

The Lotus Lowdown

November 4, 2022



Maria Francisco, Principal
(Next Bulletin will be published 12/2/22)

Nominations Sought for 2022-2023 Governor's Educator of the Year Recognition Program

- The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is accepting nominations to recognize educators who have gone above and beyond in their service to New Jersey's students. Over the past two and a half years, educators changed the way they delivered instruction to New Jersey's 1.4 million students. Now, more than ever before, is the time to celebrate New Jersey's outstanding educators. Therefore, parents are encouraged to participate in the Governor's Educator of the Year program to honor the hardworking teachers and educational services professionals for their dedication to their students and the profession. This program promotes a culture that recognizes excellence, creates a sense of pride, and brings public attention to the work of outstanding educators. Both educators and support staff can be nominated. Please remember to consider exceptional educators with diverse backgrounds to ensure that honorees represent the ethnic/racial diversity of our school/state. **Nomination forms can be printed, placed into an envelope and turned in to Ms. Francisco. To submit via email, please be sure to make a copy of the document and then email it to Ms. Francisco. (mfrancisco@montclair.k12.nj.us or share directly with mfrancisco@mpsdnj.us.)**
 - [GEOY Award Eligibility Criteria](#)
 - [Nomination Form](#)

Student Council Information

- Students are encouraged to share campaign material(s) and/or speeches with Ms. Francisco (mfrancisco@mpsdnj.us) for approval. Many students have started campaigning and we definitely have some very creative and engaging future politicians! Speeches must be approved by November 15, 2022. Officer Elections will be held on Friday, November, 18th during advisories (zoom). Homeroom Representative elections will take place in Homeroom/Advisories during the week of November 14-16.
- Any questions, please email Ms. Francisco @ mfrancisco@montclair.k12.nj.us or mfrancisco@mpsdnj.us

Music:

- **Winter Concert**

When: December 14, 2022 at 7:00PM.

Where: Montclair High School Auditorium.

- **Groups performing:**

8th Grade Band

7th Grade Band

Rock Band

- ***Rehearsals Schedule:**

December 12th - 12:00 - 3:00 PM

December 13th - 12:00 - 3:00 PM

**Please reach out to Ms. Spagnuolo with any detailed questions at dspagnuolo@montclair.k12.nj.us*

Dance:

- All Renaissance students, staff and dance company students' families were treated to a spooktacular Halloween performance on Monday, October 31, 2022. Our 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Dance Company students, led by Ms. Lorusso put together a wonderful performance. Great job by all!
- [Halloween Performance DANCE COMPANY](#)

Updates from Ms. Pastor:

- **RJ Classes:** This week, in our restorative justice classes, we discussed safe spaces and reflection on what you learned about yourself and your need to feel 100% yourself.
- **Gay Straight Alliance:** GSA at Renaissance has declared itself a club focusing on Social Engagement and Education in our school building. We will be meeting weekly. We will meet on Tuesdays (except next week 11/8 since we are off, and it will be held Wednesday instead)!

6th Grade:

- **ELA Update:**

The students this month are continuing to learn the elements of narrative reading and writing. They just concluded reading their first whole-class novel, *No More Dead Dogs* by Gordon Korman. Many students were surprised when they found out who the antagonist was in the book ("Ahhh!," Dylan Turner, Rachel, one of the main character's in the book, little brother).

Our Narrative Unit will conclude with the students learning how to draft a story that displays plot. They are currently writing Spooky Narratives and

will soon write a narrative that builds on the plot of Ray Bradbury's short story, "All Summer in a Day."

7th Grade:

- The 7th grade will be reaching out to parents regarding November and December conferences. If you don't hear from us - we will schedule you later in the year.
- Many students are not charging their Chromebooks the night before school. Please help them get this done as it makes classes progress more smoothly.
- Be sure to check weekly emails sent to you regarding individual class assignments.
- It's not too late to join model Congress (all grades). Contact Ms Thomas or come to Wednesday's meeting after school.

8th Grade:

- [8th Grade Update](#)

Important Upcoming Dates:

- **November 8, 2022** ***Election Day No School*** For Students
- **November 10-11, 2022** NJEA Teachers Convention **District Closed**
- **November 11, 2022** Veterans Day
- **November 17, 2022** Curriculum Thursday **1:25 pm Dismissal**
- **November 21, 2022** Marking Period 2 starts
- **November 23, 2022** Marking Period 1 Grades posted
1:25 Dismissal for Staff and Students
- **November 24-25, 2022** **District Closed** for Thanksgiving break
- **November 25, 2022** Native American Heritage Day