



The Takeaway

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 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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Mapleton News

Thank you to our August Motif Makers!

In August, we asked our "Motif Makers" (*you!*), **What is one intentional action, tradition, or moment you created (or witnessed) during the first days of school that helped build a sense of belonging?**

Here are a few examples of what you shared!

"Students shared the things they struggle with in and out of school during a crew activity. It was heartwarming to see the students connect over struggles they thought they had only experienced. They were validated and heard."

"Checking in with people to make sure the school year was off to the right start."



"Connection Circles."

"Our staff went 'behind the scenes' of the Denver Center for Performing Arts to experience what our students feel when they are putting together a production."

"We had a CREW challenge at MESA. There was a prize for the first CREW that was able to have each person name every single student in their CREW. Mr. Powell's CREW was able to do this within the first week!"

October Count is Wednesday, Oct. 1

Each fall, the Colorado Department of Education holds an **official student membership count**. On **Wednesday, Oct. 1**, every public school in Colorado reports how many students are **enrolled and present, whether in person or online**.

Please note: A student enrolling on Oct. 1, but not attending until Oct. 2, does not allow us to count that student!

How you can help:

- Share the importance of attending school on Wednesday, Oct. 1, with your students and families (in class, text, email, autodial, flyer, etc.)
- Coordinate with your office on any last-minute enrollments and transportation needs.

Let's work together to make Oct. 1 our strongest attendance day of the year!

Be Present, Be Proud, Be You! – Message from Student-Athlete, Analise B.





Be YOU!

You're present, you're proud, and this week is all about being YOU!

Our very own Skyview Wolverine varsity athletes remind us that showing up matters. Being at school on time, every day, is what keeps them at the top of their game. Attendance builds more than grades—it builds confidence, skills, and consistency that help you shine in the classroom, on the field, and in life.



Check out their special messages and share them with your students and families!

[Be YOU video - Skyview Wolverines starting quarterback, Carlos C.](#)

[Be YOU video - Skyview Wolverines varsity volleyball player, Analise B.](#)

This week, be sure to hand out the teal **Be You** bracelets to students and staff. If your site still needs bands, contact [Suzy Ott](#) at ext. 1449.

Capture the moment. Please take photos of students wearing all the month's themed bracelets and send them to communications@mapleton.us.

Mandatory cybersecurity awareness training: Two courses due by Friday, Oct. 31

On Wednesday, Oct. 1, all employees will receive an email from software company **KnowBe4** with links to **two mandatory online courses** on spotting phishing, protecting accounts, and keeping



district data safe.

Courses:

"2025 Your Role: Internet Security and You" – 20 minutes

"Phish Alert Button in Microsoft 365: Identify Spam and Report Phishing" – 10 minutes

All-Staff Action Items:

Look for an invitation: Email from KnowBe4 on **Wednesday, Oct. 1**

Complete both courses by Friday, Oct. 31

Why this matters:

The training is designed to help every employee recognize, prevent, and respond to cyber threats. Your participation strengthens our collective defense.

Recent incidents:

Several staff members recently clicked phishing links, allowing attackers to capture login credentials and attempt **direct-deposit changes** to reroute funds. Thanks to district alerts and proactive safeguards, including the **Business Services** team calling employees to verify any changes, no funds were lost. These events underscore the need for continued awareness.

For questions or concerns, contact the [Mapleton Help Desk](#).

New Frontline Absence Management process for licensed staff coming Oct. 1

Licensed staff: To strengthen the systems that support our staff, we are introducing a new time-tracking process designed to improve accuracy, fairness, and transparency in attendance and timekeeping.

Beginning **Wednesday, Oct. 1**, Frontline will expand from a substitute request system to an absence-tracking and substitute request system. **All licensed staff will now record absences in Frontline's Absence Management System—whether or not a substitute is needed.** This will replace the paper system currently used to document and report absences.

In addition to full-day and half-day options, you will be able to select **Custom Time** to enter the exact hours you will be out of the building. Only those hours will be deducted from your absence balance. Substitute requests will continue to be filled in half-day or full-day increments.

Watch your inbox on Thursday for more information and step-by-step guidance.



Mapleton Public Schools

Explore Primary GROUND BREAKING

Wednesday, October 8 | 4:30 p.m.



Next to Explore PK-8 | 104th Avenue & York Street
10310 York St., Thornton, 80229



Join us for the Explore Primary groundbreaking, Wednesday, Oct. 8

Mapleton will break ground on **Explore Primary**, a new school designed for preschool through first grade, on **Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 4:30 p.m.**, near the current Explore PK-8, **10310 York St., Thornton.**

Explore Primary will serve our youngest learners. Once construction is complete, the existing Explore school will be renovated to house second through eighth grades, adding classroom space in one of Mapleton's fastest-growing neighborhoods.

Explore Primary's design features: barnyard-inspired elements, pastel colors, natural wood tones, and bright, welcoming spaces. Dedicated areas for a library, music, and gym are tailored to early learners.

This project is the second of Mapleton's "Final Four" capital improvements, made possible by community support in 2022.

Everyone is invited to join us for this special celebration!

Wednesday, Oct. 1 is also Colorado Proud Day!

Colorado Proud Day is an annual celebration where schools across our state shine a spotlight on local agriculture and help students learn about the benefits of healthy, locally sourced foods. Mapleton has proudly participated for many years, and we are excited to celebrate again this year!

On **Wednesday, Oct. 1**, our Nutrition Services team is preparing a mouthwatering menu that highlights the best of Colorado, including:

- A ground beef and cheese quesadilla featuring locally sourced and Colorado Proud ground beef, tortillas, sour cream, pinto beans, and housemade pickled jalapenos.
- Fresh selections on the salad bar, including cherry tomatoes, watermelon, cantaloupe, apples, lettuce, and carrots—all grown right here in Colorado!
- And to top it off...a special chocolate chip cookie from Colorado bakery, Sweets of Inspiration.



All staff are invited to join us for a Colorado Proud lunch on Wednesday, Oct. 1!

Watermelon Trophy Watch: Welby leads, York surges

Welby Community School of the Arts extended its lead to **88.9%**, while York International School made the week's biggest jump to **85.7%**, moving into second place. Achieve Academy is close behind at **82.3%**. The race ends Sept. 30. Will Welby be first to 100%, or will another school beat them to the tape?



Help your school close the gap before the race ends! Share [this link so families can complete the Meal Benefit Application](#).

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

Schools	Percent of Free and Reduced Lunch Applications Submitted
Academy High School	78.7%
Achieve Academy	82.3%
Adventure Elementary	71.2%
Clayton Partnership School	73.0%
Explore PK-8	69.8%
Global Primary Academy	77.3%
Global Intermediate Academy	74.9%
Global Leadership Academy	67.8%
Mapleton Early Career Prep	63.6%
Mapleton Expeditionary School of the Arts	68.7%
Mapleton Online	N/A
Meadow Community School	76.7%
Monterey Community School	75.5%
North Valley School for Young Adults	52.6%
Performing Arts School on Broadway	73.0%
Preschool on Poze	80.0%
Trailside Academy	67.1%
Valley View Innovation School	73.4%
Welby Community School of the Arts	88.9%
York International School	85.7%

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

Assessment and Accountability

TS Gold: KSR documentation due Monday, Sept. 29

The TS Gold kindergarten documentation window closes **Monday, Sept. 29**. Please see [this link](#) for short videos on completing the steps required for the Kindergarten School Readiness (KSR) collection in TS Gold.

Integrated Services

All special education staff meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 8

Integrated Services invites all special education staff to the first of four 2025–26 all-staff meetings on Wednesday, Oct. 8, from 8 to 11 a.m., in the Administration Building (Garden Level).

ILC teachers: Enter a substitute in Frontline as Professional and note that the Department of Integrated Services will pay for the a.m. half-day substitute.

Operations and Maintenance

New maintenance request portal

Mapleton's work order system now has a new online portal for maintenance requests: <https://assetessentials.dudesolutions.com/mapleton>

How to submit a request

Step-by-step help is available in short guides and videos:

- [Submitting and viewing requests](#)
- [Editing your profile](#)

- [Using the mobile app](#)

Please note: Event requests and field trip requests still use the previous system for now.

For questions, please contact [Tara McMachen](#) at ext. 1037 or [Zuleika Leon](#) at ext.1025.

The Mapleton Education Foundation

A promotional graphic for the Mapleton Education Foundation Gala 2025. The background is dark with a starry, night-sky effect. On the left, a large, glowing Ace of Spades playing card is tilted, with two golden dice at its base. On the right, the event logo features the word 'MAPLETON' in gold letters inside a diamond shape, with 'EDUCATION FOUNDATION' below it. The main text 'GALA 2025' is in large, bold, black letters, with the tagline 'Take a chance for change' in a smaller, cursive font underneath. Below the logo, the text 'YOU'RE INVITED' is written in large, bold, white letters. Further down, it says 'Please join us for the 21st Annual Mapleton Education Foundation Gala' and 'Friday, Oct. 3, 2025 @5:30 pm'. The venue information 'Westin Westminster' and '10600 Westminster Blvd, Westminster, 80020' is listed. At the bottom, the Mapleton Education Foundation logo and the website 'WWW.MAPLETONEDFOUNDATION.ORG' are displayed.

MAPLETON
EDUCATION FOUNDATION
GALA 2025
Take a chance for change

YOU'RE INVITED

Please join us for the 21st Annual
Mapleton Education Foundation Gala

Friday, Oct. 3, 2025 @5:30 pm

Westin Westminster
10600 Westminster Blvd
Westminster, 80020

MAPLETON
EDUCATION FOUNDATION

WWW.MAPLETONEDFOUNDATION.ORG

Purchase your tickets to the Gala!

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

The Mapleton Education Foundation's 21st Annual Gala is next 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.

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

Applications for Marchi Mini-Grants are **due this Friday, Sept. 26**. Don't miss this chance to bring a creative classroom project to life.

Created in memory of beloved Mapleton teacher and principal **Lisa Marchi**, the program 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 THIS Friday, Sept. 26.

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

Upcoming Events

Homecoming is this Friday: "The Great Homecoming"

Homecoming weekend is here, **Friday–Saturday, Sept. 26–27**, with this year's theme "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: 3–4:30 p.m.** | [View the parade route map](#)
- **Tailgate: 4:30–6 p.m.** at Skyview Campus with food, games, and school/group fundraisers.
- **Homecoming football game: 7 p.m.** at DiTirro Stadium vs. The Academy Wildcats. Mapleton students and staff enter free with a Mapleton ID. PreK–6 students must be with an adult.



Saturday, Sept. 27

- **Homecoming Dance – “The Great Homecoming”**
 - 7–10 p.m., Skyview Student Center (8990 York St., Thornton)

Skyview Homecoming Parade Route Map

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

Monday, Oct. 20 - Instructional Planning Day

Wednesday, Oct. 22 - Board Business Meeting, 6 p.m.

[Skyview Wolverines Athletics Calendar](#)

[District Performing Arts Calendar](#)

[Share your good news!](#)

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

“Spark! Bright Spots and Big Moments” 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