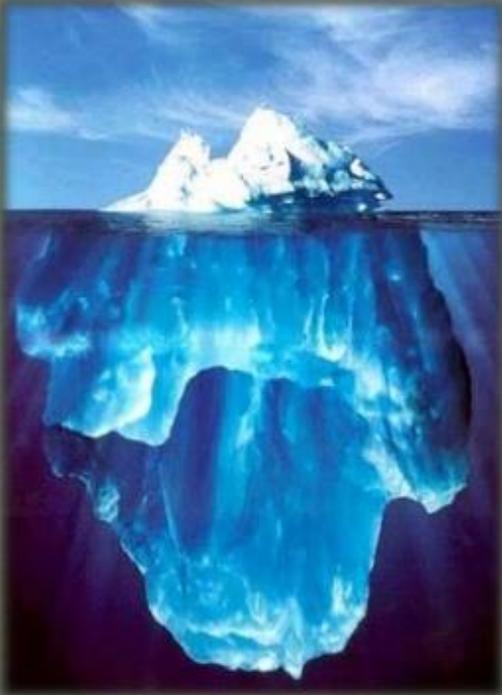


LYNX NEWS



THREE LEVELS OF CULTURE



- **Level One**

- What you might see on your first visit – first impressions

- **Level Two**

- Values, beliefs, “the way things should be done”
- These are “testable” in the physical environment

- **Level Three**

- Fundamental beliefs about school, students, etc.
- Reason for being

East Campus Edition February 17, 2021

Dear East Campus Families,

School culture is a many-faceted phenomenon, but experts agree that it is essential for a successful school. We work hard to live our Eight Keys as a staff and be mindful of each interaction we have with our students, parents, and each other to understand, seek understanding, and collaborate effectively. We also keep our vision statement and values before us to guide our decisions throughout each day.

Security. Character. Connections. Growth. Excellence.

This time of year, we can become tired, complacent, or restless. I notice the tendency in myself, in other adults, and also our adolescents. During this morning's announcements, I discussed this tendency with our whole school. It's easier to "let our guard down" when we feel this way, contributing to a slide away from what we each know are best-practices. How I discuss these things with students is that we are all in this together. Let's hold ourselves accountable for being the best versions of ourselves!

Here are some things we can collectively pay attention to in order to align our values with practice. These could potentially be discussion starters surrounding our value words listed above.

- Arriving at school with the plan of heading directly to first-period class: This is a safety expectation during times of COVID and can be challenging for adolescents to understand. We value their social time, and we also need to limit hallway hang-outs. Changing drop-off time to closer to the start of class may help some students with this expectation.
- Enjoying lunchtime with the smaller group of students that can fit around our tables at this time: We value students' time to enjoy eating and talking with friends, and we also need to limit larger and closer groups at lunchtime. Students remain seated until they are signaled for the option of going outside for fresh air and a bit of exercise.
- Aligning ourselves with an accepted tenet of our Charter School: We value our adolescent students' need for more autonomy with the uniform policy. For this reason, polo colors and shoe colors are not restricted for middle school students, and our high school students enjoy a dress code as opposed to a uniform policy. We have noticed potential conflict and culture issues around hoodies/non-uniform outerwear and boots. Students may choose MA jackets, sweater vests, or cardigans when it comes to outerwear inside our building. Non-uniform outerwear is expected to remain in lockers unless students go outside for PE, lunch, or are headed to carline. Boots are not included in the options of shoes for middle school students to wear to school.

These may seem like small things, but as we may have experienced in workplace culture or home culture, the small things can quickly become big things if not discussed.

Culture is multifaceted. These rules and procedures are only one small part, and we simultaneously pay attention to so many other vital aspects of culture.

I value our partnership and am humbled to serve,

Julie Seymour
Principal- East Campus

Upcoming Events

Spirit Wear Day, tomorrow, Thursday – February 18

Free Dress Day – March 5

End of 3rd Quarter – March 19

Spring Break – March 22-26

Nurse's Office

All Student Health information can be found at <https://www.monumentacademy.net/student-support/student-health/> . Thank you for continuing to follow the guidelines so we have the best chance of remaining open.

Chelsea Pierce, BSN, RN

CPierce@monumentacademy.net

From the Board of Directors

Monument Academy has chosen to become a member of the Education Alliance of Colorado (EAC) because we believe the education of your children is worth protecting. We need YOUR help and YOUR voice! Sign up to stand with us using the link below:

<https://p2a.co/1kfd23O?p2asource=MA>

Becoming an advocate for the EAC will ensure you are informed about the latest state policy changes affecting schools like ours, and it will give you an opportunity to make your voice heard in these critical conversations. Together, we can ensure that a quality education, like the one you have chosen at Monument Academy, remains available for all.

Athletics

The CCAL Boys Basketball teams are all undefeated and going into their final regular season game against Thomas MacLaren. Thomas MacLaren is also undefeated, and we expect tough games against them on Thursday. Should the A-Team win this game they will have an opportunity to defend their title on Friday against the top seed from the other division. Keep working hard everyone!

Girls interested in playing basketball this season will have an opportunity to participate in another open-gym workout Thursday evening from 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM in the East Campus Gym. The CCAL Girls Basketball tryouts will not begin until the week of Feb 22nd. Exact tryout days/times will be posted on the team website soon at the link below:

<https://www.monumentacademy.net/athletics/ccal-programs/girls-basketball/>

Voluntary workouts for the CCAL Football team will resume Friday (2/19) from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM on the East Campus turf field should the weather permit.

Several additional programs will begin after spring break, and the condensed seasons do not allow as much time as usual for communications. We will continually refresh the team websites with updated information as changes are made to schedules, practices, etc. Please visit our athletics website for more information on individual programs at the link below:

<https://www.monumentacademy.net/athletics/>

2021 CMAS Colorado State Standardized Assessments

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) is currently planning to have schools administer CMAS assessments this spring in the subject areas of math and reading. CMAS social studies will not be administered this year, and it is not yet known if science will be administered. It is possible that no CMAS assessments will be administered this spring, but if they are, there will not be an option for remote assessments. This means that any students completing the CMAS assessments will need to do so in-person and at school.

We expect that some families may choose to refuse allowing their students to complete CMAS assessments this year due to concerns about COVID-19. CDE has asked us to include an option for specifying COVID-19 as a reason for refusal to our normal refusal process.

Monument Academy accepts online refusals only, per board policy 1525, found at the link below:
<https://www.monumentacademy.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/1525-State-Assessments-Refusal-Policy-2-8-18.pdf>

If you plan to refuse allowing your students to participate in CMAS assessments this spring, regardless of the reason, please complete the online refusal found at the link below so that Monument Academy may comply with CDE protocols. Thank you.

<https://www.familyid.com/monument-academy-2/monument-academy-state-standardized-assessment-refusal-2020-2021>

Marty Venticinque
Assistant Principal
mventicinque@monumentacademy.net



Teacher Appreciation Link

[Click Here](#)

*MA East Teacher Appreciation Week
February 16-18*



Help us 'Grow' the Teacher's Lounge

- 📅 Tuesday, February 16th
Thank You Posters (MA East PTO is making)
- 📅 Wednesday, February 17th
Select something off of the Sign-up sheet (it's easy - 1 item can be for all teachers!) or bring something of your choice.
<https://signup.com/go/ECCZSuq>
- 📅 Thursday, February 18th
Teacher Breakfast (Items needed on Sign-up sheet)

UPDATE:
WE ARE 75% TO OUR GOAL FOR ITEMS FOR THE TEACHER'S LOUNGE & BREAKFAST.
IF YOU'D STILL LIKE TO DONATE, PLEASE GO TO:
[HTTPS://SIGNUP.COM/GO/ECCZSuq](https://signup.com/go/ECCZSuq) (IT IS CASE SENSITIVE)
ALL ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT OR SHIPPED TO THE SCHOOL BY FEB 17TH (WEDNESDAY)

Forwarded by MA East PTO



Scan Pay Go

If you'd rather donate money, the PTO will put it toward items on the Sign-up sheet.