Students: Ask Parents, Adult Friends for Move-a-thon Donations! – Page 2

VOLUME 10. ISSUE 34

PUP®PRESS

Brought to you by the Thurgood Marshall Elementary PTA

JUNE 1, 2017



Principal Katie May

Positives in Student-Climate Survey

I recently turned in our Social Studies Waiver Renewal to the District. We gathered information in a variety of areas including: Student Climate Surveys, Parent Surveys, a Student Social Studies Survey, Student Focus Group responses, attendance, parent feedback, staff feedback, Social Studies Steering Committee feedback and student Social Studies growth data.

I'm especially pleased with our Spring Student Climate Survey Results. We did see strong improvement from Spring 2016 to Spring 2017. While it is difficult to know if this is directly as a result of our Social Studies Program, it seems possible that it is tied to the work in this area. The excerpts below show increases for the group as a whole, as well as subgroups. Here are some highlights:

- "My teachers take the time to get to know me" increased to 79 percent from 73. (The top increase: white students, to 84 percent from 67 last year.)
- "Students in my class help each other learn" rose to 62 percent from 56.
 (The largest hike: African-American students now at 61 percent, up from 44.)
- "Students in my class are focused on learning" improving to 52 percent from 43. (The largest increase: African-American students now at 48 percent, up from 35.)
- > "I can do most things if I try" moved to 85 percent from 78 last year.
- "I usually finish whatever I begin" now at 70 percent, up from 60.
- "I have clear goals for my future" increased to 67 percent from 57. (The largest increase: African-Americans, now at 70 percent instead of 50 percent.)
- "My teacher gives me new challenges if the work is too easy" increased to 53 percent from 50. (The biggest bump: white students, at 62 percent, from 42.)
- "My teacher gives me extra help and support if I need it" moved to 79 percent from 73. (The largest rise: African-Americans, up 7 to 84 percent.)
- "My teacher challenges me to think in new ways" rose to 71 percent from 66. (Largest bump: white students, up 9 points to 72 percent.)
- "My teacher encourages me to keep trying when I feel like giving up" increased 10 points to 76 percent. (Largest increases: white and multi-racial students, both now at 75 percent, up from 64 and 63, respectively.)
- "My teacher shows us how our work will help us in real life" rose 6 points to 63 percent. (Largest increase: white students at 64 percent, instead of 51.)
 Continued on Page 2

EVENT CALENDAR

TOMORROW, June 2: Summer Reading Kick-off, 5:30-7 p.m. Meet in Cafeteria. Free pizza, books! Grade K-3 parents, meet with teachers. See below.

Sun., June 4: Bikes & Bubbles K-1 Playdate, 2-4 p.m. Jefferson Playground (3801 Beacon Ave. S.) See p. 2.

Mon., June 5: Deadline to Turn in Bike-to-School Month Minute-Tracking Calendar. See details below.

Fri., June 9: Move-a-thon. Kids will run and walk to raise money for the special TM fund that provides scholarships for field trips and 5th-grade camp. Donation form & envelope are being sent home!

June 12-16: Final week for most Enrichment classes.

June 12-15: Class Picnics, 5:30-7:30 p.m., TM Playground. Mon.: Grades K-1; Tues.: Grade 2; Wed.: Grade 3; Thurs.: Grade 4. See flier for details.

Fri., June 16: Field Day. All sorts of activities.

Tues., June 20: Volunteer Appreciation Tea, 4-4:45 p.m., Playground's picnic area. Volunteers, enjoy light snacks,beverages! Child care provided on playground.

→ All events in the online calendar at www.tmlink.org

TUTU'S PANTRY

Week of June 5: Grade 2 is asked to donate non-perishable foods.

Turn in Those Calendars!

Bike Month Done, but TM Needs Your Riding Chart



Bike riders, you've done the hard work. Now, help Thurgood Marshall record at least 8205 minutes on the Bike-to-School Month tracking calendars provided several

weeks ago. Deadline for turning them in (and a chance at prizes) is Monday (June 5).

Remember, the pedaling can be to or from school ... or just around the block. You can also include minutes spent on scooters, unicycles, and skates, or almost any exercise involving wheels.

The tracking calendar may be downloaded at <u>http://bit.ly/TMbike17</u>.



Friday 'Reading Kick-Off' Offers Pizza, Free Books & More

You probably won't meet a dog in eyeglasses, but the Summer Reading Kick-Off 5:30-7 p.m. tomorrow (June 2) *will* feature free pizza, and activities for kids and adults. The event offers Grades K-3 parents a chance to meet with teachers to talk about summer reading opportunities. Books will be given away, too!

And, remember, TM's Library will be open 4-7 p.m. every Tuesday from June 26 to Aug. 22 (except for July 4). Frozen treats – as well as books – can be checked out.

Bullpup Briefs

Get Ready to Pledge Your Support for Move-a-thon

The annual Move-a-thon, next Friday, raises funds for field trip scholarships. Students are requested to ask family and friends for donations. The donation form and envelope will arrive home by Monday, and must be turned in to classroom teachers no later than Friday (June 9). More forms are at the office, or http://bit.ly/MoveathonForm17. Volunteers needed! Sign up at http://bit.ly/Moveathon17.

Grades K-1 Families can Enjoy 2 Picnic Opportunities

Kindergartners and 1st-graders (and families) are invited to two playground experiences. Enjoy 'Bikes and Bubbles' Sunday (June 4) at Jefferson Playground and then on June 12, a dinner picnic at TM's playground.

From 2-4 p.m. June 4, bring bikes, balls, jump ropes, etc., to the north end of Jefferson Park; 3701 Beacon Ave S. The PTA is providing bubbles and Popsicles. Questions? Ann McNally: <u>mcnally.ann@gmail.com</u> or 206-861-5730.

On June 12, bring dinner, toys, etc. The 5:30-7:30 p.m. picnic is at TM.

Box Tops Competition Heats Up; Turn Them in by June 14

Student Council has set a June 14 finish line for its "Box Tops for Education Drive." Classrooms exceeded the original goals so quickly that the competition has been revised to include three grade-level divisions (K-1, 2-3, 4-5), with the winners receiving a Popsicle party! Box Tops are on many products. TM can redeem them for cash, provided the expiration date is no earlier than Nov. 1, 2017.



Give 'em a hand Music teacher Dan Yarr conducts some of the scores of students playing during the Instrumental Concert on May 25.



Thanks to Intern, Conflict Mediators

June is here and we've already had to say goodbye to our fabulous counseling intern, Ms. Lizzie (Ward). She will graduate from Seattle

University next week, and has accepted two jobs for 2017-2018: Leota Middle School in Woodinville and Canyon Park Middle School in Bothell. She has gone above and beyond this year with lessons, groups and working 1:1 with our students. Ms. Lizzie, thank you for all your hard work and for being such a strong advocate and helper to our students. You will be missed!

Conflict Mediators and Recess Mentors: it's time to celebrate! Join me 9-9:30 a.m. next Thursday (June 8) in Ms. Damitio's room for some tasty treats and time to connect with your fellow mediator friends. You have been such wonderful leaders and helpers to our younger students this year, and we appreciate all your efforts!

As always, you can reach me at (206) 252-2808 or <u>mrkaloper@seattleschools.org</u>.

Students Increasingly Say Teachers are Offering Challenges, Encouragement & Help

Continued from Page 1

- "My teacher gives me extra help and support if I need it" – moved to 79 percent from 73. (The largest rise: African-American students, up 7 points to 84 percent.)
- "My teacher challenges me to think in new ways" rose to 71 percent from 66. (Largest bump: white students, up 9 points to 72 percent.)
- "My teacher encourages me to keep trying when I feel like giving up" – increased 10 points to 76 percent. (Largest increases: white and multi-racial students, both now at 75 percent, up from 64 and 63, respectively.)
- "My teacher shows us how our work will help us in real life" – rose 6 points to 63 percent. (Largest increase: white students at 64 percent, instead of 51.)

The data are particularly illuminating, as we can see growth in the number of students who feel their teacher challenges them and more students who feel their teacher gives them extra support and encouragement when work is hard. This points to an increase in teacher ability to differentiate for learners with different needs. A concern about the blended program was that HCC students would not be challenged at appropriate levels, and this does not appear to be true, based both on this climate data and the range in achievement for HCC students on Social Studies assessment data.

We saw increasingly positive responses related to teachers getting to know their students and students helping each other and caring about their learning. This year more than any other, teachers explicitly sought to encourage team-building, develop relationships between students, and get to know students other than the ones in their homeroom class (so more students had relationships with more adults).

Finally, we see that all students, and particularly white students, feel their teacher is challenging them to think in new ways. Students learned to take the perspective of classmates who see things differently, and think about Social Studies content from diverse perspectives. It is exciting to see how this carries over into our climate data.

In mid-June we expect to hear from the District whether our Social Studies waiver will be renewed. I will let you know as soon as I hear! Thank you to the many parents who have written to express their support.

Seattle Public Schools, SPS, provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

GRADE LEVEL PICNICS!

TM PLAYGROUND 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

K/1st Grades – Monday, June 12 2nd Grade – Tuesday, June 13 3rd Grade – Wednesday, June 14 4th Grade – Thursday, June 15

• Bring your family and enjoy an end-of-the-year grade-level picnic! •

• Bring your own food, blankets and outdoor toys. •

• Incoming families welcome. •

We hope to see you on the playground!





Note: In the event of rain, the picnic will be canceled. Sorry!