



# Christa McAuliffe Elementary

August 2023 Summer Newsletter

Hope you are having a GREAT Summer!

Mark your calendar - Aug. 30, 2023, from 3:30 - 5:30 for our Open House/ Back to School Barbeque

Dear McAuliffe School Families,

I hope that the summer has been a time of peace, rest and special moments shared with family and friends. There are many fond memories to be had with the warm summer days.

The first day of school for the 2023/2024 school year will be **Tuesday, September 5th**. I am excited to have our students back and our staff has been eagerly preparing for the new school year.

We will be hosting an Open House/Back to School Barbeque on the evening of Wednesday, **August 30, 2023**, from 3:30 to 5:30. All students and their families are invited to attend. Students will have an opportunity to drop off their supplies, view their classrooms, and meet their teacher/s. It is also a chance for families to visit our beautiful facility and to meet some of the other wonderful staff that will be working with your child. We will again be serving food this year. I am excited to see our current and new McAuliffe students and families.

This year we will again be sending most documents and communication through School Messenger, which will go to the email you have on file with us and the district. At times we will need to send hard copies home. It is important that all of your contact information is up to date so that you can receive this information. Feel free to also check out our McAuliffe website for school and district information.

I look forward to returning as your principal and to continue the success and tradition of **Christa McAuliffe Elementary School**. I am proud to be a part of this staff and eagerly wait to meet the new students and families of this school community as well as the familiar faces who are already a part of the McAuliffe family.

Your partner in education,

Kelly Rollin  
Principal



**Office Hours** The McAuliffe office will be open during the month of August from 8:00-3:30. Please feel free to contact us at 920-391-2436.

## New McAuliffe Staff

I want to welcome our new staff to McAuliffe for the 2023/24 School Year. We are excited to have them join our TEAM.

**Grade 4  
4K Para  
ELL Teacher**

Bryan Polarek  
Kelly Vander Linden  
Hailee Fritsch

**4K Teacher  
Social Worker  
Monitor**

Katie Wavrunek  
Shanna Devos  
Lori Sitkiewitz

## Early Releases

We will continue to have Early Release Days throughout the school year. This time is used for staff development on literacy and math instruction. As you will see on the McAuliffe Calendar, early release pick up time is at 1:30 p.m. throughout the school year. This is a two hour difference from our typical end of the day bell at 3:30 p.m. All early release dates can be found on the 2023-24 McAuliffe Upcoming Events Calendar, school website and district site.

## Picture Day

Harmann Studios will be at McAuliffe School on Thursday, **September 14<sup>th</sup>**, to take individual pictures of our students. All children will be photographed, and a proof envelope will be sent home **that day** for you to look at and consider ordering a school photo package. All children's photos will be included in a class composite and a school "memory book" even if parents choose not to purchase a photo package.

In the case of separated households, Harmann Studios will create a duplicate proof envelope if we receive a written request to do so. That way, each parent may make an individual selection and photo order. The picture retake date is scheduled for Thursday, **October 26<sup>th</sup>**, to accommodate students absent on September 14<sup>th</sup>, and for any retakes requested by parents.



## Supply Lists

Supply lists were sent home with students on the last day of school. If any questions arise about the list, please feel free to contact your child's teacher. Additional copies of the supply lists are posted on the [McAuliffe website](#). (Students & Parents/ Parent Information)

## Spirit/Theme/Packer Backer Days

Spirit Days are scheduled every 3rd Thursday. Students and staff are encouraged to wear their McAuliffe attire or school colors.

Theme Days are scheduled throughout the year as well. In the past, they have involved crazy hair day, jersey day and much more.

Our first Theme day will be Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> - *Crazy Hair Day!*

On Fridays before a Sunday Packer game or on the Monday/Thursday of a game, we invite students and staff to wear GREEN and GOLD.

Dates will be sent out throughout the year to remind students and families.



## How to Contact Us

Our telephone number at McAuliffe School is **920- 391-2436**. Please make a note of this. If you wish to speak with a teacher, please try to do so during a time when class is not in session (7:45-8:50 am and 3:40-4:15 pm).

All teachers have voicemail, which is available at any time. **Our policy is not to interrupt classes except if there is an emergency.** All teachers also have an e-mail address that they check daily. E-mail addresses can be found on our [school website](#). Also, feel free to contact me directly at 391-2522.

## Class Lists

If you have not checked yet, class lists are posted on the front doors of school.

## Student Absences

We will again be placing an emphasis on student attendance this year. The McAuliffe staff feels it is our responsibility to have each student attend on a daily basis. Please plan vacations, appointments, and other possible conflicts during days that school is not in session. We expect all of our students to attend school and to be at school on time each day. We understand there are times when children are sick or other emergencies do not allow the students to be at school, but we ask that you place attendance as a high priority.

We will be sending home reminders to the student's parents when absences or tardies reach 5 days and again at 10. After 10 days of absences or tardies, parents will be asked to provide notes from their physician explaining the reason for absence.

Children learn best when they are at school, when they are on time, and do not leave school early. Please support us in decreasing our absentee rate and making every effort to have all of our children attend school daily. Thank you.



## Drop Off/Pick Up Area

The times immediately before and after school can be hectic. Basic procedures are in place to ensure the safety of our students and staff. As always, **no vehicles** are allowed in the circular drive when buses and daycare vans are loading and unloading students. This is strictly enforced. Also, we ask that students not be dropped off or picked up at any of the areas where yellow lines are painted on the curbs, or where cones are set up. This provides more visibility for our crossing guards, and allows drivers to clearly see children crossing the street. There are signs posted on the southeast side of Emerald Street (our regular drop-off and pick-up area) stating that no parking is allowed during drop-off and pick-up times. This includes vehicles parked for a short time to drop something off in the office or walking your child to the playground area – please park on the side streets for those situations. During drop-off times, please have your child(ren) ready to exit the vehicle and then safely and efficiently proceed directly to the playground until the 8:52 a.m. bell.

Bike riders should proceed carefully to the south or north end of the building, and park bikes in the bike rack. While on school property, bikes must be walked to and from the rack.



Students are not to be in the building before the morning bell, unless an arrangement has been made with staff ahead of time. Inclement weather days (raining or below 0) are the exception. A yellow flag attached to the school sign will indicate that students are allowed to come into school immediately due to inclement weather. Supervision begins at 8:45 a.m. on the playground. We ask that students not arrive before this time when there is no supervision.

**Pick-up or drop-off in the back parking lot (including both sides of the driveway) is strictly prohibited. This area experiences heavy traffic by staff, visitors, daycare vans and district vehicles throughout the day.** This will be closely monitored this year so that we can better ensure the safety of our students.

If you pick up your child at the end of the day, please wait outside the front doors or inside the main vestibule. Please **do not** go to your child's classroom or congregate in the hallways.

I look forward to seeing you at the Back to School Barbeque on August 30th. Enjoy the rest of your summer and feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

# McAuliffe Elementary Upcoming Events

## 2023-2024 School Year



### August 2023

- 24 District Family Celebration  
West High School 12:00 - 6:00
- 30 Open House 3:30 – 5:30

### September 2023

- 5 First Day of School
- 14 All School Picture Day
- 21 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 26 PTO Mtg. - 6:00

### October 2023

- 5/6 Special Person's Day
- 6 Early Release -1:30 Dismissal  
\*Theme - Crazy Hair Day
- 19 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 26 Picture Retakes
- 27 No School
- 31 Orange/Black Day

### November 2023

- 7 PTO Mtg. - 6:00
- 9 & 14 Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 16 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 22-24 No School – Thanksgiving Break

### December 2023

- 8 Early Release - 1:30 Dismissal  
\*Theme - Pajama Day
- 21 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 25-29 No School – Winter Break

### January 2024

- 1 No School
- 2 School Resumes
- 9 PTO Mtg. - 6:00
- 15 No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 18 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 22 No School

### February 2024

- 9 Early Release - 1:30 Dismissal  
\*Theme - Hat Day
- 15 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 23 No School
- 27 PTO Mtg. - 6:00
- 29 Parent Teacher Conferences: 4:00 - 7:45

### March 2024

- 1 No School
- 5 Parent Teacher Conferences: 4:00 - 7:45
- 21 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 25-29 No School - Spring Recess

### April 2024

- 9 PTO Mtg. - 6:00
- 18 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 19 Early Release - 1:30 Dismissal  
\*Theme - Tie Dye Day

### May 2024

- 10 Weather Make-up Day;  
(if not needed, will be a recess day)
- 16 McAuliffe Spirit Day
- 24 No School
- 27 No School – Memorial Day

### June 2024

- 6 Last Day for 4K
- 7 Last Day of School (K-5)