



A Message from the School Director

Hello MMLA Families!

We are halfway through March and Spring Break will be here before you know it! A special thank you to all the parents that joined us last night for our Literacy Night and Book Giveaway! The next few weeks are extremely important as we begin to prepare for our season of testing during the Spring! Take a few minutes to look through the newsletter as we have several things coming up throughout the month!

Tim Tenneriello
School Director

Student Life Organization®

Hello wonderful parents, students, staff and anyone who loves our students here at MMLA!

We have been having fun in our SLO® Clubs and have begun putting murals up in the Gym and in the front of the school. We currently have 50+ kindergarten hand prints all over the Gym wall! It looks great and we will be adding more this week. Other clubs are going well and we soon will be at an end to this round of clubs and the students will have the opportunity to sign up for the same or new clubs. New clubs start the week after Spring Break.

We are reviewing some school procedures and getting ourselves set for the big Spring push to get ready for State testing. Please remember our uniform code, behavior, and academic expectations we have here at MMLA. This would be a good time to remember our goals for getting an education and the opportunity our students have being here at MMLA.

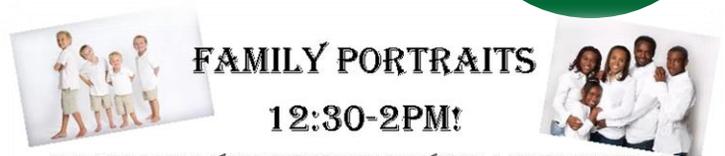
Great stories are coming out of our Peer-to-Peer Teacher Aids. We love seeing our seasoned students in classrooms helping young students grow and learn and have someone to look up to at the same time! Keep up the good work guys!

As always have a fantastic day and enjoy this amazing Spring weather as much as I do!

Brooks Yates
Student Life® Coordinator



Friday, March 24



FAMILY PORTRAITS

12:30-2PM!

PLEASE BRING YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY FOR A FREE PORTRAIT SESSION. ALL PARTICIPATING FAMILIES WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A FREE PROOF OF THEIR FAMILY PORTRAIT.

 Spring Pictures are Coming 



M is for MONEY.

Children can start learning about money at a young age. Parents can help very young kids understand how money is used by letting them hand money to a cashier. Soon children will be able to make choices about how to spend money as they learn that it is a *limited* resource. Older children can compare prices. (How much can be saved by buying a generic-brand cereal?) Kids also need to learn about saving money. Young kids might use a "piggy bank" while older children will learn about interest by setting up a real bank account.

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Academics

Throughout the school, we have been actively celebrating March is Reading Month! One of the school-wide activities we have been doing is a "Dr. Seuss Sweet Sixteen." This is a play on March Madness. Sixteen Dr. Seuss books were chosen and paired against each other. Each day, classes have the match-up of the day read to them and then they vote on their favorite. At the end of the month, we will have identified MMLA's favorite Dr. Seuss book.



Another big challenge is trying to get as close as we can to **reading a million minutes** as a school. Teachers are tracking the reading done throughout the day. Students have been asked to track and bring in the minutes that they read at home. Hopefully you have seen these forms and

have been sending them in! There are benchmark prizes along the way that we are hoping to achieve.

Conferences are this coming week! If you did not send in your conference request form to your child's teacher, please send that to them as soon as possible. If you do not send in your form, please know that you may have to wait a bit for the teacher if there is a scheduled appointment at the time you arrive. Teachers are looking forward to sharing with you what your student has been achieving as well as strategies to help them complete the year successfully!

Finally, **M-STEP** and other spring testing is, unbelievably, right around the corner. Please make sure your student is in attendance and on time daily. Also, remind them the importance of being an active learner, putting in their best on everything and completing their homework. Another great idea is to read and practice math facts as a family!

Barb Rooker
Academic Quality Controller



Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy

Community Connection

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy is excited to host an Early Education Expo on Thursday, April 20th from 4:00-6:00PM. This event will feature tons of free information and affordable services for families. There will be FREE food, games and entertainment for everyone. The goal of the **MMLA Early Education Expo** is to enroll Kindergarten Students at MMLA. Please share this information with parents of students in Pre-School as this is a great event for parents of children ages 4-7 years.

We want to congratulate the **MMLA Lions Basketball Team** on a great season and playoff run! Special thanks to our awesome coaches Head Coach Bradyn Marshall and Assistant Coach Art Watson for all of their hard work and dedication. There will be a MMLA Boys Basketball Banquet on Tuesday April 11th at 4pm after school.

Elvin Caldwell Jr.
School Community Liaison

Girls Math & Science Day at MSU

Last Saturday, Mrs. Dyar and Mrs. Mecham took six 8th graders to Michigan State University's campus for their annual Math and Science Day. The girls were all very excited to be on a college campus!

We started the day by listening to a neuro-astronomer, someone who studies space and how the molecules interact in space. After that, we went to our first session where the girls were able to learn how light can bend, go around, or go through objects. They were able to use lasers and they all were able to answer the questions that the presenters were asking. Our next session was learning about how to grow food without soil or sunlight. This was the girls' favorite session! We all learned about the process of hydroponics, and how countries, like Japan, are using this system to grow plants without having to use sunlight or soil. We were all able to take a sample of the non-soil material and a lettuce seed. All that is needed is water and LED lights.



Our next session was learning about how scientists use fire to study how wildfires (and even man made fires) affect the soil. This field of study requires a lot of traveling and dirt! Our last session was learning about how scientists study hyenas and are able to tell them apart and how they interact with each other and other hyena groups. The girls were able to look at skulls and a dichotomous key to figure out what kind of species each hyena skull belonged to.

We ended our day with an ice cream social then a nice big lunch at Baggar Dave's. The day was filled with math, science, and lots of fun!

"We had a spectacular time and lots of fun! We enjoyed every minute of it and would love to go again. Thank you Mrs. Dyar and Mrs. Mecham for taking us!"
-Teneshia, LaShanna, Christian, Ashley, Taviana, and Unique

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

Monthly Board of Trustees Meetings - Meetings are held at 6:00 PM in room 2006 of the Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy on the 2nd Monday of each month. (unless otherwise posted on the MMLA website or Facebook page) You're welcome to attend.

- Mar 23-24 Spring Parent Teacher Conferences
- Mar 24 Spring Picture Day – Student & Family Portraits
- Mar 24 Half Day – **STUDENT DISMISSAL AT NOON**
- Mar 31 \$1 Dress Down Day – Field Trips
- April 3-7 Spring Break – **NO STUDENTS**
- April 10 Classes Resume
- April 11 MMLA Basketball Banquet 4:00-5:00pm
- April 13 Kindergarten Round Up 4:00-5:00pm
- April 20 Early Education Expo at MMLA 4:00-6:00pm

View our Annual School Calendar at mmla.sabis.net

Exploring Michigan History

On Wednesday, March 8, MMLA fourth grade students were able to spend the day connecting what we have been learning in history to real life examples by exploring The Michigan State Capitol and The Michigan Historical Museum. Jakwavion Dabner said "I really enjoyed our field trip because it told so much history and we were really high up in the buildings."



Depriest Morrell was impressed by "real gold on the ceiling and wall" in the capitol. Catalina Sanchez-Quesada said "the most impressive thing was when we got to see and lay on the glass floor." Gypsy Searcy enjoyed "the civil war section" at the museum. Jordan Taylor said her favorite part was "going up the stairs and seeing the governor's office." Thank you to all the MMLA staff who joined us and made this exciting and educational trip so successful.

Kindergarten Round Up

MMLA will be open the second Thursday of each month from 4:00–5:00pm for tours and information. Mr. Caldwell is also available Monday - Friday from 10:00AM - 3:00PM, by appointment. Call 517-827-1276 to schedule.

Open Enrollment for 1st-8th grades has ended but we still have some spots available. Please invite your family and friends to check out our school by bringing them to our next event!

Parent Connection Corner

GET CONNECTED! Thursday, April 13 at 3:45pm in the MMLA Computer Lab

