



## Weekly Update—Wednesday, March 3, 2021

### New Updates:

1. **Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences**—The conferences were a great success. I want to thank all of our teachers for designing such a thoughtful process for engaging with parents and students virtually. Thank you to parents for the level of engagement. The meaningful partnership between the school and the home is one of the key indicators of a child’s academic, behavioral, emotional, and social growth. After several years of not having universal conferences for middle and high school students, we are seeing and hearing that the opportunity is beneficial for connecting, adjusting, and celebrating.

There are some positives from the new learnings that we have experienced due to COVID. One aspect we can keep is having an option for parents to engage in virtual P/T/S Conferences (if necessary). While we will, of course, move back to in-person meetings, we will be reflective of ways to maintain some virtual meetings for times when a parent might otherwise not be able to come to campus.

2. **State Assessments**—We know that there have been lots of discussions at the national, state, and local level when it comes to the administration of state assessments. The bill will go to the legislative committee mostly likely on Friday, and we will have more information after a final determination has been made. This information will be communicated to the community as soon as possible.
3. **Facilities Master Plan and BEST Grant**—In the fall of 2020, Manitou Springs School District 14 partnered with a team of architects from [TreanorHL](#) to develop a Long Range Facilities Master Plan (FMP). The resulting document, which can be found [here](#), describes MSSD’s vision for its classrooms and buildings, defining our dreams and our needs, and guiding our planning and improvements for the future.

A few weeks ago, we submitted two BEST Grants. We will know the outcome of these grant applications in June. We are excited about the proposals, and we will keep you posted.

4. **Manni Awards**—Congratulations to Paula Faucette, Lisa Mussi, Caden Salladay, and Gary Smith for receiving a Manni Award! We are proud of everyone who was also recognized as a finalist.
5. **COVID Update.** Thank you for continuing to remain diligent with support students and staff to remain in-person by:
  - Staying home when a person is sick.
  - Staying home when a person has been in close contact with someone who is being evaluated for COVID.
  - Wearing a mask.
  - Washing hands frequently.