

McKinley Monthly

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 8

MARCH 2019

IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 4**
Conferences
3-6 p.m.
- **March 6**
Dr. Seuss' Birthday Breakfast
7:45-8:20 a.m.
- **March 11-15**
No School
- **March 29**
Carnival
5:30-8 p.m.

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As our Spring Parent/Teacher conferences come to a close, I want to thank you for taking an active role in your child's educational growth. This partnership is imperative in helping our students reach their achievement goals. There is still a lot of learning ahead of us in order to finish the school year strong! We continue to focus on our McKinley school-wide goals in the areas of reading, math, attendance, and self-regulation. These goals are infused in all that we do daily here at McKinley. On April 3rd we will be getting additional feedback on our plan and progress as we will be hosting an AdvancED visit. The AdvancED Team is made up of Fargo Public Schools teachers and administrators that visit our school and do observations, review data and plans, and conduct interviews. From this visit we will receive a detailed report on how our system is working and recommendations on possible 'next steps' in our planning for the coming years. Each Fargo Public School hosts these internal visits every 4-5 years.

One item that we use for tracking our progress towards our school-wide goals is the North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA). This on-line assessment is given to our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students in 3 separate sections: reading, writing, and math. These assessments are 'norm referenced' which means that our students are compared to the rest of the students across the district and state. The time allotted for each of these sections ranges from 90 to 135 minutes. These assessments require our students to stay focused and to persevere through difficult questions at times. Our students are prepared for the content of these assessments and we want them to focus on taking their time and doing their best in order to show what they know.

Our NDSA testing sessions for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade will run from April 2nd—April 19th. Dates and times for each class are on the on-line McKinley calendar. You can help us out by previewing this to find out when your child(ren) will be testing. Please make sure that they are at school during their testing sessions, have had a good night's sleep, and breakfast. If your child happens to be sick on the day that they are to test, they will make up the assessment session as each student needs to complete all 3 sections. Together, we can help our students to be prepared to do their best work! Thank you for your help and support! Call with questions.

2019 McKinley Carnival



"McKinley Luau"

Friday, March 29, 2019

5:30-8 p.m.

Games, Prizes, Food, Cakewalk, Silent Auction

Theme Attire Welcome!



Thank you for participating in Jump Rope for Heart!!

I thought I would take the opportunity to go over a few benefits of not only physical activity, but physical education! They may sound the same but they are different and both very meaningful. Physical activity is defined as bodily movement of any type and may include recreational, fitness and sport activities. Physical Education programs provide learning opportunities, appropriate instruction, and meaningful and challenging content for all children and it also provides students with a safe environment to explore such activities that they may not explore on their own. Here are a few benefits of both:

- Reduces the risk for being overweight, diabetes and other chronic diseases
- Assists in improved academic performance
- Helps students feel better about themselves
- Reduces the risk for depression and the effects of stress
- Helps students prepare to be productive, healthy members of society
- Improves overall quality of life and promotes lifelong fitness
- Offers students opportunities to work with others in a group setting while building leadership and conflict resolution skills.

Also, thank you so much to those who donated to Jump Rope for Heart! We raised money for a good cause and learned a lot along about giving to those in need along the way! They also learned about heart health, so ask them to tell you ways to keep your heart healthy!

Enrichment Summer School

The Fargo Public Schools Elementary Enrichment program offers a wide variety of classes for children who have completed grades 2-5. The summer enrichment courses are intended to strengthen students' self-esteem, learn new abilities, and encourage lifelong learning through creative and enriching activities. You can register online for courses by clicking the following link:

www.fargo.k12.nd.us/SSElementaryRegistration

June 10th to June 28th

8:00AM – 10:00AM

10:00AM – 12:00PM

All Classes held at: Bennett Elementary School

2000 58th Ave. South Fargo, ND 58104



PTA Carnival preparation meeting will be held on March 5th at 6:30 p.m. in room #21.

March marks the annual celebration of music in our nation's schools. First held in 1973 as a Music In Our Schools Day, this celebration has grown to a Music In Our Schools Month. National Association for Music Education, the more than 100-year-old sponsoring organization, has announced that this year's MIOSM theme is 'Music Connects Us!'



In 2014, the National Association for Music Education introduced new Music Standards. The standards emphasize conceptual understanding in areas that reflect the actual processes in which musicians engage. The standards cultivate a student's ability to carry out the three artistic processes of *creating, performing and responding*. These are the processes that musicians have followed for generations, even as they connect through music to themselves and their societies. And isn't competence in Creating, Performing, and Responding what we really want for our students?

Students need to have experience in creating, to be successful musicians and to be successful 21st century citizens.

Students need to perform – as singers, as instrumentalists, and in their lives and careers.

Students need to respond to music, as well as to their culture, their community, and their colleagues.

In music classes this month, students will be working on the following skills:

Kindergarten: Fast/Slow, High/Low, Long/Short, Loud/Soft, Same/Different.

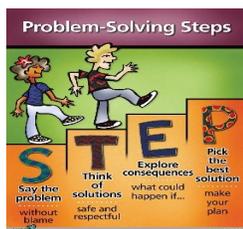
First grade: singing, playing and writing mi, sol, and la and quarter note, quarter rest, and eighth note rhythms.

Second grade: singing, playing and writing do, re, mi, sol, and la and half note rhythms.

Third grade: RECORDERS!

Fourth grade: Studying opera and music of the Romantic period

Fifth grade: Ukuleles(!), composing original music, and beginning work on our spring program.



Counselor's Corner—March Guidance Lessons

Kindergarten-5th grade will learn how to use the Problem-Solving Steps when they have a problem getting along with friends/classmates. Students will learn that calming down helps you think so you can solve problems. Once calm, follow the Problem-Solving steps to find solutions that are safe and respectful. Students who can solve conflicts with peers are less likely to engage in impulsive or aggressive behaviors.

SUMMER!

Transitions Summer School
(By Teacher Referral)

McKinley Elementary

July 8th—26th

Monday—Friday

8 a.m.—Noon

Parents are
responsible for transportation.
Please direct questions to 446-4404.