

# Mason Academy March PTA / School Advisory Council Meeting Restarting In-Person Learning

Principal Van Hooks

Stevens T. Mason Academy

March 2, 2021



Students Rise. We All Rise.

# Meeting Agenda

- Student Council & City Year Updates
- COVID-19 Safety Protocols
- Learning Centers started- Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>
- Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>- In-person Learning begins
- In-Person Learning Availability
- In-Person Learning vs Learning Centers
- Transportation
- Semester 2 Grading Procedures & Protocols
- HUB Resources
- Contact Us information

A top-down view of several students gathered around a large sheet of white paper, drawing various school supplies and objects. The drawings include a globe, a microscope, a lightbulb, a ruler, a backpack, a computer monitor, a calculator, a glue bottle, a compass, a pencil sharpener, a paint palette, a book, a clock, a pair of scissors, a pencil, a pencil case, a stack of books, a person, and a magnifying glass over the number 5. The students' hands and arms are visible as they work with colored pencils and markers. A dark grey semi-transparent box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the title and date.

# City Year & Student Council Updates

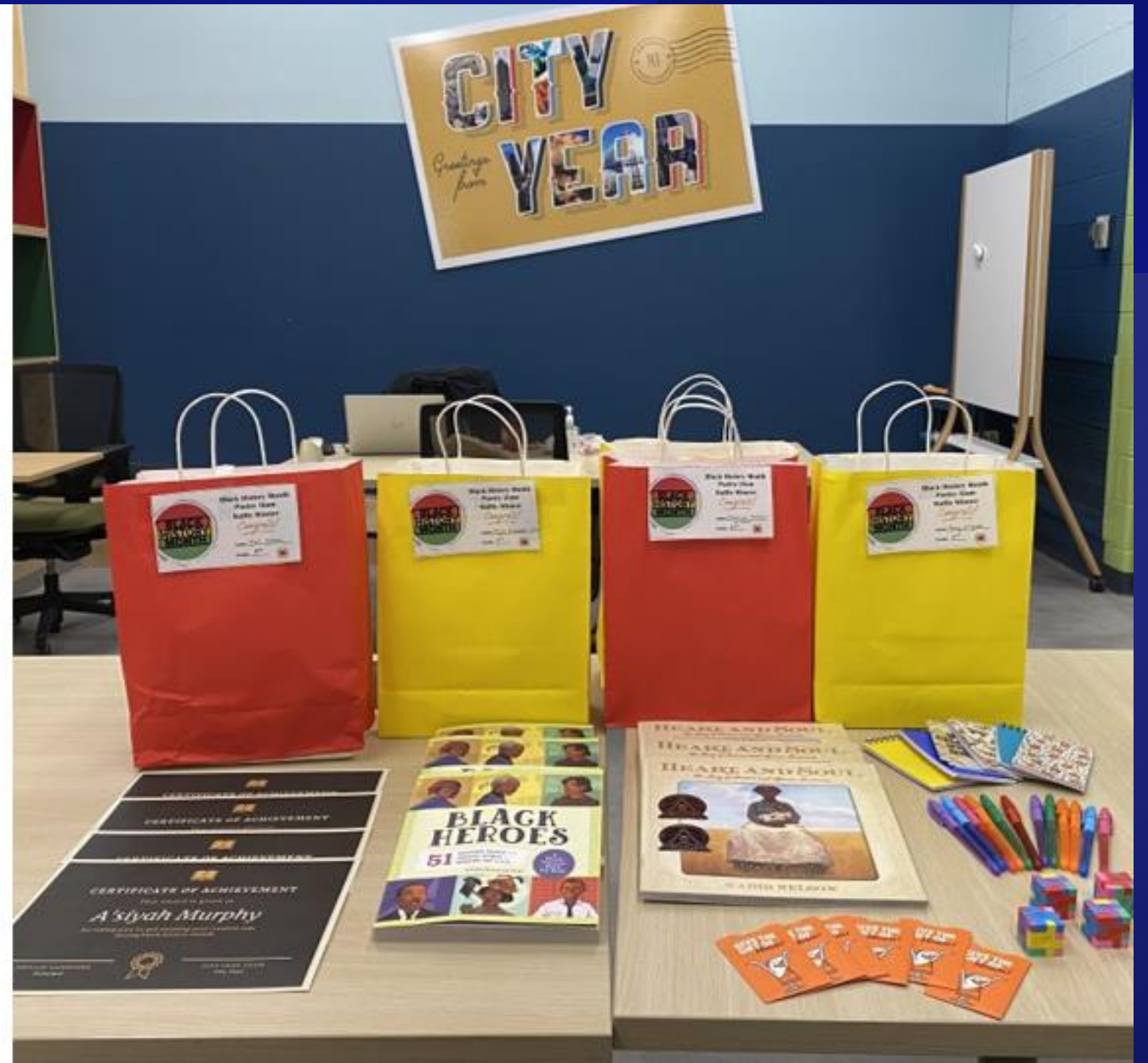
March 2nd, 2021

## **8th Grade Student Council Representatives**

- + Heaven Martin
- + Teresa Jennings
- + Demarion Wright
- + Diamond Neal-Perry
- + Isaac Burton
- + Meet weekly for student council meetings.
- + Lead morning announcements.
- + Discuss school events and happenings in the school.
- + Participate in leadership development.

# Black History Poetry Slam: Event Recap

- + Over 230 people attended the BHM celebration!
- + Over 50 students submitted a video, poem, story, or art piece.
- + Six prizes were raffled to participants!



**Check Out the  
March  
Newsletter!  
Posted on Schoology  
& School Website**



**CITY YEAR**

# MASON NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3 • MARCH 2021

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MASON?

March 2: **Wrote Channel 7 Spelling Bee** (with School Bee Winner, Kariem Mitchell, & Runner-Up, Jessica Horton) - MARCH 2

W PALOZA - MARCH 9-12

W DAY - MARCH 14

DEADLINE FOR MARCH 16 READING MONTH CHALLENGE - MARCH 15

MARCH READING CHALLENGE CELEBRATION! - MARCH 24 9:00-10:00 AM

### March Staff Birthdays!

March 1: MS. MCDANIEL  
March 7: MS. FINKLEA  
March 14: MS. KAISER  
March 18: MS. ABBY  
March 23: MR. BROHMAN  
March 31: MR. VANHOOKS

### GET TO KNOW MR. ZACH!

Favorite subject: **Math**

Favorite sport/club: **Chess**

Favorite drink: **Water**

Favorite game: **Chess**

Favorite movie: **The Sound of Music**

Favorite book: **War & Peace**

Favorite Color: **Blue**

Favorite food: **Hot Dog**

Favorite TV show: **How I Met Your Mother**

Favorite animal: **Dog**

Favorite season: **Winter**

### STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: KARIEM MITCHELL (MASON SPELLING BEE CHAMP!)

favorite thing to do: **listen to music**

favorite food: **chicken**

favorite school subject: **math**

# Check Out the March Newsletter!

Posted on Schoology & School  
Website

**MATH/ELA QUESTION**

Math: Which is the smallest?  
a. -1  
b. - $\frac{1}{6}$   
c. 0  
d. 3

Answer: A

2+2=4

ELA: Choose the correct spelling:  
a. misterious  
b. mysterious  
c. misteereees  
d. mysteereeos

Answer: B

*Does February like  
March?  
No, but April May!*

**WOMAN'S HISTORY MONTH  
READING LIST**

*K-2*

The Trailblazer: A Girl Power Primer  
by Joan Holub

Serena Williams: Champion On and Off the Court by Jodie Shepherd

*3-5*

Shuri: A Black Panther Novel by Nic Stone

Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly

*6-8*

I am Malala (Young Reader's Edition) by Malala Yousafzai

**Staff Appreciations!**

Thank You Mason Staff for being so supportive in every way! This month we had so many staff members help for events. We want to specifically shout out:

Ms. Gantner: Thank you for your help in getting student entries for the Writing Celebration and the Black History Month Poetry Slam!

Ms. Benavidez: Thank you for putting the dance together for the Black History Poetry Slam! We couldn't have done it without you!

Ms. Bentley: Thank you for working with us to get as many submissions as possible for the poetry slam!

Ms. Rance: Thank you for partnering up with Ms. Brittany in the middle of the year for math intervention!

**THANK YOU**

# Check Out the March Newsletter! Posted on Schoology & School Website

When the whole world is **silent**,  
even **one voice** becomes **powerful**.  
- Malala Yousafzai

"Each time a  
woman stands  
up for herself,  
she stands up for  
all women."  
- MAYA ANGELOU

When they go  
low, we go high.  
- MICHELLE OBAMA

Never be limited  
by other people's  
limited imaginations.  
- Mae Jemison

WOMEN'S HISTORY  
MONTH  
WORDS OF WISDOM

You just have to be yourself  
and go full with confidence  
and be courageous.  
- Gabby Douglas

**Pi day OREO Cream Pie!**

**Directions**

1. Crush 24 cookies finely, mix with butter and press to bottom and up-side of 9 in. pie plate
2. Chop 12 cookies, beat pudding mix with milk for 2 minutes. Stir in Cool Whip, spoon into crust.
3. Refrigerate 4 hours or until firm
4. Enjoy! :)

**Ingredients:**

- 1 box (36) oreos/chocolate sandwich cookies
- 1 box Cool Whip, whipped topping
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine, melted
- 2 3.4 oz pkg jello instant vanilla pudding
- 1-1/2 cups cold milk
- 1 box (8oz) Cool Whip

Recipe from:



# March Reading Challenge

Mason Academy and City Year Presents

## *MARCH READING CHALLENGE*

**ALL  
STUDENTS  
ARE  
WELCOME!**



**STARTS  
MARCH 1ST  
AND ENDS  
MARCH 19TH**

### Let's Celebrate Reading!

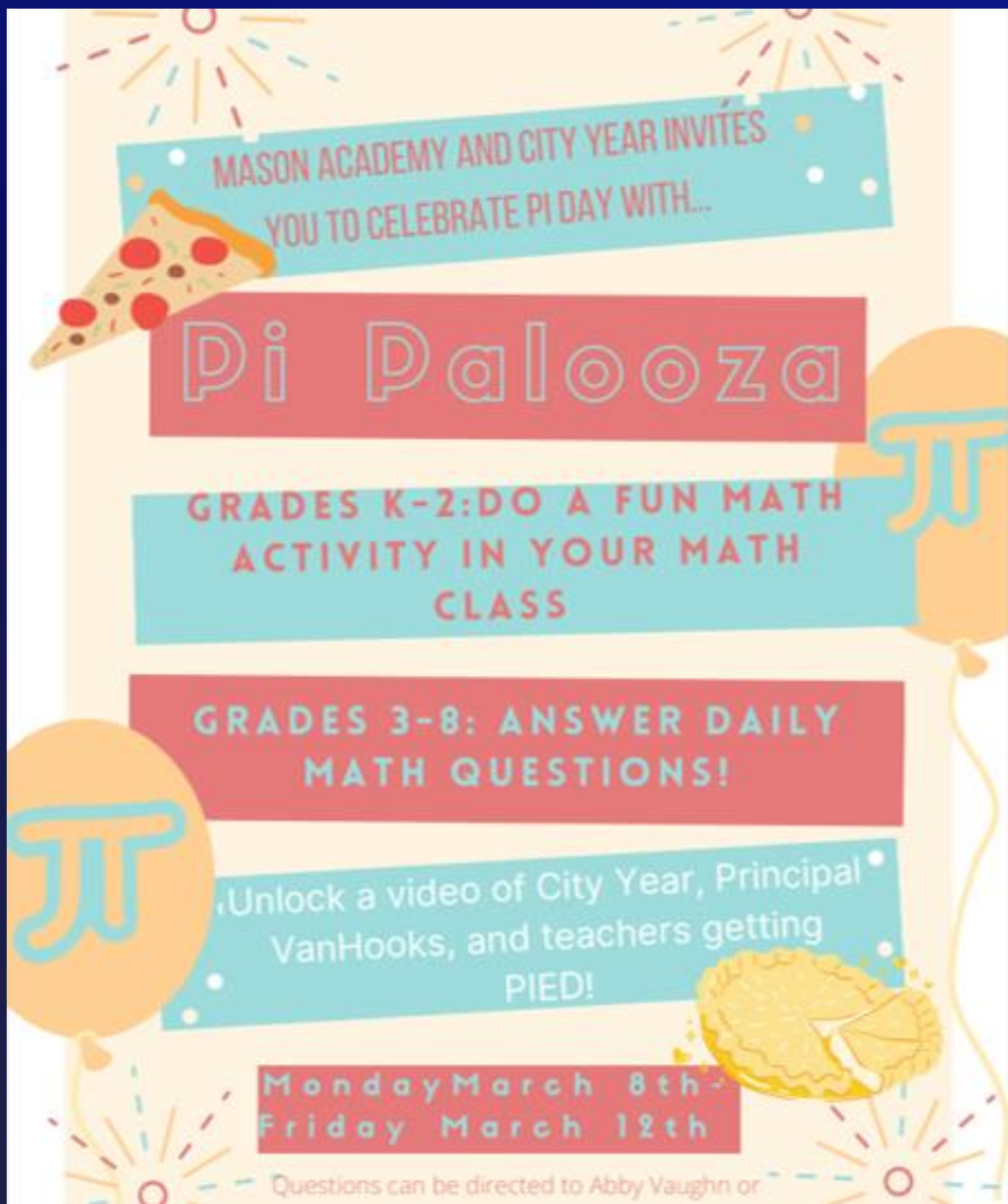
- Record minutes read and complete fun activities each week!
- Prizes for students with most minutes read in each grade
- Activities count for 20 minutes of reading

### March Reading Challenge Celebration

- March 26th
- Reading Awards
- And More FUN!!



QUESTIONS CAN BE DIRECTED TO



# Pi Palooza

# Women's History Month

- + During morning announcements, we will be showcasing an inspirational woman each day.
- + Music Mondays, Trivia Tuesdays, Women's Wednesdays, Thriving Thursdays, and From Detroit Fridays!



# COVID-19 Safety Protocols

- ❖ Arrival, transition, and dismissal procedures
- ❖ Daily Symptom Checker
- ❖ PPE compliance
- ❖ Classroom Configurations
- ❖ Cleaning protocols
- ❖ School wide rituals and routines
- ❖ Parents and visitors procedures
- ❖ Crowd management plan

# Arrival, transition, and dismissal procedures

- Students will line up socially distanced outside of door 4 every morning. Door 4 will open for breakfast between 8:15am and 8:20am.
- Students will enter the building one at a time to complete the daily COVID-19 Screening.
- Students will eat breakfast in the cafeteria and if necessary, in room 130 (overflow).
- Teachers and Instructional Support Staff will pick students up from the cafeteria at 8:30am for class.
- Walkers and students picked up by parents and siblings will dismiss from the building out of door 3 at 3:40pm.
- Bus riders will be dismissed from the building through door 14 and walk directly to their busses parked in the parking lot.

# Daily Symptom Checker

- If a child is observed sneezing, coughing, complains of headache, or has a fever, they will be directed to our school nurse and placed in our isolation room.
- Parents will be called and asked to return to the building to pick up the child as soon as possible.



## COVID-19 Screening Tool for Families

Parents and guardians, use this checklist every day before sending your children to school.

If you answer "YES" to one or more questions, you must keep your child home from school today.

Does your child have any unusual symptoms from the list below?

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A fever? (Temperature greater than 100.4° F)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	A new or worsening cough?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Headache and/or sore throat?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Runny nose and/or congestion?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Body aches and/or tiredness?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vomiting and/or diarrhea?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	New loss of smell or taste?

If the answer to any of the questions above is "yes", keep your child home and consult your primary care physician. If a doctor determines that the symptoms are due to another diagnosis, or COVID-19 is ruled out, your child may return to school after being fever-free for 24 hours **without** the use of fever-reducing medications.

- |                          |                          |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Has your child had close contact with anyone who had a positive COVID-19 diagnostic test in the past 14 days? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Has your child traveled out of the US by airplane in the last 14 days?  |

If the answer to either of these questions is "yes", your child must stay home to quarantine for 14 days since last contact or return to US.

Report any confirmed or suspected cases:

In the City of Detroit:

[Detroit Health Department](#)

Main Communicable Disease Line: (313) 876-4000

After Hours Call Center: (313) 876-4000

Dr. Kenetra Young: [kenetra.young@detroitmi.gov](mailto:kenetra.young@detroitmi.gov) - (313) 590-7683

Outside the City of Detroit:

[Wayne County Public Health Division](#)

Main Communicable Disease Line: (734) 727-7078

After Hours Call Center: (734) 727-7284

Mary Hanson: [mary.hanson@waynecounty.com](mailto:mary.hanson@waynecounty.com) - (734) 727-7150

Nosena Wachuku: [nosena.wachuku@waynecounty.com](mailto:nosena.wachuku@waynecounty.com) - (734) 727-7251

Lukas Ayers: [lukas.ayers@waynecounty.com](mailto:lukas.ayers@waynecounty.com) - (734) 727-7076



# PPE compliance

- Reusable masks for students and staff
- Surgical loaner masks
- Staff, students and limited visitors consistently and effectively use PPE
- Handwashing, masks and social distancing expected for all students, faculty and limited visitors.
- Maximum occupancy signs are posted on all classroom doors.
- No more than 20 desks in any F2F classroom and desks are separated by at minimum 6 feet.
- Our building has a centrally operated HVAC ventilation system. All air is commercially filtered.

# Cleaning protocols

- Cleaning checklists for classroom technology are in place. Students will disinfect laptops when taking them out in the morning and placing them in the laptop cart at dismissal.
- Classrooms are sprayed with disinfectant nightly
- Bathrooms are fully stocked with paper towel, soap for handwashing and are frequently cleaned.



# School wide rituals and routines

- Students must always remain socially distant. Sit at desks that are placed over blue markings on the floor.
- Sit at seats in the cafeteria where blue markings are placed on lunch benches.
- Stand in the hallways where blue markings have been placed on the floor.
- Use only water bottles or cups to get water.
- Visitors may only enter the building for a previously scheduled appointment.
- Students not wearing their masks over their mouth and nose and not remaining socially distant may lose their place in face 2 face instruction and/or the learning center.

# Parents and visitors procedures

- Parents should call our office directly at 313-866-3700 or the principal directly at 313-706-4632 to schedule an appointment with building administration or faculty.
- For over-the-counter requests, our security guard will take your number and you will be asked to wait in your car until it is your turn to be called into the building.
- All parents and visitors will be required to complete the COVID-19 & security screening protocols.
- Parents will not be allowed to go to a learning center to pick up or observe a classroom.
- Parents needing to pick their child up early must contact the building before 3:15pm. After 3:15pm, we are in our normal dismissal procedures.

# Crowd management plan

- When our cafeteria reaches capacity, students will go into room 130 for overflow.
- Students move in the building in a staggered format and always walk to the right side of the hallway.
- During inclement weather circumstances, students will be allowed to enter the building through door 4 and sit in the cafeteria until breakfast begins.
- Late picks up will wait in the library and their parents should come to door 1 and ring the doorbell or call our office at 313-866-3700.

# Face-2-Face

## In-Person Learning Availability

- ❖ For Face-2-Face instruction we have the following availability.
- ❖ Kindergarten: Learning Center Only (Virtual)
- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: Learning Center Only (Virtual)
- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 13 slots available
- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: 13 slots available
- ❖ 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 26 slots available
- ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Learning Center Only (Virtual)
- ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Learning Center Only (Virtual)
- ❖ 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Learning Center Only (Virtual)
- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Learning Center Only (Virtual)
- ❖ ESE: Learning Center Only (Virtual)

# Transportation

- ❖ As parents bring students to the Learning Center and Face 2 Face instruction they will be marked in PowerSchool of their enrollment in the building.
- ❖ It will take 48 to 72 business hours for Transportation to fulfill a bus request after we have confirmed through PowerSchool that the child is present in the building.
- ❖ Therefore, parents will need to contact transportation to confirm the bus route and corner stops for their children and when their place on the bus is secured.
- ❖ Students must keep their masks on over their mouth and nose while on the bus. If a student does not follow the protocols and procedures on the bus, they can lose their place permanently.

# Learning Center & Virtual Instruction

- ❖ What happens in a learning center?
- ❖ Learning centers have varying capacity due to the size of the room.
- ❖ We have K-1, 2-3, 4-5 & 6-8 Learning Centers.
- ❖ When faculty absences occur, our learning centers are restructured for coverage. Using our cafeteria as a learning center is a last resort.
- ❖ Students receiving instruction through the Virtual Space will have Wednesdays to work with their teachers individually to review progress toward goals, complete missing or late work, continue to work with their interventionists, participate in their regularly scheduled Wednesday electives.
- ❖ Students will report to their AM & PM homeroom as usual on Wednesday for attendance to be taken and to receive directions for the day.

# Semester 2 Grading Procedures

- **PK-2:** Teachers are required to limit graded assignments up to one per core subject per week. Teachers must also provide an assignment list to students and families each Monday for submission the following Monday. The assignment list should also communicate any assessments, which would be in addition to the graded assignments, scheduled for that week, and must be posted in Teams as a Tab in the General Channel.
- **3-5:** Teachers are required to limit graded assignments up to two per core subject per week. Teachers must also provide an assignment list to students and families each Monday for submission the following Monday. The assignment list should also communicate any assessments, which would be in addition to the graded assignments, scheduled for that week, and must be posted in Teams as a Tab in the General Channel.

# Semester 2 Grading Procedures

- **6-8:** Teachers are required to limit graded assignments to up to two per subject (including electives) per week. Students should be provided with a syllabus, which includes expected assignments, test, and quizzes. At a minimum, syllabi must be posted with assignments for the upcoming week, but teachers may extend the period of the syllabus (e.g., for the quarter or semester). Assessments may be in addition to the limited graded assignments. The syllabus must be posted in Teams as a Tab in the General Channel so that it is accessible for students and families.



# Late, Resubmitted or Missing Work

- Time to Catch Up and Get Help: If their school has not already introduced Office Hours into the schedule, teachers should set aside at least one, regularly scheduled period each week dedicated to assisting students with:
  - Completing graded assignments for the week
  - Making up missing assignments
  - Resubmitting assignments for improved grades
  - Retaking assessments
- Support should take place during an existing class period/regular time scheduled for the class to meet during the school day, and not during an additional after school meeting, for example.

# Late, Resubmitted or Missing Work

- Students may submit late graded assignments within a 10 school day window of their designated due date. Students may resubmit graded assignments for improved grades within a 10 school-day window of receiving feedback on the graded work. Assignments that are assigned or returned with a grade within the last 10 school-days of the quarter must be submitted/resubmitted two days prior to the end of the quarter. Teachers should also practice discretion and can consider extenuating circumstances to grant students additional time for submitting or resubmitting assignments, through coordination with the student and family.

# Late, Resubmitted or Missing Work

- Zeros with Opportunities to Recover: Teachers are still able to assign zeros for missing work but should acknowledge effort and encourage the use of late and resubmitted work options to support students initially earning a zero.

# Assignment Retakes

- Assessment Retakes with Limits: Students may retake a test or quiz up to two times on teacher-identified re-take days during class office hours/the support period. Teachers can design a new assessment that addresses the same standards and content as the original assessment, with updated questions, or they may allow students to retake the same assessment, at their discretion. The highest grade will be counted. Families should receive specific guidance that they are not to provide help on student assessments because they are an important opportunity to assess mastery. Families should also receive a calendar of assessment re-take days at the beginning of each week, with their assignment list/syllabus.
- Teachers should regularly communicate with students and their families about missing assignments and graded assignments and assessments so that students and families can submit late work or resubmit work or retake an assessment for an improved grade.

# Grading

- Introduce G and NC Grades in 3-12: Schools will use a modified version of the traditional grading scale. Teachers will record letter grades, but a student who earns a D grade for the final semester grade will receive a G (credit). A student who earns an F grade will receive an NC (no credit). Students who receive a G will earn credit for the course and their grade point average will not be affected. Students who receive an NC will not earn credit for the course and their grade point average will not be affected. Students earning an NC would be required to retake the course for future credit.
- The key advantage to this approach is that a student facing hardship this year will not face undue deficits in their GPA when applying to colleges, work, etc. Therefore, we will look to retroactively apply G and NC grades to Semester 1.

# Grading & Homework

- **Expand the point range for D(G):** Students who earn a 50% or higher will earn a G (50-69% range, rather than 60-69% range). This would be for Semester 2.
- **Attendance Minimum for a D(G):** Students who are attending and participating in class activities and assignments at least 80 percent of the time (four out of five days of the week) cannot receive lower than a D. Students who attend fewer than 4 classes per week but are turning in graded assignments and taking assessments should earn grades based on their performance on those assignments and assessments. This would be for Semester 2.
- Homework should be limited to assigned reading, studying, and completion of maximum number of weekly graded assignments that may not have been finished during class time. In the weekly assignment list or syllabus, teachers may offer ideas for reinforcement or extension activities for students to complete with their families or on their own. However, these activities are not required to be turned in and they will not be graded.

# Grading Presentation

- For more information on DPSCD's new grading procedures, please click on the following link to view the video.
- <https://youtu.be/ZOzwbm9hFkA>

# HUB Technology Resources

Hub Sites	M	Tu	W	Th	F
<b>Eastside</b>					
East English Village High School		10:00 – 6:00			10:00 – 6:00
King High School	10:00 – 6:00		10:00 – 7:00		
Denby High School		10:00 – 6:00		10:00 – 6:00	
<b>Northwest</b>					
Mumford High School		10:00 – 6:00		10:00 – 6:00	
Henry Ford High School			10:00 – 7:00		10:00 – 6:00
Renaissance High School	10:00 – 6:00		10:00 – 7:00		
<b>Southwest</b>					
Western High School		10:00 – 6:00		10:00 – 6:00	
Munger Elementary-Middle School	10:00 – 6:00				10:00 – 6:00
<b>Westside</b>					
Cody High School		10:00 – 6:00		10:00 – 6:00	
Mackenzie Elementary-Middle School			10:00 – 7:00		10:00 – 6:00



# Contact Information

- ❖ Indicate Principal's Standing Office Hours and the location on the website
- ❖ Principal Van Hooks standing office hours: The 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month from 3:30pm to 5pm. Use the link below
- ❖ <http://bit.ly/3kCUTVm>

# Upcoming Events @ Mason Academy

## BOOK FAIR FAMILY EVENT!

Come to Mason's March Madness Book Fair!

Join us for free books, light refreshments and a special appearance from Clifford the Big Red Dog. Thank you United Way for Southeastern MI for helping our students own books they want to read.

Thursday, March 11, 2021 from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Room 102 (adjacent to the school library)

 SCHOLASTIC

# What's Happening at Mason? Events for March

- + **March 1:** March Reading Challenge begins
- + **March 9:** WXYZ Channel 7 Spelling Bee with Karien Mitchell and Runner up Jessica Horton
- + **March 8-12:** Pi Palooza
- + **March 14:** Pi Day
- + **March 19:** Deadline for March Reading Month Challenge
- + **March 26th, 9:30am-10:30am:** March Reading Challenge Celebration

# Questions and Answers Session



- Please scan the barcode to the right or click on this link to complete our survey regarding this meeting.
- <http://bit.ly/3kBAiAZ>

