

McDOWELL MOUNTAIN SITE COUNCIL**April 19, 2021****Agenda:**

- Everyone will receive a report with grade level/special area & activities updates
- FHUSD PTO update
- Summer school updates
- 2021-2022 Integrated Action Plan (Title I and II)

Expected meeting dates the remainder of the year:

- May 17 (also Preschool ECQUIP quarter 4 meeting)

MMES Site Council

Staff Members		Parent/Community Members	
Principal	Valerie Dehombreux	FH Community Members	Peter Conti
			Connie Barczak
Classified	Renee Montague	FM Community Member	VACANT
SPED/Preschool	Sharon Monar	Preschool Parent	VACANT
Kindergarten	Susan Bovinette	Kindergarten Parent	Rachel Walters
1 st Grade	Kristin Hatfield	1 st Grade Parent	Danny Garcia
2 nd Grade	Talia Houseal	2 nd Grade Parent	Kim Guerrette
3 rd Grade	Sam Elder	3 rd Grade Parent	Bente Forsdal
Special Areas	Jill Cooper	FHUSD PTO Member	Jelaine Goldapper

Principal's Report:

- Successful March-April events included the 2021-2022 PS/K Pre-Registration Drive-Up Event, AzM2 Spirit Assembly & Trustworthiness awards video, AzM2 Spirit Week with dress up days, and the start of 3rd grade AzM2 testing.
- The Character Counts focus for May is reviewing and celebrating all traits: Citizenship, Caring, Respect, Responsibility, Trustworthiness, and Fairness.

Upcoming Events:

April 19-30: AzM2 3rd grade state testing continues

April 21 & 28 and May 5, 12, & 19: 2:20: Student early release for staff professional development

April 22: Earth Day & Fairness awards assembly video

April 23: 1:30-3:10: 3rd grade visit to FHMS

April 28: 6:30 p.m.: FHUSD Governing Board study session

May 3-21: DIBELS Spring Benchmark & ATI Galileo Post-Test assessment window

May 11: 6:30 p.m.: FHUSD Governing Board meeting

May 17: 3:30: Site Council meeting

May 20: Time TBD: Kindergarten Promotion Ceremony

Date TBD: Character Counts awards assembly video

May 27: Last Day of School; a.m. TBD: FHHS Senior Walk at MMES & FHMS; 12:30: Student early release

Date & Time TBD: Preschool Graduation Ceremony

Preschool

Preschool is planning an in-person graduation ceremony with limited attendance, date and time to be decided.

Kindergarten

Math (Bridges)

This month The Calendar Grid workout features measurement. The workout involves a simple spinner experiment and provides practice with addition combinations to 5. During the Computational Fluency workout, students pose and solve subtraction story problems about frogs and toads. The Days in School workout offers new opportunities to practice counting by 1's and 10's to 100, and Number Line focuses on the counting sequence between 30 and 50.

ELA (Benchmark)

Unit 6

Stories Have a Message. How do we know what is right? Stories help people figure out how to make good decisions. Students will write a key event, write a narrative, write an opinion, write a story extension, and write an opinion. Also, they will work on punctuation marks at the end of a sentence.

Sight Words

Kindergarten has learned 72 words so far this year.

Spelling Tests

Every Friday, Kindergarten has a spelling test on their sight words and CVC words.

Reading Levels

Students are being tested on their reading level going into First Grade.

Kindergarten Promotion

We are all so excited to have an in-person Kindergarten Promotion with limited audience.

First Grade

1st grade has started Unit 7-Past, Present, & Future in Reading. We are working on Animal Reports for Science, In Math we are doing double digit addition without regrouping, fact families, number bonds, and place value.

Second Grade

Reading Finishing Unit 10:

Reading: Unit 10: Essential Question: How can something old become new?

Skills and Strategies:

- Main Topic of Text
- Main Purpose of Text
- Images to Clarify Text
- Steps in Technical Procedure
- Use Information: 2-texts
(to answer questions)
- Draw Inferences
- Comp/Contrast Important Points
(2-texts; same topic)

Starting Unit 8 Next Week:

Reading: Unit 10: Essential Question: How do we react to changes in nature?

- Main Topic of Text
- Shades of Meaning
- Connections between Series of Events
- Reasons Support Different Points
- Formal/Informal Language
- Comp/Contrast Important Points
(two texts; same topic)
- Main Purpose of a Text
- Reasons for Different POV

Building Vocabulary Strategies: Root Words, Shades of Meaning, Prefixes and Suffixes, Formal/Informal Language

Grammar: Formal/Informal Language, Irregular Plurals, Prefixes and Suffixes, Editing, Irregular Plurals, & Possessives Form

Phonics/Spelling: Compound words, inflectional endings, root words, Irregular Plural Nouns, -er & -est endings, Comparatives (-er -est), Word Endings -y and -ly

Writing: Procedural and Informative Essay: Analyze text type, Organize, Draft, Revise, Edit

Science: States of Matter and Weather

Math:

- Solving word problems and using efficient strategies, and writing matching equations
- Geometry (Polygons and 3D)
- Measurement using standard units (cm, meters)

- Place Value and 3-digit numbers forms
- Fractions
- Addition and Subtraction : 3-digit numbers using base ten blocks
- (no regrouping & regrouping in the tens place)
- Addition and subtraction Facts to 20: focus is on Adding 9s

Third Grade

Third grade is continuing to prepare for AZM2. In math, we are working on area, perimeter, division, and geometry to prepare students for fourth grade. In ELA, we are completing our last few units in Benchmark Advance to round out the year.

Special Area Team Site Council Update

STEM

This cycle, students in STEM class are learning all about electricity and the fundamentals of circuits! Children are naturally curious about electricity as it plays such an important part in their daily lives. They want to understand how something turns on, stays on, and turns off again! They will build circuits using LEDs and playdough “Squishy Circuits”. They will use Snap Circuits to create their own functioning circuits that make all sorts of different things “happen”. They will make a human circuit that actually lights up an energy meter. Finally, they will build an original Wiggle Bot using ordinary items and a working motor.

Music

Students have done very well so far this year with limited singing due to COVID. They have gained a lot of knowledge about the elements of music and history of music so far. This final quarter students will be playing instruments more and doing exercises with basketballs and beat and rhythm, rhythmic fitness routines and singing a bit more with our masks on.

This cycle all students are continuing on in our music program and working on our standards of Performing, Creating, Connecting and Responding. All students are experiments with composition (creating) simple rhythmic compositions. All students are also learning the different elements of music through a variety of songs and song styles. All grades continue to listen to music which they Connect to other areas of their lives. Maybe it is music history, maybe it is nature sounds, they listen and learn how it relates in their lives today. They draw and create their feelings and imaginations on paper. They are learning how each new style contributes to the music they listen to today.

I just received new mallets for our instruments through the Golden Eagle Foundation Grant. All students in music during the week will have their own mallet to use for playing instruments and exploring music in another way. They will learn about accompaniments, bourdons, and the solfege syllables do, re, mi, fa, so, la, ti, do as they learn more about pitch and the musical alphabet.

Art

During the month of February students connected, explored and expressed emotions while listening to a variety of music and hearing the feelings in the book *In My Heart, A Book of Feelings* by Jo Witek. They then turned their emotional art into an open and closed circle representing the circle control they have and the outside circle (open circle) is outside their circle of control a great discussion was had on things we can control and things we cannot. The Maricopa County Library is holding a Summer Reading Art Contest. All students got creative designing an animal bookmark to the theme of “Tails and Tales”.

All artists were inspired by the winter theme for this month’s work. Kindergarten Artists read *The Mitten* by Jan Brett and used pattern and symmetry to create unique mittens. They also discovered how to fold and cut a coffee filter to make a paper snowflake to add to their mitten! First Grade Artists explored warm and cool colors with their cool squares and warm heart project. They used markers and water to create a painterly effect for the squares. They then folded and cut out hearts and used markers to decorate. Second Grade artists discovered the beauty and radial symmetry of the snowflake! They looked at the unique snowflakes in the book

“Snowflakes” that features the amazing micro-photography of Kenneth Libbrecht. They then folded and cut a variety of shapes to create one of a kind snowflakes! These were then arranged on a banner for display. Third Grade artists discovered the art of three dimensional weaving as they created their own Paper Cup Weaving. They applied techniques learned from their earlier paper weaving to create the warp threads on the cup and learned to tie knots so they could add more yarn to their weft thread. Students finally looked at the baskets woven by a variety of Native American cultures to see how their baskets were both functional and decorative.

I am proud to announce that MMES has two winners in the Fountain Hills Dark Sky Art Contest: Liliana Viren won 2nd place in the K-3 category and Colton Shattuck-Carreno won third Place in the K-3 category. Congratulations to these amazing artists!

Junior Achievement

The Special Area teachers taught this year's JA curriculum to all students during our Zero week (short week due to Parent/Teacher Conferences). Our K-3 students learned about wants and needs, businesses and government jobs, taxes, money management, and making wise choices.

Camp Invention

Camp Invention is back! We will have camp this summer at McDowell Mountain the week of June 14-18. There will be an in person and online option for families to choose from, parents can decide which camp they would like to attend up to 6 weeks before camp begins. Of all of the years we have hosted Camp Invention, this year has the best curriculum and take-home gadgets yet! It is going to be an epic camp experience for our kids! Online registration is open so please spread the word! There are 2 scholarships available as well as some additional discounts if you know of anyone who may be interested.