

March 22, 2019

Greetings Maple View Families:

Hello again. We just finished a week that was full of good things. We registered our current 6th and 7th grade students for next year and on Wednesday we were finally able to have our Martin Luther King assembly. As you will remember, our bleachers have not been working for the past two months so while our assembly was later than planned, it turned out great! The assembly was planned and executed by our Advanced Leadership students and it was the most well done and emotionally moving assembly that I have witnessed. Our students were visibly moved by the program. Our choir was exceptional and the leadership class under the direction of Ms. Strojan were just outstanding in putting the whole thing together. Please take a second and ask your student about it this weekend. Here are some excerpts from the assembly written and delivered by our leadership students:

“Dr. King’s dream isn’t a dream that has died. It is alive and well in America, and here at Maple View.

To understand his dream, we have to understand his circumstances. As we look around Maple View Middle School today, we are a living representation of his hope for our future. Twenty years ago, in 1998, the Tahoma district looked very different. 93% of the students in Tahoma were white.

Today, less than two thirds of the students at Maple View are white. Our students represent Native Americans, Asians, Islanders, African Americans, Hispanics, and many students come from multiple ethnic backgrounds. Our students speak Thai, German, Chinese, Kurdish, Spanish, Amharic, Hebrew, Hindi, Chamorro, Vietnamese, French, Korean, Norwegian, Japanese, Russian, American Sign Language and more.

At this school we have a diverse set of learners with different academic abilities. we want to celebrate our own cultures. And we appreciate others.”

“What can YOU do to carry on Dr. King’s dream?

Do you stand for hate or stand up against hate?

Do you stand for discrimination or stand up against discrimination?

Do you stand for stereotypes or stand up against stereotypes?

Now that we know that we need to connect and communicate, get off your cell phones, start a conversation, and be real.

We know that to change the way people act and what they think, we have to reach their hearts. We hope we’ve reached yours today.”

Five more winners were drawn from BEARS Bucks turned in this week.

Ben Hammack

Payton Hoover

J’Shun Jolly

Adalyn Moate

Makayla Saleumsay

Keep up the great work, Bears! More than 1,500 BEARS Bucks have been turned in to the office so far. That means so many great choices are being made here daily– thank you!

Today we were able to send 25 students to the Girls in Science conference at Highline College. The program is specifically designed for girls who may be considering a career in the science fields. It is a great conference that we have sent students to in the past. I am looking forward to hearing from the girls when they return to school on Monday.

The spring musical opens this weekend. The combined MVMS and STMS production of Cinderella will have performances tonight at 7:00 PM, tomorrow at 2:00 and 7:00 PM and then next weekend same days and times. If you like plays, I would encourage you to come out and see our drama students perform. The musical is always entertaining and very well done.

This coming Monday and Tuesday the high school counselors will be at Maple View to register our current 8th grade students for their high school classes next fall. Students will see the counselors during their Language Arts classes. They will bring home their materials for you to see and for your signature. If you have a current 8th grade student, be watching on Monday or Tuesday for the registration materials to come home.

The JV League Wrestling Tournament will take place tomorrow March 23rd at Summit Trail Middle School. It will run a good part of the day. Stop in and see some outstanding wrestling.

Our advanced choirs attended a competition this past week and came back with all superior ratings. Ms. Meline does such a fine job working with our vocal performers. Mr. Johnson will be taking our bands to the same kind of competition this coming week. Good luck to the band.

As spring starts to show itself on a little more regular basis, we take a moment to reteach some of the expectations for attending Maple View. Stretch teachers will be reminding students about dress code and other expectations over the next few weeks. We tend to do this re-teaching periodically throughout the year. I have attached the information that we will be teaching to this newsletter if you are interested. [spring review BEARS newsletter.pdf](#)

This is a busy time of year as we are continuing our work for this year and also planning for next year. Lots of excitement as students start to think about moving u a grade and all the changes that will entail.

Here is information on some of the events coming up in our district:

Father-Daughter Ball: "Love You to the Moon and Back" is the theme for this year's Father-Daughter Ball, which is open to all ages and will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2019 (TOMORROW) at Tahoma High School. Pre-registration saves you money at the door. For more details see the attached [FatherDaughterBall2019.pdf](#) flyer or order online from Brown

Paper Tickets at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4055008>. Proceeds benefit the Tahoma High School PTA Scholarship Fund.

Escape Reality illusion show: Las Vegas illusionists Garry and Janine Carson will perform in the auditorium at Tahoma Elementary School at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 31 to raise funds for the Tahoma Schools Foundation.

[Escape Reality flyer 2019.pdf](#) -offers “comedy, magic and grand illusions” in a family friendly performance, according to information from Carson Entertainment. The Carsons will perform here as part of a national tour to raise funds for charities and foundations.

Advance tickets can be purchased for a reduced price online at Brown Paper Tickets: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4069370>

Maple Valley Bear Run: The 36th Annual Maple Valley Bear Run/Walk 5K is coming soon! Save the date! It will be held at Lake Wilderness Park during Maple Valley Days on **Sunday, June 9th!** This is a really fun community event that promotes health and fitness and also raises money for the Tahoma Cross Country team. Due to generous sponsors, all kids 12 and under can participate for free (however there is a \$2.50 handling fee). Children 8 and under must be accompanied by a registered adult or participant who is 13 or older. The link is below and everyone who registers by May 31st is guaranteed a tech T-shirt.

We'd like to encourage all students and their families to participate this year! The school with the most participants will have bragging rights and a big Bear Run stuffed bear to display through the next year! Sign up, get moving and have fun! <http://www.maplevalleybearrun.com/>

Have a restful weekend and I hope to see you in the near future. Go Bears!

Andy

Kenneth A. McGrath

Principal

Maple View Middle School

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