



October 2022, Volume 22, Issue 10

Yvonne T. McKittrick Elementary

Message from the PTA President

Happy Fall! We welcome cooler weather and pumpkin spice lattes. We also kick off our boosterthon FUN RUN fundraiser! This is our biggest fundraiser of our school year. The funds raised by this fundraiser directly benefit our school.

This year PTA is raising funds for:

- Teacher grants for classroom resources
- Printers & school technology
- Cafeteria enhancements
- Goat pen

These are just some of the improvements we would like to make. Our goal is to raise \$50,000. Please sign up your child and support our fundraising efforts. The big FUN RUN is **Thursday, 10/13/2022!** Parents are welcome to attend the fun run to cheer on your child! Be on the lookout for an RSVP to the event soon. For the safety of your child and everyone on campus, parents will be checked in. If you have an approved serve form, please let the front office know when you sign in.

Do you want to have a voice on future improvements or a say in how our fundraiser dollars are spent? Attend our General Meetings! You get an opportunity to see where your donated dollars are spent and have a vote on how they are spent. Over the past few years funds raised by our PTA have paid for a new track, laptops for teachers, goat pen renovations, programs at our school such as reflections, tutoring, junior achievement; events such movie nights as well as extra education enhancements like scholastic and moby max. Our next general meeting will be in February. Stay tuned for PTA to announce the date. These meetings are virtual, so you can easily listen in or watch on the go or in the comforts of your home. Hope to see you there and good luck to our kids on the FUN RUN!

Lindsay Jimison
PTA President 2022-2023

CALENDAR

October

12th Walk & Bike to School
Safety Day

13th Boosterthon fun run day

17th Hurricane Makeup Day

20th Conference Night

21st Reflections Contest
Application Deadline /
All Pro Dads Meeting

26th Family Fun Movie Night

31st PTA Membership
Classroom Contest Ends

November

4th Report Cards Available

11th Veterans Day/Non
Student day

17th Great American Teach In
Family Dine Out: Three
Brothers NY Pizza

18th All Pro Dads Meeting

21st-25th Fall Break

***NO EARLY RELEASE THROUGH
DECEMBER FOR HURRICANE
MAKEUP DAY***

Our Bobcat Mascot Has a Name!

Thank you students and families for all the great ideas and votes!

And the winner is...



Be on the lookout for Blaze the Bobcat at our McKitrick Family Fun Nights and Other Upcoming Activities!!!

Quick Links

[McKitrick PTA Website](#)

[McKitrick PTA Store](#)

[McKitrick PTA Facebook](#)

[McKitrick PTA Twitter](#)

[McKitrick Elementary Website](#)

[2022-2023 School Calendar](#)

[McKitrick Lunch Menus](#)

[Meal Pre-Pay](#)

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McKitrick
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[HTTPS://MCKITRICKPTA.COM/YEARBOOK](https://mckitrickpta.com/yearbook)



McKitrick Elementary

5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road

Lutz, Florida 33558

813.558.5427

Principal/Administrator:

Allison Cline



**LAST CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE
SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS:
OCTOBER 21ST.**

This year's theme is: **SHOW YOUR VOICE**

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.

Peace Out 5th Grade

Hello 5th Grade Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to 5th grade!! We are looking forward to an amazing year!! Our goal is to make sure our kids have an awesome year with fun and exciting events that will create lasting memories.

The events that our 5th graders get to experience this year are:

- BizTown
- Service Project
- Field Day
- Busch Gardens Field Trip
- End of Year Party
- Awards Ceremony
- Clap Out/Yearbook Signing

There are also some other fun surprises planned this year to bring extra enthusiasm to our 5th graders as they count down their last year of elementary school and say, "Peace Out 5th Grade."

Planning is already in the works for these events. In addition, our 5th Grade Activities Committee will be seeking volunteers for a variety of other opportunities (fundraising, finding sponsors, creating flyers and communications, 5th grade shirts, and more). There will be a variety of volunteer opportunities throughout the year. These events will need a lot of helping hands and creative minds to make it all happen. Announcements and sign ups regarding specific volunteer opportunities will be sent at a later date.

Our 5th grade direct donation tab has been created. All money raised (through fundraising and direct donations) will be used to fund all the activities and special things that happen throughout the year. To donate, please scan the QR code below.



5th Grade Direct Donation

If you have any questions, please email fifthgradeactivities@mckitrickpta.com.

Thank you so much to all the volunteers



who responded and showed up in response to an impromptu request for help during **Fall Picture Day!** Looking ahead to October, we are excited to provide our members with volunteer opportunities to help us host our largest fundraiser of the year, **Boost-erthon!** We also look forward to having volunteers for our **National Walk and Bike to School Safety Day, 5th Grade Biztown, and Tutoring!** Stay tuned!

As always, we appreciate your generosity and dedication and value our volunteers.

Two requests:

1. Before you perform any in-person volunteer work, you must have a [Y.E.S form](#) approved by HCPS.
2. Please make sure you log your volunteer hours – whether it be for hours you've done at home or on campus. This helps us recognize both your contribution and our school's collective effort. Submit your hours [here](#) or at [McKittrick-PTA.com](#) → Programs → Volunteer → Log Hours.



The PTA membership drive continues!

Ms. Monaghan's class is still in the lead. These students really love the PTA and pizza. **Ms. Hill, Ms. Brewer** and **Ms. Flynn's** classes aren't that far behind.

Please support your school by purchasing a PTA membership. It does not require you to make a time commitment!

<https://mckittrick.memberhub.com/store>

PTA Pizza Party

THE CLASS WITH THE MOST PTA MEMBERSHIPS BY OCTOBER 31ST WINS A PIZZA PARTY!



** THEY CAN ALSO FEEL GREAT ABOUT SUPPORTING THEIR SCHOOL!



SAVE THE DATE

McKitrick
Elementary's

Sweetheart Dance

WILL BE HELD ON

March 3rd, 2023

ADDITIONAL
DETAILS TO COME

McKittrick All Pro Dads,

What an impactful September meeting last month! So much involvement from everyone. Here is feedback from our September meeting:



"The children seemed to outpace the dads this month in terms of wanting to share examples of Positivity. It was an emotional visit to experience this time together. And to be able to walk our kids to class and thank our teachers for all they do, made it the best morning possible."

The next meeting topic for us to enjoy together is **Reading**. Our next 30 minute meeting will be at **7:00am on Friday, October 21st** at the cafeteria; check in at the front office, **drivers licence required**. Please RSVP at https://allprodadchapters.com/chapters/2990/chapter_meetings/42762/rsvp.

Here is an article written by former Tampa Bay Buccaneers head coach Tony Dungy on the topic, 'How Do You Want to Be Remembered as a Dad?' Bobcat Dads are doing a great job answering this question: "We want to do our best in helping our kids become the best versions of themselves and live great lives."

<https://www.allprodad.com/how-do-you-want-to-be-remembered-as-a-dad/>

Please ask questions and provide your feedback to allprodads@mckitrickpta.com. Thank you Bobcat family for being such an influential school!

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

Mark your calendars for our next family dine out at

Three Brother NY Pizza on
Thursday, November 17th!

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT IS BACK AT MCKITRICK!

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, October 26th** from 5-7pm for our next evening of fun together...complete with pizza, popcorn, candy, and



McKittrick Elementary School Families!

Our **Bobcat Fun Run** kicks off October 4th and we are thrilled about this year's program!

This year, our entire school is raising funds for Teacher grants for classroom resources, printers & school technology, cafeteria enhancements, Goat pen & other school improvements. Our goal is to raise \$50,000, and, if you'd like to, we are inviting YOU to help!



Here's how you can support McKittrick Elementary School:

- 1. [Register on mybooster.com tonight.](https://mybooster.com)
It's so easy!
- 1. **Share** about our fundraiser with your family and friends using the **SHARE BUTTON** on mybooster.com.
- 1. **Give** a donation, if you are able.

Thank you for supporting our school!. We can't wait for the Bobcat Fun Run happening on **10/13/2022!**



HEY FAMILIES! THIS IS YOUR **MYBOOSTER.COM**
FUNDRAISING GUIDE!

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL IN 3 EASY STEPS:

- 1 REGISTER**
your student
- 2 SHARE**
with friends, family, and businesses
f e o
- 3 GIVE**
online

Scan code to get started
MYBOOSTER.COM

BOOSTER





McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight

****Most major insurances accepted****
****On-site X-ray****
****No appointment needed****

At **Urgent Care and Wellness Center** we can treat most non-life threatening conditions from colds, flu, UTI's, asthma attacks, physical injuries, and much more. We are trained in suturing, abscess incision and draining, splinting, and other procedures. As an added convenience, we have an on-site X-ray machine!.

As we enter the "cold" season (yes, we get cold in Florida too!), we are happy to provide rapid testing for common illnesses such as influenza, COVID, Strep, and Mono. We can also send cultures for other viruses/bacteria and help provide therapy to keep your families healthy.

In addition to the urgent care visits, we also can help with sport and school physicals, along with medical clearances. We pride ourselves in serving the same community where we live and it truly is our pleasure to help keep everyone safe and healthy.

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
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McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight

Hi McKitrick Families! I'm Kara Coleman, The Owner/Designer of PaperPartyDesign, Ink!, and a fellow McKitrick Mama.

I am a one-woman shop who personally creates every design you see over at my Etsy shop: [Etsy.com/shop/paperpartydesignink](https://www.etsy.com/shop/paperpartydesignink). You can also find me and my current designs on Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest: @PaperPartyDesignInk. My Etsy shop is 100% Printables/DIY Digital Downloads, ranging from themed Birthday printables, school memory kits and fun holiday favors and printables! Plus, I am a freelance graphic designer and my local clients love that I can offer 100% custom design services, printing, can order envelopes, and offer assembly and delivery also- rolled all into one price package. Completely custom design is available too! With my background of over 20 years in design and marketing, I can also help with logo creation, corporate branding, postcards, flyers and so much more!

We have been in the Lutz area for 10 years. We love our McKitrick Bobcat Family and being a part of this incredible school! (both of my daughters are proud bobcats, Kaylen is currently in 5th Grade, and Kalissa is in 2nd) To help McKitrick throughout the year, I donate my creative design services for multiple fun, school events happening :)

PaperPartyDesign, Ink!- Your Creative Source for Fun Printable Party Supplies, School and Seasonal Printables, Printable Decor and More!

Kara Coleman
813-323-0833

[Etsy.com/shop/PaperPartyDesignInk](https://www.etsy.com/shop/PaperPartyDesignInk)

Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest: @PaperPartyDesignInk
PaperPartyDesignInk@gmail.com



Kara Coleman
OWNER/DESIGNER

813.323.0833

E [Etsy.com/Shop/PaperPartyDesignInk](https://www.etsy.com/Shop/PaperPartyDesignInk)

paperpartydesignink@gmail.com

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



Walking and Biking Safety Tips

Walking and biking is fun, but you need to be safe while doing it. Follow these tips to be a safe walker and biker.

Stay on sidewalks

If there are no sidewalks, walk on the side and against traffic to see oncoming cars.

Mind the rules, follow signs and signals

Pay attention to all traffic rules, crossing guards, signs, and signals, especially before stepping out into a street.

Only cross when traffic has stopped

Look left, then right, then left again before crossing a crosswalk.

Watch for turning cars and driveways

Make sure drivers can see you at all times. Make eye contact with drivers before you cross in front.

Walk with an adult

Younger children should always walk with an adult and it is recommended that adults hold the hand of very young children

Be alert at all times

Keep your eyes and ears on the road and on what's happening around you. Put away games, phones, and any distractions.

Be seen

Wear bright colored clothing and items with reflective tape.

Wear a helmet

Wear a helmet with a proper fit when on a bike, scooter, or skates.

Know the safe way

Practice with an adult to learn the safest route to school with the least amount of crossings.

October 12 is National Bike and Walk to School Safety Day. Join the PTA for a walking school bus!

When: October 12
Time: 6:50am
Where: Hope Church
5107 W Lutz Lake Fern Rd

**We recommend walking due to limited bike storage space on campus



Halloween is a fun time for children and a favorite holiday for many. It is a time to be able to express yourself through costume and imagination. As parents, we get to create great memories and along the way it is an opportunity to teach our kids about candy, sugar, and good nutrition in general. Maintaining a healthy balance between all foods helps our children learn to have a healthy relationship with food. We can make room for ALL foods in our children's diet if we strive for a healthy balance.

Here are a few tips to find balance between fun and good health on Halloween:

TIP 1: Exercise: Encourage your children to walk from house to house as much as possible instead of riding in a car or golf cart. This holiday is a great way to be active as a family and take advantage of burning some calories before indulging in candy.

TIP 2: Sort candy out: At the end of the night go through all the candy collected and throw out any candy with wrappers open, choking hazards, or homemade treats with unknown ingredients. Dispose of or donate candy that your children don't like (leave this decision up to them to empower them to make decisions, give them some control, and to learn about how foods make them feel).

TIP 3: Don't restrict candy amount the night of Halloween or for 2-3 days after: This is another opportunity for children to learn about intuitive eating and limits for their body. They also wait all year to eat as much candy as they want for these few days. Your child may end up with a belly ache, which gives parents a chance to help them understand that too much sugar or too much of any food can cause this to happen. Often, after a few days the excitement wears off and it becomes just another food. They may also start to forget about the stash all together.

TIP 4: Spread the candy out throughout the following weeks: Make a candy basket in the pantry where your child can pick 1-2 candies out to put in their lunch box to enjoy with a balanced meal. This will make them look forward to the next treat as well as limit the amount they have each day. You may also let them have a few after dinner as well. Try not to make candy a reward because this can cause an unhealthy relationship with sweets. Just make sure to encourage good brushing and flossing for dental health!

TIP 5: Don't forget to continue to incorporate a healthy balanced diet during the holiday season: Although this time of year can increase sugar content in the diet, don't forget to continue to offer healthy snacks and meals. Talk with your child about eating the fruits and vegetables in their lunch or dinner first, before choosing the candy. Their little bellies may be too full to eat all the candy in their lunch or dinner.

Remember this time of year is about family, fun and celebration. It is a good time to teach about nutrition and the foods to eat more often and the ones to eat less often and to help flourish a healthy relationship with all food.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!



Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

2022-2023 PTA COMMITTEE

President: Lindsay Jimison

Vice President: Jessica Campbell

Treasurer: Erin Circelli

Recording Secretary: Tanya Kayani

Parent Outreach: Yasamine Vieland

Fundraising: Megan Wilson

Special Events: Lindsay Whitney & Kelly Lynn Shultz

Student/School Support: Brandi Kenny

Programs: Jessica Diefenderfer

Communications: Lauren Constantine

Parents Club: Chryssa Samhoury

All Pro Dads: Clint Swigart

Homeroom Parents: Brittany Harake

Volunteer Coordinator: Viviana Lit

Memberships: Yasamine Viehland

Spirit Wear: Jennifer Ptack

Boosterthon: Darbie Wilder, Gina Willemin, Consuelo Benassi & Erin Circelli

Bobcat Bash: Darbie Wilder, Gina Willemin, Barrie Vause, Lacey Ranucci

Holiday Shop: Jessica Diefenderfer & Lisa Peluso

Business Partners: Emily Draper

Family Dine Outs: Kristin Swenson & Melissa Chevalier

Open House: Tanya Kayani

Fifth Grade Activities: Jessica Diefenderfer

McKitrick Cares: Heather Foster & Katie Metz

School-Wide Hospitality/Decorating: Cheryl Rodriguez & Jessica Williams

Sweetheart Event: Lisa Peluso, Tanya Kayani & Jessica Diefenderfer

Sons & Stars Event: Evan Walker & Adam Grier

Family Nights: Amy Sweeney, Donna Ticker, Lacey Ranucci, & Barrie Vause

Teacher Appreciation: Lauren Borio, Jennifer Ptack, Cassandra Johnson, Viviana Lit, Melissa Weitzenfeld

Health & Safety: Jessica Greene & Katalin Vinci -Sierra

McKitrick Serves: Katie Stahl, Heather Foster & Michelle Dacanay

Reflections: Katie Stahl, Michelle Dacanay & Meredith Renuart

Junior Achievement: Rick Coleman & Loren Mednick

Tutoring: Paula Hamadani

IT- Website: Steve Attard

Memberhub: Holly Montgomery & Steve Clark

Yearbook: Robert Hudson & Cassandra Johnson

Social Media: Chryssa Samhoury

Newsletter: Cristine Whitman

Front Marquee: Erin Circelli

Concessions: Louise Johnstone & Iris Sims

Family Nights: Amy Sweeney, Melissa Chevalier & Punit Shah

Family Dine Outs: Kristin Swenson & Melissa Chevalier

Newcomers/Kindergarten Round Up: Chryssa Samhoury & Farheen Aldeen