Bobcat BULLETIN

November 2026, Volume 26, Issue 11

Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary

## Message from the PTA President

**Celebrating 25 Years of McKitrick!**

What a special milestone for our McKitrick community! As we celebrate 25 years, we are proud to reflect on all that has been accomplished and the memories made along the way.

Throughout the years, the support and generosity of our families have allowed our PTA to make a lasting impact on our campus. Fundraising efforts have helped build the track, fund our media center renovations, and will soon bring much-needed coverings to the back court, along with additional outdoor recess improvements. We are also incredibly proud to have earned the distinction of being a School of Excellence!

But the impact of our PTA goes far beyond campus improvements. It's about creating the special moments and memories that make elementary school so memorable. From our Sons & Stars event and Sweetheart Dance, giving students the opportunity to spend special time with an important adult in their lives, to celebrating our 5th graders with a special banquet and dance as they prepare for their next chapter, we love being part of the experiences that make their years at McKitrick unforgettable.

We are equally proud to support the incredible teachers and staff who make McKitrick so special. Through teacher grants, classroom technology, and additional resources, we strive to provide opportunities and support that help our students thrive.

None of this happens because of one person or one PTA board. It happens because of the families, volunteers, teachers, staff, and administrators who continue to show up, give their time, and believe in our school.

25 years of learning, growing, making memories, and building a community. We are so grateful to be part of McKitrick's story and excited for everything still ahead.

Here's to 25 years of being Bobcats strong!

Happy Anniversary, McKitrick!💙

Barrie Vause
PTA President

## CALENDAR

### November

**Nov. 6: 25th Anniversary Tailgate**

**Nov. 10: Veterans Program**

**Nov. 11: No School**

**Nov. 13: All Pro Dad Meeting**

**Nov. 19: Great American Teach-In**

**Nov. 23-27: Thanksgiving Break**

## Quick Links

**McKitrick PTA Website**

**McKitrick PTA Store**

**McKitrick PTA Facebook**

**McKitrick PTA Twitter**

**McKitrick Elementary Website**

**2026-2027 School Calendar**

**McKitrick Lunch Menus**

**Meal Pre-Pay**

**Volunteer Application**



# 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!


## McKitrick Elementary

5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road
Lutz, Florida 33558
**813.558.5427**

Principal/Administrator:
**Kimberly Stone**


Hillsborough County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life

MCKITRICK Bobcats



National **VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES** Month

National **NATIVE AMERICAN & ALASKAN HERITAGE** Month




# Thank You for a "BINGO"-tastic Grandparents Night!




**Thank you to all the grandparents, families, and students who joined us in the cafeteria for our rescheduled Grandparents Day Bingo Night on October 20! It was a fun evening filled with laughter and great memories.**

**From the exciting rounds of Bingo and great prizes to the popcorn treats, your enthusiasm made both sessions a wonderful success. Special thanks to our McKitrick staff for helping make both sessions a success, to Mrs. Stone for being our amazing bingo caller, and to our vendor, Twisted Kettle, for the delicious popcorn.**











McKitrick Elementary

# YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!

Rooted in History

A YEAR OF GROWTH. A LIFETIME OF MEMORIES.

*Every book tells our story.*

From first-day smiles to the school-day moments, *make this year one to remember.*

*Prices increase after 11/13!*

*Order early and save!*




## HOW TO ORDER

Order your yearbook today!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO ORDER ONLINE!

OR VISIT OUR ORDER SITE:

https://mckitrickpta.com/yearbook

**IMPORTANT!**

5th Grade Dedications

**All ads are due in by 2/27/27**

One School. One Story. ★ *Rooted in History.* ★ Buy your yearbook soon before they sell out!

NATIONAL PTA® REFLECTIONS®

# What My CULTURE Means to Me



Explore the arts and express yourself!

| Deadline for Entries: | For Details: |
| --- | --- |
| 11/20/2026 | Reflections@mckitrickpta.com |

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ALL PRO DAD

# November Update & Highlights!

Join us for our next All Pro Dad meeting on **Friday, November 13th**, at 7:00 am in the McKitrick Elementary cafeteria.

This month, we'll dive into the theme of **THANKFULNESS**. Often, we focus on what we don't have and forget to take stock of what we do have. It's important to be thankful for what you have and not take those things for granted. The most successful people are generally the most thankful.

Please **RSVP** by **Wednesday, 11th,** if possible (although not required to attend), to help the school arrange your passes in advance. Due to our ever-increasing attendance number, please arrive at **6:45am.** This will ensure a quicker check-in process, allowing us more time to enjoy breakfast with our kids.

So please go ahead and scan the QR Code or

**Click here to RSVP for the October meeting:**
**https://allprodadchapters.com/chapters/2990**

**Scan to RSVP**

## Recap of October's Meeting

Last month's meeting on the topic of INITIATIVE was profoundly impactful, attended by over 103 participants, including new families. The discussions were especially meaningful as families share their experiences and interpretations around the topic.

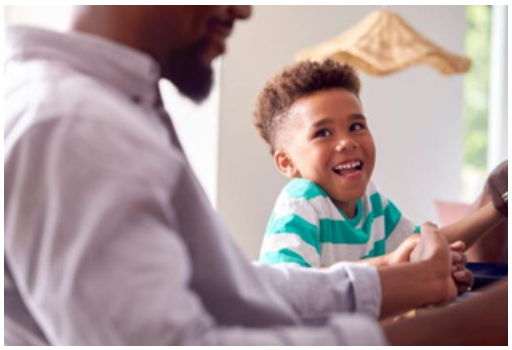
Here are the prompts for **INITIATIVE** that we discussed - feel free to use these at home if you weren't at the meeting, or just need a refresher:

**Dad to Kid:** When is it hard for you to take initiative?

**Dad to Kid:** What do you think you could do to take more initiative?

**Kid to Dad:** Is taking initiative easy or hard for you?

**Kid to Dad:** Is there something you'd like to take initiative on?



We're grateful to all dads who provided RSVPs in advance, aiding the school in managing the large turnout and minimizing check-in. And as always, we are here for you. If you have any suggestions, ideas, or just want to chat, don't hesitate to reach out to your All Pro Dad Captain, Charles Collins: 407-864-3300 or Co-Captain Ronald Williamson: 614-747-0055
Email: allprodads@mckitrickpta.com

Let's continue to grow and bring more dads into our circle. See you on November 13th for an enlightening discussion on **THANKFULNESS**!

## Meet your All Pro Dad Captain:

Charles Collins was born in Germany, but moved to Brevard County, Florida, at the age of nine, where he was raised and proudly developed his Floridian roots. He attended the University of Central Florida (Go Knights!) and the University of Phoenix.

Five years ago, Charles and his family made the move from Orlando to Lutz, where he continues to grow his professional career in the biopharmaceutical industry. He is married to his wife, Leslie, and together they are raising their 10-year-old twins, London and Kai, along with their Frenchy, Walter. Outside of work, Charles enjoys coaching, traveling, exploring new adventures, spending time at the beach, and, most importantly, making lasting memories with his family.



For nearly two years, Charles has had the privilege of serving as Captain of McKitrick All Pro Dad. He is passionate about the organization's mission of encouraging fathers to be intentional, involved, and engaged in their children's lives. He is excited to continue making a positive impact in the McKitrick community and is especially looking forward to sharing the Captain role and building on this mission alongside Ronald Williamson. Family, community, and being an intentional dad are at the heart of what matters most to Charles.

# Meet Your All Pro Dad Co-Captain:

Ronald Williamson, Jr. was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, and remains a die-hard Buckeye fan. He earned his undergraduate degree from The Ohio State University and his MBA from Wake Forest University.



In 2014, Ronald and his wife, Amanda, relocated from New York City to Tampa, settling in Lutz in 2020. Professionally, he serves as a Strategy Manager at Citi, with experience across marketing, compliance, and IT strategy.

Above all, Ronald's favorite role is being a dad to his 10-year-old twin daughters, Audrey and Riley. He stays active in the community by coaching youth flag football, running track and agility drills, and playing chess with the girls. Whenever time permits, he enjoys getting out on the golf course or catching an Ohio State game.

As a co-captain for McKitrick Elementary's All Pro Dad chapter, Ronald is excited to help bring fathers together to lead by example and build lasting bonds with their kids.

ALL PRO DAD
CHAPTERS

## WHAT WE DO...

All Pro Dad 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 a fun, memory-making event.

## DID YOU KNOW...

when a dad is actively involved in his child's life, the child will have...

- BETTER GRADES
- ENHANCED CREATIVITY
- FEWER BEHAVIORAL ISSUES
- STRONGER FATHER-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS



## Join Us

for our next meeting!

Location: McKitrick Cafeteria
Date: Friday, November 13, 2026
Time: 7am
MESSAGE: ***Hello Dads…Take the special opportunity to eat breakfast, quick discussion and walk your kids to class! Please RSVP below, so we know how many people are coming.***

***PLEASE ARRIVE @ 6:45am FOR CHECK-IN!***

Let us know if you're coming.
**RSVP using our QR code!**

https://allprodadchapters.com/chapters/2990

FOLLOW US: @AllProDad

# FUNdraising Corner

## McKitrick Elementary

## Dine Out FUNDRAISER

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL AT

## CALUSA PIZZA

**WEDNESDAY, 11/18**

17695 N Dale Mabry Hwy
Lutz, FL 33548

**15%** WILL GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL!



DINE IN, TAKE OUT, OR ONLINE ORDERS PLACED DIRECTLY THROUGH **CALUSAPIZZA.COM** WILL COUNT TOWARDS THE FUNDRAISER!

**Third party orders will not count towards fundraiser.*

# FUNdraising Corner



# Volunteer Opportunities




**We are looking for Lunchroom Helpers!**

Just a quick reminder: While volunteering, phone use (calls, texts, or conference calls) is strictly prohibited during your shift. This includes taking pictures and videos, as some students do not have a media release on file. Our top priority is creating a safe, positive environment for our kids. Thank you for helping us maintain these standards.

**Scan the QR code above to sign up today!**






The Great American Teach-In brings HCPS students and community professionals together for a day of sharing, learning, and inspiration.
Your experience could spark a student's curiosity and help them see what's possible for their future. 💙

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# Volunteer Opportunities

MCKITRICK VOLUNTEERS:

## CALLING ALL TUTORS!

Scan the code for the interest survey!

We are looking for volunteers interested in working with students to make a positive difference. Please complete the INTEREST SURVEY so we can find the best opportunity that matches your schedule, skills, and interest within the Tutoring Program. We appreciate you and look forward to working together!

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL: TUTORING@MCKITRICKPTA.COM**

**INTEREST SURVEY LINK**

# Save THE Date



# BOBCATS HELPING TIGERS!

## A SISTER SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

McKITRICK ELEMENTARY BOBCATS

We ♥ to help our sister school!

ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY TIGERS

McKitrick Elementary (Bobcats) is proud to support **Alexander Elementary (Tigers)** and their **DEN PROGRAM.**

*Together, we can ensure food security for Alexander families.*

THE DEN




## PARENTS, YOU CAN HELP!

When you shop at Publix, consider purchasing a BOGO (Buy One, Get One) dry good and donate the **FREE** item.

*The free items will be donated to the Alexander Elementary Den Program.*

### SUGGESTED DRY GOODS

- Cereal
- Pasta & rice
- Canned goods
- Peanut butter
- Breakfast & snack items
- Other non-perishable foods

### DROP OFF LOCATION

Please bring donations to the McKitrick Elementary Front Office.

*Thank you for supporting our schools!*

ONE COMMUNITY. STRONGER TOGETHER.

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# McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight



Groovy Hues

**FOR THE BUSY PARENTS**

Groovy Hues Painting of Tampa · Family-owned · Woman-owned · Locally operated

## You handle the carpool. We'll handle the paint.

We're Kali andMohiniDurgampudi, Tampa parents of twins.We knowhow full aschool-year calendar gets, so we made painting easyfrom start to finish: a freein-home estimate, a detailed written proposal, regular updates by phone, text or email, tidy daily cleanup, and no hidden fees. We treat every home like our own.

- Schedule your **free** estimate online
- Instant price estimate with our **free** online tools
- Apply for financing online in minutes
- **0% interest** for 3 months when you mention this ad

Free estimate → Custom quote → Pick colors → Schedule → We paint → Walkthrough

SCAN, CALL OR CLICK

**813-856-2347**

groovyhues.com/tampa

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

**INTERIOR · EXTERIOR CABINETS**

Serving Tampa, Lutz, Odessa & the Tampa Bay area

Proud supporters of our local schools

# McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight

RESCUE ROOFING OF TAMPA – Tampa Roofing Roots Since 1951 ADVERTISEMENT

## We clean up like your kids live here.

Because they do. A free, no-obligation roof inspection for Lutz-area families, with photos of everything we find and a straight answer about what your roof actually needs.

> *They communicated well, completed the job on time, on budget & cleaned up the site at the end of every day so I didn't have to worry about being able to let my dogs & kids outside.*
>
> Trent P., Google review of Rescue Roofing of Tampa

**WHAT A FREE INSPECTION LOOKS LIKE**

1. **Scan the code or call**
   We'll set up a time that works around your schedule.
2. **We inspect and photograph**
   You see what we see, without climbing a ladder.
3. **A clear estimate**
   If a repair will do the job, that's what we recommend.

**WHO YOU'D BE CALLING**

- **Family roofing in Tampa Bay since 1951.** Owner Collin Kruse founded Rescue Roofing in 2014 as the fourth generation.
- **Licensed & insured.** Florida roofing contractor CCC1330547.
- **Owens Corning Platinum Preferred Contractor.**
- **4.9 ★ on Google** from 330+ reviews.
- **Locally owned in Land O' Lakes,** serving Lutz and greater Tampa Bay.

**Book your free roof inspection.**

**813-661-7663**

Call us, or scan the code to request a visit online.

rescueroofingoftampa.com · admin@rescueroofingoftampa.com

SCAN TO REQUEST

**Happy 25th, McKitrick! Thanks for having us in this month's newsletter.**

Rescue Roofing of Tampa, Inc. · 5132 Land O' Lakes Blvd., Suite 106, Land O' Lakes, FL 34639 · FL Lic. CCC1330547. Paid advertisement. Its appearance in this newsletter does not mean McKitrick Elementary School, the McKitrick Elementary PTA, or Hillsborough County Public Schools endorses Rescue Roofing of Tampa or its services.

# McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight

The After School Scholar

## WE GET THE HOMEWORK DONE SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO

A purposeful afternoon for every child • Grades K-5








SCHOOL PICKUP › HOMEWORK HELP › OUTDOOR PLAY › CLUBS

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAM

- Homework supervision and completion assistance
- Individualized academic support
- Reading and math tutoring as needed
- Daily enrichment activities
- Priority participation in specialty clubs

### ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

For independent learners who need a safe, engaging place after school.

- Homework supervision
- General enrichment activities
- Specialty clubs available as an add-on

Both programs include school pickup from participating schools, outdoor recreation, and a daily snack.

### EXPLORE OUR CLUBS

| | |
|---|---|
| MON | Gardening Club |
| TUE | Baking Club |
| WED | Entrepreneur Club |
| THU | Masterpiece Makers Art |
| FRI | Master Builders Club |

Open on school days off, fall break, winter break, spring break, and all summer long!

Let's talk about your child's afternoon!

Text Theresa McMeen • 813-690-2071

theafterschoolscholar.com

# 2026-2027 MCKITRICK PTA

**PRESIDENT-** BARRIE VAUSE
**VICE PRESIDENT-**JINCY SOLER
**TREASURER**- JENNA WILSON
**RECORDING SECRETARY**- ARIEL MARTINEZ
**PARENT OUTREACH**-JESSICA IRIZARRI
**FUNDRAISING**- LAUREN ALLEN
**SPECIAL EVENTS**-SHEA GRAFF-MCPHERREN & ASHLEY ITZKOWITZ
**STUDENT-SCHOOL SUPPORT**- GINA SCIACCHITANO
**PROGRAMS**-ERIN CIRCELLI
**COMMUNICATIONS**- SARAH CARPENTER
**NEWCOMERS/KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP**-BETH READ & JENNIFER WHELIHAN
**ALL PRO DADS-**CHARLES COLLINS
**HOMEROOM PARENTS-**JESSICA MICHELLI
**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR**- JESSICA IRIZARRI
**MEMBERSHIPS**-RHODA RAMNARINE-RAMOUTAR
**SPIRIT WEAR-** JENNA WILSON & LIZZY SINGLETON
**BOOSTERTHON-** ERIN CIRCELLI, LINDSAY JIMISON, CHIARA MOBLEY, & LAUREN BALASCO
**HOLIDAY SHOP-** LISA PELUSO, MEGAN WILSON, & BETH READ
**BOBCAT BASH-** ASHLYN MONDS & JENNY TEIXEIRA
**BUSINESS PARTNERS-** CRISTINE WHITMAN
**FAMILY DINE OUTS-** YOSHIEE DIAZ
**SWEETHEART EVENT-** HANNAH DINEEN, SHELLEY BLANCO, & GABBY SANABRIA
**SONS & STARS-** CHIARA MOBLEY, LAUREN BALASCO, MAKY SEPULVEDA
**FAMILY NIGHTS-** DONNA TUCKER, AMY SWEENEY, PATRICIA BALDWIN, & HANNAH BREIG
**FIFTH GRADE ACTIVITIES-** CHRYSSA SAMHOURY & LINDSAY JIMISON
**OPEN HOUSE-** LINDSAY JIMISON
**TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION-**JINCY SOLER & SARAH CARPENTER
**MCKITRICK SERVES/CARES-** RHODA RAMNARINE-RAMOUTAR & GABBY SANABRIA
**REFLECTIONS-** ESTHER LINKY & BRENDA LINKY
**TUTORING-** JACQUELYN MASON
**JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT-**LOREN MEDNICK
**WEBSITE/GIVEBACKS-** SARAH CARPENTER & DONATO "DJ" ELOMINA
**YEARBOOK-** CHRISTINE LENZO & DONATO "DJ" ELOMINA
**SOCIAL MEDIA-** CHRYSSA SAMHOURY
**NEWSLETTER-** LESLIE COLLINS

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




Wishing You a Happy Thanksgiving!

The PTA is thankful for our amazing school families! Thank you for your continued support, energy, and partnership in helping our students thrive. Have a safe, relaxing, and wonderful Thanksgiving break!