

PUP PRESS

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Learning the Rules through a 'Rodeo'

Have your kids told you about the "REAL Rodeo"? (Hint: There are no horses.) In this rodeo, classes go with their teachers on a tour of our school and hear about specific expectations or rules at different locations. This is our second year of using this idea to help kids keep it REAL – Resilient, Empathetic, Accountable, Lifelong Learners. The REAL Rodeo teaches and sets building-wide expectations at the beginning of the year and again in January. Teachers, paraprofessionals and other staff collaborate to

determine the skills students need to develop and the most important areas in which to establish expectations.

For our January refresher rodeo, students reviewed the rules of the hallway, bathrooms, Cafeteria and playground. Our discipline data tell us that these are the hotspots for challenging behaviors. In the hallways we expect students to move quickly and quietly. When students move silently, they feel calm and can more easily transition to the next location or activity. Silence in the hallway also decreases the chances of interruptions caused by noise. The bathrooms are a place where students continually need to be reminded about appropriate behaviors. On the playground, children experience lots of small and sometimes not-so-small conflict. If students are clear on expectations and how to problem-solve, we may avoid problems spilling over into the classroom. The Cafeteria is another place where we are consistently working toward establishing and maintaining calm and order that we hope continues as students return to class for afternoon learning.

I welcome your feedback on the REAL Rodeo as well as ideas for how we can work together to ensure the safety and maximum learning for all students.

Jan. 16 Focus on Education in Olympia

Monday's state PTA "Focus Day" in Olympia will offer citizens the opportunity to meet legislators and express opinions about the state's K-12 education funding issues. Kids can participate, too! Options include a 10:30 a.m. rally at the Capitol and noon meeting with Gov. Inslee and others. See <http://bit.ly/PTAatCapitol17>; registration has ended, but schedule info is available. Other organizations, such as the Washington Education Association, are also collaborating on events.

If you wish to carpool, consult the Bullpup Parents Facebook page. If you aren't able to attend, the Thurgood Marshall PTA will offer action ideas in the



EVENT CALENDAR

TODAY, Thurs., Jan. 12: Black Family Advocacy Support Group Meeting, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Library. (Date was incorrect last week.) See Page 2 for info.

TOMORROW, Fri., Jan. 13: Martin Luther King Jr. Assembly, 9:40 a.m. Parents welcome!

Mon., Jan. 16: No school (Martin Luther King Jr. Day).

Mon., Jan. 16: PTA Focus Day in Olympia. Lobby legislators on education issues. Learn more at http://www.wastatepta.org/meetings/focus_day/index.html.

Thurs., Jan. 19: Coffee with Principal May and guest Erin Romanuk, SPS Manager for Attendance & Discipline, 9:15-10 a.m., Library. See attached flier.

Thurs., Jan. 19: Equity Action Teams Meeting with guest Wyeth Jessee, SPS Chief of Student Supports, 6-8 p.m., Library. Child care (RSVP required). See attached flier or <http://tmlink.org/info/equity-in-education-initiative/>.

Tues., Jan. 24: PTA General Meeting, 6-8 p.m., Library. "What are the impacts of the SPS budget crisis?" Special guest: JoLynn Berge, SPS Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance. You do not need to be a PTA member to attend. Child care expected to be available (details to come).

Thurs., Jan. 26: Student Instrumental Concert, 7 p.m., Cafeteria. Free. (Strings arrive by 6:30; others 6:45.)

Fri., Jan. 27: Author Appearance by James Riley ("Half Upon a Time" fantasy series), 2 p.m., Cafeteria. Most kids in Grades 3-5 will attend; parents welcome. Advance book-purchase details to come.

Sat., Jan. 28: Pancake Breakfast & Art Walk, 9-11 a.m., Cafeteria. Free (suggested donation per family). Volunteers needed: <http://tinyurl.com/TMpancake2017>.

Wed., Feb. 1: No School: Day between Semesters

Thurs., Feb. 9: Choir Concert, 7 p.m., Cafeteria.

→ School tours begin Jan. 26; see www.tmlink.org.

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

TUTU'S PANTRY

Week of Jan. 17: Grade 2 families are asked to donate non-perishable foods (in bins in the front hall). Especially needed: pasta/sauce (smaller jars, preferably not glass); canned veggies and proteins other than peanut butter! (Anyone can donate any day.)

Thank You! Winter Challenge Match Achieved; Nearly Halfway to PTA's \$160K Annual Goal

Thank you for your incredible generosity during our Winter Challenge Match! We met our Match goal of \$30,000, adding more than \$60,000 to the Annual Giving Fund. We are happy to announce we are at 45% of our total goal of \$160,000 for this school

year. Missed the match? You'll have another chance to double your dollars during our March Match-ness Campaign! And, don't forget employer matching programs! Many local employers — including Microsoft, Boeing, Expedia, Google and the Gates

Foundation — will match employee donations to non-profits such as our PTA. Some provide a cash match for your volunteer hours at school! Check with your employer for how it can support TM. Questions? Please email us: giving@tmlink.org.

Bullpup Briefs

Get Involved in Class of '17's 5th-Grade Legacy Project

Every year the 5th-graders at Thurgood Marshall leave behind a gift before they make the leap to middle school.

Previous "Legacy Projects" include the colorful mural by the Cafeteria, the brick and sunflower paths, the decorated tiles on the rear stairwell's wall, and the soon-to-be installed Little Free Library.

If you are interested in being involved in this year's project (or learning more), please email Casey Sommers at caseypilar@gmail.com. It is a great way to come together as a class and be creative!

Child Care to be Available at Equity Action Meeting

Free child care (ages 5-12) will be provided by the YMCA at the Jan. 19 meeting of the Equity Action Teams! The care for up to 30 children is available 6-8 p.m. to parents participating in the event. You MUST reserve your child's place in advance: Contact Sterling at 206-718-5705 or sterlingnelson@seattleYMCA.org.

See flier (attached) for meeting info or <http://tmlink.org/info/equity-in-education-initiative>.

Discipline is Coffee Topic

The next Coffee with the Principal Katie May is Jan. 19 (9:15-10 a.m.), featuring Erin Romanuk, Program Manager for Attendance and Discipline for the District. The conversation will center on disciplinary policies and supportive school responses to help shape student behavior. See flier (attached).

Focus on Educating Black Males

The annual "My Brother's Keeper" Conference will delve into issues and ideas for educating males of color, with a focus on strengthening student engagement. The event is 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21, at Asa Mercer Middle School. Free breakfast and lunch. Sponsors include the Seattle Alliance of Black Student Educators and Seattle Public Schools. RSVP to 206-725-7138 or sabse.09alliance.17@gmail.com.

Black Family Advocacy Group Meets Tonight (Thurs.)

The Black Family Advocacy Support Group meets tonight (Thursday), 6:30-8:30 p.m., in the Library. (The wrong date appeared in a previous listing.)

The recently formed group works to create a safe, supportive place for parents and students to voice concerns and/or offer ideas to make the school environment more welcoming to black families. Children are welcome. Bring your own dinner if you like; light snacks will be provided.

Note: The group is open to all families with a special emphasis on the education of African American and underrepresented and marginalized students.



Author James Riley to Visit TM Jan. 27

Best-selling author James Riley ("Half Upon a Time" fantasy series) will speak to TM Grades 3-5 at 2 p.m. on Jan. 27 in the Cafeteria. He will introduce us to "The Stolen Chapters," the third book in his newest fantasy series, "The Story Thieves." (Info at <http://bit.ly/RileyatTM>.) Parents are welcome!

A flier will be sent home with advance purchase opportunity, and Riley will personalize books at the event. His visit is sponsored by the Third Place Books location in Seward Park.

Cafeteria Changes Lead to New Volunteer Needs

Assistant Principal Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie reports that TM has implemented three big changes in the lunchroom.

- First, one classroom per lunch will be assigned duties and be divided into three crews: table wipers, receptacle checkers and kitchen helpers.
- Second, Kim Echols, our wonderful lunch lady, needs to spend more time overseeing the payment-account PIN pads, and can no longer be in the kitchen while students are going through the food line.
- Third, we'd like to have a volunteer in the kitchen during each lunchtime. (A staff member can handle this role, but it would be so helpful if one volunteer per lunch takes it on. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mrs. Storlie at askovacsstorlie@seattleschools.org. The near-term schedule:

Kitchen Duty	2/3	K/1	4/5
Jan 17-20	Carney	Sheridan	Miller
Jan 23-27	Glass	Long	Davis
Jan 30-Feb 3	Garzon	von Beck	Gese

More Opportunities to Help: Pancake Breakfast, Class Reps

Pancake Breakfast & Art Walk: Short shifts at the event, 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28 (or hang art Jan. 23-27). Signup: <http://tinyurl.com/TMpancake2017>.

Class Representatives: Send an occasional e-mail to other parents. Needed for Rooms 107, 204, 207, 210, P2, Y1. Contact Laura: penutt2@msn.com.



Catch This: Grades 3-5 Ultimate Teams to be Formed

Ultimate is one of the fastest-growing sports in the U.S. and is played in more than 42 countries. In Seattle, there is a large community of Ultimate players, with leagues for elementary, middle, high school, college and adults.

Thurgood Marshall started a team in 2012 and is hoping to field three

this year. The citywide league is for Grades 3-5. Practices will be Tuesdays and Thursdays after school, starting Feb. 28. Games against teams from other elementary schools will be on Saturdays from March 11 through mid-May.

Sign-up forms will go home with Grades 3-5 students next week.

Seattle Public Schools, SPS, provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

Upcoming TM Events You Won't Want to Miss



COFFEE WITH PRINCIPAL KATIE MAY

9:15-10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, in the Library

Topic: Discipline at Thurgood Marshall

Special guest: Erin Romanuk, Program Manager for Attendance and Discipline for Seattle Public Schools



Please join us for a conversation on disciplinary policies and supportive school responses to help shape student behavior. Erin Romanuk is working with a committee to refine District discipline policies and would like to hear from parents. (She will also be meeting with our student focus groups to gain their perspective.) **The coffee is free, thanks to the PTA!**



EQUITY ACTION TEAMS MEETING

6-8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, in the Library

Special guest: Wyeth Jessee, Chief of Student Supports for Seattle Public Schools



Open to everyone, even if you have not participated on a Team yet! The meeting will include:

- **Guest Wyeth Jessee, Chief of Student Supports**, speaking on the SPS commitment to develop a plan with measurable goals to increase racial equity in HCC.
- **"In Your Shoes" Activity** to build understanding and connection between people.
- **Reports from each Equity Action Team.**

- **Sharing Activity:** "Why are you here tonight? What would make TM a more inclusive community?"

Free child care (ages 5-12) will be provided by the YMCA for up to 30 kids, 6-8 p.m., only to parents participating in the event. You **MUST** reserve your child's place in advance: Contact Sterling at 206-718-5705 or sterlingnelson@seattleYMCA.org.

More info on all of the Equity Action Teams: <http://tmlink.org/info/equity-in-education-initiative>.