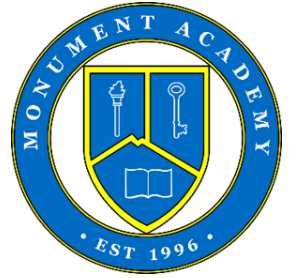


LYNX NEWS



East Campus Edition – December 9, 2020

It is so great to have students and staff back in the building this week! Our building is not the same without the life and energy of our staff and especially our students. This makes us so grateful for the opportunity to remain in person for learning when many schools around our district, city, state, and country are not. While reflecting on the year as one does this time of year, here are a few other things I am grateful for:

- A new building that was built in time to start on the first day of school
- The people that made that happen.
- The administration that works endless hours to positively guide our school.
- Teachers that are tireless in their efforts to connect with and educate our students.
- A support staff that helps administrators and teachers do the work that they do.
- Our facilities crew who keeps our new building clean and sanitized as well as completing many other thankless jobs to keep our building open for in person education.
- Substitutes that continue to show up and help during times when teachers are absent or quarantined.
- Our lunch ladies that serve our students meals with a smile.
- The Covid-19 response team that has worked so many hours conducting contact tracing so that every student that could stay in school be able to do so.
- The families that continue to support us during the challenges of opening a new school and Covid-19.
- And again, our students. They make all the hard work and challenges we face worth it.

Thank you again for allowing us to educate your children and for the support we have received during this interesting time.

Warmest Wishes,
Carol Skinner
Assistant Principal
CSkinner@MonumentAcademy.net

ABSENT

Attendance and Learning Choices

Communication is Key! Please notify the Front Desk at attendance-east@monumentacademy.net .

Please make changes to your student's learning choice judiciously. When changes are made to switch between At-Home Learning and In-Person Learning, it does affect the learning environment of the entire class.

This form is to be used for long-term changes to learning options.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSckYHXabHfv8LDuWyz1xKZbsd1ursH7HwXnKLAHXG9Uit16A/viewform>



SAAC Survey

Wow! We are getting amazing participation rates on the survey. We reached the goal of 50% response rate in both the middle and high schools! Thank you! Your students will get a pajama day next week on Thursday, December 17 (see additional information about our holiday spirit week all next week!) I have announced to our students that they will earn another pajama day in January if we reach 75% participation rates. High school is almost there! Thank you for letting your voice be heard. It is important that the survey results encompass the ideas of our entire community.

Middle School Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G3WSXWX>

Need just 75 more families to earn a January pajama day

High School Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B9V3CDC>

Just need ONE more family to earn a January pajama day

The survey will be closed at noon on **Friday, December 18.**

Thank you for your time and attention to this survey! I appreciate your feedback, and I am thankful for our partnership.

Julie Seymour, Principal East Campus

Upcoming Events

Free Dress Thursday - December 10

Non-uniform days - please follow guidelines, page 6, <https://www.monumentacademy.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/1501MS-Uniform-Policy-08-24-2020.pdf>

Next Week, December 14-17 – Holiday Wear/No Uniforms

Monday – Holiday Colors

Tuesday – Headwear; hats, antlers, headbands, etc.

Wednesday – Ugly Sweaters

Thursday – EARNED Pajama Day

Winter Break – December 21 through January 4

Spring Pictures, individual and panorama – February 2

LOST n Found

Please **LABEL** everything that comes to school, even just student initials, it really helps to reunite the items to the students! Coats, lunch boxes, binders, backpacks, etc.



Schedule changes for second semester

The window for changing second semester schedules will be November 30th- **December 11th**. Schedule change request forms can be found at [this link](#) and will be located in envelopes on the 1st floor and 2nd floor Academic Wings when students return next week. Due to remote learning, students do not need teacher signatures but must have parent signature in order to be considered. Forms can be returned by email to Mrs. Z at azarkovacki@monumentacademy.net. No requests will be accepted after this time.

Amy Zarkovacki

AZarkovacki@monumentacademy.net

Monument Academy Director of Admissions

719-431-8001 ext. 1017

Intent to Enroll

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are at the time of year when we begin to plan enrollment for the upcoming school year. In order to do this, it is required that each family submit an Intent to Enroll for each child. This form is due December 17th. **The Intent to Enroll is for students entering grades Kindergarten through 10th, to include our future High School students.** The Intent to Enroll is attached here for your convenience or can be found on the MA website. We would ask that you please complete and return it to the front office as soon as possible. You will need one form for each student.

If you have any questions please contact Amy Zarkovacki at azarkovacki@monumentacademy.net or Chandy Buckingham at cbuckingham@monumentacademy.net.

Sincerely,

The Admissions Team



Monument Academy

INTENT TO ENROLL

(one per student)

School year of intent: **2021-2022**

Student Name _____
(Last) (First) (M.I.)

Current School: Monument Academy Current Grade (during 2020-21 School Year) _____

Is it your intent for your child to attend Monument Academy during the 2021-2022 School Year? Yes No Undecided

I, the parent/guardian of the above named student, hereby declare my intent for my student to attend: (name of school)

_____ in District # _____
during the 2021-2022 school year. By confirming my intent to enroll in the above named school, I am committing my student to attend the school specified above. My student will not be eligible to transfer to any other school in the Lewis-Palmer School District for the remainder of the grades offered at this school, unless a new application for choice enrollment is submitted and approved during the annual choice enrollment period.

I further understand that:

- Parents/guardians will furnish transportation to schools other than the neighborhood school.
- Students are expected to abide by all attendance and behavior regulations of the assigned school.
- School of Choice approval in the Lewis-Palmer School District is valid for the duration of the academic level (elementary, middle, or high school). Subsequent school choice applications are required only when the student transitions to the next academic level and wishes to attend a school other than the neighborhood school.
- Before considering requests from non-resident students, priority shall be given to in-district students.
- All students (Kindergarten through 8th grade) currently enrolled at Monument Academy are guaranteed enrollment for the following school year provided that this Intent to Enroll has been submitted.
- Failure to submit this Intent to Enroll form by the deadline will be considered a choice to withdraw your child at the end of the current school year and Monument Academy will release your child's seat for the 2020-2021 school year.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

E-mail: _____ Daytime phone: _____

Please return this completed form to Monument Academy.

Status: Recorded by: _____

Date: _____



COVID-19 Symptom Screen:

If any of the following symptoms are present, keep the child at home/stay at home, inform the school of symptoms, and reach out to a health care provider about COVID-19 testing and next steps for treatment.

- Feeling feverish, having chills, or temperature 100.4°F or higher.
- New or unexplained persistent cough.
- Shortness of breath.
- Difficulty breathing.
- Loss of taste or smell.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle aches.
- Headache.
- Sore throat.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.
- Runny nose or congestion.

The health team is incredibly grateful for all our MA families and the partnership we have during this extremely challenging time. We want to thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and patience as we navigate the health guidelines set before us. We are also thankful for your commitment to keep our students in school as we balance the concern for the health of our staff and students. Please remember to keep your child home from school if there is any question that they may have been in contact or exposed to *COVID*. In addition, please keep them home if they are experiencing any *COVID*-like symptoms. We hope and pray for the health and safety of all our Monument Academy families.

Chelsea Pierce, BSN, RN
CPierce@monumentacademy.net



Library

T-Shirt Design Contest

This is an exciting opportunity for aspiring artists as the winning design is printed on 1,000 shirts! Monument Academy students are invited (elementary/middle/high school) to submit designs for consideration for the 2020 Battle of the Books T-shirt. Submissions must include digital file of design, artist's name, grade, school, contact information (phone and email) and the BOB elementary liaison's information: Mrs. Collier, MA Librarian, kcollier@monumentacademy.net 719-481-1950 x1220

Mrs. Collier is MA's Battle of the Books (BOB) representative and acts as liaison between schools and the T-shirt committee. She can only submit 4 designs to the committee.

All designs must adhere to the following requirements:

- Submitted designs must be original illustrations and include artist's signature and 2020.
- Design **MUST** be in Black Ink. Pencil drawings do not scan well. Please consider simple, bold designs instead of those with many lines and shadows.
- Submissions must contain all 40 book titles. <https://ppbattleofthebooks.weebly.com/book-list.html>

Artists can use the book titles directly in their design or listed underneath the design.

- Design must include something to recognize the unique year with the Virtual Battle. (the April and May competitions will be virtual and not in person.)
- Design must be submitted in a digital format in Adobe Illustrator/Photoshop or other compatible software saved to a .eps, .png, or .pdf file.
- Digital design must be a transparency (when printed, T-shirt color comes through any background where no design exists, i.e. the negative space of the design).
- Designs must be submitted to no later than **January 15, 2021** for final judging. *Send your design and information to Mrs. Collier before the January 15th deadline. Good luck!* Please contact Mrs. Collier with questions regarding the contest, previous t-shirt designs, etc.

ATHLETIC NEWS

The Central Colorado Athletic League (CCAL), to which our middle school belongs, continues to work within constraints imposed by government officials to try to provide access to extracurricular programs for our students. We have received many questions regarding the status of our athletic programs for the remainder of the school year. Recent increases in the level of restrictions are preventing us from conducting extracurricular team programs. We feel it is important for our stakeholders to understand the restrictions we are currently navigating as we attempt to provide opportunities for our students to participate in extracurricular activities.

Although we are not officially affiliated with the Colorado High School Athletic Association (CHSAA), agreements made between CHSAA and our government officials hold sway over how we conduct our programs at the middle school level. CHSAA does act as a form of “lobbying arm” for the school athletic community, and they are afforded more access to government officials than individuals. Early winter sports are not going to be permitted to begin on Jan. 4, as had originally been agreed and scheduled on the CHSAA 2020-21 sports calendar. See the latest release from CHSAA at the following link: <https://chsaanow.com/2020-12-07/season-b-sports-delayed-as-statewide-covid-cases-rise/>

The El Paso County Public Health Department has released updated guidance for K-12 schools choosing to continue in-person learning. Contained within this document is a section specific to extracurricular activities. See the link below for more information:

http://www.monumentacademy.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/El-Paso-County-Public-Health-In_person-Guidance-Dec-1.pdf

There is also an attachment that describes capacity restrictions at the various color levels now being used by local governmental organizations. Local Athletic Directors are using this chart to determine if any after-school practices are allowed. There has been some confusion as to which section school athletic teams fall under, but for purposes of “open-gym” workouts most seem to feel the “Gyms/Fitness” section is most appropriate. This would allow us a maximum up to 10 athletes in the gym at a time. We are currently designated as “Red” in El Paso County. Please see the following link for reference: <http://www.monumentacademy.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Capacity-Restrictions-11.20.20.pdf>

Data provided by El Paso County shows that Youth Sports/Activities have not been a significant source of Covid-19 outbreaks. See a recent news article and visit the El Paso County Public Health Website for more:

- <https://krdo.com/news/top-stories/2020/12/07/restaurants-not-at-top-of-el-paso-county-outbreak-sources/>

- <https://covid19.colorado.gov/data>

The Central Colorado Athletic League (CCAL) is hopeful that a mid-January meeting between CHSAA and Governor Polis’ office will result in an agreement that will allow high school athletics to resume as early as late January or early February. Should that occur we feel it is likely that we will also be able to resume offering our formal athletic programs. CCAL has again reworked the calendar for our abbreviated seasons to ensure most of our available programs will be available to our students during the second semester, although calendar constraints will result in shortened and occasionally overlapping seasons. Visit www.monumentacademy.net/athletics for an updated calendar that simply gives timeframes for specific programs. Specific schedules will be reworked and communicated soon in hope we will be able to go forward. Thank you for your support.

Marty Venticinque @ mventicinque@monumentacademy.net

Holiday Ornaments

The time is here to start a new holiday tradition for your MA students!

Your MA Student Council is hosting their first fundraiser of the year. Handmade Personalized Ornaments with your student's face for just \$2.50 from now until January 4th, 2021.

To order for this fundraiser simply fill out this google form
<https://forms.gle/Jho951EHnSxHAJZv9>.

Every student both in person and at home learners can pluck their ornament off the tree and take it home for the holidays on December 16th - 18th or pick it up in the new year.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to treasure your child's smile frozen in time in a glittery wonderland, order today!

Email questions to studentcouncil@moumentacademy.net
Happy Holidays!

MA Student Council

Uniform Jacket Ordering

If you ordered a jacket from Monarch Merchandising, please check your email and junk email to see if you have received communication stating that your jacket is in. Monarch has lots of jackets that are ready to be picked up!

In case you missed the opportunity to order a jacket previously, the link is active again.

<https://www.myschoolstoreco.com/>

You will be required to enter an address when ordering however the order will not be shipped to you directly. Ordering is open until the due date shown and all orders are printed at the same time. You will be notified by email when your order is available for pickup at Monarch Merchandising (15706 Jackson Creek Pkwy #110, Monument) approximately 2-3 weeks after the order due date shown on the site.

PTO Business Directory

Support our school and our community by doing business with the Monument Academy Family!

<http://monumentacademypto.com/business-directory>

