Budget Forums Set for May 25th and May 27th
The Olympia School District will hold two public forums to discuss the proposed 2010-2011 budget. The forums will be held at Jefferson Middle School on Tuesday, May 25th beginning at 6:30pm and at Reeves Middle School on Thursday, May 27th beginning at 6:30pm. District staff will present an overview of the budget, answer questions and gather input. Parents, students, school employees and members of the public are invited to attend. For more information about the proposed 2010-2011 budget, go to http://osd.wednet.edu.

Memorial Day
No school on Monday, May 31st for observance of Memorial Day.

Juice Pop Sales by Student Council
The Student Council will be selling Juice Pops. The cost is .50¢ per juice pop and is sold on a cash basis only. Juice Pops will be available for sale May 28th and June 11th.

Placement Consideration Form for 2010-11
Placement Consideration Forms are available in the office for placement for the 2010-11 school year. The forms are due in the office no later than Friday, May 21st.

Kindergarten Registration Continues
Registration for students entering Kindergarten in fall 2010 is currently underway. Packets are available in the office and forms are also available online. A birth certificate, immunization dates and proof of residency are required to register.

Late Start – Wednesday, June 2nd
School begins at 10:00am

Important Staffing and Placement Considerations for 2010-2011
This is the time of year we monitor our enrollment on a daily basis. It is important that you contact the McKenny office at (360) 596-8400 if you know that your child will not be attending McKenny next year (excluding 5th grade). We will let families know as soon as possible if there is a change in the enrollment status of any child currently attending McKenny. Depending on enrollment numbers, the status of out-of-district or out-of-area students attending McKenny may not be known until the first day of school on September 8th, 2010. All families moving into the McKenny attendance area will be asked to verify attendance eligibility at McKenny. Existing McKenny families who move out of the McKenny attendance areas must arrange for their child to attend their home school or apply for an out-of-area/district transfer. Please contact the school office for more information.
Well Fed, Well Read
McKenny’s Student Service Council is hosting a Well Fed, Well Read drive. Beginning Monday, May 3rd and continuing through the month of May, donations of food and books are being accepted for the Thurston County Food Bank and for the South Sound Reading Foundation. Books should be “new or gently used” children’s books.

Warm Weather Attire
As the weather warms up we ask that students continue to wear closed toe shoes or sandals that are firmly strapped to the foot. T-shirts, tank tops and shirts should be long enough so that the bottom seams touches or covers the waistline of pants or skirts. Shoulder straps should not be too narrow. Spaghetti straps, for example, are not appropriate attire for school. Thanks for your help!

Lost and Found
Our racks are full. Please check our lost and found for any missing items. We will be donating the left over items to the clothing bank. Please write your students name in his or her coat/sweatshirt. We can return any lost coat/sweatshirt to the correct student if their name is visible.

School Registration for 2010-11
Registration continues for 1st – 5th grades for the 2010-11 school year. Please bring your child’s Proof of Residency. If you have neighbors with school age children, please let them know we are in the process of registering new students.

PTO
Movie Night
Tonight is our last movie night and we will be showing “Planet 51”. Cost is $4.00 per student. Drop-off time is 6:30pm, movie begins at 6:45pm and pick-up time is 8:30pm. Advanced reservations are required and due by Wednesday, April 15th. Students are welcome to bring their sleeping bag/blanket, a pillow and to wear their pajamas to the movie. This is for McKenny students only.

2009-2010 Yearbooks
While the yearbook pre-sale is over, we are still taking orders on a first-come, first-served basis for the overstock. Yearbook order forms are available in the office. Yearbooks are $12 each. Payments are accepted in the form of cash or check made payable to McKenny PTO. Don’t miss out

"McKenny Olympics" Spring Carnival
Carnival was a huge success this year and the PTO would like to thank the following parents who volunteered above and beyond and made this carnival a great experience for our kids:
- Basket Coordinator: Charity Johnson
- Bake Sale Coordinators: Cary Carlisle & Shaylina Ward
- Decorations: Angie Ragan-Sherrer & Elizabeth Swatfigure
- Cake Walk Coordinators: Margi Hansen & Tracey Schmaltz
- Concessions: Casey Wyatt
- Bingo Coordinator: Laura Medrud
- Ticket Booth Coordinator: Susan Balikov
- Photo Booth Coordinator: Tracy Sborov and all the Parents that helped set up and clean up.
A very special thank you to the gentlemen that braved the Dunk Tank. And a HUGE thank you to the Sanchez's and the Mayan, who provided the best food ever!!
Dear McKenny Families,

Last week during our regularly scheduled PTO meeting, the board asked me to speak about bullying behavior and discipline procedures at McKenny. It was a timely invitation because I had spoken with a few parents recently who were concerned about these issues as well. As a result of our discussion, it was clear that our broader community would benefit from this information.

McKenny is an excellent school. We have staff that has great skills working with students, a partnership with families that is constructive and positive, and kids who exhibit great life skills. With that said, we are always looking for ways to improve our work. Discipline is one of these areas and we have, over the past few years, spent considerable time and effort to adjust and improve our system, with the ultimate objective of keeping kids safe and teaching appropriate strategies when faced with frustration and anger.

In regard to bullying, we follow the District policies in responding to these behaviors. It is not acceptable behavior and when identified, we take these situations seriously. As with any intervention, we must look at several variables when we respond: 1) The ages of those involved, 2) The severity of the situation, 3) The frequency of behaviors, and 4) The context of the situation. These are important considerations but can result in different disciplinary and instructional actions. Great attention is made to respond in a serious and developmentally appropriate way.

At McKenny we are aware that in the area of behavior a vast majority of our students require very little intervention, some require occasional support and a few will require more intensive and specific plans. In an effort to create a better system of communication, discipline and instruction, in conjunction with improving our sense of community, we have a number of plans in place. This past week several staff members participated in a training titled Compassionate Community. This training focused on ways that we can build capacity among staff and kids to be empathetic and civil with each other.

That same week I was joined by another group of staff for a training in Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports. This nationally recognized approach is currently being implemented in many schools in our area. This model offers a framework for our efforts in identifying behaviors, providing intervention and creating a collective approach with consistent expectations. It addresses many of our needs and I am encouraged with the way this can impact the lives of our students. It is an on-going process, that will continue into next year. Additionally, we will be looking at specific curriculums we can use to teach social and behavioral skills to students. As with any community-wide effort, we believe this work will take some time and energy. However, in the long run, we believe it will have a positive influence on our students, create an even safer environment in our school, and maintain McKenny’s strong reputation in our community.

I was reminded over the past few weeks that communication is critical for our work together. I will make a point of communicating more often with you and making myself available to answer questions, as we progress through this process.

Ultimately, I want each of you to know that we are committed to maintaining an environment that is respectful, safe and welcoming, for all of our students. I am confident that we will keep moving forward in this area and welcome your input and ideas.

Thank you for all you do for our staff and students.

Sincerely,
Brendon Chertok
Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 2010
17  Brewer Field Trip 9-3:15
19  Guitar Club @ 8:15
   5th grade to visit WMS 1:15-3:15
20  Sutich play @ 6:30
21  Sutich play @ 6:30
   Kindergarten Zoo field trip @ 9:15-3:00
24  School Board Mtg @ 6:30 @ McLane
26  Guitar Club @ 8:15
   Ayre field trip @9:45 to 3:00
27  5th grade passport check @ 1:45
28  Juice Pops for sale @ lunch
   3rd & 4th grade passport check @ 9:10
   Newsletter
31  No School – Memorial Day

June 2010
2   Late Start (10am start)
   PTO Board mtg @ 6:00
3   2010-11 Kindergarten Open House @ 11:00
   Ayer/Sjoboen Field Trip 10:30-2:00
4   O’Halloran field trip @ 10:30 to 2:00
8   1st grade field trip Dirt Work 9:30-2:00
9   Guitar Club @ 8:15
    Site Council @ 3:30
11  Reading Assembly @ 2:40
    Juice Pops for sale @ lunch
    Final Newsletter
14  School Board Mtg @ 6:30 @ Knox
15  2nd grade field trip OHOP Pioneer Farm 9:15-3:15
16  Kindergarten program @ 2:00
    5th grade field trip Museum of Flight 9:00-3:15
17  Field Day
18  5th grade BBQ @ LBA
20  Father’s Day
21  LAST DAY OF SCHOOL