



Horseshoe Review

Parent Newsletter • Volume 1 - 2017-2018

Lunchroom Reminders:

- Bring lunch money
- Remember your student I.D.#



Lifetouch Retakes:
November 17,
2017

From the Principal's Desk

Welcome to fall! It seems just yesterday that we were welcoming everyone to the new school year in the blazing heat of summer! Oh, my! How time does fly! With the coming of fall, also ends our first six weeks of school. It is during the six weeks' changes that we hear the common complaint that parents were unaware that their students were struggling academically. This should *never* be the case.

Paper progress reports are sent home the third week of every six week grading period. Students should be presenting those to their parents the day progress reports are handed out. Parents who have not seen the first progress report can request another from the school, or perhaps it never left their student's binder. Teachers work hard to contact parents, but often they find that email addresses have changed and phone numbers have not been updated. If you have not updated your contact information, please call the school. The one thing we want to avoid is not being able to contact a parent in case of an emergency.

The best avenue for parents to monitor their students' grades is to use our parent portal in Skyward. With Skyward access parents can check their student's grades daily! (Parents can also keep track of student tardies!) If you have not received your parent access to Skyward, please contact the counselors' office. They will be happy to assist you. If you are not real "techy," simply ask your student to log into their student account. All students are familiar with their logins and now that 6th and 7th grade students have Chromebooks, technology follows them everywhere!



Horseshoe Review

Parent Newsletter • Volume 1 - 2017-2018

Yearbooks

Yearbooks are now on sale for \$60 or \$85 with 8th grade baby ads. Check or cash to McNiel. Sale ends October 27th. To pay with a card go to yearbookforever.com

From the Principal's Desk cont'd

Parent conferences will be Monday, October 9th from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm. Teachers will take a lunch from 1:00- 2:00 and no conferences will occur during that hour. Parents will enter through the back gym entrance and pick up report cards in the main gym. If a conference is requested, parents will proceed to the teacher's classroom. Teachers have an average of 180 students. Please be mindful of the conference time. If a parent requires more than 10 minutes, a separate conference should be scheduled with the teacher.

McNiel's Spirit Week and Red Ribbon Week are scheduled for October 22nd - 28th. There are dress up days, activities and a dance on Friday! More information will be coming home soon regarding this fun week for our students!

Beginning October 5th, I will be taking medical leave until January 1, 2018. Summer Rollins has been named McNiel's interim principal and Mr. Cliff Nichols will step outside of his classroom to assume additional duties of an interim assistant principal. This is Ms. Rollins fifth year as an assistant principal at McNiel and she is knowledgeable of the students, staff and building. I have every confidence that she will do a fantastic job! Mr. Nichols has been a teacher at McNiel for 13 years. He has worked hard on his principal certification and is anxious to give it a shot and throw his support to the McNiel administrative team. Thank you, in advance, for the kindness and support I know you will give these two amazing educators during my absence.

Sincerely,

Tania R. Rushing, Principal
McNiel Middle School

PSAT on Nov. 1st,
deadline Friday,
Oct. 20. Cost is
\$15.00, cash or
check office D -
Mrs. Mason

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Lisa Williams: This is Mrs. William's second full year at McNiel. She came to us from Rider, where she was a Spanish teacher for eight years. She and her husband have three kids and seven grandchildren. She enjoys spending time with family, traveling the world, shopping, and having coffee with friends. **She is the counselor for students with the last name M-Z.**

[Coffee with the
Counselors!](#)

Friday, October 27th from
12:00pm-1:00pm

Polly Birkhead: This is Mrs. Birkhead's third year at McNiel. She came to us from Rider, where she was an English teacher for ten years. She and her husband have two kids who keep them busy. She enjoys watching her kids participate in their activities, running obstacle courses with her husband (ex. T.H.O.R.), and reading. **She is a counselor for students with the last name A-L.**

Dyslexia Training

SAVE THE DATE

October 19, 2017

Region 9 ESC

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Dyslexia Awareness Event

For parents, students, and the general public interested in knowing more about dyslexia.

If you have any special needs such as accessibility, Braille, large print, or a sign language interpreter, please notify the Registration Office at least 2 weeks before the session at 940 322-6928.

MISCELLANEOUS



From the Nurse:

- If your child is sick, please do not send them to school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine and have not vomited for 24 hours.
- Any medication to be taken at school must be brought to the nurse by an adult with the wfisd medication form. If it is a prescription, it must include the doctor's signature.

Library: students make sure you are keeping up with your library books, book fines, locker fines, and chromebook fines.

Advanced Orchestra

Advanced orchestra students will be going on a Halloween tour to local elementary schools on October 26th. Students will leave McNiel at 8:30 a.m. and return by 2:00 p.m.

Early Release:

Friday, October 27th