

Adams Update January 22, 2021

Author Visit: Sharon Draper

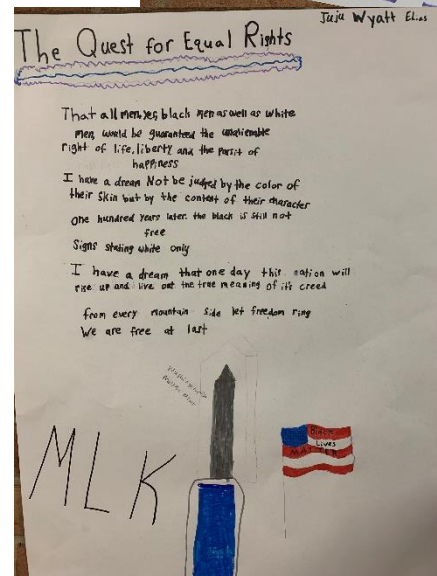
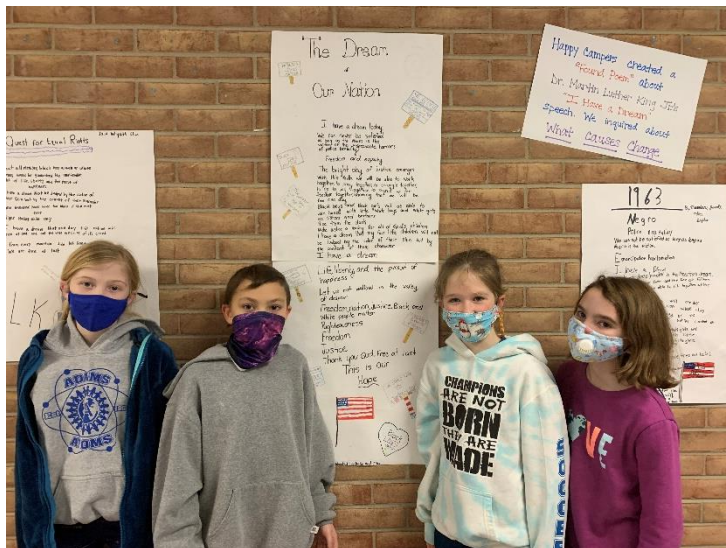
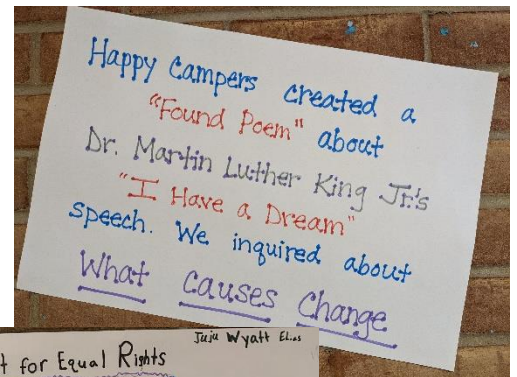
This week our 5th grade experienced a very cool event—a visit with renowned author Sharon Draper!



Mrs. Draper is the amazing author of Out of My Mind, Blended, and Stella by Starlight. She shared her love of writing and answered many questions and even gave our students and teachers a writing assignment! After her visit the fifth graders were inspired to write. It was a transformative opportunity; thank you to the donations from our families, community, and the matched funds from Dow through Donors Choose. Our classes are truly grateful for the experience.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Studies

Martin Luther King day was Monday. This week classes explored his life and work in many ways. Mrs. Washabaugh's fourth graders reviewed the *I Have a Dream* speech, analyzed the topics covered, and created Found Poems highlighting important sections. The close reading and detailed discussions required in-depth critical thinking skills, and the end products—the poems—were excellent!



On the announcements this week we also talked about important statements that Martin Luther King, Jr. made and what they mean for us today. The statements we explored included:

The time is always right to do what is right.

If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward.

Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.

Kindergarten Enrollment

Believe it or not, it's time to talk about Kindergarten enrollment! If you have a child that will be starting Kindergarten in the fall, check out information about our program on the website at this link: <https://www.midlandps.org/welcome-to-Kindergarten-2021-2022>

Enrollment paperwork is available on the district website, and should be turned into the Adams office. You can find the paperwork at our office, and at this link:

<https://www.midlandps.org/docs/district/202122Enrollment/2021-2022KindergartenPre-EnrollmentPacket.pdf>

There will be opportunities for our future students and parents to tour the school and to meet our teachers. You'll hear more about those activities as spring approaches.

NWEA Testing Coming to a Close

We are finishing up our Winter NWEA assessment session this week. Classes are testing in both Math and English; the purpose of this assessment is to measure students' growth in those areas from September through now, and we'll test again in the spring to see how much students grow for the entire school year. At the end of next week teachers will send home a growth report that expresses how your child is doing, and how that compares to other students nation-wide. Especially given these Covid times, and the way last school year ended, this information is very valuable in helping us target learning areas for each and every student.

Summer School Plans Under Development

This Summer 2021 we will have Summer School opportunities available for all students who want them. If you happened to see the note in a recent district communication soliciting sign-ups, please know that plans are still under development and not finalized. We will let you know when concrete plans are in place and when sign-up is available. If you have specific ideas or suggestions regarding what you would find valuable in summer school, please don't hesitate to reach out and let me know your thoughts.

Repeat: Valentine's Day Information

For this school year our Valentine's Day events will be much more low key. Teachers may choose to have a small classroom activity, but it will not involve cards or treats that are distributed from all students to their classmates. Please do not send cards to school, as they will have to be returned home. Teachers will communicate plans for their classes via their normal communication channels. Hopefully in the future Valentine's Day can return to a more traditional scene.

PTO Update

[Click here for the PTO Update](#) to see all the latest happenings and information.

Upcoming Events

Fri, Feb 12

No school for students (PD day for teachers)

We had a great week here at Adams, and we look forward to seeing you and your students again next week. Have a good weekend!

Educationally yours,

Scott Cochran

Principal