

# McAuliffe Monthly

MAY 2021



## We Got This McAuliffe



Dear Parents,

May is usually a time when families find themselves juggling schoolwork, Spring sports, enrichment activities, and preparing their students for the SBA. Although some of these activities may not be taking place, it seems as though we are still as busy as ever.

We have made multiple transitions to various forms of school this year, which has required extra brain power and effort on the part of our teachers, students, and families. Everything we do seems to be a bit more complicated and involves a new twist. Each day calls for flexibility and brings new learning.

Despite these challenges, our community has come together to ensure that our students continue to learn. I am so thankful for the support of our parents, effort of our students, and dedication of our teachers and staff. Thank you to everyone for your work during these most unusual times. I am so proud of the McAuliffe community as we figure out this new way of learning together.

We got this McAuliffe!

Brady Howden  
Principal  
Christa McAuliffe Elementary

### **Teacher Appreciation Week/Month**

May provides us with an opportunity to celebrate McAuliffe's talented and dedicated teachers. Although we are currently not in school, students and families were able to celebrate their child's teacher during the month of May. Please be on the lookout for additional information from our PTSA as they are currently developing plans to celebrate our teachers.

### **Computer and Text Book Return Process**

Some families have asked what the process will be to return computers and text books at the end of the year. The district is currently working on this and should have information to share with parents in the coming weeks. At this time parents can expect to return items in the middle of June, prior to school ending. Please be on the lookout for more information on this topic in future newsletters.

### **New Student and Kindergarten Registration**

Families may have noticed the topic of "Student Registration" being a regular reminder in our weekly Principal Updates. This is because enrollment numbers are down at our school and across the district.

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There are many reasons why enrollment is down. Some families may be waiting to see what school will look like next year. Others may have committed to a private school option this year due to LWSD beginning the year in a remote setting. Some families may be considering a home school option next year due to concerns about our expected return to full in-person learning. Families with younger students may be contemplating having their student participate in another year of preschool. The reality is that our decline in enrollment is most likely a combination of each of these factors.

As families consider whether or not to enroll their child for in-person learning next year I want to reiterate our commitment to providing a safe, inclusive, and challenging learning environment for all students. Students have been at McAuliffe in-person, on campus, in some form or another all year without any COVID incidences occurring at our school. We are taking every precaution possible to ensure the safety of our students, while at the same time providing an in-person learning experience. The return to in-person learning has been a success!

As we look to next year, we are planning on starting the year in-person for all students. As we plan for next year it is my hope to retain our excellent staff and have lower class sizes for our students. This can be accomplished by having all eligible students enrolled prior to the end of May.

I would encourage families to register their student, even as they wait for more information to come from the district. This will help ensure our staffing numbers are accurate, which impacts students in terms of class sizes and teacher assignments. **At this time our staff will be reduced by two teachers next year.** That being said, we are close to adding staff in a number of grades – all we need is more students! If you have neighbors or friends who have not yet registered their child, please remind them to do so.

All necessary registration documents can be accessed on the LWSD website and uploaded securely. Parents who are unable to upload documents may send them to the school by U.S. mail or contact the school to arrange a safe drop off.

Kindergarten: Parents who have children who will be five years old on or before August 31st can sign up for kindergarten at the link below.

[Registration Link](#)



## MAY 2021

TBD	Teacher Appreciation Week
5	Library Book Pick-Up/Drop-Off 9:00am-2:15pm
19	Library Book Pick-Up/Drop-Off 9:00am-2:15pm
31	No School—Memorial Day

## JUNE 2021

1	No School
2	Return All Library Books
7-11	5th Grade Virtual Camp
10	PTSA Board Meeting, 7:00pm
15	5th Grade Promotion
16	Last Day of School



## MUSIC

**May... Happy Spring!** A large range of topics have been covered in the Music Room thus far! There is still MORE to come. In May, our lesson titles for grades 2-5 include, "Enchiladas and Tamales" (songs from Mexico to celebrate Cinco De Mayo), "Disney Blowout" (a nod to our favorite Disney songs), "Let's Go Camping" (camp songs and more), and ending with "Memorial Day 2021." Lessons for K/1 will include, "Mother's Day/Father's Day/Family", "The Sea and Sea Creatures/Fish", "Dogs and Sun" and "Memorial Day." Our hope is to ignite your students' interest in music. Janet and Erynne



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## PE

Hello Challengers!!  
 Wow we cannot believe it's May! I'd like to welcome Suzanne Hart (who teaches 3rd and 4th PE) back from maternity leave! PE is going to be lots of fun this month! The 2020 Olympics will be in Japan this summer. We will be introducing an Olympic event each week. For instance, karate, soccer, baseball/softball and track and field are a few that will be fun for the kids! Enjoy the lessons!



Stacie and Suzanne

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## LIBRARY

Happy May! A lot is happening in the library. Many fourth and fifth grade students are in the midst of battling it out in Battle of the Books, students continue to do their weekly asynchronous library lessons on Wednesdays, and three days a week from 3:20 to 3:50 we have optional live connection time. We also continue to make books as available as possible to students through bimonthly book pick-up. We have two more pick-up dates this year. Those dates are May 5<sup>th</sup> and May 19<sup>th</sup>. On June 2<sup>nd</sup> we will begin the push to round up all the checked out materials to wrap up for the year. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions!

Julie  
[jumartin@lwsd.org](mailto:jumartin@lwsd.org)



## COUNSELOR CORNER

Hello McAuliffe Families,  
 Happy Mother's Day to our awesome McAuliffe moms! Thank you for all you do for your families - this year more than ever before! Your children have been so strong and brave this year and encountered yet more transition in the past few weeks. With almost half of our students returning in-person, I have returned to part-time in-person as well. I've loved seeing students at recess, lunch or walking with them outside. I am also continuing to support our amazing remote students through TEAMS. I will be in the building two days a week on Tues/Thurs and can meet with students (socially distanced/outside) Remote students and parents are continuing to meet via TEAMS, as we have been all year. You or your child can email me to check in, ask questions or have social time by inviting friends to a remote Lunch Bunch or an individual meeting. Remember, I'm here to support and include ALL our students and families. Enjoy the beauty of May! Lisa Daniel, McAuliffe Counselor (425)936-2620 [ldaniel@lwsd.org](mailto:ldaniel@lwsd.org)



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