

McAuliffe Monthly

MAY 2024



April 26, 2024

Dear Parents,

May is right around the corner, which should bring us some sunny weather. Hopefully you will find yourself on more walks with your family, attending your child's outdoor sports activities (rather than having rain cancellations), and enjoying some well-deserved sun.

As we enter the month of May we are greeted with only 38 school days remaining in the year (8 weeks). In the next 38 school days students in grades 3-5 will have experienced the Smarter Balanced Assessment, participated in the school play, enjoyed field day, and celebrated other end of year activities such as Kindergarten Graduation and Fifth Grade Promotion. To me, Spring is like the Incredicoaster at Disney's California Adventure – it's really fast, a lot of fun, and goes by very quickly. So, it's time to get ready for the wild ride we call Spring!

Included below are various updates related to the month of May. I encourage you to read through the following information so that you are caught up on all that is going on at McAuliffe.

Updates/Reminders:

- Teacher Appreciation Week
- Snow Make-Up Days
- McAuliffe Night at the Seattle Mariners
- Registration for 2024-2025
- Elementary School Variance: McAuliffe OPEN for 2024-2025 School Year
- Lost and Found
- Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA)
- May – June Dates

Take care!

Brady Howden
Principal
Christa McAuliffe Elementary

Teacher Appreciation Week

May provides us with an opportunity to celebrate McAuliffe's talented and dedicated teachers. This year Teacher Appreciation Week will take place May 6 – May 10. Please be on the lookout for information from our PTSA regarding how you can celebrate your child's teacher for the work they do each day.

Snow Make-Up Days

Lake Washington School District's calendar has been updated to reflect changes due to our two snow days earlier this year. Friday, May 24th will now be a half-day, with students being released from school at 12:20pm. Tuesday, May 28th will now be a full day for students. Please note these changes on your personal calendars at home. The last day of school will continue to be Friday, June 21st (also a half-day).

[Updated School Calendar](#)

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McAuliffe Night at the Seattle Mariners

McAuliffe students, families, and friends are invited to join us at “McAuliffe Night at the Seattle Mariners” on Wednesday, June 12th at 6:40pm. This is going to be special night as our very own “Rocket Choir” will be singing the national anthem for the second year in a row. Our entire community is encouraged to attend as we watch our students sing the anthem and celebrate the end of the school year as a community.

Tickets can be ordered online at the link below at a discounted price of \$15 (300 level) or \$25 (100 level). Tickets must be ordered by Tuesday, June 11th. The Mariners will be donating a portion of your ticket price to McAuliffe, which will help support our 2024-2025 Rocket Choir and next year’s Fifth Grade camp. We hope you will join us at this exciting event. Go McAuliffe! Mariners!

Order Tickets Here: [McAuliffe Night at the Mariners](#)

Registration for 2024-2025

Registration is open for the 2024-2025 school year! If you know of a family in your neighborhood who has a school-aged child to register for the 2024-2025 school year, please share this message with them. Families interested in registering can contact our Registrar, Heather Cobb at hcobb@lwsd.org or register online using the link provided below. Thank you for your help!

Families can register at the following link: <https://www.lwsd.org/students-families/registration>

Elementary School Variance: McAuliffe OPEN for 2024-2025 School Year

For the first time in many years, Christa McAuliffe Elementary is open for both in-district and out-of-district variances. Parents who wish to have their child attend McAuliffe next year can do so by applying via the links included below.

- [In-District Variance Process and Application](#)
- [Out-of-District Variance Process and Choice Transfer Application](#)

Variances will be considered on a case by case basis, depending on space available within each individual grade level. In-District variances are approved for the entirety of their child’s elementary experience. Out-of-district variances are approved for a single year, with parents needing to reapply the following year.

Lost and Found

The Lost and Found Bin at McAuliffe is overflowing with jackets, sweatshirts, hats, water bottles, lunch boxes, and more. If you’re missing something at home, there is a good chance it has found its way to our Lost and Found Bin. Parents can look for missing items in the Lost and Found Bin, which is located in our lunchroom/commons. All items not claimed will be donated to charity at the end of the day on Wednesday, May 1st.

Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA)

Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will take the “Smarter Balanced Assessment” as their state assessment later this month. The assessment will consist of 2-3 days of English Language Art/Literacy testing and 2 days of mathematics testing. Fifth grade students will also take a 1-day science test. We ask that parents do not schedule vacations or appointments on testing days.

Included below is information about the SBA, practice resources that parents can use at home with their student, and our school schedule.

[SBA Information](#)

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SBA Practice and Training Tests

McAuliffe's SBA Testing Schedule:

- 3rd Grade: May 20, 21, 22, and 23
- 4th Grade: May 14, 15, and 16
- 5th Grade: May 14, 15, 16, and 17
- 2/3 Quest (only 3rd Grade): May 20, 21, 22, and 23
- 4/5 Quest: May 14, 15, 16, and 17

May – June Dates

Included below are the many events and activities taking place over the course of the month of May and June. Please take a moment to read through and update your calendar accordingly.

- Choir Concert: May 2 (7:00pm)
- Walk and Roll to School Day: May 3
- Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6 – 10
- School Play at Eastlake High School: May 7 and 8
- PTSA BOD Meeting: May 13 (2:15pm – 3:45pm)
- SBA Testing for Grades 4, 5, and 4/5 Quest: May 14 – 17
- SBA Testing for Grade 3 and 3rd Quest: May 20 – 23
- Half-Day with Early Release: May 24 (12:20pm release)
- No School – Memorial Day: May 27
- PTSA Volunteer Tea: May 30 (2:00pm – 3:45pm)
- PTSA McAuliffe Block Party: May 6 (5:30pm – 8:00pm)
- PTSA BOD Meeting: June 10 (2:15pm – 3:45pm)
- Field Day: June 12 (10:00am – 11:30am)
- McAuliffe Mariners Night (with Choir Singing): June 12
- Kindergarten Graduation: June 18 (9:40am – 11:15am)
- No School – Juneteenth: June 19
- Fifth Grade Promotion: June 20 (2:20pm – 3:50pm)
- End of Year Assembly: June 21 (9:40am)
- Half-Day with Early Release: June 21 (12:20pm release)

May



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- 2 Choir Concert, 7:00pm
- 3 Walk and Ride to School
- 6-10 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 7-8 School Play at Eastlake
- 13 PTSA BOD, 2:15pm
- 24 Early Release, 12:20pm Dismissal
- 27 No School—Memorial Day
- 28 Snow Make-Up Day
- 30 Volunteer Tea, 2:00pm
- 31 Star Drawing

JUNE 2024

- 6 PTSA Block Party, 5:30pm-8:00pm
- 10 PTSA Board Meeting, 2:15pm-3:45pm
- 12 Field Day, 10:00am-11:30am
- 12 Rocket Choir sings at Mariners game, 6:40pm
- 18 Kindergarten Graduation, 9:40am-11:15am
- 19 No School—Juneteenth
- 20 Fifth Grade Promotion, 2:20pm—3:50pm
- 21 All School Assembly, 9:40am
- 21 Last Day of School, 12:20pm Dismissal

MUSIC

Happy May! Music is happening all around us! Mrs. Johns' 3rd-5th grade classes will start a drumming unit while Mrs. Montoya's music classes are learning barred instruments. 2nd grade and Mrs. Johns' 2/3 Quest class will be learning about international instrument classification including Membranophones, Idiophones, Aerophones, Chordophones, and Electrophones. 1st graders will learn some folk dances and singing games. Kinder will continue their lessons in number focused activities and move on to movement, rhythm, and vocal exploration focused activities.

Musically yours,
Erynne and Melissa

PE Wow! I can't believe May is coming! 3-5 grade students are running the spring mile and finishing up other fitness tests such as pushups, sit-ups, sit and reach and the shuttle run. We're also working on hand/eye coordination and playing some pickleball! K-2 students are working on volleying, foot skills and we're playing tag games with an emphasis on safety. FYI: Field Day is fast approaching (Wednesday, June 12th 10-11:30), and I will need approximately 50-60 parent volunteers to help run the stations! If you're a district approved volunteer and interested, be on the lookout for a signup. Thanks! Stacie and Deanna
sstrong@lwsd.org, dburmester@lwsd.org

LIBRARY

As we get closer to the end of the school year, it is time to start wrangling all those overdue, and maybe lost, books. Starting in May, weekly messages about overdue books will be emailed home. This way we can keep on top of looking for those missing items rather than waiting until the last couple of weeks to scramble around. If you really believe your child has lost a book, you are welcome to send in a replacement copy. Replacement copies can be purchased from any vendor (Brick & Mortar, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, etc.). If you are unable to replace a book, just let me know and I will simply remove it from our school catalog. The final day of book checkout in the library this year will be June 7th, with all books due back on June 14th. As always, please reach out with any questions at jumartin@lwsd.org and visit our [Library Website](#) for information about our library program. Julie ☺

COUNSELOR CORNER Happy May! During the month of April our Kindergarten and First grade students explored careers and learned why adults have jobs to earn money. We played a guessing game while they guessed and identified jobs in our community. In May, we will review Kelso's Choices and discuss different ways to solve problems. Second and Third grade classes learned about our flexible brains and how important it is to be flexible, not rigid in our thinking. We also did some career exploration and learned how our passions and interests play a role in the job or career we choose as adults. In May we will discuss problem solving steps. Fourth and Fifth graders learned about Cyberbullying and how to recognize, report and refuse it. We discussed being an upstander and not joining in if they see it happening to others. In May, we will do some career exploration and learn how our personality types and interests play a role in our future careers. Happy Mother's Day to all McAuliffe moms!
Kindly, Lisa Daniel, McAuliffe Counselor ldaniel@lwsd.org



**LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL - JUNE 21
12:20 DISMISSAL**