

Christa McAuliffe Elementary McAuliffe Monthly



MARCH 2019

A Note From Your Principal

Dear Parents,

I think we can all agree the past week was refreshing. Five full days of school. No shortened days, no in-service days, no snow days. Just plain 'ole school. It's been over a month since we had a full week of school. Honestly, I think everyone needed a full week so we could get back on a normal schedule (I know I did!).

Regarding the snow, we will let you know what the plan is for snow make-up days once we receive that information from the school district. This may be a few weeks down the road as it's best to make sure the snow is finished before making decisions regarding snow make-up days.

Have a great month!

Brady Howden
Principal

Reserve Your Spot at McAuliffe for Next Year!

"Reserve a Place" Forms will go home on March 15th and are due back to your child's teacher by March 25th. It's important that families return these forms on time as this information will impact the number of classes we are allocated for the 2019-2020 school year.

Parent Input Forms

Parents are invited to provide input regarding the educational environment they feel would benefit their child next year by filling out a Parent Input Form. **Specific teacher requests will not be accepted.** Parent Input Forms will be available in the kiosk outside the front office from March 25th– April 5th. All Parent Input Forms are due by 4:00pm on April 5th. Late forms will not be accepted as the placement process will begin after Spring Break.

Thank You McAuliffe Community!

I want to take a moment to thank our McAuliffe community for their help with clearing snow last week. Our district and school staff were able to clear main sidewalks, the parking lot, and portions of the playground. However, there were many neighborhood sidewalks and outlining school areas that still needed attention. Without asking, I saw parents, Watch DOGS volunteers, and other community members clearing snow so that our students could be safe and our school accessible to everyone. Thank you to everyone who helped with the snow – what an amazing McAuliffe community we have.

Tell your neighbors and friends: Register early for 2019-20 Kindergarten

If you live in Lake Washington School District (LWSD) and your child will be five years old on or before August 31, 2019, now is the time to register them for Kindergarten! Registration takes place at your neighborhood school during regular school hours through the beginning of the 2019-20 school year.

While registration will continue throughout the school year and summer, parents are highly encouraged to register students as soon as possible. Doing so helps ensure class sizes are balanced and adequate staff are hired in time for the new school year. Visit the Kindergarten Information webpage for more information:

<https://www.lwsd.org/students-families/registration/kindergarten-information>

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Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA)

Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will take the "Smarter Balanced Assessment" as their state assessment in May. Parents can help their children be successful on this assessment by making sure they are at school on the days listed below.

McAuliffe's SBA Testing Schedule will be as follows:

3rd Grade: May 7, 8, 9, 13, and 14

4th Grade: May 13, 14, 15, and 16

5th Grade: May 17, 20, 21, 22, and 23

Home Practice Resources:

You can support your child at home by having your student take SBA practice tests. This will help your child become more familiar with the testing format and related tools. Students will participate in similar practice sessions at school as well.

Practice tests can be found by visiting the Washington Comprehensive Assessment Program webpage at: <http://wa.portal.airast.org>

To access practice tests, follow these directions:

Click "Practice & Training Tests"

Click "Take the Practice and Training Tests" (this works best in Mozilla FireFox)

Click "Sign In" (do not change any of the information in the boxes)

Select a grade level

Select a test (ex: "Start G5 ELA Practice Test")

Click "Looks Good" (do not change any of the information in the boxes)

Click the speaker symbol, then click "I heard the sound"

Click "Works!"

Click "Continue" (at bottom of the page, same page as "Works" button)

Click "Start Test"



PE It feels good to be back to school after all of our snow days! The snow put us

behind our Jump Rope for Heart optional fundraiser which is usually in February. The middle of March means Madness as in NCAA college Men and Women's tournament so the focus will be ball handling, shooting and passing skills for all grades. 3-5 graders will play in a round robin tournament. Happy Spring!

Stacie (sstrong@lwsd.org)



ASB This March, ASB is teaming up with the McAuliffe PTSA to celebrate Kindness Day on March 14th. Students can wear blue to show they are a kind and helpful friend. ASB students will be outside greeting kids to school on this day! ASB is also teaming up with Alcott Elementary to donate food to Hopelink, an organization that helps feed families and students in the LWSD area. We will be starting Munch March Madness soon. Flyers will be coming home shortly.
Jesse (jmagraw@lwsd.org)

MARCH

1	Spirit Day
8	No School—LEAP
22	Class Pictures & All School Photo

APRIL

8-12	No School—Spring Break
18 & 22	Play at Eastlake
24	Bingo Night
29-30	Teacher Appreciation Week

MAY

1-3	Teacher Appreciation Week
23	Art Walk
24	No School—LEAP
27	No School—Memorial Day

JUNE

14	BBQ and Field Day
17	Kindergarten Graduation
18	5th Grade Promotion 2:20pm
19	Last Day of School—12:20 dismissal

MUSIC HAPPENS! I'm looking forward to slipping in some Irish music to McAuliffe El. In addition, 5th graders will be working on "Hot Marimba" xylophone music and learning about chords while preparing for their ukulele unit. 4th graders are continuing Recorder Karate, and 3rd graders are learning about the form of Rondo. Primary grades, K, 1 will be singing songs, dancing a jig and playing music games using the theme of St. Patrick's Day.
Janet (jwarren@lwsd.org)

LRC Author Patrick Jennings will be visiting on March 5th. We are excited to hear what he has to say about writing. Battle of the Books is going strong, fourth and fifth graders are really challenging each other. We hope we don't run out of time for the district battle.
J. Ahern (jahern@lwsd.org)

