

Dear Parents,

One of the things that makes MPVA special is the diversity within our school. In this week's email I share information below on Hispanic Heritage Month as well as information on the upcoming Jewish Holidays – Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. I've included information on these two Jewish holidays this week as a teachable moment to our MPVA community.

We hope everyone can join us Thursday night for a family event, **MPVA Hispanic Heritage Night**. To all of our MPVA families of the Jewish faith, we want to wish you a Happy New Year!

MPVA Calendar – Check out this week's events at MPVA [here](#).

Open House – Our annual Open House will take place on Wednesday, October 2 beginning at 6:00 PM. We are asking that all parents follow their child's schedule and "walk a mile in their shoes" as they visit teachers beginning with 1st period and continue through 8th period ending with Homeroom. Please ask your Greyhound for a copy of their schedule if you plan on attending alone.

Hispanic Heritage Night - Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America, and Spain. We hope that you will join us to celebrate Meyerland's Hispanic Heritage Night on Thursday, October 3rd from 5:30- 7:30 PM. During this family event, we will have student presentations, live music and delicious food to sample and to purchase for dinner! We hope to see you there.

Jewish Holidays - Rosh Hashanah, literally meaning the "head [of] the year", is the [Jewish New Year](#) and begins at sundown on Sunday, September 29 and lasts through sundown Tuesday, October 1st. An appropriate greeting during Rosh Hashanah is, "Happy New Year!" Yom Kippur, also known as the Day of Atonement, is the holiest day of the year in [Judaism](#). Its central themes are [atonement](#) and [repentance](#). [Jews](#) traditionally observe this holy day with an approximate 25-hour period of [fasting](#) and intensive [prayer](#), often spending most of the day in [synagogue](#) services. Yom Kippur begins at sundown on Tuesday, October 8th and lasts through Wednesday night, October 9th. An appropriate greeting during this time is, "Have an easy fast." We wish all of our Jewish families a Happy New Year and also hope they have an easy fast on October 8th – 9th.

GT Parent Meeting - HISD's Gifted and Talented Department will host three Gifted and Talented Parent Informational Session to inform parents about the services offered within the district. Each session will contain the same content. These sessions will give overview information about the Gifted and Talented Programs. The intended audience is parents who would like to learn more about the Gifted and Talented/Vanguard Program within HISD. Students are not required to attend, nor will there be childcare. Session dates

include Monday, October 14, 2019 or Wednesday, November 13, 2019. Each session will be held from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. in the HMW Boardroom located at Hattie Mae White ESC 4400 West 18th St. Houston, TX 77092-8501. Parents are not required to attend the meeting to apply for the Gifted and Talented Programs. The session will review frequently asked questions surrounding the Gifted and Talented Program.

Student ID's - Please periodically check that your child has his/her permanent ID. For safety reasons, all students are required to wear their permanent ID's visibly on a lanyard or a shirt clip. Students who come to school without a permanent ID will have to purchase a 1-day temporary ID for \$1. Failure to pay for a temporary ID will create a balance that must be paid off. Students may buy a new permanent ID for \$3 in the library.

Let's make it a great week!

Auden Sarabia, Principal
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