



May 2025, Volume 25, Issue 5

BULLETIN

Yvonne T. McKittrick Elementary

Message from the PTA President

Hi Bobcats! Welcome to our final newsletter of the school year!

We want to extend a BIG thank you to Cristine Whitman for her incredible work compiling our monthly newsletters. Thanks to her dedication, our families have stayed informed and connected throughout the year.

A huge shoutout also goes to our entire communications team: Chryssa Samhoury, Cristine Whitman, Hanyeh Pulver, and Lauren Constantine. Our goal is always to keep parents "in the know," and we couldn't have done it without this amazing group.

Keep an eye out for yearbook distribution details coming later in May. A special thank you to Robert Hudson for designing another beautiful and thoughtful yearbook!

To our 5th graders - we hope you enjoy every moment of your final month at McKittrick! Be sure to stay updated on upcoming events. The last week of school is packed with fun activities you won't want to miss.

We'd also like to thank our entire PTA team. Your volunteer efforts—big or small—make our mission at McKittrick Elementary possible. If you're interested in joining the 2025–2026 PTA team, please fill out the interest form here: [2025/26 McKittrick PTA Interest Form](#).

We're excited to introduce the 2025–2026 Executive Board, officially approved at our last General PTA Meeting on April 30, 2025. If you missed the meeting, you can review the minutes and presentation here: [Meeting Agendas & Minutes](#). Congratulations to this talented group of volunteers!

2025–2026 Executive Board

- **President:** Barrie Vause
- **Vice President:** Jincy Soler
- **Treasurer:** Gina Sciacchitano
- **Secretary:** Erin Circelli

Wishing all our Bobcat families a wonderful and relaxing summer!

Heather Foster & Brandi Kenny

CALENDAR

May

8th 5th grade field trip

12th Volunteer appreciation breakfast

23rd 5th grade field day

26th Non Student Day (Memorial Day)

28th 5th grade banquet

29th 5th grade awards

30th 5th grade clap out & yearbook signing/Last day of school

August

2nd Campus Beautification Day 8am

7th Open House: 1st, 3rd, 5th 8:30-10:30am

8th Open House: VPK, K, 2nd, 4th 8:30-10:30am

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!



Quick Links

McKitrick PTA Website

McKitrick PTA Store

McKitrick PTA Facebook

McKitrick PTA Twitter

McKitrick Elementary Website

2024-2025 School Calendar

McKitrick Lunch Menus

Meal Pre-Pay

McKitrick Elementary

5503 Lutz Lake Fern Road

Lutz, Florida 33558

813.558.5427

Principal/Administrator:

Allison Cline



2025-2026

OPEN HOUSE

McKitrick Elementary

8:30 to 10:30 AM

Thursday, August 7, 2025
Grades 1, 3 & 5

Friday, August 8, 2025
Grades VPK, KG, 2 & 4

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

See you there!



STAY INFORMED AND GET INVOLVED

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

STEP
1.



GET INVOLVED IN
THE PTA HERE!

JOIN THE PTA

There are many ways to be a part of the PTA.

- **Volunteer for a Committee/Position on the PTA Board.** 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. It's a great way to meet fellow families and school staff while helping create an amazing school year for students.
- **Purchase a PTA Membership after August 1st, 2025.** You'll get access to McKitrick PTA's monthly newsletter full of information on school programs/events, volunteer opportunities, and the 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 THE PTA WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA!

Like our McKitrick PTA Facebook page and follow us on Instagram for real-time updates! You can also join our McKitrick Parent Facebook Group.

Bookmark our website mckitrickpta.com where you can view our calendar of events, learn about school programs, and access the PTA store. **Be sure to look at the New Family Packet (under Parent Resources) to get helpful information about campus and FAQs!**

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



HELLO FROM THE MCKITRICK PTA

The purpose of PTA is to make every child’s potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

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 to see the PTA positions for 2025/26 school year.
Link: <https://forms.gle/ueUVRxMj3j5Jb38PA>



SCAN HERE

MCKITRICK PTA ORGANIZATION

We are a large organization comprised of 44 officers, chairs and special committee members. We currently have 733 PTA members. The PTA facilitates and organizes various programs and fun events for our Bobcat community. We also raise funds for students, to support teachers/staff and to help make improvements to classrooms and campus.

PRESIDENTVICE PRESIDENTTREASURERSECRETARY						
PARENT OUTREACH	FUNDRAISING	SPECIAL EVENTS	STUDENT/ SCHOOL SUPPORT	PROGRAMS	COMMUNICATIONS	SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE
NEWCOMERS/ KINDERGARTEN READINESS	SPIRIT WEAR	SWEETHEART EVENT	OPEN HOUSE	REFLECTIONS	YEARBOOK	PRINCIPAL
ALL PRO DADS	BOOSTERTHON	SONS & STARS	TEACHER & STAFF APPRECIATION	TUTORING	WEBSITE/ GIVEBACKS	TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE
HOMEROOM PARENTS	HOLIDAY SHOP	CONCESSIONS	HEALTH & SAFETY	JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT	SOCIAL MEDIA	
VOLUNTEER COORDINATION	BOBCAT BASH	FAMILY NIGHTS		MCKITRICK CARES	NEWSLETTER	
MEMBERSHIPS	BUSINESS PARTNERS	FIFTH GRADE ACTIVITES		MCKITRICK SERVES		
	DINE OUTS					

If you are interested or have any questions, please email
Heather Foster at president@mckitrickpta.com / Brandi Kenny at vicepresident@mckitrickpta.com

Mental Health Awareness Spirit Week

May 5th– May 9th

Motivating Monday

Students and staff are encouraged to share positive messages by creating posters promoting kindness and mindfulness activities.

Tie-Dye Tuesday

Students and staff are encouraged to wear a variety of colors or tie-dye to show a wide range of emotions we can experience and express in healthy ways.

Wellness Wednesday

Students and staff will wear green and participate in a variety of activities that promote positive and healthy coping strategies.

Twinning Thursday

Students and staff are encouraged to “twin with a friend” or a group to show the importance of having someone by your side for support.

Fantasmic Friday

Wear your favorite Disney attire to spread joy at the most magical school around!

SAVE THE DATE

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Join us for a warm and welcoming breakfast as we celebrate the incredible volunteers who have helped make this school year a success. Enjoy a casual morning with liked-minded individuals who supports ours school and community. - Just our way of saying thank you for all the time, care, and dedication you have given.

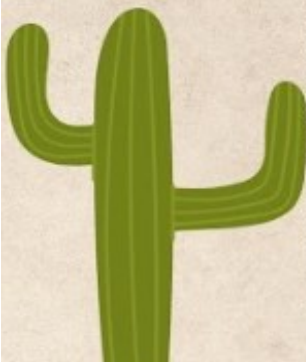
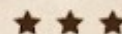
Invite to follow.



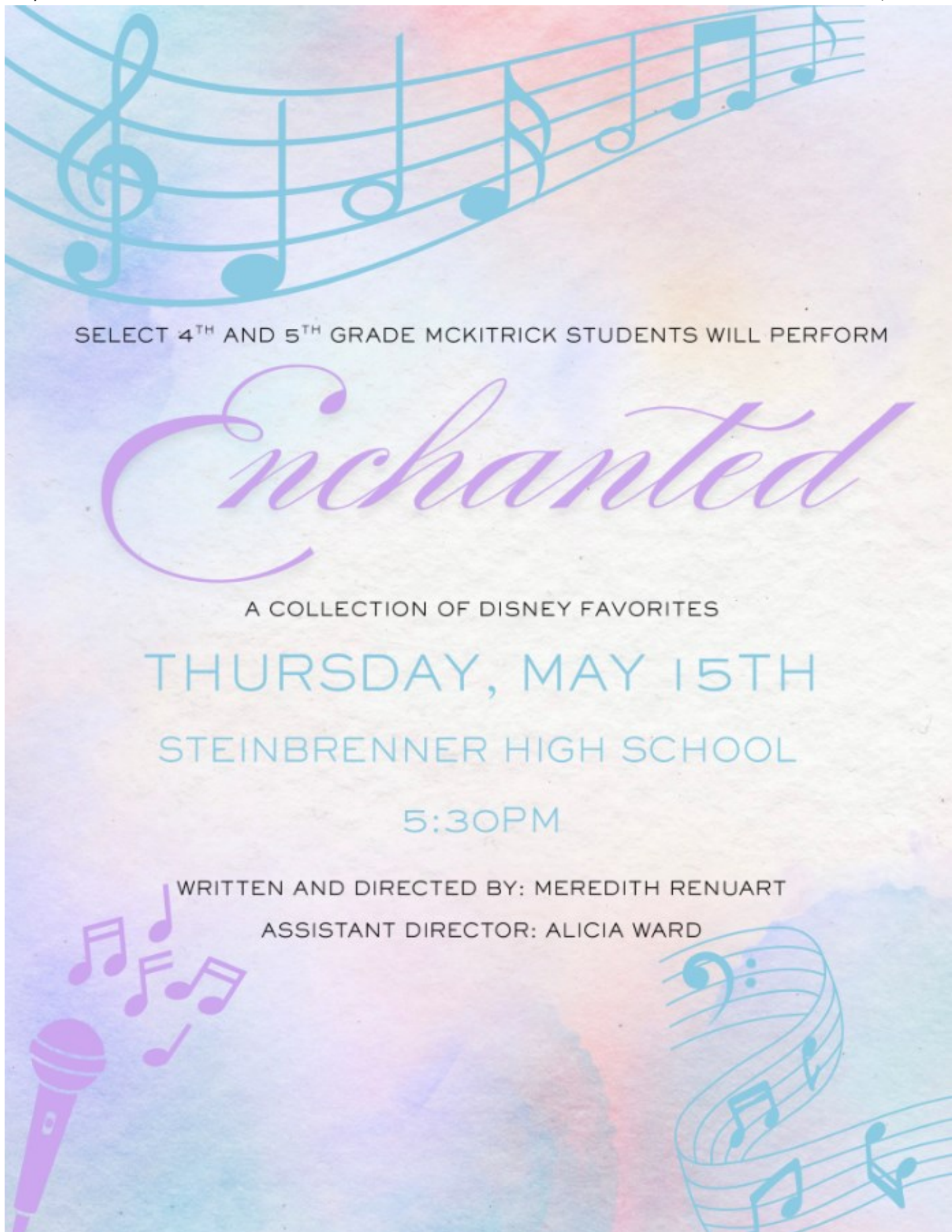
MAY 12 (MON)

Time: 8:00 am - 9:30am

Cafeteria



Please [click here](#) to view the invitation and RSVP to the breakfast



SELECT 4TH AND 5TH GRADE MCKITRICK STUDENTS WILL PERFORM

Enchanted

A COLLECTION OF DISNEY FAVORITES

THURSDAY, MAY 15TH

STEINBRENNER HIGH SCHOOL

5:30PM

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY: MEREDITH RENUART

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: ALICIA WARD

SUMMER CAMP READY



Looking for summer camps and activities? Here are a few options to check out. More flyers can be found in our McKitrick PTA Parent Facebook Group.

McKitrick PTA Business Partners:

- Bach to Rock - lutz@backtorock.com [Website Link](#)
- Primrose Summer Adventure Club [Website Link](#)
- Mathnasium Summer Program [Website Link](#)

McKitrick School & Staff Programs:

- McKitrick Summer Sports Camp - all_sports_camp@yahoo.com [Camp Link](#)
- Mr. O's Art Camp - orihuela_summerart@yahoo.com
- Hillsborough County Summer Learning [Website Link](#)

Local Community Programs:

- Camp Invention STEM at Clark Elementary [Camp Link](#)
- Steinbrenner Sport Camps - Various Dates
 - Baseball - warriorbaseballcamp@verizon.net or 813-546-9955
 - Basketball - [Camp Link](#)
 - Softball - Contact Jason Gordon 813-505-4446 jason.gordon@hcps.net
 - Cheer - angela.haskell@hcps.net
 - Soccer [Camp Link](#)
- Camp Cheval - [Play Cheval Summer Camp](#)
- SRK Camp (Heritage Harbor) [Summer Camp Link](#)
- Discovery Point [Summer Camp Link](#)
- Camp IDS - Performing Arts Camp [Camp Link](#)

MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY
5TH GRADE

LAST RODEO

THURS 2/20 – 6TH GRADE

@MARTINEZ

THURS 5/8 – FIELD TRIP

FRI 5/23 – FIELD DAY

WED 5/28 – BANQUET

THURS 5/29 – AWARDS

FRI 5/30 – CLAP OUT





MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY
5TH GRADE

★
★
★
LAST RODEO

We're fixin' to send our 5th graders off in style and we need your help to make it a celebration to remember. You can lend a hand by checking out our Amazon Wishlist or donate directly to the 5th Grade Fund.

Every little bit helps us rustle up the supplies we need for a mighty fine shindig.

Thanks, y'all! We couldn't do it without you!




AMAZON
WISHLIST




5TH GRADE
DONATION






MCKITRICK ELEMENTARY INVITES YOU TO THE


MS. CLINE & 5th GRADE CLAP OUT



**FRIDAY, MAY 30 · 8 AM
@ THE MCKITRICK TRACK**



All McKitrick families are invited to say farewell and best wishes to Ms. Cline on her retirement and the 5th grade as they move on to middle school!



ADULTS MUST PROVIDE ID AT GATE.



SAVE THE DATE

McKitrick Beautification Day!

Mark your calendars! Please join McKitrick Staff and PTA to help make our campus shine before the first day of school.

**SATURDAY
8/2/2025**

**START AT
08:00 AM**



Ready for Kindergarten?

Kindergarten registration for your child is just around the corner!! To complete the process, please gather the following essential documents: Birth certificate, Social Security Card, Florida Physical HRS form, Florida Immunization Record, and **two** address verifications like a utility bill or lease. Just remember, the child's parent or guardian will need to be present, along with the documents above. Let's make this milestone a smooth and exciting start!

Please contact the main office at 813-558-5427 if you have any questions about registration. We can't wait to see our newest bobcats at Open House in August!



Kindergarten Step 3:
Fill out all documentation



Hillsborough County
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preparing Students for Life

The **Boosterthon** team would like to say **THANK YOU** to all the donors, parents, students, teachers, volunteers & school staff who helped us meet our 50K fundraising goal! Your support made all the difference!

Kindergarten: Bump
Top Student Earners (tie): Alexander Tang & Liam Valdes

1st: McDonough
Top Student Earner: Gabriella Romer

2nd: Strain
Top Student Earner: Evan Milenkovski

3rd: Bedessem
Top Student Earner: Christian De la Cruz

4th: Arnold
Top Student Earner: Kyla McNenney

5th: Brewer - top earner overall!
Top Student Earner: Isabella Maguire - top earner overall!

As promised, students enjoyed an inflatable teacher/staff race where teachers/staff competed in silly, inflatable costumes! It was an EPIC celebration and everyone had a blast!



McKittrick Elementary's annual **Sons and Stars** event, held on April 6th at 1Up Entertainment + Social, was a spectacular success! Sons and their special adult had a blast playing arcade games, bowling, getting temporary tattoos, photos and eating delicious food and drinks.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our amazing photographer, Robert Hudson. We also want to thank our dedicated school staff (Mrs. Cline, Mrs. Stone, Mr. O, Coach Mo and Mrs. Testa-Secca) and all the amazing volunteers whose efforts made this event unforgettable. We hope to see you again next year!

Sons and Stars Event Committee
Michelle Dacanay, Alexandra Santana and Heather Hubbard



If you would like to join the Sons & Stars planning committee next year, please reach out to vicepresident@mckitrickpta.com.

Bobcat Bash was a blast this year! From the singing, music & art displays to the teacher games & food trucks, what a great time! Thank you to all the volunteers including McKittrick PTA, teachers, staff members and business partners/vendors for making this event such a fun filled evening with our Bobcat family. Cherished events like these wouldn't happen without them!



Teacher Appreciation Week

YOU ARE THE BEST IN THE WEST!

We hope all of our incredible teachers and staff enjoyed Teacher Appreciation Week! Thank you for everything you do for our students and school community.

We kicked off the week with a delicious breakfast from New York Bagel, followed by a "Make Your Own Trail Mix" bar for an afternoon snack. On Tuesday, everyone enjoyed a mouthwatering BBQ lunch catered by Station House BBQ, with dessert provided by Mathnasium Lutz.

Wednesday brought sweet treats with an after-school ice cream bar courtesy of Tanya & Matt's. Teachers also received a beautiful succulent and a goodie bag filled with gifts from generous local businesses including Andy's Frozen Custard, Bloomin' Brands, Chicken Salad Chick, Chick-fil-A, Hand and Stone, Hungry Greek, IMX Pilates, Station House BBQ, and Taco Bus.

Thursday morning, our wonderful families donated a delicious breakfast spread, along with a midday popcorn snack provided by Twisted Kettle. We wrapped up the week on Friday with a satisfying lunch from Chicken Salad Chick.

A huge thank you to our generous families and business sponsors for helping us shower our teachers with love and appreciation. We couldn't have done it without your support! Special thanks to the Teacher & Staff Appreciation Committee for going above and beyond to make this week truly special.



Son's and Stars Event & Teacher Appreciation Week:

A huge thank you to Michelle Dacaney, Alexandra Santana, and Heather Hubbard for leading the incredible Sons and Stars Event! Your hard work made it an unforgettable experience for our sons and stars! We also appreciate the volunteers and Robert Hudson for his photography services.



Teacher Appreciation Week was another resounding success thanks to Ariel Martinez, Jincey Soler, and Dani Molla. Your dedication truly shines through! We also want to thank volunteers who have helped decorate the teachers' lounge and clean up and families who have donated food items for the grab-and-go breakfast!

5th Grade Activities Committee:

As May arrives, we shine the spotlight on the 5th Grade Activities Committee. Their tireless efforts ensure our 5th graders have a year filled with cherished memories. From fundraisers and field trips to the banquet, field day, community projects, and more, their planning, coordination, and hard work are invaluable. Thank you all for making it all happen!

Volunteer Breakfast:

Mark your calendars for the Volunteer Breakfast on Monday, May 12th, 2024 at 8am in the cafeteria. This event celebrates the incredible contributions of our dedicated volunteers, including those who help on and off campus, PTA members, homeroom parents, library and classroom volunteers, tutors, Junior Achievement participants, cafeteria helpers, Great American Teach-In speakers, goat volunteers, and more! Join us for a delicious breakfast and celebrate an amazing year!

Heartfelt Appreciation:

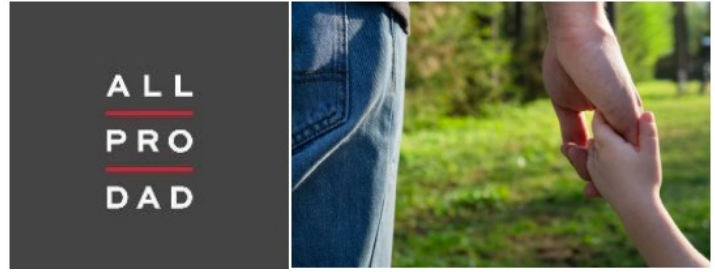
As the school year draws to a close, I want to express my deepest gratitude not only to the volunteers who keep our events and organization running smoothly, but also to the families who support them behind the scenes. Together, we make a powerful team. Thank you, McKitrick families, for your unwavering support! We appreciate your generosity more than words can express.

*2024-2025 Volunteer Coordinator
McKitrick Elementary PTA*

All Pro Dad May Update

Recap of April's Meeting: Empathy

Our April All Pro Dad meeting at McKittrick Elementary was the perfect way to wrap up an incredible year. We focused on the theme of Empathy - what it means to truly understand and care about what someone else is feeling. It was so good to hear from dads about what made them proud of their kids this year, especially the moments when their kids showed empathy toward others.



Thanks to everyone who shared and participated, and a big shoutout to the PTA for supplying us with donuts and coffee! I definitely owed these dads some coffee for showing up early month after month!

To keep the conversation going on the theme of empathy, here are a few simple questions to ask each other:

Dad to Kid: When you are sad, what do you need?

Dad to Kid: What do you think it looks like to show empathy?

Kid to Dad: When in your life have you needed empathy?

Kid to Dad: When in your life have you shown empathy?

2024/2025: A Year of Growth and Connection

This year at All Pro Dad, we covered an amazing lineup of character-building topics that sparked meaningful conversations between dads and kids. From kicking things off with *Proactivity*, we moved through *Self-Control*, *Creativity*, *Forgiveness*, *Dependability*, *Contentment*, *Social Skills*, *Diligence*, and wrapped up with *Empathy*. Each theme gave us a chance to slow down, connect with our kids, and share stories that reminded us why these moments matter so much.

Special Thanks

A huge thank you to the amazing McKittrick front office team - Sandy, Anne, Raquel, and everyone else who helped check in hundreds of dads and kids this year with patience and kindness. And a big shoutout to the cafeteria staff for managing the breakfast rush with grace and keeping everything running smoothly. We couldn't do this without you!

Passing the Baton

As I shared at our final meeting, it's time for me to step back as your All Pro Dad team captain. It's been an incredible two years, and I'm beyond grateful for the community we've built together. I'm also really excited to pass the baton to Charles, who's been a consistent presence and brings a lot of experience and heart to the role. Over the next few weeks, we'll be doing a smooth handover, and I know you'll be in great hands with him leading the charge into the next school year.

For questions or more information, don't hesitate to reach out to Steve and Charles at allprodads@mckittrickpta.com





McKittrick Business Partner Spotlight

The logo for Urgent Care & Wellness Center features a red heart shape on the left, a red ECG line in the center, and a red starburst on the right containing the text "On-Site X-Rays".

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

****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!

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.



McKitrick Business Partner Spotlight

At Elite Ink, family values are at the heart of everything we do. As a proud family-owned and operated business, we have focused on quality, integrity, and personalized service in the Lutz community since 2012.

What sets us apart is not just what we offer but how we offer it. At Elite Ink, you're not just a customer; you're an extension of our family. Our team brings a unique blend of expertise and warmth to ensure that every interaction is infused with the care and attention you deserve.

As a family business, we take pride in the craftsmanship and attention to detail that defines our products/services. Whether you're seeking spirit wear, business attire or running a charitable event, you can trust that each item bears the hallmark of our family's dedication to excellence.

Thank you for being a part of our family journey. We invite you to explore Elite Ink and discover the difference that a family touch can make and memories that come with it.





McKittrick Business Partner Spotlight



Serene Home Care



813-374-0268



info@serene-homecare.com



www.serene-homecare.com



334 W. Bearss Avenue, Suite A
Tampa, Florida, 33613

License#302116

What can we help you with?



I need _____
services.

COMPANION CARE
HOMEMAKER CARE
PERSONAL CARE
AGING CARE
MEMORY CARE

Contact our team today!



Enhancing Lives... One Person at a Time





Yvonne T. McKitrick Elementary School

2024-2025 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: **OPEN POSITION**

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,
Michelle Dacanay, Heather Hubbard

Concessions: Louise Johnstone

Family Nights: Amy Sweeney, Donna
Tucker, Lauren Jennings, Patricia Baldwin

Fifth Grade Activities: Chryssa Samhoury

Open House: Heather Foster & Lindsay
Jimison

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

Health & Safety: **OPEN POSITION**

McKitrick Serves: **OPEN POSITION**

McKitrick Cares: Hyojeong Bae

Reflections: Meredith Renuart & Viviana Lit

Tutoring: Ariel Martinez

Junior Achievement: Loren Mednick

Website/Givebacks: Hanyeh Pulver

Yearbook: Robert Hudson & Lacey Ranucci

Social Media: Chryssa Samhoury

Newsletter: Cristine Whitman

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