From the Principal

It is with some joy and some trepidation as we near the end of 2020. It has definitely been a trying year. However, out of this pandemic have come so many good things. We’ve learned better ways to teach, methods that will prepare our students with 21st Century skills. We’ve learned that for some students, remote learning is better than in-person. We’ve discovered that our kids need contact with their teachers and really need to be with us more than 2 days per week. We’ve learned to take care of each other, something that often fell by the wayside before this. We’ve learned to understand the struggle that families have trying to work, keep a household running, and try to help their students do school online. But something that is really important is that we have learned to appreciate each other—our students, our families, our colleagues. So, as we are on the eve of 2021, I want us to keep what we have learned, be willing to take risks, and always view each other in a positive light.

Food Drive – we know that the need is greater this year than any other year before and we have partnered with Santa Cops, Mile High Vineyard Church, Village Community Church, Forge Church, and individual families that would like to help during the holidays. I was so impressed with the Thanksgiving food drive and we are hoping that families can get gifts and food. So, we are going to have a donation box in front of the building for anyone that would be willing to donate food for our families. If you are interested in donating a ham or turkey, please let me know so that we can make room in the freezer. We will be collecting food through 12/18 and you can look on the MooreMiddle.com website for suggested items.

Family School Partnership Survey – If you’ve been in this District for very long, you know how much we appreciate gathering and analyzing data so that we can improve the learning experience for our students and families. The FSP survey runs through 12/18. Please take some time to complete this survey as it is data that my boss uses for my evaluation, we use it as a school to determine bright spots and areas of growth, and the District uses it to make decisions about policy and procedure. The link is here: https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/5968764/FSP-2020-21.

Virtual Open House – On Tuesday, December 15th from 7-8 pm, we will host our annual Open House, though this year it will be virtual. If you know of any incoming 6th graders, we encourage students and families to check out what Moore is all about. We will have videos, Q&A, prizes, and more.
From the Principal, continued...

Grades – There have been some questions about Fs and IEs, as well as 3s and 4s, that I wanted to clarify.

Moore has been a standards-based grade school for 5-6 years. The grades that you see in Infinite Campus are formative assessments (like quizzes) and summative assessments (like tests). Formative assessments are used to determine what students know and help teachers decide if they need to go back to reteach material or move on if students are getting the concepts. Formative assessments also inform students and parents about how they are doing against the given standard. These formative assessments are weighted at 0.1 so that students are not “punished” as they learn the concepts. Summative assessments are the final measure of a student’s proficiency against a given standard. These are measured through tests, final writing assignments, projects, etc. Summative grades communicate how proficient a student is on the standard at the end of the unit. Summative grades are weighted at 1.0 (ten times what formative assessments are worth) because they are usually the final activity of a unit. However, standards-based grading also allows for students to go back and show proficiency to raise their grade on the standard. For example, some students are slower to understand things but, with time, might have a better understanding and ability to show proficiency. In this case, students can go back to a teacher and demonstrate their proficiency on the standard. If their demonstration does indeed show proficiency, the teacher replaces the grade with a higher grade.

As standards-based grading is defined, a proficient student would receive a 3. This is the goal. A 4, on the other hand, shows that the student knows and can apply the concepts to unique situations. This grade would essentially say that the student could teach the concept. It is unrealistic to expect that your student would have all 4’s because it’s different than getting all the questions right on the test. A 4 means that your student has advanced understanding of the concept.

With regard to Fs and IEs, Fs would indicate that your student has no understanding of the concepts. An IE stands for insufficient evidence. This means that the work that has been turned in or is missing provides insufficient evidence of whether the student understands the concepts. This information is used to communicate to families and students about the student’s proficiency (or lack thereof) and leads teachers to develop appropriate scaffolds and help. An F or IE, at this point in the K-12 experience, does not mean that the student will not advance to the next grade. Middle school is definitely about learning the concepts but more so about building good habits, learning how to organize their time and resources, and reaching out for help when they need it. Fs and IEs will not prevent your student from going to Harvard or UCLA. What we want those grades to do is help students realize that they are not meeting the expectations and they need to connect with their teachers for extra help, assistance is time management, or get additional resources to become successful.

continued...
From the Principal, continued...

December 21 and 22 – These two days leading up to Winter Break are synchronous block. On Monday, students will attend Mustang Minutes and periods 1, 3, and 5. On Tuesday, students will attend Mustang Minutes and periods 2, 4, 6. Some classes are planning final exams on these days while other classes are using these days as Amnesty days. Amnesty days are times when teachers are available to help a student get missing work turned in or improve grades on assignments. These days are important for students to attend.

Support People – You may have received a call from one of our paras. During this remote period, they have “adopted” a list of ducklings (students) to help with missing assignments, talking with teachers, helping families understand what is happening with their student, or any other assistance. They have been doing a fabulous job reaching out to students, setting goals with students and teachers, and identifying the support each student needs. If you have not gotten a call but could use a support person, let me know and we will get you on the list.

Semester 2 Schedules – We anticipate that we will be returning to a hybrid environment so we are building schedules that will work in both hybrid and remote environments. There may be some changes to your student’s schedule as a result of realigning some classes and teachers. We are trying to keep students in the same subgroups (i.e. same ELA, science, and social studies teachers), but please know that we may need to shift some kids due to electives and overall changes to the master schedule. We will be once again offering Mission to Mars for 7th and 8th graders so please let us know if your student is interested in taking that class. We will be scheduling next week so please let us know as soon as possible if there are electives changes you would like to make.

I hope everyone has a safe, healthy, restful break and we are looking forward to seeing students again in January.

Unified Musical Theatre

Unified Musical Theatre proudly presents The Big Bad Wolf Bros!

This 30 minute virtual performance will take place on January 14, 15, and 16 at 7pm.

Tickets go on sale on January 8th!

"Like" Moore Theatre Co on Facebook for Moore updates!
2020-2021 Support for Families

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<th>Stress Reduction &amp; Physical Health Resources</th>
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<th>Community Mental Health Resources</th>
<th>Crisis Support</th>
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<td>ALL AGES</td>
<td>Second Step On Demand Lessons &amp; Family Resources (Grade K-5)</td>
<td>Jefferson Center for Mental Health (JCMH) 303-425-0300</td>
<td>Safe2Tell 1-877-542-7233</td>
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<td>Sanford Harmony At Home (Grade K-6)</td>
<td>Offers a full range of services and resources to support the mental health of children, youth and families</td>
<td>Anonymously report bullying or other safety concerns</td>
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<td>Sources of Strength COVID Resources (Grade 5-12)</td>
<td>Judi's House 720-941-0331 toll free 877-369-8936</td>
<td>Colorado Crisis Services 1-844-493-TALK (8255) or text TALK to 38255, Free confidential support 24/7</td>
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<td>Random Acts of Kindness (Grades K-8)</td>
<td>Provides a range of services to grieving children and their families</td>
<td>The Trevor Project 1-866-488-7386</td>
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<td>School-Connect (Grades 6-12)</td>
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<td>National Suicide Lifeline 1-800-273-8255</td>
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<td>Physical Wellness and Health Activities</td>
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<td>Jeffco Virtual Calm Space</td>
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2020-2021 Supports for Families in the Pomona Area

Pomona High School
Moore Middle School
Little Elementary School
Parr Elementary School
Warder Elementary School
Weber Elementary School

Click the links provided to access resource

Food/Clothing Assistance

Jefferson County Schools
Grab and Go Meals
The Action Center
Benefits In Action
Clothes To Kids Denver
Community Table Food Bank
Hunger Free Hotline

COVID-19 Resources

District COVID19 Mental Health Page
Wash Hands with Elmo
Why Do People Wear Masks: A Story for Kids

Parent Support

The Pandemic Toolkit for Parents
District Jeffco Strength
ParenTeen Connect
Parent Toolkit

Faith Resources

Red Rocks Church Resources 303-395-0840 x4
The Rising Church 303-422-1174

Holiday Assistance

Action Center Holiday Events
Jefferson County: Celebrating the Holidays with COVID 19 in Our Lives
Infinite Hope with Deliberate Effort:
14th ANNUAL EDUCATING CHILDREN OF COLOR SUMMIT
Saturday, January 16, 2021, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Rhonda V. Magee
The Inner Work of Racial Justice: Healing Ourselves and Transforming Our Communities Through Mindfulness

Tim Wise, anti-racism activist and author of White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son

Eric Bailey, The Cure For Stupidity: Using Brain Science to Explain Irrational Behavior At Work

Laura van Dernoot Lipsky, founder Trauma Stewardship Institute


Register NOW at www.educatingchildrenofcolor.org

Free for undergraduates, 8th-12th grade students, and parents!
$35 for professionals
$20,000 in scholarships and educational gifts will be awarded to students in attendance at the Summit
20 laptops will be awarded as door prizes.
Two $500 educator grants will be awarded.
8 hours of professional development.

CLDE opportunity
Graduate credit available through Adams State University

Join us on Zoom