

## Adams Update March 13, 2020

### Taking a Breath

Well, there is always time for something new! It seems like the last two weeks have been full of new experiences: learning about COVID-19 overseas, hearing about cases on the west coast, seeing it move about the country, and now having the Michigan governor declare that we will not have school for the next three weeks. As of right now, our next scheduled day of school is **Monday, April 6**. Keep an eye on communication from our superintendent, and the district website ([www.midlandps.org](http://www.midlandps.org)), for the latest updates on the re-opening of school.

### What about schoolwork?

As our superintendent mentioned multiple times, no amount of homework can replace being in class with a highly trained teacher, and a great class. That being said, **we are sending materials home to help students stay active and involved**, and to halt the “slide” or “brain drain” that may happen when not attending daily classes.

If your student was not in school today, materials have been left in the Media Center for you, and you can come pick them up during office hours next week (8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.). Please call ahead at 989-923-6037.

### What about food?

There will be food available for students at all MPS elementary schools, including Adams. **Any school-age child may come to pick up meals to take home to eat.** A schedule for when those meals may be picked up will be posted by Monday. It sounds like we’re likely to have food available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and that students can pick up food for multiple days at one time.

### Chromebooks

Chromebooks are being sent home with all students, including kindergarten students, as they can be a powerful tool in helping maintain educational progress. Like any tool, they are only as helpful as the manner in which they are used. **Please talk with your child about responsible Chromebook use, including appropriateness of websites and games, limits on the amount of screen time daily, and establishing bedtimes and times for electronics to be “turned in” to you.**

### What does “school is closed” mean?

We will be in the Adams office for the next two weeks; please contact us if you need assistance. Other than getting food (see above for more info), students may not come to school for any reason. Please reach out if you have questions.

### CDC recommendations for all of us

The CDC emphasizes the importance of the following prevention measures:

- Frequent washing of hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Cover cough/sneeze in your sleeve (not hand)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces
- Avoid close contact with those who are ill
- Remain home if a fever is present. Call health care provider before seeking care.

## Active Allies

Our district has always been committed to ensuring excellent physical safety for our students and staff. We know, though, that psychological safety is equally as important. Students who feel safe and supported can engage more easily and learn more effectively. Ensuring excellent psychological safety creates a learning environment where students can thrive.

As a first step to better support students, we've created the **Report & Respond** system. This system is designed to provide a "safety net" for every student. Sometimes students experience situations that are hurtful, embarrassing or difficult to handle. They may not know who to trust or may not feel comfortable asking for help. They may just need to be heard.

**Report & Respond** is built around a network of *Active Allies*. We've designated a team of teachers to serve as **Allies**. These **Allies** have been trained in the **Report & Respond** process and equipped to be an effective resource for all students. When a student needs help, they can reach out to one of at least five **Allies** in their school building. The **Ally** will receive the student with care, provide confidential support, and help to resolve the issue as needed. This system will allow us to collect information about these issues in our schools.

We're confident that the **Report & Respond** system will be a key part of creating a safe, supportive learning environment for all. A huge thanks goes out to our first team of **Active Allies**, who have been so willing to serve. We appreciate your commitment and enthusiasm!

Please take a minute to make sure that your student is aware of **Report & Respond**, and that they know which teachers are the designated **Active Allies** for their building. Mrs. Lipovsky, Mrs. McMahan, Mrs. Moe, Mrs. Newton, Mrs. Schultheis, and Mr. Seebeck are the Active Allies here at Adams.

## Book Warriors, *Battle of the Books* Champions!

Congratulations to Aesa Jingles, Bridget Reder, Evie Samocki, and Zoe Steger, *Battle of the Books* champions! Aesa, Bridget, Evie, and Zoe stormed their way to the championship, answering every one of their questions correctly, and even answering two of their opponents' missed questions. It takes a lot of work to prepare for this event, and we are very proud of each of you—way to go!

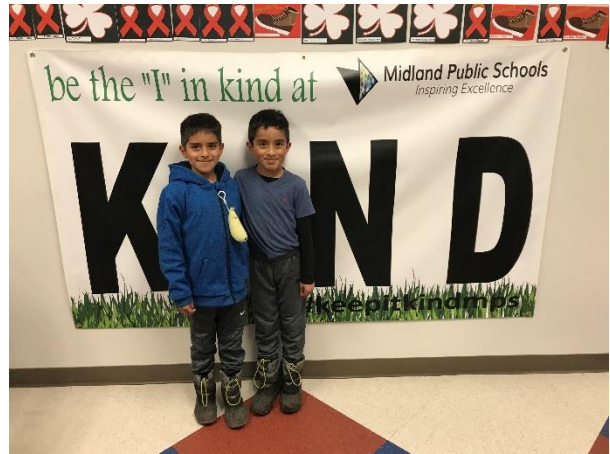


## Keep it Kind, MPS!



Thank you to **Mrs. Griffin's class**, for being kind with our Kindergarten and First Grade students at lunch today! We ate lunch in our classrooms today, and Mrs. Griffin's students helped our youngest students collect their lunches in the cafeteria and carry them back to class—way to go!

"Double Kindness!" **Isaac and Diego** are twins in Mrs. Curtis' class, and they are always kind to their classmates. They helped several classmates this week in many ways, with academics, getting ready for activities, and on school projects. They are also very respectful to their friends and adults. Thanks for Keeping it Kind, Diego and Isaac!!



## Music Notes

~ Mrs. Haskett



Happy Literacy Month and Music in Our Schools Month! All music classes have enjoyed books that can be sung to, rapped to, or danced to!

**Kindergartners** sang Dr. Seuss's ABC's and danced a waltz to *Marsupial Sue* by John Lithgow.

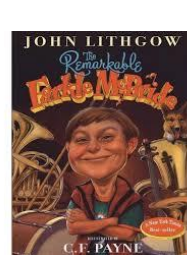
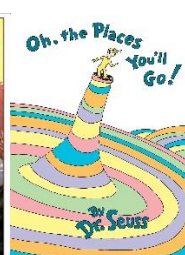
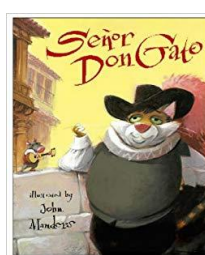
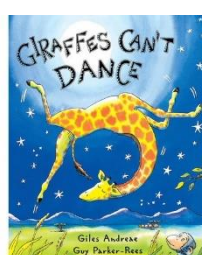
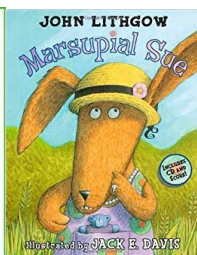
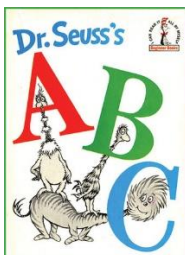
**1<sup>st</sup> graders** learned how to dance a waltz, rock-n-roll, the tango, the cha-cha, and the Scottish reel with the book "Giraffes Can't Dance" by Giles Andrea & Guy Parker-Reese.

**2<sup>nd</sup> graders** had a blast singing and acting out the song/book *Señor Don Gato* which is a traditional song from Mexico translated into English.

**3<sup>rd</sup> graders** enjoyed the book *Oh, The Places You'll Go* by Dr. Seuss, performing it as a rap. **The Gemini concert is cancelled due to MPS cancelling all public performances.**

**4<sup>th</sup> graders** enjoyed the book *The Remarkable Farkle McBride* by John Lithgow. I love this book because the author takes a creative approach to introducing the instruments of the orchestra.

**5<sup>th</sup> graders** read a biography about Ludwig Van Beethoven. We discussed all the hurdles he had to overcome to become one of the most famous composers of all time.



**Upcoming Events**

Mon, Apr 6

Next scheduled day of school

We had a great week here at Adams. Stay safe, have fun together, and we look forward to seeing you and your students again soon.

Educationally yours,

***Scott Cochran***

Principal