



Mapleton Public Schools



The Family Connection

www.mapleton.us | 303.853.1000 | Communications@mapleton.us

Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025



Academy High School named Mapleton's next Attendance Superhero!

At Academy High School, showing up starts with belonging. In just one year, the school's first-quarter attendance rate has climbed from 88% to about 91%, with juniors at nearly 96%! Principal Edgar Torres credits the improvement to a growing sense of connection and student leadership. For their progress and creative approach to building community, **Academy High School has been named Mapleton's Attendance Superhero of the Week!**

From the student-led Senior Sunrise at Red Rocks to mentoring programs and "Advisory Takeovers," Academy is creating a culture where students want to be. Mentoring and Leadership classes built around the Sources of Strength framework help students talk about challenges, identify trusted adults, and find support before attendance becomes an issue.

"Once students learn to communicate and know there's someone who will listen, attendance starts to improve," Torres said.

The school received the "**Be Present, Be Proud, Be You**" cape and will be worn first by **Esther Herrada**, Academy's paraprofessional for at-risk youth, who helps families overcome barriers to attendance. Congratulations, Academy, for proving that when students feel connected, they show up ready to learn and succeed.

Read Academy's full story [here](#) in our "News from the District" section.

Tell us why your school is Mapleton's next Attendance Superhero! Email Communications@mapleton.us.



What's your Superpower?

Every superhero has a secret power. Whether it's superhuman strength or super speed, all superheroes have something that helps them reach their goals, overcome challenges, and make the world a better place.

In Mapleton, one of the most powerful superpowers you have is the power of being present!

When you show up to school on time, every day, you activate your attendance superpower. You learn new things, connect with friends, and get stronger and smarter with every single day. Now it's your turn to become an Attendance Superhero! Draw yourself as a superhero who is present and proud to be learning in Mapleton. What's your attendance superpower? Use your imagination! Your superpower is what makes you unstoppable.

Turn in your completed superhero design to your school's main office!



Don't let shorter days get in the way of your attendance goals!

November can be tough for attendance. Cold weather, shorter days, holiday travel, and seasonal illnesses all **disrupt routines**. With motivation dipping mid-semester, it's key to keep students engaged and showing up.

Shorter days can make mornings harder for kids and teens, leaving them tired and less motivated. Reduced sunlight can affect mood, energy, and focus, making it easier to skip school or struggle to engage.

Learn more about [Seasonal Affective Disorder \(SAD\)](#).

Also, don't forget to review the "How sick is too sick?" guide from the Colorado Department of Health and Environment.

[How sick is too sick? \(Colorado Department of Health and Environment\)](#)

Snow days and severe weather

The decision to close schools due to adverse conditions is based on many factors, including reports on road conditions from the Colorado Department of Transportation, weather reports, and information from local and state law enforcement agencies, among other considerations.

All decisions are made with the safety of staff, students, and families top of mind. The determination to cancel school for an entire day will happen as early as possible. Staff and families will be notified via Finalsite Messages XR (autodial, text message, email), Mapleton's website, social media, and local media.

2-Hour Delayed Start

On a delayed start day, school will begin **two hours later** than the usual start time. For example, if school normally begins at 8:10 a.m., a two-hour delay will mean it begins at 10:10 a.m. Bus pick-up times would also be delayed by two hours. If your child is normally at the bus stop by 7:30 a.m., on a late start day they would need to be at the bus stop by 9:30 a.m.

A two-hour delay would also mean that **Zero Hour classes will be canceled for that day as well as morning (AM) preschool**. Full-day preschool will begin two hours late and afternoon (PM)

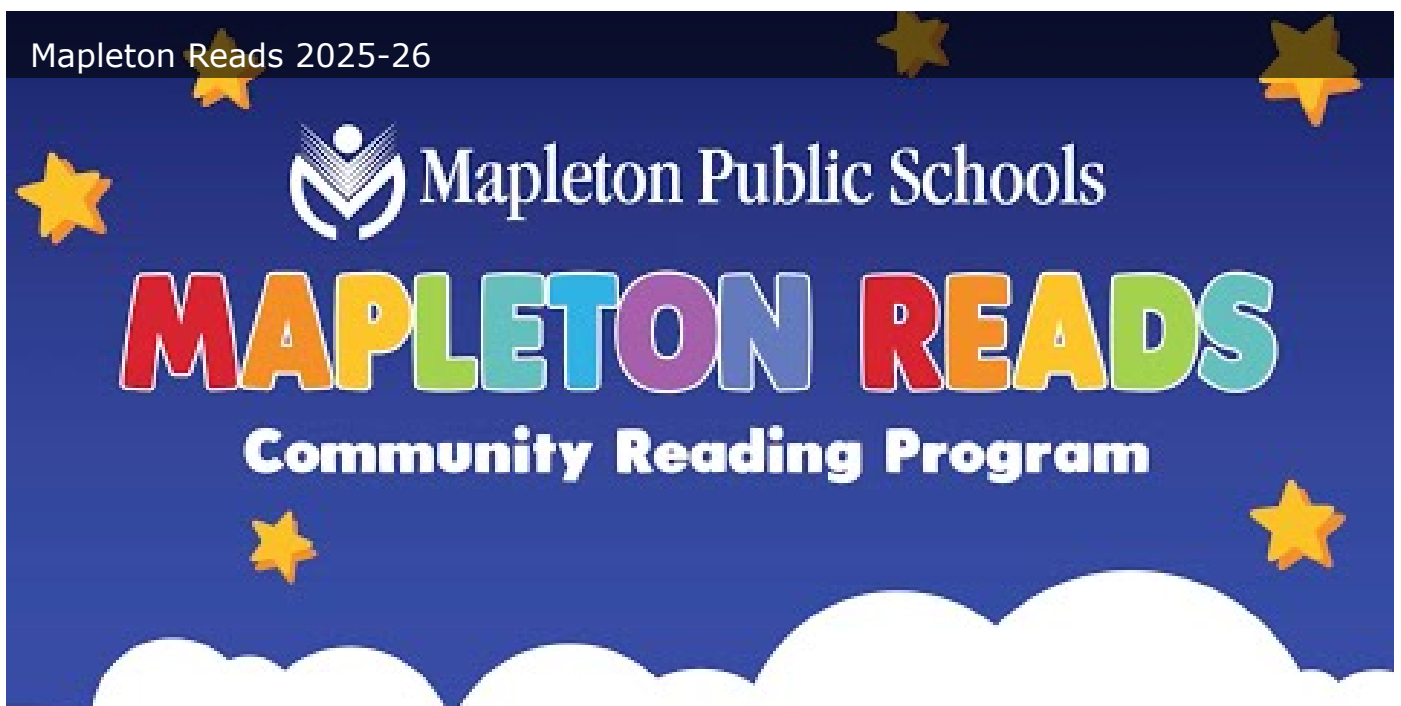
preschool will start on time.

Families will be notified of either a late start or school cancelation through school and district communication tools (autodial, text message, email). Please make sure your contact information (home phone, cell phone, and email address) is up-to-date so you can receive important school delay and closure information.

Local television and radio stations will have weather-related delays and closure information as well as Mapleton's Facebook page and website at www.mapleton.us.

Delayed Start – Employee Care

With a delayed start, toddler care and preschool before care (employee care) are also delayed two hours and open at 8:45 a.m.



Have you gotten your Mapleton Reads books yet? There's still time!

Through January 2026, our community is invited to cozy up this fall/winter with three incredible stories that inspire courage, connection, and imagination:

- All the Books by Hayley Rocco and John Rocco (K–3rd Grade)
- All Thirteen by Christina Soontornvat (4–8th Grade)
- A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness (9–12th Grade)

Pick up your free copies at any Mapleton school, the Welcome Center, or the Administration Building. Spend the season reading, reflecting, and connecting with stories that bring us together.

Food resources in Mapleton

If you need additional food support:

- **Colorado 211:** Call 2-1-1- or 866-760-6489 or visit www.211colorado.org
- **Feeding Colorado:** Visit www.feedingcolorado.org/find-food or email info@feedingcolorado.org
- **Hunger Free Colorado Food Resource Hotline:** 855-855-4626

Resources in Mapleton:

Wolverine Den Food Pantry

Achieve Academy, 9100 Poze Blvd., Thornton, 80229

Thursdays, 9-11 a.m.

Thanks to our partnership with [Food for Hope](#), Mapleton families can access nutritious food right here in our community through the Wolverine Den food pantry.

The Wolverine Den food pantry is located on the bottom level of Achieve Academy (9100 Poze Blvd.) and is open to all Mapleton families **every Thursday from 9–11 a.m.**, with no appointment needed. The pantry offers a variety of essential items and will continue to expand its selection as it grows. All Mapleton families are invited to stop by the Wolverine Den. **If you cannot visit the Wolverine Den food pantry during open hours, please contact your school principal. Limited opportunities for food bag deliveries are available.**

Thornton Community Food Pantry

Skyview Campus, 8990 York St., Thornton, 80229

Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Located on the Skyview Campus, 8990 York St., Thornton, the Thornton Community Food Pantry serves residents in zip codes 80229 and 80260. Guests will need a photo ID and proof of address for each visit. The Thornton Community Food Pantry is open Mondays, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

SNAP and Medicaid support

Do you or someone in your household need support with Medicaid or SNAP benefits? Whether you're interested in enrolling for the first time or need help updating or managing your current benefits, Adams County and Mapleton are here to assist with the process.

A representative from Adams County Human Services is available to meet with families in Mapleton on the first Tuesday of every month. During these visits, families can receive one-on-one assistance with Medicaid and SNAP applications, eligibility questions, and benefit renewals.

If you would like to schedule an appointment or have questions about eligibility, please contact Enid Nieves, Student Success Coordinator for Mapleton Public Schools, NievesE@mapleton.us,

or at 303.853.1083.

We encourage any family who may benefit from this support to take advantage of this free, confidential resource available right here in our district.

Mapleton is hiring on-call custodians!

Do you take pride in keeping schools clean, safe, and welcoming? Are you looking for flexible, as-needed work? **We're looking for dependable people to help cover shifts when our regular team members are out.**

Typical hours: 2–10:30 p.m.

Schedule: As needed

Locations: Schools throughout the district

This is a great opportunity for hands-on workers who enjoy making a difference in their school community. If you or someone you know might be interested in an on-call custodian position, please call the Operations Department at 303.853.1025 or [apply online!](#)

[Apply here!](#)

Mapleton is a Safe Zone

In Mapleton Public Schools, we believe that everyone deserves unlimited opportunities to maximize their unique abilities. We believe people thrive in a caring environment, and know that effective learning and teaching take place in safe, secure, and welcoming environments.

The resolution, [***Affirming Support for All Students, Families, and Staff Members***](#), elevates the belief statements that are central to Mapleton's mission. It declares Mapleton a Safe Zone, where all students, regardless of their background, can achieve their dreams in caring environments, free of fear, disruptions, and discrimination. Mapleton remains committed to providing quality public education to every student, regardless of a child or family member's citizenship/immigration status.

[Resources are available on Mapleton's website.](#)

Community Resources

Low to no cost vaccinations through the Adams County Health Department

The Adams County Health Department offers low and no-cost vaccines for people with and without insurance, including Medicaid, CHP+, Kaiser, Tricare, Medicare, and most private insurances. Vaccines include:

- All childhood and adult routine vaccines
- Respiratory and seasonal vaccines for infants, children, and adults (seasonal flu, OVID-19, RSV)
- Blood tests/titers to check if you're protected against measles, mumps, rubella, and chickenpox.

Call [303.451.0123](tel:303.451.0123) to schedule an appointment or visit during Wednesday walk-in hours, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Make sure to bring all your immunization records and insurance card, if applicable, to each visit.

Adams County Immunizations Clinic

1401 W. 122nd Ave.
Westminster, CO 80234

By Appointment Only

Monday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tuesday: 1- 5 p.m.

Thursday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

After-Hour Appointments

Second Tuesday of each month, 1- 7 p.m.

Walk-In Hours

Wednesday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Operation Freebird

Each year, the Adams County Sheriff's Office hosts its annual Operation Freebird event, which provides the community with access to free food from ACSO and the Food Bank of the Rockies.



The event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mountain States Toyota at 201 W. 70th Ave., Denver, CO. 80221.

This event is presented on behalf of the Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with Waste Management, Mountain States Toyota, and Food Bank of the Rockies.

Food boxes will be available while supplies last. Individuals must be present to receive food items. Individuals can also receive dental screening, flu shots, mental health resources, veteran services, housing and food assistance, and other resources.

Looking for food resources in our community?

The Adams County Human Services page offers a "Find Food Near You" tool to connect families and individuals with food pantries, mobile distributions, and fresh-food options across Adams County. You'll also find links to bilingual help through Mile High United Way (call 2-1-1) and support for students through school meal programs.

For more information, click the link below.

[**Find Food Near You**](#)

Adams County Health Department and Housing Support

The Adams County Health Department (ACHD) through the Adams County Thriving Communities Collaborative (ACTCC) has made housing one of its top three community-health priorities because unfit housing and housing instability can affect families' wellbeing. The Housing Stability Program offers resources like eviction-prevention support, housing-navigation services and healthy-homes assistance throughout Adams County. For more information, click the link below.

[**ACHD Housing Support**](#)

Supporting our young minds: Help ease the weight of today's pressures.

The Mental Health America "Supporting Young Minds 2025" campaign offers tools and resources to help youth move from feelings of helplessness to hope and action, and supports adult allies (parents, caregivers, educators, mentors) in creating environments where young people feel seen,

heard and valued. The materials include worksheets, affirmations, classroom activities and advocacy-guides.

For more information, click the link below.

Mental Health Resources

School and Department Contacts

Contacting your school: Visit [School Finder](#) to see a list of all schools and their contact information.

[Athletics](#)

[Career and Technical Education](#)

[Curriculum and Instruction](#)

[District Performing Arts](#)

[Early Childhood Education \(preschool\)](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Junior Air Force ROTC](#)

[Nutrition Services](#)

[Transportation](#)

Work in Mapleton!

Mapleton is hiring! Check out our current opportunities!



Mapleton Public Schools

Achieve Your Dreams!

Contact

