



# McCarthy-Towne Bulletin

June 17, 2010  
Volume 39, No 11

## Congratulations McT Class of 2010!

By David Krane, Principal

I am honored to have been the principal at McCarthy-Towne for your sixth grade year. Sixth Grade is the end of the McCarthy-Towne journey and the start of the next part of your school adventure. The way that every single one of you has demonstrated leadership and compassion during this past year makes me confident of your continued success as you head into the Junior High. You have been a remarkable part of my first year at McT and you have set the bar very high for the students who will follow you into Sixth Grade.

The McCarthy-Towne School salutes you and thanks you for all that you have done in your years here. We all look forward to hearing about all of your newest adventures when you return for a visit! Good luck!

### **Mariann Eden's Class**

*Guhan Aravinthan  
Neeka Asgary  
Damanty Bakker  
Pierce Capachione  
Claire Chang  
Liam Favreau  
Julia Friend  
Sonja Heels  
Ilana Heller  
Sean Hu  
CJ Joyce  
David Kissane  
Mason Kolb  
Jay Meijer  
Gwylan Miguelez  
Julia Phillips  
Anthony Redman  
Keith Reilly  
Carolyne Salvador  
Maggie Sannicandro  
Ezra Stein  
Alex Surdan  
Jonathan Trudeau  
Jake Urso  
Saitha Wils  
Alyssa Wooden*

### **Rachel O'Sullivan's Class**

*Rachael Ahern  
Nonu Bajaj  
Robert Branca  
Molly Clark  
Jordan Galletta  
Carly Glick  
Ben Gottesman  
Caroline Gracely  
Will Graham  
Erik Grant  
Jack Joyce  
Matthew Kilpatrick  
Kaley Lindsay  
Alexander Mandrus  
Alex Mateev  
Quinton McNamee  
Mark McNiven  
Katelyn Pennell  
Isa Pupo  
Lenora Rutten  
Michael Sannicandro  
David Schottler  
Ian Wilson  
Kristina Wilson  
Sam Wolf  
Amy Yarin*

### **Tara Matthews' Class**

*Jake Benn  
Cameron Burr  
Julie Champigny  
Harry Chernin  
Cara Delaney  
Stetson Doggett  
Meredith Durand  
Olivia Fitzgerald  
Evan Greenspan  
Liam Jones  
Natalie Ledeboer-Cid  
Emily Liu  
Annika Miller  
Katya Murzin  
Ted Nivison  
Navaneeth Pandian  
Hannah Parlman  
Ryan Puff  
Sofia Ricciardi  
Hope Schlegel  
Sam Sheehan  
Parker Sprague  
Joseph Travers  
Ian Watlington  
Teresa Willand  
Benjamin Wurman*

# June Endings and Beginnings

By David Krane, Principal

This past year has seen a lot of change at McCarthy-Towne and in the district. Principal changes, Superintendent changes and we'll even be gaining an Assistant Principal next fall. In the Kindergarten classrooms, students have experienced what it is like to become part of a school community: they have had Reading Buddies; Sixth Graders have become part of their school day beginnings and endings; some have even eaten lunch in the cafeteria. These young learners have also been part of our school assemblies and have learned to walk the halls in pairs, and sometimes, by themselves. They have been introduced to the unique wonders of McCarthy-Towne such as working with Heidi in Sloyd and working with Hanna and their teachers on classroom art projects. These children have been welcomed and encouraged to take social and learning risks in becoming part of our school community. They have been welcomed and guided by caring and invested teachers.

Their new experiences have been my new experiences, too. When I asked a Kindergarten student recently how his first year at McCarthy-Towne School had been, his reply was: "This is best year I've ever had in school!" I had to agree with him. People in all places here have been supportive and welcoming to me as I navigate a new and different place. Families, teachers, classroom assistants and all the building support staff have been gracious and encouraging. Over the course of the year, much as the Kindergartners, I feel that I have become a real part of this remarkable place. The Kindergarten students and I have successfully begun a new journey.

Part of change is beginning new things and part is ending what has been. The Sixth Graders will be starting a new journey of their own as they leave McT and move up to the Junior High. It can sometimes be difficult to make a break from familiar and comfortable places, but these students are ready for this change. The Sixth Grade team has done an exemplary job of getting them ready for this next step. There will be significant change for the Sixth Grade team, too. Our school will be losing an important part of its history as Mariann Eden retires. Mariann has been a respected and admired educator here at McT for many years and we will all miss her presence in the classroom and outside of it, too. And we welcome Kate Fitzmaurice as she assumes her new role as a part of the Sixth Grade teaching team.

Our office will be undergoing some significant staffing changes as well. Robyn Winick and Jean Onorato will be retiring after many years of service to McCarthy-Towne and the district in a variety of roles. One critical role both played this past year was educating a new principal in the history and personality of this unique school. Every success that I might have had is due to their careful and watchful tutelage. They both were invaluable and indispensable and I am happy that we were able to become friends as well as professional colleagues. I will miss them both tremendously. But even as two wonderful people leave, two wonderful people will come in. Astrid Trostorff will be the new Administrative Assistant and Maureen Jones will become the part-time Administrative Assistant. I am delighted to be working with them both. Astrid will be leaving her role as Parent Involvement Coordinator, but she, too, brings a wealth of history and knowledge of McT to the position and that will be equally invaluable. Maureen currently has children in our school, so the connections remain strong.

McCarthy-Towne School will also be missing a remarkable Fourth Grade teacher next year. Catherine Suess will be leaving for the great state of Texas. Catherine has been a great source of knowledge and advice for me, as well as a patient and nurturing teacher in her classroom. We will all miss her enthusiasm and great humor!

This has been a wonderful year and I am looking forward to more new beginnings next September, too. Thanks to our incredible, caring faculty and to all the families for every bit of your help for our school this year. And thanks, too, of course for the amazing children, all five hundred and thirteen of them. They are our mission and our reason for being.

Kindergartners have remarkable wisdom for their years and so I can only repeat what was said to me: "This is the best year I've ever had in school!"

## Placement for Next Year

*from the office*

Parents/guardians of students in kindergarten through 5th grade have received a letter at spring parent-teacher conferences with their child's user name and password for access to "PowerSchool", the school system's on-line emergency card. You will need this information to access class placement information, which will be posted on Friday afternoon, August 20.

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 emergency information, medical authorization and school/PTSO contact permissions every year until your child graduates from high school. After submitting this information on or after Friday afternoon, August 20, you will see a screen with your child's teacher for the 2010 – 2011 school year. Class lists will be available on PowerSchool Friday afternoon, August 27.

If you will be on vacation and want to access PowerSchool away from home, remember to bring your access information with you. We cannot give you this information over the phone or by email.

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

## PTSO News

By Kim Clark and Tammy Sarnelli, co-chair

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 \$96,000, which will be used for the next school year (2010–11). At our June meeting, we voted to approve a budget for the coming year of \$100,400. 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!

## Parker Damon Building International Night

By Stacy Harris, McT representative to PDB Steering Committee, Int'l Night

The Parker Damon Building International Night Committee would like to thank everyone involved in making this year's event such a phenomenal success! Once again, the cafetorium was transformed into a beautiful international café and close to 300 people – many wearing ethnic attire -- enjoyed a magnificent sampling of food from all over the world, followed by dazzling performances by McCarthy-Towne and Merriam students.

New this year was the Global Village! Students enjoyed participating in a variety of interactive activities from all over the world including henna tattooing, name calligraphy, cornhusk dolls, crown making, tortilla rolling, flag coloring, and more! Many thanks to all the families who contributed to all the spectacular displays and activities:

*Brazil – Elaine Santos*

*British Isles – Helen Smith, Cath Smith*

*Canada – Cath Smith*

*China – Ally Li, Shunshan (Sam) Zhu, Jie Xu, Wei Sun, Jianying Shi, Daquan Liao, Qing Liao, Danyang Bing*

*Czech Republic – Jana Bull, Zuzka Blasi*

*Guatemala – Paul and Isabel Burney*

*Greece – Christo Tsiaris, Eleni Digenis-Bury, Maria Sousounis, Daphne Barbas, Mandy Zervoglos*

*India – Nisreen Harianawala, Olyvia Sharan, Priya Ramanan, Jayashree Janasale, Jhum Sarcar, Jayanthi Srinath, Jyothi Macharla*

*Israel – Ronit Ben-Shir, Michael Zabaruk*

*Pakistan – Ayesha Khurram*

*Peru – Clelia Solis*

*Zimbabwe and Mauritius – Marc & Tina Humphreys*

The evening would not have been possible without the help of our very dedicated volunteers from McCarthy-Towne and Merriam. We'd like to thank McCarthy-Towne parents Nisreen Harianawala, Elaine Santos, Olyvia Sharan, Kim Larsson and Jian Lin; and all the volunteers from Merriam.

This year, for the first time, we had student announcers. Many thanks to McCarthy-Towne student Navaneeth Pandian for emceeing the event, and to Anya Cervantes for announcing the raffle winners.

Our talented student performers put on a wonderful show. Thank you to Prianna Sharan and Emily Kelmar and all the Merriam student performers.

In an effort to draw attention to the wide variety of international restaurants in Acton and encourage families to try them, a free raffle was held. Ten lucky winners received restaurant gift certificates. We thank the following restaurants for generously donating gift certificates: *Bella Famiglia, Benjarong, Daniela's Cantina, Il Forno, Le Lyonnais, Makaha, Not Your Average Joe's, and Acton's newest restaurant - Spicepepper Garden.*

Additional thanks go to the McCarthy-Towne Student Council, Merriam PTO and Parker Damon Building Steering Committee for their generous financial support.

And last, but certainly not least, we thank all the families who attended the event for your spirit of community and for your delicious food contributions! We look forward to seeing you all at next year's International Night!

### 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.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL PARENT REPRESENTATIVE

Frank McCammon and Tracey Smith have been elected to two year terms as parent representatives to the McCarthy-Towne School Council. Thank you to Frank, Tracey, and Peter Rutten for running for the School Council.

### KIDS' NIGHT OUT

Did you purchase "Kids' Night Out" at the auction last March? If yes, mark your calendars now for Friday, Sept 24, 2010. That's the night you will get to drop off your child at the Parker Damon Building, where they will have an evening full of fun activities, supervised by some of our most fun-loving teachers and staff while you have a kid-free evening.

Look for more information in the first Bulletin and on the PTSO website when school starts in the fall.

### PI/COC HIRING

McCarthy-Towne will be hiring a new Parent Involvement/Community Outreach Coordinator for the 2010 - 2011 school year. This is a part-time position without benefits.

If you are interested in applying for the position, please go to the school system website ([ab.mec.edu](http://ab.mec.edu)) to submit an application through the Human Resources department. Applications must be submitted on-line by Monday, June 21.

If you are interested in being a parent representative on the hiring committee, please write Astrid Trostorff ([atrostorff@mail.ab.mec.edu](mailto:atrostorff@mail.ab.mec.edu)) indicating when you will or will not be available to meet, probably soon after the school year ends.

### First Day of School

School re-opens on Tuesday, August 31.

McCarthy-Towne will be on the "late" elementary schedule:

9:15 AM– 3:30 PM (1 PM on Thursday.)

For the complete school calendar, go to the school system website:

<http://ab.mec.edu/about/aboutpdf/schcalendar11.pdf>

### SCRIP THANK YOU

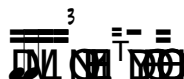
By Lynne Densen and Maureen Jones, SCRIP co-chairs

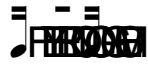
We would like to thank all the families that ordered SCRIP in June, as well as all those families that continue to order SCRIP on a monthly basis. It really does make a financial difference for McT! We made just over \$4,800 this year with SCRIP.

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

### THANK YOU TO ALL PARENTS

Each McCarthy-Towne student decorated a bookmark thanking their parents for the support given during the past year. The bookmarks were laminated, and the children will be bringing them home this week. Look in backpacks and among all the end of year materials for this special thank you.





## 2010-2011 PTSO Steering Committee

Sr. Chair	Tammy Sarnelli
Jr. Chair	<i>open</i>
Treasurer	Jonathan Chinitz
Secretary	<i>open</i>
Faculty Reps	Tina Morgan
School Committee Liaison	Chris Hanlon
Book Gifting	Joanie Davis
Bulletin Editor	Rebecca MacNeill
Bulletin Collator	Laurie Taylor-Teran
Buddy Family	Alissa Benway
CPAC	Francesca Ricciardi
	<i>open</i>
Directory	Jennifer Mabardy
	<i>open</i>
Grant Writing	Melinda Karp
Hospitality	Lynne Densen
International Liaison	Olyvia Sharan
	Kim Larsson
Inter-School Council Rep	Bridget Matz
	Kristen Fitzgerald
Nominations	Stacy Harris
P.D.B. Lost & Found	Nicole Lippa
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 Chinitz
Socials	Tracey Smith
	Sarah Auerbach
Yahoo Moderator	Lynne Densen
<b>Fund Raising:</b>	
Auction Chairs	Heidi Dalaklis
	Jill DeFoe
Basketball Snack Sale	<i>open</i>
Book Fair	Julie Jannke
	Susan Lerner
	Pauline Thorpe
Donelan's Receipts	Nicole Lippa
Family Photo Day	<i>open</i>
Funding Factory	Laurie Taylor-Teran
General Mills Box Tops	Julie Driscoll
Gift Wrap/Bulbs	Suzi Yarin
Lip Sync	Lynne Densen
	Karen Anderson
SCRIP	Lynne Densen
	Maureen Jones
Shopping Service Coordinator	Kimberly Hurwitz
Yard Sale	<i>open</i>
	<i>open</i>

## ANNOUNCEMENT

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Matthew McDowell to the position of Assistant Principal at the McCarthy-Towne School and the Merriam School in the Parker Damon Building. Matthew is currently a fifth grade teacher at the Center School and he has previously taught second grade at the Pompositicut School, both in Stow, MA. Matthew will spend some time here this summer, but he'll begin his full time duties when school starts.

We welcome Matthew to both of our school communities at the Parker Damon Building and we look forward to beginning our work with him

Ed Kaufman  
David Krane  
June 17, 2010