

# Family Focus



## Who loves you?

MVA does! We love being part of your educational journey.

Thank you Chloe Begnoche for sharing your Kindness Rocks with us! Send us your rock pictures to share. #KindnessRocks

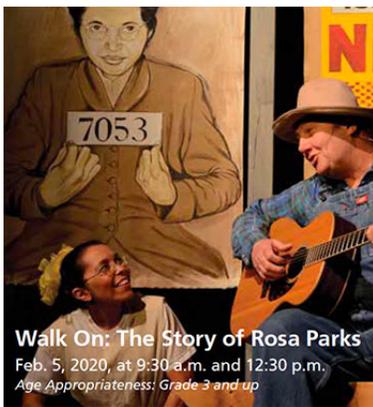


And we love to feature our students in our newsletter, in social media (with permission) and in our annual digital yearbook! The MVA Yearbook Club designs the yearbook, but it isn't complete without your pictures. Pictures can be the traditional school picture or can be of your student doing what they love best. We are gathering pictures now, so please send yours to [ronnao@usd383.org](mailto:ronnao@usd383.org).

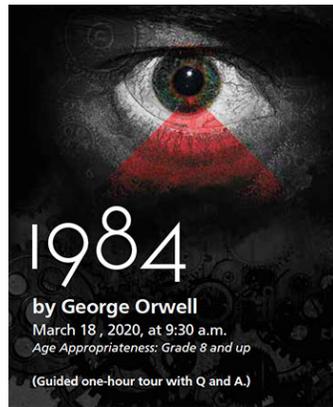
The annual Family Engagement Survey (it's a quick 15 questions) link is here. USD 383 and MVA would like to have input from our families; it helps show the district how engaged our families and students are, and helps us see areas in which we can improve. Our response rate is always excellent!

February starts out with online Parent/Teacher conferences. We love this chance to visit with our families and talk about your student's progress. The best thing of all is that you don't have to stand in line, or even leave the house - it can all be done from the comfort of your home. After you contact the office, we schedule 10 minute visits with your student's teachers. Please try to keep that 10 minute time frame so we can keep the process moving along smoothly.

FEBRUARY	
Feb 2:	Permanent Zero
Feb 3-4:	Parent/Teacher Conf
Feb 5:	Academic Outing
Feb 6:	Homeroom
Feb 7:	No School
Feb 16:	Permanent Zero
Feb 17:	No School
Feb 24:	Last day to drop class
Feb 25:	Free ACT for Juniors
Feb 26:	Free WorkKeys for Jrs.



**Walk On: The Story of Rosa Parks**  
Feb. 5, 2020, at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.  
Age Appropriateness: Grade 3 and up



**1984**  
by George Orwell  
March 18, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.  
Age Appropriateness: Grade 8 and up  
(Guided one-hour tour with Q and A.)



**Upcoming Academic Outings**

**Feb 5: Walk On - Story of Rosa Parks | Mar. 18: 1984 by George Orwell | April 17: Nelson Atkins Museum**  
Look for the sign up links in your email and Infinite Campus Messages, or call the office to get registered.

## Graduation 2020

Are you ready for graduation and 8th grade promotion on May 16, 2020? **Seniors**, please send your yearbook and senior slide show pictures to [ronnao@usd383.org](mailto:ronnao@usd383.org). Order your caps and gowns by February 14th at the [Herff Jones order page](#). Choose Manhattan Virtual Academy at the top and then on the next page scroll down to the bottom to get to the gown order. **Parents**, if you would like to volunteer with the reception, please contact Cindy Schultz at [cindys@usd383.org](mailto:cindys@usd383.org).



Engineering Expo is a free multi-day, student-run event that lets visitors explore the fascinating fields of engineering and demonstrate the amazing projects KU engineering students have completed. It takes place at KU's Engineering Complex and students and guests participate in activities and/or competitions to learn about all the amazing things *you* can do within engineering and STEM!

MVA staff will be there on Monday. Meet us at the snack shack and we will help facilitate student experiences at the event. Food service has some difficulty keeping up with demand at the event, so it is advised to bring a sack lunch.

To sign up to let us know you are attending use this form: [MVA Sign Up](#) For more information visit: <http://enr.ku.edu/engineering-expo>.

## Tips for Success - Effective Communication

**Be an engaged online student.** Attend and participate in your vClasses, Office hours, Homeroom, etc.

**Ask your teacher questions.** They want to hear from you! They don't see if you look confused or aren't understanding something, so reach out.

**Be open to phone communication.** While email is convenient, using the phone or meeting in your teacher's online office can offer opportunities for more personal and effective interaction.

**Ask for clarification.** If you have concerns about your grade or on feedback you've received, contact your teacher. Remember that your teachers are accessible, approachable and eager to communicate with you.

## ACT and Workkeys

Juniors who have signed up for the free ACT assessment and Workkeys Suite on February 25th and 26th - check your emails for details about the time and address for your testing location. The email also includes information important for test day. Students must attend an online pretest session Feb. 10th at 12:30 or Feb. 11th at 12:00.



**Kathy Schmitz**  
Art & Digital Photography Teacher

**Higher by Creed**  
Anyway, music is a big escape for me and it is soothing. At least the music that is not crazy is that way.

Each month we'll feature one of our MVA staff's rocking bitmoji, their favorite song and what music means to them.

We love to recognize our students and the amazing things they do both in school and out in their communities, so feel free to send your student's information to us to share. Thank you to all the students who let us share!

## Student Spotlight



**Grace Gardiner** is sporting her school t-shirt while staying nice and cozy and working on classes. It looks like her friend is wanting to help her out! Thanks for sharing this fun picture!

**Tate Pollimer**, sophomore from the Fort Scott area, submitted this picture in his Digital photography class. He captioned it, "A cell on a bull! Now that is a work of art." That's also quite a bit of talent Tate - we are really impressed!



**Jacob Ritmeyer** has been in scouts since he was a Wolf in Second Grade, and recently achieved his Eagle Scout, the highest achievement or rank attainable in Boy Scouts. He has been on numerous campouts and attended summer camp every year since he was a cub scout. The last couple years he has been CIT (counselor in training), and last summer was full time staff at Camp Hansen in Kirwin, KS. His Eagle Scout Project was to provide new signage for the VFW Post in Beloit. Scouting has been a huge part of his life. Congratulations Jacob!

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