

McAuliffe International School Weekly News

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McAuliffe School News - January 12, 2017

Principal's Message

Dear McAuliffe Families,

Our Critical Needs Coordinator, Kim Ezrine and I would like to say thank you for your kindness and generosity during the holiday season. We had 130 families contribute over 700 gifts to 80 of our families in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and helped make the holidays a happy time for our kids and their siblings who otherwise may not have received presents. In addition to these gifts, teacher Maggie Leshin and Activities Director, Sherry Beardshear, secured and distributed \$32,000 worth of gifts to children at local elementary school and Head Start programs. Please see the below pictures of administrator Alicia Biggs and her GEMS delivering presents to the kids at King Baptist Church.



Thank you!

- *Principal Kurt Dennis*

IMPORTANT DATES

Fri 1/13

First Friday Coffee, 8:00-9:00am

Mon 1/16

No School, MLK Day

Tues 1/17

Keeping Youth Safe Presentation, 6:30-8:00pm

Wed 1/18

Geographic Bee, 6:00pm

Thurs 1/26

Late Start @ 10:30am

Mon 2/13 - Thurs 2/16

7th Grade Production of High School Musical 2

TOP NEWS

Join Us for First Friday Coffee Tomorrow - January 13th

Join us for our First Friday Coffee tomorrow, Jan. 13th at 8:00am in the library. We will hear from our school librarian, Amy Delpo about upcoming library events, and from a few 8th graders regarding their upcoming community projects. This a great way to stay up to date on upcoming events and issues at McAuliffe. Hope to see you there! ~ *Sherry Beardshear, Activities Coordinator*

Student Drop-off and Pick-up Reminder

For the safety of all students and staff, please do not use the employee parking lot on 26th Steet for student pick-up or drop-off. Students should be picked-up or dropped-off on Holly Street or on 25th Street (beyond the bus loading zones). Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

**Club Sports Update**

We will be offering additional opportunities for basketball starting this week. Thank you to the coaches who volunteered to take on this new programming!

- **Basketball Skills Development Mornings:** Co-ed - Tuesdays and

Thursdays, 7:00-7:45am, Jan.10th - Mar. 23rd. Signups will be available Monday, Jan. 9th in Ms. Collings office (small gym). Club sports fee: \$50.

- **Girls Club Basketball:** Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:15-5:30pm, Feb. 22nd - Mar. 22th. Signups will be available the week of February 13th in Ms. Collings office. Club sports fee: \$50.
- **Boys Club Basketball:** Tuesday and Thursdays from 4:15-5:30pm, Feb. 21st - Mar. 23rd. Signups will be available the week of Feb. 13th in Ms. Collings office. Club sports fee: \$50.

There will be some cancellations due to the Floor Hockey game schedule, we will post these when we get the schedule from DPS.

Library News

- Please look around your house and car for "Grab and Go" books and library books. We do not charge fines, but students who have books more than one month overdue can now receive a Refocus if they do not clear their account with the library staff. Questions? Contact librarian Amy DelPo at amy_delpo@dpsk12.org.
- Students are allowed to eat lunch in the library if they have a clean library account and if they agree to abide by library rules. Interested students must talk to the library staff if they would like a Library Lunch Pass.

Winter After-School Enrichments Start Next Week – Sign Up Now!

If you're interested in enrolling your student in one of our Winter After-School Enrichments, please register today! Classes include Street Dance, Group Guitar Lessons, YouthBiz StartUp, Coding Collection, Sticky Fingers Cooking, Video Buzz, and Fashion Design & Sewing. Classes that do not meet minimum enrollment may be cancelled. Please see our [Enrichments page](#) for more information and how to sign up. For questions about our Enrichments program, contact sherry_beardshear@dpsk12.org.

Yearbook Prices Increase Soon!

Yearbook prices go up to \$25 on Friday, Jan. 13th. You can buy a yearbook at school by bringing money to the office or by ordering online [here](#). The final day to purchase a yearbook is Friday, Feb. 3rd. There will NOT be extra yearbooks for sale at the end of the year, so buy it now!

Judges Needed for National History Day

Calling all parents - especially history enthusiasts! Anyone who is available on Sat., March 4th should consider volunteering as a judge for the regional National History Day competition. McAuliffe has over 80 students participating in this contest. No prior experience or historical knowledge needed. For more information on NHD click [here](#). To register as a judge, click [here](#). You can also contact Steve Foster at Steven.Foster@dpsk12.org.

Chaperones Needed for YMCA Trips in May

We are beginning to plan our Outdoor Education trips for the end of the school year, and we need parent volunteers. All female 6th graders will go to the YMCA of the Rockies at Estes Park from May 22nd-24th and all male 6th graders will go from May 24th-26th. All 7th graders will go to the YMCA in Winter Park May 22nd-24th. Parent chaperones are needed on all 3 trips! The cost for chaperones is FREE, but all chaperones will need to attend a chaperone meeting prior to the trip. Please contact Sherry Beardshear at sherry_beardshear@dpsk12.org if you would be willing to chaperone. We'll have more details on camp in the coming months, so stayed tuned!

8th Grade Health Education Unit

McAuliffe 8th graders will be engaged in a session from [The Blue Bench](#) group this trimester. The title of the course is "Let's Talk About It: Sexual Assault Prevention for Youth". There is a course description and letter of consent going home to all eighth grade parents. We are also inviting all McAuliffe parents to join us for a presentation from The Blue Bench group on Jan. 17th in the auditorium from 6:30-8:00pm. Click [here](#) for more information.

ICAP Update

- **6th Grade ICAP Presentations** - Counselors will meet with all 6th graders this month to complete a Learning Style Inventory and Career Key Survey. Students will learn about careers within their personality types. Parents can read more about ICAP requirements on our [Counseling page](#). Questions? Contact Becky Swenson at becky_swenson@dpsk12.org.
- **New High School Graduation Requirements** - As part of the Denver Plan 2020, DPS has established new graduation requirements to ensure students graduate college- and career-ready. Beginning with the Class of 2021 (this year's eighth graders), students will need to complete three key requirements to earn a diploma. These requirements include completing

their ICAP plan, 24 units of course credit in required areas, and competency demonstrations in English and math. While students will have consistent requirements at each school, their ICAPs give them the opportunity to identify and explore their passions through various courses.

Click [here](#) to read the graduation requirements letter in its entirety. For more about the new graduation requirements and the supports available visit the [DPS website](#).

DPS SchoolChoice Starts January 5th

- Round 1 of DPS SchoolChoice is Jan. 5th- Jan. 31st. DPS recommends that families complete their SchoolChoice form online via [Parent Portal](#).
- Parents of current McAuliffe 6th and 7th graders – if your student is planning on attending McAuliffe next school year, you **do not** need to do anything during the SchoolChoice window.
- Parents of 8th graders – you **do** need to complete a Round 1 SchoolChoice form and indicate your selections for high school (even if you live in your high school boundary area).
- Families can access printable forms beginning Jan. 5th [here](#). Paper forms will be available at [DPS Enrollment Centers](#) and at all DPS schools. For more information on the DPS SchoolChoice process click [here](#).
- **Alternate Options for High School** - Considering a pathway or alternate option for High School? DPS offers a number of options for students who are more successful in a non-traditional high school setting. If you are interested in possibly seeking out a Pathways high school, you should still choice into a traditional high school and then apply in February to the pathways school of your choice. To set up a meeting with the pathways transition liaison and your 8th grade counselor to talk about pathways options, contact Katherine Howes at Katherine_howes@dpsk12.org.

Sleep and Your Child – News From Our Nurse

Does your child get enough sleep to feel great and pay attention in school? Preteens and teens need 9-10 hours of sleep a night, but researchers have found that most teens get only 7.5 hours of sleep per night. Those who get poor sleep are more likely to have problems getting along with others, develop headaches and are at risk of getting poor grades in school.

There has been an increase in students who visit the health office because they complain of being tired and want to rest. TV, homework, social media and caffeine drinks may all play a part. A regular bedtime routine can help minimize these negative impacts on sleep. Consider including in that routine: a quiet, darkened bedroom, showering/bathing before bed, quiet music or light yoga before bed, a small, high carbohydrate snack before bed, aromatherapy, or hot, herbal tea are sleep aids that have been studied by researcher. [WebMD](#), [Parenting.com](#) and the [National Sleep Foundation](#) have additional resources on sleep and your child. ~ *Kathy Lehman, RN, BSN*

COMING EVENTS

Keeping Youth Safe - January 17th

Please join us for a sexual violence prevention workshop, presented by [The Blue Bench](#) on Tuesday, Jan. 17th from 6:30-8:00pm in the McAuliffe Auditorium. This workshop, specifically designed for parents, will empower participants with the knowledge, tools, and strategies to prevent sexual abuse. For more information, click [here](#). To RSVP, please email Kendra Collings at Kendra_Collings@dpsk12.org by Jan., 13th.

Geographic Bee - January 18th

McAuliffe International School's 5th Annual National Geographic Bee will be held Jan. 18th at 6:00pm. Please come watch as Xander Pacini, Anna Pacini, Cooper Hartzell, Nolan Dooling, Daniel Palmer and Nicholas Chadd vie for the opportunity to take the exam which could qualify them to compete at the state bee and then possibly on to the National Geographic Bee held in Washington D.C. Top prize for the National Geographic Bee is a \$50,000 scholarship and a great trip. Please come out to support them and maybe even learn a little geography yourself!

Seen by Scene - January 24th - 25th

Come and support our 6th grade actors on Jan. 24th and 25th as they perform a showcase of comedic and dramatic monologues, scenes, and skits.

January 24th: Period 6 at 5:30pm, Period 10 at 7:00pm

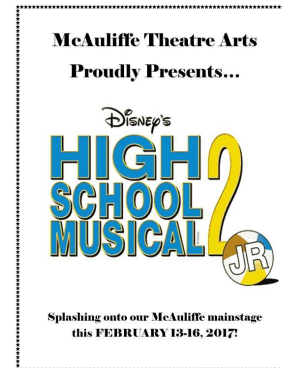
January 25th: Period 7 at 5:30pm, Period 9 at 7:00pm

Student Only Costa Rica Meeting - January 25th

For students who are traveling to Costa Rica this year, there will be a student only meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 25th during advisory in Room 202. We will be doing some more "Get to know your travel buddy" activities. PARENTS - Please make sure your student traveling to Costa Rica have a current passport. Feel free to contact Ms. Gonzales anytime at adriana_gonzales@dpsk12.org.

7th Grade Production of High School Musical 2 - February 13th-16th

Making a huge splash on the McAuliffe Theater scene is our 7th grade production of High School Musical 2! Over 150 students are involved with this incredible undertaking. Appropriate for all ages, we hope you can come support our theater arts department Feb. 13th-16th at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$20 for Spotlight seats and \$5 for general admission. Purchase your tickets [here](#).



WEEK IN REVIEW

5th Annual Giving Tree Update

Thank you, McAuliffe community, for giving so generously to our families in need this holiday season. With your overwhelming support, our Giving Tree was able to serve over 80 McAuliffe students and families with holiday gifts and grocery gift cards. In addition to these gifts, teacher Maggie Leshin and Activities Director, Sherry Beardshear, secured and distributed over \$32,000 worth of gifts to children at local elementary school and Head Start programs. Ms Biggs and her GEMS girls delivered some of these presents to the kids at King Baptist Church.



Your willingness to share the magic and joy of the season with those students who need it the most is incredibly inspiring! You are a HUGE part of what makes McAuliffe special! Thank You!



REMINDERS

2017-18 School Calendar - Initial Draft

[Attached](#) is the initial draft of the 2017-18 McAuliffe school calendar. Please know that this is the initial draft and that we will still be adding late start, early release and no transportation dates. We hope this is helpful for families in planning summer travels.

La Raza Club Hosts Tutoring Sessions

The La Raza Club would like to invite all McAuliffe students to join them as they welcome students from George Washington High School for tutoring on Thursdays after school beginning Jan.12th. We will meet from 4:00-5:00pm in room 205. This a great opportunity to meet older students who share similar experiences and are currently in the IB program at GWHS. These students are a great resource for homework or for questions about transitioning to high school. If you have questions, please feel free contact Adriana Gonzales at Adriana_gonzales@dpsk12.org or Carlene Madsen at Carlene_madsen@dpsk12.org.

Winter is Officially Here! Get your McAuliffe Beanie Today

New McAuliffe beanies are available in the office for \$15 each.

World Affairs Challenge Registration Open

This spring, McAuliffe hopes to participate in the World Affairs Challenge (WAC) again. The WAC is a program through which “students move from awareness to action while developing skills in collaboration, communication, cognitive complexity, and problem-solving.” It’s the perfect opportunity for Sun

Devils to explore what it means to be a globally-minded IB learner!

This year's theme is Smart Cities and we will meet for 8 weeks on Thursdays from 4:05-5:30pm to prepare for the competition on Sat., March 4th. The costs to participate is \$60. For more information on WAC, click [here](#), or contact Stephanie Gronholz at Stephanie_gronholz@dpsk12.org. The link to our interest form can be found [here](#).

2018 Washington DC Trip - Enrollment

If you are interested in enrolling your 7th grader in the 2018 Washington DC trip, please visit our trip [website](#). Email Sarah Frederick at Sarah_Frederick@dpsk12.org with any questions.

Support McAuliffe Through Amazon Smile

Even though the holidays are over, you can still continue to support McAuliffe while you shop! When you shop at [AmazonSmile](#) - McAuliffe receives 0.5% of all purchases you make. This is a simple way for you to support our school at no extra cost to you, with the same low prices, selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com. Simply visit [AmazonSmile](#) and select 'McAuliffe at Smiley Foundation' as your designated organization.

DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Treecycle 2017

Recycling your Christmas tree is as easy as 1, 2, 3 with Denver Recycle's annual Treecycle program. Treecycle collection is free and the last pick-up will be the weekend of Jan. 14th. Trees must be set out by 7:00am and all decorations and lights should be removed. For more information on Denver's Treecycle program click [here](#).



Weightlifting at Endorphin Northfield

Endorphin Northfield is offering an 8-week coaching intensive program geared to introduce pre-teens and teens to weightlifting at our NEW LOCATION in STANLEY MARKETPLACE.

Winter weightlifting sessions begin January 16th, cost is \$250. Click [here](#) to

enroll (use your child's name when creating an account) and for days and times. For more information, contact Neil Allman thenameisneil@gmail.com or 720-955-367

Act on Drugs Presentation - February 8th

The McAuliffe community is invited to a presentation by Lynn Riemer of *Act on Drugs* on Wednesday, Feb. 8th at 7:00pm at Denver School of the Arts. Join us for this important discussion on drug awareness and prevention. For more information on Act on Drugs visit their [website](#).

Shadowing and Open House Events at Area High Schools

Parents of 8th grade students: Be sure to visit the website of each high school your student is interested in for the most current information about shadowing and Open House dates. Below are links to area high schools:

[Denver Center for International Studies \(DCIS\)](#)

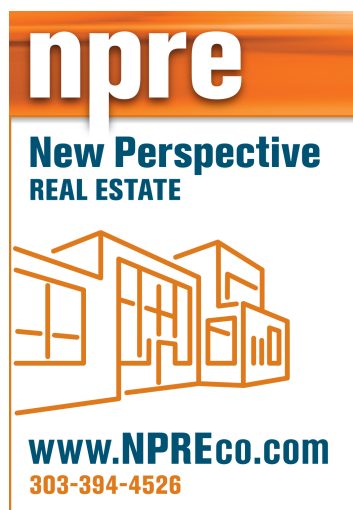
[East High School](#)

[Northfield High School](#)

[George Washington High School](#)

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IMPORTANT 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

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

DPS Parent Portal: myportal.dpsk12.org

Yearbook: www.balfour.com

Student Newspaper: www.missundevils.com

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