Assistant Principal
Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie

Community Safety & Well-being

Immediately after our first fire drill of the year last week, a kindergarten student asked me: “Why?”

“Why what?” I replied.

“Why is it called a fire drill if there is no real fire?”

It took me a couple of seconds to translate the reason for a drill into language a kindergartner can understand. “In an emergency, everyone has to know how to take care of themselves and each other. Taking good care of each other requires practice. A drill is another word for practice.” He said “OK,” and skipped off.

I wasn’t sure if he had understood, so I found myself reflecting on my answer and realizing how important it is that kids understand that caring takes practice. Caring comes in many forms: through words, actions, thoughts and well-laid plans. Adults are constantly making decisions about kids grounded in care, and kids frequently miss the care built into those decisions. Take for example, drills. I do not think any student would say “I do not think any student would say...”

In my day-to-day work, I find myself repeating the same words and phrases. This year, the most-used phrase is “I want you to be safe so you can be happy so you can learn.” (The “you” is sometimes for an individual, but more often, I am referring to the collective you.)

Young people are most likely to develop ethical capacities such as respect and fairness when given regular chances to practice caring for others and their communities. Drills, the lunchroom, walking silently in the hallway, raising our hands; each of these are daily opportunities for your child to practice care for the safety and well-being of all.

Parents, you have shown us you care in so many ways this year! One parent in particular is John Madrid. Not only is he our Safety Committee’s parent member, but he also replenished all the emergency backpacks over the summer. Teachers received new red backpacks full of fresh or updated materials for emergencies. We are very prepared, thanks to the efforts of the Safety Committee and parents such as John.

Check Your Voicemail?

If you miss a call from school, please check your voicemail before calling us back. Often, we have simply left a time-sensitive but non-emergency message, and yet our staff are deluged with worried calls from parents.

Another way I have seen parents express care this year is by volunteering in the lunchroom. Kim Echols, our wonderful Kitchen Manager, is so grateful for the help. I am particularly grateful for Grandma Gwen, who has been to almost every lunch this year. Some Bullpup Dads may lend a hand as Recess Monitors, and we cannot wait for that to begin. We could always use more help on the playground. Contact me at askovacsstorli@seattleschools.org.

Event Calendar

Tues., Oct. 3: ‘Dads’ & Kids Pizza Night to introduce Bullpup Dads group, 5:30-7 p.m., Cafeteria. FREE dinner and activities for TM students & their father-figures. See tmlink.org for RSVP details.

Wed., Oct. 4: Black Family Advocacy Support Group meeting & potluck, 6-8 p.m., Library. Fall kickoff. All are welcome! See flier.


Thurs., Oct. 5: Districtwide Racial Equity in HCC group meeting, 6-8 p.m., Library. Fall kickoff! All are welcome. See https://hccequty.wordpress.com.

Tues., Oct. 10: PTA Board meeting, 6:30-8 p.m., Library. Express your opinion or learn more about the events and issues being handled by the PTA.

Thurs., Oct. 12: Family Games Night, 5:30-7 p.m., Cafeteria. Try out board games, present by the PTA and Blue Highway Games. FREE! See flier.

Fri., Oct. 13: No school (Statewide day for professional development.)


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

Tutu’s Pantry

Week of Oct. 1: Grade 3 families, please donate!

The Challenge: Be a Recess Mentor or Conflict Mediator

Hey, 4th- and 5th-graders, you are eligible to apply to become a Conflict Mediator or Recess Mentor! I will be in classrooms next week to explain more about these important and challenging jobs that help keep our playground and other spaces calmer and more joyful.

Applications are available through classroom teachers, and must be returned to me (Ms. Kaloper) or the teacher by Oct. 9.

An initial training is required, and will take six days, 7:45-8:50 a.m.: Oct. 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, and 26. We cannot provide transportation to the school.

To learn more about what it means to be a Conflict Mediator or Recess Mentor, please visit http://marshalles.seattleschools.org/services. You can reach me with questions at mkaloper@seattleschools.org or 206-252-2808.
FREE Pizza, Activities on Tues. Evening
Make the Bullpup Dads Connection
Bullpup Dads is a newly forming group that will help dads and other men build connections to TM students and to the great education they deserve. A FREE Pizza Night with activities and a presentation is planned for 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday (10/3). RSVP requested on the flier sent home last week (also available on www.tmlink.org).

Bullpup Briefs

Group Focuses on HCC Racial Equity
Come to the Fall Kickoff Meeting of the Districtwide Racial Equity in HCC group, 6-8 p.m., Oct. 5, in the TM Library. All are welcome! The group will:
- Strategize about objectives and goals.
- Discuss + decide on plans for the year.
- Determine ways for people to be involved and how to share the load.

Everyone is welcome! Info: https://hccequity.wordpress.com

New Tool vs. Drivers Passing Stopped Buses
Seattle Public Schools has begun installing cameras on the safety stop arm of 120 buses, to deter drivers from illegally passing buses that are loading and unloading students. Starting Oct. 2, drivers recorded illegally passing a bus will be subject to a $419 citation issued by the King County Sheriff’s Office. The District piloted the program in 2016-17 on 10 busy routes, and over a 112-day period, nearly 600 vehicles illegally passed when the stop paddle was in use. More: http://bit.ly/SPSbuscameras.

Special Education PTSA to Get Together
The Seattle Special Education PTSA schedule of 2017-18 general meetings starts Tuesday, Oct. 3. The group wants to hear ideas and concerns from the general membership. The meetings are Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. at the John Stanford Center’s Auditorium unless otherwise noted: Oct. 3 (in Room PLC 2765), Nov. 14, Jan. 30, March 20, June 13 (a Wednesday). See http://seattlespecialeducationptsa.org/meeting-dates .

Pools’ Showers Available for Families
Families in need with public school students are welcome to use showers at Seattle Parks and Recreation swimming pools at no cost. When arriving at a swimming pool, one family member must show current Seattle Public School ID. Locker room use is limited to 15 minutes, and a towel is provided. Times are after-school hours and on weekend afternoons; check the schedule at http://bit.ly/FindShowers .

Learn, Comment about 23rd Ave. Project
The city is planning for a spring start to reconstruction of 23rd Avenue south of Jackson Street. For details or to present your concerns, visit http://bit.ly/23rdAveInfo or the Oct. 5 Open House, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at NW African American Museum, 2300 S. Massachusetts St.

Come Help with Lunchroom, Recess
Lunchroom volunteers are still needed to help students maneuver through the lunch line and elsewhere, 11:45-12:45. It’s an easy way to ensure our 580 students eat and play! As a bonus, you’ll enjoy the meal yourself, courtesy of the school! Recess Monitors. Please contact Assistant Principal Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie at askovacsstorlie@seattleschools.org or Volunteer Coordinator Ann McNally at volunteering@tmlink.org if you help.

Hey, Volunteers, Fill Out District’s Form ASAP!
Thanks for signing up to volunteer. Did you know that each year, you must fill out a background check form to help ensure the safety of students? Go to http://bit.ly/SPSVolunteer.

Please Ensure Students Arrive on Time
Last week, the office’s Ms. Dickey logged 27 different students as tardy. Prompt attendance matters! Please do your best to get your child to school on time. The only tardies that will be excused are for medical reasons. If a child is regularly tardy and the reason given is always medical, a doctor’s note will be required. Thanks for cooperating.

Retailers Online & Around Town
Your Shopping Can Support TM Programs
Consider helping Thurgood Marshall when you shop! You can earn for our school as much as 6% (and occasionally more) of your purchase price.

For example, start your shopping on Amazon.com using the link on the right side of the www.tmlink.org home page, and earn 6% of each purchase for the Thurgood Marshall PTA – at no additional cost to you!

Other retailers who will support TM include PCC Community Markets (gift card available at TM events), Bartell Drugs and Office Depot. Visit www.tmlink.org to learn more.
FAMILY GAMES NIGHT & APPETIZER POTLUCK

OCT 12, 5:30-7PM
in the TM CAFETERIA

Try out board games, share food, socialize, win door prizes!

FREE ENTRY. You will be able to purchase games from Blue Highway and orders will be delivered to classrooms later in the month. Volunteers needed: volunteering@tmlink.org.

Presented by the PTA and Blue Highway Games in Queen Anne
It takes a village...
Let's get involved and create the community we want for our kids to thrive!

Black Family Advocacy Support Group*
Wednesday, October 4th, 2017
6-8pm
TME Library

Light refreshments will be provided. Please bring something to share if you are able!

*The group is intended to be a safe, supportive place for parents and students to voice concerns and/or offer suggestions to make the school environment more welcoming to Black families. We are working to identify ways to effect positive change within the TM community. All who are working to ensure justice for our communities are welcome!

Please tear off and complete the form below and return to your child’s teacher asap. Your input is important... thank you!

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The Black Family Advocacy Support Group has met on several occasions with varied participation and so as we decide how to move forward as a group, we would like to get input from more families. Any comments you can share would be appreciated!

1. What would encourage you to consistently participate with this group and/or attend meetings?

2. What has prevented you from attending previously held meetings? (Check all that apply)
   - [ ] Lack of transportation
   - [ ] Lack of childcare
   - [ ] Times didn’t work
   - [ ] Not interested
   - [ ] Other reason: _______________________

3. Is there another way that you would like to be involved with this group?

4. What issues do you think this group should be addressing?

5. What is the most effective method for us to communicate information to you? (meetings, events etc)

6. Any other comments?
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<td><strong>REFLECTIONS CHAIR NAME:</strong></td>
<td>Jennifer Ellis &amp; Ann McNally</td>
<td><strong>EMAIL:</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Reflections@tmlink.org">Reflections@tmlink.org</a></td>
<td><strong>PTA ADDRESS:</strong></td>
<td>2401 S Irving St, Seattle, WA 98144</td>
<td><strong>CHAIRPERSON PHONE:</strong></td>
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**To be completed by PTA Chairperson before distribution (ALL FIELDS REQUIRED)**

**STUDENT INFORMATION (ALL FIELDS REQUIRED EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE STATED)**

- **Turn-In Deadline:** October 27, 2017
- **TEACHER:** Ms. Strand (Room 208/Art Room)

| **STUDENT NAME:** | | **GRADE:** | | **AGE:** | | **M/F (OPTIONAL):** |
|-------------------|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|

| **MAILING ADDRESS:** | | | | | |
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| **CITY:** | | **STATE:** | | **ZIP:** |
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**By participating in this program and submitting this application you are allowing WSPTA to use the student information, student image, artwork, and video recording of student at any WSPTA events in all publications that pertain to WSPTA, including but not limited to, posting on the WSPTA website and social media pages. Ownership in any submission shall remain the property of the entrant, but entry into this program constitutes entrant’s irrevocable permission and consent that PTA may display, copy, reproduce, enhance, print, sublicense, publish, distribute, and create derivative works for PTA purposes. PTA is not responsible for lost or damaged entries. Submission of entry into the PTA Reflections program constitutes acceptance of all rules and conditions. I agree to the above statement and the National PTA Reflections Official Rules.**

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**STUDENT NAME:** ___________________________________________

| **GRADE:** | | **AGE:** | | **M/F (OPTIONAL):** |
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**ARTWORK DETAILS:** (Dance/Film: cite background music; Music: musician(s)/instrumentation; Literature: word count; Photo/Visual Arts: materials & dimensions)

**ARTIST STATEMENT:** (REQUIRED – 10 words minimum, 100 words maximum describing how your work relates to the theme – use a separate page if necessary)
Entries from all grades and all abilities welcome.

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 27 IN ART ROOM
Winners announced at the November 3rd assembly.
12 Thurgood Marshall pieces will be on display at Seattle Center Winterfest!

Categories: Visual Art (2D or 3D), Photography, Dance Choreography, Literature, Music Composition, Film/Video Production.

Entries will be judged within two age divisions (Gr. Pre-K-2 & Gr. 3-5). A separate Special Artist Division is available to students qualified under AD. Fill out entry form (the artist statement is important!), attach to art and give it to Ms. Strand.

Questions? Contact: Reflections@tmlink.org

Learn more and get involved! PTA.ORG/REFLECTIONS