

# Plato Learning Academy News!

January 2019 Issue

Charles Williams - Principal



## *Plato Learning Academy*

*“Working Collaboratively, Thinking Critically, Achieving Academically”*

## New Year ... Better Us

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Around this time of year, people typically proclaim, “new year, new me!”

We launched this year on a similar note by declaring, “new year, better us.”

We modified the saying because we don’t believe that we need to completely revamp what it is that we are doing but instead we need to continue striving for excellence in all that we do.

A few focus points of ours as we enter the new year include the following:

- Separating our two instructional coaches so that they can each focus on specific grade levels as

opposed to a specific content area. This will help narrow the number of teachers with whom they are working with and provide individualized support.

- Developing monthly activities for our families. This includes a Family Dance in February, Pi Day in March, and more.
- Continuing to update the website on a regular basis to provide all important information.

Can you think of something else that we need to address?

Please let us know!

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ 1/11 Career Fair
- ◆ 1/21 No School: MLK Day
- ◆ 1/25 Final Friday Celebrations
- ◆ 1/28 Vision Screenings
- ◆ 1/31 NAEP Testing
- ◆ 2/1 End of Quarter 2
- ◆ 2/8 Report Cards Sent Home

## Parent Meeting

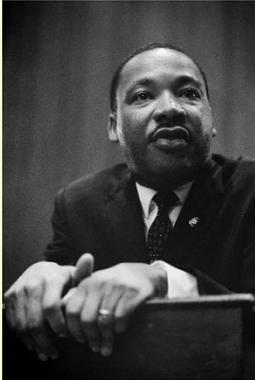
If you were in attendance at the Christmas Program, you heard the announcement that we need all of you to participate in all of our events ... not just the “fun” ones.

Please be reminded that we will be having our scheduled Parent Meeting on Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. This is an important meeting, especially for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents, as we map out how the rest of the school year is going to look.

Remember that these meetings also provide you with an opportunity to ask questions and provide suggestions about how the school can operate.

As a Title I School, parents are expected to play an active role in the decisions regarding their students so please take advantage of these opportunities.

## “I Have a Dream”



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is celebrated on Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>.

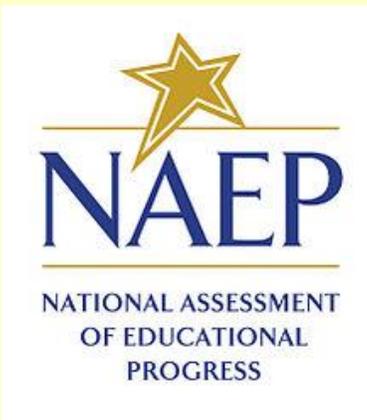
In order to honor his memory, our students will be participating in a variety of activities focused on his life and achievements.

We encourage you to have conversations with your child to better understand what he/she is learning in the classroom and to contribute with your own insights and/or activities.

Additionally, many organizations are adopting “A Day On” as opposed to a day off. Some ideas include:

- UIC’s MLK Day of Service
- Build Chicago Day of Service
- City Year Day of Service

## NAEP Testing



Each year, schools are chosen to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress. This is designed to capture a snapshot of the educational landscape of the country each year.

Plato has been chosen to be included in this year’s national data.

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, all of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will complete an

assessment in either Math or English.

While the results of this assessment will provide the organization valuable information, it will not impact our students’ grades or have an impact on their graduation status.

## What’s Your Email?



We have sent out several requests asking that all parents fill out the Updated Contact Form via Google.

This information will be used to grant you access to ASPEN’s Parent Portal, the new system CPS is rolling out. It will also help us to contact you for important information such

as school closings and upcoming events.

We have approximately 30 families who have completed the form. If you are not one of those families, please make sure you do ASAP.

Thanks!

<https://tinyurl.com/platocontact>