

MoCo Monday Minute

Monday, November 26, 2018

In this edition:

- *Quote of the Week*
- *Countdown to Christmas Break*
- *Holiday Giving*
- *School Closings*
- *Here Comes Santa Claus*
- *Educators Appreciation Days*
- *Dates*
- *Continuous Learning through Professional Literature*



Last week, members of the MSE Girls on the Run team distributed 48 blankets at the Homeless Coalition meal.

Quote of the Week – “A compliment is the lift in the elevator of life.” – Sue Cox

Countdown to Christmas Break – I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving break and enjoyed time with family and friends. After today, there are 17 more school days until Christmas Break! Let’s make sure that every single moment of time we have with our students is focused on instruction and ensuring they are learning lots during the time left before the break! Routines and procedures still need to be taught like it is the first week of school. We have LOTS of instructional time before the winter break.

Holiday Giving - Wow! Our students donated almost 11,000 non-perishable items to the Sterling Food Coalition! I am so proud of their generosity and giving spirit. Thank you to everyone who donated.

School Closings – Please be reminded that if school is canceled or delayed, employees will receive a One Call notification. If you have not been receiving One Calls, please check with your school office to ensure that your name is added. Additionally, weather dismissal decisions will be posted on the district app and website, Facebook and Twitter sites, WMST, and Lexington television stations.

Here Comes Santa Claus – The Mt. Sterling Advocate will accept Letters to Santa from preschool – elementary-age students through noon on December 3rd. Letters must be typed and can be emailed to news@advocate.com.

Educators Appreciation Days – Newport Aquarium would like to thank teachers for all they do by providing free admission December 15-16. A current, valid school I.D. must be shown at the ticket window to receive your complimentary ticket. Family members and friends can receive \$6 off adult tickets and \$3 off child tickets when accompanying an educator.

Dates:

- Nov. 29 – Operation Preparation, McNabb
- Dec. 1 – Christmas Bazaar and Pancake Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., MCHS Cafeteria
- Dec. 4 – Literacy Night, 5:00-6:30 p.m., Mapleton
- Dec. 4 – Jazz Band/Percussion Ensemble Christmas Concert, 7:00 p.m., MCHS Auditorium
- Dec. 6 – Winter Choir Concert, 6:30 p.m., McNabb Auditorium
- Dec. 7 – The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, 6:00 p.m., Camargo
- Dec. 8 – Alive at 25 Driving Course, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., MCHS Room 153
- Dec. 11 – Winter Orchestra Concert, 6:30 p.m., McNabb Auditorium
- Dec. 11 – Symphony Band and Wind Ensemble Christmas Concert, 7:00 p.m., MCHS Auditorium
- Dec. 13 – Holiday Celebration, 6:00 p.m., Camargo
- Dec. 13 – Winter Band Concert, 6:30 p.m., McNabb Auditorium
- Dec. 18 – Board of Education Meeting, 5:30 p.m., MCHS Cafeteria
- Dec. 18 – MCHS Orchestra Winter Concert, 7:00 p.m., MCHS Auditorium
- Dec. 19 – Holiday Parties, Mapleton
- Dec. 19 – Christmas Parties, MSE
- **Dec. 20-Jan. 2 – No School – Christmas/New Year’s Break**

Continuous Learning through Professional Literature

Award-Winning Children’s Books

This article in *Language Arts* showcases the winners of the 2018 NCTE Charlotte Huck Awards for Outstanding Fiction for Children (age 5-12):

- *After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again* written and illustrated by Dan Santat (Roaring Brook, 2017) – Humpty’s journey to recovery.
- *The End of the Wild* by Nicole Helget (Little, Brown, 2017) – Fracking threatens a family’s woods, but may bring in money to heal intergenerational divisions.
- *Forever, or a Long, Long Time* by Caela Carter (HarperCollins, 2017) – Two foster children struggle to discover their origins.

- *Little Fox in the Forest* written and illustrated by Stephanie Graegin (Schwartz & Wade, 2017) – In this wordless picture book, a little girl’s toy fox is snatched by a real fox, leading the girl and a friend into a magical, secret forest.
- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz (Scholastic, 2017) – The stories of refugees from Nazi Germany in the 1930s, Castro’s Cuba in 1994, and Syria in 2015.
- *The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet!* by Carmen Agra Deedy, illustrated by Eugene Yelchin (Scholastic, 2017) – A rooster keeps crowing in a town that has outlawed singing.
- *All’s Faire in Middle School* written and illustrated by Victoria Jamieson (Dial, 2017) – A homeschooled child of actors makes her way in middle school, helped by the fact that she’s a knight in training.
- *Amina’s Voice* by Hena Khan (Salaam Reads, 2017) – A 12-year-old Pakistani American contends with Islamophobia and anti-Muslim prejudice, singing “A Change Is Gonna Come” at a winter concert.
- *Big Cat, Little Cat* written and illustrated by Elisha Cooper (Roaring Brook, 2017) – A kitten arrives to keep a bigger cat company, and they grow up together.
- *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut* by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Gordon James (Denene Millner, 2017) – An African-American boy gets a very special haircut.
- *Saving Marty* by Paul Griffin (Dial, 2017) – Eleven-year-old Lorenzo deals with the memory of his father, who died while serving in the military, and raises a pig who thinks he’s a dog.
- *Shelter* by Celine Claire, illustrated by Qin Leng (Kids Can, 2017) – Forest animals prepare for an approaching storm.
- *Stef Soto, Taco Queen* by Jennifer Torres (Little, Brown 2017) – A seventh grader deals with teasing at school and has to decide whether to join with her father in fighting for fair working conditions for mobile food truck vendors.
- *Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate (Feiwel and Friends, 2017) – Red, a tree that has lived for 216 rings, narrates its history, friends, inhabitants, and neighbors.

“2018 Charlotte Huck Awards for Outstanding Fiction for Children” by Erika Thulin Dawes, Maria Acevedo-Aquino, Bettie Parsons Barger, Desiree Cueto, Mary Lee Hahn, Joyce Herbeck, and Stacey Ross in *Language Arts*, November 2018 (Vol. 96, #2, p. 119-126)

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.