

F A L L 2 0 1 5

McKinley Middle - an IB World School

Principal's Perspective

Cheri Kulland, Directing Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians of McKinley Middle School Students,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of you to the 2015/2016 school year at McKinley Middle School. I am privileged to work with your students and find McKinley Middle School an awesome place to work.

McKinley's reputation and success rest, in large measure, on your parental concern and involvement. We seek to afford each student an education commensurate with his or her abilities. With your cooperation and understanding, we will provide a profitable and satisfying experience for your child. Our school, from its foundation, stresses International Baccalaureate academic excellence.

McKinley Middle School takes pride in its highly qualified and dedicated faculty. These educators welcome your concern and they view education as a partnership between home and school. The staff is also very proud of our school, our programs, and our students. In August, 23 McKinley teachers were trained in Developmental Designs.

McKinley Middle School has continued to implement Developmental Designs. The six principles of Developmental Designs are:

1. Social learning is as important to success as academic learning.
2. We learn best by constructing our own understanding through exploration, discovery, practicing, and applying what we have learned, both socially and academically.
3. The greatest cognitive growth occurs through social interactions within a supportive community.
4. There is a set of personal/social skills that students need to learn and practiced in order to be successful socially and academically:
COOPERATION ASSERTION RESPONSIBILITY EMPATHY SELF-CONTROL
5. Knowing the physical, emotional, social, and intellectual needs of the students we teach is as important as know the content we teach.
6. Trust among adults is a fundamental necessity for academic and social success in a learning community.

All the structures in the Developmental Designs for Middle School approach are based on the belief that the better the relationships in a school, the more successful the students can be, both academically and socially.

- When students feel that they belong to a community that cares about them, they feel safe enough to take risks in learning, to show who they are and what they know, to ask questions, to admit mistakes, and to repair damages. When teachers show that they care, students have a much better change at success.
- When teachers know their students well, they can respond to rule-breaking in ways that build long-term social skills.
- When there is trust between students and their teachers, learning has few impediments that can't be overcome.
- When teachers and students work together to use and care for the classroom environment, students have convenient access to the tools of their learning.
- When teachers know and trust each other, and maintain connections among them, they can form a safety net of concern beneath their students.

If there is anything we can do to help your child, please do not hesitate to call, email, or better yet, stop by and feel the pride of McKinley!

Save the Date!

September 25th
2 Hour Early Release

October 16th
2 Hour Early Release

October 30th
No School

November 5th
2 Hour Early Release
Conferences 5pm-8pm

November 6th
No School
Conferences 8am-11am
Conferences 1pm-3pm

November 26th & 27th
Thanksgiving Recess



Earn Cash for Our School!

Easy Ways to Support McKinley

Don't have time to attend meetings or help out with fundraisers? There are some EASY ways to help McKinley out! Save your old ink cartridges, Box Tops labels, and Campbell's Soup labels and turn them in to the office.



Library Media Center

Our library has a comfortable new look and feel. Over the summer new seating was added, along with a new carpet and open floor plan. Students are encouraged to work in small groups and to choose the area that best meets their needs.

Seventh and eighth grade students will also have the opportunity to participate in the Racine-Kenosha English Festival. This year's festival will be held at Carthage College and will feature author Kristin Levine ([Lions of Little Rock](#)) as the keynote speaker.



The IB Side of Things

The 2015-2016 school year is off to a great start! The students are working hard in their IB Seminar classes to learn and embrace the IB Learner Profile Traits. These traits are at the “center” of what it means to be an IB student. As IB learners we strive to be the following: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. As an IB school we also aim to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

So here are a few things to look for as we travel through this year together. Students will be doing projects in almost EVERY class. These will happen throughout the year and will be graded using an IB rubrics. At the end of quarters two and four, you will receive in the mail an IB report card along with your child’s Racine Unified standard report card. This will show you as parents, how your child is performing on specific tasks within their projects. If your child is interested in going to Case in the future to take IB classes, the IB grades they receive here at McKinley are IMPORTANT.

We look forward to meeting you next month for student-led conferences. The conferences are being held November 5th and 6th.

Thank you for all your efforts at home to make this a great year for your child.

-Denise Saverine
IB Coordinator

Counselor's Corner

New 6th Grade Counselor

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new counselor, Mrs. Heidi McGraw. Mrs. McGraw will be working with our 6th grade students and will follow them through their three years at McKinley. She comes to McKinley excited to work with middle school students and watch them achieve their goals & dreams. She has worked with a lot of different students in different settings and will be helping McKinley with our PBIS! When you see her, please welcome her to our community!

Please encourage your children to take part in Sports, AFTERZONE and other activities

We want your children to become involved in many activities this year, whether it's the Musical, Sports, Clubs and other activities. Please have them listen to the PA Announcements and check McKinley Website and Newsletters for information about these as the sign up deadlines occur.

1st Quarter Honors Breakfast. An awards ceremony will be held recognizing after the first quarter for those students who have a 3.0 to 4.00 grade point average. Students will be recognized by grade level three different periods. If you have any questions about how students can earn scholastic honors, please communicate with their school counselor.

Parent Conferences, SST's and IEP's. Occasionally, parents and guardians are concerned about their child's academic performance. It may be, for example, that a student has been diagnosed with attention deficit and the student may be getting an "F" in one or more subjects. When concerns such as these arise, parents may want to consult with their child's school counselor or teacher directly. Often a parent conference or SST (Student Support Team) may be held to gather more information and see whether accommodations or intervention may be suggested to help the student be more successful. In a few cases, the SST Team and/or parent may request further testing involving the possibility of a special education placement. Each student's case is unique and the counselor can offer suggestions as to how the parent may want to proceed.

Attendance and/or tardiness concerns. Often parents will notice that their child is saying they are sick more often and/or they are getting calls about their child being late to class - sometimes to the point of missing the class altogether (truant). We want you to know that parents can call their child's school counselor about this problem and/or the School Social Worker, Mrs. Cottingham (664-6169).

NUMATS

For parents who want their children to have the opportunity to take the ACT or SAT tests while they are still in 6th, 7th or 8th grade. This would be for students who score above the 95 %ile, for example, in their 6th Grade math and/or Reading MAP tests. More information is on the Northwestern University CTD website: www.ctd.northwestern.edu/numats. You can also sign up for the test(s) there.

Some parents use this test to more accurately determine their child's ability, since they are testing with other G/T children and high school students. Some parents want their children to have the experience of taking tests like these before high school. There is a fee to take this test, but you may qualify for financial help.

How to Contact your Child's School Counselor

Mr. Metzger 262-664-6171 david.metzger@rusd.org

Mrs. McGraw 262-664-6172 heidi.mcgraw@rusd.org

Mrs. VanKoningsveld 262-664-6173 Megan.vankoningveld@rusd.org

How to Contact the School Social Worker

Mrs. Cottingham 262-664-6169 lori.cottingham@rusd.org

ROOSEVELT CORNER

SWBAT! Students will be able to...elaborate on our Roosevelt House happenings!

We hope Roosevelt students have had an awesome start to the school year! We have definitely enjoyed getting to know all of you! We have spent first few weeks of school focusing on organization and the transition to middle school. Students are now in a routine and know the expectations that will lead them to a successful year at McKinley.

In Humanities, we are starting up our 5 Themes of Geography unit. Students will be learning about how geographers use location, place, movement, region, and human environment interaction as lenses to view the world around us. For our IB assessment at the end of this quarter, students will be using the 5 Themes of Geography as lenses to research Canada's geography.

In math, students have learned how patterns can help them to be successful in everyday life. We have used patterns to get to know our math materials and to identify "tools for success" (our first unit's name!) that will help us to become great mathematicians this year! Our first unit will focus mainly on the problem solving process that our knowledgeable thinkers will be able to utilize in solving any real life problem in and out of the classroom. Math is, after all, all around us!

In Science, our scientists are beginning our unit on process skills. They will learn to observe, infer, predict, collect data, make models and measure using the metric unit. Students will be exploring these process skills through various labs (including the use of microscopes).

Reader's Workshop is a busy place as Language and Literature students explore the elements needed to make a good story. Reading books of individual choice and independent reading levels, students interact with the stories as they respond in writing and in discussion to what they are learning and reading.

Einstein House

Dear Parents and Students,

Hello! We are pleased to announce that the new name of our house here at McKinley Middle School is the Einstein House; we are no longer "Team 2"! During the first week of school, students gave input on famous people who they felt would be a good fit to name our 6th grade team after. We had tons of good people to choose from, but Einstein was the highest voted. Coming in a close second was Michael Jackson, and Chuck Taylor was third.

There are three teachers on the Einstein House including Mr. McKillip, Ms. Pajic, and Mrs. Ade! Mr. McKillip is our Math and Individuals & Society teacher, Ms. Pajic is our Science and Language & Literature teacher, and Mrs. Ade teaches all four of the above subjects. In our math and science classes, our first focus is problem solving and process skills. In our I&S classes, we are beginning with the 5 Themes of Geography with a focus on Canada. In Language & Literature, we are starting off with Story Elements and will be teaching and learning it through a new, Reader's Workshop approach.

Mr. McKillip and Mrs. Ade have been teaching since the early 2000s, but are starting their first year at McKinley this year. Ms. Pajic started at McKinley last year, and previously taught in Milwaukee and Madison schools. We are all looking forward to a positive and productive 2015-2016 school year! If you need to contact us for any reason, please email us at cynthia.pajic@rusd.org, moriahade@rusd.org, and michaelmckillip@rusd.org. Or, if easier, give us a call at the school! We would love to speak with all of you regarding any questions, comments, or concerns you may have.

Thank you!

Ms. Pajic, Mr. McKillip, Mrs. Ade

Luther-King (MLK) House

Team 3 finally has a name! The students took part in researching influential people from the past who have made a positive impact on the world. After researching, they listed the top 3 people that they wanted our team name to be. The top 3 recurring names on the student's lists were then voted on by the house. Luther-King (MLK) House won by a majority of 31 votes!

Language & Literature

The students will be focusing on identifying Story Elements through Reader's Workshop by reading books and short stories at their own lexile level. During the first unit we will be using form and structure with our writing to express new ideas. They will be using their critical thinking skills, working effectively with others, and organization through their interactive notebook.

Math

The first unit, "Tools for Success", we will be focusing on using problem solving strategies to represent relationships and express ideas. In the beginning of the school year we will be focusing on keeping our materials and notebook organized in a logical system and use appropriate strategies for organizing complex information.

Individuals & Society

Students will be focusing on Maps. We will be introducing 3 of the 4 types of Maps (physical, political, and thematic), longitude/latitude, and the importance of Maps. Our first Unit will be focusing on the 5 Themes of Geography and will be spending roughly 4 weeks on this Unit.



Science

In science class we will be using interactive student (science) notebooks or ISN's this school year. We have been spending time in class setting up our notebooks and learning how to successfully use them. We will be starting of the year talking about what science is and what a scientist looks like. Students will focus on science process skills to begin thinking and acting like a scientist in class. We will practice lab safety and how to use lab equipment in the classroom as well as the many lab team roles we will use this year in class.

MANDELA HOUSE

with Mr. Schnetzky, Mrs. Shannon, Mr. Cornell, and Mrs. Nasci

Welcome to Mandela House!

Mandela house welcomes our brand new McKinley Vikings! We look forward to a productive, inspiring, and exceptional year. Middle school is the place where the seeds of lifelong success take root, and we are honored to have the opportunity to help every student discover and develop their potential. There will be so many learning experiences available to us this year, and we can't wait to share them with parents as well as students.

We are always available to answer any questions or concerns that you might have. Our mission is to make sure that every student feels safe, respected, and intellectually challenged. Of course, we also plan to have a lot of fun this year—from “shrinking” ourselves in Math class to participating in our annual field trip to the Caledonia Conservancy. This will be a remarkable and an unforgettable year; welcome aboard!

Now, here's a look at what we've been introduced to so far in our core content classes and what's still to come in the next few weeks:

Math

We've begun our year by completing our fall MAP assessment and by reviewing math concepts such as whole-number multiplication and long division. We will continue to practice these multiplication and division skills over the next few weeks and will rely on them as we learn how to multiply and divide decimals!

Language & Literature

Our language and literature class has started the same way! We've completed MAP testing and are now moving on to study the elements of stories. This unit will take us through the first quarter. Students will learn how to analyze the story elements within books that they have picked out and checked out from our library.

Science

We're getting into gear and ready for our first science lab, which will be taking place within the next two weeks. The students seem very eager to begin our hands-on labs!

Individuals & Societies

Students will be working on a project coming up about Canada related to the 5 themes of geography. This will provide a great global perspective for our students as they learn about the landscape and features of Canada.

Bilingual

We are starting strong and we hope to continue this way for the rest of the year. Parents, please pat yourselves on the back for doing such a great job. You have sent us some great kids and it has been a pleasure getting to know each and every one of them. Our bilingual class is primarily conducted in English, but we have access to Spanish if we need it. We learn the same content as listed above, but we have the option of adapting it and digging deeper. We are in a unique situation here in the bilingual class and it is a wonderful one to be in!

Clark House

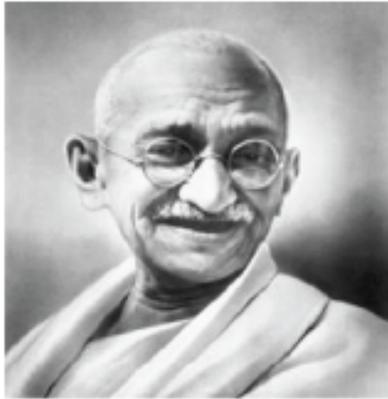
We would like to welcome 7th grade Clark students and their parents! The year is off to a good start! The teachers have been getting to know your student, and we are learning as much from them as they do from us. Your children are funny, inquirers, and learning to get along in a big world. With your support, we will help them achieve that goal this year!

Language A: Students will be delving into an exciting unit in which they will learn about the elements of a story (plot, setting, theme, character development, point of view, etc.) more in depth. We will be using a Reader's Workshop setting. Students will be looking at The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton to identify elements of a story and then look for the same elements in their own texts they chose to read! They will also have the option to craft their own stories and identify the elements.

Math: 7th grade math is starting out with fractions, which will be an ongoing skill practiced throughout the year. Fractions are often used in cooking, building and sewing, amongst other things. Please have your student help you with these activities to reinforce the importance of this skill. Our students have just finished the first round of math MAPs testing, so we have the baselines to measure their progress. We can go over those during Parent/Teacher conferences in November. There is homework a few times a week, but it never hurts to go over multiplication and division to strengthen the knowledge that will carry them through their math life.

Individuals and Societies: Student are exploring the world using the five themes of geography. We are focusing on the earth's forces that create natural disasters, biomes and what makes our culture different from others. Students will be writing a argumentative paper on which natural disaster is the most dangerous. Ask your students what they think!

Science: Currently students are preparing for their safety test, please make sure you have signed a Flinn Safety Contract and your child has returned it back to school. Our next area of study is the Metric system. In order to be successful in science this year, students need a notebook and pencil every day.



Be The
Change
You Wish To See In
The World

Gandhi House

- ❖ Mohandas Gandhi is considered the father of the Indian independence movement.
- ❖ Gandhi spent 20 years in South Africa working to fight discrimination. He created a non-violent way of protesting against injustices
- ❖ He spent his remaining years working diligently to both remove British rule from India as well as to better the lives of India's poorest classes.
- ❖ Many civil rights leaders, including Martin Luther King Jr., used Gandhi's concept of non-violent protest as a model for their own struggles.

News from the Classrooms

Individuals and Societies: Students are currently reviewing general knowledge of World Geography, including the forces that shape our planet and the societies within it.

7th Grade Math & Algebra: It is very important that students complete their work before coming to class the next day. Due to the fact that we will review the work and answer clarifying questions.

Science: Students are reviewing the scientific process. Please be sure your student returns his/her signed Science contracts.

Language and Literature: Students have started their first Reader's Workshop unit on elements of a story. Ask your student what they are reading about.

Attention Parents:

Use the Gandhi House Website to keep current with house activities and class projects. This site is updated weekly and provides links to our individual classroom sites.

<http://sites.rusd.org/gandhi-house-mckinley/>

Have you checked Infinite Campus yet? View student grades and attendance using the district's new online parent portal.

Gandhi House Teacher Contact Information

McKinley Phone # (862) 664 - 6160

Language & Literature - Mr. Konopasek – (daniel.konopasek@rusd.org)

Math & Algebra - Mrs. Grodey – (lisa.grodey@rusd.org)

Bilingual - Mr. Ponte – (andrea.ponte@rusd.org)

Science - Mrs. Mazurek – (elizabeth.mazurek@rusd.org)

Individuals and societies - Ms. Dickert – (danielle.dickert@rusd.org)

Language & Math - Mrs. Woida – (kattie.woida@rusd.org)

Science & Individuals and societies – Mrs. Gutierrez (michaela.gutierrez@rusd.org)



Individuals and Society: 8th Grade

In the classroom:

Early US History is off to a fabulous start!!! Focusing on Respect in the classroom our students started the year interviewing each other to find out our personal histories. Please ask your student to share what they learned about one of their classmates.

Students have also started learning about early Native Americans and will be starting their first IB project- picking one of the early Native Tribes of their choice, and researching further about them (later this month). We will be wrapping up the month of September by introducing explorers, which will take us into October.

Out of the classroom:

Your favorite I & S teachers are heading up the 8th Grade Team Building Trip to Phantom Ranch. Phantom Ranch provides team building as well as horseback riding and delicious meals. This will be an ALL Day mandatory field trip for all 8th Grade students. Anyone interested in donating to help us keep costs down for all students can do so by either making a donation in our main office or sharing the following link <https://goo.gl/7uUtyL>

Houdini

Science students are working on reviewing safety, the metric system and scientific method. They will then learn how to use their knowledge to solve problems. Students should have had a safety contract and a student information sheet signed by a parent or guardian and returned to Mrs. Dozier. Students have started their interactive science notebook and will be adding to this daily. Please have them show you their notebook and ensure they have one dedicated to science.

Eighth grade math students have been working on number operations like Order of Operations and Powers and Exponents. Algebra students have also started working on number operations, including Order of Operations and Evaluating Expressions. Advanced Algebra students are reviewing concepts from last year, including writing equations in slope-intercept form, point-slope form, and standard form. Finally, there will be a letter going home to the parents of Algebra students that explains the requirements for being recommended for CP Geometry next year. If you have questions, please email me at douglas.erickson@rusd.org.

Eighth grade students in Language & Literature are ready to learn! We already discussed and researched our house namesake, Harry Houdini, and created posters explaining what IB Profile Traits he exhibited, along with life lessons we found while learning about him. Students have begun working in their Interactive Writing Notebooks, which will be a record of their writing progress this year. We will be reading many short stories, poems, and articles, as well as a couple of novels, culminating in a study of "The Diary of Anne Frank" and the World War II era.

Advanced Language & Literature students should be checking out those English Festival books, especially since they are required reading! This year, the English Festival field trip will be to Carthage College at the end of March. English Festival is open to ALL students, so if you like to read, grab those books! And...don't forget: my website contains daily assignments and information (just type Teresa Murphy in the RUSD search engine), and if you need to contact me, send email to teresa.murphy@rusd.org

Angelou

In science we have been working on the metric system. We also will be reviewing the scientific method. We hope to start labs in the next week or two. Please make sure that the Science Safety Contract is turned in. Students will not be allowed to participate in any labs until the Science Safety Contract is turned in. I hope to have a wonderful year.

Language & Literature students have been working diligently to express themselves creatively through non-linguistic representations and their writing. Our first topic has been exploring problem solving world issues with superheroes and everyday heroes. The year is off to a super start and we'll begin working in our interactive writer's notebooks beginning next week.

McKinley Athletics - Viking Pride

We are looking forward to another successful and exciting year of athletics here at McKinley. Our girl's basketball team is coming off of back-to-back city championships and are looking for a three-peat. You could find the Viking Cross Country team near or at the front of most races last year and are poised for a repeat performance. Our girls Volleyball team has been second to none over the course of the past 4 years and have many returning players that look to keep us on top. The McKinley boy's Volleyball team finished second last year but it wasn't for a lack of effort, big things are expected for this year's squad. Not to be outdone by our girls team, this year's Vikings boys hoop squad will build on the great tradition of past champions and look to add another trophy to the case. Finally our track and field program has owned the track in recent memory. Capturing a city championship last year was the collective effort of many of our great athletes here at McKinley. Hard work and pride are the cornerstones of the athletic programs here at McKinley and we hope you want to be a part of it!

Welcome Back MRE!

We are happy to see many of our students return from a safe and enjoyable summer break. We welcome seven new sixth grade students into our MRE family. The first two weeks of school have been spent establishing procedures for the new school year. All of our students are now familiar with the expectations of a safe, responsible, respectful, and kind Viking. We have taken time to establish personal and academic goals for our students and staff within our MRE team. We have also started our first NWEA Map test of the year. We are excited for the 2015-2016 school year. We know our students will achieve their goals!

MRE Dept.
MRE Team

International Travel Club



In June of 2015 the McKinley International Travel Club completed its 4th international trip. The travelers had the opportunity to become real risk-takers by exploring London, Paris, Madrid & Barcelona. To say that the trip was a success is an understatement!!! Travelers had the opportunity climb to the top of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, and watch the Flamenco in Madrid, all while trying cultural foods from all of the places we visited and meet people from all over the world.

All 7th and 8th Grade McKinley students are able to travel on our next international trip to Ireland this coming June. Please contact Ms. BW at, stefanie.biesiada-webers@rusd.org for more information.



McKINLEY CHORAL DEPARTMENT

We are looking forward to an awesome year in the McKinley Choral Department! Students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade are gearing up for their first units of the year.

Choir students can look forward to our Michael Jackson unit as they learn the pop-culture phenomenon “Thriller”, which happens to be the theme of our Spring Concert. In regards to our concerts, please plan ahead for our first concert(s) of the year.

December 7th is our 6th Grade Choral Concert. **December 8th** is our 7th and 8th Grade Choral Concert. Information about concerts and concert attire was sent home with your student.

Musical Theatre students are kicking off the year with our “One Book” read of Jack and Louisa: Act One. Students will be reading the book in class first quarter. This entertaining and educational reading about two middle school kids and their experiences with the musical theatre world is sure to be a hit with our students.

In addition to our classes, there are many ways to get involved in music through extra curricular activities. Auditions for our school musical “The Wizard of Oz” are coming up in November. All roles are open. We are looking forward to putting on a fantastic show this spring!

AUDITIONS

McKinley All School Musical 2016

a tradition of excellence

**open to all middle school students
grades six through eight**

Students must attend both the Tuesday and Wednesday auditions in order to be considered for any role.

SINGING

Tuesday, Nov 17 - 3:40 to 6:00 P.M.

Students should prepare a song to sing a cappella, with an accompaniment CD or bring an accompanist

ACTING

Wednesday, Nov 18 - 3:40 to 6:00 P.M.

Acting packets will be handed out at singing auditions. Bring the packet back with you on Wednesday

CALLBACKS

Thursday, Nov 19 - 3:40 to 6:00 P.M.

Those who are called back will be notified at the Wednesday audition

**This production will run
for four performances
March 17th - March 19th**

THE WIZARD OF OZ

For more information please contact director
Robert Kroes at robert.kroes@rusd.org

Washington D.C. Trip Information!

THIS YEAR'S TRIP

There will be an informational meeting for the 2016, 8th grade Washington DC Trip.

Wednesday Sept 23rd

6:00 pm - 7:00

McKinley Cafeteria

(Enter Through Cafeteria doors near Activity doors)

General Information about the trip and upcoming fundraisers



Trip Information:

**Dates: Wednesday, June 15th 2016-
Tuesday, June 21st 2016**

**You can register online at:
www.worldstridesdiscovernow.org
Trip ID# 117044**

**Please Contact Ms. Dickert with any questions
Danielle.Dickert@RUSD.org**

*** Students are not required to attend
the first meeting to register**

McKinley's Afterzone



Get excited for another year of McKinley's amazing after school program! **AFTER ZONE!!!** Mondays through Thursdays, registered students enjoy academic and enrichment classes that include:

- Rock Climbing
- Multimedia Cartooning
- Creative Writing and Poetry
- Civil War
- Homework Help
- And More!

After Zone is available to anyone and everyone.

If you are interested in joining After Zone, please pick up an application in the office.

If you have any questions, feel free to email the coordinator, Mr. Konopasek at: daniel.konopasek@rusd.org



Greetings McKinley families! Thanks for stopping by the PTSA table during schedule pick-up and Open House. It was great to meet and talk to so many of you. We hope that the school year has gotten off to a great start for your student.

What is the McKinley PTSA?

We are the Parent Teacher Student Association and we exist to help support our students and our school. PTSA works to facilitate communication between the school and parents, provide opportunities for parents to be involved with the school, show appreciation for school staff, generate funds to support student programming, and advocate on behalf of students and families. We invite anyone to be involved. Our meetings are open, casual, and great opportunities to ask questions, learn what is going on at McKinley, and connect with other parents.

We are holding the meetings this year at 5:30 p.m. in the school library. Besides catching up on what is happening at school, we will be having guests to present on a variety of topics. We welcome you to join us on the following dates:

September 24: Topic: Infinite Campus & Parent Key Communicator with Felicia Howell and Ale Briones

November 12 (meeting starting at 5:00pm): Topic: Bully Prevention

January 14: Topic: Human Trafficking

March 10: Topic: tbd

May 12: Topic: Wrap up School Year

Dine-Outs!

Mark your calendars and tell your family and friends about the dine-out nights coming up:

Chick-fil-A	Tuesday, October 6	4:00pm – 8:00pm
Georgie Porgies	Thursday, October 22	4:00pm – 9:00pm
Buffalo Wild Wings	Wednesday, November 4	11:00am – close (voucher needed - print from website)
Noodles & Company	Thursday, November 19	4:00pm – 10:00pm
Chick-Fil-A	Tuesday, December 1	4:00pm – 8:00pm
Georgie Porgies	Thursday, December 17	4:00pm – 9:00pm
Buffalo Wild Wings	Wednesday, January 13	11:00am - close

Be sure to check the McKinley calendar and announcements on the website for additional dates and restaurants.

Shop-a-Roo!

I've been using a completely hassle-free fundraiser called [Shoparoo](#) to earn money for McKinley Middle and would love for you to join me. Shoparoo is a free mobile app that lets you earn cash donations for any school you choose, just by taking pictures of your shopping receipts. It's that easy and just takes a few seconds. The best part is that it doesn't matter where you shop or what you buy - every receipt counts!

- There are schools earning hundreds, and sometimes thousands, of dollars a year through Shoparoo.
- Plus, if you use this referral code, you'll earn extra donations for your first qualifying receipt: **giz36351**
- Join me in fundraising today! Download the free app here: <http://www.shoparoo.com/r/giz36351>

How can I make a difference?

We need your help! Currently there is only myself that serves as President and Gillian White who serves as our Treasurer, and as much as we try we just can't do it all. There are many opportunities to be involved. Any size/type of contribution will be greatly appreciated. It takes us all to make this successful **P** (parent) **T** (teacher) **S** (student) Association

Box Tops

At the end of October, we will be submitting our first batch of **Box Tops for Education**. At 10 cents apiece, they really do count up! Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. Right now we have at least \$300 worth to submit and we know it could be even more! Many of you have told us that you have been saving them at home—well now's the time to send them in! There is a big container on the desk in the office; just have your student to in and drop them off.

Communication

We are trying to get **e-mail contact information for as many families as possible this year**. We will send reminders of upcoming meetings and events and information about opportunities for you to be involved at your student's school. If you would like to be added to our e-mail list, please sent a message to mckinleymiddleptsa@gmail.com

If you would like to **become a member of the PTSA**, there is a form on the school website.

Thank you to everyone who supports McKinley and the PTSA! Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Holly Coe

McKinley PTSA president

mckinleymiddleptsa@gmail.com



2015-2016 School Meal Information Jerstad-Agerholm and Mckinley Middle Schools

Lunch/Breakfast Prices:

The price of lunch for the 2015-2016 school year is \$2.60 for middle school students. Reduced lunch is \$.40 per day for those who qualify. Students are required to take AT LEAST three (3) different components out of the five (5) offered components to have a complete meal. The five different components are: grain, meat, dairy, fruit and vegetable. One of the items chosen must be a fruit or vegetable for the meal to be complete. If a child does not have all required components he/she will be asked to pay the a la carte prices for his/her items. A la carte items are available at the middle school level and must be paid for regardless of lunch status.

Breakfast is offered at all middle schools and the cost to students is \$1.25. Students who qualify for free or reduced meals receive breakfast at no cost. Please call your child's school for serving times. Breakfast includes a daily hot breakfast or whole grain cereal, yogurt or string cheese with whole grain graham crackers or breakfast bar, fresh fruit or 100% fruit juice and hormone-free skim milk. Students need to take at least three (3) different items of the four (4) offered items to have a complete meal.

All lunch menus are available online at www.rusd.org or in the main office of your child's school. Your child's ending lunch balance from 2014-2015, whether positive or negative, will roll over to the 2015-2016 school year.

Lunch Payments:

You may send lunch payment for your student's lunch in three ways: cash, check, or online payment. When sending your child with cash or check, **please make sure the payment is clearly marked for your student.** Checks can be made payable to Racine Unified School District. Students will hand check or cash to the cashier at the end of the service line. To pay online with RevTrak, go to our District website and on the upper right-hand side, select Quicklinks and Online Payments. You will need to have your student's ID number, and there is a \$1.50 convenience fee for each transaction. Payments made before 8:30am will be credited to your child's account on that day and payments made after 8:30am will be credited the following day. Please note that payment online and by check are the most secure form of payment. Please call the food service office for information regarding lunch money refunds.

Limited charges into the negative are allowed to student lunch accounts. Students will be able to charge two (2) meals or up to (-\$5.20) for paid students and up to (-\$.80) for reduced students. A la carte items cannot be purchased if your child is in the negative. If a child is at his/her credit limit, he/she will be served an alternative meal until payment is received.

Lunch Account Balance Emails:

Balance Alert Emails can now be sent directly to your home or work email to notify you when your child's account is getting low or is in the negative. Emails will be sent out every three days. Please email Kaitlin Wieske at kaitlin.wieske@rusd.org to sign up for these alerts and include your student(s) first and last names and the school they attend. If your email is already on file with the Food Service software, you will continue to receive the balance emails.

Food Allergies:

If your child has dietary restrictions or food allergies, please contact the District dietitian Kathryn Hoff at 262-664-8701 or Kathryn.hoff@rusd.org. Proper paperwork will need to be signed by a physician and on file with the dietitian before accommodations are made.

2015-2016 Free and Reduced Lunch Application:

Applications are available at your school's main office and the Administrative Service Center. Please fill ONE application out per household and return applications in to the main office of your child's school. Also fill out the Sharing Information with Other Programs page to have your book rental, sport fees and class fees waived. If your child qualified for free or reduced lunch in the 2014-2015 school year that status will temporarily rollover to the 2015-2016 school year until October 13th, 2015, unless a new application is received prior to that date. If an application is not on file by October 13th, your child will return to full paid lunch until a new application is received.

Please contact Kaitlin Wieske at 262-631-7082 or kaitlin.wieske@rusd.org with any questions.

Racine Unified School District
Annual Asbestos Notification
(2015-2016)

As a result of the federal law AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act) all primary and secondary schools are required to develop and implement a plan for managing all building materials which contain asbestos. Included in the AHERA Act is the requirement to notify all parents, guardians and staff members, as well as organizations representing them, of activities and events with the asbestos containing building materials annually.

Asbestos has been used in many building materials due to its outstanding insulating and strengthening properties. When it is undisturbed or intact, it poses little hazard to human health. It is only when damage has or may occur that the quality of the school's management program becomes an issue.

In 1988, all buildings owned, leased, or "under the control of" the School District were inspected by EPA accredited inspectors, with building material samples analyzed by an independent laboratory. Based on the inspection, the School District prepared and the state approved a comprehensive management plan for administering the asbestos located within its buildings, safely and responsibly.

Once every three years, certified inspectors must re-inspect remaining materials, this re-inspection was conducted this past spring. In addition, the rule requires a periodic walk-through (called "surveillance") in each area containing asbestos every six months.

Short-term workers (outside contractors e.g. telephone repair workers, electricians, etc.) must be provided information regarding the location of asbestos in which they may come into contact. All short-term workers shall contact the lead maintenance person before commencing work.

Within the last year, the Racine Unified School District has conducted planned asbestos removal in response to building renovations at the following school buildings:

Jerstad- Agerholm J.I. Case Wadewitz Horlick Janes McKinley

In addition, we continue to ensure our asbestos building materials are kept in good condition by continuing our Operations and Maintenance (O&M) program throughout the buildings. Racine Unified School District continues a working relationship with Environmental Management and Consulting (Lake Mills, WI) to assist us in managing our asbestos materials.

The School District has a list of the location(s) and type(s) of asbestos containing materials found in the building and a description and timetable for their proper management. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is available for review in the School District office as well as individual school offices. Copies are available at the School District office at a cost of twenty-five (25) cents per page. Our goal is to be in full compliance with AHERA. It is our policy to maintain a safe and healthful environment for our students and our staff members. This shall be accomplished by strict enforcement of the policies regarding asbestos by the asbestos manager and the school officials. All questions or concerns regarding the management of the asbestos within the School District should be directed to Mr. Chris Dupré, LEA Designated Person for Racine Unified School District.



McKinley Website

The McKinley website provides useful information for you on a daily basis. Read the Daily Announcements, view the Activities Calendar, and read about the good things that are happening at McKinley every week!

Go to: <http://www.rusd.org/mckinley>

McKinley Middle An IB World School

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Main office (262) 664-6150
Attendance (262) 664-6155
Fax (262) 664-6196