



PAWPRINTS

MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | DAVENPORT

ISSUE ONE | THURSDAY, SEPT. 6, 2007

From Your PrinciPAL



Dear McKinley Families,

It is our sincere wish that this school year be a wonderful learning experience for your child. We have had a very warm but pleasant beginning of the school year. The great start was due to the efforts of the tremendous staff we have at McKinley, as well as the routines and procedures that are in

place to make McKinley School the Best Place to Learn.

My personal favorite routine is Walk and Talk beginning on the track each morning at 8:10 followed by our McKinley chant at 8:30 A.M. before students enter the building.

McKinley School is really neat!

McKinley School just can't be beat!

We are awesome; we are cool!

We do our best when we're in school!

(What an inspiring way to start our busy day of teaching and learning! We invite you to participate in this daily ritual any day that you are able.)

We know you share our belief that communication between school and home is vital in making sure that students experience success early in the year and that there is a clear understanding of expectations. We want to thank you for the time you devote to reading daily planners and Thursday folders with your child; as well as the time you take to discuss good study habits.

Our enrollment numbers are strong this year, although we did not have enough 2nd graders to keep our third section. This caused some movement in our staff.

Mrs. Berthel has joined the fifth grade team after adding a third section and Mrs. Vincent moved into 4th grade. We were very sorry to have to say good-bye to Mrs. Nguyen, who left us to join family in another state. She has been a wonderful resource and friend to us in the ESL program. Mrs. Wilson, whom you met as our instruction facilitator last year, has joined the ESL teaching team after Mrs. Kakavas moved to be with her fiancée. We welcome our new physical education teacher, Ms. Sara Wycoff, who will be relocating to our city and school.

We could not continue to strive for excellence without your partnership. We appreciate and thank you for all you do for McKinley School and the students.

Amy Campanile
campanilea@davenportschools.org

Fall Festival Fun Coming Right Up!

September may mean the start of shorter days, however, Friday, Sept. 21 will be long on fun! The 9th annual Fall Festival — from 5:30-7:30 p.m. is a great time to visit McKinley after school hours and spend time with your family and school friends.

BRING THE FAMILY

What: McKinley's 9th annual Fall Festival

When: Friday, Sept. 21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Where: At the school

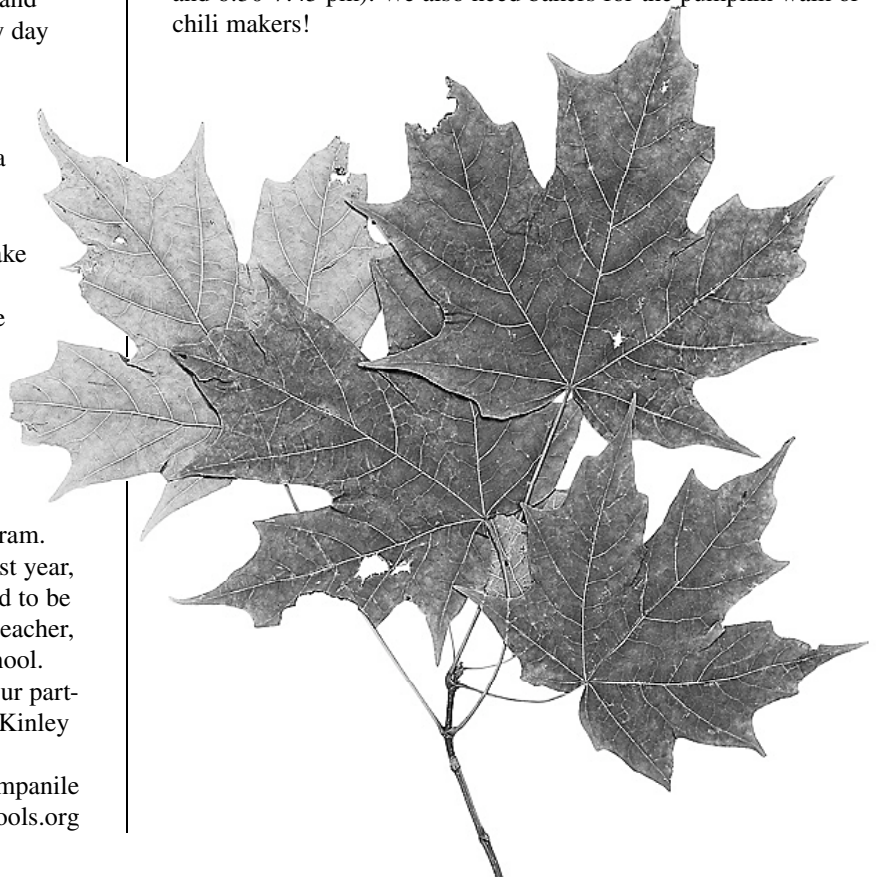
Why: One of the school's main fundraisers

The event's focus is a fun-filled night with a fall theme featuring Tractor rides from Farmer Peet, games, a pumpkin walk, dunk tank, and an

inflatable Paw pounce.

Your kids look forward to this evening, where they can visit the Toy Store, decorate cookies, get temporary tattoos, and even get a meal. We serve chili, Fritos, chili dogs, apples with caramel, and pumpkin juice (orange drink).

Save the date and join in the fun. Contact Julie Moran or Ann Nicknish for Volunteer opportunities (shifts from 5:15-6:30 p.m. and 6:30-7:45 pm). We also need bakers for the pumpkin walk or chili makers!



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SUPPORT THAT GOES HAND IN HAND

When you go to K&K Hardware (1818 Grant Street in Bettendorf), mention McKinley Elementary when you are paying and the McKinley PTA will receive 10% of the value of your purchase. It's easy and we all benefit!

PTA Gears Up for a Busy and Healthy Year

On behalf of the PTA, we'd like to welcome the McKinley community back to school. It has seemed like a smooth start for the kids and we'd like to credit the staff for all their hard work at making the building welcoming and familiar.

As we're busy recruiting new members and planning activities, we're always reminded at this time year about what the PTA is all about. Most simply, we are an organization that advocates for children. We do that primarily by supporting activities that enrich the learning environment at school, assisting parents in raising their children, and encouraging parental and community involvement in issues involving children. We are not a fundraising organization. We raise funds to pay for activities, programs, and services that support our goals.

One particular project we have chosen to focus on this year is playground improvements. Our school district has embraced health and wellness as a significant component to an overall education and we want to reflect that commitment by making improvements to the safety and enjoyment of the playground. We are in the planning stages and need as many parents, teachers, staff and community members to contribute their ideas, thoughts, time and resources to making sure this project is a success. We invite you all to the first PTA meeting Thursday, Sept. 13, at 6:30 p.m. to hear more about how you can contribute to a successful PTA program year!

Co-presidents, Elizabeth Axel and Erin McKay

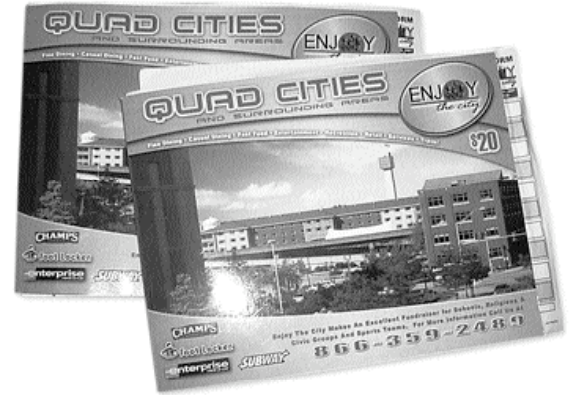


You Can Ride Your Bike To School

Kids, take advantage of the nice weather and ride your bike to school. With parent or guardian permission, any student who is a capable bike-rider may ride to school. To ensure a safe and enjoyable ride, please follow the McKinley Bike Rules. They are:

- ❖ Wear a helmet (store them in lockers during school hours)
- ❖ Walk your bike across the crosswalks, on any McKinley sidewalk and through the blacktop area
- ❖ Lock your bike to the bike rack located at the Northwest corner of the school (by the dumpster)

Please remember that the school cannot be responsible for the bikes during the school hours so proper locks are important. PTA will monitor the bike rack to ensure there is adequate space to store the bikes during the day and will purchase another rack if necessary. Enjoy two-wheeling!



Enjoy Your City, At A Discount

There is one more week to sell "Enjoy the City" coupon books. The sample books have gone home — full of coupons for the whole family (two for one lunches, dinners and more!).

Each book costs \$20 and McKinley earns \$10, all of which will be applied to playground improvements.

If you sell *one* book and you will receive a paw print pencil *and* a chance to be in a special drawing. The sales end Thursday, Sept. 13. All orders, money and extra books are due on Friday, Sept. 14. If you have questions, call Trista Bernauer, 322-2541.

Art In The Park

MidCoast Fine Art's Riverssance Festival of Fine Art is celebrating its 20th Anniversary Sept. 15-16 at Lindsay Park, Village of East Davenport

See 100 Juried Artist's from across the U.S. and enjoy affordable art while you hear live performances all day — hosted by the River Music Experience. There will also be food and a free Children's Art Projects at the children's art tent.

A free Shuttle bus from Bucktown in downtown Davenport also is available. Admission is \$3 for those 13 and older. Children 12 and under are free.

Note: Each elementary school that has 100 people sign in at the children's tent will receive a check for \$50 toward art supplies. The elementary school that has the most people sign in will earn \$100.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED

We provide a variety of communication tools for parents, students and staff to stay informed of what is going on at McKinley Elementary. You are reading one tool — the McKinley PawPrints newsletter. There is also the PTA "blue calendar" which was distributed to all children in the Thursday folders. It contains a monthly list of events as well as the school calendar and useful names and numbers. The Web site is a new way to stay in touch. Check out davenportschools.org/mckinley and you will see lots of important information about the school. Of course, you can always contact the office or your child's teacher.