



April 18, 2021

Good Afternoon Tilden Family,

Tomorrow begins a big week for us, as we welcome back all three grade levels of Blue Week students who opted for in-person instruction. Below, I have included information to help our Timberwolves successfully navigate the week.

Please remember that students are expected to wear a mask throughout the day and socially distance in the hallways and during the movement break.

**Calendar:**

Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Blue Week (A-K)

Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>: Virtual Day

Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup>: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Gold Week (L-Z)

\*Ramadan started last week. For all of our students who observe the holiday and are fasting, the Media Center is open to them during lunch.

**Exceptional Timberwolves:**

- A shout-out to Lyla Cho, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, whose artwork was selected by the Maryland State Department of Education Fine Arts to be presented at the 4th Annual Maryland Arts Education Festival. Thank you to Ms. Flanagan for supporting Lyla and all of her art students.

**TMS SECOND SEMESTER ATHLETICS:**

- The Second Semester Athletic Season will begin on April 20, 2021 and ends on May 6, 2021. The middle school interscholastic athletics program is available for all students in seventh and eighth grade, and consists of the following sport activities: Boys' Softball and Girls' Softball.
- The season will be conducted virtually this semester. The season will include 2-3 virtual engagement sessions a week, for a total of 6-9 engagement sessions over the course of three weeks. The virtual engagement sessions are scheduled to occur on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Registration for TMS athletics is done electronically at: <https://forms.gle/67k3o3dxVkjMDDXA>
- All students who wish to participate in the virtual season need to complete the registration. The registration can also be found on the Tilden website under the athletics tab. We are excited to offer our students this virtual experience! If you have any

questions, please email the Athletic Coordinator, Mrs. Michelle Cassels ([Michelle.D.Cassels@mcpsmd.net](mailto:Michelle.D.Cassels@mcpsmd.net))

**General Updates:**

- Critical information for students who are returning on Monday: [Return to School Information for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.](#)
- Online student request lunch forms need to be filled out by students every morning during the first class. The link is on our school website.
- Student phones are expected to be off and away during the school day, and this includes lunch.
- Extra headphones are available in the Media Center and the cafeteria.
- All stairwells will now accommodate two-way traffic.

**Covid-19 Pool Testing:**

- COVID-19 testing will begin at our school the week of April 19, 2021 for students receiving partial in-person instruction.
- The weekly school-provided COVID-19 testing will be used to identify cases where the student or staff member may not be showing symptoms. MCPS families were notified about this new effort in [February](#) and [March](#). Each swab will be placed in a common tube for that classroom or group and sent off to a central testing laboratory. The test detects whether the virus that causes COVID-19 is present in that pooled sample. Schools will receive results within 2-3 days.
- To participate in the COVID-19 Pool Testing, the parent must submit a signed consent form for each child. If you do not want your child to participate, you do not need to complete the Google form.
  - Please complete this Google form if you want your child to participate in the testing: [TMS Covid 19 Pooled Testing Consent Form](#)
- MCPS is providing resources to help parents, students and staff understand the process for the testing. To review those resources, please visit <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/reopening/#covid-testing>. We will also be introducing students to the self-administered swab next week so that they know what to expect.

Warmest Regards,

Irina LaGrange  
Principal