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McAuliffe Manual School News

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McAuliffe Manual School News | January 5, 2017

Principal's Message

Dear McAuliffe Manual 6th Graders and Community,

Happy New Year! I hope that each of you has enjoyed your winter break and hope that the holidays have brought you joy, peace, and rest. We are very excited for school to be back in session and to welcome 2017 with our students. I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you the latest round of our student growth and achievement results from this past December. Students take the STAR test several times a year to measure their math and reading growth over time. STAR reading assesses 5 areas of reading (foundational skills, reading literature, reading informational text, and language). STAR math assess K-12th grade math skills in a variety of areas (operations, algebraic thinking, geometry, expressions & equations, number system, functions, statistics & probability, and algebra). We utilize data from STAR throughout the year to set goals, respond quickly to



Home of the Thunder!

IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs 1/5

School Resumes

Thurs 1/5-Fri 1/6

No DPS Bus
Transportation

Thurs 1/12

PAC Meet, 7:15-8:15pm

Mon 1/16

No School, MLK Day

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growth. You can find out more about STAR [here](#). Your student will bring home their STAR data reports with Tuesday's paycheck.

For reading, our school average has improved by 60 points and our students' average grade equivalency has increased by half a year. The median student growth percentile (SGP) which compares our students nationally is 56. Our goal is to see this at 75 by the end of the year. 34 of our students have achieved this goal already and 23 are very close – their SGP is between 50 and 74. For math, our school average has improved by 34 points and our SPG is 50. Our goal for math is to also achieve 75 by the end of the year. 48 of our students have achieved this goal already and 17 are very close – their SGP is between 50 and 74. While our results indicate that our students are growing and there is a lot to celebrate from the start of our school year, our results also indicate that we have work to do in order to meet our goals. We will review results with students, set goals, and adjust our curricular plans to meet their needs. Our new small group structure will also ensure that students have more time for targeted, small group instruction during the school day. Our 2nd round on interim assessments coming up this month will also give us data on how students are progressing in mastering 6th grade Common Core State Standards. We will share those results with you when we have them. We will discuss the school's next steps in more detail in response to the data at the upcoming CSC meeting in January. Please feel free to reach out to your student's advisor for information on your student's STAR results and Ms. Long with any questions.

Thurs 1/19CSC Meet,
5:30-7:30pm

Get the McAuliffe Manual app for [iOS](#) and [Android](#)!

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TOP NEWS

Thunder Community Meeting Follow-up

Thank you to those parents who were able to make it to the State of Thunder Community Meeting we had before break. This meeting gave parents a chance to come together with school leadership to:

- hear about the progress of the school so far,
- share concerns and hopes for the future,
- review the School Performance Framework (SPF) and Title 1 funding,
- and review a plan for the remainder of the school year and preparation for 7th grade, including our move to Manual.

You can access the PowerPoint from the meeting and FAQ document that captured notes from the meeting [here](#). This was the first of several parent meetings that we will host throughout the remainder of the school year. Please reach out to Principal Jessica Long with any questions or concerns.

Science News

- Chemistry Quiz scorecards will be sent home this week requiring signatures on how your student is progressing through Chemistry so far. Students that achieved their personal goals for scoring on their quizzes will bring home Distinguished Chemist Certificates! Shout out to Eymi, Jack Young and Chris Alix for tying for the highest scores in the grade by all scoring 98%!

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so your student will be planning his/her own Chemistry experiment as homework over break.

- Check in on your student's quiz at illuminate or your student's work in IQWST at anytime! Learning.

WEEK IN REVIEW

Ovation Company

On Thursday, December 15th, our sixth graders participated in community-building activities presented by [The Ovation Company](#). Students had the opportunity to make new friends while learning valuable lessons about courage and kindness. This was great opportunity for students to show our IB Attribute of being a risk taker. It was an incredibly powerful day for our students to come closer together as a community. Ask your student to talk with you about the event and what it means to be a big elephant!

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Quartet Performance

Also before break our students had the opportunity to attend a beautiful and fun quartet performance.

[The Altius Quartet](#), Fellowship Quartet-In-Residence at CU Boulder, offered students the opportunity release their inner DJ in a unique “Shuffle” program. From a wide-ranging menu of pieces — from Mozart and Beethoven to Taylor Swift and Led Zeppelin — students helped to choose what they wanted the quartet to play. As students watched the performance, they learned about a wide variety of composers and musical styles.



REMINDERS

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We are looking for volunteers for the following areas:

- **Fundraising:** We are looking for volunteers to help raise money for our school.
- **Grant Writing:** We are looking for grant writers to help us obtain money for the school.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Penny Alsabih, the Student Activities Coordinator at palsabih@gmail.com.

School Committees

Below is a list and description of school committees. Please contact the appropriate person if you are interested in participating.

- **Collaborative School Committee (CSC)** - Collaboration on school structures, budget, culture, and staffing. Please contact Penny Alsabih if interested in joining at palsabih@gmail.com
- **Parent Activities Committee (PAC)** - Create, organize, and schedule student activities. Please contact Penny Alsabih if interested in joining at palsabih@gmail.com
- **Critical Needs** - Helps our families in need. Please contact Penny Alsabih if interested in joining at palsabih@gmail.com
- **Book Fair** - Organizes annual book fair. Contact Cindy Spruce if interested in joining at cindy_spruce@dpsk12.org
- **Teacher Appreciation** - Organizes and brings food for teachers. Contact Jeff Pettingill at jpettingill11@yahoo.com if interested in joining.
- **Yearbook** - Creates annual yearbook for

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joining at r.d.patron@gmail.com. We also need pictures of the students at school or school activities. Please forward them to Rosa for the yearbook.

- We are excited to announce that Silvia Hernandez is McAuliffe Manual's Spanish Speaking Ambassador. Silvia can be reached at 303-725-4389.

Uniforms – Reminders and Winter Layers

If you have not already purchased McAuliffe Manual uniform items for winter weather like long-sleeve t-shirts, sweatshirts or a winter PE uniform that is now available, please do so right away to allow time for delivery before the cold weather is upon us. [Order online here.](#)

A couple of uniform reminders:

- Students are not allowed to wear their personal jackets or hoodies over their uniform shirts except traveling to and from school.
- Students may wear solid white, grey, or black long-sleeved t-shirts underneath their McAuliffe Manual t-shirts.

Easy No-Cost Fundraising

The King Sooper and Safeway/Albertson's gift cards are available for sale. Earn money toward your student's camp trip by purchasing groceries, gas, in-store Starbucks, lift-tickets, and sporting or event tickets. It's that easy! Please see Mrs. Valerie Cortez in the main office.

Information about our camp trip is repeated in the Reminders section below and can also be found on

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YMCA Snow Mountain Ranch Camp Trip

Save the date! The McAuliffe Manual 6th grade class will travel to the Snow Mountain Ranch near Winter Park from May 24-26, 2017. We are waiting on final costs for the trip. The kids will get to enjoy archery, riding on a tubing hill, climbing on a climbing wall, camp fires and recreation time. A great way to earn money for the trip is to use the Safeway and/or King Sooper gift cards. As we get closer to the trip, we will ask for parent chaperones.

DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY NEWS

2-1-1 Colorado Resources

2-1-1 Colorado is a free, confidential, multilingual service that refers callers to non-emergency health and human services. To volunteer or to make an in-kind or financial donation, visit the 211 Colorado [website](#), dial 211, or text 898-211 for more information.

- Rental / Utility Bills Assistance
- Housing / Emergency Shelter
- Food / Clothing Banks
- Mental Health Assistance
- Dealing With and Preventing Abuse
- GED / ESL Classes
- Suicide Intervention and Prevention
- Medical Clinics
- Rx Assistance
- Senior Services
- Youth Programs
- Support Groups
- Legal Assistance

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HELPFUL LINKS

Principal Long: jessica_long@dpsk12.org

Main: 720-423-6550

Attendance line: 720-423-6551

Website: <http://mcauliffemanual.dpsk12.org/>

[McAuliffe Manual 2016-2017 Calendar](#)

App: Available for free download on [Apple iOS](#) and [Android](#) devices

Uniform orders: ThunderUniforms.com

School supplies list [here](#)

[DPS School Lunch](#)

During the 2016-2017 school year, McAuliffe Manual is located on the Smiley Campus at 2540 Holly St., Denver, CO 80207.



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