

Martin
Luther
School

AT **gemma SERVICES**

MLS MESSENGER

October Issue 2021



Dear MLS Families

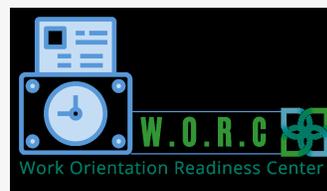
When we started this school year, I knew there would be challenges. Still, I was not expecting to spend hours becoming an expert in negotiating COVID and getting our students routed for transportation. The MLS Admin team weighs all the options to keep our students and staff safe at each turn. Our primary goal is to provide high expectations for academics as well as social and emotional growth. We are very fortunate to have the expert guidance of the Gemma Services healthcare team, who have been tremendous partners as we streamline our approach. To keep you updated, we will be sharing a weekly [MLS Dashboard](#) so that you can easily see our COVID statistics. Some features include:

- At-a-glance status of staff and students with Covid symptoms and positive cases
- Color-coded warning system (green - yellow - red)
- Status of staff and students home due to symptoms or positive status

We have done an outstanding job mitigating transmissions by adhering to our MLS COVID Protocols. We are beyond appreciative for your support as you

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 15-19: Career Week
- November 22: Virtual instruction AM/Family conferences PM
- November 23: Virtual instruction PM/Family conferences AM
- November 24: Virtual instruction and early dismissal
- November 25-26: No school, Thanksgiving holiday



WORC Wonders

This past month we've been busy in the WORC

room participating in lessons and completing jobs to support the staff and the school. Some of the special projects we worked on were decorating thank you cards for patrons of our school fundraiser as well as creating birthday cards to acknowledge the 100th birthday of a special patron. We also kept busy with our regular jobs of trimming lamination, making shapes with the Ellison machine, and making deliveries throughout the school. The lessons this past month continued to work on developing self-awareness and social

continue to keep your students home if they show any COVID symptoms and reinforce the importance of masking and distancing. Would you please continue to:

- Use our screener and keep your students home
- Communicate with us about anyone in your household experiencing symptoms
- Support your student's virtual learning

Busses! We are equally frustrated by the bussing situation. We have been firm advocates working with each district and transportation company. They are all facing a staffing crisis. As we move forward, MLS is exploring other ways to make sure students get to school. Please don't stop working with your LEA to advocate for timely transportation!

Despite these challenges, it is a joy to see the children in school. They are engaged and learning how to be amazing readers, writers, mathematicians, artists, musicians, and all the beautiful things they get to do and dream of while at school. Our students are our joy, and we love seeing them every day (in-person or virtually)! MLS will not be deterred from our vision: instructing the mind, engaging the heart, and empowering the will. We are honored to partner with you and watch as your student grows and learns!

Respectfully,
Ms. Eva
School Director



Instruct The Mind



Engage The Heart



Empower The Will



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awareness. We learned about respecting the personal space of others as well as thinking before you speak.

Help your child control impulsive speaking by using the acronym THINK. Is what you're going to say
T - true?
H - helpful?
I - inspiring?
N - necessary?
K - kind?

Thinking before you speak is an important skill to have in school, in the workplace, and in the community. You can help your child by reviewing this acronym when they speak impulsively and by modeling the behavior you want to see.

Healthy and Fun Snack Corner

Try making a Caramel Apple Bar



For a fun easy guide to making your own candy apple bar click [here](#).





Student-Led Conferences/Report Cards

The end of our first trimester is quickly approaching. As the trimester ends, we will begin our process of assessing how the learning has been going for our students. Report cards will show your student's progress on a four-point grading scale, which demonstrates their understanding and growth of each learning target in their courses. To arrive at these grades we use a combination of evidence from classroom work and student-led conferences. These conferences allow students to have a voice in their learning and to understand what they have accomplished and what is next to come.



Restorative Practices/Circles

Every morning the school community starts with a circle. This is an opportunity to ground everyone to begin their school day. It allows students and staff to have a voice and the opportunity to answer and lead the circle questions. The morning circle topic focuses on the core values of MLS. This helps in reinforcing the values that the Counseling Department teaches each month. Students are able to learn and process these values through games, activities, videos, and their own voices.

Student Showcases

We are excited to announce the dates for our upcoming student showcases. Students will be presenting a culminating project from their English Language Arts classes on December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Our students will perform poetry readings, share writing pieces, and dress up as some of their favorite characters. More information to come about how to join our event virtually. Students are looking forward to showing everything they have been learning this trimester!



Greetings from the MLS Counseling Department!

Red Ribbon Spirit week has been so much fun!

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Staff and students participated in a

November is Career month at MLS!

Throughout the month of November, students will partake in creative career lessons. Students will



week of fun-themed days to support a drug-free life! The days included Mustache Day, Too Bright, Crazy Hair and Silly Cap, Crazy Sock, and Pajama Day. Follow our social media pages to

see more highlights from the week.

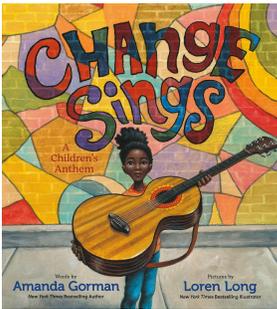
Our school is committed to living a drug-free life!

Check out the wonderful Ms. Angie in her crazy hat!



explore their career interests and skills. The MLS Counselors will be holding a Career Day on Friday, November 19, 2021. We will be inviting professionals from different fields to share with our

students about their journeys to their careers. Be on the lookout for more information to come!



Join us for our October All School Read! "Change Sings" by Amanda Gorman



If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact us.

Phone

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