Monday, September 18, 2017

Monday Morning Memo

Good Morning, Lansing School District Family!

Hey, what's with the weather? I was really looking forward to wearing socks, a fuzzy sweater, and a scarf – you know, snuggle up with soft, warm attire after a long hot summer. And, bazinga, we have another week of hot August temps! I'll probably regret saying this come January, but it just doesn't seem right to still need the air conditioning on after Labor Day. We are blessed to live in Michigan though – no hurricanes or earthquakes.

Recently, we were invited by the MSU College of Education to partner with them in receiving 24 educators from Argentina for three weeks in October. They come from many states within Argentina and are teachers or principals in a wide variety of grade levels. I sent an email to selected district principals and teachers inviting them to host our colleagues for the eight days they will be visiting our classrooms. We have so many talented educators who are doing incredibly great work that should be shared with others. Sergio Keck and Betty Underwood are taking the lead on this project and will be communicating with both the Guest Educators and the LSD Mentors. We've invited our guests to the Sexton Homecoming football game, a Board meeting, and a luncheon orientation session; the rest of their stay will be at MSU and visiting sights in our beautiful state. What a great time to be in Michigan!

This week I'll be in Traverse City for the Fall MASA Conference and Middle Cities meeting. This is an annual event that brings superintendents together from around the state to share ideas, hear about the legislative agenda, and generally take a bit of time to network with each other. I'm doing an "EDTalks" – similar to TEDTAlks – on our Pathway Promise on Thursday morning at the second general session along with five other superintendents, each sharing individual topics.

The MSU Museum's new Director began in July but he has planned an innovative approach to connecting the museum and the community. On September 26, he will be giving a compelling lecture presentation. Attached to this M3 is the flyer for the event.

Last Tuesday, we had a really great evening with folks from the Eastern Alumni Association, Eastern staff from the input groups, and members of the Bond Committee to see the first reveal of the plans for the new Eastern High School and the Eastern Fields. We received a lot of good ideas which will help our architects and construction company finalize the plans for both sites, which will be opened in the fall of 2019!

Have a great week!

Yvonne

FIRST ANNUAL

Director's Lecture

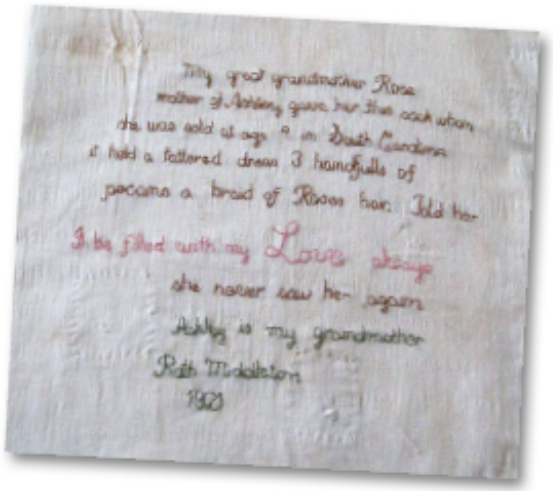
Rose's Gift: Slavery, Grief, and Resilience in an Object of Memory

MSU Museum | Entry Hall
Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 6:00 pm
Dr. Mark Auslander

New MSU Museum Director Mark Auslander shares his recent research on one of the most enigmatic artifacts on display in the new Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Discovered ten years ago, "Ashley's Sack" is a simple seed bag, on which is embroidered a haunting narrative of a nine-year-old girl, sold away from her mother in the mid-1800s. Dr. Auslander recounts his two-year quest to recover the identities and the stories of the women recorded in the object's needlepoint, and to reconstruct the history of their family across two centuries of slavery and freedom.

He also discusses interpretive and display challenges posed by this heart-breaking object, and reflects on the power and possibilities of museums—in our fractured, polarized era—for engaging diverse publics in productive explorations about race, power, and the burdens of history.



This lecture marks the start of the MSU Museum's new membership drive. Please support the work of the museum in safeguarding our shared heritages in science, culture, and art

FREE and open to the public.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
MUSEUM
WHERE SCIENCE AND CULTURE MEET

museum.msu.edu

Museum Fall Semester Hours

Monday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Tuesday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Wednesday-Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sundays closed