



March 2024, Volume 24, Issue 3

BULLETIN

Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary

Message from the PTA President

Hi Bobcats! Time is moving by so fast and our PTA is working hard during this second half of the school year.

- We want to give a HUGE shoutout to thank our Sweetheart Dance Committee. They worked tirelessly to put together an amazing event for our families.
- We also welcomed future bobcats at the Kindergarten Readiness Event. McKitrick Staff and the PTA gave a fabulous introduction to our school.
- 5th graders worked extra hard to raise funds and donations for Rescue Pets of Florida for their service project. If you missed the donation drive, you can still make donations to [Rescue Pets of Florida, Inc. An all-volunteer, 501\(c\)\(3\) corporation](#)
- Thank you to our Staff Appreciation Committee for providing a delicious dinner for teachers and staff for conference night. We also celebrated Officer Windom on School Resource Officer Day! Thank you for keeping our campus safe and always helping in carline and school/PTA events.

We hope to see you at our annual **Picnic in the Park + Bobcat Bash** event on Saturday, March 23rd from 10:30 - 2:00 pm at McKitrick Elementary School. All proceeds will go directly to McKitrick teachers to enrich their classrooms. Come enjoy music, food, games and more while doing some good for our school!

Thank you,
Heather Foster
PTA President

CALENDAR

March

4th Non-Student Day

6th Spring Picture Day

11-15 Spring Break
No School

20th End of 3rd Grading Period

22nd All Pro Dad Meeting

23rd Picnic in the Park &
Bobcat Bash

29th Non-Student Day

April

5th Sons & Stars Event at
Laser Ops

8th Report Cards Available

13th Cheval Carnival

18th Family Dine Out:
Blaze Pizza

19th All Pro Dad Meeting

23rd Bus Driver Appreciation
Day29-May 3 Teacher
Appreciation week

Cheval CARNIVAL

April 13th 11am-3pm

Thank you to our marketing sponsors:

Save the Date! The Club at Cheval is having a Carnival April 13th from 11am-3pm. The event is open to everyone! The McKitrick PTA will have a booth so come say hi and have some fun.

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

LAST CHANCE!

BUY THE SUNSHINE

2023/24 YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!

Guarantee your child's book of memories before they are no longer available!

Don't forget to add the 5th grade supplement!

www.mckitrickpta.com/yearbook

Hillsborough County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life

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!



HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FAMILY SURVEY



Dear Families,
You are the most important people in your child's life, and we want to ensure that you have the opportunity to shape their school experiences.

We are asking that you participate in our 15-minute FAMILY SURVEY that will help our school improve our communication, academic programming, and overall experience for you and your child.

The FAMILY SURVEY will be open March 4 - 22, 2024.

Please see the link here:

https://tntp.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4ZqfhMnS7GUOgrs

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Picnic in the Park & **BOBCAT BASH**

Saturday March 23
10:30 am- 2:00 pm



Please come out and join us for a fun day spent with our McKitrick family! Bring a blanket or chairs to enjoy the student performed concert. There will be games, food trucks, vendors and more!

Tickets will be sold online between March 1st-20th. Tickets are \$10 per student.



Twisted Kettle Popcorn Three Brothers Pizza Bahama Bucks Red Tacos

****100% of all money raised goes back to our McKitrick teachers for classroom supplies****

A wristband purchase is required for any child (including siblings) who would like to participate in the games at the event. A wristband is not required to watch the concert.

1 band: \$10

Family Discount:

2 bands: \$18

3 bands: \$25

Additional bands \$5

Once you arrive at the event, you will check in to receive your wristband allowing you to participate in all the fun, teacher-led booths & games!

Hope you can come out to McKitrick for a fun day!

Look for information coming home about the concert.



Greetings McKitrick Parents and Guardians:

Sun is shining...Flowers are blooming... and kids are singing!

Please join us on Saturday, **March 23rd**, for our annual "**Musical Picnic in the Park**" right here on school grounds from **11:00 am - 1:00 pm**. All Kindergarten through 5th grade students, as well as the **Melody Makers, Bobcat Singers, Ukulele Ensemble and Mickey Tricks** have been working diligently to learn new, fun and exciting songs to perform for you. This will give the students a chance to hear each other and will also give the parents a chance to experience some of the wonderful things that the children have been learning during music class this year.

Families are invited to bring blankets and lawn chairs to comfortably enjoy the children serenading them on the covered court. The students should wear "spirit wear".

This year, Picnic in the Park is in conjunction with the Bobcat Bash! Although families may arrive to McKitrick as early as 10am, students should only come to the covered court approximately 10 minutes before their performance time.

Approximate performance times are:

- 11:00 - Kindergarten & 1st Grade
- 11:20 - Melody Makers
- 11:40 - 2nd and 3rd Grade
- 12:00 - Ukulele Ensemble
- 12:15 - Mickey Tricks Rock Band
- 12:30 - Bobcat Singers
- 12:45 - 4th and 5th Grade



Picnic in the Park Response Form

Please let us know if your child will attend the Musical Picnic in the Park on Saturday, March 23rd, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM so we can make plans for enough performance space. RSVP by scanning the QR code below. You will need to fill out a separate form for each student.

Musically yours,
McKitrick Music Department



ALOHA!

SAVE THE DATE FOR

"SURFING OUT OF 5TH GRADE!"

- MARTINEZ OPEN HOUSE 2/22/24
- SERVICE PROJECT- 2/29/24
- BIZ TOWN 3/20/24
- FIELD TRIP- 5/1/24
- FIELD DAY 5/20/24
- BANQUET LUAU 5/22/24
- EOY AWARDS 5/23/24
- CLAP OUT 5/24/24



BEACH

FOR MORE INFO OR TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE EMAIL
FIFTHGRADEACTIVITIES@MCKITRICKPTA.COM

Our very own McKittrick Elementary students are performing in Steinbrenner High School's production of Peter Pan! Show your support and purchase tickets now to enjoy an amazing show.

**STEINBRENNER HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE
PRESENTS**



PETER PAN

**APRIL 4-5, 11-13, 2024
7:00PM**



Music by Morris "Moose" Charlap

Additional Music by Jule Styne

Originally directed & choreographed by Jerome Robbins

Lyrics by Carolyn Leigh

Additional Lyrics by Betty Comden, Adolph Green

Based on the play by Sir J. M. Barrie

PETER PAN (1954 BROADWAY VERSION) IS PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI). ALL AUTHORIZED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI
WWW.MTISHOWS.COM



MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY PRESENTS THE

SON & STARS EVENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 2024

530-830PM

LASER OPS XTREME FUN CENTER
6283 W WATERS AVE, TAMPA

Tickets on sale from 3/18-3/29 online only at
<https://mckitrick.memberhub.com/store>

\$50 Couples Ticket (1 adult, 1 child)

\$20 Sibling Ticket (1 child)

* Please just 1 adult per family

One 30-min Laser Tag Session
Unlimited Bazooka Ball/Archery Tag
Unlimited Virtual Reality

2 hrs Time Play Non-Redemption
Game Card (no prizes awarded)
Pizza and Water/Soda

Excludes HyperDeck



**CAUSE A
SCENE FOR
A GOOD
CAUSE!**

STEP 1:
Visit Blaze Pizza

STEP 2:
Show this Flyer to the Blaze Team

STEP 3:
Enjoy your Pizza!

GET FIRE'D UP TO SUPPORT

McKitrick Elementary

Blaze Pizza will donate 20% of proceeds from your meal back to our organization!

Thursday, April 18th, 2024

4:00 PM until 8:00 PM

**Find us at Blaze Pizza - Land O Lakes,
18701 FL-54, Lutz, FL 33558**

Want to order online?

Use Promo Code "1415A"

when ordering through our APP or our website at WWW.BLAZEPIZZA.COM

A \$0.01 discount applied to your order as confirmation of your participation.

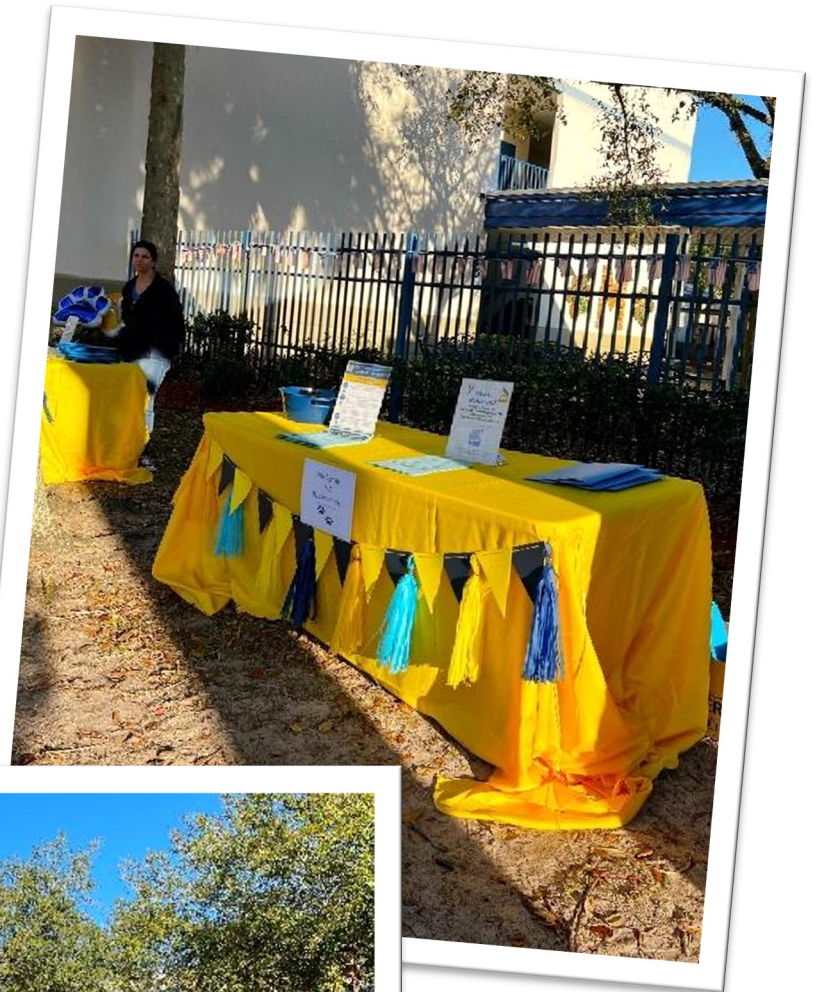
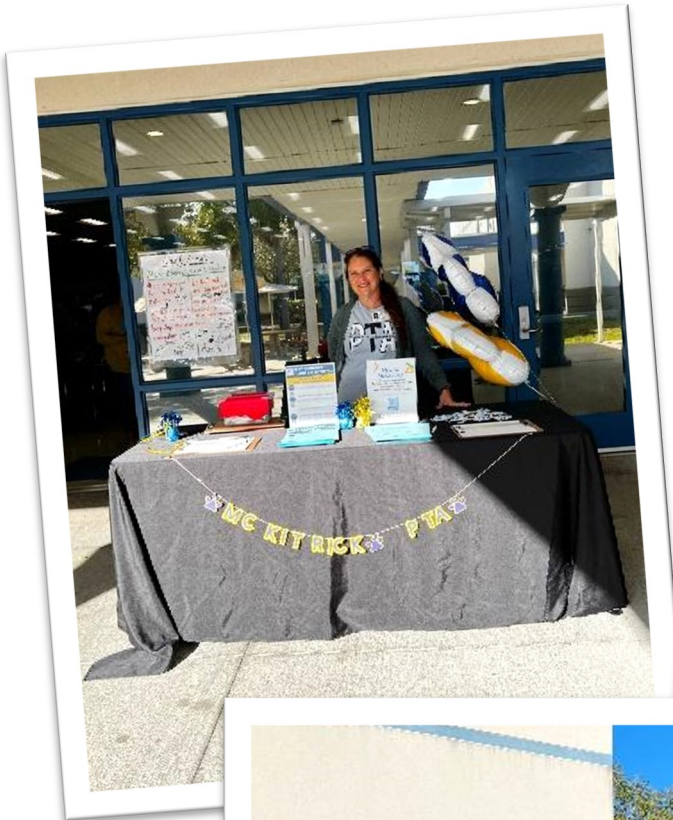
20% of all purchases using this code will be counted towards the donation total.

Event proceeds are void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant.
For online orders, only transactions that have the promo code applied during the time of the date specified above will be counted towards the donation total.
Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax and gift card purchases.
Excludes 3rd party delivery or phone orders. Alcoholic beverages excluded.

**FAST-FIRE'D
BLAZE  PIZZA**

Ready for Kindergarten Event 2024

Last month, the Newcomer Committee was thrilled to welcome incoming kindergarten families to learn more about our amazing school and tour the campus. As usual, Luna and Athena were the most popular stop on the tour but the succulent wall was a close second. We saw many returning families and a lot of new faces as well. New families can visit our McKitrickPTA.com website to download the New Family Information Packet, which is full of information about school policies, events, and frequently asked questions. We look forward to seeing the new families on campus next school year as they join our Bob-cat family.



SWEETHEART DANCE WAS A TRULY MEMORABLE NIGHT!

What a dazzling night it was!!! The McKitrick Elementary "Denim & Diamonds" Sweetheart Dance was a memorable night for all on Friday evening, February 9th. Hosted at the beautifully rustic SoireEstates event venue, the 2024 Sweetheart Dance was enjoyed by almost 600 guests. Bobcat girls loved dressing up for an evening of food, games, photos, and of course plenty of dancing with friends and family.

We are so grateful for Bach to Rock Lutz for their incredible DJ sponsorship in providing favorite tunes that got both kids and adults on the dance floor! We also loved the photo booth provided by Kool Kat and the selfie station with photographer Robert Hudson, both capturing gorgeous photo memories.

Thank you to the Tom & Kathy Shannon Family Foundation for their generous Silver Sponsorship to enhance the positive work of our school. We appreciate their commitment to supporting the community in so many ways!

And a huge shoutout to our awesome volunteers that made the event so smooth and successful. It takes lots of helping hands to organize such a special evening, and we could not have made it happen without an amazing committee and so many dedicated volunteers!

We hope you will all plan to join us next year for our 2025 McKitrick Sweetheart Dance...we'll let you know as soon as a date is set!





March Update & Highlights!

Join us for our next All Pro Dad meeting on Thursday, March 22, at 7:00 am in the McKitrick Elementary cafeteria. This month, we're tackling the powerful theme of Courage. Courage is not just about braving the big, external challenges; it's also about facing our inner fears, standing up for what's right, and navigating through life's

tough moments with our heads held high!

These gatherings are invaluable opportunities for us dads to bond with our kids over meaningful conversations, sharing stories of bravery, and learning together how courage can help us overcome any obstacle.

Remember, arriving a little early will make the check-in process smoother (don't forget your ID!), and it ensures you get that precious time with your children right from the start. We're excited to see you and your courageous little ones for a morning of inspiration and connection!

RSVP at https://allprodadchapters.com/chapters/2990/chapter_meetings/47607/rsvp

Recap of February's Meeting

A big shoutout to the committed McKitrick dads and kids who came together to explore the theme of Contentment in our last meeting.

Contentment teaches us the importance of appreciating what we have and finding joy in the simplicity of our lives. It's a reminder that happiness doesn't come from material possessions but from the love and connections we share with those around us. This meeting was a beautiful opportunity for dads and kids to reflect on the things that truly matter.

For those who couldn't be there, we encourage you to engage in this reflective exercise with your child:



Dad to Kid: What do you think it means to be content?

Dad to Kid: What would it take to make you feel content?

Kid to Dad: When in your life have you felt content?

Kid to Dad: How could using what we have to make a positive impact help our family become more content?

As always, I'm here for you. If you have any suggestions, ideas, or just want to chat, don't hesitate to reach out to me, your All Pro Dad captain, Steve Attard, at allprodads@mckitrickpta.com.

I'm excited for our next gathering on March 22, focusing on Courage. It promises to be another enriching experience, fostering even deeper bonds within our amazing McKitrick family!

Volunteer Update

FEBRUARY RECAP

A heartfelt thank you to our fantastic volunteers who made our Denim and Diamonds event a dazzling success! From concept to vendor wrangling, schedules, and making sure every detail sparkled like a pot of gold, everything was simply immaculate. Let's all raise a glass of green punch to the Sweetheart Dance committee (**Lindsay Whitney, Lauren Borio, Shelly Blanco, and Consuelo Benassi DeTillio**) for their tireless work in creating a magical evening for our families.

We also want to express our gratitude to **Brandi Kenny** and **Hanyeh Pulver** for supporting our school administration in hosting a successful Kindergarten RoundUp event, welcoming our newcomers for next year.

And let's give a shout out to our Fifth Grade Activities team! They've been working their boots off on the Fifth Grade Service Project, supporting Rescue Pets of Florida. High fives to **Chryssa Samhoury, Lindsay Jimison, Farheen Aldeen, Melissa Weitzenfeld, and Lauren Borio** for all that you do.

Last but not least, a big thank you to all the volunteers who pitched in during our spring book fair at the media center. Our media center helpers have been rock stars, supporting our media center throughout the school year.

MARCH UPDATE

Our Spring portraits are just around the corner, leprechaun-leaping' into action on Wednesday, March 6th. To keep things running smoothly, We will need a few volunteer heroes to guide our students and help them line up. [Sign up here](#) to lend a hand:

Get ready for a day of festivities and fun! Bobcat Bash and the Picnic in the Park event is fast approaching on Saturday, March 23rd. and we need your mighty muscles to help with setting up, cleaning up and selling some refreshing water. We also need to borrow your tents, folding tables, and chairs!! Please be so kind and [sign up here](#). We would be eternally grateful.

Keep your eyes peeled for further details about our Sons and Stars event coming up in early April! There'll be plenty of opportunities to lend a hand and share the magic.

TUTORING HELP

Do you have a passion for helping young minds grow? Join our tutoring program. We still have room for 1-2 volunteers to support our teachers and sprinkle some learning magic on our students. Email me at volunteer@mckitrickpta.com if you're interested; a short training session will be provided.

LUNCHROOM HELP

We need some mighty fine helpers to keep the lunchroom running smoothly throughout March. Lend a hand and spread some shamrock cheer during lunchtime. [Sign up to volunteer here](#):

PTA OPEN POSITION - HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

We're still searching for a brave volunteer to fill a spot on our Health and Safety Committee. Whether you want to lead the charge or lend a helping hand, we'd love your shamrock spirit! If you're interested in heading or assisting in this committee, please email me at volunteercoordinator@mckitrickpta.com.

As a friendly reminder, please fill out the Y.E.S form before engaging in any volunteer activities. This application process is required by Hillsborough County Public School for the security of our schools.

A big thank you to all our Bobcat volunteers! You're the true pot of gold we are lucky to have you!





McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight



JENNIFER DOBBS
REALTOR®
AWARD WINNING AGENT








SOLD CALL OR TEXT **813-389-2074**
NativeTampaBayAgent.com #NATIVETAMPABAYAGENT

\$1000 DONATION TO YOUR SCHOOL
 WHEN YOU BUY OR SELL WITH JENNIFER DOBBS, REALTOR®



Thank you to our McKittrick Business Partners!

Platinum



DeDomenico
 ORTHODONTICS & PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY
 ORTHODONTICS: DEDOORTHO.COM (813) 961-1313
 PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY: DEDOPEDO.COM (813) 961-1414




B2R
BACH TO ROCK
 ★ AMERICA'S MUSIC SCHOOL ★



Bahama
BUCK'S
Original Shaved Ice Company

FRESH LEGAL
FLP
 PERSPECTIVE
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW



JENNIFER DOBBS
 REALTOR®
 AWARD WINNING AGENT

SOLD CALL OR TEXT **813-389-2074**
NativeTampaBayAgent.com #NATIVETAMPABAYAGENT

\$1000 DONATION TO YOUR SCHOOL
 WHEN YOU BUY OR SELL WITH JENNIFER DOBBS, REALTOR®



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



National Bath

THREE BROTHERS
 WE CATER! ★ **NEW YORK PIZZA** ★ ALL EVENTS!
 Odessa | Palm Harbor | Town N Country
www.3brothersny.com



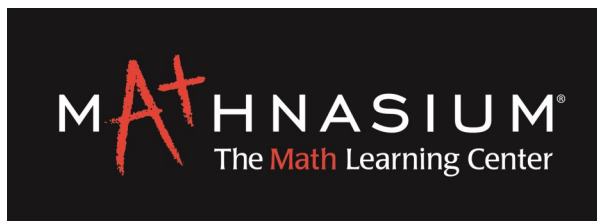
Elite
INK

Thank you to our McKitrick Business Partners!

Gold



Silver



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

2023-2024 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 Kasetta & Tiffany
Rendel

Parent Outreach: Gina Willemin

Concession: Louise Johnstone

Fundraising: Darbie Wilder

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

Special Events: Hannah Breig & Becky Maenner

Student/School Support: Risa Anasky

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

Programs: Barrie Vause

Communications: Lauren Constantine

Open House: Heather Foster & Lindsay Jimison

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

All Pro Dads: Steve Attard

Health & Safety: **OPEN POSITION**

Homeroom Parents: Brittany Harake

McKittrick Serves: Katie Metz

Volunteer Coordinator: Viviana Lit

McKittrick Cares: Lymari La Llave, Yajarira
Chappelle & Hyojeong Bae

Memberships: Kim Hunt

Reflections: Meredith Renuart

Spirit Wear: Jennifer Ptack

Tutoring: Ariel Martinez

Boosterthon: Consuelo Benassi De Tilio, Erin
Circelli, Christie Quinones, 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!