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Principal
Katie May

Learning about Gender Stereotypes

At Thurgood Marshall, and at many elementary schools within our District, we have students who identify as transgender. This is when a person may be born one gender, but identifies as another gender. For example, a child may be born biologically male, but knows in her heart and mind that she is actually female. When people decide to publicly make the transition to live as the gender with which they identify, others can feel

confused. When students challenge the stereotypes of their gender, other children may have questions.

We are working hard at our school to create a climate in which everyone can feel they belong. In our classrooms, teachers regularly talk about how we can support and celebrate the differences in our school. Thurgood Marshall is a place where children are taught to respect one another, be kind, and learn to work together regardless of their differences. By developing a more tolerant, inclusive, accepting school environment, we are teaching our students to recognize and resist stereotypes. We show children how to be upstanders – not bystanders – when they see bullying. Learning about gender diversity is part of this work.

Our teachers are receiving training and support from Seattle Schools in talking about gender diversity in ways that support all kids and families. Meghan Kaloper, our School Counselor, has been talking with our students during her lessons about gender and how people can express themselves in the way that feels best for them. We may have students at our school that wear things that seem unexpected for their gender, and we want all children to feel safe and able to learn and to be comfortable being who they are. This means that we talk to our students to prepare them for how they might respond if they see students dressing or acting in ways that might be unexpected for their gender.

Online Resources

- **“The gender spectrum”** (short article featuring a glossary of terms): <http://bit.ly/Gendertalk1>
- **“How to start talking about gender diversity with kids of all ages”** (short article with age-appropriate recommendations): <http://bit.ly/Gendertalk2>
- **“Talking to children about diversity: Preschool years”**: <http://bit.ly/Gendertalk3>

How can parents help? Answer your student’s questions and encourage open dialogue about your family’s values and beliefs. Also, we hope you will reinforce messages students receive at school encouraging respect and kindness, being inclusive, and resisting and reporting bullying.

At left are a few online resources. As always, please let me, Ms. Kaloper or your child’s teacher know if you have questions. Thank you for being engaged families who care deeply about the safety and well-being of all of our students.

Show TM Spirit with Bullpup T-shirts, Hoodies

There’s still time to order a t-shirt (\$10 for adult or children’s sizes) or hoodie (\$20). Deadline extended to Monday (Nov. 7). The order form was sent home last week, and is available at the office or at <http://bit.ly/TMwear16>. Families unable to afford \$10: see info on form.



EVENT CALENDAR

TONIGHT, Nov. 3, LGBT Families Dinner, 6-8 p.m., Washington MS. District event; free. Must RSVP: 206-252-0982 or love@seattleschools.org.

TOMORROW, Nov. 4: Friday Assembly – Taproot Theatre’s “Alexandra & the Dragon” performance teaching about bullying. Parents/guardians welcome! 9:40 a.m., Cafeteria.

TOMORROW, Nov. 4: PTA Fall Family Pajama Dance & Food Drive, 6:30-8 p.m. Details below.

Mon., Nov. 7: NEW DEADLINE for PTA Reflections art contest submissions. Theme: “What Is Your Story?” See Page 2.

Mon., Nov. 7, TM Choir performs at ‘State of District’ Event. Franklin HS, 3013 S. Mt. Baker Blvd. Singers to arrive by 4:30 p.m. See Page 2.

Fri., Nov. 11: No school, Veterans Day.

Sat., Nov. 12: School Board member Stephan Blanford community meeting, 10-noon, Douglass-Truth Library, 2300 E. Yesler Way.

Wed., Nov. 16: 2-hour Early Dismissal, 1:45 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 17: Coffee with Principal Katie May, 8:30-9:15 a.m. New earlier time!

→ More online at www.tmlink.org/

TUTU’S PANTRY

Week of Nov. 7: Grade 1 is asked to donate non-perishable foods. Bins are in the front hall. (Donations always welcomed from all.)



Blanket Forts & Toe-Tapping Fun at Fall PJ Dance Friday

Get your feet ready for the PTA Fall Pajama Dance, 6:30-8 p.m. tomorrow (Friday, Nov. 4)? PJs are also a good option! Whatever you wear, you and your student(s) will have fun building blanket forts, dancing, making art and more. **We hope you’ll bring:**

- **Pizza, comfort food or snacks to share,**
- **Canned and other non-perished food donations for Tutu’s Pantry,** and
- **Sheets for the forts!** (Dropoff during the day is in the Staff Lounge; if you wish your sheet(s) returned, label with name.)

FREE, but all kids must be accompanied by an adult. (No drop-and-go.) We still need volunteers! Go to <http://tinyurl.com/pajamadance>.

Bullpup Briefs

Principal's Social Studies Presentation at TMLink.org

Principal Katie May has posted the slides from her Oct. 27 presentation on the blending of classrooms for Social Studies. Go to <http://bit.ly/SocStudiescoffee>.

You can also see Assistant Principal Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie's slides and notes from her Sept. 30 talk about homework, at <http://bit.ly/Homework16>.

Washington Middle School to Hold Tours, Info Sessions

Do you have a student headed to Washington Middle School? Or still deciding? Learn more at:

Information Sessions (including Principal Susan Follmer and students), 6:30-8 p.m. on either Wednesday, Nov. 9 or Tuesday, Jan. 31.

School Day Tours, 8:30-10 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 15, or Wednesday, Feb. 8. The events begin in the Lunchroom. No reservations required. Info at: <http://washingtonms.seattleschools.org>.

Jazz Education Organization Offers Lessons & Ensemble

Is your 4th- or 5th-grader new to school band? Dabbled in church music, piano lessons or drumming? The award-winning JazzED Introductory Ensemble may be a great next step. After-school rehearsals and small-group lessons run November to May. Seattle JazzED is a nonprofit, and offers scholarships and payment plans. Info: 206-324-JAZZ (5299) or www.seattlejazzed.org/intro.

PCC Scrip Cards Benefit TM

Buy a \$10 rechargeable PCC Markets scrip card from the PTA, and cash equal to 5% of your purchases will benefit Thurgood Marshall. Cards will be on sale at the Dance (Nov. 4) or email pta@tmlink.org to arrange a purchase.

Enter PTA Art Contest by Mon.

Students have an extension – until Monday (Nov. 7) – to enter the PTA “Reflections” contest (art, music, film, writing, movement or another creative project). The theme is “What Is Your Story?” Info: www.pta.org/reflections or Beth Zirngible, blzirngible@seattleschools.org.

Congratulations to Fall Student Council Members

TM's Student Council is a project-based, leadership program that focuses on the interests and the passions of our 4th- and 5th-graders. A future story will offer more information, but for now, congratulations to the winners of the fall term's elections:

Room 204: Bria Alabe, Josh Arimura, Angie Garcia Diaz, Philis Wiggins, Kana Hajny

207: Louisa Williams, Misho Hubka

209: Naima Joseph; Akash Anandam

210: Natalie Blanchfield; Chase Ng

P1: Nina Abdus Salaam ; Nicole Vysotsky

P2: Ansuya Somashekar ; Ian Lawson Barraclough

P3: Paloma Oh; Soraya Counts

C101: Lila Trooskin-Zoller; Anna Davis

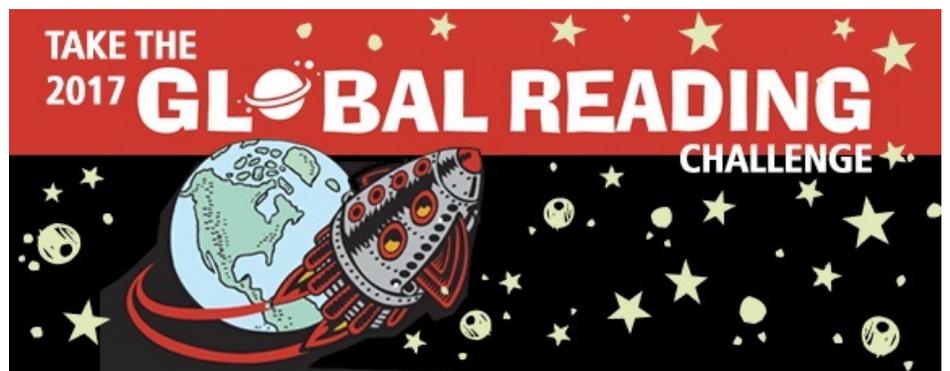
C102: ZiHeara Riley Wylie; Pita Elijah Moimoi III; Veronica Voewing; Victor Tran

Superintendent, TM Choir at ‘State of District’ Event Mon.

Superintendent Larry Nyland is inviting parents, guardians, students and staff to a lively Monday evening of learning, reflection and celebration. The annual “State of the District” event will feature a performance by the Thurgood Marshall Choir, as well as presentations by Dr. Nyland, other leaders and community partners.

The event is Nov. 7, 5-7 p.m. at the Franklin High School Performing Arts Center, 3013 S. Mt. Baker Blvd.

Members of the choir are asked to arrive no later than 4:30 p.m. Transportation must be provided by families. Let Ms. French know if your student will not attend, or if you have questions: klfrench@seattleschools.org.



The Seattle Public Library has revealed which 10 books are to be read by public school teams competing in the 2017 Global Reading Challenge, a citywide “knowledge bowl.” At Thurgood Marshall, 7-member teams of 4th- and 5th-graders will divide up the books to be read and prepare themselves for a Feb. 2 in-school competition. The TM winning team will go to the Central Library on March 6 for a regional match. The regional winners meet in the finals, on March 21.

TM students interested in being on a GRC team must return the application by Thursday, Nov. 10, to Ms. Merilee Hudson in the Library. GRC teams will meet weekly Nov. 17 through Feb. 2. The program's goals include motivating kids to read and exposing students to a diverse range of literature they might not otherwise choose. Full info is at <http://bit.ly/GRC2017>.

The 2017 titles:

- **Home of the Brave** by Katherine Applegate
- **The Bamboo Sword** by Margi Preus
- **Dash** by Kirby Larson
- **The Turtle of Oman** by Naomi Shihab Nye
- **The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963** by Christopher Paul Curtis
- **Cleo Edison Oliver, Playground Millionaire** by Sundee T. Frazier
- **Secret Coders** by Gene Luen Yang & Mike Holmes
- **The Porcupine Year** by Louise Erdrich
- **Becoming Naomi León** by Pam Muñoz Ryan
- **Out of My Mind** by Sharon M. Draper

Get Set for Book Fair

TM will host a Scholastic Book Fair Nov. 29-Dec. 2. It raises about a third of the Library's book budget. Volunteers are needed! Contact Ms. Hudson, mhudson@seattleschools.org, or parent Tanaz Kannan, tanazkannan@gmail.com.



Thurgood Marshall Thanksgiving Matching Program

Thanksgiving is right around the corner! We have an annual tradition at Thurgood Marshall of sharing the spirit and tradition of Thanksgiving by matching families who want to donate ingredients for the meal with families who need that food to make the holiday complete. Through generous donations, we will provide a "Thanksgiving Meal-in-a-Bag" to each Thurgood Marshall family in need.

DONORS: Prepare a "Thanksgiving Meal-in-a-Bag" with the following items in a doubled grocery bag:

- \$20 gift card to QFC or Safeway
- 2 cans of green beans
- 1 bag of cubed bread stuffing
- 1 box of instant mashed potatoes
- 1 can of cream of mushroom soup
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 pound of yams or sweet potatoes
- 1 ready pie crust
- 1 can of pumpkin puree
- 1 can of evaporated milk

Please email Jen Gotanda at jgotanda@gmail.com to confirm you will be participating, then deliver your bag to the entry hall (area with red bins) **9:15 - 9:45 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16**. Jen will accept bags at that time. *If you can't make it that day, please bring your bag to the front office **Nov. 9-16**.* Tutu's Pantry volunteers will collect them from the office for distribution on Nov. 18. Thank you for your generosity!

RECEIVERS: The Meal-in-a-Bag with the above supplies will be sent home with your student on **Friday, Nov. 18**. If your student is already a member of Tutu's Pantry, he or she will automatically get this meal. *If you do not receive a Tutu's backpack regularly, you can sign up to receive this special Thanksgiving donation by doing one of the following:*

1. Contact Katie Egolf (kathryn.egolf@gmail.com) **OR**
2. Fill out the information below and drop this form at the front desk.

Student's First & Last Name

Room #

Email

Phone #

Thank You!

Any questions? Call or email Katie Egolf: (206) 725-8850 (home); (310) 433-0434 (mobile); kathryn.egolf@gmail.com or Jen Gotanda at jgotanda@gmail.com