



Lion NewsBITES

A Message from the School Principal

Hello MMLA Parents and Guardians,

We are one week away from Spring Break April 5-9 and returning to school on Monday, April 12, 2021. Friday, April 2 is our last day of school before Spring Break and we have an early dismissal planned for noon. Students will be served lunch before dismissal.

All MMLA Stakeholders would graciously like to continue extending affirmations to our parents and students for coming together to believe in MMLA's educational program. This 2020/2021 school year has seen many changes, but together we continue to stand as a community.

To our MMLA families: Thank you for continuing to allow our students to return for In-Person Learning. We are up to 72% of our 380 students being back into the building. For families that are not ready for In-Person learning our MMLA staff still has great excitement and values providing virtual learning for our students.

Please be informed that the State standardized testing window for all students in the State of Michigan opens on Monday, April 12 and goes through mid-May. Students at MMLA take the PSAT (8th), M-Step (3rd-8th), and NWEA/Map (All Grades) during this time. Your child will be asked to take their standardized

test in person. Times and dates will be provided for each grade level. Let's continue to stand together in support of the expectations for our students.

Great in-person participation was seen by our 8th graders this week with P-SAT practice testing. We had 98% of our students show up! Thanks, MMLA Families! Let's continue supporting our students for greatness.

MMLA Families, please be aware that we have experienced poor choice making in the evenings (5:30-7pm) by some of our MMLA students and community students. Please understand the negative behavior in our community affects school Monday-Friday. If MMLA is made aware of any community activities that jeopardize the safety of our students, as a leader of the school that greatly supports the community, we will get involved and take action. Our school and community should be safe for all.

Have a fantastic and safe Spring Break!

If any questions about anything in the newsletter? Please contact Mr. James at 517-485-5397

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about." -Margaret J. Wheatley

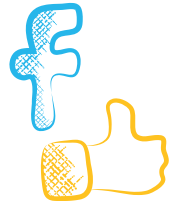
From the lenses of your Principal Mr. James

Academic Update

Dear MMLA families,

"March is Reading Month" has been wonderful. We had two major projects that students worked on - door decoration and a mural. We loved hearing about all of the wonderful books that were being read.

We also had community visitors reading to our students. What a great opportunity for students to hear stories being read by our local police, firefighters and other community members. Log on to our Facebook page to see some great photos!



We look forward to April when we are having students take their M-Step and PSAT tests. Please look at the dates in this newsletter to know when they need to be ready for testing.

Thank you for all you do to support us in all we do.

Mrs. Brown, Assistant Principal

Tech Upgrade

The computer lab at MMLA is getting an upgrade over Spring Break! All new computers are being installed for students to use in class with Mr. Zurek. Mr. Zurek has lots of fun computer games that teach mouse and typing skills for all grade levels and



even some coding in the upper grade levels! Ask your child what their favorite thing to learn in computer class is.

Spring Break:
No School
April 5 - April 9

STEAM @ Home w/ Kiwi Co.

Over the last few weeks MMLA Teachers worked with their class to pick out a special hands on project kits from Kiwi Co. for students to work on over Spring Break. **The Kiwi Co. Crates are in and will be ready for pick-up on Thursday, April 1.** In-person students will be sent home with their crate on Thursday, virtual families will come to the

main entrance and request to pick up their child's crate between 10 AM and 4 PM.

These STEAM Projects have everything in them for you and your child to work together creating something special! **Please share photos online** with #mmlaspirit and #handsonlearning to show our Title I Grant Supporters our students are hard at work with these fun projects!



Upcoming Events

- Mar 31, Apr 1 & 2: D⁵ (see article for details)
- April 1: Kiwi Co. Crate Pick-Up 10 AM - 4 PM.
- April 2: **Early Release, Dismissal at Noon**
- April 5-9: **Spring Break, No School**
- April 8: Curb-side Meal Distribution 1-2:30 PM
- April 12: Classes Resume
- April 12: Board Meeting 6PM
- April 13: 8th Grade PSAT
- April 14,16,20,22: 5th Grade M-Step Testing
- April 15&19: 8th Grade M-Step
- April 26&28: 3rd & 4th Grades M-Step Testing
- April 27&29: 6th & 7th Grades M-Step Testing

Yearbook Update

The MMLA Yearbook Staff has been working hard to get the yearbook ready! **We are still accepting photos direct from you up until Spring Break.** To contribute pictures go to <https://uploads.picabooyearbooks.com/9376147>

After Spring Break **Yearbooks will go on sale for \$15 each.** We will also have special prizes for the first yearbooks purchased. In-person sales will be cash only, we will also provide an online order option direct from Picaboo Yearbooks that will have other payment options available to you.

All yearbooks are pre-order. There will not be extras available to purchase after they arrive. If you would like a yearbook you will need to purchase your pre-order before April 30. Yearbooks will be distributed on the last school day of the year, June 11.



MARCH 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8*	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL 2021

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12*	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Key:

- Special Days/Events
- Key Testing Windows
- * Board Meetings

Non-Student Days:

- School Closed (No Staff)
 - No School*
 - Professional Development*
- *Staff Report per Working Days Calendar

Uniform Reminder

Students participating in in-person learning must follow uniform guidelines daily; this includes wearing a mask. Temperatures are still fluctuating throughout the day, therefore, students are encouraged to wear a sweater that they can take on and off as they need.

A few uniform reminders:

- School colors for tops are white, black and sky blue; bottoms are black or khaki.
- If a student wears a long sleeve shirt under their normal uniform shirt, it must be a uniform color.
- Sweaters must be a uniform color.
- If a student wears tights/leggings under a uniform skirt, it must be a uniform color. Leggings may not be worn as pants.
- Hoodies may only be worn if they are the MMLA hoodie that is available for purchase in the main office for \$25. Stop by and purchase one while they last! New sizes just arrived this week.
- All students must have a **mask** on that covers their mouth and nose in the school and on the school bus. Masks do not have to be a uniform color.

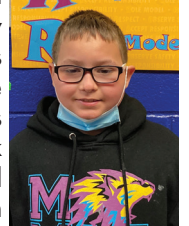


ROAR



Brent Vega

Brent is a 6th grader who is very involved in MMLA's Yearbook program. He always shows respect by following teachers instructions. He observes safety by keeping his hands to himself and accepts responsibility by always having his materials for his classes. His favorite class is science! He loves that MMLA has a track that he can run laps and that there are so many fun projects and things to do in every class! When he is not at MMLA, you can find Brent outside playing with friends or watching Scooby Doo. He loves the color blue and his favorite holidays are Halloween and Thanksgiving...he's a fall kinda guy!



Thank you Brent for creating a positive and safe environment here at MMLA!



D⁵

**March 31
April 1 & 2**

Our next "D⁵" or Donation Drive Dress Down Day of the school year will be on 3 full days! Wed. March 31, April 1 & 2. Students who bring in a clean and gently used or new item to add to our clothing closet may dress out of uniform on that day. We encourage families to label their donations to avoid any confusion. A minimum of 1 article per student is required to be out of uniform on that day.



Thank you for giving back to your school community!