



McCarthy-Towne Bulletin

June 25, 2009
Volume 38, No 11

Congratulations McT Class of 2009

by Nancy Kolb, McT Interim Principal

It has been a privilege and an honor to be your principal for your last year at McCarthy-Towne. Sixth grade is an important year and a culmination for many of you of seven years at our school. You are special in many ways. You are the first class to spend your entire elementary school experience at the Parker Damon Building. As the leaders of our school, I looked to you to help solve some of the problems and challenges we faced. You always took the challenge seriously, listened carefully and respectfully, and provided some great solutions. I am impressed with your leadership on Student Council, your commitment to working with the students in Kerry and Ann's class and your care of our Kindergarteners at bus time. You are great role models.

McCarthy-Towne thanks you for all you have done. Please come back and visit and tell us about your new adventures. Good luck!

Rachel Bennett's Class

Arielle Chernin
Eric Feirouz
Shamus Fenton
Jack Foster
Sam Gonzalez
Amanda Grant
Morgan Green
Katrina Greene
Jared Hill
Che Jung
Minji Kwon
Tim Manning
Casey McCrobie
Mathew McCrobie
Anna Meusel
Jacob Mullen
MacKenzie Orcutt
Irene Robb
Brett Rutyna
Sean Ryan
Victor Salles
Jill Simon
Esme Wessel
Mark Wiggins
Devon Withers

Mariann Eden's Class

Joseph Cane
Michael Champigny
James Coxen
David Crawley
Frank DeSimone
Giulia DiMarino
Matthew Dutton
Kevin Fang
Nicole Flaherty
Katrina Gerhard
Eric Loverud
Rachel Magasanik
Arundel Miguezuez
Michael Mundowa
Jordan Ober
Isabella Pershouse
Thomas Schaffner
Samantha Schmidt
Emma Suess
Ailish Tighe
Harrison Tripp
Olivia Winn
William Wu
Eric Wyss

Tara Matthew's Class

Rachel Bellantoni
Alex Biehl
Jack Billings
Andrew Collins
Robert Davis
Steven DeLeo
Isaiah DeLuna
Tess Fairchild
Henry Grover
Sharon Kelmar
Rylan Lemaine
Ben Locklin
Nicholas Long
Ellen McCormick
Erica Miles
Joshua Newey
Ben Oltsik
Quinn Osgood
Lauren Roderick
Madhav Sampathkumaran
Anna Shapiro
Pietra Sweeney
Anna Ward
Julia Wolf

Mark Your Calendar

AUGUST

- 21, Friday
Student placement online
- 28, Friday
Class lists online

SEPTEMBER

- 1, Tuesday
School Opens, 8:30 AM
- 4 (Friday) & 7 (Monday)
NO SCHOOL,
Labor Day Weekend
- 16, Wednesday
Back-to-School Night
- 20, Sunday
Family Photo Day,
Acton Arboretum,
8:30 AM-3 PM
- 21, Monday
School Picture Day
- 28, Monday
NO SCHOOL, Yom Kippur

The 2009-2010 school calendar is available for download at:
<http://ab.mec.edu/about/calendars.shtml>



by Lynne Densen and Kim Clark, PTSO co-chairs

Thank you to all the families that responded to the Spring Appeal. The appeal helped us reach our revised PTSO fundraising goal for this year.

This year, the McT PTSO raised just over \$97,000, which will be used for the next school year (2009–10). At our May meeting, we voted to approve a budget for the coming year of \$96,800. The contractual services allocation of that budget will allow the school to retain most of the services (teaching assistants, safe arrival, cultural programs, library hours, etc.) that were funded for this current school year.

Thanks again to everyone who either volunteered or participated in the many wonderful fundraisers. What fun we had this year, and how great to see our community come together. Also, a big thank-you to all of our outgoing chairs this year (we could not have done it without you) and to the new chairs who have stepped in to fill those spots in September. Have a great summer everyone!

Thank you McCarthy-Towne Community

from Nancy Kolb, McT Interim Principal

This year has been a wonderful gift from all of you, a year I will always remember and cherish. McCarthy-Towne was an exciting school when I first came in 1974. It's even better now.

In December I offered this advice: it's never too late to frame your children's art projects. Each piece is a self-portrait of who they are during their McCarthy-Towne years. Celebrate your children and their unique style, understanding and expression.

I wish for you fun-filled, family experiences this summer that you and your children will long remember.

Ice Cream Social

*from Lynne Densen, Tracey Smith,
Kate Murray and Maryellen DiPalo*

Wow! What an incredible way to end the school year; we could not have asked for better weather for our ice cream social! We had a record turnout, with over 350 kids who bought wristbands. The kids enjoyed a variety of carnival games, took home lots of little prizes, ran through an inflatable obstacle course and visited the Pocket Lady. Our new additions this year were tattoos, nail art and face painting. They seemed to be a big hit with the kids.

You know it's a good time when you run out of pizza (even after putting in another order), ice cream, whipped cream and hot fudge. Thanks to everyone who helped out at the social; we could not have done it without you, and to EVERYONE who attended and helped us celebrate the end of another school year in true McT style.

Thanks to Merriam and McCarthy-Towne Communities

Last week Merriam and McCarthy-Towne schools contributed coins to *Pennies for Patients* and *Coins for Kari and Dimes for Dave*. The two schools raised a total of \$2,347.10! Half the amount will be donated to the charity, *Pennies for Patients*, in honor of the James family. The other half will be given to the James family for the many expenses they have incurred related to Meg's illness. Thank you to everyone who contributed to make this a success.

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.

Volunteer Thanks

It's hard to imagine how the school office would function without our wonderful volunteers. They do lunch counts, sort mail, process bus and dismissal passes, file and whatever other jobs come up. Each of them came in every week or every other week on their volunteer day—a consistency we all appreciated! A huge thank you to Gail Gecawicz, Joan McCaffrey, Amy Miles, Tracey Smith, Kathleen Surdan and Tina Watlington. A very special thanks to Jayanthi Sampathkumaran who has been an office volunteer for several years. Her 6th grade son is going on to Junior High—their gain, our loss.

We would also like to thank Ann Marie Sweeney for organizing the Safe Arrival program. She got the volunteers trained, organized the schedule and did Safe Arrival herself more than once!

Finally we want to thank Shellie Barton who does all the laminating for the school. Not only did Shellie come every week, but she came in the week before school started to help teachers get their laminating done for the beginning of the school year. Shellie's youngest child graduated in 2005, but she has continued to come to McT to do our laminating. Shellie will be moving to Provincetown. Though we will miss her tremendously, we wish her well and thank her for the over 10 years she has taken care of all our laminating.

While Away, Help McT When You Play!

This summer, while your family is far away from McT, you can still help our school. Just shop on-line at your favorite stores via OneCause.com and a percentage of your total purchases will be donated by those merchants to McCarthy-Towne.

Here's a truly easy win-win for everyone. McT gets much-needed donations but you don't spend any additional money. And, if you bought Scrip cards at the end of the year, you can use many of them when you pay for your purchases through OneCause. This is like giving the school two free donations!

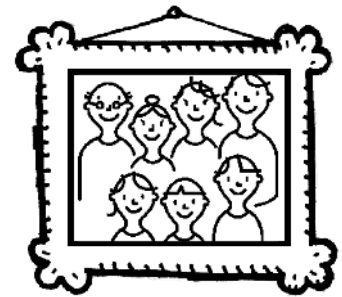
OneCause includes special coupons and discounts on their site for many of their partner stores. If you install their tool bar on your browser, you don't even need to log into their site when you shop with one of their hundreds of merchants—the contributions go through automatically.

Whether you're buying beach towels now, or thinking about back to school clothes at the end of August, shop at www.onecause.com and give McCarthy-Towne your donations the easy (and FREE) way. Thanks for your support!

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.

McCarthy-Towne Teachers, 2009-2010

There will be some new teachers(*) at McT next year and one of our teachers will be teaching a new grade level(**). Some of our current staff will have new last names. Kari James' second grade will have a long-term certified substitute teacher for one-half of the year. We expect Kari to return in January 2010. At this point the grade level classroom staff will be:

- Kindergarten:** Kelly Reed* (½ day), Cheryl Beaudoin* (½ day), Janet Merrigan (all day)
- 1st Grade:** Nancy Giansante, Vin Wallack**, Heather Wilson
- 2nd Grade:** Noreen Cohen, Long -Term Sub/Kari James, Jen Pratt
- 3rd Grade:** Abby Johnson, Robin Kynoch, Jean Oviatt-Rothman
- 4th Grade:** David Rachlin, Callie (Soderland) O'Connor, Catherine Suess
- 5th Grade:** Kate Fitzmaurice, Karen Shiebler, Caitlin Walsh
- 6th Grade:** Rachel (Bennett) O'Sullivan, Mariann Eden, Tara Matthews

Next Year's Directory

From the McT office and PTSO

The McT PTSO publishes the School Directory each fall. The information to appear in the School Directory comes from the on-line emergency cards, just like they did last year. Parents will receive a form during the first week of school that will allow them to EXCLUDE any of the above information from the School Directory and class lists. If the office does not receive a form indicating what information to exclude, we will use the information given on the on-line emergency card as of Friday, September 11 (so please think of that as you enter your email address).

At the beginning of the school year you should make sure your child's contact information is correct, and look for the Directory Exclusion Form if there is any information you do not want published.

Scrip Thank You

A sincere thank you to all the families who ordered Scrips in June, as well as all those families who continue to order Scrips on a monthly basis. It really does make a financial difference for McT! **We made just over \$4,000 this year with Scrips.**

We appreciate your support and look forward to your support again in the fall.

Grade K-5: Not at McT Next Year?

from the office

Are you moving out of Acton this summer? Is your child going to a different school next year? You should complete a "Release of Records" form as soon as possible. The school office is open for limited hours during the summer, so call ahead to make sure someone will be available, 978-264-3377. Since the Health Office is closed, health records will not be available during the summer.

Auction 2010

We've set the date and reserved the site for the 2010 McT Auction. The auction will be held on **Saturday, March 13, 2010** at the Devens Common Center. Please save the date and prepare for a fun evening in true McT style.

We have a great planning committee already lined up, with many committee chairs returning for next year! **We are still looking for two Auction Co-Chairs** who can oversee the process and make sure that it all runs smoothly. Both Co-Chairs from last year are planning to help with the auction, so any question is just a phone call away.

We cannot hold our most important fundraiser of the year without new Co-Chairs. Please consider helping to oversee this incredibly fun event.

Contact Lynne Densen (lynne.densen@verizon.net) or Kim Clark (kclark1111@yahoo.com) if you are interested in becoming an auction co-chair.

Approved 2009–2010 PTSO Steering Committee

Sr. Chair	Kim Clark
Jr. Chair	Tammy Sarnelli
Treasurer	Jonathan Chintz
Secretary	Sue Donahue
Faculty Reps	Tina Morgan
Book Gifting	Joanie Davis
Bulletin Editor	Rebecca MacNeill
Bulletin Collator	Laurie Taylor-Teran
Buddy Family	Marie Clougher
CPAC	Francesca Ricciardi Julie Greenspan
Directory	Suzanne Kissane, Wendy Marlowe, Lisa Nivison, Open
Backpack Flyer Coor.	Open
Grant Writing	Melinda Karp
Hospitality	Lynne Densen
International Liaison	Stacy Harris
Inter-School Council Rep	Wendy Schaad, Susan Trudeau
Nominations	Laurie Taylor-Teran
P.D.B. Lost & Found	Shelly Jaros
P.D.B. Landscape Comm	Karen Dean
P.D.B. Steering Comm. Rep	Bridget Matz
Potlucks	Kate Murray
PTSO Website	Maria Greene, Lynne Densen
Publicity	Amy Hedison
Safe Arrival	Anne-Marie Sweeney

School Committee Observer	Jonathan Chintz
Socials	Tracey Smith, Maryellen DiPalo, Sarah Auerbach
Student Council / Community Service Liaison	Suzy Eppling
Yahoo! Moderator	Lynne Densen

FUND RAISING:

Fund Raising PTSO Liaison	Pending
Auction Chairs	Open, Open
Basketball Snack Sale	Michele Denson
Book Fair	Julie Jannke, Susan Lerner
Donelan's Receipts	Wendy Schaad
Family Photo Day	Sandy Billings, Kim Meusel
General Mills Box Tops	Julie Driscoll
Gift Wrap/Bulbs	Suzi Yarin
Lip Sync	Lynne Densen, Karen Anderson
NSTAR Light Bulbs	Marie Ledebouer-Cid
Recycling	Jeannie Meijer
SCRIP	Lynne Densen, Maureen Jones
Shopping Service Coor.	Kimberly Hurwitz
Yard Sale	Brenda Simpson, Connie Olden