



August 2023, Volume 23, Issue 8

BULLETIN

Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary

Message from the PTA President

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year Bobcats! We all hope you had a wonderful summer break. I am very excited to be your McKitrick PTA President. This will be my 7th year involved in the PTA and I am so proud of the work we accomplish together. I want to start the year with a quick look back at 2022. With your help, the PTA was able to install acoustical panels in the cafeteria, purchase two large fans for the covered court, and install a brand new house for our school goats, Luna & Athena. In addition, we approved \$25,000 in teacher grants for classroom enrichment items.

As some of you may have noticed, McKitrick is shining bright this year. Our 2023/24 school theme is "Be Someone's Sunshine". McKitrick is focusing on positivity and supporting others. This year we are partnering with a local business and a member of the Bobcat family, Elite Ink, for our spirit wear. They have come up with some amazing school spirit shirt designs including one that matches this year's theme. Be sure to check out their table at McKitrick's Open House and the online sale. A percentage of the sales will go back to our PTA.

We want to make sure you are receiving all of the PTA communications. The best way to be in the know is to purchase a PTA membership. As a member, you will get access to our newsletter, hear about volunteer opportunities, and will be able to vote on how PTA dollars are spent. Follow us on social media accounts for real-time updates as well. Our website at mckitrickpta.com has all of the links and information you need. 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, September 6th. There is no better way to advocate for your children than to be involved.

We are so lucky at McKitrick to have many volunteer opportunities to interact with teachers, students, and families. Please take a quick moment to check your volunteer status on the HCPS website. If you are new to the district or have never volunteered, you will need to complete the Y.E.S. form application. Our first volunteer opportunity is Beautification Day on Saturday, August 5th at 8:00 AM. Volunteers will be helping get the campus ready by laying mulch and a few other small projects. We hope to see you there!

You can find more details about everything I mentioned above in the rest of the newsletter below. Also, the PTA will be at the upcoming Open House so please say hi and we can answer any questions you may have. Shine bright and have a great start to the school year!

Heather Foster
PTA President 2023-2024

McKitrick Elementary

5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road

Lutz, Florida 33558

813.558.5427

Principal/Administrator:

Allison Cline

Welcome!

Please visit McKitrick-PTA.com to join our PTA and download our New Family Information Packet

JOIN US AT THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL ON 8/29 TO MEET OTHER NEW FAMILIES

New Family Information packet



Questions? Email Brandi or Hani at newcomers@mckitrickpta.com



CALENDAR

August

- 5th McKitrick Beautification Day
- 8th Open House - 1st, 3rd, 5th
- 9th Open House - K, 2nd, 4th
- 10th 1st day of school
- 18th All Pro Dad Meeting
- 29th Back to School Ice Cream Social

September

- 4th Labor Day / No School
- 6th Fall Picture Date / PTA Virtual General Membership Meeting
- 25th-29th Fall Book Fair

Quick Links

[McKitrick PTA Website](#)

[McKitrick PTA Store](#)

[McKitrick PTA Facebook](#)

[McKitrick PTA Twitter](#)

[McKitrick Elementary Website](#)

[2023-2024 School Calendar](#)

[McKitrick Lunch Menus](#)

[Meal Pre-Pay](#)

Welcome Back Bobcat Families!

We are so excited to start a new school year with our theme of "Be Someone's Sunshine". The culture of our school is shared through our students, staff, and families. It is an important component of our success and the sense of family that we all share. As children or adults, we all know how important it is to have a positive support system that is available in both celebrations and times of challenges in our lives.



Our teachers and staff members have been attending trainings, spending time with family and getting ready for another year of learning and fun. We move into the year with a strong phonics-based program in grades kindergarten through second that will ensure that the science of reading is implemented for our students to build a strong foundation to build on as they progress to more complex strategies. We are also thrilled with the addition of several coding and robotics opportunities this year due to several grants received last year.

We remain a 7 Mindsets school model within the district focusing on high expectations, goal setting, developing gifts and talents as well as building resilience in our work habits and emotions. These characteristics will continue to be celebrated at our monthly recognition programs.

As we welcome you back, we encourage you to fill out the online volunteer form and participate in our school-based activities and become an active part of our school family. Our active PTA is always looking forward to your participation. As parents we know, time passes quickly, and this is a perfect time to add some "sunshine" to your child's school experience and memories.

Looking forward to having my "sunshine" back on campus soon.

Allison Cline
Principal



OPEN HOUSE

MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

8:30 AM TO 10:30 AM

AUGUST 8, 2023

FIRST, THIRD, AND FIFTH GRADES

AUGUST 9, 2023

KINDERGARTEN, SECOND, AND FOURTH GRADES



STAY INFORMED and GET INVOLVED!

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



STEP 1: GET YOUR ANNUAL MCKITRICK PTA MEMBERSHIP NOW

For only \$6, you become a *member* of our school PTA where you gain access to tons of great information with no time commitment required! Anyone can join-including siblings & grandparents! Discounts are provided for purchasing multiple memberships.

Your membership includes:

- Access to McKitrick PTA's monthly newsletter full of information about school programs/events & important community information
- Information on PTA volunteer opportunities offered on & off school campus
- Ability to vote on how your PTA dollars are spent



For Memberships,
Scan Here!

STEP 2: COMPLETE THE HCPS VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Anyone who wishes to volunteer in person on school property must complete a HCPS volunteer application biannually. To complete an application, scan the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/3BjAijr> to check your renewal status.



For Volunteers,
Scan Here!

STEP 3: FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Like our McKitrick PTA Facebook page and follow us on Twitter & Instagram for real-time updates! Visit www.mckitrickpta.com to learn more.



For our Website,
Scan Here!

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



Join the McKitrick PTA

and become a better
advocate for your
children and our school!

Joining the PTA only costs \$6 and does NOT
require a volunteer time commitment!

It is the best way to stay in-the-know about what's happening at
McKitrick and support your child's school community!

Visit mckitrickpta.com today to learn more about all that we have
planned for the year ahead and purchase your membership.

Bundle discounts for multiple family members (including free car
magnets!) are available.

Class with the
most memberships
by September 1st
wins a pizza party!





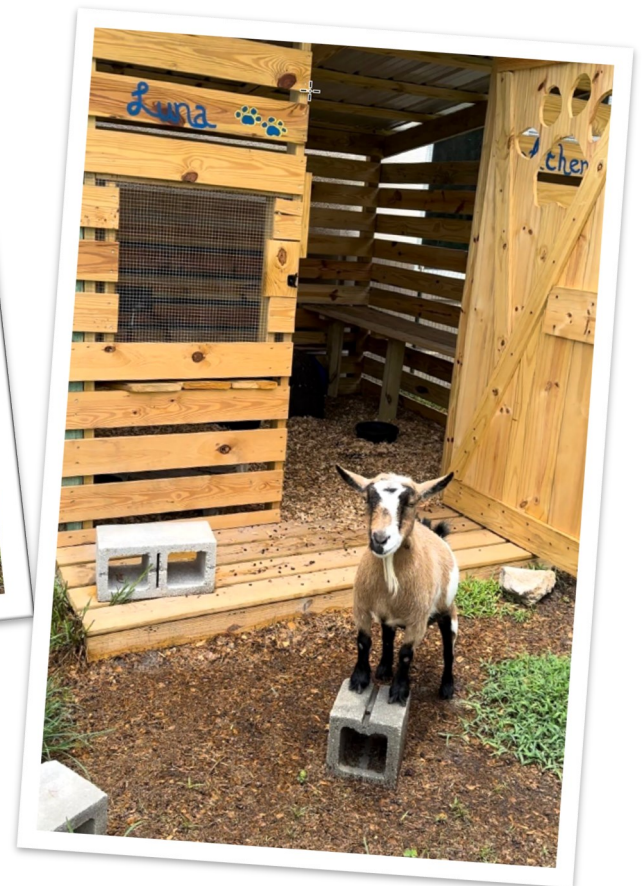
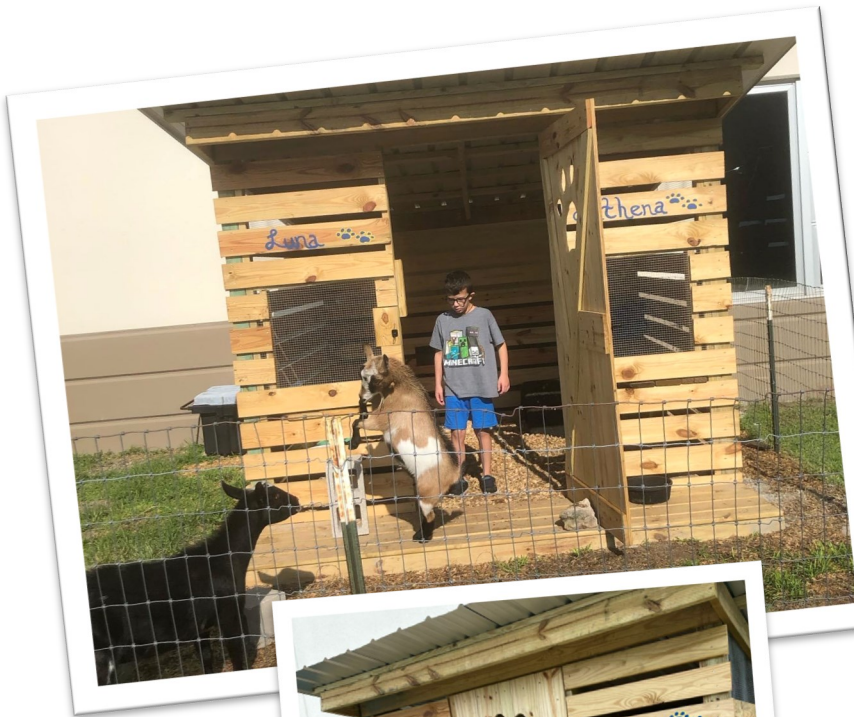
FUNdraising Corner

Goat House Renovation

This summer our McKitrick goats, Luna and Athena, got an upgrade! Another boosterthon goal from 2022 was to help renovate the goat area.

Luna and Athena are like family and we wanted to make sure they had a safe pen to call home. BIG Thank you **Cassandra Johnson** for all her hard work planning and coordinating this project. This also wouldn't have been possible without the support of our families and business sponsors that contribute to our fundraising efforts throughout the school year.

We also would like to thank all of the goat volunteers that helped take care of Athena and Luna this summer. If you would like to volunteer to help this school year, look out for a sign up from Mrs. Cline.





OPEN HOUSE SALE



eliteinkllc.myshopify.com

****link will be active when shop opens 8/10****

Grey Bobcats (top left) and Blue Sunshine (top right) styles will be available in limited supplies at Open House. All styles will be available via the online shop. The shop will be open August 10- August 25th. Please allow 2 weeks for production time. Shirts ordered through online shop will be delivered to school and distributed to teachers. Cash and Credit Card Accepted.

For questions- please contact spiritwear@mckitrickpta.com

Thank you for your support! - ORDER NOW!

SAVE THE DATE & SIGN UP
TO VOLUNTEER

**MCKITRICK
BEAUTIFICATION
DAY!**

Calling all volunteers! Please join McKitrick Staff and PTA to help make our campus shine before the first day of school.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 5TH
STARTS 8:00 AM**

Hello Bobcats! We are looking for volunteers to help make McKitrick SHINE before school starts. Save the date and please sign up if you are able to help Saturday, August 5th at 8:00 am. We will be adding mulch around campus and a few other small projects. Any time you can help would be appreciated.

[Click here](#) to sign up or scan the QR code





Want to be more involved in your child's education and make a difference to our school and community!?!? WE NEED YOU!! As you might already know, McKitrick PTA is a non-profit organization funded and operated entirely by volunteers! Our PTA and school can always use a helping

hand from YOU! Your effort and dedication are always appreciated. The difference you make is contributed directly to our school and community.

PTA Members who wish to receive emails about volunteer opportunities will need an account with Givebacks (formally MemberHub). By creating an account in Givebacks (formally MemberHub), PTA will be notified that you are interested in volunteering opportunities the upcoming school year. Finally, in order to perform in-person volunteering, the Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS) requires **all** volunteers and community partners to complete the [HCPS Volunteer Application](#) or have a current active application on file prior to any volunteer engagement. If you were previously an active volunteer, please check to see volunteer status is still active. You can check the expiration date of your volunteer status, update your information and school selection through the [HCPS Volunteer Portal](#). Volunteers will not be admitted on campus for any volunteer activities without an active status.

Our first volunteer opportunity this school year will be [Beautification Day](#) set for Saturday August 5th! There will be numerous opportunities to participate in volunteering and PTA will be holding a Homeroom Parents and Volunteers Training in the upcoming weeks. Details will be announced soon.

Please feel free to reach out to

volunteer@mckitrickpta.com for any questions.

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!





Hello and welcome to the 2022-2023 school year!

We are excited to welcome you to our All Pro Dad Chapter here at McKitrick Elementary school. All Pro Dads Chapters provide an opportunity for dads to spend quality time with their children that will

strengthen their relationship.

For one hour each month you'll get to join other dads and kids at school for breakfast in the McKitrick Elementary cafeteria, spend some time intentionally engaging together, and then have the opportunity to walk your kids to their classrooms.

Our first gathering is scheduled for August 18 at 7:00am at the McKitrick Elementary Cafeteria and we would love to see you there. If you would like to come, please scan the QR code or visit <https://allprodadchapters.com/chapters/2990>.

For more information or questions, contact our team captain, Steve Attard, at this email: allprodads@mckitrickpta.com.



**Scan to Join
our Next
Meeting!**

McKitrick Elementary PTA Proudly Presents

Ice Cream Social



WELCOME BACK!

August 29, 2023
McKitrick Cafeteria &
Courtyard
5-7PM

FREE ice cream for PTA members / \$5 for non-members

Food Trucks on-site
for food purchase:



Supported by:
Blue Bell Ice Cream

We love our Business Partners! With the start of the new school year, we are welcoming new Business Partner applicants. We have several commitment levels available. For more info, please contact Emily Draper at businesspartners@McKitrickPTA.com



Yvonne T. McKittrick Elementary School

2022-2023 PTA COMMITTEE

President: Heather Foster

Family Dine Outs: Lisa Peluso & Megan Wilson

Vice President: Lindsay Jimison

Bobcat Bash: Barrie Vause, Gina Willemin,
Jennifer Teixeira & Lacey Ranucci

Treasurer: Erin Circelli

Sweetheart Event: Lindsay Whitney, Lauren Borio,
Consuelo Benassi De Tilio & Shelley Blanco

Recording Secretary: Jessica Campbell

Teacher representative: Principal Cline & Mrs. Contreras

Sons & Stars Event: Candace Kaseta & Tiffany Rendel

Parent Outreach: Gina Willemin

Concession: Louise Johnstone

Fundraising: Darbie Wilder

Family Nights: Amy Sweeney, Donna Ticker,
Lacey Ranucci & Lauren Jennings

Special Events: Hannah Breig & Becky Maenner

Student/School Support: OPEN POSITION

Fifth Grade Activities: Chryssa Samhoury,
Lindsay Jimison, Farheen Aldeen, Melissa Weitzenfeld,
Consuelo Benassi De Tilio, Tiffany Rendel, Lauren Borio

Programs: Barrie Vause

Open House: Heather Foster & Lindsay Jimison

Communications: Lauren Constantine

Newcomers/Kindergarten Round Up: Brandi Kenny & Hanyeh Pulver

Teacher & Staff Appreciation: Ariel Martinez,
Jessica Williams, Jincy Soler, Jennifer Ptack,
Melissa Weitzenfeld

Parents Club: Chryssa Samhoury

Health & Safety: OPEN POSITION

All Pro Dads: Steve Attard

McKittrick Serves: Katie Metz

Homeroom Parents: Brittany Harake

McKittrick Cares: Lymari La Llave, Yajarira Chappelle & Sienna Kang

Volunteer Coordinator: Viviana Lit

Reflections: Meredith Renuart

Memberships: Kim Hunt

Spirit Wear: Jennifer Ptack

Tutoring: Ariel Martinez

Boosterthon: Consuelo Benassi De Tilio, Erin Circelli, Jincy Solar & Gina Willemin

Junior Achievement: Loren Mednick

Holiday Shop: Lisa Peluso & Megan Wilson

Website/Givebacks (formally MemberHub): Steve Attard & Hanyeh Pulver

Bobcat Bash: Barrie Vause, Gina Willemin,
Jennifer Teixeira & Lacey Ranucci

Yearbook: Robert Hudson & Cassandra Johnson

Business Partners: Emily Draper

Social Media: Chryssa Samhoury

Newsletter: Cristine Whitman

Interested in being more involved in the PTA? Please contact president@mckittrickpta.com to learn more about open positions and volunteer opportunities!