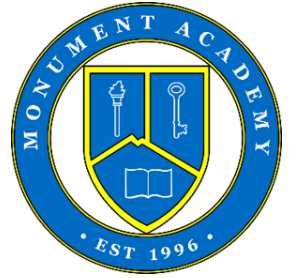


# LYNX NEWS



## East Campus Edition January 6, 2021

Dear Monument Academy Community,

I would like to welcome our students and families back for the New Year at MA! It is my hope that you have enjoyed a restful break, filled with good health and the joy of family and loved ones. The year 2020 certainly put us to the test. It taught me a deeper sense of gratitude for the many simple blessings life has given us and a profound appreciation for the gift of community and the ability to commune with others. I believe we have all found that there are many things we will never take for granted again. I found hope in how our students have responded and risen despite the great challenges in what has not been a “normal” school experience. I witnessed this hope with our annual holiday choir singing of *Carol of the Bells* at the secondary campus where our students performed with all the brilliance, joy, and talent of years past despite the wearing of masks and having a video recorded instead of an audience. I am proud of MA’s students as they have conducted themselves with high standards of generosity, service, sportsmanship, resilience, and integrity within our school and are an example to the greater community, despite the daunting opposition this school year has posed. Over the years, I have often told students that, even though they may be children or only one person, there is much they can do to give voice to impact the world around them for good. I am reminded of a quote from Cicero, a sentiment that remains as true today as when it was spoken over 2,000 years ago, “As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter good words but to live by them.” I have been awed by your student’s efforts and courageous spirit and look forward to what they will bring to this next semester.

I have been especially grateful for our faculty and staff and the great care and determination they have shown in giving all they are to provide our students with the most excellent education possible. I also found hope in our teachers, giving instruction leading into the event of the Christmas star and the knowledge of a universe greater than ourselves. The last time this astrological alignment could be seen at night was eight centuries ago. Despite the gift of these lessons in hope and gratitude, I must admit that I was not unhappy to see 2020 come to an end! It is my prayer that this New Year will bring peace, health, a return to fellowship, fortitude, and prosperity to all across our great land.

This time of year, we at MA find ourselves taking stock of the many blessings MA has been gifted with as well as taking time to prepare for the work of this semester, and in finishing the school year strongly as we also lay a solid foundation for next school year. I am ever humbled by

the incredible support and partnership extended to MA as we educate your children. You have joined with us to fight for our students and faculty; to stand with us as school partners, collaborators, and advocates for your students' education.

The MA Board and Administration greatly value your parent perspective as we continue to grow and improve upon our educational program. Thank you to all who took a moment to complete the surveys that went out before break. I know the holidays are a busy time of year and your input was gratefully received and will influence our program and plans significantly. We would also like to thank you for your gift to our teachers and staff with the donations for the holiday bonuses. Our staff was overwhelmed by your generosity, love, and support.

We would also like to ask for your help with your continued endorsement of MA as you refer your friends, neighbors, and relatives! This month is the season for open enrollment within our district, and we hope to continue to welcome students and families like you who make MA the rich, vibrant community it is. There are so many ways, large and small, that our parents, faculty, leadership, and community partnerships contribute to bring excitement and joy in learning no matter what the challenges or circumstances. We appreciate each one of you, and do not take your sacrifices and commitment to MA or your children for granted.

We wish you and your loved ones a happy and prosperous New Year!

Warm regards,  
Christianna Herrera

## Upcoming Events

Free Dress Thursday – January 7

*Non-uniform days - please follow guidelines, page 6, <https://www.monumentacademy.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/1501MS-Uniform-Policy-08-24-2020.pdf>*

Spring Pictures, individual and panorama – February 2

## Lost and Found

Please **LABEL** everything that comes to school, even with just student initials, it really helps to reunite the items to the students! Coats, lunch boxes, binders, backpacks, etc.

**ABSENT**

## Attendance and Learning Choices

Communication is Key! Please notify the Front Desk at [attendance-east@monumentacademy.net](mailto:attendance-east@monumentacademy.net) .

Please make changes to your student's learning choice judiciously. When changes are made to switch between At-Home Learning and In-Person Learning, it does affect the learning environment of the entire class.

This form is to be used for long-term changes to learning options.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSckYHXabHfv8LDeuWyz1xKZbsd1ursH7HwXnKLAHXG9Uit16A/viewform>



## **COVID-19 Symptom Screen:**

If any of the following symptoms are present, keep the student at home/stay at home, inform the school of symptoms, and reach out to a health care provider about COVID-19 testing and next steps for treatment.

- Feeling feverish, having chills, or temperature 100.4°F or higher.
- New or unexplained persistent cough.
- Shortness of breath.
- Difficulty breathing.
- Loss of taste or smell.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle aches.
- Headache.
- Sore throat.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.
- Runny nose or congestion.

The health team is incredibly grateful for all our MA families and the partnership we have during this extremely challenging time. We want to thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and patience as we navigate the health guidelines set before us. We are also thankful for your commitment to keep our students in school as we balance the concern for the health of our staff and students. Please remember to keep your student home from school if there is any question that they may have been in contact or exposed to *COVID*. In addition, please keep them home if they are experiencing any *COVID*-like symptoms. We hope and pray for the health and safety of all our Monument Academy families.

*Chelsea Pierce*, BSN, RN

[CPierce@monumentacademy.net](mailto:CPierce@monumentacademy.net)



# Library

## T-Shirt Design Contest

This is an exciting opportunity for aspiring artists as the winning design is printed on 1,000 shirts! Monument Academy students are invited (elementary/middle/high school) to submit designs for consideration for the 2020 Battle of the Books T-shirt. Submissions must include digital file of design, artist's name, grade, school, contact information (phone and email) and the BOB elementary liaison's information: Mrs. Collier, MA Librarian, [kcollier@monumentacademy.net](mailto:kcollier@monumentacademy.net) 719-481-1950 x1220. Mrs. Collier is MA's Battle of the Books (BOB) representative and acts as liaison between schools and the T-shirt committee. She can only submit 4 designs to the committee.

All designs must adhere to the following requirements:

- Submitted designs must be original illustrations and include artist's signature and 2020.
- Design MUST be in Black Ink. Pencil drawings do not scan well. Please consider simple, bold designs instead of those with many lines and shadows.
- Submissions must contain all 40 book titles.

<https://ppbattleofthebooks.weebly.com/book-list.html>

Artists can use the book titles directly in their design or listed underneath the design.

- Design must include something to recognize the unique year with the Virtual Battle. (the April and May competitions will be virtual and not in person.)
- Design must be submitted in a digital format in Adobe Illustrator/Photoshop or other compatible software saved to a \*.eps, \*.png, or \*.pdf file.
- Digital design must be a transparency (when printed, T-shirt color comes through any background where no design exists, i.e. the negative space of the design).
- Designs must be submitted to no later than **January 15, 2021** for final judging. *Send your design and information to Mrs. Collier before the January 15th deadline. Good luck!* Please contact Mrs. Collier with questions regarding the contest, previous t-shirt designs, etc.

# Holiday Ornaments

There is still time for you to take home your middle/high school student's Handmade Personalized Ornament with your student's face for just \$2.50! You can place your order and/or pick up your student's ornament anytime during school hours through Thursday, January 7th, 2021.

To reserve your ornament for pick up from the Front Office, simply fill out this google form <https://forms.gle/Jho951EHnSxHAJZv9>.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to treasure your student's smile frozen in time in a glittery wonderland, order today!

Email questions to [studentcouncil@monumentacademy.net](mailto:studentcouncil@monumentacademy.net)

*MA Student Council*

# Uniform Jacket Ordering

If you ordered a jacket from Monarch Merchandising, please check your email and junk email to see if you have received communication stating that your jacket is in. Monarch has lots of jackets that are ready to be picked up!

In case you missed the opportunity to order a jacket previously, the link is active again.

<https://www.myschoolstoreco.com/>

You will be required to enter an address when ordering however the order will not be shipped to you directly. Ordering is open until the due date shown and all orders are printed at the same time. You will be notified by email when your order is available for pickup at Monarch Merchandising (15706 Jackson Creek Pkwy #110, Monument) approximately 2-3 weeks after the order due date shown on the site.

# PTO Business Directory

Support our school and our community by doing business with the Monument Academy Family!

<http://monumentacademypto.com/business-directory>

**Thank You!**

Thank you to Benton Capital for sponsoring  
MA East PTO's January Teacher Luncheon!

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