

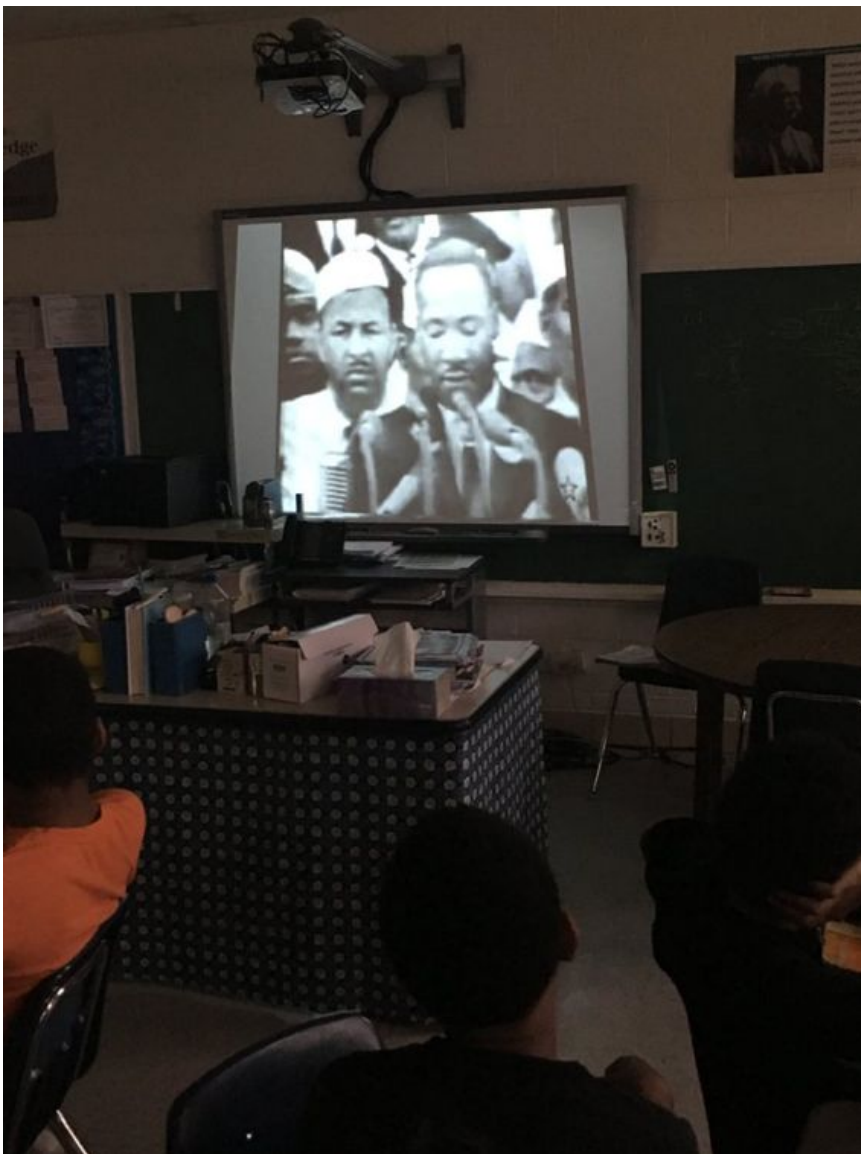
The Western Weekly, Issue 20

January 14th, 2017

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Western Avenue Honors Martin Luther King Jr. Day



We were so excited to receive our children back on Tuesday! It was a wonderful Winter Break, and we hope you enjoyed your time spent with family and friends.

This week at Western Avenue, our teachers took time with the children discussing and teaching about Martin Luther King Jr. In Flossmoor, Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a day of service. In Martin Luther King Jr.'s words, he said, "The time is always right to do what is right." For our families, we know that many will be participating in this day of service on Monday, January 15th. It is truly a heartwarming to see the families in our community giving back in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

We hope that you all enjoy and celebrate this special day with your families.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

The Week of January 15th-January 19th

Monday, 1.15	Tuesday, 1.16	Wednesday, 1.17	Thursday, 1.18	Friday, 1.19
<p>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p> <p><i>Non-Attendance for Students</i></p>	<p>NWEA Testing: Kindergarten Math and 1st Grade Reading</p> <p>Lunch: Chicken Fries & Dinner Roll</p> <p>Chess Club @ 3:15 pm</p>	<p>NWEA Testing: 2nd Grade Math and 3rd Grade Reading</p> <p>Lunch: Beef Hot Dog</p>	<p>NWEA Testing: 3rd Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading</p> <p>Lunch: Beef Burrito</p> <p>Girl Scouts @ 3:15 pm</p> <p>Basketball @ 6:00-8:00 pm</p>	<p>NWEA Testing: 3rd Grade Math and 4th Grade Reading</p> <p>Lunch: Pepperoni Pizza</p> <p><i>End of 2nd Quarter</i></p>

Upcoming Events:

- January 15th: MLK Jr. Holiday (No School)
- January 16th-31st: MAP Testing for K-5
- January 19th: End of 2nd Quarter



TOP STORIES

Western Avenue Students Take 1st and 2nd Place in the District 161's Spelling Bee!

Two 5th grade students, Logan Jackson and Noelle Dolan, competed in the District 161's Spelling Bee this past Thursday. Both students placed in the top 2 for our district, which is a tremendous accomplishment! Logan Jackson took 1st place in the Spelling Bee, and Noelle Dolan took 2nd place. Logan will move on to represent Flossmoor District 161 in the next round of competition. We are very proud of our students! Congratulations, Logan and Noelle!



Girls on the Run Registration Opens

Registration for the 2018 Girls on the Run Season opens **Monday, January 15 at 9:00 am**. You may register online* by visiting www.gotrchicago.org or via the bilingual (English and Spanish) call center at (312) 313-0280. The call center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm.

This season, Western Avenue is capable of allowing 45 girls to participate in Girls on the Run. Participation is granted on a first come, first serve basis of registration either online or through the call center. There are no exceptions! Girls will be accepted in the order that their registrations are received. If more spaces become available, girls will be taken in the order they registered from the waitlist.

Please contact Jana Budz jbudz@sd161.org with any questions.

**Online registrations must be submitted via a laptop or desktop computer. Cell phones and tablets are not compatible for online registrations.*

STEM Club Registration Reopens for Western Avenue!

Due to the popularity of STEM Club, we have decided to open another session for our children at Western Avenue! Registration may be completed online, with discounts now being offered for family memberships. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 24th, and the session will last for four more weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Keith Poole at illiana@engineeringforkids.com. Please see the attached flyer with more information regarding STEM Club. Thank you!

There is still time to complete the 5 Essentials Survey for Western Avenue!

District 161 will join the [Illinois State Board of Education](http://www.isbe.net) (ISBE) in the sixth statewide survey of school climate and learning conditions. The survey provides a unique opportunity for students, teachers and parents to have a voice in improving their schools. Students in grades four through eight, teachers and parents will be asked to take a 10-15 minute research-based survey to help identify strengths and weaknesses in their school's learning environment. We encourage parents and guardians to complete the survey to provide feedback to impact change in the district. **All District 161 parents and guardians should have received the link to the survey on December 5th. You are able to complete the survey on any device.**

We are currently at 27% participation (120 parents in total have responded) for Western Avenue Elementary. This is one of the highest parent participation rates that Western Avenue has seen for this survey! The window closes on January 31st. Let's keep up the awesome work, parents!

<http://survey.5-essentials.org/illinois/survey/parent/>

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Activities!

The Village of Flossmoor invites you to participate in the National MLK Day of Service on January 15th, 2018. Students in our area have been vital to our success over the past few years; and we would like to

continue the tradition of connecting our community with our students/families through our MLK Day of Service.

Visit flossmoor.org to volunteer for a service project. Review the list of current participating organizations hosting volunteer projects. Sign up directly with the organization volunteer contact listed. More projects will be added, so check back for updates. Check Flossmoor's website for details regarding special activities, collections and recycling projects. Flossmoor Village Hall will be the final donation pick up site for the Respond Now food drive.

Any community questions can be directed to Laura Brennan-Levy at the Village of Flossmoor, (708) 798-2300 or lbrennan-levy@flossmoor.org. **Thank you for giving back to your community!**

Traffic Flow at Arrival and Dismissal Times

Parents, we understand that everyone is rushing to get their days started in the morning. However, we need to do a better job driving safely in the drop-off and pick-up lines. We have three staff members directing traffic at the front lot, two staff members posted at door I, and multiple people posted at the playgrounds and blacktop area between the playgrounds. We also have one person directing traffic in the North parking lot. Please remember that there is a traffic flow. Students must be dropped off in the designated car lines. Please do not drop off your children on any other street or sidewalk other than the designated lines. Please do not wait in line to make sure your child walks to the door because that stops the flow for other parents behind you. And please be very mindful when you are pulling away from the car line. There should only be one priority for morning drop off and afternoon pick up--and that priority is the safety of all our kids at Western Avenue. If we all work together, we can ensure the safety of all students. Thank you!

Thank you for reading, and have a wonderful week!

