Christa McAuliffe Elementary School

"Home of the Challengers"

March 2017

Principal's Message

March is here and with it comes longer days and hopefully spring-like weather. I want to thank **all** of our volunteers who help make McAuliffe such a special place. Since coming to McAuliffe 12 years ago, I have experienced firsthand the many individuals who put in countless hours of their time to help make a difference. Volunteers assist teachers in working with students in and out of the classroom, computer lab, and library, displaying bulletin boards, attending field trips, and performing many other tasks that help free up time for teachers to focus on their students.

I also want to express my gratitude to our PTO for all they provide to the McAuliffe students, families and staff. Many programs and activities would not be possible without the efforts of our Parent Teacher Organization. To all of the volunteers at McAuliffe – *your time and talents are greatly appreciated by all of the students and staff. You truly MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Thank you!*

Your Partner in Education,
Kelly Rollin,
McAuliffe Principal

PTO Meeting Reminders and Updates

The McAuliffe PTO does a wonderful job raising funds and providing volunteer support for the many events and opportunities for our children. Please get involved by volunteering, joining a committee, or attending our next meeting. If you are wondering about the details of the upcoming April 4th referendum, please join us for a presentation on the referendum at our next PTO meeting on Thursday, March 7th, at 6:00 p.m.

Summer School 2017

The District will be hosting summer school again this year for elementary students. Dates and locations are listed below. Lunch will be served and transportation provided from McAuliffe. The class offering booklet will be coming out in April.

District Summer School Programs
Elementary East Side (Wilder)
Elementary Westside (Beaumont)

- Session 1: June 19 - July 14 Monday - Friday (No summer school July 3-7)
- Session 2 July 17 - August 4, Monday - Friday

McAuliffe Summer School Program
We will again be offering a variety of summer school classes. A list of class offerings will be out soon. The sessions will run as follows:

- Session 1 June 19 – June 30
- Session 2 July 10-14
- Session 3 July 31 -August 11

All classes run from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Lunch is open to all students and will be served for all sessions from 12:00 – 12:30. There is no charge for summer school for children residing in the Green Bay District.

Cellcom 5K Mini Marathon

McAuliffe will be training as a team for the Cellcom 5K (3.1 miles) on Saturday, May 20th. This program is aimed for children in grades 2-5. We will combine this training with our Bellin Run training. This is a 6-week training commitment and it is a better alternative for those who do not want to compete in the longer 6.2 mile Bellin Run held in June. More information will be coming at the end of March.

Trainers Needed for Kids' Running Program

For the past 15 years, McAuliffe 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students who enjoy running have been able to participate in the Bellin Run, a 10K (6.2 miles) run.

This year the Bellin Run is Saturday, June 10th. Volunteer coaches and trainers are needed to assist these students training for the 10K run. The "Kids' Running Program" consists of a training schedule put out by Bellin that slowly increases the distance the children will run each week. Training will begin in early April. If you would be interested in this safe and fun way to run the Bellin Run 2017 and are willing to help our eager students, please call the school at 391-2436, and ask for Mrs. Slaby.

Remember… no prior training is needed! Permission slips and more information will be going home mid-March to those students who are interested in participating.

Jump Rope for Heart

McAuliffe School is participating in our **21st year** of **Jump Rope for Heart!**

When: Wednesday, March 8, 2017
Where: Gym and Commons
Time: 3:30-5:00 pm.

Each child who participates must have a signed consent form that will be attached to the JRFH envelope.

The collection of donations is optional. The American Heart Association suggests asking relatives and friends for donations, or possibly having your children donate some of his/her allowance. The funds go toward education and research for heart disease.

Listed below are some helpful hints for the upcoming event:

- Wear comfortable clothes and tennis shoes.
- Bring water bottles
- Eat a healthy snack provided by the PTO during the Jump.
- Have your child bring checks or money orders made out to the American Heart Association on the Jump date or earlier, if he/she collects donations. This will speed up the arrival of prizes, which take 4-5 weeks to come.

We want children to experience and learn lifetime fitness and heart-healthy habits through programs such as Jump Rope for Heart.

A permission slip must be returned in order to participate. Mrs. Slaby is looking for parent volunteers to help with this wonderful event!!

2017 - 2018 School Calendar

The district has released the 2017/18 school calendar. The entire calendar can be found on the district website. Below are some dates which may be important for family planning:

September 5	Schools Open
October 27	Schools Closed
November 22-24	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 22	Last Day before Winter Recess
January 2	Classes Resume
March 19-23	Spring Recess (Schools Closed)
March 26	Classes Resume
May 28	Memorial Day (Schools Closed)
June 8	Last Student Day for Elementary School

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2	Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00 – 7:45 p.m.
March 3	End of Trimester 2
March 7	PTO Mtg. 6:00 (Referendum Presentation)
March 8	Jump Rope for Heart 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
March 10	No School
March 12	Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 15	Popcorn Day
March 16	Spirit Day
March 17	Wear Green Day!
March 20	First Day of Spring
March 20–24	Spring Recess – No School
March 27	Classes resume
March 28	Tri. 2 Report Cards go home
April 14	No School
April 21	Early Release – 1:30 Dismissal

School Day Start Time

Our school day begins at 8:57. A number of our students have been coming to school late. When a student is tardy, he/she misses the beginning of the day procedures that help ground them and prepare them for the day ahead. Even if your child misses a brief period of time at the beginning or end of each day, over time there is a cumulative negative effect on your child's education. Many skills are integrated throughout the school day. We want your child to be a part of all of them. There are times when being late or leaving early can't be avoided, but please try to keep it to a minimum. Your child will benefit from your choice.

The Importance of Regular School Attendance

It's a fact that students who attend school regularly learn more and are more successful in school than students who do not. Parents who make regular school attendance a priority also are helping their children learn to accept responsibility. And that's an important lesson for a successful life.

Attendance patterns are formed early in life. Children who develop good attendance habits in the early grades will be more likely to continue them throughout their school career. That's important, because students who miss school, miss out on carefully planned sequences of instruction. They miss out on active learning experiences and class participation. They miss out on the opportunity to ask questions.

The district requires a parent notification to all families when students reach 5, 10 and 15 days of absences (excused or unexcused). We appreciate your support in having our students in school and on time.

Attendance Matters
...every school day counts!

What can YOU do to help your student?

Let your child know that you expect him/her to attend school every day. Explain that just as you have a job, it's their job to go to school and learn.

Set a time for homework and a bedtime for each evening. Unfinished homework and too little sleep are common reasons why parents hear the words, "I don't feel good," on school mornings.

Get involved with your child's school. When he/she sees you in the halls or the classrooms, they better understand the importance of school.

McAuliffe Chess Club

We are hoping to start a McAuliffe Chess Club, but we need your help. Please consider being a Chess Coach. Once we have a fewl parents committed to assisting with coaching duties, we will get the word out so our students can join. Please let me know if you are interested in putting together a McAuliffe Chess Club.

Middle School Students

On days when Edison is not in session, middle school students will be allowed to visit McAuliffe for *lunch and lunch recess only.* They are not allowed to stay during instruction time.

Students Exiting Back Doors for After School Pick Up

No students are allowed to exit any of the back doors after school. Parents have been informed that pick up is not allowed in the back parking lot at the end of the day. All students must exit the front of the building. This is a safety issue. Thank you.

McAuliffe Elementary "How are we doing?"

Feel free to fill out this "How are we doing at McAuliffe?" form included in today's newsletter. In order to continue to improve our services to all McAuliffe families, we need your feedback. **Please return to the McAuliffe Office. Thank you!**

Celebration Suggestion
Concern Frustration

Let us know…. _____

_____

_____

Name (optional): _____

Would you like us to call you? If yes, phone # please: _____

Today's Date: _____