



MCKEE PARENT NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

Happy September!

We've had a great start to the school year, and it's been a smooth and successful opening! We're thrilled to welcome our students back and are excited to reintroduce some of McKee's most popular activities again this year.

Thank you to all families who completed the Education Benefits Survey last month. Your participation helps ensure that McKee continues to qualify for Title I Funding, which supports many of our academic programs. If you haven't had a chance to complete the survey yet, please refer to the information in this month's newsletter for instructions on how to do so.

September Events Highlights

Friday, Sept. 26th

Fall Picture Day

Young Rembrandts

We have once again partnered with Young Rembrandt Art Program to provide in-class art lessons for intermediate classrooms. This year we are also offering the program after school. An email from me with a flyer was sent out in August. The class is full for now, but they will continue to have openings for other classrooms as the school year progresses.

Platinum Award

I am pleased to announce that McKee has received the Platinum Award for our implementation of Positive Behavior Interventions Support (PBIS) for the 24-25 school year! Our PBIS services and support for students have been strengthened over time with systems in place to support students at all levels to ensure their



success in schools. We will be recognized at a future school board meeting later this fall.

Music Classes Are Back!

Our New Songs Music in the classroom program starts up again September 16th. This is the third year McKee is able to provide music and rhythm lessons in classrooms. Students and teachers alike enjoy this enriching experience throughout the year. The classes are once per week for the entire year. Additionally, we will offer after school drum and choir lessons that you can sign your child up for as well. Flyers will come home soon.

BAND Program Starts Up

The Mandarin BAND program for our students in grades 4-6 is back for the school year. We are excited to offer this before school opportunity for students seeking to learn how to play an instrument. If you have a child in grades 4-6, there is still an opportunity to sign them up to participate. Please email me at: Cbrobert@egusd.net

Fall Picture Day

Our annual Fall Picture Day is coming up on Friday, September 26th. Flyers came home the week of September 15th. You can purchase pictures online through the photographer's website as indicated on the flyer. Students can dress up on this day if you wish.

Spanish Translation Support on Campus

McKee has received an additional resource to support our Spanish speaking families. Estefania Rodriguez Hernandez is at McKee on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.



Cell Phone Policy

The following message is just a reminder to all families regarding our cell phone for students while we are in school:

In May 2023, our EGUSD Board of Education approved a revised policy 5131.8 regarding Mobile Communication Devices (MCDs). An administrative regulation to accompany the policy revision was also adopted. The policy and regulation define “mobile communication devices” as “any portable electronic device capable of transmitting or receiving data in the form of a voice or text message or capable of accessing the internet. Some examples include cell phones, smartphones, smart watches, earbuds, and other such devices. Students in grades TK-6 may not use MCDs while on campus except when a teacher or administrator grants permission to the student. When on campus, MCDs must be turned off and placed out of sight during the school day. Students in grades TK-6 who need to call parents may use phones located in the school administrative office. Additionally, all students in grades TK-12 must comply anytime a request is made by school personnel to cease the use of MCDs on campus, even before or after school. If an MCD is observed by staff during school hours or activities when the use of the device is not authorized, or after a student has been directed by school personnel to cease use of the device, it shall be confiscated until picked up by a parent or guardian.

However, a student shall not be prohibited from possessing or using a MCD under any of the following circumstances:

- *In the case of an emergency or in response to a perceived threat of danger.*
- *When a teacher or administrator grants permission to the student to possess or use an MCD, subject to any reasonable limitation imposed by that teacher or administrator.*
- *When a licensed physician determines that the possession or use of MCD is use of which is limited in purposes, related to and*



necessary for the student's health and well being as required in the student's health plan.

· *When the possession or use is required by the students IEP or 504 plan.*

Please contact administration with questions.

Volunteers and Fingerprinting

If you'd like to volunteer in your child's classroom or chaperone a field trip, please remember that the following steps must be completed *each school year*.

- 1. Complete the Volunteer Form**
- 2. Show a valid photo ID**
- 3. Receive approval from the principal**

If you have already been fingerprinted in the past, you do **not** need to be fingerprinted again.

Your child's teacher or our office staff can help you get the form and answer any questions you may have. We encourage you to complete this process as soon as possible so that your clearance is in place well before any upcoming events or activities.

New CalKIDS Savings Program

Claim Your Free CalKIDS Scholarship Today! [CalKIDS is a free scholarship program](#) from the State of California that provides funds for every eligible student—helping them get a head start on future college or career training expenses. Visit the website for full details.

To check if your child is eligible, go to CalKIDS.org/OCPS and select "Claim Scholarship Account" at the top of the page.

Information You'll Need:

The county where your child was born or attended school (based on the website chart)



Your child's date of birth

Statewide Student Identifier (SSID) or Local Registration Number

For newborns, this can be found on the birth certificate

The SSID can be found in your ParentVUE account ([instructions available](#))

A personal email to create your login

School Site Council

Our first School Site Council meeting will be held on **Thursday, September 18th at 3:30 PM** via Zoom.

The parents elected as members are:

- Gaurav Bali
- Shanna Cardenez
- Colleen Oberg
- Jennifer Orellana
- Natalie Pina

Multi-Lingual Advisory Council

Just like our school site council, we are looking for parents who are interested in being part of our Muti-Lingual Advisory Council. Parents who are members of the MAC will help us as we support students who are multilingual and participate successfully at school in our various programs and events. We are looking for members who are able to attend meetings at McKee at least once per trimester. If you're interested, please contact our VP, Shannon Young at: seyoung@egusd.net

Education Benefits Survey

- **Essential for Funding:**



- Completing the survey helps our school secure crucial funding to help with class size reduction, transportation, and wellness support.
- The data collected from these forms directly impacts the allocation of state and federal funds to our school and our district.
- **Supports Programs and Services:**
 - Accurate income information ensures we can continue to offer free and reduced-price meals to eligible students.
 - Helps fund important educational programs, classroom resources, and extracurricular activities.
- **Confidential and Secure:**
 - All information provided is confidential and used solely for funding purposes.
 - Your privacy is our priority, and the data is securely managed according to all regulations.
- **Ease of Submission:**
 - Forms are simple to fill out and are available on Parent Vue. When logging in to ParentVue, you will be prompted to answer a few simple questions regarding your household size and income range.

PTO Update

We have a PTO board now!

President- Sara Simonsen (Kid in 2nd)

VP- Cindy Tanner (Kids in TK/1st/4th)

Secretary- Heather Apel (Kids in 1st/4th)

Treasurer - Shanna Cardenaz (Kids in K/1st/6th)

General Reminders

To help ensure a smooth and safe experience for everyone on campus, please take note of the following important reminders:



- **No Dogs on Campus:** For the safety of all students, pets are not allowed on campus unless they are certified service animals wearing a visible service vest.
- **Morning Gates Open at 8:10 AM**
- **Breakfast Starts at 7:50 AM:** Students eating breakfast should enter through Gate 3.
- **Dismissal Times:**
 - **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:** 2:40 PM (Gates open at 2:35 PM)
 - **Every Wednesday (Early Release):** 1:50 PM dismissal for all PM Kindergarten through 6th grade.
- **Birthday Treats:** Non-food treats are encouraged. If treats are dropped off, they will be distributed by the classroom teacher at the end of the day.
- **Parking Lot Safety:**

Please follow all directions given by staff members during drop-off and pick-up.

 - **Do not leave your car unattended in the fire lane for any reason.** If you need to walk your child to or from class, please find a parking spot on the street or in the lot.

Thank you for helping us keep McKee safe, organized, and welcoming for all students and families!

A Peak Ahead to Next Month: October

- **Walk To School Day** Oct. 8th
- **Family Picnic Day** Oct. 17th
- **Trunk or Treat** Oct. 24th

Other Resources

Before or After School Programs:

- **ASES Program** contact Ashley Vang at Avang@egusd.net
- **Champions Application:** contact Brittany Torok @ brittany.torok@discoverchampions.com



Parent Resources:

- McKee Website: <https://mckee.egusd.net>
- EGUSD website: <https://www.egusd.net>
- ParentVue:
<https://www.egusd.net/StudentsFamilies/Synergy/index.html>
- McKee Office email: mckeeoffstf@egusd.net
- McKee Office phone: 916-686-3715
- McKee Calendar - 25-26:  2025-2026 McKee Folder Insert-2.pdf

