MoCo Monday Minute

Monday, February 20, 2017

In this edition:

- *Quote of the Week*
- *FCCLA Participated in STAR Events*
- *Blood Drop Trophy*
- *Random Acts of Kindness Week*
- *Camargo Student Council Visited Hope Hill*
- *MCHS Academic Team Competed at Regional*
- *Coffee with the Counselor*
- *Student Attendance*
- *Dates*
- *Continuous Learning through Professional Literature*

Friday, MSE 4th graders participated in a Reality Store. Students visited several booths, set up by community volunteers, where they had to make wise decisions on spending.

Students at Camargo dressed up on Wednesday for Career Day.

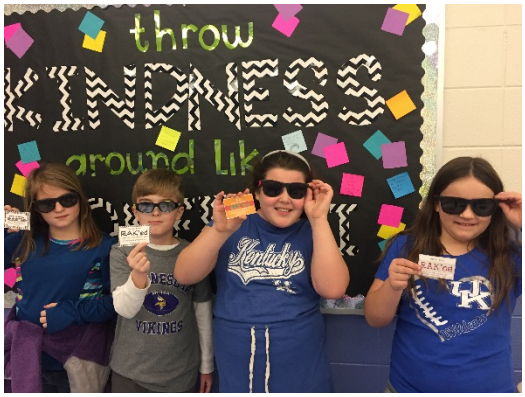
Quote of the Week – "In a Growth Mindset, your flaws are just a to-do list of things to improve." – Derek Sivirs

FCCLA Participated in STAR Events – Five members of the Montgomery County Chapter of the FCCLA participated in the Region 9 STAR Events Competition on Friday, February 10th, at Maysville Community and Technical College in Maysville, Kentucky. Sara NeSmith and Kaitlyn Parker competed in the Life Event Planning Senior category using information learned from Family and Consumer Science classes to plan Sara's prom. Budgeting, comparison shopping, resourcefulness, and communications were a few of the many skills showcased in their presentation. Riley

Warner competed in the Focus on Children Junior category. Her project was geared toward educating children on various ways to be healthy and the importance of having a healthy heart. In fulfilling her responsibilities for the project, she presented her lesson to a class of students at Mapleton Elementary. Makayla Harris and Jillian Rush competed in the Focus on Children Senior category. Their project was based on literacy research from Montgomery County students. In fulfilling their responsibilities for the project, they presented their lesson to a class of Head Start students. As a product for their project, a book was created for parents to aid their children in reading. This was the first year for all five of these students to compete in STAR Events. They each had impressive performances in their categories and came away with second place finishes.

Hoops for Heart – Mapleton PE Teacher, Ms. Lee, introduced Hoops for Heart to students this past Monday. This program is sponsored by the American Heart Association and is an education and fundraising effort that promotes heart healthy activities and education at an early age. Students competed in basketball, hula-hooping, and jump roping in hopes of winning a prize. Mapleton also had a special guest in attendance, former student, Megan Frodge who had a heart transplant last year and shared her story. Students were encouraged that good eating and exercising habits are the key to good health.

Blood Drop Trophy – MSE was presented with the Blood Drop Trophy for collecting the most donations last year during their blood drive. Shera Moulton from the Kentucky Blood Center presented Mrs. Holley and Mr. Pannell with the trophy.



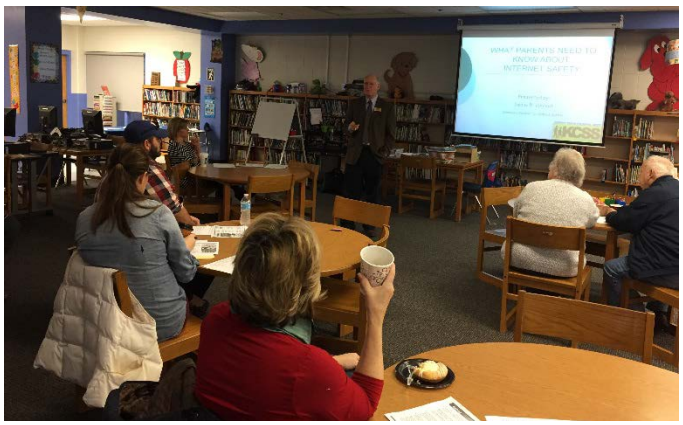
Random Acts of Kindness Week – Mapleton had a successful Random Acts of Kindness Week in honor of National RAK Week February 12-18. Mapleton participated with schools across the country to help Inspire, Empower, Act, and Share with our students the importance of being kind to others. Activities included: Kindness announcements each morning by the Civics Leadership Team, Great RAK Challenge, Secret Kindness Agents secretly performing acts of kindness and leaving behind a "You've Been Rak'ed

Card!" and staff and students displayed their act of kindness each day on the Kindness Confetti Bulletin Board. Mapleton also had a different dress up theme each day of the week.

Camargo Student Council Visited Hope Hill – As part of Random Acts of Kindness Week, Camargo Student Council members visited Hope Hill on Valentine's Day. Students spent the morning spreading kindness and completing crafts with the girls at Hope Hill.

MCHS Academic Team Competed at Regional – Congratulations to senior, Greyson Cox and sophomore, Rebecca Swartz! Greyson placed first in Math and Rebecca placed fourth in Written Composition. Both will be advancing to the state competition, which will be held March 11-12 at the Galt House in Louisville.

Coffee with the Counselor – Mapleton held Coffee with the Counselor this morning and raised awareness on internet safety. A representative from the Kentucky Center for School Safety provided information on how to safeguard your children from the dangers of the internet and social media. MSE will host an evening session this Thursday, February 23rd at 6:00 p.m.



Student Attendance – Congratulations to Mapleton Elementary! Mapleton had the highest daily and highest weekly attendance at 96.36 % on Wednesday and 94.81% for the week. This is the fourth week in a row Mapleton has claimed both titles! Way to go!

Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Mays decorated the bulletin board for MSE's reality store and college day!

Dates:

- Feb. 20 – Hoops for Heart Kickoff, MSE
- Feb. 21 – 6th Grade Science Night, 5:30 p.m., MCIS
- Feb. 23 – FFA Parent-Member Banquet, MCHS Cafeteria, 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 23 – Internet Safety Evening, 6:00 p.m., MSE
- Feb. 24 – Pow-Wow Assembly, 1:00 p.m., Camargo
- Feb. 25 – KMEA District 8 Instrumental Solo & Ensemble, MCHS Music Wing, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 25 – PTO Superhero/Princess Day, 11:00 a.m. – 12 p.m., Camargo
- Feb. 27 – Mar. 2 – Read Across America Week
- Feb. 27 – Born Learning Parent Workshop, 5:30 p.m., ELC
- Feb. 28 – Mock Trial Team Presenting State Case for Public Eye, 5:30 p.m., Montgomery County Court House
- Feb. 28 – Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., MCHS Cafeteria
- Mar. 2 – Mapleton Family Math Night, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 3 – Fourth Grade Reality Store, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., Camargo
- Mar. 3 – Fourth Grade Reality Store, Mapleton
- Mar. 4 – McNabb Spring Musical: *Wizard of Oz*, 2:01 p.m. and 7:01 p.m., McNabb Auditorium
- Mar. 5 - McNabb Spring Musical: *Wizard of Oz*, 2:01 p.m., McNabb Auditorium
- Mar. 6-13 – Pillowcase Project (4th Grade), Mapleton
- Mar. 6 – Dance Workshops (Ballroom Dancing & Competitive Dance), Mapleton
- Mar. 6 – MSE Blood Drive
- Mar. 6 – Wagyu Cattle Sale, 1:00 p.m., Chenault Agriculture Center
- Mar. 6 – Graduated Driving Class, 4:30 – 8:30 p.m., MCHS Room 153
- Mar. 8 – Camargo SBDM Meeting, 3:00 p.m.
- Mar. 9 – Round 1 of Quick Recall Academic Team Tournament, Mapleton
- Mar. 9 – Wax Museum, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., Camargo
- Mar. 10 – Special Guest Laksmi Sriraman (Indian Culture Dance Presentation), Mapleton
- Mar. 11-13 McNabb Academic Team – Governor's Cup State Finals, Galt House, Louisville, KY
- Mar. 13 – Camargo PTO Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- Mar. 14 – Blood Drive, 3:30 – 7:30 p.m., Mapleton Gym
- Mar. 14 – Mapleton SBDM Meeting, 4:00 p.m.
- Mar. 15 – Mapleton PTO Meeting, 4:30 p.m.
- Mar. 16 – Beta Club Blood Drive, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., MCHS JROTC Room
- Mar. 16 – Round 2 of Quick Recall Academic Tournament, Mapleton

- Mar. 16 – MCHS SBDM Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- **Mar. 17 – No School – KEA Day**
- Mar. 18 – McNabb Chess Team State Championship, Louisville, KY
- Mar. 18 – MSE Honors Chorus
- Mar. 21 – Sophomore ASVAB Assessment, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Clay Community Center
- Mar. 22 – Drive 4UR School Fundraising Event for After Prom, 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., MCHS Parking Lot
- Mar. 25 – Gelbvieh Cattle Sale, 12:00 p.m., Chenault Agriculture Center
- Mar. 25 – MCIS Science Fair
- Mar. 27 – Born Learning Parent Workshop, ELC
- Mar. 28 – Sophomore Work Ethics Seal Program, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Clay Community Center
- Mar. 28 – Mapleton AR Night and Spring Book Fair, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
- Mar. 28 – Second Grade Mickey Mouse Musical, 9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m., Mapleton Gym
- Mar. 28 – Board of Education Meeting, 6:30 p.m., MCHS Cafeteria
- Mar. 30 – Science Engineering/Energy Workshop Day – Student Science Projects Judged, Mapleton

Continuous Learning through Professional Literature

Who's Doing the Work Here?

"Many middle-level teachers spend hours providing feedback to students that is only sometimes put to good use," says Australian school leader Rachael Williams in this article in *AMLE Magazine*. "Feedback is meaningless if it does nothing to improve student learning. Teachers know this, but are often exhausted by the endless cycle of teacher-driven assessment and feedback. It can be difficult to step back and change what is a widely accepted system of summative grading and commenting."

The key, says Williams, is getting away from the notion of the teacher as "the omniscient critic whose job it is to point out mistakes" and getting students to take a more active role in the feedback process. Here are her suggestions:

• *Establish different expectations*. Students usually start the year or semester with the expectation, explicitly or implicitly, that the teacher will give them grades and comments when their work is done. What about starting with a very different expectation – that students will learn more if they are actively involved in the feedback process?

• *Clarify learning outcomes*. This means student-friendly learning targets and every student understanding what's involved in successfully meeting those goals, including perusing exemplars of student work from previous years. Williams suggests having students do an initial self-assessment of what they know and don't know about the learning target (perhaps with red, yellow, and green "traffic light" stickers).

• *Give students the tools to provide effective feedback*. Students should have frequent opportunities to self-assess throughout the learning process, getting ongoing feedback on how they are progressing toward the learning goal. Peer feedback can be effective if students are tutored in going beyond vague praise or unhelpful detail. John Hattie suggests giving students prompts like these: *What worked well was…, Even better if…, I noticed… , I wondered…*

It's especially helpful if students focus feedback to classmates on a specific question – for example, if the learning target is presenting a balanced argument, looking for the effective presentation of both sides of the argument.

• *Give less feedback*. Williams says that when teachers do too much of the feedback work, it signals that the teacher, not the student, is responsible for learning – and perhaps that the adult doesn't believe the student is capable of doing the work. "A more balanced approach," she says, "is to ask students to self-assess before meeting with the teacher… Students bring evidence of their learning and self-assessment to the discussion, allowing them to view themselves as valued and effective agents in their learning." It also gives the teacher an opportunity to offer students feedback on their feedback: *Does this help you understand what you've mastered? Do you know what to do next?*

"Feedback for Students, by Students" by Rachael Williams in *AMLE Magazine*, February 2017
(Vol. 5, #1, p. 8-10), http://bit.ly/2l7rJl3; Williams is at rachael.williams@bgs.vic.edu.au.

Be sure to notify the designated person at your school if you have calendar information that should be added to your website calendar.

Thank you so much for your effort and commitment to children. If you have questions about any of the information contained in this issue of The MoCo Monday Minute, please contact me at matthew.thompson@montgomery.kyschools.us.