

THE PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2022

Dear Parents,

We are now halfway through the first quarter of the school year, and we have settled into our routines and procedures for learning this school year. There is a lot of teaching and learning going on! When we (Mrs. Grande and Mrs. Bosnic) visit classrooms, we see children very engaged in their learning, through small group and whole group instruction. Our teachers also use a variety of equitable practices to ensure that each child has multiple opportunities to participate in class.

As we implement our curriculum this year in math, reading, and writing with Eureka Math and Benchmark Advance, respectively, we also are providing quality instruction through our Art, Music, and Physical Education Classes. Each student receives instruction in these three areas weekly. Students are also receiving instruction in emotional/social well-being, science, and social studies.

We have completed our MAP testing at grade levels Kindergarten through Fifth. The MAP testing is MCPS district testing that assesses students in reading and/or math, three times per year. Please see the various MAP tests below:

MAP-P: Assesses math performance in grades Kindergarten-Second

MAP-M: Assesses math performance in grades Three-Five

MAP-R: Assesses reading performance in grades Three-Five

We are in the midst of completing our Dibels reading testing in Kindergarten through Second Grades, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment in Kindergarten.

We are excited to welcome back our parent volunteers. Parent volunteers must complete two modules, Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect, and COVID Attestation, which includes uploading the vaccination documentation. We have sent out information on how to

access these modules. Party planners, up to 4 parents, are permitted to help and attend our Fall Classroom Parties on October 21st.

All family members attending the classroom parties must show a photo identification and sign in at the main office.

The MCPS Parent Visitation Day is Monday, October 10th, 9:30 a.m. to 12noon. You can visit the classroom during this timeframe. Instruction will continue as usual during your visit. Please sign in at the main office with a photo identification.

On October 25th, there will be a Principal's Chew and Chat from 6-7pm in the Gibbs Media Center. Global Children's Center has offered free child care for school age children. This is an informal time to discuss Gibbs Elementary programming, and ask and answer questions. A sign up will be coming out soon so that we can prepare accordingly for light refreshments for our parents. Hope to see you there!

Please note the important dates below.

Thank you so much for all of your support and have a great month!

Kimberly Bosnic, Principal

Patricia Grande, Asst. Principal

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Important October Dates!

4th: PTA Meeting at 6:00 p.m. (Free Child Care for School-Age Children Provided by Global Children's Center)

5th: No School for Students and Staff

7th: Pink Out Gibbs Spirit Day (wear pink!)

10th: Parent Visitation Day, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

13th: Interim Reports Available for Parents on Synergy Parent Vue

14th: Bus Evacuation Drill from 9:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; Gibbs PTA Dance from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

18th: Fire Drill at 9:45 a.m.

19th: No PEP and No PreKindergarten Classes

21st: Fall Harvest Classroom Parties for One Hour (Teacher

Determines the Time); Harvest Day Gibbs Spirit Day (wear fall colors!)

24th: No School for Students; Professional Day for Teachers

25th: Grade 5 Students Field Trip to Strathmore Music Center, 11:20 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Principal's Chew and Chat in Media Center, 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

