



## McAuliffe International School

McAuliffe School News | September 8, 2016

### Principal's Message

Hello, McAuliffe Parents!

PARCC testing results from last spring have been released, and we're excited to share this with you in our Top News section below. Our students have shown single- to double-digit growth in all content areas tested, and McAuliffe is rated at or near the top in academic performance among all DPS middle schools. Please see details below about receiving your student's test results in the coming weeks via mail. While our focus as a school is to engage students in a rich range of core and elective classes and to spark their intellectual and creative interests, we're happy to receive this positive data that validates our work with your children.

Also, as we see the first hints of fall weather, this is a quick reminder to order your student's McAuliffe sweatshirts if you have not done so already. Please allow several weeks to receive your order.



Home of the Sun Devils

#### IMPORTANT DATES

**Mon 9/12**

Tryouts start for Students on Stage

**Thur 9/15, Fri 9/16**

6th Grade -  
Dinosaur Ridge

**Thur 9/15**

Collaborate School Committee (CSC) meeting, 7:00pm, library

Principal Kurt Dennis

*Note: If this newsletter is truncated by your email program, click to 'view in browser' to see the whole newsletter.*

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## TOP NEWS

### **Order Your McAuliffe Yearbook!**

Order your 2016-2017 McAuliffe yearbook online now at [www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com). Yearbooks are \$20 for early bird orders, but the price will go up to \$25 on January 13th. You may also purchase a yearbook with cash or check in Room 313 during all lunch periods on RED DAYS ONLY from Mrs. Walsh. Find information about submitting yearbook photos on our [Yearbook page](#).

### ***Students on Stage* Tryouts Next Week**

Got talent? Calling all actors, musicians, singers, magicians, and talented McAuliffe students to show your stuff at the 2nd annual *Students on Stage!* talent show. SOS tryouts will be held during next week at lunch and after school in room B12.

Please click [here](#) to see the tryout schedule. Acts will need to sign up for tryouts slots posted outside the auditorium doors. Students should be prepared to show a part of their act in 3 minutes or less and come prepared on their designated day and time. Students should email or edmodo Mrs. Beardshear if their act requires any specific technology (i.e. video projector).

### **Many School Clubs Starting in September**

McAuliffe is proud to offer a variety of clubs that meet before or after school or during advisory.

**Thur 9/22**

Late start at  
10:30am

**Fri 9/23**

Picture Make-  
Up/Retakes

**Mon 9/26, Tues  
9/27**

6th grade team  
building and  
activities

**Sat 10/15**

6th Grade Potluck,  
5:00-7:00pm

**Wed 10/19 - Thur  
10/20**

Students on Stage  
talent show, 6:00pm

**GET THE MCAULIFFE APP!**

For [iOS](#) and [Android](#) devices



Most clubs are run by parents or teachers and have either no fee or a nominal activity fee (\$25-\$30.) See the list below of clubs that are starting in September, with more starting later this year. Please see our [Clubs page](#) for full descriptions, start dates, meetings locations and times, and fees (if applicable). Any questions, please contact Activities Coordinator Sherry Beardshear at [Sherry\\_Beardshear@dpsk12.org](mailto:Sherry_Beardshear@dpsk12.org).

- Math Team (starts Sept. 8)
- 100 Mile Running Club (starts Sept. 15)
- VEX Robotics Club (starts Sept. 12/info meeting 4:00-4:30 in room 310)
- Mindfulness Mondays Club (starts Sept. 12)
- Good Readers Book Club (starts Sept. 14)
- National Geographic Bee (starts Sept. 13)
- NaNoWriMo (starts Sept. 14)
- Semantics (starts Sept. 15)
- La Raza Club (starts Sept. 16)
- LAB - Library Advisory Board (application posted September 15th)
- 8th Grade Object Study (on [GT page](#); starts Sept. 16)

## **PARCC Results**

We have recently received the results of PARCC testing from last spring, and we're very proud of the growth and academic performance of our students! Paper copies of individual student results on the PARCC test will be sent to schools on Monday, Sept. 12th for distribution home to students and families. We will send these out to families as soon as possible, so please look for your student's results in the mail in the next few weeks. Below are some highlights for McAuliffe:

- **Math**

Overall Meeting/Exceeding Expectations:

72.7%

Increase in proficiency from 2015 to 2016:

+5.8%

#2 in DPS for overall middle school achievement

- **ELA - Language Arts**

Overall Meeting/Exceeding Expectations:

81.5%

Increase in proficiency from 2015 to 2016:

+12.8%

#1 in DPS for overall middle school achievement

- **Social Studies**

Meeting/Exceeding Expectations: 52.7%

Increase in proficiency from 2015 to 2016:

+5%

#2 in DPS for overall middle school achievement

- **Science**

Meeting/Exceeding Expectations: 57.7%

Increase in proficiency from 2015 to 2016:

+2.2%

#4 in DPS for overall middle school achievement

### **Sun Devils News - September Issue**

The September issue of the student Sun Devils News is published! Please go to [www.missundevils.com](http://www.missundevils.com) to read all of the wonderful work from our Journalism students.

### **6th Grade - Dinosaur Ridge Field Trip, Sept. 15/16**

Sixth graders will be attending a field trip to Dinosaur Ridge in Morrison with their respective house. House Challenger will go on Thursday, Sept. 15 (White Day) and House Fusion will go on

Friday, Sept. 16 (Red Day). Students will be out from 9:00am until 1:00pm and will eat lunch upon returning to school. Permission slips were sent home last week, and they should be returned by Sept. 9th. The cost is \$3, paid by cash or checks made out to MIS. Contact Mrs. Madsen or Ms. Braun with any questions. We are excited for our students to engage in some outdoor, hands-on learning!

### **More Upcoming 6th Grade Events!**

Sixth grade parents, we're excited to share the plans we have for fun activities and team-building for all 6th graders on September 26th and 27th. The following is planned for September 26, and the two Houses will switch activities for Sept. 27th:

- **House Fusion** will hear from Common Sense Media and DPS Education Technology Coordinator Brian Dino regarding cyber safety. Then Ovation Company will help students “Stand Up for What is Good” during their action-packed workshop [4Word Momentum](#).
- **Challenger House** will be off-campus doing some fun activities at The MAC (Miller Activity Complex) at Phillip S. Miller Park in Castle Rock. Permission slips and more details will be coming home next week.

We are in need of parent chaperones on Monday for Challenger House and on Tuesday for House Fusion at the MAC, please sign up [here](#) if you are able to help.

### **8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip – Sept. 30th Deadline**

The deadline for the Washington D.C. 8th grade trip taking place in May 2017 has been extended to

September 30th. Please enroll your student for the trip by this deadline to lock in the current price. We currently have 70 students who are enrolled. This is an amazing trip, and you do not want your student to miss out on this amazing opportunity. Please see our trip website [here](#) for all information or email Mrs. Frederick for any additional questions at Sarah\_Frederick@dpsk12.org.

## **GT Update**

- **Destination Imagination:** So far we have two teams that are ready to go, and we are looking to set up more. If you are interested in managing a team, please email Becky Middleton at becky\_middleton@dpsk12.org.
- **Advanced Learning Plans:** Parents, by mid next week you should receive an email with instructions and links on how to help your student write their academic and affective goals for the school year. In their advisory class, your student will receive a green sheet listing the strength areas for which they will write their goals. Please refer to that sheet when writing their goals.

## **Potluck Welcome Party for McAuliffe 6th Grade Families**

All 6th grade families are invited to attend a Potluck Dinner on October 15th from 5:00-7:00pm in the South Courtyard. Please see the [Sign-Up Genius](#) for more information and to sign up to bring a dish! We hope to see you then and celebrate the first few months of school for our 6th graders.

## **ICAP for All Students**

Keep an eye out for your student's ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan) as we make the much

anticipated switch from using the College In Colorado program to the Naviance program. We are very excited to be making this change as it will make the transition from middle school ICAP to high school ICAP much smoother. Students will begin plugging into Naviance in early October for 8th grade, late October for 7th grade, and 6th graders will be introduced to Naviance and their plans in January. We will be sure to post lessons via the Activities group on Edmodo so if a student misses a lesson, they can find instructions to make it up there.

### **High School Presentations at McAuliffe**

Every fall during 8th grade morning meetings, we host local high schools to make a short presentation to our students to learn more about their school options. Below are dates of our scheduled presentations so far. Be sure to check the website of any high school your student is interested in to verify their open house dates and shadow registration information. For questions about DPS' options for secondary education, please contact Katherine Howes ([Katherine\\_howes@dpsk12.org](mailto:Katherine_howes@dpsk12.org)).

- October 5th - Northfield High School
  - October 19th - East High School
  - November 2nd - St. Mary's Academy (by sign-up only, small group presentation)
  - November 16th - George Washington High School
  - December 14th - South High School
  - January 25th - Denver School of Innovation and Sustainable Design (DSISD)
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# COMING EVENTS

## **Collaborative School Committee - September 15, 7:00pm**

Our Collaborative School Committee meets the third Thursday of every month in the library at 7:00pm, with the first meeting taking place on September 15th. This meeting is open to any of members of our McAuliffe community – you do not need to be a member of the CSC to attend.

## **Students On Stage! - October 19th and 20th**

Got talent? Calling all actors, musicians, singers, magicians, and talented McAuliffe students to show your stuff at the 2nd annual *Students on Stage* talent show. This two-night performance will be Wednesday, October 19th and Thursday, October 20th at 6:00pm. All proceeds from this event will go to the student trip scholarship fund. Go [here](#) to learn more about tryouts, performance schedules and more!

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## **WEEK IN REVIEW**

### **Emcee Tryouts**

We're in the midst of four days of tryouts for Emcees for our *Students on Stage* talent show (pictured below are some of our day 2 kids). We've been so impressed with all these 8th grade students, some of whom are so funny and quick on their feet we're pretty sure they may appear on the *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon one day.



## **Big Turnout for First Friday Coffee**

Thanks to all who were able to join us last week for our First Friday Coffee! Our uber-organized Activities Coordinator Sherry Beardshear presented the clubs and other activities happening at McAuliffe and introduced some administrative staff to our parents. We appreciate your support!

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## **REMINDERS**

### **Picture Re-Takes - September 23rd**

Make-up/Retakes picture day is September 23rd. Unlike on our first picture day, students must wear their McAuliffe uniform on September 23rd but can change into their picture outfit for their picture, then return to wearing their uniform.

If you did not already submit your order envelope and payment for school pictures, the McAuliffe office is no longer accepting orders but you can still order online. To order, go to [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) and use school code CG946588Y0. Please note the [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) website accepts picture day orders and payment several business days after

picture day but closes orders temporarily while pictures are being processed. LifeTouch sends McAuliffe sample proof sheets about 2-3 weeks after picture day that will come home with your student; this proof sheet includes a Portrait ID and Access code so you can access your child's images online and place your order. LifeTouch holds the images for 11 months from picture day.

### **Remaining Intramural Sports - Early Fall**

See dates and times below for our fall Intramurals.

Times are 4:00-5:00pm with Coach Keeney.

- Gaga Ball: Tuesday, September 6 & Thursday, September 8
- Basketball: Wednesday, September 14 & Friday, September 16
- Ultimate Frisbee: Tuesday, September 20 & Thursday, September 22

### **After-School Enrichments Start September 19th**

We have posted our new Fall After-School Enrichments! Visit our [Enrichments page](#) for details. Families register directly with the Enrichments instructor, and each class has a minimum number of students needed to run as well as a maximum number capacity. If your child is interested in one of these classes, please don't delay registering with the instructor; classes that do not meet minimum enrollment may be cancelled. For questions about our Enrichments program, please contact [sherry\\_beardshear@dpsk12.org](mailto:sherry_beardshear@dpsk12.org).

## **Two Community Events at Dahlia Campus for Health and Well-Being**

- The Family BLOCK Party! - Saturday – September 10th, 2016 – click [here](#) for details
- BeWell Youth Transit Community Forum - Sept. 17th – click [here](#) for details

### **TUF 4-H Open House**

Would you like to join a local 4-H club or learn more about it? Come to The Urban Farm at Stapleton. Saturday, September 24 at 11am. You will get information about 4-H, meet our leaders, see what projects we have, sign up, and tour the Farm. Open to kids 5 to 18 yo. The Urban Farm at Stapleton 10200 Smith Rd, Denver CO 80239. For more information visit <http://theurbanfarm.org/4-h/> or contact Caroline Batorowicz, TUF 4-H leader, at [caroline@dvierow.com](mailto:caroline@dvierow.com)

### **East High School – Shadowing and Open House**

East High School opened the online scheduler for Shadow Day appointments – visit their [website](#) to check availability. If you are unable to get a shadowing appointment, there will also be a group tour and information session on Thursday, December 8th at 9:00am.

### **Northfield High School Shadowing and Tours**

Northfield High School shadow days are every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:00-11:00am. Please contact our Parent Liaison, Heba Nabhan at 720.423.8016 or [Heba\\_Nabhan@dpsk12.org](mailto:Heba_Nabhan@dpsk12.org) with any questions regarding specific classes you would like to visit or any accommodations in which we can assist. Please click [here](#) to sign up for student

shadowing. We also invite [parents to come tour](#) Northfield HS. You will have the opportunity to meet our Principal, Amy Bringedahl, and Assistant Principal, Polica Houston. Our parent tours are every Friday from 9:00-10:00am.

### **George Washington HS - Shadowing and Open House**

GW is offering shadowing on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays from September 12 – December 13. There will be no shadowing in January. Open House events will be held on the following dates:

- October 12, 2016 – 6:00pm
- December 7, 2016 – 6:00pm

Learn about our academic programs, take a tour, meet the principal, explore electives, and discover student clubs – GW's open houses are a whirlwind tour of everything George has to offer! We also have Parent Coffees and other information on our website [here](#).

### **GreenLeaf Farm-Raiser Event - September 17th**

Join us on Saturday, September 17th for the 2016 Farm-Raiser Benefit Concert featuring the amazing world dance band Pink Hawks! Click [here](#) for more information.

WHEN: September 17, 2016, 5:00-9:00pm

WHERE: The Art Garage, 6100 E. 23rd Ave.,  
Denver, CO 80207

WHY: To support GreenLeaf's year-round youth leadership development programs

TICKETS: Starting at just \$15

### **DPS Bond and Mill Levy**

This fall, the Denver Public Schools Board of Education is putting an initiative on the ballot

seeking voter approval of bond and mill levy proposals to increase funding for our schools. We are sharing [this letter](#) to address common questions about what this might mean for your family and your community.

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## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to our Supernova sponsor, [MedNOW Clinics](#)!



See all our wonderful sponsors [here](#)!

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## HELPFUL LINKS

**Website:** <http://mcauliffe.dpsk12.org/>

**Calendar and Bell**

**Schedule:** <http://mcauliffe.dpsk12.org/about-mis/calendars-bell-schedule/>

**McAuliffe app:** Available for [iOS](#) and [Android](#) devices!

**Order school uniforms:** [McAuliffe store page](#) on [www.saiteamsports.com](http://www.saiteamsports.com)

**McAuliffe Facebook**

**page:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/702585036483556/>

**DPS Parent Portal:** [myportal.dpsk12.org](http://myportal.dpsk12.org)



