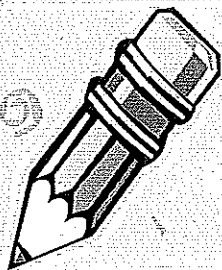


# MENDOTA MESSENGER

January 2017



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### JANUARY 2017

- 10 PTO Meeting  
5:15—6:30pm
- 13 Kinders to Overture  
11:30—2:00pm
- 16 **NO SCHOOL**  
**MARTIN LUTHER**  
**KING JR DAY**
- 20 Spelling Bee 9:00am
- 20 **EARLY RELEASE**  
**10:50AM**  
**NO AACE/PM 4K**  
**End of 2nd Quarter**
- 23 Begin 3rd Quarter

### FEBRUARY 2017

- 3 **NO SCHOOL**  
**STAFF DEVELOPMENT**
- 7 Carnival  
5:30—7:30pm
- 10 Read Your Heart  
Out Day
- 11 Citywide Spelling  
Bee (TBA)
- 21 PTO Meeting  
5:15—6:30pm
- 28 Celebrate Smiles

## **From the Desk of Principal Stanford:**

Happy New Year Mendota Families! We can't contain our excitement after learning that we were named one of four MMSD schools to receive the Disney Music in Schools grant! This grant will provide Mendota Scholars in grades 3-5 with the opportunity to showcase their natural artistic talent, while also developing acting skills and strategies. There are several dedicated staff that will help in preparing Scholars for this production that will include a performance at the school and a culminating performance at the Overture Center. What an opportunity! If you have a theater background, love to sing, act, make props, design outfits or just want to provide general support during this 17 week process, feel free to contact Stacy Broach, Community Schools Coordinator to let her know how you can help out. Rehearsals will be held twice per week beginning the 2nd week in January. We can't wait to get started!

Earlier this year parents received information regarding Mendota being an Ignite school (G3). As an Ignite school students, staff and families will engage in digital literacy learning and application through discovery, collaboration and creation. Ongoing personalized professional learning for staff will strengthen high-quality instruction and provide a relevant and engaging learning experience for each learner. Devices will arrive at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. Students in kindergarten and first grade will be 2:1 and 1:1 for students in second through fifth grade. Also as part of being an Ignite school our newsletters will be electronic. You will have the opportunity to receive a hard copy as well as the electronic version. Our first electronic newsletter will go out in March.

You are an important part of Mendota and we value your voice and all that you do in partnership with us to make Mendota a great school. In working together as a team towards success for our students I would like to remind parents of the importance of students being present and on time for school each day. Supervision starts for students at 7:30a.m. and the school day begins promptly at 7:45a.m. Students who report to school after 7:45a.m. are marked tardy and students who report after 8:00a.m. are reported as absent for the first period of the day. If you need assistance or strategies for getting your child(ren) to school on time, feel free to contact Debie Evans our school Social Worker (204-7859) or Sonia Spencer (204-7862) our Parent Liaison.

As we embark upon the second semester of school we continue to focus our efforts on preparing students to be college, career and community ready. We have been able to expand the number of resources that we have available for families, while also extending opportunities for Scholars outside of the school day. As a school we continue to be committed to providing Scholars with a rigorous, high quality education. During second semester staff will continue to work on strengthening two way communication with families, providing leadership opportunities for Scholars and focusing on literacy development, specifically working to help all students read at grade level. We know that this is not work that we can do alone and value the partnerships that we have with our families and community. Together we will continue to ensure the success of all Scholars!

## **ABSENT/SAFE ARRIVAL LINE: 204-7848**

**Principal: Carletta Stanford**

**Email: cstanford@madison.k12.wi.us**

**Secretary: Lisa Zimmerman**

**Email: lgzimmerman@madison.k12.wi.us**

**Mendota Elementary**  
**4002 School Road**  
**Madison, WI 53704**  
**(608) 204-7840**

# MENDOTA COMMUNITY SCHOOL UPDATE



The Community School Committee at Mendota Elementary has been meeting every 3-4 weeks since August. There are 40 members including, Mendota staff, students, parents and community members. We have had 5 meetings which are 90 minutes in length. Our first meeting focused on what is a community school, the process of implementation and the role of the community school committee. We also examined school related data including: demographics, academic, climate and behavior.

Subsequent meetings focused on creating a list of assets of the Northside and categorizing them by the particular needs that they served. We were then able to visualize where there were gaps in resources within the community and a potential list of partners moving forward. We also engaged in a focus group where we discussed the needs of the Northside based upon a variety of perspectives from families, students, school staff and community members.

For the needs assessment process we used a multitude of data to determine the needs of the students, families and larger community. Our Quantitative data consisted of input from over 200 individuals at the school and community level. The community input we received was very rich and helped inform this process.

We supported conversations with community members by examining a diverse body of reports at the school and community level. These analyses provided a wealth of knowledge that was school and neighborhood specific. Mendota had 14 emerging priority areas. The committee went through a scoring process and settled on three priorities:

- Out of school time-before and after school time
- Support for homeless and highly mobile families
- Job training opportunities for parents and working age students

Moving forward our community school committee will be tasked with leveraging our assets and available resources to address these three priority areas and revisiting all of our identified priorities. For more information contact Stacy Broach at [sdbroach@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:sdbroach@madison.k12.wi.us).



# **Mendota Elementary Art Room**

**With Mr. Kirley**

We are having a great year in the Art Room at Mendota. We recently hosted four art pieces from the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's permanent collection. Students were able to view and discuss the works and create a version of their own. We are partnering with Blackhawk Middle School to create two peace totems. One will be installed at Blackhawk and the other here at Mendota. This year is the Young at Art Show. Mendota will select three artists to represent the school. These artists will have their work displayed at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art from February 11 through April 23..

## **K/1**

Kindergarten and First Grade artists spend their time exploring different art media and techniques. We have spent a lot of time discussing color: primary and secondary colors. We have spent time drawing, painting, mixing colors, cutting and gluing.

## **2/3**

Second and Third Grade artists are looking at art from around the world. We began the year looking at adinkra symbols from Ghana. We discussed calaveras from Mexico. Recently, we wrapped up looking at Aboriginal Australian artists with their X-Ray and dot style.

## **4/5**

Fourth and Fifth Grade artists make art around their identity. We started the year by abstracting our name into a wild design. We looked at the artist Kehinde Wiley and made self portraits in his style. We recently wrapped up our first clay project creating birds from a simple pinch pot.

## **Donations**

We would greatly appreciate any donations of newspaper or cardboard toilet paper / paper towel tubes!

## Meet your new elementary report card

Your child's report card will look different this year. Rather than giving number grades (1-4), K-5 teachers will be reporting on your child's progress toward grade-level expectations or standards that students should meet by the end of the school year.

Visit [mmsd.org/report-cards](http://mmsd.org/report-cards) to find resources to help you and your child understand what the new report cards mean and measure. View a sample report card for each grade level; watch videos; download general resources including an extensive guide and FAQs for families, a quick-reference guide, and bookmarks; or reference materials that you can use to guide the conversation at your next parent-teacher conference.

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Traffic Safety is important for all our children attending school and we would like to ask for your help with these efforts.

1. **\*\*SLOW DOWN\*\*** Observe the speed limit. Slow down to 20 miles per hour when passing a school when children are going to or from school or are playing within the sidewalk area. Slow down to 20 mph when you are at an intersection monitored by an adult crossing guard. If there are no posted 20 mph signs, the school zone is 15 MPH – Failure to comply could result in the issuance of a traffic citation in the amount of \$111.40 - \$550.00
2. **\*\*OBSERVE THE SIGNALS OF THE ADULT CROSSING GUARD\*\*** If you are directed to stop, you must stop the vehicle not less than 10 feet nor more than 30 feet from the crossing guard. You must remain stopped until the children and the crossing guard has returned to the curb. Failure to stop or remain stopped could result in a \$98.80 citation. Remind your children to use the marked crosswalk and to follow the crossing guard's directions.
3. **\*\*PARK ONLY IN AREAS WHERE IT IS LEGAL\*\*** Congestion in front of and around the school reduces visibility and increases driver distractions. It is illegal to drop off students in the areas that are marked, "No Stopping, Standing or Parking" A \$45.00 ticket. DO NOT stop on, or block a painted crosswalk when dropping your children off at school.
4. **\*\*U-TURNS ARE STRONGLY DISCOURAGED IN SCHOOL ZONES\*\***

*Thank you for providing a safe environment for our children.*

## Greetings from the Health Office!

### BRRR... it's cold outside!

Wearing the appropriate winter clothing is a good idea if you are planning to venture out in cold weather. This is especially true for children. Here are some tips for facing our Wisconsin winters:

1. **Layer it on--** For long exposure to cold weather and for extreme cold, the innermost layers (next to skin) should be made of material that can "wick" away moisture, like long underwear made from synthetic material. The middle layers should insulate, such as polar fleece, down, or wool. Finally, the outermost layer should protect from wind and water. Finish by dressing in thick socks and waterproof boots.
2. **Cap It Off--** Just before going outside, make sure to put on thick gloves and a warm hat. Much of a person's body heat is lost through the top of their head. Following these simple steps will help keep your child warm.
3. **Drink Up--** Did you know that drinking liquids is important even in colder weather? It's true! As people breathe in and out, the body loses a large volume of water. Giving your child soup or hot chocolate to drink will not only help to warm them up from the inside out, but will keep them well hydrated.
4. **Teeth-chattering--** As most adults know, the human body is designed to protect us from any perceived threat or danger. Visible shivering or chattering of the teeth is an indication that the body's internal temperature is beginning to drop. Feeling dizzy or weak is another sign of this. If your child is beginning to exhibit these symptoms, tell them to come inside and take a break for a while by doing some type of indoor activity.



### Let's fight the flu together!



Your decision to get the flu shot, or not, goes well beyond you. It also affects the many lives you touch. Influenza is a contagious disease of the respiratory tract (nose, throat, and lungs) that can lead to serious complications, including pneumonia and the worsening of other chronic health conditions. Flu symptoms may include fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and muscle aches. The best way to protect your family from new influenza strains is to get vaccinated each year.

The top five most virus-contaminated areas in the home are:

1. Telephones (have you cleaned your cell phone lately?)
2. Appliances such as the refrigerator and microwave
3. Faucets
4. Light switch and door handles
5. TV remotes

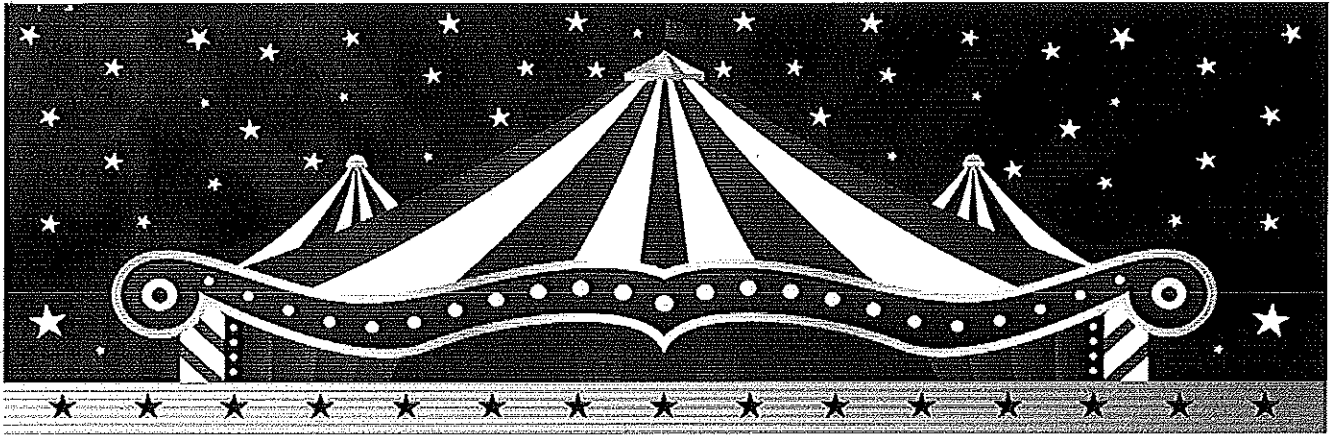


Follow good health guidelines: eat right, exercise, and get plenty of rest to help boost your immunity to fight the effects of colds and flu. Wash hands frequently, do the elbow cough, and disinfect hot spots at work and home. When treating your child's symptoms, avoid giving **aspirin** as it may cause a rare but serious illness called Reye syndrome, instead give ibuprofen.

Have a safe and healthy 2017!

Laura Wade, RN

Eva Robelia, NA



Please join us on  
**Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 5:30-7pm**  
for the Mendota Elementary School / PTO

# CARNIVAL

**GAMES! PRIZES! CRAFTS! PIZZA! CUPCAKE WALK! ALL BENEFITTING OUR SCHOOL!**  
All students will get a couple of free tickets for games! Additional tickets will be just \$0.25. Game winners will collect play money, which will be used to buy prizes. Use tickets for art/crafts, or to get a balloon animal! Pizza and other snacks will be on sale in the cafeteria. Food and drinks will be priced at \$1, \$2 or \$3. We look forward to seeing all of Mendota's students, families and friends on Tuesday, February 7, 2017!!

## CAN YOU VOLUNTEER AT THE CARNIVAL?

We are looking for lots of volunteers for the school Carnival. If you can help, sign up online at: <http://bit.ly/2jhbdyv> or call Annik at 441-1442 or... fill out the form below - thank you!

✂

First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*At Mendota on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, I can help with:*

- Baking cupcakes and delivering them to the office by 4pm; or cafeteria 4:30-5:30pm
- Setting up and run games from 4:30-7:00pm
- Setting up and managing prize room from 4:00-6:15pm
- Setting up and starting the Cupcake Walk or Snack Sales 4:15-6:15pm
- Help keep the balloon making line in order from 5:30-7:00pm
- Help kids make arts and crafts from 5:30-7:00pm
- Running the Cupcake Walk: 6:00-7:00pm
- Selling food/snacks: 6:00-7:00pm
- Managing prize room from 6:00-7:15pm
- Cleaning up and putting away supplies: 7:00-8:00pm

Please return this form to the Mendota office or your child's teacher by January 15.  
*Note: Volunteers under 13 years old will need to volunteer with a parent/guardian/adult supervisor.*