



AUGUST 2021, VOLUME 21, ISSUE 8

BULLETIN

Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!!

Message from the PTA President

**Welcome Back Bobcats!
We Hope you Had a Great Summer.**

As we start a new school year, you will notice some changes at McKitrick. For one, we have a wonderful new addition to our field! We fundraised for 2-years to install a track and with the help of our amazing administrators, parents, students and teachers we were able to make it happen! We can't wait to see our kids running around the track.

Another wonderful addition happening behind the scenes is the renovation of our teacher lounge! Our wonderful, hard working teachers at McKitrick deserve a space they can enjoy and your PTA is hard at work creating a pleasant and relaxing environment for them. This is set to be completed by the end of August.

We have listened to your requests for better communication this year with the introduction of MemberHub. In order to stay up to date on events, access newsletters, volunteer opportunities and other happenings at our school you are encouraged to sign up!

Please visit www.mckitrickpta.com to purchase your PTA memberships & support our school.

If you would like to hear more of what we have planned for this school year, please make sure to attend our PTA general meeting set for Wednesday, August 25th, 2021. There is no better way to advocate for your children than to be involved. I hope to see you there!

Lindsay Jimison
PTA President
president@mckitrickpta.com

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

August

- 5th - Open House & Supply Drive, Grades 2, 3 & 5
- 9th - Open House & Supply Drive, Grades K, 1 & 4
- 10th - First Day of School
- 25th - PTA General Meeting
- 26th - 2021 Volunteer & Homeroom Parent Training
- 27th - All Pro Dads Meeting

September

- 6th - Labor Day- No School
- 8th - Fall Picture Day
- 17th - Parents Club Social Event
- 22nd - Family Dine Out @ Chicken Salad Chick

October

- 6th - National Walk & Bike to School Day
- 8th - End of 1st Grading Period
- 25th - McKitrick Cares Coat Drive Week

McKitrick Elementary
5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road
Lutz, Florida 33558
813.558.5427

Principal/Administrator:
Allison Cline





A NOTE FROM OUR

Principal

To Our Wonderful McKitrick Parents and Families,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year where we draw our school theme following a difficult time in current history with one from the past referencing the successful Broadway production of "Hamilton". It is fitting that in our first year following the pandemic that we "rise up" to begin again to restructure yet hold on to the essence of why we are so successful.

It is the relationships at the foundation that were difficult to support as Zoom simply "got the job done". The heart of an elementary school is the connections and relationships built on the many types of interactions with peers, teachers, and parents. The teachers' heroic efforts deserve recognition in connecting and maintaining relationships during the most difficult time. Unfortunately, they were stretched and tested throughout the year, as were many families trying to figure it all out.

We look forward to welcoming you back and getting to know our new families as well. Words cannot express how much we missed our students last year and the smiles and hugs we will never take for granted again.

No matter what life brings...

We are McKitrick Elementary where "it" happens.

With warmth and anticipation,
Allison Cline, Principal

MCKITRICK  **ELEMENTARY**

The School Where "It" Happens!

Buy McKitrick PTA Memberships TODAY at mckitrickpta.com

The McKitrick PTA (Parent Teacher Association) invites you to join us and become a PTA member for the 2021-2022 school year. The PTA is the largest organization of its kind dedicated to advocacy on behalf of our children and public schools.

Last year, McKitrick had 894 members - the most in the past 5 years. We received a 100% Faculty participation award as well as the 25% membership increase over the year award from the Florida PTA! Let's get those awards again this year!

Becoming a PTA member does not require a time commitment from you, nor does it mean you have to volunteer. By joining the PTA, you are simply saying, "Yes, I support our children and public schools!" All family members are encouraged to join, along with extended family and friends!

**PTA membership dues are just \$6 per person.
The more you buy, the more YOU SAVE!**
1: \$6.00 2: \$12.00 3: \$16.00 4: \$20.00 5: \$24.00

**The class that has the most PTA memberships by
October 31st will be rewarded with a party!**

Your PTA membership affords you some awesome deals with the following companies:



Go to <https://www.pta.org/home/About-National-Parent-Teacher-Association/Benefits-of-PTA-Membership/Save-Money-with-Member-Offers> to learn more about your PTA membership perks.

If you have any questions, please contact Sangati Gandhi at memberships@mckitrickpta.com



WE NEED YOU!

Our school is always in need of **volunteers** and we appreciate your support to help make McKitrick Elementary an enriched learning environment where every child succeeds!

There are many ways that you can participate in your child's education, both inside and outside of the classroom, throughout the school year. Research has proven that parental involvement in a child's education can be quite impactful regarding raising a child's self-esteem and academic achievement, especially outside of attending teacher conferences and Open House. Your involvement does make a difference!

Please consider the many opportunities to volunteer this year and help us make the best use of your time and talents by creating an account in MemberHub. This will let the PTA know that you are interested in volunteering at McKitrick this year. By doing so, you will be notified throughout the year when any volunteer opportunities arise.

Finally, you **MUST** complete and submit the Say Y.E.S. county volunteer form every year **BEFORE** volunteering at school. All volunteer forms can be found here on our McKitrick PTA website, under the "Volunteer" tab.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Yajaira Chappelle at volunteer@mckitrickpta.com



QUICK LINKS

[McKitrick PTA Website](#)

[McKitrick PTA Store](#)

[McKitrick PTA Facebook](#)

[McKitrick PTA Twitter](#)

[McKitrick Elementary Website](#)

[2021-2022 School Calendar](#)

[McKitrick Lunch Menus](#)

[Meal Pre-Pay](#)

VOLUNTEER

ATTENTION!!

Calling all Homeroom Parents & Volunteers!

There will be a Virtual Homeroom Parent & Volunteer Training on

Thursday, August 26th at 8:30am - 9:30am

Please go to <https://mckitrickpta.com/calendar> for virtual log in details. We can't wait to "see" you there!



JOIN THE MCKITRICK Parents Club

Have you joined the McKitrick Parents Club Facebook group? It's a great place to connect with other families, ask questions, and share information relevant to McKitrick Elementary.



SCAN the QR code here to join our online community today!





Save the Date McKittrick Open House 2021



Grades 2nd, 3rd, 5th

Thursday, August 5th
8:30am-10:30am

Grades K, 1st, 4th

Monday, August 9th
8:30am-10:30am

**Come find your classroom.
Meet your teachers, administration
& our PTA Welcome Squad**



STAY INFORMED and GET INVOLVED!

BE IN-THE-KNOW!! Scan the QR Codes and GO!

STEP 1: PURCHASE YOUR ANNUAL PTA MEMBERSHIP ON MEMBERHUB!

Your \$6 annual membership helps PTA leaders across the country and state advocate for SCHOOL SAFETY, INCLUSION and more! Purchasing your PTA membership does not require you to volunteer. However you decide to PTA is up to you!

Perks for Becoming a McKitrick PTA Member:

- Gain access to MemberHub- your #1 resource for McKitrick PTA information such as our monthly newsletter, invitations to our general membership meetings, and important announcements about the programs and events we support at our school.
- Learn about volunteer opportunities to get involved at your child's school
- Make YOUR VOICE HEARD! McKitrick PTA members have a vote on how PTA funds are being invested back in our school and elect the executive board members that lead our McKitrick PTA Board
- PTA members can save money on everyday purchases thanks to National PTA Member discounts and offers.



For Memberships,
Scan Here!

CLASS CONTEST

The Class with the highest PTA Memberships will receive a PARTY!!

STEP 2: COMPLETE THE "Say Y.E.S" HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

PURPOSE OF THE FORM:

This is an annual application. Completing this application is the first step in the process for volunteering at McKitrick Elementary. While anyone can volunteer to be part of the PTA, the HCPS Volunteer Application is required to volunteer on school property.



For Volunteers,
Scan Here!

STEP 3: BOOKMARK & CHECK OUT OUR NEW MCKITRICK WEBSITE!

Bookmark our website www.mckitrickpta.com where you can subscribe to our PTA calendar of events, learn about the programs/events our PTA supports for our school, and view a listing of our local business partners who support our school. Check out our McKitrick PTA facebook page and like our page!



For our Website,
Scan Here!

Issues with the QR Codes? Visit <https://mckitrickpta.com> directly to complete these easy steps!



FUNdraising Corner

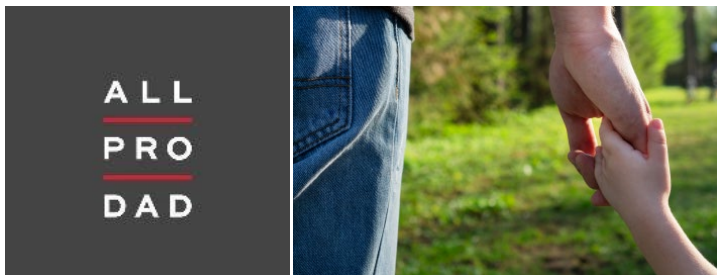
- PTA is working on updating the teacher lounge.
- November 1st kicks off our Boosterthon Fundraiser... we're currently working in partnership with the school administration and teachers to provide input on fundraising goals for this year. Stay Tuned!
- Thanks to all of your support over the past few years, the track is finally here! The finishing touches of the track are set to be done before school starts. Watch the McKitrick PTA facebook page for updates.
- If you have or know of a business that would like to support McKitrick, Please contact Emily Draper at businesspartners@mckitrickpta.com
- If you are looking for an after school program, here are a few to check out!
McKitrick HOST • Cheval • SRK • Primrose • Discovery Point • JCC
- Save the date for our first dine-out at Chicken Salad Chick on September 22nd!



SCHOOL Fundraising UPDATES

HOW TO EARN BOX TOPS MAKES IT EASY.

All you need is your phone!
Download the Box Tops app, shop as you normally would, then use the app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. The app will identify Box Tops products on your receipt and automatically credit your school's earnings online. **Twice a year, your school will receive a check and can use that cash to buy whatever it needs!**



Hello and welcome to the McKitrick Elementary 2021-2022 school year! My name is Jason Crow and I am the Team Captain for our local All Pro Dad's chapter. All Pro Dad's is a group of fathers dedicated to strengthening their relationship with their children. We do this by having a monthly breakfast with our kids and other families, along with several events, throughout the school year. Our breakfasts are

primarily held on the last Friday of every month from 7:00-7:30AM, in the McKitrick cafeteria or via a Zoom meeting. During this time, dads and kids connect through fun activities and interactive discussions.

Be on the lookout for announcements regarding our first scheduled meeting on the last Friday of August. If you are interested in joining the All Pro Dad's McKitrick chapter, please reach out to me at allprodads@mckitrickpta.com.

Learn about regional activities and receive guidance and practical tips about communicating with and raising your kids: www.allprodad.com.

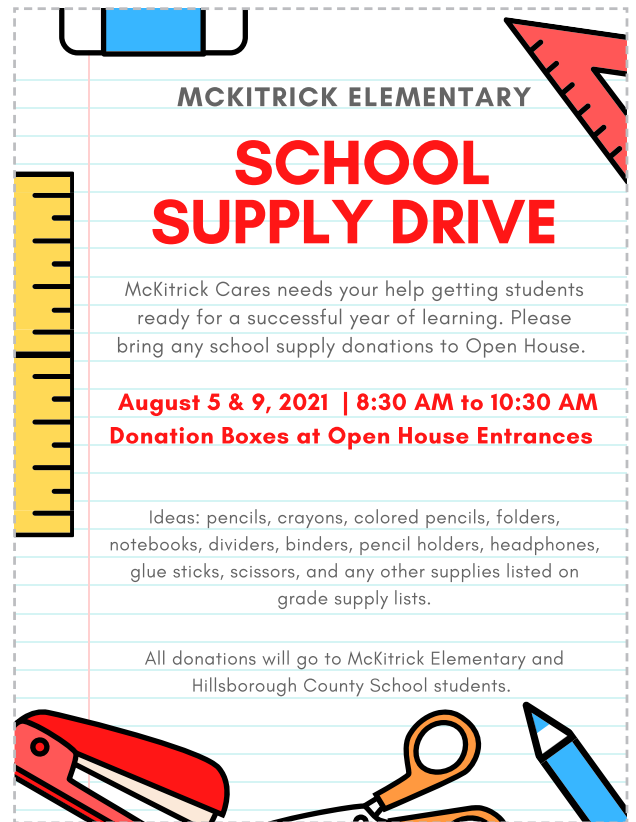
Jason Crow

McKitrick Cares

Each year McKitrick Cares works with our social worker to provide assistance to McKitrick families in need. We work to provide these students with classroom needs such as field trip money and classroom fees, a spirit wear tee shirt, and other sponsorships so they can take part in school events.

This year we will also be partnering with other Hillsborough County Schools to offer support through events like the school supply drive, coat drive and toy drive. Many kids come to school underdressed during the colder months. In October, we receive generous donations from our McKitrick families so we are able to provide those kids with a warm jacket when they get to school that they can keep and take home. We will also continue our yearly schoolwide toy drive in December to assist our McKitrick Cares families and partnering schools for the holidays. It is a great way to spread some holiday cheer and make their holiday special.

The first event will be the school supply drive to get students ready for the new school year. If you are able to grab a few extra supplies, please bring them to McKitrick's Open House on August 5th & 9th from 8:30am - 10:30am. Donations boxes will be located at the entrances. All donations will go to McKitrick Elementary and Hillsborough County School students. **Thank you for supporting students!**



MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY

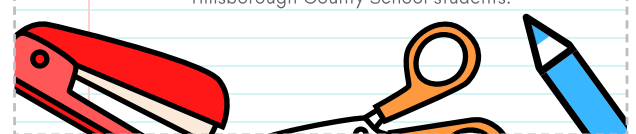
SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

McKitrick Cares needs your help getting students ready for a successful year of learning. Please bring any school supply donations to Open House.

August 5 & 9, 2021 | 8:30 AM to 10:30 AM
Donation Boxes at Open House Entrances

Ideas: pencils, crayons, colored pencils, folders, notebooks, dividers, binders, pencil holders, headphones, glue sticks, scissors, and any other supplies listed on grade supply lists.

All donations will go to McKitrick Elementary and Hillsborough County School students.



At Home or At School - SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT!

Don't forget, show your school pride and wear your spirit wear on Fridays!

Mascot Universe is conveniently located at 19259 N Dale Mabry Hwy. or shop online at Mascotuniverse.com and have your spirit wear shipped for a fee. Mascot donates 20% of all sales to Mckitrick!



Please like on Facebook and watch out for social media updates!

Contact Mascot Universe at **813-933-2333** with any questions about your orders.

Whether a Newcomer or returning family, check out Classic Styles and our New 2021 Theme Based Shirts!!

McKitrick Elementary
The School Where "It" Happens!



Let's Get Those Minds Turning!

The Reflections Art Program returns this Fall.

This years theme is: **I Will Change The World By...**



**EXPLORE THE ARTS AND
EXPRESS YOURSELF!**



DANCE
CHOREOGRAPHY



FILM
PRODUCTION



LITERATURE



MUSIC
COMPOSITION



PHOTOGRAPHY



VISUAL ARTS

We will post information about the program in August on our PTA website and our Facebook Page.

Want to Volunteer to Help? If you would like to volunteer with the Reflections Committee, or would like to be one of our program judges please email Katie Stahl at: Reflections@McKitrickPTA.com



WELCOME BACK VOLUNTEERS!!!

We are the Volunteer Coordinators for the Junior Achievement programs at McKitrick Elementary this year. If you have been at McKitrick in previous years, you may already be familiar with the mission and curriculum of this enriching program. For those who are new to our school, JA provides lesson plans and materials designed specifically for each grade level that teach the students about financial literacy, workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship. Our objective is to ensure that each of the classes will have at least one volunteer presenting the program.

This is a great opportunity to enter your child's classroom and become "teacher for the day". There are five lesson plans and each lesson is approximately 30-45 minutes. You and your teacher will develop a schedule for your classroom visits. Once the schedule is set, your classroom experience will begin.

We will soon be announcing the time for the JA training with Tampa's JA Coordinator, to allow you to learn more about the program. However, if you think you would be interested in participating in the program this year, you can register by contacting us using the email address below. To register, I will need your name and contact information, and your child's name and grade. Also, let us know if you would be willing to address other classes as well.

Due to the popularity of this program, classes tend to fill up quickly, so sign up soon!

We look forward to meeting our new volunteers and welcoming back our program veterans.

Rick Coleman
Loren Mednick
Junior Achievement Volunteer Coordinators
Email: JuniorAchievement@McKitrickpta.com

IN-SCHOOL TUTORING WILL BE BACK!

The PTA is delighted to announce that we will be coordinating the in-school tutoring program once again this year in the months to come. Our goal is to support the McKitrick teaching staff by providing one-on-one and small group instruction to those students who would benefit from additional practice outside of the classroom. We are looking for tutors to volunteer their time to facilitate 30-minute weekly sessions starting in the fall using lesson activities provided by the classroom teacher. Tutors can specify their preferred day and time, grade and subject.

Additional details about the program will be forthcoming. If you are interested in volunteering as a tutor, please send me an email. I look forward to hearing from you!

Erin Dombrowsky, Tutoring Coordinator
tutoring@mckitrickpta.com



Be Ready for those **BACK-TO-SCHOOL** Balanced Breakfasts!



Making breakfast in the morning before school can be a chore, but we all know how important the first meal of the day can be. Breakfast jump starts our metabolism and gets our brain working so that learning is a little easier. Here are some easy quick healthy breakfast meals to get your child going in the morning without the time it can take to make a well-balanced meal.

10 Quick and Healthy Breakfast Options

Yogurt, granola, berries: good brands of yogurt that kids seem to like are Nosa, Stoneyfield, Chobani

Nut butter on toast with a side of fruit and hard-boiled egg

Whole grain waffles with fruit and either yogurt or egg

Bagel with cream cheese and fruit

Whole grain low sugar cereal (<11g of sugar/serving) with low fat/fat free milk, fruit

Protein bar with yogurt: kid friendly ideas: Lara bar, z-bar, whole grain fig bar, whole grain fruit bar

Eggs, English muffin or mini bagel, fruit

Cheese stick, nuts, dried fruit

Smoothie with yogurt, fruit, and vegetable such as carrots, spinach or kale

Oatmeal with dried fruit or fresh fruit, honey or brown sugar (sprinkle for flavor 1 tsp or less)

HOMEMADE PROTEIN BAR IDEA:

No Bake Granola Bars: good option to make over the weekend and have on hand throughout the week.

Ingredients

- ¾ cup creamy nut butter (peanut, almond, sunflower...)
- ½ cup honey
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 cups quick oats
- 1 cup krispie cereal
- Toppings: raisins, craisins, cinnamon, dehydrated fruit, trail mix, pretzels, peanut butter chips, butterscotch chips, or M&M's

Directions

Line the baking sheet with aluminum foil, wax paper or parchment paper

Mix oats and rice krispies together in a bowl

In a microwave safe bowl, mix together nut butter and honey. Microwave for 30 second intervals until melted. Stir together until mixed

Stir in the vanilla to the peanut butter mix

Pour the peanut butter and honey mixture into the oat and rice krispie mixture. Fold over until well incorporated

Add the toppings you prefer and mix

Once mixed, press your granola mixture into the foil lined pan

Top with any extra toppings, pressing them into the granola

Place in the refrigerator for 3-4 hours or until fully set. Slice into bar shapes and enjoy.



Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

2021-2022 PTA COMMITTEE

President: Lindsay Jimison

Vice President: Jessica Campbell

Treasurer: Erin Circelli

Recording Secretary: Tanya Kayani

Parent Outreach: Amanda Hurst

Fundraising: Megan Wilson

Special Events: Lindsay Whitney

Student/School Support: Brandi Kenny

Programs: Jessica Diefenderfer

Communications: Steve Clark

**Newcomers/Kindergarten Round Up:
Chryssa Samhoury & Farheen Aldeen**

Parents Club: Chryssa Samhoury

All Pro Dads: Jason Crow

Homeroom Parents: Darbie Wilder

Volunteer Coordinator: Yajaira Chappelle

Memberships: Sangati Gandhi

Spirit Wear: Salina Ruiz

**Boosterthon: Erin Circelli,
Viviana Lit & Adam Grier**

Holiday Shop: Jessica Diefenderfer

**Bobcat Bash: Katie Stahl,
Kara Coleman & Violetta Fahie**

Business Partners: Emily Draper

**Family Dine Outs: Kristin Swenson
& Melissa Chevalier**

Box Tops: Kimberly Olson

**Sweetheart Event: Lisa Peluso,
Tanya Kayani & Jessica Diefenderfer**

**Knights Event: Evan Walker
& Adam Grier**

**Concessions: Louise Johnstone
& Iris Sims**

**Family Nights: Amy Sweeney,
Melissa Chevalier & Punit Shah**

Fifth Grade Activities: Jaclyn Young

**School-Wide Hospitality/Decorating:
Crissy Blair & Erin Dombrosky**

Open House: Adi Kaplan

**Teacher Appreciation: Lauren Borio, Louise
Johnstone, Viviana Lit & Violetta Fahie**

**Health & Safety: Jessica Greene
& Katalin Vinci-Sierra**

**Reflections: Katie Stahl
& Meredith Renuart**

Tutoring: Erin Dombrosky

**Junior Achievement: Rick Coleman
& Loren Mednick**

McKitrick Cares: Heather Foster

IT- Website: Cassandra Johnson

IT- Google/Website Back Up: Billy Stahl

Yearbook: Robert Hudson

Social Media: Priya Davbhat

Newsletter: Kara Coleman

Front Marquee: Billy Stahl

**McKitrick Elementary
The School Where "It" Happens!**