

## MEC February Newsletter

**February 2018**

Our Focus of the Month is:  
Healthy Habits

How to contact us:  
Director— Mr. Wortel 708-367-2662  
Supervisor— Mrs. Pappas 708-367-2663  
Social Worker— Ms. Chismark 708-367-2667  
Attendance— Mrs. Robinson 708-367-2660  
Secretary— Mrs. Mueller 708-367-2660

**Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri**

			1 Mentoring	2 CAAEL vs. SPEED 10:30
5	6	7 Military Wear Day	8 Mentoring	9 CAAEL vs. Bloom 10:30
12	13	14 CAAEL vs. YLCS 10:30	15 Early Dismissal	16 Institute Day = No School
19 President's Day—No School	20	21	22 Mentoring	23 CAAEL vs. Joseph Academy 10:30
26	27	28		

**Perfect Attendancee for January:**  
*Trayvon Frazier, Dante Jones, Deaundre Rush, Andrew Strecker — Great Job!!*

Shout out to **DANTE JONES** for his awesome accomplishment on Achieve Progress for the month of January. He had a 55% growth!!!!  
Congratulations!!!

**IMPORTANT DATES IN AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY**

- 1901**—On October 11, when Bert Williams and George Walker record their music for the Victor Talking Machine Company, they become the first African American Recording Artists.
- 1904**—Dr. Solomon Carter Fuller, who trained at the Royal Psychiatric Hospital at the University of Munich with Dr. Alois Alzheimer, becomes a widely published pioneer in Alzheimer's Disease research. Fuller also becomes the nation's first black psychiatrist.
- 1905**—The Black weekly newspaper, the Chicago Defender, is founded by Robert Abbott on May 5.
- 1907**—Madame CJ Walker of Denver develops and markets her hair straightening method and creates one of the most successful cosmetics firms in the nation.
- 1936**—Track star Jesse Owens wins 4 Gold medals at the Berlin Olympics.
- 1941**—The U.S. Army creates the Tuskegee Air Squadron who will soon be known as the Tuskegee Airmen.
- 1945**—Ebony Magazine, created by Chicago based Johnson Publishing Company, published its First Issue on November 1.
- 1947**—On April 10, Jackie Robinson, of the Brooklyn Dodgers, becomes the first African American to play major league baseball in the 20th Century.
- 1953**—When he joins the Chicago Bears, Willis Thrower becomes the first black NFL quarterback in the modern era.
- 1992**—On September 12, Dr. Mae Carol Jemison becomes the first African American woman in space when she travels on board the Space Shuttle Endeavor.

**Achieve**

MEC is currently using Achieve3000®'s proven and patented method of online differentiated instruction to engage all learners at their individual reading levels and constantly challenge them to improve their literacy skills. In order to increase reading comprehension and Lexile levels students will be encouraged to complete 8 Achieve activities per month with at least 75% accuracy. Students who reach or exceed this goal will be considered ACHIEVERS and eligible for a monthly celebration. MEC's goal for the 2017-2018 school year is to raise each student's Lexile level by 100 points. The January 2017 Achievers are:

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Volandrea Fitzgerald | Johnathan Franzese |
| Trayvon Frazier      | Justin Jones       |
| Keywon Lawson        | Zhaquez White      |
| Austin Williams      | Devonte Woodson    |

**Congratulations,!!** Keep up the great work!

During the month of March, MEC will be completing the “Pennies for Patients” program to raise money in support of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. We will be working on various in-school fundraisers as well as a school webpage where donations will be accepted online.

Here is a little background information on the program:

What LLS does:

Though LLS is known for funding groundbreaking research to find better treatments and cures, they do so much more. They provide free information, education and support services for those who have been impacted by blood cancer. The LLS fights for lifesaving policy changes at the state and federal level to ensure access to quality, affordable, coordinated care. They are committed to working tirelessly toward their mission every single day, until a cure is found.

Since 1993, students and educators throughout the United States and Canada have raised more than \$343 million in support of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s (LLS) mission to cure blood cancers and improve the lives of patients and their families.

The MEC students and staff look forward to helping this great cause!

### PBIS News

Welcome back, everyone! After our two-week winter break, we came back to school and participated in a two-day PBIS booster. We reviewed our expectations, matrix, and level system by doing different activities such as a scavenger hunt, Jeopardy, and drawing Expectation Matrix posters.

It’s hard to believe our first month of 2018 is here and gone already. January seemed to move by quickly. Maybe it was a result of our students and staff working together to make our environment here at MEC so pleasant. We reduced our referrals through the building by 55.26% even though we had one more school day! Our referrals went down from 38 referrals in December, to 17 in January. That was a great job by everyone! Our focus in January was on disturbance in the classroom. We had a great cool tool presented to our classes by some of our student leaders, to reinforce the importance of not disturbing the classrooms. As we move into February let’s keep on doing the right thing as we continue to strive for greatness here at MEC!

**Plato Success!!** Our students are working very hard! The following students have completed classes for

January:

- Demarco Dillon—3 Classes
- Volandrea Fitzgerald—1 Class
- Avianna Freeman—1 Class
- Jaelin Glees-Cole—1 Class
- Dante Jones—2 Classes
- Keywon Lawson—1 Class
- Kayla Palcek—3 Classes
- Alyssa Reese—1 Class
- Jahees Roby—1 Class
- Deaundre Rush—1 Class
- Andrew Strecker—1 Class
- Zhaquez White, - 2 Classes
- Lorene Winding—1 Class
- Devonte Woodson—1 Class

**YLA Update—We are finishing personal appearance and transitioning to Healthy Habits for February YLA. Goals for learning include** \*Be able to analyze the influence of culture and media on health attitudes and the impact of processed foods on America’s eating habits. \*Examine eating and exercise habits and their impact on health. \*Understand how the body’s function is a direct result of regular exercise and nutrition. \*Learn the food pyramid, the value of each type of food to the body’s function, and the negative impact of foods with “empty calories”. \*Identify toxic substances and avoid their use to prevent long-term health risks. \*Identify the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and the consequences of an unhealthy one. \*Formulate lifestyle goals and fun and practical ways to carry them out. \*Get involved in initiatives that promote and sustain healthier lifestyles in the community.