

Horseshoe Review

Parent Newsletter



From the Principal's desk... Tania Rushing

What a wonderful first couple of weeks at McNiel Junior High! I am amazed at the amount of energy and spirit in this school! I enjoyed being here the week of Homecoming and being included in the activities and excitement.

Just as the kids are testing the waters and checking me out, I am doing the same with them. What I am finding are some very talented young people with the ability to do and become everything they dream about. Our job is to guide them, direct them and hold the highest expectations for them, as students and as young adults. As parents, I know that you are doing the same.

As the school year progresses, I ask that parents maintain contact with their child's teachers. I also ask that teachers maintain an open line of communication with parents. We are all on the same team and we all have the same goals. Working together will always help us achieve those goals at a faster pace.

If a parent has a concern with a teacher or a class, the parent's first step is to speak to the student's teacher. This can be done by phone, through email or by scheduling a conference with the teacher. Often, a phone conversation can fix any problem that a student may be having. Your teachers welcome and appreciate your concern for your student.

As students become more comfortable in their school environment, they also tend to relax their rule following. This is a reminder that any cell phones seen during the school day will be confiscated and students must pay \$15 to have the phone returned. Phones and digital devices are NOT to be out/used during the instructional day, per district policy. Also, McNiel has a very strict dress code policy. Students should look like young ladies and gentlemen. Hair is to be neat, clean and of a natural color. We want to maintain the highest of standards for McNiel and our students.

Thank you again, for your support and for all you do for your students.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our students have been working hard in the classroom, in rehearsals, and in the field of competition. We are so proud that Mustangs are active kids who not only excel at academics, but manage to do so while they are involved in lots of activities both in school and out.

Our student athletes and musicians have worked very hard this fall with excellent results. We've had a team of girls represent McNiel at the MSU Math-Science and U Conference. Our student body gave several hundred pounds of food to the local food drive. These are just a couple of examples of great things going on at the McNiel campus. Please don't hesitate to be actively involved in your child's life at this age. They do wonderful things that deserve our praise!

Holiday 2013

Vol. 13, Issue 3

Dates to Note:

- ✓ Nov 15-16 Region Choir
- ✓ Nov 23– City Lights Parade
- ✓ Nov. 27-29 Thanksgiving Break
- ✓ Dec 3 Beg. Band Concert 7:00-7:30
- ✓ Dec 12– Parent Mtg. / Christmas Choir Concert 6:00pm
- ✓ Dec 13– Winter Dance
- ✓ Dec 17– PTA/Adv Choir Concert 6:30
- ✓ Dec 18-19 Choir Tour
- ✓ **Eary Release– Dec 20 – 11:30**
- ✓ **End of the 1st Semester– 12/20**
- ✓ **Holiday break Dec. 21-Jan. 6**

“How Are You Feeling?”

If your child is ill and is vomiting or running fever, please do not give them medications like Tylenol or Advil and send them on to school. A child must be fever free for 24 hours without any medications in order to attend school. Following this plan will help keep everyone on campus healthier this winter.

Vision/hearing referrals will be going out in the mail for those students who didn't pass their screenings. If you receive one, please take your child to be evaluated by the physician of your choice and return the paperwork to the nurse's office as quickly as possible.

Library News...

Thanks to everyone for your support of our recent book-fair!

We also appreciate parents who encourage their students to read and help remind them to take care of any library fines.



PLEASE do not send medicines with your child to school. The nurse has over the counter medicine forms that you must complete in order for medicine to be administered at school. For more information, contact Mrs. Myracle at 235-1118 ext. 42008.

Yearbooks will be on sale through Dec. 6th
\$60 cash or check
(payable to McNiel)

This is the last chance to have your student's name engraved on the book!

Check out the McNiel Yearbook Facebook Fanpage!

Circle of Friends
Anti-Bullying Club

Promotes respect, trustworthiness, and friendliness on Campus. Sponsored by Coach Miller and Ms. Parker

In the Kitchen...

According to federal guidelines, parents can bring food for their own children, but not for others.

Please pay all cafeteria charges by the 27th of each month. Don't hesitate to use myschoolbucks.com for your lunch account needs.

Questions? Call café manager Tina Blasingame at 235-1118 ext. 42009!!



Is your child interested in Chess? Contact Mrs. Godby at agobdy@wfid.net for more information about the Chess Club.



Contact counselor Jackie Wheat for more information or suggestions about parenting classes you would like to see offered at McNiel. 235-1118 ext. 42013.

2013-14 Student Council

Members

Isabelle Ruth– President

- Erin Ferguson
- Vanessa Van
- Saraiya Alam
- Alyssa Polk

Aerianna Caldwell-Vice President

- Hollie Carpenter-Mix
- Erin Wisch

Shelby Davis– Treasurer

- Madison Schreiber
- Shekinah Walton
- Marissa Smith
- Anna Au
- Aaron Wheat

Brylee Grubb Erwin

Alexandra Lofland

KeyShawna Newman

Rebekah Tempelmeyer

Angela Fiorentino

Tavaria Rankin

Sydney Wisdom– Secretary

Kylie Dunn

Rayce Radtke

Kaylee Garcia

Kayla Le

Kevin Schultz

Sponsor: Cheryl Nix
cnix@wfid.net

Title 1 Information for MJH

- ⇒ Title 1 provides funding to qualifying schools to improve educational opportunities for underachieving students so that they might be more successful in regular programs and attain grade level proficiency.
- ⇒ As part of Title 1, we have to have a written policy regarding parent involvement. We need your input as to how and what you would like presented at McNiel to best serve you and your family.
- ⇒ Current meetings held at McNiel: PTA meetings, Booster club meetings, Meet the Teacher night, Parent Conferences (first report card), and Counselor meetings (at least 2 per year; varying topics)

*****Ways for parents to be involved...**

*Site Based Decision Making Team has 2 parent members

*PTA, Athletic Booster Club, Music Booster Club

*Many athletic & cheer events, music concerts, NJHS events, banquets, and honor award ceremonies

****Ways we address student progress...**

*Student Support Team (SST) meets to discuss struggling students and their needs

*Response to Intervention (RtI) is used to help monitor progress and implement accommodations in the classroom to assist the student.

****How do we stay in contact with you?**

*Progress reports go home approximately every three weeks and a report card goes home at the end of a six weeks grading period

*We encourage you to use the website www.wfid.net/mcniel

*We encourage you to use the Family Access option on the district website to monitor your child's grades

*The school report card is issued by December. It can be viewed at www.tea.state.tx.us.

Tardies

Parents:

There are many students that are consistently tardy to 1st period. We understand that sometimes situations arise that cause a student to be late. However, when it continually happens then it becomes a habit and affects a student's performance in class. Students are missing valuable instruction time in their classes each time they are late. We are hoping that you can talk to your student and work out a plan so they will be on time for school. Remember, that students at McNiel can be dropped off as early at 7 am and breakfast is provided.

McNiel Tardy Policy

Consequences:

1st tardy warning by teacher

2nd tardy warning by teacher

3rd tardy warning by administration/letter sent home

4th tardy (and others) 1 day administrative Detention Hall 3:05-3:50

****Missed detention = 1 day ISS**

These consequences apply to each period of the school day.



MJH Hoops News

Games at WFISD will begin at 4:00. The order is 7B, 7A, 8B, 8A. Tickets at the back gym door are \$2 for students and \$4 for adults.

See www.wfisd.net/McNiel for specific schedule information.

Athletic Champions



MJH Boys Athletics has added some new city champions to the list: The 7-8 Boys Cross Country team won the city championship and finished first in all their cross country meets this year. The 7th A football team went undefeated and won the city championship. The 7th B team not only went undefeated, they were unscored on. They also won the city championship. Congratulation Boys! What an

We need you...



If you or someone you know would like to become a mentor, please contact Mrs. Wheat at 235-1118 or jwheat@wfisd.net.

If your child must miss school, please be sure to remind them that they must contact their teachers to get any make up work from the time they missed. It is also their responsibility to attend before school or after school tutorial sessions for reteach instruction or assistance.

Partners in Education: P1E

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to the following businesses for supporting our school:

- STRIPES convenient stores**
- Bahama Bucks**