up-to two CTE instructors. Non-CTE instructor coverage must be paid by building funds.
- **Identify students** from your CTSO or CTE courses to arrive by 8:15 a.m. and meet groups of incoming ninth graders through 2 p.m. **Ensure your students have transportation and parental permission.** Lunch for student presenters (pizza) is provided.
- **Be prepared** for 35 interactive six-minute opportunities to connect with groups of 16 incoming ninth graders.
  - Rotate your students to avoid fatigue.
  - Eighth graders will come to this event already knowing the basics of your school.
  - More quick activities and demonstrations, less lecturing.
  - Have a plan to allow students to eat while others are presenting (see schedule).
- Each high school has **one table and an area** for activities (see map). You may add chairs or additional tables if available but are limited to your designated area.
- CTSOs may **request supplies** to support a demonstration and/or activity related to the pathway courses you offer. Please send requests in time for orders to arrive before the event.

### Eighth Grade Leaders

- Please enter a **bus request** that corresponds with the event schedule.
- Please send the name of an 8th grade **teacher-leader** for your school to [byrdc@mapleton.us](mailto:byrdc@mapleton.us)
- **Before arriving thoughtfully Divide students** into 7 equal size groups ready to deploy to the starting areas.
- Set **clear expectations**:
  - Students stay with their group and rotate together throughout the event.
  - Prepare students to successfully encounter and interact with students and staff from other schools.
  - Restrooms are marked on the map; please allow your students to visit them while minimizing wandering.
- Generate **interest and questions** by reviewing pathway information for each school, doing career interest surveys and having career conversations.

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# Teaching and Learning

**Student Individual Plans – revised due dates for 2025-26**

We are hearing from the system that there are too many student plans due at the same time of year in October. To improve our process, we are changing the due dates for the following student plans for the 2025-26 school year:

<b>Plan Type</b>	<b>2025 Fall Plans Due:</b>	<b>2026 Spring Updates Due:</b>
<b>ELD Plans</b>	<b>October 3rd</b>	<b>April 24th</b>
<b>READ Plans</b>	<b>November 7th</b>	<b>May 15th</b>
<b>ALPs</b>	<b>December 15th</b>	<b>May 8th</b>

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### **Collaborative Structures survey for instructional staff**

Please take a few moments to complete the Collaborative Structures survey by the end of the day on **Friday, Dec. 20**. This survey is designed to gather feedback on how Instructional Design Teams (IDT) and Instructional Leadership Teams (ILT) are being implemented and impacting your school. Your responses will help guide our next steps in supporting and strengthening these collaborative structures.

The survey is divided into two sections: one focusing on the weekly IDTs and the other on the impact of your school's ILT. Your feedback is essential!

Please [complete this survey](#) by end of day on Friday, Dec. 20.

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## **Integrated Services**

### **Monthly Theme and Tier 1 Resources**

The Olweus theme for December is **Service**: [Resources are here!](#)

#### **Bullying Prevention supplies available:**

1. Postcards (and stamps) for positive notes home
2. Small blank journals for gratitude journaling
3. Small encouragement cards for admin to write notes to staff (or staff to each other)
4. Colorful gratitude key chains

If you would like supplies, please contact your district Bullying Prevention Coordinator: [Jacqueline Ewing](#), ext. 1019

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## Points of Pride



### Mapleton's Air Force JROTC Raider Squadron earns highest rating possible in annual inspection

Mapleton's Air Force JROTC Raider Squadron earned an "Exceeds Standards" rating during their annual unit inspection last week, the highest rating possible, with a numerical score of 98.5/100! These inspections test whether JROTC programs are following program standards.

A Regional Director from Headquarters Air Force Junior ROTC meticulously evaluated every aspect of the program, from the way the curriculum is delivered to the condition of cadets' uniforms. At Skyview's Al Hower Gymnasium, cadets showcased their skills with precision, executing a 30-Step Command Drill and the Colorado Guard Sequence flawlessly. The inspection confirmed the program's excellence, highlighting the cadets' hard work and the instructors' dedication.

And bonus news, Senior Master Sergeant Danny Alltop (ret), an Aerospace Science Instructor with Mapleton's JROTC program, will be nominated for an Outstanding Instructor Award, an honor he earned last school year as well.

Congratulations to the squadron and their instructors for this outstanding achievement!

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### Mapleton Early Career Prep co-hosts 2024 Big Picture Learning Summit

Mapleton Early Career Prep (MEC) co-hosted the 2024 Big Picture Learning (BPL) Summit in Denver last week, welcoming over 200 global educators, students, and school leaders to share insights on running BPL schools. Attendees participated in workshops, presentations, and school tours.

MEC students proudly showcased independent projects, including a welded art piece, a parking lot proposal, and a robotic arm created by Cristian P., an aspiring



aerospace engineer. "It was a lot of hard work, but it feels pretty good to present this and represent my school," Cristian shared.

BPL's curriculum emphasizes personalized learning, real-world relevance, and strong relationships. At MEC, students blend traditional classes, internships, independent projects, and college courses for a comprehensive educational experience.

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### Mapleton's new "Teaching for Tomorrow" program tackles teacher shortage by developing future educators

Mapleton's "Teaching for Tomorrow" CTE pathway is inspiring future educators and hopefully addressing the nationwide teacher shortage. Open to high school juniors and seniors, this innovative program combines college-level coursework with hands-on classroom experience, giving students a head start on their teaching careers. Participants even can even earn a

paraprofessional certificate upon completion.

[Discover how this program is inspiring the next generation of educators and strengthening the Mapleton community here!](#)

Do you have a "Where is Mapleton?" story idea? Email [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us)!



## Here are this week's "High Fives"

**Rachel Rocha, Crystal Navarette, and Gabby Juarez; Preschool on Poze**

"These ladies are always lending us books our toddlers love and giving us suggestions on books they think they would enjoy.

Thanks for thinking of our little ones!"

*Submitted by Manuela Medina*

**Teaching for Tomorrow Cooperating Mentor Teachers: Clayton:**

**Elizabeth Garlick, Filista Kamenis, Rebecca MacVaugh Academy: Jennifer Olsen GIA: Lori Schellin, Isaac Valdez, Kate Vega, Luis Vega, Alex Ryckman, Alicia Molinaro GPA: MK Smith, Amanda Prahinski, Holly Mangan, Joselyn Horvath, Jason Duran, Adam Scott, Emily Guagliardi, Ally Kelly, Frances Fisher, Amber Bornemeier, Michaela Draper, Lindsey Gerbus York: Dr. Dallas Saylor, Shannon Black, Nicole Nemechek, Carrie Parker, Arleeta Lisman, Melanie Newton, Rita Cobbrent Fry, Mapleton Online**

"Thank you to these 29 amazing teachers across five district schools, all contents and levels - kindergarten through high school - for welcoming, supporting, and being role models for the first classes of teacher candidates in the "Teaching for Tomorrow" program. This program is growing because the teacher candidates share the positive experiences from their cooperating teacher's classroom with other high school students. I appreciate and applaud these teachers for their willingness to open their classrooms and share their love of our profession with potential future teachers from our school district!"

*Submitted by Mary Jo Gonzales*

### **Mapleton Principals and PSOCs**

"As the first semester comes to a close, the success of the "Teaching for Tomorrow" program is due in large part to:

Our principals, for their strong support in launching the program. Their effective communication highlighted the opportunities it offers, the benefits it brings to district students, and helped facilitate recruitment meetings for high school students. They also forwarded the names of interested mentor teachers and supported the teachers and candidates currently placed in schools throughout the district.

Our high school PSOCs, for their crucial role in scheduling recruiting meetings with juniors and seniors, actively communicating with me, and most importantly, supporting students in the program. They helped assess students' readiness for college courses, assisted with registration and transcripts, advocated for their needs, and celebrated their achievements.

I could not have gotten this program off the ground and running successfully without all of your support!

Thank you!"

*Submitted by Mary Jo Gonzales*

### **Jessica Schafer, Mapleton Online**

"Jessica has been with Mapleton Online since the start and has never balked at changing her schedule and students when needed. She is currently co-teaching the elementary level, especially with our second and third grade students, not an easy task online! Still, Jessica greets each day with a great attitude and welcomes her students with a smile. Thanks, Jessica!"

*Submitted by a Mapleton Online teacher*

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

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## **Mapleton Education Foundation**



### **Last chance to support Mapleton students on Colorado Gives Day!**

There's still time to make a difference for Mapleton students! Donate to the Mapleton Education Foundation through Colorado

Gives Day by the end of today, Tuesday, Dec. 10. Your gift will be amplified by the Colorado Gives Day \$1M+ Incentive Fund, boosting the impact of every donation. The more we raise, the bigger our share of the Incentive Fund. Your support provides scholarships, extracurricular programs, and resources to help students succeed.

Donate now at [coloradogives.org/organization/mef-co/](https://coloradogives.org/organization/mef-co/)!

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## **Upcoming Events**

**Wednesday, Dec. 18 - Mapleton's annual ugly sweater celebration!**

**Wednesday, Dec. 18** - Board Business Meeting, 6 p.m.

**Monday-Friday, Dec. 23-Jan. 3** - Winter Break

**Monday, Jan. 6** - Teacher Work Day - No school for students

**Tuesday, Jan. 7** - Professional Development 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](mailto:communications@mapleton.us).

**Email:** [communications@mapleton.us](mailto:communications@mapleton.us)

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

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

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/MapletonPublicSchools](https://www.facebook.com/MapletonPublicSchools)

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



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