# THE PELICAN PRESS

*The Weekly Newsletter of Morris Jeff Community School*

**8 November/Noviembre 2019**

## Special Note from Head of School / Nota Especial de la Directora de la Escuela

Dear Morris Jeff Parents / *Estimados Padres de Morris Jeff,*

As you may already know, the Louisiana Department of Education released the School Performance Scores (SPS) for all of its public schools on Wednesday. As was the case last year, Morris Jeff's SPS is a very high C - once again teetering on a B. We are hosting a Special Parent Meeting this coming Tuesday, November 12, from 6:30-7:15 pm, to discuss how these scores are calculated and what the school's plan is to increase our SPS for the 2019-20 school year. The meeting will be held at our Lopez campus in the Performing Arts Room on the 2nd floor (directly across the hall from the library). I hope you all can attend.

*Como usted ya sabe, el Departamento de Educación de Louisiana publicó las calificaciones de rendimiento escolar para todas las escuelas públicas el miércoles. Como fue el caso el año pasado, el reportaje de Morris Jeff es un muy alto C - una vez más tambaleante en una B. Estamos organizando una reunión especial para padres el próximo martes, 12 de noviembre de 6:30-7:15 pm, para discutir cómo estas puntuaciones se calculan y qué plan tiene la escuela para aumentar nuestra calificación para el año escolar 2019-20. La reunión se llevará en nuestro campus de Lopez en la Sala de Artes Escénicas en la 2ª planta (justo al otro lado del pasillo de la biblioteca). Espero que todos puedan asistir.*

I have been thinking a lot about the significance of a school's performance score as it is currently calculated and wanted to share some of my thoughts in this message.

*He estado pensando mucho acerca de la importancia de la calificación de rendimiento de una escuela como se calcula actualmente y quería compartir algunos de mis pensamientos en este mensaje.*

First of all, I wonder how important a letter grade is and what does the grade really represent at our school?

*En primer lugar, me pregunto que tan importante es una calificación de letra y lo que realmente representa esta letra para nuestra escuela?*

Your child's academic achievement and his/her scores on these tests are important to the degree that they are a partial reflection of their mastery of content from one year to the next and our school will continue to be held accountable for them. I know, though, that not one student in our school is defined by a single test score. I also know that there is not one teacher in our school whose worth is determined only by his/her students' performance on a single test. Our school is far more than a single letter grade.

*El rendimiento académico de su hijo y sus calificaciones en estas exámenes son importantes en la medida en que son un reflejo parcial de su dominio de los contenidos de un año a otro y nuestra escuela continuarán ser responsables de ellas. Sé, sin embargo, que ninguno de los estudiantes en nuestra escuela se define por un solo examen. También sé que no hay ni uno maestro en nuestra escuela cuyo valor está determinado solamente por el rendimiento de sus estudiantes en una sola prueba. Nuestra escuela es mucho más que una sola calificación de letra.*

Second, I know that our school's performance score is not an accurate reflection of the excellence I see every day in our classrooms. We – as a community - have defined our priorities and what determines the success of our school.

*En segundo lugar, sé que la calificación de rendimiento de nuestra escuela no es un reflejo exacto de la excelencia que veo todos los días en nuestras aulas. Nosotros - como una comunidad - hemos definido nuestras prioridades y lo que determina el éxito de nuestra escuela.*

As I told you last year, test scores carry no weight in determining our IB authorization, what our students are learning in our rich language and art programs, or the social/emotional development of our students. Morris Jeff is serious about an education that permits our students to develop their talents fully, become global citizens, and excel in high school, college, and beyond. We will continue to focus on building a caring, student-centered, inclusive culture through engaging instruction that encourages creativity, supports critical thinking and problem solving, celebrates collaboration, and provides meaningful learning experiences for all students. This is much more than accountability and is very difficult to measure. All these elements combined are the marks of an excellent school.

*Como te dije el año pasado, los resultados de las pruebas no tienen ningún peso en la determinación de nuestra autorización del IB, lo que nuestros estudiantes están aprendiendo en nuestras programas de idiomas y de arte, o el desarrollo social / emocional de nuestros estudiantes. Morris Jeff es serio acerca de una educación que permite a nuestros estudiantes a desarrollar sus talentos plenamente, convertirse en ciudadanos del mundo, y sobresalir en la escuela secundaria, la universidad y más allá. Vamos a seguir centrándose en la construcción de un cultura inclusiva que está centrada en el estudiante a través de instrucción atractivo que fomenta la creatividad, apoya el pensamiento crítico y resolución de problemas, celebra la colaboración, y proporciona experiencias*

*de aprendizaje significativas para todos los estudiantes. Esto es mucho más que la calificación de rendimiento y es muy difícil de medir. Todos estos elementos combinados son las marcas de una excelente escuela.*

Parents are our most important partners in a student's education, and I look forward to continuing this journey towards excellence in every aspect of our school.

*Los padres son nuestros socios más importantes en la educación de un estudiante, y yo espero continuar este camino hacia la excelencia en todos los aspectos de nuestra escuela.*

I am thankful for our partnership and for your children. We love them and are deeply committed to providing them the best education possible. We are far from perfect, but we strive to improve in all aspects of our school every day.

*Estoy agradecida por nuestra asociación de padres y por sus hijos. Los amamos y estamos profundamente comprometidos a proporcionarles la mejor educación posible. Estamos muy lejos de ser perfecta, pero nos esforzamos para mejorar en todos los aspectos de nuestra escuela, todos los días.*

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## Cadet Corps Induction Ceremony

On this Veterans Day, join the the high school Cadet Corps at 10:45am on November 11 on the lawn at 1301 North Derbigny. You're invited to this special ceremony of induction, honoring our veterans for service to our country, and the raising of the flag at our high school campus.

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## Kindness Week at Lopez Campus!

Kindness Week is next week at MJCS! Kindness Week is an annual opportunity to unite our school community through kindness. This celebration demonstrates that kindness is contagious. It all starts with one act – one smile, one special note, a kind gesture for a stranger, one favor for a friend. It’s an opportunity for students to leave the world better than they found it and inspire others to do the same. Morris Jeff students have already taken Kindness pledges to spread Kindness around and their pledges and affirmations are growing on our two Kindness trees in school.

Middle school students will have daily challenges and elementary teachers will explain our daily themes to the students every day of the week. We challenge families to show and spread

Kindness by following the themes at home. Here are some links (ideas, and more ideas) to help families spread Kindness!

### *Challenges*

- 11th Monday - Say “hello” to someone you don’t know
- 12th Tuesday - Send a Kindness-gram or write a note of gratitude
- 13th Wednesday - World Kindness Day - #MakeKindnessTheNorm! - Spend today spreading kindness however you can!
- 14th Thursday - Be Kind to yourself - Start a gratitude journal & begin by writing 10 things you love about your life or go for a mindful walk
- 15th Friday - Show Kindness to your school community and the city by cleaning up litter

NEWS / NOTICIAS

## Student Gala Project: Teaching our Students the Importance of Philanthropy

As a way to support our Community Gala, we have initiated the "Student Gala Project" to teach our students about giving back to their community, particularly our school community. As an IB World School, being a philanthropist at a young age demonstrates the Learner Profile attributes of being Caring, Communicators, and Thinkers. This year the students voted on the project they would like to fund for their school, and we look forward to working with our students to raise the funds needed for the project. Further, we want the students to understand why philanthropy is important, why it is important to give back to our own community and how giving back makes us stronger. To celebrate their fundraising efforts, we'll have a lunchtime dance party on November 15th the day before the Community Gala! Students should bring money to teachers or advisories the week before the gala. Thanks to the Arnold and Landis families for supporting this project!

## Special Family Meeting

On Wednesday, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) released School Performance Scores (SPS) for the 2018-19 school year. You can view our school’s profile on the Louisiana School Finder website. This video explains K-12 Performance Scores for families. Please join us on Tuesday, November 12, for a presentation from Mrs. Perkins about our School Performance Score results from last year. The Special Family Meeting will be held

in the **Performing Arts Room (please note this change)** at 211 South Lopez from 6:30 to 7:15 PM.

# Thank You to Our Gala Sponsors!

Our annual gala tickets are on sale now through our website (www.morrisjeffschool.org/gala) starting at just $65!!

THANK YOU to the following sponsors: Jennifer and Erich Weishaupt, HGI, Poree's, Crescent City Payroll, Jani King, Iberia Bank, and Lee Arnold and Baty Landis.

THANK YOU to the following food sponsors: Pal's Lounge, Vyoones, Cru By Chef Marlon Alexander, Vyoones, El Pavo Real, Bayou Beer Garden, French Truck Coffee , Wakin' Bakin', Pagoda Cafe, Second Line Brewing, MoPho, Morrow's, Liberty's Kitchen Inc, Juan's Flying Burrito, Ernst Cafe, RNDC, Pigeon's Catering, and Coca Cola Distribution Company.

EVENTS / EVENTOS

# Homecoming Information

### *Now is the Time to Plan Your Spriti Day Outfits*

- 11/18 Monday – Nerd Day
- 11/19 Tuesday – Throwback Tuesday (50's? 60's? 70's, 80's, 90's – you decide!)
- 11/20 Wednesday – Twin Day
- 11/21 Thursday - Class Colors Day
- 11/22 Friday – Dress Down Day

### *Homecoming Events*

**Thursday, November 21**

- 1:55 PM Pep Rally (during the school day)
- 5:00 PM Homecoming Basketball Game
- 2:45 PM Parent tailgating welcome in staff parking lot!
- Homecoming Court will be seated in VIP section and formally presented during halftime. (King & Queen, Mr. and Ms. Morris Jeff HS, Mr. & Ms. Junior, Sophomore &

Freshman)

**Friday, November 22**
The Homecoming Dance is a formal event from 9 :00 PM - Midnight at the Sheraton Galleria, Metairie. Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Sales begin on Tuesday 11/5 during lunch. Guests are welcome but must present ID and check in. Dress code information is available in the front office and has been sent by email to high school parents.

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## Say Yes to the Dress

Morris Jeff high schoolers are invited to shop for a homecoming dress for FREE on Friday, November 8 and Monday, November 11, in room 208.

Gently used dresses have been provided by the entire Morris Jeff community! Thank you to everyone who donated.

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## MJHS Homecoming Court 2019

Please join the faculty and staff of Morris Jeff High School in honoring the 2019 homecoming court.

***Congratulations to:***

- Ms. Freshman - Aliyah Pflueger & Mr. Freshman - Niccoli Stryker
- Ms. Sophomore - Daija Ellison & Mr. Sophomore - Colby Muse
- Ms. Junior - Nyra Landry & Mr. Junior - Zelvin Collins
- Ms. MJHS - Donnelle Williams & Mr. MJHS - Joseph Irvin
- and your 2019 Homecoming Queen - Shani Collins & King - Corey Givens

All hail, and join us at the Homecoming Basketball Game November 21 to see the court presented, and Queen Ligier of 2018 crowning Queen Collins of 2019!

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## Silent Auction is OPEN! Bid NOW!

Our Community Gala Silent Auction is NOW OPEN! You can begin bidding before the Gala, and you can share this information with friends and family who do not live in New Orleans. Our community can support us from anywhere and bid on items. We have Saints vs. Panthers tickets, classic New Orleans restaurant gift certificates, homes in Pensacola for some summer

fun, adventures for the whole family like Escape Rooms and Audubon Institute, a few party boards such as Paint 'n Sip and Murder Mystery Party, and so much more! One of our newest additions is "Be a Head of School for the Day!" So many of our kids would love to follow around Ms. Perkins and learn more about our school and school leader.

## Middle School Family Meeting

Parents and guardians of middle school students are invited to join Mr. Ruyle, Director of Middle School on Thursday, November 14 from 5:30-6:30pm in the Lopez library. Attendees will learn more about the middle school, get to know other middle school parents and have opportunity to ask questions. We hope you'll attend. Students are not required to attend but are welcome.

RECOGNITIONS / RECONOCIMIENTOS

## High School Honor Roll / Escuela Secundaria - Matrícula de Honor

Join us for a special assembly to acknowledge our high school students who earned a 3.5 GPA and above and students that earned a 3.0 - 3.5 GPA on November 15th, 10:11am - 10:41am, in our gymnasium.

*Acompáñenos en una asamblea especial para reconocer a nuestros estudiantes de la secundaria que obtuvieron un promedio de 3.5 o más y los estudiantes que obtuvieron un 3.0-3.5 GPA, el 15 de noviembre de 10:11am - 10:41am, en nuestro gimnasio del Clark.*

Complete List / Lista Completa

# PYP Students of the Week / PEP Estudiantes de la Semana

Join us at Morning Meeting on Monday at 7:45 am to acknowledge our 1st-5th grade PYP Students of the Week. Students will be recognized in front of the gym and receive a learner profile attribute pin.

*Acompáñenos en la sesión matutina del lunes a las 7:45 de la mañana a reconocer nuestros "Estudiantes de la Semana" para los grados 1-5 (PEP). Los estudiantes serán reconocidos en el gimnasio y reciben un pin especial.*

### *Caring*

We take care of ourselves, each other, and our school.

### *Solidarios*

Cuidamos de nosotros mismos, unos a otros, y nuestra escuela

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### *Pre-K*

**Brown:** Makayla White
**Duet:** Caleb Lopez
**Theriot:** Dylan Williams
**Weddle:** Lily Hayes

### *Kindergarten*

**Flagge:** Isabella Vibes
**Hinds:** Basil Stanley
**Mitchell:** T'Ira Brown
**Money:** Zack Rouzan
**Scott:** Evan Anderson

### *1st Grade*

**Bell:** Kimberly Zacarias
**Byrne:** Ian Chamale
**Frezel:** Everett Jones II
**Torres:** Meylin Aguilar

### *2nd Grade*

**Jones:** Raven Brown
**Loveland:** Loucie Landis-Arnold
**Rice:** Kendall Metoyer

### *3rd Grade*

**Frazier:** Iren Lee
**Gann:** Faith Spear
**Gibboni:** Kaleb Williams

### *4th Grade*

**Hubacek:** Lisette Toledo
**Posey:** Kevin Gomez
**Weis:** Caden Rogers

### *5th Grade*

**Larson:** Destin Richardson
**Mipro:** Amara Vaughn
**Tuttle:** Bran'dee Tucker

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# PYP Staff Member of the Week / PEP Personal de la Semana

It is rewarding to work with such a caring individual as **Ms. Abby**. Ms. Abby cares deeply

about all of the students in room 1005 and does her best to make them feel comfortable and safe. Imagine coming to a new country, a new home, and a new school. That can be tough for any student but especially when he or she does not speak the language of the majority of the people around him or her. Ms. Abby recognized that the one thing she could do to make this student more comfortable was to immediately add Google Translate on her phone to allow the student a way to communicate. She was able to provide a means for this student to express her feelings and needs. In addition, she offered reassurance through soothing back rubs, hugs, and a warm smile. It is no wonder that it can be hard for students to share Ms. Abby, but we know that she has a big caring heart and enough love for the entire class and learning community.

*Es gratificante trabajar con una persona tan cuidadosa como la **Sra Abby.** Sra. Abby se preocupa profundamente por todos los estudiantes en la habitación 1005 y hace todo lo posible para que se sientan cómodos y seguros. Imagine llegar a un nuevo país, un nuevo hogar y una nueva escuela. Eso puede ser difícil para cualquier estudiante, pero sobre todo cuando él o ella no habla el idioma de la mayoría de las personas que lo rodean. La Sra Abby reconoció que una cosa que podía hacer para que este estudiante era más cómodo fue agregar inmediatamente Google Translate en su teléfono para permitir al estudiante una forma de comunicarse. Ella fue capaz de proporcionar un medio para este estudiante para expresar sus sentimientos y necesidades. Además, se ofreció consuelo a través de masajes calmantes en la espalda, abrazos y una sonrisa cálida. A veces es difícil para los estudiantes a compartir la Sra Abby, pero sabemos que ella tiene un corazón grande y suficiente amor para toda la clase y la comunidad.*

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**MIDDLE SCHOOL GLOBAL LEADERS**
**LÍDERES GLOBALES DE LA ESCUELA INTERMEDIA**

# Middle School Global Leaders / Líderes Globales de la Escuela Intermedia

Check out our Middle School Global Leaders! Every week Middle School recognizes a student in each grade as a Global Leader for demonstrating the IB Learner Profile Attribute.

*¡Mira nuestros líderes globales de Middle School! Cada semana, la Escuela Intermedia reconoce a un estudiante en cada grado como Líder Global por demostrar el Atributo del Perfil de Aprendiz del IB!*

### *Reflective*

I know my strengths and weaknesses and use that knowledge to develop my talents fully.

### *Reflexivos*

Sé mis fortalezas y debilidades y utilizo ese conocimiento para desarrollar mis talentos plenamente.

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### *Year 1: Grade 6 / Año 1: Grado 6*

**Darnell** has grown so much from the beginning of the school year. He has made conscious efforts to adjust to life as a MYP student. By changing his actions and attitude towards school, it is apparent he is taking on the challenges of middle school successfully.

**Darnell** ha crecido tanto desde el comienzo del año escolar. Se ha hecho un esfuerzo consciente para ajustarse a su vida como estudiante del PAI. Al cambiar sus acciones y actitud hacia la escuela, es evidente que está asumiendo los retos de la escuela intermedia con éxito.

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### *Year 2: Grade 7 / Año 2: Grado 7*

**Kobi** is the embodiment of reflective. She consistently asks questions to improve her understanding of the class content. When she doubts herself, she diligently works to improve by attending tutoring sessions after school. Her hard work paid off in the first quarter since she earned both the AB Honor Roll and the Study Skills Honor Roll. Keep up the good work Kobi!

**Kobi** es la encarnación de reflectante. Ella le pide constantemente preguntas para mejorar su comprensión del contenido de clase. Cuando ella duda sí misma, ella trabaja diligentemente para mejorar asistiendo a las sesiones de tutoría después de la escuela. Su trabajo duro valió la pena en el primer trimestre desde que ganó tanto el AB Matrícula de Honor y la Técnicas del Estudio de Honor. Mantener el buen trabajo Kobi!

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### *Year 3: Grade 8 / Año 3: Grado 8*

**Lauren** has made intentional changes in her classes to improve her grades since Quarter 1. She reviewed her assessments to identify weaknesses and has employed new strategies to make better grades. Lauren has followed through on action steps that will help her become a more knowledgeable student.

**Lauren** ha realizado cambios intencionales en sus clases para mejorar sus calificaciones desde el primer trimestre. Se revisó sus evaluaciones para identificar las debilidades y ha empleado a nuevas estrategias para hacer mejores calificaciones. Lauren ha seguido a través de los pasos de acción que le ayudarán a convertirse en un estudiante con más conocimientos.

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### *Middle School Staff Member of the Week / Personal de la Semana de la Escuela Intermedia*

**Ms. Celestin** is not only reflective, but she also helps students reflect on their actions in order to make better decisions to be more successful in class. Ms. Celestin is an excellent listener for her colleagues and students. She seeks to understand our students when they have issues and provides direct and honest advice.

**La Sra Celestin** no sólo es reflexiva, sino que también ayuda a los estudiantes a reflexionar sobre sus acciones con el fin de tomar mejores decisiones para tener más éxito en la clase. La Sra Celestin es un excelente oyente por sus colegas y estudiantes. Se trata de comprender nuestros estudiantes cuando tienen problemas y proporciona asesoramiento directo y honesto.

## ATHLETICS / DEPORTES

# MJHS Athletic Announcements

### *XC Meets*

- Monday, November 18 - LHSAA State meet - Northwestern State University

### *Swim Meets*

- Wednesday/Thursday, November 20-11 - LHSAA State Swim Meet (Sulphur, LA)

### *Basketball*

- Thursday, November 14 - Scrimmage @ Higgins - 5:00 PM

## CALENDAR / CALENDARIO

- Visit the Calendar page on the MJCS website
- Add the MJCS Events Calendar to your Google Calendar
- Add the MJCS Events Calendar to your iCal calendar

*If you have something to contribute to the MJCS Pelican Press, please complete this submission*

*form by Wednesday evening at 5pm for inclusion in the Friday distribution. If you have a good story about a member/group of the MJCS community, we invite you to share the details and images in this submission form. Thank you for your participation in our school community!*

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