

Morris-Union Jointure Commission  
Developmental Learning Centers

Superintendent's Spotlight

March 2021

**School Calendars**



Spring will arrive on March 20<sup>th</sup> and, hopefully, most of the winter weather is now behind us! As a reminder, our last day of school for the 2020 – 2021 school year is Monday, June 14, 2021, since we have used one snow day so far. This will change if additional snow days are needed. Additionally, the DLC 2021 Extended School Year (ESY) calendar and the 2021 – 2022 school calendar have been approved by the MUJC Board of Education and may be found on our website at <http://www.mujc.org/domain/119>. We are looking forward to having our normal school hours for students of 8:45 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. for the ESY and 8:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. for the regular school year.

**EAGLE Program**



We continue to plan for the relocation of the EAGLE Program, which is currently at the DLC – New Providence location and designed for students with Emotional Regulation Impairment. Our program will be moving to the upper level of DLC – Warren as of September 1, 2021. This program provides social-emotional learning, academic rigor, and positive behavioral supports to students in our EAGLE Program within a supportive, compassionate, and structured learning environment. Our expanded Emotional Regulation Impairment program will offer many new enhancements at the DLC – Warren. With the move of the EAGLE Program to DLC – Warren, the age range of students at the DLC – New Providence will be increased from 3 – 13 years of age for the 2021 – 2022 school year. Students currently attending DLC – New Providence who are or will be 13 years of age this school year or next will remain at DLC – New Providence for the 2021 – 2022 school year. Students who are currently 13 years of age and attending DLC – Warren will remain at DLC – Warren for the 2021 – 2022 school year. Stay tuned for more details!

**What's Happening at the DLCs**



**DLC – New Providence** students will be celebrating **Dr. Seuss' birthday** during the first week of March. To help with the celebration, parents are invited to read to the students virtually. Please contact Andrea Marmolejos, principal, at [amarmolejos@mujc.org](mailto:amarmolejos@mujc.org) or 908-508-1345, ext. 2216, if you would like to read Dr. Seuss books to the students during the week of March 1. Additionally, each day of the week will celebrate a different Dr. Seuss theme: Monday, March 1, is **Wear Green Day** in honor of "Green Eggs and Ham." Tuesday, March 2, is **Wear a Crazy Hat and Red/White Day** in honor of "Cat in the Hat." Wednesday, March 3, is **Wacky Wednesday** when students and staff are invited to come to school with a wacky hairdo or wear their clothes backwards in honor of "Wacky Wednesday." Thursday, March 4, is **Wear Your Pajamas Day** in honor of "Sleep Book." Friday, March 5, is **Wear Your Favorite Socks Day** in honor of "Fox in Socks." **National Dentist Day** is March 6 and students will have lessons on keeping their teeth healthy. **Culture Week** is the week of March 15 during which each class will choose a language and write hello, goodbye, and something kind in the chosen language with the translation on the

back. **School Wellness Week** is the week of March 22 during which there will be lessons and games involving exercise and eating healthy. Finally, March is **Women's History Month**. Students will be celebrating famous women and their accomplishments throughout the month. Each classroom is assigned a famous woman and the students will research facts and create a poster to display and share with other classrooms.

We are excited to announce that **DLC – Warren** will be **reopening three labs** in March. We will begin by opening the following labs on Main Street: Retail, Apartment, and Office Occupations. The goal of opening these labs is to enable the students to work on transitioning, daily living activities, and prerequisite skills for job sampling. Health and safety standards will be safeguarded, and we are looking forward to our students benefiting by job sampling on Main Street once again!

DLC – Warren students have been participating in the **AIE Photography Grant** for the past month. They have enjoyed learning about different angles and how the angles affect the way a picture looks. Students have also been taking many pictures and learning about all of the features available to edit a picture. March is **National Nutrition Month** and classes will be participating in a Fitness Challenge to promote fitness. Each day classes will be engaging in exercises for each letter of the alphabet. It's a fun way to stay fit! Additionally, during **School Wellness Week**, March 22 – 26, activities focused on nutrition and wellness will be held in the classroom and during adaptive physical education classes and integrated therapy sessions. Students will be participating in activities such as assembling a skeleton to learn about the bones and muscles, completing nutrition puzzles, and reading about healthy and unhealthy eating habits.

#### **Mark Your Calendar**



The **MUJC Transition Fair** will be held Thursday, March 4, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This event provides opportunities for parents to network with adult service agencies and providers. Representatives from various agencies will virtually answer questions and provide information on the following topics such as: supported employment, SSI, Medicaid, special needs trusts, adult living options, adult day programs, respite care, advocacy organizations, and more. Additional information and links to all sessions will be available shortly.

Our next virtual **Parent Awareness Workshop** is scheduled for March 25, 2021 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The topic is “Creating Visual Schedules and Behavioral Expectations,” which will focus on assisting parents with creating a visual schedule for the home; exploring independent digital applications to assist parents with setting behavioral expectations; and practicing with tools that help parents create a home-based structure. The workshop is offered at no cost, but please register in advance. Registration forms can be found at the [“Parent Training Opportunities”](#) link under the “Parent” tab on the [MUJC website](#). Please be sure to include your email on the registration form. Registrants will receive an email with access information. We hope to see you there!

As always, thank you for your continued support of our DLC students, staff, and schools!

*Janet L. Fike*  
Superintendent