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## The Takeaway

Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025

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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**Be a Motif Maker!**

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

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**Mapleton News**

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**The Mapleton Education Foundation Gala is coming up fast. Get your tickets today!**

The Mapleton Education Foundation's 21st Annual Gala is Friday, Oct. 3, 5:30 to 10 p.m., at the Westin Westminster. We hope you'll join us for this special event with a new format: a Vegas-style casino night experience with no formal program or live auction. Just eat, play, dance, and support opportunities for Mapleton students!

Enjoy an Italian buffet, casino games with prize drawings, a DJ and dancing, more than 100 silent-auction baskets, wine and whiskey pulls, and purchase-only travel opportunities like an African safari for two and a Grand Luxxe Mexico villa stay.

[Purchase your tickets here now!](#)

Proceeds support scholarships, teacher grants, extracurricular programs, and imaginative learning experiences for Mapleton students.

**And a reminder:** The teal employee giving forms are due **Wednesday, Sept. 24**. Remember, every gift makes a difference!

Help us reach \$50,000 so every Mapleton student can dream big.

## Purchase your tickets to the Gala!

### Social media guidelines

As a Mapleton employee, it is expected that you exercise positive digital citizenship in all online interactions. **Remember, your personal and professional presence on social media is accessible to the public.**

Before posting, consider whether the content (written or visual) could be perceived negatively (e.g., messy classrooms, unprofessional/disrespectful tone, unprofessional attire). Online posts spread quickly, so ask yourself: *Would I be comfortable seeing this in the newspaper with my photo?* If you wouldn't bring it into the classroom or workplace, don't post it online.

Please take a moment to review Mapleton's social media guidelines.



**Social Media Best Practices for Staff 2025.pdf**

**Download**

103.9 KB

### Be Proud for Attendance Awareness Month

This week's Attendance Awareness Month theme is **Be Proud**, of yourself and others. Be proud because you bring something no one else can to our schools and departments: your ideas, your energy and your presence. Show that pride by arriving on time every day and encouraging students to do the same.

Campaign bracelets have been delivered to every school and department, with enough for every student and staff member. If your site still needs bands, please contact [Suzy Ott](#) at ext. 1449.



**Make wearing them fun:** suggest stacking the bands, start a "spot the color" challenge, or take a team photo. Collect all four this fall – **Be Present** (green), **Be Proud** (light blue), **Be You** (teal), and **Activate Your Superpower** (purple).

Mapleton's goal this year is a **95%** attendance rate, and we need your help. **Share what it means to Be Present, Be Proud, and Be You, or how consistent attendance helps activate superpowers!**

## 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

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## 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 pulls away

Welby Community School of the Arts has widened its lead in the race for the Watermelon Meal Benefit Trophy and now sits at **86.9%** completion of [Meal Benefit Applications](#). **The race ends at the end of this month.** Will Welby be the first to hit 100% or will another school make a late surge?

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%  |

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## News from Assessment and Accountability

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### Kindergarten School Readiness rating window in TS Gold: Sept. 30–Oct. 13

The Kindergarten School Readiness (KSR) assessment rating window in TS Gold begins Tuesday, Sept. 30 and ends Monday, Oct. 13. For instructions on how to enter final ratings in TS Gold and navigate the KEA Survey, please see [this link](#). All six domains must be finalized in TS Gold for each student. Refer to [this link](#) on how to finalize data for each student.

Reminder: Data needs to be entered under **KEA First Term**.

Data is not transferable! If it is entered under checkpoint or another term it will have to RE-ENTERED by teachers into the KEA First Term.

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# News from Information Technology

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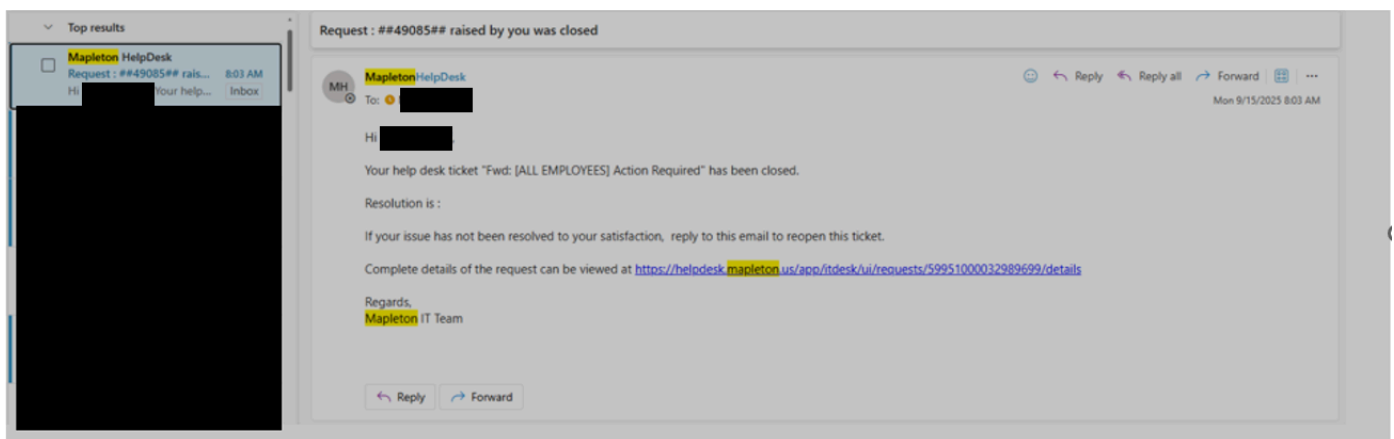
## Beware of phishing emails

Please be cautious, refrain from clicking links, and pay close attention to details in unexpected email messages. Phishing messages, which appear to come from a known source, attempt to lure you into clicking a malicious link or opening an attachment by creating a sense of urgency.

The IT department fielded a large volume of phishing emails over the weekend, and unfortunately, many Mapleton staff members clicked links within these messages, which allowed for their accounts to be compromised.

## What is a normal message?

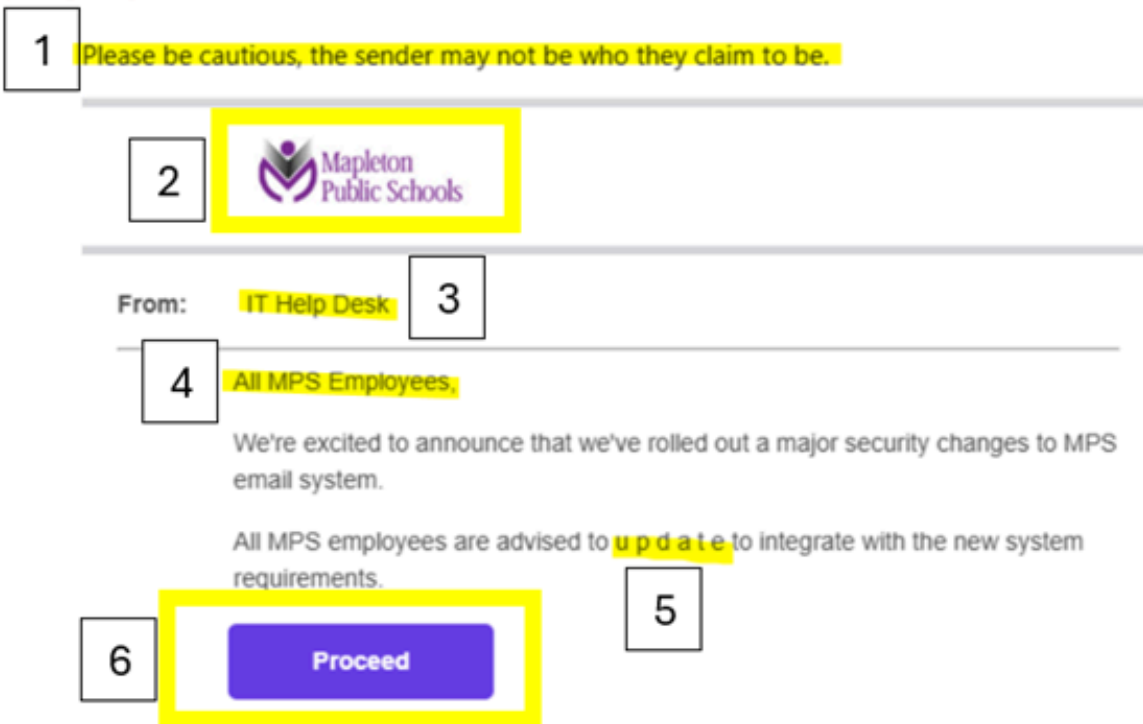
Messages from the **Mapleton HelpDesk** will only be Help Desk ticket-related. Please see the example of a normal message from the help desk below. Notice that the URL is [\[https://helodesk.mapleton.us...\]](https://helodesk.mapleton.us...)<https://helodesk.mapleton.us...>. Also notice that the message is signed "**Mapleton IT Team**". This is normal email correspondence from the help desk.



## What to watch for?

Below is an example of a phishing email that came in over the weekend. Please observe the anomalies in this message. This will help you identify phishing messages in the future.

! High importance



1. Do not ignore the “**Please be cautious...**” warning messages in emails as they highlight the need to pay close attention to the message as it could be a phishing attempt.
2. Email messages from the Mapleton Help Desk will never include a Mapleton logo. The Technology team **does not use the Mapleton HelpDesk email address for general communication purposes**. This email address is only used for Help Desk ticket responses.
3. Observe the display name of the sender's email in this phishing example. There is no such display name as “IT Help Desk”, only “**Mapleton HelpDesk**”.
4. Again, there will be no general messages to end users from the general help desk email account.
5. Observe the word “**u p d a t e**” and notice that it has spaces in the word. This is a telltale sign of a phishing message.
6. Finally, messages from the Help Desk will never include a button link like the “**Proceed**” button link in the phishing example message.

We thank you for your help in refraining from clicking on unknown links and staying vigilant against cyber security threats like phishing. Although the Technology team proactively monitors and attempts to limit potential attacks before they enter our system, hackers continuously design new attacks methods that make it difficult to catch every threat.

We ask that you please continue to report any suspicious messages to [helpdesk@mapleton.us](mailto:helpdesk@mapleton.us) so that a member of the Technology team can research the message and block it if deemed to be a

phishing attempt. With your help in being extra attentive, we can more effectively protect Mapleton from these threats.

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## News from Operations and Maintenance

### 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.

**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](#).

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## News from the Mapleton Education Foundation

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**Marchi Mini-Grant applications due Friday, Sept. 26**

Time is running out to apply for a Marchi Mini-Grant, as applications are due next 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.

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## Upcoming Events

**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.

**Thursday, Oct. 16** - End of First Quarter

**Friday, Oct. 17** - Professional Development Day

[Skyview Wolverines Athletics Calendar](#)

[District Performing Arts Calendar](#)

[Share your good news!](#)

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

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### "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](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://facebook.com/MapletonPublicSchools)

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



## Mapleton Public Schools

Mapleton is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters