

PUP PRESS

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NOV. 10, 2016

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 10



Assistant Principal
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Inspiration from an Election at TM

The most inspiring and hopeful part of my day on Election Day was the morning. I began by watching the 5th-graders gather in the Cafeteria to prepare for their campaigning and voting. Kids were in dresses and ties, with homemade accessories. There was even evidence that students had brushed their hair and used hair-care products. Our 5th-grade teachers (including Samantha Egelhoff, pictured below) were decked out in red, white and blue, and smiling proudly.



Each classroom had a team of students representing a fictional candidate. Although the candidates themselves were not real, the platforms they ran on were solid and incredibly relevant. The students took turns presenting their candidate's positions on climate change, immigration, taxes, education, defense and the economy. Each topic was discussed in a thoughtful and well-researched manner. Listening to the messages that each candidate team presented, I found myself wishing that our actual candidates could tug at my heartstrings in the same way. Unlike what happened in our national election, the speeches and positions presented by each team were similar in values and points of view. It was a close race, but the team for Caitlyn Grace pulled off a victory!

My morning on Wednesday was quite distinct from Tuesday. As teachers came into our weekly staff meeting and children arrived in their classrooms, the impact of the Presidential Elections was evident.

I want each and every one of you to know that at Thurgood Marshall we are more committed than ever to maintaining a positive school community that will allow students to learn as much as possible in order to achieve their goals in a safe, democratic environment.

We work daily toward a school where students are safe, prepared, respectful and, perhaps most importantly, inclusive. We will stand by each of you. The adults at Thurgood Marshall are here to support our students of every religion, of every political belief, of every gender, of every ethnicity, of every disability, of every background. **You all matter to us.** We do not tolerate bullying, intimidation,

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EVENT CALENDAR

TOMORROW, 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.

Tues., Nov. 15: Tour of Washington Middle School, 8:30-10 a.m. 2101 S. Jackson St. RSVP not required. Only other tour is Feb. 8. Info at <http://washingtonms.seattleschools.org>.

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

Wed., Nov. 16: Meal-in-a-Bag Drop-off Day, 9:15-9:45 a.m., front hall. Details below.

Thurs., Nov. 17: *Postponed:* Coffee with Principal Katie May. Will be on Dec. 7.

Fri., Nov. 18: Final School Day for students before Thanksgiving Break. Regular dismissal.

Sat., Mon. & Tues, Nov. 19, 21 & 22: Parent-Teacher Conferences. Requires signup; contact your child's teacher if you don't yet have a slot.

Nov. 23-27: Thanksgiving Break. School resumes on Mon., Nov. 28.

→ Full year of events online at www.tmlink.org!

TUTU'S PANTRY

Week of Nov. 14: Grade 2 families are asked to donate non-perishable foods (in bins in the front hall). *Not in that grade? Donations welcomed from all.*

THANKSGIVING MEAL-IN-A-BAG

Sign up now to donate or to receive a full holiday meal. Form was sent home Nov. 3, and is at main office or www.tmlink.org. (Includes instructions for donors.) Donations due 9:15-9:45 a.m. Nov. 16, *but can brought to the front office any day before then.* Info: Jen Gotanda (jgotanda@gmail.com) or Katie Egolf (Kathryn.egolf@gmail.com or 206-725-8850). **Available to all families in need;** sign up or contact us now. *If you already receive a weekly Tutu's backpack, no signup needed.*



Donations of Socks, Backpacks Asked

Thurgood Marshall parent Sophie Dubé is encouraging families to join her in donating *new* socks and used backpacks for Survive The Streets (www.survivethestreets.org), an annual Thanksgiving event providing clothing and gear to Seattle's homeless.

Last year the small nonprofit that organizes this event helped almost 300 men and women.

Through Nov. 18, donate these items in the special collection box in the TM front hall.

Reach Sophie at sophieandreedube@hotmail.com.

October 'Anti-Bullying Month' work continues at TM. Learn more in Meghan Kaloper's 'Counselor Corner,' Page 2.

Learning to Recognize, Report, Refuse Bullying



Meghan Kaloper
Counselor's Corner

October was Anti-Bullying Month and we are continuing our work learning about bullying through the month of November as well. As Ms. May mentioned in her Pup Press article last week, our primary goal is to make sure everyone at our school feels safe no matter their gender, race, religion, country of origin, or personal preferences. We want our students to feel comfortable with who they are and to learn to treat each other with respect and kindness.

This month we will learn to Recognize, Report, and Refuse bullying. We will also be learning about why people are unkind, talking about stereotypes, and emphasizing the important positive power a bystander can have. Here at Thurgood Marshall we coach students to not just be bystanders, but to be Upstanders – to stand up to unkind behavior and injustice when they see or hear it. To watch a quick video about bullying and how to be a positive bystander, visit <http://www.thenedshow.com/upstander.html>.

To familiarize yourself with our Anti-Bullying Policy and help recognize what is and is not bullying, see <http://tmlink.org/files/2016/04/TM-Antibullying-policy-and-procedure.pdf>.

After Election, Recommitting to Positive School Community

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or any other actions that perpetuate bigotry, stereotypes or racism. We are here to help students learn how to have productive conversations about worldwide events and to gain the skills necessary to become an active contributor to a positive community, be it at school, in the city of Seattle or elsewhere in the country.

Moving forward I want our students to think about what they might be able to do daily in our community to show that they value a world of safety, respect for differences and inclusiveness for all. Even small acts can have a meaningful impact. Thurgood Marshall has many adults who are willing to help our students on their paths. We also have incredibly thoughtful students – as evidenced by their own election – who can provide knowledge and support about how to achieve our goals. I am very proud of them.

Not Getting Press via E-mail?

Not receiving Pup Press via email each Thursday? You may not be signed up for School Messenger, our District email service. You may also be missing other important announcements. To sign up, visit: <https://infocenter.schoolmessenger.com/>



Online & in Library

Find Elusive Holiday Gifts at TM Book Fair

Plan to visit TM's annual Scholastic Book Fair Nov. 29-Dec. 2, and online starting even earlier! Proceeds supply about one-third of our Library's budget, so plan to make the Fair your holiday book-buying destination.

The Fair will be open in our Library 9-4:30 Tuesday through Thursday of that week, and 9 a.m.-noon on Friday. Consider:

- **Parents/guardians can shop with your child** at TM 9-9:30 a.m., and 3:45-4:30 (except Friday).
- **Students may bring cash or pre-signed check made out to Thurgood Marshall PTA, and shop during their classroom's scheduled library times, lunch and afternoon recess.** (If a class usually has library time on Monday, a different day will be assigned.)
- **Or, go online, starting Nov. 23,** at www.scholastic.com/bf/thurgoodmarshall elementary! Share the link with your extended family and earn more dollars for the Library.
- **Want to donate books to a classroom library?** Teachers are being encouraged to make a wish list. More information to come.
- **Students supported by Tutu's Pantry and the free and reduced lunch program will receive a voucher to buy a paperback book at the Fair.** Last year 80 students used vouchers! We want every child to have the excitement and joy of choosing and reading their own book.
- We still need a few volunteers. Please contact parent Tanaz Kannan tanazkannan@gmail.com or Merilee Hudson mhudson@seattleschools.org.

This is a fun and easy way to support your school Library.

Please come by and enjoy browsing new titles and hopefully, purchasing a few books that you or a child can read and enjoy this holiday season.



Bullying & Dragons

The Nov. 4 assembly featured Taproot Theatre's "Alexandra and the Dragon," about friendship, bullying and dragons. The PTA-supported performance even involved Justin Bieber!! Ask your child about it!

Join Equity Teams to Create Change at TM & District

Have you checked out the work of TM's Equity Action Teams? We're looking for more people who would like to get involved in one or more initiatives, including efforts to increase HCC diversity, better support General Education, and improve the experience of families of color. This effort blends parents and staff, and welcomes new ideas. More info is at <http://tmlink.org/info/equity-in-education-initiative>.

\$750 Grant for Social Studies

Congratulations to 4th-grade student Leo Powell and his mom, Jane Alston! Leo and Jane together wrote a diversity and inclusion grant proposal to Jane's employer, Wells Fargo Bank. The company responded by awarding Thurgood Marshall \$750 for social studies materials.