



In a dazzling display of school spirit and skill, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Complex emerged victorious at the annual Cheerleading competition, The Ultimate Showdown, hosted earlier this month by our school district. This victory marked a historic moment for the MLK Tiger's Cheer Squad as they clinched their first overall title in the competition's history, cementing their place in the annuals of cheerleading excellence.

The competition was divided into two sections, showcasing the creativity and talent of middle school cheerleaders from across the district. The first segment, the walkout, judged teams on their creativity, walk, and entrance into the competition. After an electrifying display of energy and flair, the top three teams for the walkout were announced. Our very own MLK Tiger's cheerleaders took third place, followed by Pennsylvania Avenue School in second place, and New York Avenue claimed the walkout crown.

With anticipation mounting, the crowd eagerly awaited the announcement of the overall top three finishers for The Ultimate Showdown. As the event announcer, Shalyn Neal, revealed the results, excitement filled the air. Pennsylvania Avenue School secured third place, while New York Avenue clinched second place, setting the stage for the climactic moment. Then, in a moment of triumph, the announcer declared the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Complex as the champions of The Ultimate Showdown. The roar of the crowd echoed through the arena as the MLK Tiger's Cheer Squad basked in the glory of their hard-earned victory.

Adding to the celebration, each team's top performer was honored with the title of team MVP and awarded a trophy. For the MLK squad, Sarah White stood out not only for her outstanding skills but also for her exemplary leadership qualities, earning her the prestigious MVP accolade.

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As the trophy finds its place of honor within the halls of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Complex, it serves as a testament to the dedication and perseverance of the cheerleading squad. With eyes already set on next year's competition, the MLK Tiger's Cheer Squad remains determined to defend their title and continue their legacy of excellence.



In the end, all participating teams showcased their talent and dedication, demonstrating that the spirit of camaraderie and

sportsmanship shines brightly in the world of cheerleading. Congratulations to all teams for their outstanding performances and a job well done!







At the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Complex, excitement filled the air as students gathered for a pep rally to celebrate the Cheerleader's triumphant victory at the Ultimate Showdown. The gymnasium

pulsed with excitement as attendees witnessed a thrilling recreation of the award-winning performance that earned the first-place trophy. But the festivities didn't end there. Amidst cheers and applause, the school hosted a lively foul shooting and 3-point shooting contest, offering students the chance to showcase their skills and win exciting prizes. It was a memorable event brimming with school spirit and camaraderie, enjoyed by all who attended.



PIDAY @ MLK NATH COMPETITION, PIE EATING CONTEST, MUSIC, AND GAMES & MORE S LICE IT, MLK'S SECOND PI DAY MATH CONTEST AND CELEBRATION TAKES THE CARE

March 14th marked a day of mathematical marvels and tasty treats at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Complex. Students from grades 6 through 8 gathered for the second annual Pi Day math competition, an event created by 6th-grade math teacher Brian Griffiths along with Math Coach Elizabeth Kelly. With enthusiasm bubbling and minds ready for the challenge, nine teams, each bearing tasty pie-themed names such as Cherry, Pumpkin, and Key Lime, competed fiercely for the championship.

In a battle of numerical wit and mental acumen, Team Cherry Pie emerged triumphant,

clinching the math competition championship with an impressive score of 13,720 points. Not far behind, we had Team Coconut Cream who secured a second-place finish with 12,350 points, showcasing their mathematical prowess. However, the race for third and fourth place proved to be a nail-biter, with a mere 10-point differential separating the contenders. Team Pumpkin claimed the third-place spot with 11,380 points, closely followed by Team Key Lime at 11,370 points, securing fourth place.

> The math competition, consisting of two rigorous rounds encompassing fluency drills, comprehension questions, and vocabulary challenges, tested the teams' mathematical mettle to the fullest.

> > But the excitement didn't end there. Audience members were invited to partake in the action as dozens of lucky students were plucked from the bleachers to compete in adrenaline-pumping minutes-to-win mini-games, which SEL Coach Ms. Bria Days had planned to use to add an extra layer of excitement to the event.

> > > (Story continues on the next page.)

As the day drew to a close, the highlight for many was the eagerly anticipated pie-eating contest. Amidst cheers and laughter, 7th-grade student Joseph Diaz rose to the occasion, emerging victorious in the delicious showdown by devouring his entire pie within the 5-minute time limit.

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The Pi Day math competition not only showcased the students' dedication to mathematics but also fostered a spirit of camaraderie and fun within the school community. As participants and spectators alike departed with smiles on their faces and minds buzzing with numbers, it was clear that the event had been a resounding success, leaving everyone eagerly anticipating next year's celebration of all things pi.

Participants Listed Below

Team Cherry Pie: Saleem Jones (6th), Mikey Pijuan (6th), Jaden Watson (8th), Jamir Harris (8th) **Team Pumpkin Pie**: Barack Dorsainvil (6th), Mia De Castro De Aza (6th), Kamari Rice (6th), Ajah Offutt (7th) Lianni Rivera (8th)

Team Pecan Pie: Rayne McNair (6th), Eliani Acevedo (6th), Skye Bright (7th), Luke Walker (8th), John Figueroa (8th)

Team Coconut Cream Pie: Yamirah Hicks (6th), Aziera Sheffield (6th), Aaliyah Yon (8th), Kerionna Carpenter (8th)

Team Blueberry Pie: Josue Suazo (6th), Saadir Wright (6th), Hilton Abdullah (7th), Darius Hedihor (8th)

Team Key Lime Pie: Missael Trinidad(6th), Namir Rex (6th), Eloy Pizarro (7th), Luke Walker (8th), Jamil Harvey (8th)

Team Peanut Butter Pie: Jehmai Knowles (6th), Jamal Adderly (6th), Dychamer Matos (6th), Jadiel Cirinos (7th), Mekhi Gibbs (8th)

Team Sweet Potato Pie: Anaya Moore (6th), Lucinda Cohen (6th), Aniyah Mohammad (7th), Sarah White (8th)

Team Strawberry Rhubarb Pie: A'Milyah (6th), Haniiyah Blackman(6th), Amare Stewart (7th), Shaim Russell (8th)

Team Apple Pie (Did not compete): Camilo (7th), Ryan Martinez (8th) Madison Gibbs (6th), Nuri Pitts (6th), Jordan

MS. WASHINGTON'S THIRD-GRADERS SCRUB IN FOR SERVICE SUCCESS!

In the spirit of giving back and fostering a sense of community, Ms. Washington's third-grade class embarked on a heartfelt mission over the past few weeks.

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Their goal? To collect hygiene items and garner donations to support those in need. And oh, what a remarkable journey it has been!

Ms. Washington beams with pride as she reflects on the impact of their Hygiene Collection initiative. "So far, it has made such a big difference in the students' lives," she shares. Indeed, the enthusiasm and dedication displayed by the young minds have been nothing short of inspiring.

Through this endeavor, they've not only learned the importance of self-care but have also developed a profound sense of empathy towards others. "They are so proud of themselves, and they now seem to have a greater appreciation for self-care and for caring for others," Mrs. Washington observes.

This noble cause wasn't just a one-time effort but rather a stepping stone for something bigger. "It is our hope that even starting small, this is something that we can continue and grow to help as many people as possible," Mrs. Washington shares. Their commitment to service extends beyond the the classroom, echoing the values of compassion and solidarity. The journey began as a part of their Black History Month service project, a fitting tribute to the spirit of unity and empowerment championed by historical figures. Through their actions, these young changemakers honor the legacy of those who came before them while paving the way for a brighter, more inclusive future.

As we celebrate their achievements, let us also take inspiration from Ms. Washington's class. In a world where

kindness often makes as a reminder that profound change. and compassion—one the most significant impact, may their story serve even the smallest acts of generosity can spark Together, let's continue to spread hope, kindness, gesture at a time.

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