

November 11, 2020



Greetings to our Monument Academy Community,

I wish to take this opportunity to wish all our Veterans a happy and blessed Veterans Day. Thank you for your service and the sacrifices you made to faithfully and honorably serve our country.

When I thought about the words I wanted to share with our community to mark this day, I thought about Monument Academy's Veterans Day celebration a year ago. This celebration marked my first week of being hired and joining MA; the vibrant, courageous community of people I have found here. I spoke to you for the first time since my appointment at this event and I would like to share this speech with you again...it is enclosed below. As I sit in my office listening to the notes our students are so talentedly playing in band class, as the music dances through our hallways and offices, I find the words and the hopes for our children and this next generation spoken from this speech a year ago today, especially poignant. Our students bring hope and optimism each day they step through our doors and I am grateful to you and for you, and for our team of educators and staff. They care so deeply for your children and want to ensure they receive an education that will serve them well so they will be a light unto our world.

November 11, 2019:

"Good morning Monument Academy Community and good morning to our Veterans,

This month marks a significant time for all Americans, —Election Day illustrates to our children how the U.S. Constitution works and Veterans Day permits us to honor the military men and women comprising this nation's active duty, reserve, and retired veterans. I am greatly honored to participate in Monument Academy's Veterans Day Celebration this morning and I thank the veterans in our community for their service. My husband and father are both retired military aviators, and my brother has served three tours in Iraq and Afghanistan; therefore, Veterans Day will always have a special place in my heart. I have witnessed the true sacrifice our veteran's service to country demands and am humbled and honored at the courage and heroism they demonstrate daily. Thank you. We, in no small measure, owe our freedom to all veterans in the past and those who are actively serving.

This also marks a significant week as I am greatly honored to have been selected to serve as the newly appointed Chief Operating Officer. I am proud to partner with our students, educators, families, and community to ensure we achieve Monument Academy's mission. This mission is to provide an education that will produce students who learn from the past, value the present, and are equipped for the future. I am deeply committed to this charge and excited to learn more about how this mission is being exemplified at Monument Academy and how it has impacted students for life and prosperity for the past two decades.

Our students face unique challenges; every generation of teens is influenced by the social, political, and economic events of the day. Our teens are no different. Yet, there seems to be a persistent attack on our children that goes beyond a true concern for the lasting impact of social media and mobile technology on a generation of children who do not remember a time before Instagram or the internet. I find that as an educator, it has become increasingly important to be diligent in safeguarding our students from controversial and ineffective methods that have infiltrated public education. I am most concerned about methods that are destructive to creativity, hope, and freedom of the human spirit. I am a leader dedicated to educating well and protecting our students. I will work with the appropriate experts, our capable leadership and staff, and the community to ensure that these destructive elements do not enter into and erode Monument Academy's educational programs. I will go to battle for your children and at times I will ask you to join me as we fight to ensure our students receive the best possible education so that our children might inherit a better world.

I have accepted the position as Chief Operating Officer at a time of program growth and have accepted the charge of working to strengthen the current program and to establish an upper school that will fulfill the powerful work started with MA's students from pre-school through eighth grades. This is a great and providential time to be part of the Monument Academy community and I fully embrace this opportunity to lead and to serve in an honorable fashion, holding integrity and transparency as my top priority.

This room is filled with leaders who demonstrate this kind of honorable leadership.

LEADERSHIP as defined by Webster's Dictionary 1. Serving as a model 2. worthy of imitation, commendable:

"Great leadership is humble. It strives to "be care takers of others under your care, serving as overseers not because you must, but because you are willing: not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not in love with power, but being an example."

Today we are defining great leadership as those who are willing to sacrifice for others. Today we honor those who have been willing to make the greatest of sacrifices to safeguard and save the lives of others.

I'd like to share the following account of December 19, 1777: George Washington marched into Valley Forge after several defeats, and morale was at the lowest point. America might have conceded defeat except for one man, General George Washington. One man held out against tyranny. One man defended freedom. One man saved what was to become our great nation.

And, like a single spark in the night, one man spread the fires of freedom across the world. I am not just telling you about George Washington because this is a school. I am telling you about George Washington because this is a school that honors the past so that we might be informed in our future. I mention our forefather because had he given up when things looked impossibly difficult, this country would be a very different place. Typically, when people discuss heroes, they imagine comic books, or action movies with larger than life superheroes with super powers. But the heroes I am talking about today, these inextinguishable catalysts of light, these ordinary human beings like George Washington exist around us. They fill this room today, and we thank and honor you, for the undeniable sacrifice you have made, for the courage to make our world brighter. Thank you. We are grateful."

With respect & gratitude,

Christianna Herrera
Chief Operating Officer

Adopt D38 is a district-wide donation program allowing you to specifically designate the recipient of 100% of your generous donation. You may adopt a:

- teacher
- grade
- department
- program
- school
- · or other designation

The *Lewis-Palmer Education Foundation* is the official sponsor of this program and covers all program costs. All donations are tax-deductible.

For more information on adopting an MA teacher, grade, etc., click <u>here.</u> Thank you!



November 17, 2020, 8:00-10:00 a.m.



2020-2021 Monument Academy

Preschool and Elementary

Yearbook

Yearbooks will be \$20 until March 1st, at which point they will become \$25.

It is preferred and recommended that you order by February 28th, 2021.

To purchase a yearbook, click the link:

Order a Yearbook

Do you have pictures of your student in their classroom or at another school related event? Your pictures can be in the yearbook!

Please upload photos to the yearbook database by clicking this link and use the code 415634045 for the "User ID" when prompted:

UPLOAD PHOTOS



Harvest of Love Food Drive





<u>Thank you</u> for your incredible generosity during the *Harvest of Love* Food Drive. Here are the final totals for the items donated:

Total weight in pounds: 4529.75

Money donations: \$682.50

MA PTO WEST NEWS



Enjoy a Fresh Mexican lunch or dinner from Arlene's Beans! Dine-in, Patio, Take-out, and Online Ordering available.



Thursday, Nov 12th 11:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

366 2nd St, Monument

www.arlenesbeans.com

*Arlene's Beans has generously offered to give back a % of ALL sales on this date to MA PTO.

No flyer or mention needed.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Thursday, Nov 19th

Next General PTO Meeting

Zoom information will be available next week in the Lynx News

YOU CAN FIND US ON FACEBOOK

(West Campus) https://www.facebook.com/MonumentAcademyPTO/

THE BUSINESS DIRECTORY HAS LAUNCHED-CHECK IT OUT HERE!

http://monumentacademypto.com/business-directory

NEED SPIRITWEAR? COME CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOOKS!!

https://lynxlifeatmawest.threadless.com

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King Soopers Rewards Sign Up

King Sooper Community Rewards program is now active just in time for all your shopping. It is super easy to set-up and then automatic every time you shop. It does not take away from your personal fuel points or coupons. Our PTO will

simply get a percentage back of all purchases.

So Sign Up Today to Help MA:

- 1. Log on to your personal account on Kingsoopers.com (you cannot do this from the app)
- 2. Click "My account" under Valued Customer tab at the top of the page
- 3. Community Rewards (menu on the left side)
- 4. Add Organization: type in "Monument Academy," then click Monument Academy "BF553"
- 5. Enroll

Business Directory:

http://monumentacademypto.com/business-directory

Have you ever wanted to connect with other

Monument Academy Family Businesses? This year we
are launching a new business directory! If you would
like to have your business listed on our new directory please email the
following to maptovicepresident@gmail.com:

- 1. Business Name
- 2. Business Logo (.png or .jpeg)
- 3. Website address
- 4. Brief description of business type

