

# MLA Bulletin:

## Week of September 23, 2019



### September Highlight

September has been a great month at MLA, full of creating new relationships and learning more about the world and ourselves through meaningful fieldwork!

Our community has participated in camping trips to the Presidio (7th grade), BART trips to the Exploratorium (3rd grade), and walking trips to Maxwell Park (TK). Thank you to all of the families who supported with the trips as chaperones. We couldn't do this important work without you!

### Communication Update

Please note that, now that the year has started and families are receiving communication from teachers, the Bulletin will be distributed twice a month instead of every weekend.

## MLA Students on Fieldwork



7th graders and 7th Grade Crew Leaders camping at the Presidio.



3rd graders exploring science at the Exploratorium in San Francisco.

# Whole School Updates

Visit our website to see all events listed on our Family Calendar: <https://melroseleadershipacademy.org/>

## No School on Friday, September 27

- Teachers have a buyback (professional development) day on Friday, so there is no school and no after school programming.

## MLA School Site Council

- We held our first SSC meeting on Thursday, September 17
- Congratulations to the following elected members of the SSC!
  - **Teachers:** Anabel West, Andy Acosta Acevedo, Evelyn Ramirez, Caroline Miazgowicz
  - **Staff:** Holly Welch
  - **Families:** Tara Stoop, Elena Perez, JT Taylor, Luis Ceja, Andrea Lowe, Kirsten Hernandez
  - **Admin:** Bri Zika
- You can read the SSC minutes [linked here](#).
- Special aprecio to 7th grader Gisella Ceja for attending the SSC meeting and advocating for the SSC to change its composition to allow students to sit on the SSC as elected members. We will be proposing this amendment at our next meeting. Stay tuned!
- The next SSC meeting will take place on Thursday, October 10 from 5:30-7pm.

## October Conferences

- **What:** October Conferences
- **When:** Monday, September 30-Friday, October 4; after school (minimum days)
- **Time:** 15 minutes each
- **Who:** ALL students will have an October conference with their main teacher or crew leader
- **How to Schedule:** Your child's teacher will reach out to you this week to schedule their conference.
- **Can/should students attend?**
  - **TK-2nd Grade:** Yes, students are welcome to attend their October conference but their attendance is not required at this conference.
  - **3rd through 8th Grade:** Yes, students are required to attend their October conference, as they are leading the conference by sharing their work and their goals.

## Blueprint School Design Team

- Last Thursday, I (Bri) met with the principals of SOL, Frick, Kaiser, and Sankofa to learn more about our next steps in the Blueprint process. While there are still many details to be worked out, I learned the following:
  - **THE WORK:** The core work of the Design Team will be focused both on equity and on ensuring MLA is ready to sustainably open our doors to more students and families next school year.



- **TEAM COMPOSITION:** We will form a design team that is composed of staff, teachers, families, dual language experts, and at times, students.
- **THE COMMITMENT:** The design team will meet every other Tuesday after school from 3:30-5:30pm. Additional committee work will also take place later in the year, but that will be opt-in. We will share more information about committees once the Design Team has been selected.
- **ELECTION PROCESS:**
  - MLA families will democratically elect 4 family representatives to the Design Team --
    - 1 TK-2 family member
    - 1 3-5 family member
    - 1 6-8 family member
    - 1 additional family member that represents a special population at MLA, such as our newcomers or our students with special needs
- **TIMELINE:** We hope to have the Design Team selected by mid to late-October, so, soon! During conferences next week, families will receive more information about how to nominate representatives and how to participate in the election process.

## Upcoming Events

- **Monday, September 23rd:** 4th and 5th Grade Families Meeting @Sherman Campus (childcare).
- **Friday, September 27th:** No School; No Afterschool
- **Monday, September 30 through Friday, October 4:** Minimum Days and Conferences

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## Section 2: PTSA News

### Celebrations!

- **Día de los Muertos Celebration, Wednesday October 30th**

### Events

#### MLA Swap

- Saturday, October 19th 11 am to 3pm
- Free Admission; \$5 - \$10 per bag
- Why?
  - Raise money for PTSA
  - Strengthen our MLA community
  - Reduce, reuse and recycle
- What to Bring
  - Clothing
  - Toys
  - Books
  - Sports equipment



- Halloween costumes
- MLA shirts
- Babies, kids, & teens sizes. Gently used and clean please. Sets of items secured together
- **DO NOT bring:** Furniture, home decor, appliances, anything that should actually be trashed
- Bring your items to the cafeteria on Friday, October 18, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. or on Saturday, October 19th, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- Want to volunteer or have questions? Vicki 415-250-1949 (text preferred)

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- **Wednesday, September 25:** Power Hour, it starts at 8:30 and continues through the school day, come by at any time to help out!

**SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER:** Email [drtarastoop@gmail.com](mailto:drtarastoop@gmail.com)

## MLA Family Group Updates

### Saludos!

- **Week of September 23:** Families of **Maestra Karin (Morris)** class are scheduled to help with Saludos this week. Please contact your Room Parent if you're available to help.
- Please read the [Saludos Tip Sheet](#) to learn about your class' Saludos week and to learn how to be a helpful Saludos volunteer.

### 4th/5th Grade Committee

- Our next meeting is on Monday, September 23, from 6 to 8 at Sherman auditorium (Sun room). Please bring a dish to share. For questions contact [beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org](mailto:beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org) or [lindsayimaihong@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayimaihong@gmail.com)

### Education Justice Committee:

- MLA parents and teachers have started an Education Justice Committee and delivered a letter to the OUSD Board last week. [Click here](#) to read the letter and sign on if you are interested in supporting the letter and want to sign up to get updates.

## Section 3: Sherman campus

### Before Care at Sherman:

- Maestra Caroline is now the teacher on site for Before Care. Please ring the MLA buzzer and walk your student to Portable A to sign the Before Care list.
- If you are able to, please pay a suggested \$60 donation for before care. Before care is being paid by donated funds, so your \$60 monthly donation will help us recoup these funds and return them to their original budget items.



## Allergies

- Please remember not to pack nuts in your child's snacks and lunch box. We have students with severe nut allergies. The presence of nuts for these students can be fatal.

## Family Committee Meeting

- Please join our family committee meeting on Monday 23th from 6 to 8 at the Sherman Auditorium (Sun Room). Bring a dish to share and a suggested \$5 donation if you need child care during the meeting.

## Volunteer Opportunities and Donations at Sherman:

- We need more fiction chapter books in Spanish (illustrated and nonfiction books are fine too)
- Visit this registration form to help at Sherman's library for 15-30 minutes (lunch, after school, every day except Wednesday): [link](#)

## Instruction:

- Teacher Jennifer Brouhard needs one more week to fully recover. She will be back at school on September 30. Ms. Lemon will be in charge of the class until that date.

## Drop off and pick up:

- **We remind families that they should not drop off students at school before 8:10 am.** If you need to leave your child before 8:10, please sign up for before care with Maestra Caroline. Please contact [beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org](mailto:beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org) to register.

## Free books:

- All the books in the breezeway right next to the auditorium are free for the taking. They will be removed this Friday. The books range from emerging readers to high school.

**Sherman campus Questions?** Please email [beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org](mailto:beatriz.ferrer@ousd.org)

