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| **j0277278** | **The McVey Messenger****Joseph M. McVey Elementary School****Mr. David S. Wilkie, Principal****“I want to learn and be the BEST that I can be!”****The McVey Motto** | **j0277278** |

**Volume 9, No. 1**  **September 2020**

**Back-to-School Night - September 3rd**

Since we are living in a virtual world now, our Back-to-School Night will be two-fold. We are holding a drive through in the back parking lot from 5:00p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Teachers will huddle by grade level so that you may drive through to physically see your child’s teacher. Then at 7:00p.m., Mr. Wilkie will hold a Zoom meeting to review procedures and guidance for remote learning.

**Join Zoom Meeting**
[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82071230764?pwd=bWdvQ25LSzhydEQ5S2xBdElUdmtQZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82071230764?pwd=bWdvQ25LSzhydEQ5S2xBdElUdmtQZz09)

**Meeting ID: 820 7123 0764
Passcode: 5zedCi**

**Open House - September 17th**

Open House is scheduled for September 17th from 7:00p.m. - 8:00 p.m. These meetings will be conducted through the Schoology Learning Platform. Stay tuned for more information regarding this event.

**Visit our Website:**

**www.mcveyes.org**

**Upcoming Dates**

**September**

**9/3** Back-to-School Night

* 5:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. —Drive Through to Meet the Teacher
* 7:00p.m. – Zoom Meeting with Mr. Wilkie

**9/7** **Schools Closed**—Labor Day

**9/8** First Day of School **(Grades 1-5)**

 School Board Meeting – 7:00p.m. Zoom

**9/9** First Day of School **(Kindergarten)**

**9/15** **Schools Closed**—Primary Election

**9/17** McVey Open House—Grades 1-5

**9/23** PTA General Meeting 7:00p.m.

**9/28** **School Closed**

**Principally Speaking …..**

Welcome back to a new and exciting 2020-2021 School Year! I am confident to say we are destined for another great year even with the challenges faced during this pandemic. Our children’s gifts and talents combined with dedication of school staff and supportive parent/community members allows us to continue to strive for excellence at McVey! As you know, I always have an open door policy and I am looking forward to working with all of you throughout the school year!

I would like to welcome back the ILA (International Literacy Association) to our collaborative team! Through this collaboration, we are creating a culture of literacy to increase student achievement by developing a desire to read and write. Over the course of the school year, staff will work closely with Dr. Carrice Cummins, professor at Louisiana Tech, to learn reading and writing techniques and strategies to increase student achievement. In addition, our McVey staff will be looking at the Science of Reading, as we continue to learn the brain research as to how students learn to read. We are also excited as we await the great activities and events ILA will help us provide to our students this year!

I am a firm believer that strong parental involvement as well as community/school relationships are essential ingredients in fostering high student academic achievement. It is very important that parents get involved in children’s education by volunteering at the school. We can use parent volunteers to serve as mentors, support classroom activities, and participate/volunteer at PTA/school events. Due to COVID-19, volunteer opportunities will most likely be limited, but any support from home is greatly appreciated! Please contact **Ms. Kim at 302-454-2145** if you have not went through the background processing check to be a volunteer.

In the orange Student Information Packet, you found this newsletter and all the other important paperwork we need for your child this year. It is very important that we have an office information form and emergency card for every child. Although we are in a remote situation, we will communicate when and how these forms can be returned back to the school.

With each passing year, we evaluate our policies and procedures to ensure the safety of all our students. We will continue to adhere to our afternoon dismissal policy when we return to school. All early dismissals must occur before 3:00p.m. The implementation of this policy will ensure that all of our students and teachers are aware of any last minute changes in dismissal procedures. We appreciate your support and the positive feedback to this procedure.

The start of school is such a busy time. This shortened newsletter highlights important dates and happenings during the month of September. Along with this newsletter, we will also be using our ParentLink phone and email messaging system to keep you abreast of upcoming school events. If your phone number or email changes during the year, please be sure to inform the office of any updates so that you continue to receive those ParentLink and email messages.

We are very excited for a great beginning to the school year and we are looking forward to seeing you all very soon!

Sincerely,

**Mr. Wilkie**