

MLS Messenger

In This Issue

MLS
Spotlight


What's
happening


Black History
Month

Important Dates to Remember

- Virtual Book Fair: Ends February 21
- Trimester 3 Material Delivery for 8th grade: February 26
- Trimester 2 Ends: March 12
- Trimester 3 Material Delivery for K-7th grade: March 15
- Spring Break: March 29 - April 2
- Trimester 2 Report Cards and Progress Reports Sent Home: Week of April 5

Follow us on social media for updates and the latest work of our students!

 @MLSatGemmaServices

 @Martin_Luther_School

From the Desk of Ms. Eva



MLS is busy celebrating Black History Month. It's an exciting time of year filled with the celebration of thousands of amazing African American and Black authors, scientists, artists, inventors, dissenters -- the list goes on and on. As a school director with over 30 years of experience, I long for the day when we won't celebrate this month. Instead, children in every school will learn history through multiple perspectives, an honest account that gives voice to both the victories and horrors of the past in order to bring a brighter, fairer future to all of us. At MLS, this is the history we seek to teach as we honor all voices, especially those of our students and families.

I leave with you the hopeful words of our national poet laureate, Amanda Gorman:

"We will rebuild, reconcile, and recover in every known nook of our nation in every corner called our country our people diverse and beautiful will emerge battered and beautiful, when the day comes we step out of the shade aflame and unafraid, the new dawn blooms as we free it, for there is always light if only we're brave enough to see it, if only we're brave enough to be it"



MLS SPOTLIGHT

The Beacon aka The Teacher

The last of the light in the far distance...

- Despite all its external flaws it knows nothing but persistence...
- The one without defeat, quit, or I can't...
- Keeping his desire burning no matter how steep the slant...
- Emotions keep rolling downhill til it falls at my feet...
- Trudging through the desolate muck still never missing a beat...
- When all is lost deeper and deeper I dig...
- Giving my very soul until there is nothing left to give...
- Falling short a million times in a million different ways...

-One million and one, one million and two, my mighty will power never sways...

- Almost crushed beneath defiance, exhaustion, and permanent vacation...
- Most would crumble but I have chiseled down to determination...
- Nothing can stop me, slow me, or pause me no matter how the hurt deepens...
-I am Hope! Not despair! I am the beacon!
- The eternal flame, the sunlight to each and every day
- Shinning bright without fail, because in my life hope has the last say!

-- Kareem Williams



Mr. Kareem Williams, Student Advisor, has been at MLS for 25 years. Besides his expertise as a college athlete and coach, he is known for his warmth and outstanding sense of humor.



What's Happening

MLS Black History Month Highlights

To celebrate Black History Month, the school counselors have been posting short biographical videos of historical and present-day African Americans, highlighting their achievements and accomplishments. Students are encouraged to watch the videos in preparation for a fun Black History Month Jeopardy game as a culminating event at the end of the month! Some notable figures we are learning about are Carter G. Woodson, Thurgood Marshall, Chadwick Boseman, Kamala Harris, and many more!

MLS IS DEEP INTO READING

Trimester 3 is just around the corner! Take a look at the great books we will be reading!

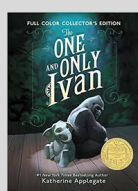
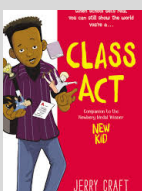
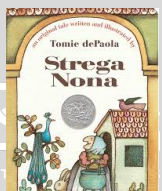
Grades K-3: *Oh, the Places You Will Go* by Dr. Seuss; *To Think I Saw it on Mulberry Street* by Dr. Seuss; *Strega Nona* by Tomie DePaola
Goal: For Fritz Family students to find their place in the world and have acceptance for other cultures.

Grades 4/5: *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate
Goal: Exposing the Mastermind students to the idea that they can develop empathy while employing their passions to become agents of change.

Grade 6: *Class Act* by Jerry Craft
Goal: To challenge the Sixers students perspective on how they view themselves and others around them.

Grade 7: *The Maze Runner* by James Dashner
Goal: To allow the Allstar students to see that reading can be pleasurable while also developing resilience and hope amidst a crisis.

Grade 8: Short story anthology to include: "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Raven" by Edgar Allen Poe, "The Treasure of Lemon Brown" by Walter Dean Myers, "Thank You Ma'am" by Langston Hughes. "The Ransom of Red Chief" by O' Henry, "The Necklace" by Guy Maupassant, "The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson, "The Lady or The Tiger" by Frank Stockton, "The Scholarship Jacket" by Marta Salinas.
Goal: Exposing our Dream Team students to famous short stories, preparing them for high school, all while providing the tools necessary for each student to create their own short story.



MLS HELPDESK



To get information about technical support, inclement weather or to get in touch with anyone on staff, please call Ms. Angie Henderson-Goode at 267-607-3792 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.



Principal's Corner

Our curriculum is designed to help our students achieve maximum academic success. What does that mean exactly? We have an obligation to our students and their caregivers to provide the best academic environment possible; despite our student's challenges or situations, we will continue to create opportunities for our students to practice critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and all forms of communication. Our 2020- 2021 school year goal is to hold high expectations and provide high support for everyone in our MLS community. Our new math curriculum, Illustrative Mathematics, focuses on grade-level content, while ALEKS and IXL allow students to practice and reinforce concepts at their level. In English Language Arts, we have adopted Fountas and Pinnell Classroom, a blended literacy program taking our students to grade level and beyond. Each grade does an in-depth novel study for each trimester, and our students are becoming fond of reading. A wise person once said to me, "You know how children learn to read? By reading." I take pride in knowing that we are changing our students' lives by providing meaningful instruction through our curriculum. We will continue to raise the level of expectations for our students each year as we watch them excel in all areas of school!

Instruct the Mind



Engage the Heart



Empower the Will



OUR VALUES

Trust * Relationship * Grit * Respect * Commitment * Courage * Belonging * Creativity * Curiosity