



Mustang Express

James McGee Elementary School
Robin Hay, Principal



...From The Desk of The Principal



2014 Pasco School District Maintenance & Operation LEVY Information



Dates to Remember

Eric Brooks Author visit	4
Valentine Workshop and Family Fun Zone 6:00-7:30 p.m.	6
McTeacher Night 5:00-7:00 p.m. McDonalds on Road 68	10- 11
Remember to VOTE	11
Presidents' Day No classes held	17
P.T.O. Meeting 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the library	18
A.T.P. Meeting 8:30 a.m. in the library	20
Popcorn Friday	21
Reading Rocks A Family Reading Night 6:00-7:30 p.m.	27
Carnival of Animals 4th grade to attend at P.H.S. 9:15-11:15 a.m.	28

On February 11, 2014, the Pasco School District will run a regularly scheduled, replacement Maintenance and Operation Levy. They pay for education programs and the day-to-day operation of schools. Levy funds bridge the gap between state and federal funding and what it actually costs to run a district. Levy funds are collected over a two-year period and must be renewed every two years. The current levy was approved in 2012 and expires in December 2014.

Voters will be asked to approve \$21.7 million in 2015 and \$22.9 million in 2016. The estimated tax rate is \$4.51 per \$1,000, the same rate that voters approved in the 2012 levy election. The actual rate currently being paid in 2014 is \$4.46 per \$1,000 due to some growth in the community's assessed value, which is the value of all the property within the district's boundaries—homes and commercial and industrial property.

Levies support all of Pasco's 16,612 students. Fifty nine percent of levy dollars support teaching and learning, including: curriculum and teaching, art, music, and drama programs, elementary assistant principals and nurses, librarians, library clerks, and library books, substitute teachers, elementary counselors and dropout retrieval and prevention. Thirty three percent of levy dollars fund Maintenance and Operations, including: school security, district-wide maintenance and custodial services, utilities and insurance, and student transportation and housing. The remaining eight percent of levy dollars fund student activities, including clubs and athletics.



Open enrollment for fall Kindergarten classes is now!

Now through June 12, 2014
Monday-Friday
9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.



A registration packet is available in the office. Immunizations must be current (booster shots after the age of 4). Verification of residency is also required.



Reading Rocks A Family Reading Night

February 27, 2014
6:00-7:30 p.m.



Enjoy reading a good book with a parent or adult in the library.

- *Sing Karaoke
- *Make a bookmark
- *One free book per James McGee student
- *One free rootbeer float per person

Mustang PTO

Supporting James McGee Elementary School

POPCORN FRIDAY!

Students will be able to purchase a bag of popcorn for \$.25 on Popcorn Fridays. Classroom teachers will collect the money and turn in a count in the morning. Students will get their popcorn during the school day. Kindergarten students will get their popcorn before the end of their school day.

POPCORN FRIDAY DATE

February 21, 2014



February PTO Meeting

February 18, 2014
6:30 p.m. in the library

Topics

Valentine Workshop Wrap-up
Valentine Candy Gram Wrap-up
Movie Night Wrap-up
Yearbook
PTO 2014-2015
Treasurer Report

Valentine Workshop and Family Fun Zone



Thursday, February 6, 2014
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

This is a fun event for the entire family. Craft and activity booths will be set up in the cafeteria and gym. Students will make and take different valentine related crafts or activities for a minimal fee. The Specialist Teachers will be in the library with activities linked to the curriculum that they teach during the school day.



Valentine Candy Grams

You can treat your child, grandchild, or friend to a special Candy Gram delivered to their classroom on February 14, 2014! The candy gram forms have been already sent home. You may send your money and greeting to the office in an envelope by February 12, 2014 for delivery of Candy Grams. There will be a special collection box in the office. Each gram is 50 cents. Additional grams can be picked up in the office.



Exchange Club Student of the Month

The Tri-City Exchange Club is a local group that supports our school. This group brings awareness about abuse and provides support to groups that help children who have been abused. The Exchange Club buys the small flags for our Veteran's Day assembly every year. They have been a huge part of our Valentine Workshop as well. They also recognize one student per month here at McGee. Students are selected for academic achievement.

January Student of the Month

Julia Farley
5th Grade, Mrs. Borey



Food Allergy Reminder

Many students at McGee have serious food allergies. Please keep this in mind as Valentine's Day approaches and avoid sending treats with peanuts or any other nuts. Peanuts are the most common serious food allergen, but there are many more, usually proteins such as eggs, milk, seafood, coconut and many more. Parents of children with allergies, please have alternative safe treats in your child's classroom. Avoid sharing treats anytime. And wash hands if you have touched peanut butter or peanut containing foods. Let's keep everyone safe.

Elizabeth Blake ARNP



Keeping Cool in Art

Artists at McGee are keeping it "cool," illustrating the life of a unique snowman, cutting symmetrical snowflakes, and designing chains of cool characters. These come after a round of bookmaking by all ages, where students considered things for which they were thankful, or wrote about family and the season, while learning how to be author, illustrator, and bookmaker.

Fifth grade students are reviewing their understanding of the basic art elements (line, shape, space, color, texture, form, and value) and beginning their state assessment for the visual arts. Ever wished we had a local zoo? This is their opportunity to become graphic artists and design promotional posters for a (fictional) zoo coming to our area!

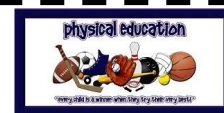
Soon to come...learning about famous artists Henri Matisse, Romero Britto, Piet Mondrian, and others. Students will deepen the knowledge they've gained about the art elements as they view reproductions of more famous artists' work and create their own art in various art styles.

For ideas and creative projects to do at home, check out these websites, or stop by to volunteer in or visit our classes at McGee:

www.si.edu (Smithsonian Museums): Click on the "Kids" tab for a selection of many choices, offered in a gallery similar to Pinterest. Click and follow the path to a variety of activities in the Smithsonian's many museums.

www.moma.org (Museum of Modern Art): Click on the "Learn" pop-up tab, then click on "Kids & Families" to discover ipad digital art apps and websites.

Laura Hendrickson, Art Teacher
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PE Monthly News from Mr. Elliott

Please check Mr. Elliott's web page on our school website for up-to-date PE news.