



McAuliffe School News - November 16, 2017

Dear McAuliffe Families,

The first trimester of the school year has come to a close and soon you will be receiving a copy of your student's report card. Please understand that grades are just one measure of a student's success and they are a snapshot of how your student performed over the first three months of the school year. At McAuliffe, we do not put intentional pressure on students about achieving high marks. Our focus with your student is on their attitude toward learning, their effort on assignments and their academic and personal growth. Other than providing you with information about your student's level of proficiency for what has been taught to this point in the school year, middle school grades are meaningless. They do not appear on a high school transcript and no college will ever see them. So when talking with your students about their grades, please encourage them to do their best, to take pride in their work and to focus on growth and learning.



Thank you and have a great Thanksgiving!

~ *Principal Kurt Dennis*

IMPORTANT DATES

For a full list of all upcoming events visit our [website](#).

Thurs 11/16

Late Start Day @ 10:30am

Fall Showcase, 5:30pm

Fri 11/17

6th Grade Field Trip to Museum of Nature and Science
8th Grade Congressional Hearings

Mon 11/20 - Fri 11/24

Thanksgiving Break (no school)

TOP NEWS

Fall Showcase is Tonight!

The McAuliffe community is invited to support the arts program at our Fall Showcase tonight - Thursday, November 16th from 5:30-7:30pm. Browse some wonderful artistic creations of the art students including visual arts displays, interactive arts pieces, art from our Zero Hour Art Club and time-lapse art videos. Enjoy the band, orchestra, and choir classes performances, and have fun with a scavenger hunt. Hope you can join us!

McAuliffe Book Fair Open During Fall Showcase

The book fair will be open during the Fall Showcase tonight from 5:30-8:00pm. If your student wasn't able to make it this week, you can still purchase books through our [online](#) fair which runs through November 21st. This is also a great way to find a wider assortment of titles to choose from for those with a broad interests. All purchases benefit McAuliffe!

6th Grade Field Trip to Museum of Nature & Science Tomorrow - Nov. 17th

All 6th grade students will be walking to the Museum of Nature & Science for an all-day field trip tomorrow. Students will be exploring a variety of exhibits at the museum including seeing an IMAX movie and Planetarium show. Students will leave MIS at 8:30am and return by 3:30pm. All students will need a sack lunch. Sack lunches will be available from the cafeteria, if needed. Due to DPS policy and the safety of our students, we cannot accommodate any early dismissal from the museum for any 6th grade student.

8th Grade Congressional Hearings Tomorrow - November 17th

Eighth grade students will be participating in the Congressional Hearing Simulations tomorrow from 8:00-11:00am. Attached is the [master schedule](#) which will help parents determine the time and locations of student presentations. You will need to know your student's social studies teacher and period, as well as which question number they were assigned. We are asking

that students stay for the duration of Congressional Hearings to support their classmates as audience members and to reduce interruptions in the hearings.

As a reminder, 8th graders will be released at 11:30am on Friday, and lunch will not be served. Busses will be running on their normal schedule (picking up at 4:00pm), so please make alternative transportation arrangements for your student if s/he takes a bus. If this is not possible, we will provide a classroom for your student to read independently in the afternoon. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Jennifer Kershaw at Jennifer_Kershaw@dpsk12.org or Steve Foster at Steven_Foster@dpsk12.org.

McAuliffe Giving Tree

Please join the McAuliffe Critical Needs Committee in spreading some holiday cheer to McAuliffe families in need this holiday season! Visit the "[McAuliffe Giving Tree](#)" to see how you can help! Give back to our school community by choosing a wish or two to grant this holiday season. As a school community, we are eager to assist these families and students in meaningful ways so that every McAuliffe student knows that they are cared for and can come to school ready to learn. Thanks so much for helping to make the holiday season bright for all McAuliffe students and their families!



Please return all gifts to the main office no later than Friday, December 15th, wrapped or in a gift bag with a tag denoting the letter-number code.

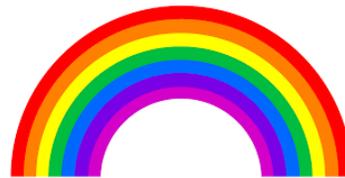
Also, help us spread the word! We'd love to get this message out to as many people as possible who may want to help (they need not be McAuliffe families to sponsor a child). If you have any questions, please contact Kim Ezrine at kimezrine@yahoo.com.

Service Learning

Has your child participated in a service learning trip yet this year? If not, have him/her go to the homeroom page on Schoology and sign-up by clicking on the link in the Service Learning folder. If he/she has already signed up, they will get to go on a trip soon. In addition, we're looking to add a few partners to our service learning program. Do you know of any volunteer opportunities available for our students? If you have a connection, please reach out to us at joallan_gehde@dpsk12.org or laura_rogers@dpsk12.org. Thank you!

Rainbow Alliance – Begins December 4th

Rainbow Alliance is a student club that provides for the concerns and interests of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered students and friends. Students can socialize in a supportive community of peers who either identify within the LGBTQIA+ or are supporters of this community. It will be held in Ms. Kochinka's classroom 315 on Mondays and Fridays during Advisory from 9:25-9:45am beginning December 4th.



Late Fall Sports

- **Boys and Girls Basketball** tryouts will take place November 29th, 30th, and December 1st in the large and small gyms. Athletes need to attend all 3 dates. Please see Mr. Koscove for more details and check Schoology. Tentative game schedules are posted on our [website](#).
- **Club Basketball (Girls and Boys)** will begin on December 11th after PREP League Tryouts. Tentative schedules are posted on our [website](#).
- **Intersession Sports - Speed & Strength Camp** - Students will develop strength and speed through a variety of skills and drills. This camp will run after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays from November 28th – December 19th. Cost is \$80. See Mrs. Collings to register. For more information click [here](#) or email kendra_collings@dpsk12.org

2018 Summer Trip to Costa Rica - Sign-up Before December 1st

It's not too late to sign-up for the Costa Rica trip! Join Mrs. Turtle and Mrs. Beardshear from May 30th - June 6th, 2018 on the Costa Rica trip. Click [here](#) to sign up until December 1st! Click [here](#) to see the tentative itinerary.

Buy Your Luminaries for the Holidays and Support Our Students

McAuliffe is partnering with neighborhood Realtor Chris Merman of Liv Sotheby's for the 3rd Annual Light the Way for Students Luminaria Event. Light up your house this December 24th with a luminaria display, which supports local schools - including McAuliffe. Click [here](#) to purchase your luminary kit or to make an online donation.



WEEK IN REVIEW

Reach for the Stars Event a Success!

A tremendous thank you to all who came out to support McAuliffe at the Reach

for the Stars event on Saturday night. It was an incredibly fun night and we raised a staggering \$103,000 for McAuliffe! The McAuliffe at Smiley Foundation is so grateful for your generosity and support of the amazing programs that make McAuliffe so unique - Thank You, McAuliffe! If you were not able to attend the event, but would like to contribute to McAuliffe, please do so [HERE](#).

7th Graders Kick-Off National History Day at History Colorado Museum

Almost 400 7th graders participated in a field trip to the History Colorado Museum last Friday, and were able to explore the NHD Theme of “Conflict and Compromise in History” with authentic primary-source artifacts! Students toured four different exhibits, and also took part in a pep-assembly-style “NHD Celebration.” During the celebration, former McAuliffe NHD Nationals qualifiers talked to students about National History Day, and students were even treated to a visit by “The Unsinkable Molly Brown!” A HUGE Thank You to all of the teacher and parent chaperones who helped to make this field trip possible, as well as History Colorado for taking on our entire 7th grade class!



Spark Change

McAuliffe students collected over \$950 for Spark Change last week! The winners get to dress up their staff member of choice. Ms. Al-Naqeeb's class will

be dressing up Ms. Howes, and Ms. Poole's class will be dressing up Mr. Verner. Date and time to dress them up is still TBD but we promise lots of pictures! Additionally, Ms. Al-Naqeeb's class won the "biggest growth" award. Her class will also get doughnuts. Way to go McAuliffe!

Journalism

Six McAuliffe Journalism students were featured on Rocky Mountain PBS Student School News. They researched, wrote the stories, and memorized all their lines. Please watch the [two minute recording](#) of these fantastic students!

Service Learning

Sixth graders visited Rosemark Senior Living Center with Bessie's Hope this week for service learning. They sang, danced and made gratitude turkeys with their elder friends and brought so much joy to the residents.



COMING EVENTS

Thanksgiving Break - November 20th-24th

McAuliffe is closed the entire week of November 20th for Thanksgiving break. School will resume on Monday, November 27th. Have a great break!

No First Friday Coffee in December

Due to the hectic holiday season, we will not have a First Friday Coffee in December. Join us again on January 12th for the next First Friday Coffee.

8th Grade Winter Production - *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* – December 11th-14th

Save the date for the 8th Grade Winter Production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson. The Herdmans are the worst kids in the whole history of the world; they lie, steal and cheat and even smoke cigars! Now they have bullied their way into the church's annual Christmas pageant! Expected to be the "worst pageant ever," the whole town has gathered in anticipation, waiting to see how the Herdmans ruin Christmas. Will the pageant be a disaster as everyone is expecting, or will the spirit of the season change the hearts and minds of all involved? Come share this hilarious holiday story with us - December 11th-14th at 6:30 pm. Presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC. Tickets can be purchased in advance [here](#) or at the door the night of each performance.



REMINDERS

DPS Weather Delay Policy

Winter is right around the corner, and Denver Public Schools wants to remind families to prepare for the cold temperatures. DPS is committed to informing families about school closures or delays as early as possible – with the goal to make the call by 5:00am. Please click [here](#) for more information on school closure or delay procedures due to inclement weather. ***Please note – schools such as McAuliffe that have a normal start time before 8:30 a.m. do not follow the delayed start schedule due to inclement weather.**

CMAS Scores Available on Parent Portal

CMAS scores are currently available on the [Parent and Student Portals](#). Parents and students can click on the "District and State Tests" section and download the PDF version of the CMAS ISRs by clicking "My CMAS Reports" in the top right corner. Parents can also find more resources for CMAS and academic standards [here](#).

Schoology / Parent Portal Support

Need additional support with Parent Portal? Check out the links below.

- [Parent Student Portal Get Started](#)
- [Schoolology for Parents FAQ](#)
- [Schoolology Parent Log in Guide](#) (includes instructions on mobile app)

Yearbook Sales - Online Only

The McAuliffe yearbook is for sale online [here](#). Sales this year will be ONLINE ONLY! The price is \$25 and yearbooks will be distributed in May. If you have any questions contact Molly Walsh at molly_walsh@dpsk12.org.

Support McAuliffe Through Amazon Smile

Attention shoppers - when shopping on Amazon, please support McAuliffe by using [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.

Safe2Tell Colorado

Parents and students, [Safe2Tell Colorado](#) offers anonymous reporting for ANYTHING that concerns you, your friends, your family or community. If you have any concerns whatsoever, call 1-877-542-7233 or submit a report [online](#).

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION AND CHOICE

8th Grade Parents- High School Student Presentations Are Here!

Local high schools will be visiting McAuliffe during advisory period throughout the fall to present to 8th graders.

- December 8th: South High School

East High School Shadow and Open House Information

Shadowing sign-ups at East is full. There will be an Open House on Thursday, December 7th from 9:00-10:30am in the East Auditorium. If you have additional questions please email eastshadowing@gmail.com.

George Washington High Shadow Information

To meet the high demand, additional shadowing spots have been added. Please visit our [website](#) to book your day! Students MUST bring the

confirmation email on the scheduled shadow day. GW will have an open house on January 11th from 5:30-6:30pm. No RSVP is needed.

Northfield High School Open House and Tours

Click [here](#) to sign-up for Shadow appointments. Tours are offered every Friday through December 8th. Sign up [here](#) for a tour. Parents, if you are interested in receiving more information on Northfield High School and all the great activities going on, sign-up [here](#) to receive their newsletter.

South High School Showcase

South High School will host a Showcase Evening on Thursday, November 16th for interested families from 6:00-8:00pm. Find more information [here](#).

DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Thanksgiving Coding Mashup

Just in time for Thanksgiving, let's mash up some computer coding! Explore multiple computer coding languages, creating unique projects as we learn. Arduino, JavaScript, Python, Scratch and build apps, video games, control circuits and robots. Offered through CodeSpire/Scholars Unlimited and CU Denver, Coding Mashup classes are offered November 20th-22nd. For more information on this class and others, click [here](#). Register online [here](#) or contact 303-381-3741 or CodeSpireInfo@gmail.com with any questions.

Sand Creek 5 Mile Fun Run – December 2nd

Colorado Masters Running Association is hosting a 5-mile Fun Run with a special Middle School 5km Division on Saturday, December 2nd at 10:00am at Bluff Lake Nature Center. Registration will be at the event – cost is \$10. For additional information and directions, please visit www.comastersrun.org. This is a challenging urban 5 mile race on crushed dirt bike trail and single track.



Denver School of the Arts Presents Drama Day - December 2nd

Calling all 6th graders! Join us on Saturday, December 2nd for a day of theatre games and workshops, to meet others students who have an interest in theatre, and to explore who you are. For just \$45, experience a full day of theatre fun from 8:00am-2:00pm at Denver School of the Arts. To register, click [here](#) or email shawn_hann@dpsk12.org.

DCIS Travel Fair – December 7th

Your opportunity to learn about student travel opportunities from all over the world! Please join us at the “Travel Fair: a showcase of student travel opportunities” on Thursday, December 7th from 6:00 – 8:00pm in the DCIS Baker cafeteria (574 W 6th Ave, Denver, CO 80204). The event is free and open to the public, with more than 20 vendors, representing language immersion, travel, and service opportunities for students from elementary- to high school. Now accepting vendors, please email dcis.community@gmail.com for more info or click [here](#).

BeWell Youth Block Captain Training

Sign your 4th-12th grade child up for the fun and interactive FREE 6-week [be well](#) Youth Block Captain Training Program, Thursday evenings through – December 14th (not including Thanksgiving). Participating youth learn to promote healthy living in their community and school, and among their family, friends, and neighbors and are recognized with a medal at the January 2018 be well Awards. For more information and to register click [here](#).

Basketball Skills Development

DOGGMentality Sports and McAuliffe para Marcus Palmer (Mr.P) will be hosting fall/winter basketball clinics - designed to develop ball handling, shooting, conditioning, and more.

- Sundays: 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/10, and 12/17
- 9:00am - 10:30am
- McAuliffe International School - small gym

Cost: \$30 per session - checks payable to DOGGMentality Sports Inc. Checks can be brought to the Business Office or given directly to Mr. Palmer. Discounts for siblings, early sign-ups and packages (minimum of 4 sessions). Please speak directly with Mr. Palmer for more information. Open to boys and girls ages 7-14. Athlete must bring his/her own basketball.

Underdogs Animal Rescue

Ever considered fostering a dog? [Underdogs Animal Rescue](#) is always looking for big-hearted fosters! (Sometimes, homeless dogs need an approved foster to step up before they can even GET OUT of the shelter.) All food, supplies, and medical care are fully covered by the rescue. Do you have room in your heart, and maybe a nice warm bed? If so, please contact Ms. Wood R at Shannon_WoodRothenberg@dpsk12.org. Thank you!

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to our Supernova Sponsor: [Town Center Dentistry](#).



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

IMPORTANT LINKS

[Website](#)

[McAuliffe School Calendar](#)

[Red / White Calendar](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

[Order school uniforms / SAI Sports](#)

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

[DPS Parent Portal](#)

[McAuliffe Facebook page](#)

Sync your Google Calendar with the McAuliffe Calendar

If you would like to sync your Google calendar with the McAuliffe calendar, click on the + Google Calendar Icon on our [calendar](#) page. You can also use the email address mcauliffeintlschool@gmail.com to add the McAuliffe calendar to your own Google calendar.

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