



The Takeaway

Welcome to “The Takeaway,” your weekly source for news and updates from across the district.

If you have a news item or update to share, we’d love to hear from you. [Send your ideas our way](#), and we’ll do our best to include them in a future issue.

Past issues of all our employee newsletters are available [on our website](#).

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Click the button or scan the QR code on your Mapleton bookmark for our first Motif Maker activity!

Mapleton News



Activate your Superpower! Be Present, Be Proud, Be YOU!

It's Attendance Awareness Month in Mapleton, and our **Be Present, Be Proud, Be You** campaign is in full swing!

Green "Be Present" bracelets are on their way to every school and department. Collect all four bracelets this fall—**Be Present** (green), **Be Proud** (light blue), **Be You** (teal), and **Activate Your Superpower** (purple)!



You may have already spotted the new attendance posters featuring our very own Willy the Wolverine in a superhero cape. That's because attendance turns potential into power. Every day a student shows up is a step toward learning, belonging, and success. Let's help all students **activate their superpower** by being present and proud!

Share what it means to Be Present, Be Proud, and Be You, or how consistent attendance helps activate superpowers! Email Communications@mapleton.us.

Download the attendance posters below to keep attendance front and center all month.

Download "Be Present, Be Proud, Be You" Posters



K-8_Attendance Poster_2025.pdf

Download

4.5 MB



Span_K-8_Attendance Poster_2025.pdf

Download

14.3 MB



9-12_Attendance Poster_2025.pdf

Download

5.9 MB



Span_9-12_Attendance Poster_2025.pdf

Download

10.6 MB

Get ready for Homecoming 2025: "The Great Homecoming!"

Mark your calendars for Homecoming weekend, Sept. 26–27! This year's theme is "The Great Homecoming," inspired by "The Great Gatsby."

Friday, Sept. 26

- **Two-hour early release** for all schools. Afternoon (PM) preschool is canceled.
- **Parade staging** begins at **2:45 p.m.** at the Skyview Campus. (*Staff, please do not park in the main lot or move vehicles before 2:30 p.m.*)
- **Homecoming Parade:** 3:00–4:30 p.m. | [View parade route map here](#)
 - Every school will have a float, and athletic teams and student groups are encouraged to participate.
 - Parade participation requires [permission slips for all students](#) who wish to walk with or be part of a float.



- **Tailgate at the Skyview Campus:** 4:30–6 p.m. | Enjoy food, games, and fundraising opportunities for schools and student groups. **Sign up to run a booth at this year's Tailgate to fundraise for your school, club/group, or team.** A Google Doc is linked [HERE](#). Please fill in your club/school/group name as well as what item(s) you plan on selling. *The intention behind making this form transparent is for groups to see what is already signed up for.* **The deadline to sign up is Friday, Sept. 19, at p.m..** You will receive a confirmation email once your item is finalized. Signing up for a booth will **NOT** count as your group's one annual fundraiser.
- **Homecoming Football Game:** 7 p.m. kickoff at DiTirro Stadium
 - Cheer on the Skyview Wolverines as they take on The Academy Wildcats! Mapleton students and staff may attend for free with a Mapleton ID. Students in grades PreK–6 must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday, Sept. 27

- **Homecoming Dance – The Great Homecoming**
 - 7–10 p.m. | Skyview Student Center (8990 York Street, Thornton)
 - Tickets: \$10
 - Mapleton student ID required for entry
 - A [Guest permission form is required for students](#) bringing a guest from another school.
 - **High schools:** Select and submit your Homecoming King and Queen by Wednesday, Sept. 24, to be recognized at the dance. Please send names to [Elyse Houck](#).

Skyview Homecoming Parade Route Map

Watermelon Trophy Watch: Welby squeezes ahead!

The competition for the Watermelon Meal Benefit Trophy just got juicier! After a big surge, Welby Community School of the Arts has inched past Achieve Academy to take the lead in the race, 81.8% to 81.6%. Which school will be first to hit 100% completion of [Meal Benefit Applications](#)?

Help your school catch up! Encourage families to complete the application today by [sharing this link](#).

For questions or support, contact [Lindsay Hull](#) at ext. 1126.



Schools	Percent of Free and Reduced Lunch Applications Submitted
Academy High School	78.3%
Achieve Academy	81.6%
Adventure Elementary	69.1%
Clayton Partnership School	72.1%
Explore PK-8	68.3%
Global Primary Academy	75.0%
Global Intermediate Academy	72.1%
Global Leadership Academy	66.1%
Mapleton Early Career Prep	61.8%
Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts	67.0%
Mapleton Online	N/A
Meadow Community School	72.1%
Monterey Community School	74.6%
North Valley School for Young Adults	51.0%
Performing Arts School on Broadway	70.1%
Preschool on Poze	76.6%
Trailside Academy	66.1%
Valley View Innovation School	71.4%
Welby Community School of the Arts	81.8%
York International School	78.7%

Work order system upgrade

Mapleton is upgrading its work order system to **Asset Essentials with Brightly** to improve efficiency, make it easier to submit and track requests, and provide new tools for reporting and communication.

Planned outage

- The current system (SchoolDude) will be unavailable **Thursday, Sept. 18 (midday) through Monday, Sept. 22** for data migration. The new system goes live on **Tuesday, Sept. 23**.
- During this time, please hold non-urgent requests until the new system is available.
- For urgent issues, contact [Tara McMachen](#) at ext. 1037 or [Zuleika Leon](#) at ext.1025.

Training

Short virtual sessions are scheduled, and a recording and step-by-step quick guide will be shared for anyone who can't attend.

Thursday, Sept. 11, 11:30 a.m.

[Meeting Link to join](#)

Monday, Sept. 22, 2:00 p.m.

[Meeting Link to join](#)

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 7:00 a.m.

[Meeting Link to join](#)

On go-live day, Tuesday, Sept. 23: Log in, confirm access, and report any issues to [Tara McMachen](#) at ext. 1037 or [Zuleika Leon](#) at ext.1025.

For more information, session dates, and resources, [please visit this link](#).

District 9/11 & POW/MIA remembrance ceremony

Mapleton's Air Force JROTC Raider Squadron will host its annual 9/11 & POW/MIA Ceremony on Wednesday, Sept. 10, to honor the lives lost on Sept. 11, 2001, and recognize the service and sacrifice of military personnel and first responders.



Date: Wednesday, Sept. 10

Time: 10–10:45 a.m.

Location: DiTirro Stadium on the Skyview Campus

All Mapleton staff, students, and community members are invited to attend this moment of remembrance and reflection.

News from Assessment and Accountability

NWEA BOY window closes Friday

The NWEA MAP Beginning-of-Year (BOY) testing window closes this Friday, Sept 12. Please ensure all students complete their assessments.

READ Plan Rosters in eduClimber

To view current students whose READ plans rolled over from last year, watch the instructional video [here](#).

District Interim Assessment information

Please visit the Teaching and Learning SharePoint Assessment [page here](#) to review documentation on upcoming District Interim Assessments, including accommodations, FAQs, and administration details.

News from Teaching and Learning

Secondary Constructing Meaning: Refining Our Practice (4-part module with Dahlia Mohammad)

Calling all teachers who completed the five-day Secondary Constructing Meaning (CM) Institute. Join us this fall for **Refining Our Practice (ROP)**, a 4-part module, with Dahlia Mohammad, that adds **10 hours of English Learner professional development (ELPD)** and brings CM skills to life with real students.

Schedule

- **Part A:** Thursday, **Oct. 9**, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- **Part B:** Half-day learning lab, week of **Oct. 13**
- **Part C:** Thursday, **Oct. 23**, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
- **Part D:** Half-day learning lab, weeks of **Oct. 27** and **Nov. 3**

[Register here](#).

Eligibility and credit

Participants must have attended the five-day Secondary CM Institute. Staff who completed 35 CM hours can use this module to reach the **CDE-required 45 hours** of English Learner PD for license renewal. Participants are paid at the standard extra-duty rate.

For questions, please contact Multilingual Program Coordinator [Alexis Lauffenburger](#) at ext. 1003.

K-2 ELA assessments for reading and writing

All kindergarten, first, and second grade classrooms will administer curriculum-based reading and writing assessments using **Benchmark Advance** or **Expeditionary Learning**.

- **Reading:** Students will test in the Benchmark and Kiddom platforms.
- **Writing:** Students will complete paper-and-pencil assessments. Teachers will score and enter results; see the instructions below.

The following units/modules will be assessed:

K-2 ELA Assessment Dates for Data Collection

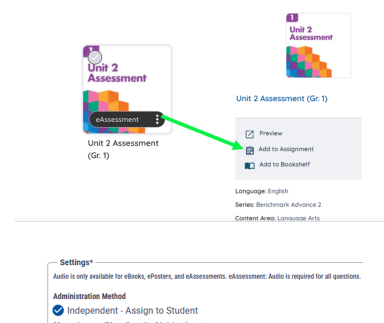
Curricular Resource	Grade	Unit	Assessment Date/Window
Benchmark	K *Writing Prompts Below	2	Week of October 13 th
		4	Week of December 8 th
		6	Week of February 9 th
		8	Week of April 20 th
	1	2 (Reading and Writing)	Week of October 13 th
		5 (Reading and Writing)	Week of January 19 th
		8 (Reading and Writing)	Week of April 20 th
		10 (Reading and Writing)	Week of May 18 th or 25 th
	2	3 (Reading and Writing)	Week of November 10 th
		4 (Reading and Writing)	Week of December 8 th
		5 (Reading and Writing)	Week of January 19 th
		7 (Reading and Writing)	Week of March 16 th

Curricular Resource	Grade	Module/Unit	Assessment Date/Window
EL	K	2/1 (Reading and Writing)	Week of November 3 rd
		2/2 (Reading and Writing)	Week of December 1 st
		3/2 (Reading and Writing)	Week of February 23 rd
		4/1 (Reading)	Week of April 13 th
		4/2 (Writing)	Week of May 4 th
	1	1/2 (Reading and Writing)	Week of September 22 nd
		2/1 (Reading and Writing)	Week of November 3 rd
		3/1 (Reading)	Week of February 2 nd
		3/2 (Writing)	Week of February 23 rd
		4/2 (Reading and Writing)	Week of May 4 th
	2	1/2 (Reading and Writing)	Week of September 22 nd
		2/1 (Reading and Writing)	Week of November 3 rd
		4/1 (Reading and Writing)	Week of April 13 th
		4/2 (Reading and Writing)	Week of May 4 th

Directions to administer the Benchmark CBMs

Follow IEP/504 for any testing accommodations/modifications
K-2 Reading – Online in Curricular Resource

- Select **Grade Level**
- Click on the **Unit** and scroll all the way down to **eAssessments**
- Select the **Unit Assessment** (*not the week or interim assessments*), click on the three dots, then **Add to Assignment**



- Students need headphones – audio is required for all questions!
- Click **Independent-Assign to Students**
- Click **Save** *(recommendation – assign the afternoon before, or the morning of the assessment –only assign when you are ready to give the assessment to students)*

For K-1 students to be able to test on the iPads, the pop-up blocker needs to be disabled in the Settings.

To disable the pop-up blocker:

- Go to Settings
- Go to Apps
- Scroll down to Safari.
- Toggle 'Off' the Pop-Up Blocker

Teachers will need to do this on **every iPad that students will use for testing.**

KG Writing – Benchmark:

- [Kindergarten Benchmark Writing Prompts](#)
- [Kindergarten Writing Rubrics](#) (Benchmark)



Students use paper and pencil to respond to the writing prompt/task. Kindergarten teachers enter the scores into ADAM (accessed through LaunchPad in Clever).

1st-2nd Writing – Benchmark:

- The prompts are the **Writing Task in Benchmark – Use only the third prompt (labeled Writing Task)**
- Teachers **only** need to score the third prompt (the Writing Task)
- Students use paper and pencil to respond to the Writing Task
- Teacher enters score in Benchmark based on the rubrics
- **IMPORTANT: For the test to show complete, students need to type their name as a place filler in all of the written response text boxes (including the two reading prompts and the Writing Task).**

Example:

Writing Task

You have read two passages about the U.S. Congress. Based on “Will There Be War?” and “A Worker for the People,” what are some ways the U.S. Congress can help people?

Write 3-4 sentences explaining how people in a congress help others.

- Be sure to answer the questions completely.
- write at least 3 or 4 sentences.
- use correct spelling and grammar.
- use correct capitalization and punctuation.
- use details from **both** passages.

Write your answers on the lined pages.

Veronica

EL Directions to Administer the EL CBMs (in Kiddom) – Taken
online with teachers assigning the task to students.

- Go to Kiddom in Clever
- Click on EL Lang Arts 2017 and the grade level you need
- Go into the Module needed
- Click on the Unit
- Scroll down to the Unit Assessment
- **Kindergarten: Module 2, Unit 1 Assessment is found in Lesson 12 to Assign**
- **Module 2, Unit 2 Assessment is found in Lesson 15 to Assign**



Settings

Classwork

Assign

Lesson 12: Unit 1 Assessment: Independent Writing about Weather

Settings

Classwork

Assign

Lesson 15: Unit 2 Assessment: Identifying Story Elements in a Text

1st Grade: *Module 1, Unit 2 Assessment is found in Lesson 10 to Assign*

The screenshot shows the EL Education Language Arts Curriculum 2017 interface. The top navigation bar includes a red flag icon, a back arrow, and the text "EL Education Language Arts Curriculum 2017 Edition: 1st Grade". To the right of this are dropdown menus for "Module Lessons", "Module 1", "Unit 2", "Lesson 10", and "Unit 2 Assessment". Below the navigation bar, there is a "Version" dropdown menu set to "Original" and a "Settings" button. To the right of these are "Present" and "Assign" buttons, with the "Assign" button circled in green. Below the buttons is a "Personalize" link. The main content area displays the title "Unit 2 Assessment: Focused Read-aloud Session 4 and Writing about Habits of Character".

EL Education Language Arts Curriculum 2017
Edition: 1st Grade

Module Lessons | Module 1 | Unit 2
Lesson 10 | Unit 2 Assessment

Version
★ Original

Settings

Present Assign
Personalize

Unit 2 Assessment: Focused Read-aloud Session 4 and Writing about Habits of Character

2nd Grade: Module 1, Unit 2 Assessment is found in 2 Parts – Lesson 6 and Lesson 7 to assign

Settings

Classwork ▼

Assign

Lesson 6: Unit 2 Assessment, Part I: Close Read-aloud, Session 5: "Water, Water, Everywhere" from Off to Class, Pages 8–9

Settings

Classwork ▼

Assign

Lesson 7: Unit 2 Assessment, Part II: Close Read-aloud, Session 6: "Water, Water, Everywhere" from Off to Class, Pages 8–9

Student plans – fall deadlines (ELD, READ, and ALP)

Teachers, please work with your Leadership Team to find time during the contracted workday to complete these student plans by their posted deadlines (e.g., IDT meetings, staff meetings, collaborative days, etc.).

For questions:

ELD Plans: [Alexis Lauffenburger](#), ext. 1003

READ Plans: [Karla Gruenwald](#), ext. 1021, and [Veronica Shea](#), ext. 1064

ALPs: [Jennifer Snodgrass](#), ext. 1051

Plan Type	Responsible People	Fall (BOY) Deadline	Spring (EOY) Deadline
ELD Plans	<i>ELD Leads & Classroom Teachers</i>	<i>Oct 3</i>	<i>Apr 24</i>
READ Plans	<i>Literacy Leads & Classroom Teachers</i>	<i>Nov 6</i>	<i>May 15</i>
ALP Plans	<i>GT Leads & Classroom Teachers</i>	<i>Nov 21</i>	<i>May 8</i>

"Nuts and Bolts" – News from Operations

Why that grassy area matters

Those wide, grassy areas near your school aren't just open fields with drains, they're extended detention basins, an important part of stormwater management.

When it rains, water flows off roofs, sidewalks, and parking lots into these basins. They temporarily hold the water, slow it down, and let it soak into the ground. This helps prevent flooding, reduces erosion, and keeps local waterways cleaner.

So, the next time you see that grassy area fill with water after a storm, you'll know it's doing its job.

Quick Tip: Keep these areas clear of debris and avoid planting in them so they can manage stormwater and protect our schools effectively.

News from the Mapleton Education Foundation

Final few weeks to apply for a Marchi Mini Grant!

Time is running out to apply for a Marchi Mini Grant, as applications are due Friday, Sept. 26! Don't miss this chance to bring your creative classroom project to life.

The program, created in memory of beloved Mapleton teacher and principal Lisa Marchi, funds experiences that spark curiosity, creativity, and connection.

This fall's opportunities include:

- Up to **\$1,500** for individual projects
- Up to **\$3,000** for team projects

To apply:

1. Submit your project to [Donors Choose](#).
2. Complete the [Marchi Mini-Grant application](#) by Friday, Sept. 26.

Submissions will be reviewed by the Teaching and Learning team and selected by the Mapleton Education Foundation Board. Awards will be announced in mid-October.



Let's go all in! 2025 Mapleton Education Foundation Gala

The Mapleton Education Foundation's 21st Annual Gala is back **Friday, Oct. 3, from 5:30–10 p.m. at the Westin Westminster**, this year with a bold, Vegas-inspired twist!

Enjoy an Italian buffet dinner, casino-style games, DJ entertainment, and plenty of time to connect with colleagues and friends. This is a social evening with no set program and no live auction. Just come to eat, play, and dance at your own pace.

Highlights include:

- **More than 100 silent auction baskets, wine and whiskey pulls**
- **Super Silent Adventures:** Purchase unforgettable trips like an African Safari for two or a Grand Luxxe Mexico Villa stay
- **Casino games:** Win big and trade chips for prize drawing entries
- **Dancing:** Enjoy DJ entertainment all night

[Purchase your tickets here.](#)

Proceeds support scholarships, field trips, and learning opportunities for Mapleton students. Let's rally together to reach our \$50,000 goal and give every Mapleton student the opportunity to dream big.

Purchase your tickets to the Gala!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Sept. 10 - Campus POW/MIA 9/11 Ceremony, DiTirro Stadium, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 10 - Board Study Session, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 19 - Professional Development Day

Monday, Sept. 22 - Instructional Planning Day

Wednesday, Sept. 24 - Board Business Meeting, 6 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 26 - Homecoming!

Friday, Oct. 3 - Mapleton Education Foundation Gala

Wednesday, Oct. 8 - Board Study Session, 5:30 p.m.

[Skyview Wolverines Athletics Calendar](#)

[District Performing Arts Calendar](#)

[Share your good news!](#)

[Send a "High Five"!](#)

"Ignite: Stories that Spark" 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](#)

Facebook: facebook.com/MapletonPublicSchools

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



Mapleton Public Schools

Mapleton is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

