



McCarthy-Towne Bulletin

June 5, 2009
Volume 38, No 10

School Improvement Plan

by Nancy Kolb, McT Interim Principal

Each year the McT School Council submits a report to the School Committee describing the work accomplished on the current School Improvement Plan goals. This year's goals and a summary of the work are described below:

MATH McCarthy-Towne faculty last reviewed its mathematics curriculum from 2001–2003. This review studied how McT's math curriculum aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, and made recommendations to adopt a new math program for grades 4–6.

Last year the faculty decided that it was time to begin the process again. During the summer, a representative from every grade level participated in an R&D plan for this year's study.

We decided to use our monthly grade level meetings to share information across grade levels. Each month one math area was studied. The areas include: Number Sense, Operations, Patterns, Relationships and Algebra, Geometry, Measurement, Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability. These questions guided our discussions:

- What objectives are introduced, worked on and mastered in each area? Are there any gaps between grade levels?
- What strategies, methods and materials does each grade level use to teach objectives in each area? Do we need to supplement or change what we are doing?
- How does each grade level assess the level of mastery? Do we need to revise the assessments?

In addition to our monthly grade level meetings, teachers planned additional professional development time during the month of January. Grade 3 teachers met for a full day to evaluate their new math text edition of TERC Investigations. Grade 4, 5, and 6 teachers met for a half-day to evalu-

ate and share teaching and assessment strategies used with their Scott Foresman math texts.

We used assessment data from daily teaching, unit tests and MCAS to evaluate our programs. This year each grade level (3–6), also spent time during CAP (Collaboration and Planning) to evaluate MCAS assessment results. Teachers use item analysis data to look for patterns and to evaluate whether we need to supplement our curriculum, change or enhance teaching methods.

The faculty decided to purchase a new version of the Scott Foresman math materials and texts, *Envision*. This program is designed to use with our new technology, Smartboards and the teacher MacBooks.

THE ARTS This year we hired a new Art Integration Consultant, Hanna Melnychuk. A committee of three faculty members worked with Hanna to provide a smooth transition, define the needs of the faculty and ensure communication between both. Upon recommendation of the committee, Hanna began meeting with grade level teachers during common planning time. This proved a reliable and effective way of enhancing communication, supporting curriculum projects and ensuring that art materials were organized and available for class projects. While Hanna continued to support the current/on-going curriculum studies and projects, she also developed new projects to enrich McT curriculum. Hanna collaborated on joint projects with our Sloyd Teacher, Heidi Kupferman, and this new partnership is offering exciting, new curriculum projects for McCarthy-Towne.

McT's School Committee Presentation in March featured the importance of Art Integration as one of its Values.

VALUES During the summer and the first weeks of September, I met individually with the faculty to record their thoughts about

Mark Your Calendar

JUNE

4, Thursday
Snack Sale

5, Friday
Parent Appreciation
Breakfast, 8:30–11 AM

10, Wednesday
Elementary Band Concert,
7 PM ABRHS Auditorium

12, Friday
Scrip Order deadline

16, Tuesday
Ice Cream Social,
5:30–7:30 PM

17, Wednesday
PTSO Meeting, 7 PM

18–24
Final Lost & Found Fair

AUGUST

21, Friday
Student placement online

28, Friday
Class lists online

SEPTEMBER

1, Tuesday
School Opens, 8:30 AM

4 & 7
NO SCHOOL,
Labor Day Weekend

See page 8 for an important message about the last day of school!

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McCarthy-Towne and the principal search. The faculty wanted to describe the values that make McCarthy-Towne unique. Many successful schools share similar traits but the faculty wanted to articulate the values that may not be part of other successful schools. Parents were invited to give input during the Principal Search Process. The final document was published in the April Bulletin and is on the McT web site (<http://mct.ab.mec.edu/values.shtml>).

LOOKING AHEAD The School Council in collaboration with the faculty, has developed the following goals for the upcoming school year:

Goal #1: Focus on advancing the mathematical concepts and skills of students at McT. The faculty will:

- Implement the effective use of the new Scott Foresman curriculum materials;
- Continue monthly grade level discussions and study to refine understanding of the level of students' concept/skill mastery and how it is accurately assessed.

Goal #2: Continue to evaluate the implementation and practice of McT values during the period of administrative transition. We will:

- Ensure that McT values are supported and remain the foundation of the school's programs;
- Continue and enhance communication of McT values to the parent community, school district and administration;
- Encourage and develop communication of McT values to the greater Acton community.

Goal #3: Oversee the implementation of the Wellness Policy. A sub committee of the School Council in com-

munication with the School Council will:

- Develop guidelines for each standard (Nutrition Education, Physical Activity and other school-based events;)
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Wellness Guidelines.

Goal #4: Explore ways in which McT can expand its place in the global community

- Explore the possibilities of a World Language Program;
- Continue to enhance and improve the integration of international families into the McCarthy-Towne Community.
- Continue to explore and develop outreach and connections with the global community.

The School Council thanks two outgoing members, Jayanthi Sampathkumaran and Betsy Gitelman, for their valuable input and participation. Jayanthi has been a member of the Council for the past six years and Betsy for the past two. We welcome two new members for the 2009–11 school years, Ann Budner and Maureen Jones.

McCarthy-Towne deeply appreciates the fundraising efforts. Your generosity during these tight fiscal times has enabled us to fund positions we believe are critical to the school. The faculty recently voted the use of funds donated by the PTSO for our next school year. We are pleased to continue the Art Integration Consultant, Parent Involvement Coordinator, additional hours to our Library Media Assistant, two reading assistants and classroom assistants. A small reduction was needed and we decided to reduce classroom assistant time in grades 3–6 by 1.3 hours per classroom. Again, thanks to all who have strengthened and enriched the McT experience.



Placement for Next Year

from the office

Parents/guardians of students in kindergarten through 5th grade will be receiving a letter at spring parent-teacher conferences with the child's user name and password for access to the on-line emergency card. You will need this information to access class placement information, which will be posted on Friday afternoon, August 21.

Please keep this letter in a safe place where you can find it. Your child's user name and password stays the same through high school graduation and you will need to update the emergency card information and medical authorization every year until your child graduates from high school.

Also remember to update the card any time your address or contact information changes, or if your child's health information changes.

June Lost & Found Fair

The final Lost & Found Fair of this school year will be displayed during the final week of school—**Thursday, June 18 through Wednesday, June 24.**

All items in the Parker Damon Building Lost & Found with legible names on them (preferably first and last names) are brought to the school office, and a note is sent to the student to claim them. Items without identifying names are always displayed in the hallway outside the multi-purpose room at the bottom of the main staircase. Any items not claimed by the end of the fair will be laundered and donated to charity. Please remind your children to check the Lost & Found Fair for items that they may have lost.

Families are welcome to check the Lost & Found anytime the building is open. (When school is in session, please remember to sign in the school office before going to the Lost & Found area).



by Lynne Densen and Kim Clark, PTSO co-chairs

What a terrific year this has been! As of today, the McCarthy-Towne PTSO has raised almost \$94,000 during this school year and we are not done yet; we still have a couple fundraisers that are not closed. Thanks to all the parents who organized, volunteered or attended an event, and to the teachers who have gone beyond the call of duty (performing at the LipSync, helping at our annual auction, helping at the upcoming Ice Cream Social and running the Spirit Wear Sale), and to **everyone** for supporting our school.

We are very fortunate to have most of our PTSO chairs returning next year. However, we have some very important positions still open: auction co-chairs, backpack flyer coordinator, and directory co-chair. These positions can be filled by one person or by two co-chairs (former chairs will still be at school and will be available to help train you). Attendance at PTSO meetings IS NOT mandatory, but is a great way to get involved. Information on the open positions can be found on our website—www.mctptso.org/getinvolved. We will be voting on the nominations at the June 17th PTSO meeting.

Below is the budget for the 2009–2010 school year which was approved at the May 13 PTSO meeting.

CPAC/Art Integration.....	\$ 2,700
Hospitality/PICOC	300
Safe Arrival.....	400
Student Aid.....	400
Contracted Services	91,600
General Expenses	500
Credit Card Expenses.....	400
6th grade graduation.....	500
TOTAL	\$96,800

The contracted services budget covers the Art Integration Assistant, the Parent Involvement Coordinator, an additional Media Assistant, Reading Assistants hours, and Classroom Assistants hours. If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Densen (lynne.densen@verizon.net) or Kim Clark at (kclark1111@yahoo.com).

A Request from the Health Office

In response to the recent outbreak of H1N1, the Acton schools are now tracking absentee trends. We think this will be a proactive measure for dealing with many communicable diseases. When you call Safe Arrival, please indicate the reason for your child's absence. If you are uncomfortable leaving this message please contact Nurse Betty Johns directly at 978-264-3374.

Notice to 6th Grade Parents

from the office

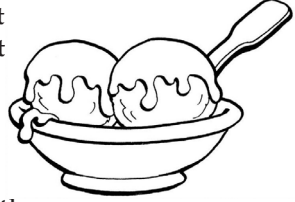
Before the sixth grade students' files go to the Jr. High School, Nancy Kolb will go through and purge them of extraneous papers. These papers are destroyed unless parents would like to have them. For some students, there will not be any extraneous papers.

If you would like to have the papers from your child's file, please notify the office in writing by the last day of school. The school office will let you know when you can come in to pick the papers up.

McT Ice Cream Social—Tuesday, June 16

Please join us for the end-of-the-year Ice Cream Social on **Tuesday, June 16th from 5:30–7:30 PM** on the Parker-Damon Building back playground (or inside if it rains).

This is a fun celebration for the entire family. We will have five different fun carnival games and a new giant inflatable obstacle course. Back by popular demand, the Pocket Lady, as well as face painting, tattoos and nail art. And of course, don't forget the pizza and the big and messy Kimball's ice cream sundae that just can't be missed!



A flyer is attached with more details and a ticket order form. If you know you're coming, please try to pre-order tickets (by June 12) to help us better anticipate ice cream and pizza needs. Thanks and we hope to see you there!

Volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Help is needed for set-up (4:30–5 PM), clean-up (7:30–8 PM), run a game, dish out ice cream, hand out pizza, or help at admissions (5:30–6:30 PM) or (6:30–7:30 PM). If you can help, contact Kate Murray (kmurray@mail.ab.mec.edu).

Spring Appeal

The spring appeal letters went out last week and are due back. If you had wanted to give an additional donation to McT during our spring appeal, either send the donation form back ASAP with your child, or mail it directly to school. Additional forms are available on the PTSO website—www.mctptso.org/forms or in the McT office.

We are still a little short of the total we had hoped to reach to fund contracted services next year (**\$2,200 short as of Monday, June 1**). While there are still a few fundraisers that have not yet ended—scrip, onecause.com, amazon.com, recycling—they will not be able to bridge the gap. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lynne Densen or Kim Clark. Thank you in advance for your generosity, now and throughout the year.

Family Photo Day: September 20, 2009

Just think, this year you could...

- Finally get the whole family together in one photo (imagine that!)
- Have a picture of the kids all clean at the same time
- Give the session as a gift for a new mother or a soon to be empty nester
- Get a good shot of yourself or and your family for Facebook or Linked in
- Surprise yourself and sign up now for whatever comes on that day

The list goes on and on... you won't want to miss this opportunity! Sign up now for the annual McT Family Photo Day set for Sunday, September 20, 2009 (rain date October 4).

Photographer Julie L'Heureux (McT mom!) will be taking photos at Acton Arboretum from 8:30 AM–3:00 PM. Sittings are scheduled every 10 minutes and cost \$40 per photo group/sitting (whole family, kids, kids and dog, etc). The best part is, \$35 of the \$40 sitting fee goes directly to McCarthy-Towne! The sitting fee includes one 8 x 10 photo. To see some examples of Julie's work, visit her website at www.sunlightphotography.net.

Sign up now to be guaranteed a time slot!

To schedule an appointment, contact Sandy Billings (sandybillings@verizon.net). Please include your name, phone number, who will be in the picture and 3 time slots that would be convenient for you (10 minute slots available).

Send \$40 payment to Sandy at 33 Mohegan Rd, Acton, MA 01270. Please make checks payable to McT PTSO.

Principal of the Day

All around the school is evidence of our successful auction. Our newly appointed superintendent, Steven Mills, had the pleasure of enjoying breakfast with our 3rd grade teachers after he bid on and won "Breakfast with Abby."

If you ventured into McT on May 15th or 18th you saw a very different principal and each principal wanted to address you personally:

Hi, McT Parents,

I'm "Principal of the Day" for May 15. First thing I did today was go and look at all the secret places in the school. I liked going on the balcony the most. It was lunchtime and I got all the McT and Merriam kids cheering for me.

My proclamation today was that every class in the school got to have 10 extra minutes of recess. Everybody liked it.

When I went into my sister's room everybody started saying, "All Hail, Ivor." I thought that was really funny.

Today was my favorite day I ever had in school!

—Principal of the Day, Ivor Dolan

Dear McCarthy-Towne Parents,

Today I was Principal of the Day (May 18). I went to go observe some classrooms. I liked it because everyone was quiet and listening when I talked to them. Sometimes the kids were pretty silly and said, "All hail, Isaac."

My sister Melanie was my assistant during lunch and we had pizza together with another friend, Dwight.

It was pretty interesting when I went up to the balcony and could see down to the cafeteria. I also inspected the kitchen; the freezer was really cold (it smelled really good in there). I also went to visit the kiln room and it was boiling up some clay. I also went to visit the boiler. It was a little hot.

I read a Mexican book to Janet's Kindergarten class and I could read the words in Spanish. It was a great day being the Principal!

—Principal of the Day, Isaac Dawson

McT Scrip Program Reminder

The deadline for our last order of the year is Friday, June 12. The Scrip store cards should be in backpacks by Friday, June 19. Additional forms are available on the PTSO website—www.mctptso.org/fundraising/scrip, or you can pick one up in the office.

SPECIALS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

Kmart is offering 6% instead of normal 4%

Sears is offering 6% instead of normal 4%

Home Depot is offering 5% instead of normal 4%

Please contact Lynne Densen (978-266-2952) or Maureen Jones (978-266-2874) if you have questions about Scrips.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

There are so many members of our school community who have volunteered their time and talents to help make McCarthy-Towne such a wonderful school. Below are a few end-of-year thank yous.

Thank You Outgoing PTSO Chairs!

Many thanks to the following outgoing chairs for all their hard work!

Kim Clark, *Basketball Snack Sales*

Joanie Davis and Maureen Ryan-Friend,
General Mills BoxTops

Lynne Densen, *Sr. PTSO Chair*

Amanda Dindal, *P.D.B. Lost and Found*

Maryellen DiPalo, *Family Photo Day*

Carolyn Imperato and Susan Lerner,
Auction Chairs

Tina Narbone, *Yard Sale*

Tammy Sarnelli, *Gift Wrap*

Debbie Simon, *Secretary*

Debbie and Lloyd Simon, *Funding Factory*

Kathleen Surdan, *PTSO Liaison*

The McCarthy-Towne Buddy Family Program

from Marie Clougher

Thank you to the veteran McT families who welcomed more than 40 new families to the McT community this school year. We hope that the families who joined McT during the 2008–2009 year have felt welcomed, and are comfortable within our school. Many new friendships have been formed this year!

If you are interested in becoming a Buddy Family volunteer, or have questions about the program, please contact Marie Clougher (mjc-fg@verizon.net or 978-266-3707). We look forward to welcoming new families to McT in the fall of 2009. We'd love to have additional veteran family volunteers, including anyone new this year who would like to be involved from "the other side" next year.

Thanks again to everyone involved in the program this year! Have a wonderful summer!

Thank You Sloyd Volunteers

from Heidi Kupferman

The Sloyd Studio continues to be an active and creative workshop due to the supportive help from parent volunteers. Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with special projects throughout the year, as well as the following steady helpful hands: Stacy Harris, Pauline Thorpe, Maureen Greer, Kathy Cullen, Nick Francis, Mignonne Ammeriaan, Jean Smith, Gail Gecawicz, and Nancy Richard.

Thank You Bakers

from Lynne Densen

Thank you to everyone that either baked or brought something for an event this past year; Kindergarten tours, School Committee, Teacher Luncheon, Lip Sync, and Yard Sale. We really do appreciate it!

Thank You

from Astrid Trostorff, PI/COC

Thank you to all the people who volunteer and help make McCarthy-Towne School such a special place for children, including (but not limited to):

- Suzanne Kissanne for assisting on Read Across America Day;
- Zoila Ricciardi for translating into Spanish the invitation for the PDB International Night;
- 1st grade student Jenny Snow and her dad David for donating wonderful artist's supplies from an artist friend who was downsizing;
- Marie Clougher, Nicole Lippa, Tammie Kaminski and Suzanne Kissane for many Thursday mornings Student Council Snack Sale Supervisors;
- Rebecca MacNeill, Wendy Marlowe, Kate O'Connor and Nancy Tighe for photographing student artwork for portfolios.

And a special thank you for the support through the years to all our families who leave McT this June as their youngest or only go on to new school next year.

Sun Safety for Children

Summarized by the APS/ABRHS Nurses

Childhood sunburns can increase your child's risk of developing skin cancer as an adult. Even a suntan can be harmful to children. Tanning is an outward sign of internal skin damage. Research shows that much of the damage to skin is done in the first 18 years of life. Protecting skin and eyes during these early years can reduce the risk of some types of skin cancer by up to 78%. Melanoma is a cancer of younger people and can start as early as adolescence.

Youth and Skin Cancer

- 50% of lifetime exposure to UV light occurs during childhood and adolescence.
- It can take less than 10 minutes for a child's skin to burn.
- Children with severe sunburns are at an increased risk for skin cancer.
- A person born today is twice as likely to develop malignant melanoma compared to someone born only a decade ago and 12 times more likely as someone born 50 years ago.
- Being sun safe is the first step to reduce the chances of getting skin cancer later in life.



Teach Children Sun Safe Habits

Children learn healthy habits best at a young age. Therefore, it is important to begin protecting your children from the beginning and teach them the importance of sun safety. With sun damage accumulating over a person's lifespan, beginning sun safety habits at a young age should be a priority.

Be sure to follow these sun safety tips:

- Maximize protection between the hours of 10 AM–4 PM.
- Wear sun protective, light colored clothing including long sleeved shirts and pants made of tightly woven fabric.
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat that protects head, face, ears and neck. If a baseball cap is worn, make sure to use sunscreen on ears and neck.
- Wear UV-protective sunglasses with 99%–100% UV absorption.
- During peak sun hours (10 AM–4 PM) seek shade. Shadow rule—if your shadow is shorter than you, the sun's rays are at their strongest and you should seek shade.
- Encourage children to play in shaded areas, especially during peak sun hours.
- Use a sunscreen of SPF 15+ and apply a generous amount (about a palmful) 30 minutes before going outside.
- Reapply Sunscreen every 90 minutes or after swimming, towel drying or perspiring, even if the label says the product is waterproof. Don't forget lips and ears—both can burn easily.
- Strongly discourage the use of tanning beds.

For further information, visit the following web sites:

www.shadefoundation.org

www.cdc.gov/cancer/skin/chooseyourcover/guide.htm

CORI Renewal at Ice Cream Social

from the office

Don't be left out of chaperoning those early fall 2009 field trips because you forgot to renew your CORI! All adults who volunteer in the public schools must complete a CORI check. If you have not filled out a CORI form in calendar year 2009, your CORI with the APS and AB Regional Schools will expire on June 30, 2009.

Please remember to submit a new CORI form any time you are in school before the end of the year. You must submit the form in person along with a photo ID (driver's license, passport) which we will photocopy. CORIs submitted this year will cover all APS and AB Regional Schools related activities through June 2012.

As an added convenience, Jean Onorato will be available to process new CORIs at the McT Spring Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, June 16. Remember to bring your license or other photo ID and look for Jean in the multi-purpose room, just inside the playground area from the Social.

News from the Sloyd Studio

Please stop, look and enjoy the wonderful and varied student artwork on display before it comes down at the end of the year. Exhibits are located in the following areas of the school.

Library:

Grade 5 Weathervanes and Grade 2 Ceramic Frogs

Office Display Case:

Grade K Wooden Birds

Hallway by Computer Lab:

Grade 4 Story Box Collages

Hallway by Sloyd Room:

Grade 2 Papier Mache Masks

Grade 3 Ceramic Gargoyles

Grade 1 Printed Bugs

Grade 6 Wood Collages

More Weathervanes by Grade 5

Landscape Committee Update

by Karen Dean, (McT PDBLC Co-chair)

Thanks to the few who attended “Spring Training for Gardeners” in April. We hope you will continue to join us on weeding Thursdays whenever you can. If you were unable to attend, but would like a copy of the handout “Things to Consider When Choosing a Plant for Your Garden”, please email me (dkdean83@gmail.com).

I wish to extend a sincere thank you to Rebecca, Elsa and Alex MacNeill, who joined me for the Parker-Damon Spring Clean-Up Day on Sunday, May 3rd.

We celebrated Earth Week in May (after a 2-yr lull). Thanks to the classes who improved the school’s green areas by raking, spreading compost and planting. The improvement in the upper parking lot is due in large part to the following classes: Rachel’s 6th grade, Callie’s 4th grade, and Heather’s 1st grade. Thanks to Ann’s class for planting the hostas outside the entry doors. And thanks to the parent volunteers who helped during Earth Week: Penny Pitan, Sarah Burianek, and Suzi Yarin.

Please consider joining the landscape committee. All help is appreciated in this endeavor to keep our school grounds pleasant for all who work, visit and play here.

Yard Sale Success

from Tina Narbonne and Brenda Simpson

The spring Yard Sale on May 9 raised \$4,050 to support McT programs! Thanks to all who made this possible by donating, volunteering, and shopping the sale! We received so many wonderful donations. We can’t thank the McT community enough for your generosity and for your willingness to set aside items throughout the year for this event. Many items sold and all leftover goods were donated to charities. HGRM, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Bagong Kulturang Pinoy, and Got Books all came to help clear out the cafetorium after the sale.

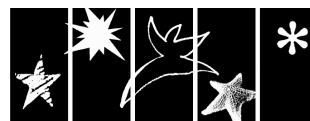
We’d like to give special thanks to our Coordinating Team—Jean Bradley, Darlene Butler, Amanda Dindal, Rebecca MacNeill, Connie Olden, Wendy Schaad, and Mariah Straayer—whose invaluable help took care of the advertising, signage, and organizing of the day.

We also had many volunteers (and their McT kids) who helped with set-up and with tasks throughout the sale: Sandy Billings, Petra Charisse, Julie Driscoll, Suzi Eppling, Nick Francis, Ginny Galletta, Julie Greenspan, Julie Janke, Pete Jones, Mimi Kirkman, Susan Miller, Kim Nolan, Yvonne and Malcolm Phillips, Maureen Ryan-Friend, Debbie Simon, Vikki Spaulding, Michelle Silbert, Laurie Taylor-Teran, Suzanne Ward, Tina Watlington, and Suzi Yarin. We also have a special thank you to McCarthy-Towne alumnus, Akarsh Vijayashankar, a 9th grader, who came back to help his elementary school, carting in load after load of donated goods from the parking lot on Friday night.

We are truly grateful for all the help and apologize if we’ve missed anyone!

CPAC Assembly: Sol y Canto

by Francesca Ricciardi



Massachusetts Cultural Council

On Friday, May 8, McCarthy-Towne School was treated to a wonderful bilingual concert by Sol y Canto, the award winning Pan-Latin ensemble led by Puerto Rican/Argentine singer and bongo player Rosi Amador and New Mexican guitarist and composer Brian Amador.


Since 1994, Sol y Canto has brought their unique style to national and international venues, including appearances at the Kennedy Center, the White House, the California World Music Festival, Boston’s Symphony Hall, Puerto Rico’s Museo de Arte and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The Boston Globe has hailed them as “sublime ambassadors of the Pan-Latin tradition.” In addition to awards for several of their releases, they have earned recognition by Boston Magazine as “Best of Boston” for Latin rhythms and were named “Outstanding Latin Act” by the Boston Music Awards.

Sol y Canto is known for making their music accessible to Spanish and non-Spanish speaking audiences of all ages. During the concert, students practiced many Spanish words and phrases as lead singer Rosi Amador translated the names of instruments, body parts, numbers, words of friendship and of shared community. Some favorite songs were: *El doble de amigos* (Twice As Many Friends), *La fiesta del tren* (The Train Party), *Barquito de papel* (Little Paper Boat), *Los números* (Numbers), and *Under One Sky* (Bajo un solo cielo). In addition, some volunteer in the audience demonstrated a classic circle game which Rosi taught to in English and Spanish—*Chequi morena* (Shake It, Morena). These songs can be found on Sol y Canto’s children’s music CD *Twice as Many Friends/El Doble de Amigos*. The CD is a Parents’ Choice Award winner and features a fun and celebratory collection of bilingual children’s songs for singing, dancing and learning.

You can hear some of the music on the Sol y Canto website—www.solycanto.com. There’s also a section on the site for parents and teachers with lyrics, activities and information. Hope you have a chance to check it out!

The Sol y Canto concerts were sponsored by the McCarthy-Towne PTO and supported by your participation in the CPAC/Art Integration Fund. Thank you for your support of that program. The concerts were also supported in part by a grant from the Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

McCarthy-Towne School – JUNE 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 Snack Sale	5 Parent Appreciation Breakfast, 8:30–11 AM	6
7	8	9	10 Elementary Band Concert, 7 PM ABRHS Auditorium	11	12 Scrip Order deadline	13
14	15	16  Ice Cream Social, 5:30–7:30 PM	17 PTSO Meeting, 7 PM	18 Lost & Found Fair	19	20
21	22 Lost & Found Fair	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

from the office

Due to the closing of McCarthy-Towne and Merriam Schools on May 22 (due to the H1Ni flu in the Parker Damon Building), Superintendent Bill Ryan has requested a waiver from the State Commissioner of Education for the state requirement of 180 days of school per year. He has not had a response as the McT Bulletin goes to press. The parent community will be notified via McTNews and backpack flyer when Mr. Ryan receives a decision from the state.