

# A Message from the Principal

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ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS

## The Malley Mustang

Dear Malley Drive Families,

Welcome back to another exciting school year. I am thrilled to be back at Malley Drive working with you and your student. I hope all of you had a restful summer and were able to spend time with family and loved ones. I spent my time visiting family on the west coast and trying to lower my golf handicap.

I want to address a letter that you received from me in August. Malley Drive has made terrific strides in our growth in student achievement in reading and math. While we are proud of these accomplishments, we did fall short in achieving AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) in the area of reading. I want to assure you that we are taking proactive steps towards achieving AYP in both reading and math this year. I outlined the measures we will be taking in the letter you received in August. I am more than happy to discuss at length the implications of not achieving AYP and steps the entire staff is making to improve our student achievement. I will go over in detail the data at our first PSO meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM.

I know that many of you have been reading/hearing about the possible effects the H1N1 flu virus may have on schools. As I receive information on district decisions addressing this potential problem, I will send it to you and also have it available on our school's website. Things you can do on a regular basis to protect yourself and your child: Cover your nose when you sneeze or cough, wash your hands thoroughly and regularly, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, and avoid contact with sick people. Also, please read the additional information provided in this month's newsletter about the virus.

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon and evening and all day on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> until 7:00 PM. Sign up information for conferences will be sent home with child in early September. Please return your requested date and time as soon as possible to your child's teacher. Parent/Teacher conferences are an ideal opportunity for teachers and parents/guardians to talk about student progress, discuss areas of strength and needed growth, and to collectively create a plan to ensure each student's success for the 2009-2010 school year.

Our PSO meetings will be held the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM in the library. This is a wonderful opportunity for our parents/guardians to network with each other and to be actively involved at Malley Drive. Tammy Menard is our PSO president. She is approachable, child centered, fun to work with, and usually brings some real yummy snacks. I hope to see many of you at those meetings.

This school year will hold many challenges for us. Together we will make a difference in the lives of the children whose lives we impact on a daily basis. Thank you for entrusting me and my staff with your child. We work hard every day to ensure that your child receives a quality education. Know that the door to my office is always open. You can usually find me on the school grounds before and after school. Please do not hesitate to introduce yourself to me. It is my goal to get to know all of the families at Malley Drive.

Sincerely,

Anne Wesley, Principal

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# **safety First**

For safety's sake, we would like to ask for the help of the Malley parents and guardians by doing the following:

- ▶ Please have your children use the crosswalks and sidewalks and talk to your children about how to use them
- ▶ Model using the crosswalks and sidewalks for your children so they can follow your example
- ▶ Reserve the bus lanes in front of the school for school buses and daycare vans only

Safety is a top priority at Malley Drive Elementary, so crossing guards will be stationed at the crosswalk in front of the school. Adults will be visible and the gates will be manned for additional support. Thank you !

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## ATTENDANCE LINE



Please call the Attendance Line at 720-972-5498 before 7:30 a.m. when your child is absent. By verifying your child's absence, the school will be able to confirm your child's safety and be accountable for their whereabouts. With your support we can more efficiently serve you in this manner. Thank you.

Por favor llame a la escuela 720-972-5498 antes de las 7:45 de la mañana, la primera mañana en que su hijo/a esté ausente. Su llamada telefónica le ahorrará la oficina de la escuela tiempo necesario para otras cosas. Muchas horas por día se dedican a tratar de ponernos en contacto con padres cuyos niños están ausentes. Su cooperación se agradece. Muchas gracias.

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## **Make Time For Reading!**

Research shows that reading with your child at least 15 minutes every day helps to increase their achievement levels dramatically!

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## APPROPRIATE CLOTHING FOR P.E.

It is with safety of all students in mind that we ask your child to wear appropriate footwear and clothing while in physical education (P.E.) class.

Flip flops, high-heeled shoes and loose fitting slip on shoes can be hazardous to children when doing various activities that are performed in class. Students need to wear shoes that will stay on their feet when they run or kick a ball. This will keep both them and other students safe when participating in P.E. activities.

Girls wearing dresses are asked to wear shorts under their dress. Jewelry such as hoop earrings can cause injury to your student and others.

REMEMBER—OCTOBER COUNT DAY IS OCTOBER 1st

Regular attendance is important for student learning! Did you know it is also important for student funding? The state funds public schools money each year for the number of students that are attending school on October 1st. It is very important that your child is in school to be counted for this funding, unless, of course, they are very ill. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HAVE YOUR CHILD IN ATTENDANCE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Novel H1N1 "Swine Flu" Update

Many things have changed since the initial outbreak of "Swine Flu" last spring. The biggest change is exclusion of infected students and staff.

Students or staff members who exhibit flu-like symptoms (fever with a cough or sore throat) should stay home and not attend school or work until at least 24 hours after their fever is gone (without the use of fever-reducing medicine).

1. Most U.S. cases have not been severe and are comparable in severity to seasonal flu. The difference is that novel H1N1 flu is more easily spread.
2. Unlike seasonal flu, the largest portion of the population affected by novel H1N1 are those people ranging in age from 0-24 years old.
3. Novel H1N1 will no longer be reported by CDC or Tri-County Health Department. Novel H1N1 is being handled by these organizations similarly to seasonal flu, which is an illness that is not reported.
4. District 12 will not report individual cases of novel H1N1 to Tri-County Health Department or others. However, we are working with our nursing staff to track absentee rates due to flu-like symptoms. If a school experiences absentee rates double or more of its usual absentee rate, district nursing staff will report the high absentee rate to Tri-County Health Department and the Safe and Secure Environments Department.
5. To aid our tracking efforts, we are asking schools to change their attendance line recorded message to ask parents to leave a message with the student's name, grade and whether or not he or she has a fever, cough or sore throat. I will provide schools with a suggested script to use in voicing the new attendance line message.
6. School closure is no longer recommended by health officials as a primary means of preventing the spread of novel H1N1. However, if the superintendent decides to close a school, it will most likely be due to a shortage of staff. In this case, the superintendent will notify Tri-County Health Department of its decision and reasons for closing a school.

A vaccination is being developed by CDC and will be available later this fall. When the vaccination becomes available, Adams 12 will provide assistance to health authorities to ensure our at-risk population receives the voluntary vaccination if they choose to do so.

It is important to remember that human influenza viruses have the ability to mix their genetic material with other influenza viruses, so the recommendations being made today could change in the future. With this in mind, we are developing a special district Webpage with the latest information and recommendations for schools, staff and parents which will launch soon. It will be noted on the front page of [www.adams12.org](http://www.adams12.org) with a special "H1N1 Updates" button.

Here are lists of things TO do to help control the spread of novel H1N1 influenza.

Things TO do:

- Exclude ill students and staff from school until they have been without fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Promote hand hygiene and cough etiquette.
- Wash hands often or use hand sanitizer gels and wipes.
- Cough into a tissue or into your sleeve. Avoid coughing into your hands, and if you do wash them immediately.

# DISTRIBUTION OF NON-DISTRICT MATERIALS



Requests are frequently made for Malley to distribute information and advertising to the community through school processes such as the "Friday Folder". Please find below, the District policy "Distribution of Non-District Related Materials" (Policy 5145.53)

Materials that will be sent home with students include School/District Related Materials:

- Materials produced by the school, district, instruction staff or Board of Education:
- Materials produced and/or sponsored by the PTA/PTO/PSP or other school-established organization (At Malley this is the Parent Staff Organization or PSO)
- Materials produced by a government entity (including cities).
- Fliers and other community materials must be related to the schools' educational mission, directed to students or their families, not disruptive to the educational process, age-appropriate and not otherwise violate the Superintendent Policies/Procedures.

Representatives of organizations will not be permitted in school buildings or on school grounds during school hours to distribute materials.

Please Note: We do have fliers available in our community resource area located in the front entrance of the school.

**PICTURE DAY IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2ND. PLEASE LOOK FOR PAYMENT ENVELOPES TO COME HOME THE WEEK OF 9/28/09.**



## PSO News for September

Our PSO meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 in the library.

The Wal-Mart recycling program has been discontinued. There will be no plastic bag collection. The stores will still have their collection bins, so please take your plastic bags to Wal-Mart, do not throw them away.

As we are dropping off our children, let's watch out for other children walking to school.

Our school fundraiser is set to kick off on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser sets us up for the whole year. In the past we have helped with class fieldtrips, photo document cameras, and books. We strive to make our classrooms better for the kids and their teachers.

Important PSO dates to remember:

October 1st	PSO meeting
October 30 <sup>th</sup>	PSO Fall Festival & Trick or Treat Street
November 5 <sup>th</sup>	PSO meeting





IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 1 Elementary Assessment Day (scheduled times for students)
- Sept. 7 Labor Day (Holiday) -NO SCHOOL
- Sept. 16 Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:15—7:15 pm
- Sept. 17 NO SCHOOL Grades K-5
- Sept. 18 NO SCHOOL- District In-Service Day

OCTOBER

- Oct. 1 PSO Meeting 6:30
- Oct. 2 Picture Day
- Oct. 9 NO SCHOOL-Elementary Work Day
- Oct. 22 Picture Re-takes
- Oct. 30 PSO Fall Festival



**REMINDER!!!**

**Early Release Day is every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m.**



PARENT RESPONSE FORM

Please return to Anne Wesley, Principal

I have a question \_\_\_\_\_

I have a concern \_\_\_\_\_

I have something positive to share \_\_\_\_\_