



SEPTEMBER 2021, VOLUME 21, ISSUE 9

BULLETIN

Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

Message from the PTA President

Happy Second Month of School Bobcats!

The school year is rolling right along and although we aren't permitted on campus yet, there are lots of things happening behind the scenes.

McKitrick had a successful open house this year. Along with administration & teachers, PTA took on the role of welcoming families back on campus and we hope you and your kiddos enjoyed meeting our awesome Bobcat teachers. You may remember seeing the little yellow bus of donations out front of the entrance to the open house and I am happy to report the donation of school supplies was very successful and McKitrick Cares committee was able to donate a ton of great school supplies to students in need. **Thank you for all your support Bobcats!**

If you were on the general meeting video call at the end of August, you already know some big announcements. The general membership (IE: YOU the parents) voted on approving funding for teacher laptops. This funding will cover laptops needed to give more than half the teachers at McKitrick a new device. We also announced that our fundraiser this year will cover the cost for purchasing the remaining laptops needed so that every classroom teacher has a new laptop for this school year.

With this minor update, opportunities open to be able to do future updates to our technology in the classroom. Watch for more details from our PTA fundraising chair.

If you have any questions or ideas for our school, please let me know!

Lindsay Jimison
PTA President
president@mckitrickpta.com

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th!!

Reminder: This is the Picture needed for the Yearbook



CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

September

- 6th - Labor Day- No School
- 8th - Fall Picture Day
- 20th - Book Fair Week
- 22nd - Family Dine Out @ Chicken Salad Chick

October

- 1st - Parents Club Social Event
- 6th - National Walk & Bike to School Day
- 8th - End of 1st Grading Period
- 25th - McKitrick Cares Coat Drive Week
- 27th - McKitrick Family Fun Night

November

- 1st - McKitrick BOOSTERTHON Fundraiser Kick Off

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 McKittrick Parents and Families,

Thank you to all the parents for your understanding and patience during another unprecedented school year opening. It has started out in a different fashion than we had thought it would. However, with the grit and grace of our wonderful McKittrick Faculty and Staff , along with our so supportive PTA and our Bobcat families, it will be an amazing year.

We are keeping the Covid Protocols in place. Please remind your children to wear their mask, wash their hands, and social distance when possible.

We appreciate your patience as we navigate through this challenging time and look forward to working together to keep our students, families, and staff safe, healthy, and at their best to provide the best education for your child.

With Respect,

Allison Cline
Principal

MCKITTRICK  **ELEMENTARY**

The School Where "It" Happens!



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th

Reminder: This is the Picture needed for the Yearbook



GIGANTE PRODUCTIONS FALL 2021 PICTURE DAY

SAFE AND TOUCHLESS - ORDERS WILL BE MAILED TO YOUR HOME



**SCAN TO
ORDER**



ORDER PROCESS ON PHONE



**OPEN YOUR CAMERA APP
ON YOUR PHONE**



SCAN QR CODE
POINT CAMERA AT QR CODE
AND WAIT FOR POP UP

ORDER PROCESS ON COMPUTER



GO TO
giganteproductions.com



CLICK ON
SCHOOLS > VIEW & ORDER

New to McKitrick?

If you are new to McKitrick either this year or last...

Please visit

www.McKitrickPTA.com and purchase your membership to be signed up for our

**NEWCOMERS
INFORMATIONAL WELCOME
PACKET**



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

ARE YOU READY??

How to prepare to be a Bobcat Volunteer in 2 EASY STEPS!

Step 1: Say Y.E.S to volunteering and fill out the HCPS Volunteer Application. Click the image to link directly to the form.

Step 2: Go to www.mckitrickPTA.com to buy your PTA membership and make sure to check the box to indicate that you want to know about volunteer opportunities.

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!



WHO WANTS TO WIN A PARTY??? The class that has the most PTA memberships by October 31st will receive a **CLASS PARTY!**



Membership Contest!



Building our PTA one member at a time.

The more you buy, the more you save! Also, receive a FREE McKitrick PTA member car magnet when you buy 4+ memberships!!!

1-\$6.00 2-\$12.00 3-\$16.00 4-\$20.00 5-\$24.00

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!" You are also eligible to vote at PTA meetings. Your money goes towards programming and advocacy for our community, state, and nation.

All family members are encouraged to join, along with extended family and friends!

Visit mckitrickpta.com to buy your membership today!

Go to floridapta.org/member-perks to find out more about your PTA membership benefits!

Hello McKitrick Families! We are so Excited for an Amazing School Year!

The PTA wants to introduce our NEW communication tool, MemberHub! PTA will be using MemberHub for ALL communications, events, signups, and more. Be sure to join! Our goal with MemberHub is to keep you informed and engaged with what is happening with our Bobcats!



With MemberHub you can:

- Join McKitrick PTA and support all of our programs and help us advocate for all children!
- Sign up for volunteer time slots or needed items and receive reminders (Volunteer Hub!)
- Receive emails and/or texts with PTA and school communication (Join Student's Grade Hub!)
- Utilize the school calendar and receive event reminders

And so much more! MemberHub is supported by your McKitrick PTA, joining is easy. Click below to purchase your PTA membership and join today! ****Your information is stored securely and privately****

Click here to purchase your membership and join our PTA: <https://mckitrick.memberhub.com/>



Have you ever wanted to be able to know when the next McKitrick PTA event is? **NOW YOU CAN!**

Visit our Dynamically Updated PTA Calendar here: <https://mckitrickpta.com/calendar>

Or if you would like to add the calendar right into your phone follow these directions:

Click Below to download the McKitrick PTA Calendar and add to your device. Or Copy and Paste it using the below instructions for your device.

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/c_b5kl248daucm2glg2be0664jd4%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics

iOS Devices (iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad)

To subscribe using your iPhone or iPad:

- Click your iPhone Settings icon.
- Select Passwords & Accounts from the list.
- Select Add Account.
- Select Other.
- Select Add Subscribed Calendar at the bottom of the list.
- Enter the subscription link (shown above) in the server field.
- Click Next in the top right hand corner of the screen.
- The URL will be verified, and your subscription information will display.
- Click Save.

To view this calendar on your iPhone:

- Click the Calendar icon on your iPhone's home screen.
- Click the Calendars button in the top left hand corner of your default calendar screen.
- Select the name of the calendar you have just added. A check mark will appear next to it.
- Click Done.
- Events from this calendar will now display on your iPhone calendar.

Android Devices and Google Calendar

To subscribe using your Google Calendar:

- Open your Google Calendar.
- Locate Other Calendars on the left hand side of the screen toward the bottom.
- Click the arrow to the right of Other Calendars.
- Select Add by URL from the list.
- Enter the subscription link (shown above) in the field. If you would like these events to be public, check the box next to Make the calendar publicly accessible.
- Click Add Calendar.

Microsoft Outlook

To subscribe manually using Outlook 2010, 2016, or Outlook 365:

- Click Calendar in Outlook.
- Click Open Calendar.
- Select From Internet.
- Enter the subscription link (shown above) in the field.
- Click Add.
- Other Calendar Programs
- To subscribe, enter the subscription link (shown above) in the appropriate field in your device or program.



FUNdraising Corner

- Come show your school spirit at our First Dine/Take-out at Chicken Salad Chick on September 22nd from 3:00PM-8:30PM! Make sure to mention McKitrick, 15% of each sale will be donated to the McKitrick PTA! Your favorite teacher just may be there helping out too!



Chicken Salad Chick of Lutz
 17623 Dale Mabry Hwy, Lutz, FL 33548
 (813) 544-6742

- If you have or know of a business that would like to support McKitrick, Please contact Emily Draper at businesspartners@mckitrickpta.com

Thanks to the overwhelming support over the past two years from all of YOU!... our McKitrick families and community, the track is now complete!



McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight

As an urgent care, we can treat most non-life threatening conditions from colds, flu, UTI's, asthma attacks, and much more. We are trained in suturing, abscess draining, splinting, and other procedures. We also have an X-ray machine on site!



URGENT CARE
 & WELLNESS CENTER
 18981 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Lutz, FL 33548
 Mon - Fri: 8:00am - 8:00pm Sat - Sun: 9:00am - 5:00pm
813-388-5922
 info@lutzuc.com | lutzuc.com

On-Site X-Rays

We are excited to help in this pandemic and offer both COVID PCR and Rapid testing. We typically have results in 1-2 days, but this may vary depending on laboratory volume. Our knowledgeable staff and providers are prepared to help to the best of their ability with diagnosis and treatment.

While we perform testing, we are also taking the utmost safety precautions including sanitization practices, strict mask regulations, and much more to ensure the safety of every patient that walks through the door.

*Appointments are not needed, but feel free to check out our website www.lutzuc.com for more information. *Most major insurances accepted

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!**

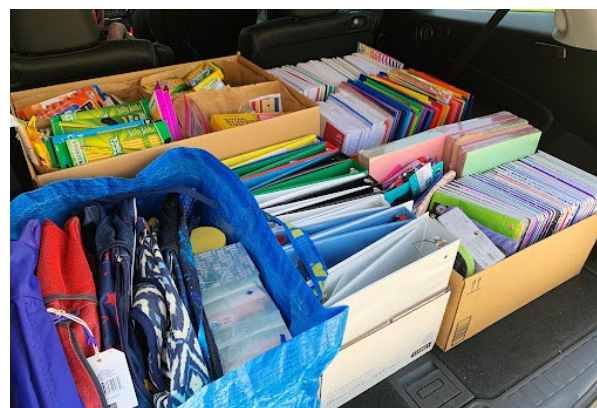
McKitrick Cares

Thank you so much to our Bobcat families for your incredible donations. The McKitrick Cares School Supply Drive was a huge success! Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to provide back-to-school supplies to students for the entire year.



The Annual McKitrick Cares' Coat Drive is October 25th - 29th . If you have any jackets, coats, sweaters or sweatshirts that your kids have outgrown, please set them aside to donate. If you don't have any in your closet, local thrift stores have great deals on gently used clothing. All donations will be given to students in need at McKitrick, Alexander and Bay Crest Elementary Schools. Many kids come to school underdressed during the colder months. Let's show up by providing outerwear to keep them warm.

Contact Heather Foster at mckitrickcares@mckitrickpta.com if you have any questions.





At Home or At School Show Your School Spirit!!



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!

Please contact Mascot at 813-933-2333 with any questions about your orders.

WHETHER A NEWCOMER OR RETURNING FAMILY, CHECK OUT OUR NEW THEMES BASED SHIRTS!



DON'T FORGET, SHOW YOUR SCHOOL PRIDE AND WEAR YOUR SPIRIT WEAR ON FRIDAYS!

USE THIS QR CODE TO HEAD RIGHT TO THE MCKITRICK SPIRIT WEAR!



MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY WHERE "IT" HAPPENS!

The Reflections Art Program Is Here and Ready for Submissions.

This year's theme is: **I Will Change The World By...**

CALLING ALL

Artist

Choreographers

Composers

Dancers

Film Producers

Musicians

Photographers

Writers



Interested in More Information?

Information can be found at: www.McKitrickPTA.com

You can also email us at: Reflections@McKitrickPTA.com and we will send you an Informational Packet and answer any questions you may have about the program.

This is a National Program with Awards available for our Students at the School, County, State and National Levels.

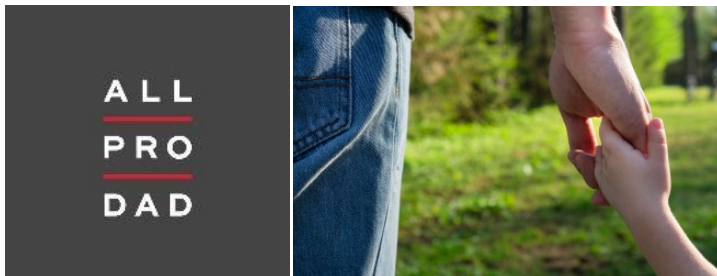
OPEN HOUSE 2021

We hope everyone had an amazing time at this year's Open House. We were thrilled to see everyone in person again! Welcome to all of the new families who were able to be on campus for the first time! Thank you to all the families who stopped by our PTA tables to ask questions and learn about membership.

We hope your students enjoyed the McKitrick Bobcat stickers. We especially want to thank all of the teachers and staff who worked so hard to ensure we were able to have Open House on campus as safely as possible. We couldn't do it without you!

We have received positive feedback that the outdoor and more spread-out format of Open House this year was less overwhelming, so we look forward to continuing with a similar layout next year. If you have any feedback about Open House or ideas for next year, please reach out to us!

Adi Kaplan and the Open House team
openhouse@mckitrickpta.com



MCKITRICK ALL PRO DADS!

We are still waiting to hear if parents and groups like the All Pro Dad's will be allowed back on campus for a September meeting. In case we cannot meet in person, provide your feedback to allprodads@mckitrickpta.com with your preference on date/time for a virtual meeting.

We are also in the planning stage of an off-site, after hours meeting for the Dad's, so be on the lookout for that information.

I have attached a link to an article written by former Tampa Bay Buccaneers head coach Tony Dungy. He talks about managing a family and a demanding job. As a father of eleven kids, he has some excellent insight. <https://www.allprodad.com/how-manage-work-and-family/>

If you are interested in joining the All Pro Dad's McKitrick chapter, please reach out to me at allprodads@mckitrickpta.com



What will the 2022 Yearbook look like?



PRE-ORDER YOUR MCKITRICK 2021-2022 YEARBOOK NOW!

[HTTPS://WWW.YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM/INDEX.CFM/JOB/10651](https://www.yearbookordercenter.com/index.cfm/job/10651)

EARLY BIRD PRICING FOR THIS YEARS YEARBOOKS ARE \$30
(A \$15 SAVINGS FROM THE REGULAR \$45)
PRICING WILL INCREASE TO REGULAR PRICE OCT 31ST.

ALSO THIS YEAR WE ARE OFFERING A PREMIUM PACKAGE (WITH NAMEPLATE AND PLASTIC COVER) FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$10.

PREMIUM PACKAGE CAN ONLY BE PURCHASED UNTIL JANUARY 17 DUE TO PRINTING DEADLINES.

MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FALL SCHOOL PICTURE DAY!

Wednesday,
September
8th



HOW TO ORDER

1. Go to www.giganteproductions.com
2. Click on Order
3. Type in Student ID # as the Keyword

OR SCAN HERE





Below are some useful suggestions for staying physically, emotionally, and mentally healthy during stressful times. We hope this information provides you with useful ideas that you can adopt for your family.

Keep Physically Active

Going for a walk, riding your bike, exercising in general will boost your immune system, improve your mood, and reduce anxiety levels. Children need to be active at least 60 minutes every day. You can stay active at home with your family by dancing, swimming, doing yoga or other routines (some activities can even be found online). Gardening and housework are also good ways to stay active.

Create A Routine

Map out a routine for you and your child that includes time for learning, meals, exercise, relaxation, play, and bedtime. Schedule creative activities such as arts and crafts, reading, music, etc. Make sure you take regular breaks and minimize distractions by working and studying in a separate space. Limit screen time especially before bedtime. You

Eat Healthy Food

Eating a healthy, balanced diet will strengthen your immune system and boost your mood. Eat a variety of foods such as vegetables, starchy foods (pasta, rice, potatoes), and proteins such as beans, fish, eggs, and meat. Stay hydrated and eat healthy snacks such as yogurt, fruits, vegetables, hummus, plain crackers, plain popcorn, and rice cakes. Limit sugary snacks that can cause tooth decay, poor concentration, and weight gain.

Resources: See YouTube Kids for craft ideas , Disney's 10 minute shake-up games, Disney Dance-Along

Look After Your Mental Health

Monitor how much you listen to the news if it makes you anxious. Stay socially connected with friends and family. Make space in your life for 'time-in' - an opportunity to reflect on the inner nature of our mental life and bodily sensations. Practice mindfulness or meditation on a regular basis. YouTube is a good resource for guided practices. Also, check out mental health apps like HEADSPACE, PACIFICA, CALM, and MINDFULNESS. Be present for others and show compassion and kindness. Keeping a gratitude journal is another way to keep you mentally healthy and balanced. Practice 'focus time' - doing one thing at a time to help your brain grow and make new connections.

Rest and Refresh

Get plenty of sleep. Go to bed at a regular time each day and practice good habits to get better sleep. Sleep restores both your mind and body. Allow yourself some unfocused time each day to refresh, let your mind wander, go daydream. It's okay to add 'do nothing' to your to-do list!

Resources: Therapy in a Nutshell Turn off Anxiety in Your Nervous System: 4 Ways to Turn on the Parasympathetic Response - YouTube
 NIM Clinical Centre TIPS - Deep breathing exercise (companion to anxiety video) - YouTube, American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry www.aacap.org , Dr. Dan Siegel Home Page - Dr. Dan Siegel (drdansiegel.com) , Talking to children about coronavirus.pdf (bps.org.uk) Sources: www.health.gov, www.mayoclinic.org, www.helpguide.org, www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au



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!**