Buzz Aldrin Mission Statement:
We believe that all students can learn, achieve, and grow, in a safe and secure environment.

- **AAPI Month Advisory:** This week, our students participated in an AAPI Advisory in honor of Asian American Pacific Islander Month. They learned various facts and the history behind AAPI month. They also researched two different countries and learned about their demographics, languages spoken, population statistics, cultural beliefs, and discussed their similarities and differences. Additionally, the students watched a video that details the history of Asian Americans within the context of US History. Please see some conversation starters below:
  - What is one fact that you learned from the advisory or videos about the history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders?
  - Which country did you and your group research?
  - How has the treatment of Asian Americans changed from the past? How is it still similar?

- **No Place for Hate Advisory:** This week, our students participated in their third No Place for Hate (NPFH) advisory. They reviewed the words of hate terminology, then discussed social justice actions that could be taken to address incidents and various situations in groups. This activity was a great way for us to complete the Words of Hate two-part activity. Our NPFH committee did a fantastic job spearheading all this year's activities! We are so proud of the students for their hard work, and we are grateful for the staff members and parent volunteers for working tirelessly to ensure our entire school community experienced enriching and useful discussions.

- **7th Grade Fundraiser Update:** Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful student community, we are pleased to announce that we have raised a total of $1500.00 to donate to New Alternatives for Children (NAC)! The organization has decided to use the donation in one of three ways, and they have given our students an opportunity to choose how. The seventh-grade students have decided that our donation will go towards summer field trips for the children at New Alternatives, which include museums, baseball games, roller skating arenas, mini golf courses, and amusement parks. Our donation to this organization will help provide the NAC children with incredibly memorable
and positive experiences. The seventh-grade teachers, Ms. Kinnas, Ms. Bernheim, and Ms. Orlando would like to thank our students and families once again for both their kindness and their meaningful action.

- **Side Door Announcement:** Hopefully everyone has been doing well as we near the end of another school year! We at the Side Door team wanted to quickly express that due to an overwhelming request from the students, we have been able to collect enough volunteers to remain open for the following May dates: 5/5/23, 5/12/23, 5/19/23. Unfortunately, despite further requests to be open towards the latter half of June, we do not have enough on staff to be able to supervise all students at an effective rate. Thus, the dates listed are the best we can do before closing the program star of June, only to reopen again closer to a to-be-decided date during the month of September/October. Some students have already been made aware of these dates, but seeing as we are still receiving registration forms, if you could please add this information to the next applicable principal’s bulletin that would be most helpful as it will most likely assist with new students who would still like to register for the program and be already registered come September/October expected start date. As always, we thank you both for all that you do for the students and we hope that you have a wonderful rest of your week!

- **General Spring Updates:** Please see the general reminders and announcements below and review this information with your child.
  - All grades will have their behavior contracts by the end of this week. These contracts relay the requirements for students to participate in end of the year activities/field trips. Attendance, grades, and behavior are three critical components.
  - We’ve recently had many students who are consistently late to school. It is important that your child arrives to school on time.
  - Please remind your child to bring a water bottle to school. We have water refilling stations available for all staff and students.
  - Please remind your child to dress appropriately for school, including all school activities such as physical education and recess. Pajama pants, slides, and clogs are not appropriate school attire. Additionally, please ensure that you are checking the messaging written on the clothing your child wears to school, and that it is middle school appropriate. Please review Page 4 of the Student Planner with your child so he/she/they understands the dress code in more detail.

- **Yearbook Information:** Yearbooks are almost sold out! If you are interested in purchasing a yearbook, please visit [www.jostensyearbook.com](http://www.jostensyearbook.com) or call 1-877-767-5217. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

- **8th Grade Impact Testing:** For all 8th graders attending Montclair High School, the Impact testing will be held on May 24th and 25th by St. Barnabas Medical Center. This is a requirement for all 9th graders interested in playing a sport at Montclair High School. Impact testing is baseline testing and post-injury testing to help track recovery in sports-related concussions. 8th graders have been
reminded to have their permission slips signed and returned by their parents/guardians. All permission slips should be returned to our school nurse, Ms. McGorry. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. McGorry directly.

• **AAPI Annual Lantern Festival for Justice and Remembrance:** On behalf of our over 900 members, AAPI Montclair invites you to our third Annual Lantern Festival for Justice and Remembrance at Edgemont Memorial Park from 6-9pm on Sunday, May 21st (rain date: June 4th). On this evening, we will illuminate the park with thousands of lanterns to remember those who have been killed and harmed by violence and injustice, including anti-Asian hate. The event theme this year is preserving our histories and storytelling. Through honoring our shared history, telling our stories, and rewriting the narrative alongside our allies, we are proudly writing a new chapter for a more just future. With speakers, performances, live music, and community partner tables, the event will also celebrate the advances of Asian Americans, community, solidarity, and our shared goal of securing justice for all. We anticipate the event will draw more than 2,000 visitors and we are also inviting local, state and national leaders. Among our featured guests are Rose Cuisin-Villazor, Interim Dean of Rutgers School of Law, the first Filipina Dean of a U.S. law school, Vanguard Theater Company, and Mariah Ayscue, spoken word poet, director, playwright, activist, and performer. Here is a link to the Facebook event page. You can learn more about Asian American Heritage Month events around town on our website. We would greatly appreciate if you would share these links and the attached flyer for Lantern Festival to the MHS community. Please reach out if you have any questions.

• **TREP$ Club:** The TREP$ Marketplace is a fun and exciting culmination for the club members and all their hard work. This is their shining moment to take all of what they have learned and apply it to operating their own business! The Marketplace provides an opportunity for the kids to make it all real. They will pitch the products that will be available for sale with their own unique advertising strategies, showing off what they have worked hard to create. This is their chance to be a true entrepreneur in every sense of the word. The doors are open to the entire Montclair community. Please join us on Thursday, June 1 from 6-8 pm in the BAMS gymnasium to show our entrepreneurs that they have our support!

• **AAPI Update:** On Thursday, May 25th, we are excited to partner with the Montclair Chapter of AAPI and our PTA, as they’ve worked diligently to organize a schoolwide assembly for our students. Please see the attached flyer for more information. Stay tuned for next week’s bulletin, where we will share how it went!

• **Memorial Day Weekend Calendar Change:** Please note that the district calendar has changed. The district is closed on Friday, May 26th for Memorial Day Weekend.
**Next Week’s Schedule of Days**
- Monday, May 22**nd** – C Day
- Tuesday, May 23**rd** – D Day
- Wednesday, May 24**th** – E Day
- Thursday, May 25**th** – F Day
- Friday, May 26**th** – District Closed

**Please mark your calendars:**
- Friday, May 26**th** - Memorial Day, District Closed
- Monday, May 29**th** – Memorial Day, District Closed
- Wednesday, May 31**st** – Band & Chorus Concert @ 7 pm
- Thursday, June 1**st** – Trep$ Marketplace, 6-8 pm

“To live an ethical life is to be held accountable for history.”
— Cathy Park Hong

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”
— Anne Frank