



Bobcat

BULLETIN

August 2024, Volume 24, Issue 8

Yvonne T. McKittrick Elementary

Message from the PTA President

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year Bobcats! We hope you had a wonderful summer and are ready to **Believe In Yourself!** We hope students celebrate what makes them extraordinary. Open House is just around the corner so be sure to stop by our spirit wear vendor, Elite Ink, to see some amazing school spirit shirt designs including one that matches this year's theme.

We want to make sure you are receiving all of the PTA communications. The best way to stay informed 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 **virtual PTA General PTA Meeting on Thursday, September 5th at 5:30 PM.** There is no better way to advocate for your children than to be involved and informed.

We are so lucky at McKittrick to have many volunteer opportunities to interact with teachers, students, and families. Our first volunteer opportunity is **Beautification Day on Saturday, August 3rd at 8:00 AM.** Volunteers will help make McKittrick shine and ready for students. We hope to see you there!

You can find more details about everything I mentioned above in the rest of the newsletter below. Have a great start to the school year and remember to **Be You!**

Heather Foster
PTA President 2024-2025

McKittrick Elementary

5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road

Lutz, Florida 33558

813.558.5427

Principal/Administrator:

Allison Cline



New to McKittrick?



Welcome! Please visit
McKittrickPTA.com to join our PTA
and download our
New Family Information Packet

New Family Information Packet



CALENDAR

August

- 3rd McKittrick Beautification Day
- 8th Open House - 1st, 3rd, 5th (8a-10a)
- 9th Open House - VPK, K, 2nd, 4th (8a-10a)
- 12th 1st day of school
- 23rd All Pro Dad Meeting

September

- 2nd Labor Day / No School
- 5th PTA Virtual General Membership Meeting
- 12th Family Dine Out: Three Brothers Pizza
- 20th All Pro Dad Meeting
- TBD Family Fun Night



Quick Links

McKittrick PTA Website

McKittrick PTA Store

McKittrick PTA Facebook

McKittrick PTA Twitter

McKittrick Elementary Website

2023-2024 School Calendar

McKittrick Lunch Menus

Meal Pre-Pay

Welcome Back Bobcat Families!

McKitrick Families and Students

Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year

We are busy planning with excitement for the upcoming school year. This year's theme, "Be Yourself" celebrates the individuality and characteristics that make each child unique.

Before long we will be welcoming back our Bobcat families and meeting new ones as well. The beginning of the school year is always filled with anticipation. New opportunities for friendships with students and our parents. There are lots of ways to participate and be a part of our school as we work and play hard to keep balanced and healthy.

As the principal of McKitrick, I look forward to supporting our teachers and students for my "Sweet 16th Year". It continues to be my honor to be a part of an amazing school with talented and dedicated teachers and families that support us to create a successful partnership in learning and connecting within our community.

We are anxious for you to see the improvements that your generous support created in our Media Center, and we will continue to build on this project for all our students utilize this area.

Stay tuned to our McKitrick Facebook page and McKitrick PTA page for updates and extra information.

With Smiles and Warm Regards,
Allison Cline, Your very proud McKitrick Principal



"Today you
are You,
that is truer
than true.
There is
no one alive
who is Yover
than You."

-Dr. Seuss

Join the 2024/25 McKitrick PTA Team

We have open positions on the PTA and would love for you to join the team! We can help you find a role that fits your availability and interests. Get more information and complete quick form at <https://forms.gle/oYKCvD3jHp833EkM8>. You can also email Heather Foster at president@mckitrickpta.com with any questions.

Some open chair positions include: Special Events Standing Chair, Memberships, Business Partners, Dine Outs, Sons & Stars, Newcomers/Kindergarten Readiness, Health & Safety, McKitrick Serves.



**Call For
Volunteers**

Join the 2024/25 McKitrick PTA Team



Seeking parents, guardians and grandparents that have a passion for making McKitrick and our community an amazing place for children.

Fulfilling our PTA mission at McKitrick Elementary would not be possible without the help of volunteers in our school community. Big or small, your help is needed and appreciated.

Follow QR code or link to see the open positions for 2024/25 school year.



SCAN HERE

Questions? Contact Heather Foster at president@mckitrickpta.com

2024 McKitrick Open House

Mark your calendars for 2024/25 McKitrick Elementary Open House! Be sure to attend the correct date based on your child's grade level.

After you meet your teacher(s), head to the cafeteria for spirit wear, yearbook information, after-school care options, McKitrick PTA business partners and a photo opportunity with our mascot, Blaze! The McKitrick PTA will also hand out some important information and a fun scavenger hunt for students to complete to familiarize themselves with campus. We can't wait to see you!



OPEN HOUSE

McKitrick Elementary

8:00 to 10:00 AM

Thursday, August 8, 2024
Grades 1, 3 & 5

Friday, August 9, 2024
Grades VPK, KG, 2 & 4

Questions: Contact McKitrick
Elementary main office at
(813) 558-5427



OPEN HOUSE CHECK LIST:

- ☐ Meet your teacher and drop off school supplies
- ☐ Complete a scavenger hunt to learn your way around campus
- ☐ Meet the PTA
- ☐ Order Spirit Wear /Sizing
- ☐ Yearbook Information
- ☐ After-School Care Options
- ☐ Meet McKitrick Business Partners
- ☐ Take some photos and meet our Mascot, Blaze!





Before & After School Programs

The following is a list of nearby after school programs. Please contact each program directly for information.

- **HOST** <https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/host>
You can also contact the McKittrick Main Office for additional information.
- **Primrose Lutz** (813) 920-9384
<https://www.primroseschools.com/schools/lutz>
- **SRK** (813) 355-1720
<https://www.srkcamp.com/school/>
- **Discovery Point** (813) 501-8685
<https://www.discoverypoint.com/centers/lutz/>
- **Cheval Kids** (813) 279-5122
<https://playcheval.com/after-school-program>
- **JCC on the Cohn Campus** (813) 769-4748
<https://www.jcccohn-campus.com/programs/club-j-after-school-enrichment-program>
- **The After School Scholars** (813) 690-2071
<https://theafterschoolscholar.com/>
- **Bay Hope Day School** 813-960-1694
<https://www.bayhopedayschool.com/>



THIS LIST IS FOR REFERENCE ONLY AND
NOT INTENDED AS A RECOMMENDATION.





STAY INFORMED AND GET INVOLVED

BE IN THE KNOW, SCAN THE QR CODES AND GO!

STEP
1.



FOR
MEMBERSHIPS,
SCAN HERE!

GET YOUR ANNUAL MCKITRICK PTA MEMBERSHIP NOW

For only \$6, you can 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 on school programs/events & important community information
- Information on PTA volunteer opportunities offered on & off school campus
- Ability to vote on how your fundraising dollars are spent

STEP
2.



FOR
VOLUNTEERS,
SCAN HERE!

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.

Remember to always bring your ID any time you are coming on campus as a visitor or volunteer.

STEP
3.



FOR OUR WEBSITE,
SCAN HERE!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Like our McKitrick PTA Facebook page and follow us on Instagram for real-time updates! Visit www.mckitrickpta.com to learn more. You can also join our McKitrick Parent Facebook Group.

ISSUES WITH THE QR CODES?

VISIT [HTTPS://MCKITRICKPTA.COM](https://mckitrickpta.com) DIRECTLY TO COMPLETE THESE EASY STEPS!



MCKITRICKPTA.COM



**MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY
PTA INFORMATION**



[MCKITRICKELEMENTARYPTA](https://www.instagram.com/mckitrickelementarypta)



Join the McKitrick PTA

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



Scan Me!

- Joining the PTA only costs \$6 and does not require a volunteer time commitment.
- It is the best way to stay informed about what's happening at McKitrick and support your child's school community!

Visit mckitrickpta.com today to learn more about all we have planned for the year ahead and purchase your membership. Bundles discounts for multiple family members are available.

The class with the
most memberships
by **September 13th**
wins a pizza party!

PTA[®]
everychild.onevoice.



FUNdraising Corner

Fundraising Updates:

Due to the support of our amazing Bobcat Families & PTA the first 3 zones of the library refresh project have been completed! This includes new tables, chairs, two new book display shelves, and an awesome story time area. We can't wait for students to enjoy the improvements when they get back to school!



JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST FAMILY DINE
OUT OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!

THREE BROTHERS PIZZA

Thursday, September 12th | 11AM - 9PM
17773 Gunn Hwy, Odessa

PLEASE PRESENT THIS FLYER AT CHECKOUT
FOR MCKITRICK TO RECEIVE 15% OF TOTAL
SALES

DINE IN, TAKEOUT OR DELIVERY
*DELIVERIES MUST BE THROUGH 3 BROTHERS
DIRECTCLY TO COUNT*



Join us at Open house on 8/8 and 8/9 and help support McKittrick and get stocked up on spirit wear! Elite Ink will be on site with sizing samples and some items available for purchase. The online store will be open to place orders from August 8 – August 23. Please allow 2 weeks for production. All items will be delivered to the school and distributed to your child's classroom. Contact spiritwear@mckittrickpta.com for questions.

SHOPELITEINK.COM

Welcome Back to McKitrick Elementary All Pro Dad Chapter!

As we gear up for a new school year, we're excited to invite you to the first meeting of the 2024-2025 All Pro Dad program at McKitrick Elementary. All Pro Dad is a fantastic initiative that brings dads together with their kids for

meaningful conversations and bonding time before school starts. Each month, typically on the third Friday of the month, we gather in the cafeteria to discuss empowering themes designed to enhance our relationships and support our children's growth.



First Meeting Coming Up! Join us on **August 23rd at 7:00 AM** in the McKitrick Elementary Cafeteria. This month's theme is Proactivity. Being proactive doesn't just mean being prepared; it's about actively shaping our environment to prevent problems and handling challenges with confidence when they arise. It's a vital skill that can set our kids up for success in all areas of life.

Plan to Arrive Early: Please aim to check in by 6:50 AM with your ID or driver's license to ensure you have ample time to enjoy breakfast with your kids and settle in before we start.

Monthly Gatherings: Each session not only allows us to enjoy breakfast with our kids but also provides an opportunity to walk them to their classrooms afterward. It's these moments that create lasting memories and reinforce the special bond we share with our children.

Mark Your Calendars: Here are all the tentative dates for this year's All Pro Dad meetings at McKitrick:

- August 23, 2024
- September 20, 2024
- October 18, 2024
- November 15, 2024
- December 13, 2024
- January 17, 2025
- February 21, 2025
- March 28, 2025
- April 25, 2025 (Tentative)
- May 16, 2025 (Tentative)



**Scan to Join
Next
Meeting!**

Additional social events will be scheduled, so stay tuned!

To stay updated and get more details about our meetings, sign up to our email list here: <https://allprodadchapters.com/chapters/2990>.

We're looking forward to kicking off another empowering year with all of you great dads and your fantastic kids! See you at the cafeteria!

For questions or more information, don't hesitate to reach out directly to Steve at allprodads@mckitrickpta.com

VOLUNTEER



Get involved in your child's education and make a difference! McKitrick PTA, a volunteer-run non-profit, needs your help. Your efforts directly benefit our school and community. Join us and make an impact!

How do you volunteer, you ask?

1. PTA members must create a [MemberHub](#) account to receive emails about volunteer opportunities, get tickets to events, and receive communication from the PTA. By creating an account, PTA will be notified of your interest in volunteering for the upcoming school year and can send you relevant information.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Some volunteer opportunities will also be posted on our Facebook groups: McKitrick Elementary PTA Information and McKitrick Parents Club. Please join those groups if you are interested in volunteering!

Our first volunteer opportunity this school year will be [Beautification Day](#) set for Saturday August 3rd!

Please feel free to reach out to volunteer@mckitrickpta.com with any questions.

ERASE THE NEED

TOP 20 MOST-NEEDED SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Please consider donating
the following new items:

- Backpacks
- Binders (1 & 2-Inch)
- Colored Pencils (12 Count)
- Composition Books
- Crayons (24 Count)
- Erasers (Cap & Pink)
- Glue (Bottles & Sticks)
- Highlighters
- Index Cards
- Markers (Dry Erase, Washable & Permanent)
- Mechanical Pencils
- Notebook/Filler Paper
- Paper (Copy, Construction & Graph)
- Pencils
- Pencil Boxes
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Pocket Folders
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Spiral Notebooks

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- ✓ Host a Supply Drive
 - ✓ Shop from our Amazon Wish List: amzn.to/3yninnS
 - ✓ Make a donation: EducationFoundation.com/DonateSchoolSupplies
- If you have any questions, please contact:
- Laura Grucza**
Director of Development
lgrucza@educationfoundation.com
(813) 574-0274



**Teaching Tools
Resource Center**

SPONSORED BY



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MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



McKitrick PTA needs your help getting students ready for a new year of learning. Please bring any school supply donations to campus.

- **August 8 & 9, 2024 | 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM**
Donation Boxes at Open House Entrances
- **August 12 - 16, 2022**
Donation Boxes outside of Front Office

Please bring any of the following supplies or any items on HEF's Most-Needed List:

Crayons (24 count) • Scissors • Pencils • Markers (Washable)
Colored Pencils (24 count) • Glue (Bottles or Sticks)

All donations will go to the Hillsborough Education Foundation to benefit Hillsborough County students.

To learn more about HEF, visit their website at

<https://educationfoundation.com/>

BE THE CHANGE, DONATE NOW

CHECK OUT THE NEW OASIS DONATION DROP BOX AT MCKITRICK

OASIS OPPURTUNITIES

Their mission is to provide clothing and fundamental necessities to economically disadvantaged Hillsborough County Public School students to ensure their personal and academic success.

Visit their website for more information and ways you can help!

<https://www.oasisopportunities.org/>

WHAT YOU CAN DONATE

CLOTHING & SHOES

New or lightly used clothing and shoes are accepted at the donation drop box.

ONLINE WISHLIST

Fulfill online wishlist registries at Amazon, Target and Walmart for goods and hygienic products.

<https://www.oasisopportunities.org/oasis-student-wishlists>



LOCATION:

McKittrick Elementary -
5503 W Lutz Lake Fern Rd,
Lutz, FL 33558



OASIS

OPPORTUNITIES

Business Partners

The goal of the McKitrick PTA is to enhance the educational experience by offering activities and special programs as well as additional instructional materials and equipment that will expand the child's learning experience through partnerships with local businesses. We would love to create meaningful partnerships with businesses in our community.

Business Partners sponsorship dollars help McKitrick by funding:

- Resources and programs that support and enrich our students and families (Tutoring, Junior Achievement, All Pro Dads, Health & Safety, Reflections, McKitrick Cares)
- Programs that benefit our sister schools and county-wide assistance programs (McKitrick Cares & McKitrick Serves programs)
- Events for students, teachers and families (Family Fun Nights)
- Sponsor teacher and staff appreciation throughout the year
- Contribute to school donations (renovations/improvements) and teacher grants to enrich classrooms

The McKitrick PTA owes its continued success to community minded business partners. Being a Business Partner with McKitrick Elementary is a wonderful way to promote your business while being involved in our active community.

If you have a business or know of a business who would like to partner with our school, please reach out to businesspartners@mckitrickpta.com for more information. Thank you!





Yvonne T. McKittrick Elementary School

2022-2023 PTA COMMITTEE

President: Heather Foster

Vice President: Brandi Kenny

Treasurer: Gina Sciatcchitano

Recording Secretary: Erin Circelli

Teacher representative: Principal Cline,
Mrs. Contreras, Mrs. Behnke

Parent Outreach: Viviana Lit

Fundraising: Darbie Wilder

Special Events: **OPEN POSITION**

Student/School Support: Risa Anasky

Programs: Barrie Vause

Communications: Lauren Constantine

Newcomers/Kindergarten Round Up:
OPEN POSITION

All Pro Dads: Steve Attard

Homeroom Parents: Brittany Harake

Volunteer Coordinator: Jessica Irizarri

Memberships: **OPEN POSITION**

Spirit Wear: Jennifer Ptack

Boosterthon: Lindsay Jimison, Erin Circelli,
Jincy Soler

Holiday Shop: Lisa Peluso &
Megan Wilson

Bobcat Bash: Barrie Vause, Jennifer
Teixeira

Business Partners: Cristine Whitman

Family Dine Outs: **OPEN POSITION**

Sweetheart Event: Lindsay Whitney,
Shelley Blanco

Sons & Stars Event: Alexandra Santana

Concessions: Louise Johnstone

Family Nights: Amy Sweeney, Donna
Tucker, Lauren Jennings

Fifth Grade Activities: Chryssa Samhoury,
Stefanie Greenblatt, Farheen Aldeen, Kim
Hunt, Viviana Lit, Barrie Vause, Cristine
Whitman, Shelley Blanco, Erin Circelli,
Lindsay Whitney, Jennifer Verbel

Open House: Heather Foster & Lindsay
Jimison

Teacher & Staff Appreciation: Ariel
Martinez, Jincy Soler, Dani Molla

Health & Safety: **OPEN POSITION**

McKittrick Serves: **OPEN POSITION**

McKittrick Cares: Hyojeong Bae

Reflections: Meredith Renuart

Tutoring: Ariel Martinez

Junior Achievement: Loren Mednick

Website/Givebacks: Hanyeh Pulver

Yearbook: Robert Hudson

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!