



# Hawk Talk

**Michael Havens, Principal**  
**October 23, 2015**  
**(360) 596-8400 Office**  
**(360) 596-8403 Student Absent/Late Line**  
**Website: <http://mckenny.osd.wednet.edu/>**

## A Message from the Principal – See page 2

### Halloween

Halloween is upon us! Please do not send your student to school in Halloween costume. We will call and ask you to pick up the student or bring a change of clothing if they arrive in a costume.



### Notes to School or Office

Sending notes to school (whether it is the school office or a teacher), please make sure you **date and sign** the note. Also, please write notes on a half sheet of paper or larger. Notes could get lost if they are on small pieces of paper or scrap paper. Thank you!!!

### Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent/teacher conferences will be held **Tuesday through Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>**. Student release time is 12:05pm each day for Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Please do not bring siblings (younger or older) in to the conference. Siblings may read in the pod area or look around at the book fair. Teachers do not have a lot of flexibility to make changes in conference times. We appreciate you making your appointment time a priority. **Also there will be no AM/PM Preschool held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.**

### Scholastic Book Fair

Visit the book fair in the library before or after your child's conference on **Tuesday through Thursday 11:00 to 6:00pm and Friday 11:00 to 4:00.** There are some great books again this year!

## Early Release – Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>

School releases at 12:05pm

No Preschool

## Mr. Havens' Message from page 1

Early Release and Non-student Day

Whether it's staying at school late into the evening, returning to school after the kids have gone to bed, coming in each Sunday for an additional full day of work, or working from home into the wee hours of the morning, McKenny teachers all put a huge amount of their personal time into their work. Teachers do this because they care about their students and want them to succeed. Since each teacher puts in this extra time in a way that works for her/his schedule, it is important that we set aside time specifically for teachers to engage in collaborative work. In the Olympia School District, one strategy we use is Early Release for collaboration on the first Wednesday of the month. Another strategy is the non-student day in October.

Since both of these occurred recently, I wanted to share with the McKenny community how our teachers utilized this time. On the October 7 early release:

- Our DLC teachers collaborated with other DLC teachers from around the district. They spent time problem solving student specific learning needs, began developing whole class student growth goals, and adapted curriculum to meet student specific needs.
- Our Kindergarten teachers reviewed assessment data in math and reading to develop intervention groups and leveled groups for Read Well.
- Our first grade teachers focused on math. They analyzed assessment data in an effort to determine which students require extra help from teacher Melissa and what kind of help is needed.
- Our second grade teachers focused on reading. They reviewed STAR and DIBELS data and running records to establish balanced Walk to Read groups and how to utilize McKenny's Washing Reading Corps member as a part of the program.
- Our third grade teachers focused on writing. They created a new conference goal sheet for writing and developed rubrics to assess their students' paragraph writing.
- Our fourth grade teachers worked together to establish consistent schedules and to ensure that they are roughly in the same units in the teaching of Bridges math. They also worked together in the development of student growth goals for whole class and smaller subgroups of students.
- The fifth grade team collaborated on several different topics. They worked on how to best utilize the support of teacher Melissa for math intervention. They developed a proposal for how to limit the disruptions to instruction time caused by instrumental music. They developed a plan for creating an online schedule for utilizing the computer carts and how to differentiate for individual student needs related to the typing club program.

During the morning of the nonstudent day on October 16th, McKenny teachers worked together in grade level teams to develop goals in English Language Arts, Math and Science which will become a part of our School Improvement Plan. Additionally, teachers develop specific strategies for how those goals will be reached. The school improvement plan will be completed by the end of this month and submitted to the school board for approval.

During the afternoon of October 16th, all elementary teachers gathered at the Olympia Regional Learning Academy to focus on the new report card. After an overview presentation by members of the report card committee, teachers met in grade levels to discuss the specific features of the new report card and the accompanying guide for parents. Even though it doesn't happen often enough, it is powerful to bring teachers from across the district together for new learning, problem solving, and discussions about how to best serve our students and school communities.

Collaboration is extremely important to the work that we do in schools. Please know that the time teachers spend collaborating on the early release and nonstudent days is invaluable. And it is all done in an effort to support student growth.

On behalf of the McKenny staff, thank you.  
Michael Havens

## Early Release Information

**Teacher Collaboration:** November 4, December 2, January 6, February 3, March 2 and May 4.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:** March 29 – April 1.

**Elementary Grading:** January 29 and June 3

**Last Day of School:** June 17 (barring no make-up days)

## AM Kindergarten & Preschool Parents – Early Release Information

### AM Kindergarten (9:00am to 12:05pm)

AM Kindergarten students will extend their school day to 12:05 and ride home with the rest of the students at our school. Lunch will be available to purchase for \$2.55. Kindergarten students who ride the bus home will still need to be met at the bus by a parent or sibling.

### Preschool

Preschool students will not attend school on these 18 early release days.

**Daylight Saving Time Ends Fall Back**  
**Remember to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**

## Veteran's Day Assembly

**Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:15pm.** Please invite the military veterans or current military personnel in your family to attend our assembly. We would love to honor your service in the armed forces.

## No School

**Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>** to honor Veteran's Day and **Thursday and Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>** for Thanksgiving Break.



## Think Wreaths, Think Cispus!

### OSDEF Holiday Wreath Sales Due November 4<sup>th</sup>

Get in the holiday spirit early and help send our fifth-grade students to Cispus this spring! The annual Olympia School District Education Foundation (OSDEF) Wreath Sale is now underway and will run through **November 4**. These beautiful 22" cedar and pine wreaths make terrific gifts, so remember your neighbors, family and friends. Wreaths are \$22.00 each and will be delivered just prior to Thanksgiving break. Proceeds from the sales (and any donations) will help defer costs for students to attend camp at the [Cispus Outdoor LearningCenter](#) in Randle. Fifth-graders are encouraged to sell four (4) wreaths each– that's about 300 wreaths! (We can do it, Hawks!) Questions? Special bulk orders? Contact Jocelyn McCabe at 870.8708 or [jmccabe34@hotmail.com](mailto:jmccabe34@hotmail.com).



## Food Drive

This school year's food drive will be organized a little bit differently, just for fun. We're asking that each grade level bring a specific part of a typical Thanksgiving meal. From these donations we will put together baskets for some of our own McKenny families and the remaining donations will support the OHS food drive. This year's food drive will run the weeks of November 9<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The organization of it is as follows:

**Kindergarten** – boxed or bagged stuffing, instant mashed potatoes

**1<sup>st</sup> grade** - salad stuff: salad dressing, croutons, olives, etc.

**2<sup>nd</sup> grade** - canned vegetables: corn, green beans, etc.

**3<sup>rd</sup> grade** – canned fruit, cranberry sauce

**4<sup>th</sup> grade** – dessert stuff: pumpkin pie filling, sugar, fall candy

**5<sup>th</sup> grade** – extras: seasonings, Pam/vegetable oil, gravy, chicken broth

So when you're out grocery shopping, stockpile a few things in anticipation of this year's food drive.

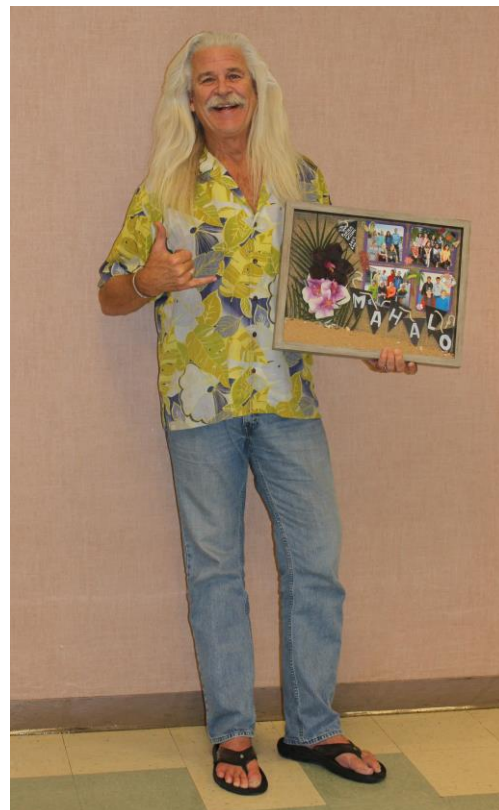
**Remember nonperishable items only!**

## Up-Coming Events

### November – READ-A-THON MONTH

- 2 Olympia School Board mtg
- 4 Early release
- 6 PTO Fall Social
- 10 Veteran's Day Assembly @ 1:15
- 11 NO SCHOOL – Veteran's Day**
- 16 Olympia School Board mtg
- 17 4<sup>th</sup> grade field trip
- 20 Passport check – 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades
- 25 Hawk Talk sent home
- 26 & 27 **NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break**

**Thank you  
Mr. Wilson!**



## PTO

### CALLING ALL SUPER READERS!

The McKenny staff and PTO are excited to announce SUPER READERS as the 3rd annual McKenny Read-A-Thon! This year's read-a-thon will be November 2nd-30<sup>th</sup>. Last year this fundraiser brought in \$5,500, which was used to help cover costs related to the Math Support position, Computer Lab chairs, new Library furniture and new library books. This year, we are aiming for another \$5,500, which will go towards maintaining our commitment to the Math Support positions, assisting the library with new books, and providing another school wide enrichment event. Informational packets will be sent home with the students soon.

### Have you seen the new library tables and chairs??

A HUGE thank you to PTO President Amanda Benjamin who coordinated the joint efforts of everyone who made the new furniture possible, including McKenny staff, OSD staff, PTO members, and Creative Office. Stop by and check them out!

### Welcome Melissa Morrill - Math Support Position

We are thrilled to have Melissa back for the 2015-16 school year. This is a PTO funded position which supports teachers, as needed, in classrooms and small groups. Melissa brings great energy, dedication and enthusiasm to our school.

### Thank you Frank Durocher and the Movie Night Committee!!!

Everything was truly AWESOME with 150 students in attendance. The next Movie Night will be December 4<sup>th</sup> ... stay tuned for the movie announcement!

### Show your school spirit with your Hawk Wear

Thank you to Kim Wodka for organizing the purchase of t-shirts and sweatshirts for our community. The PTO has purchased t-shirts for all new staff, kindergarteners and new students who come throughout the year. It's our way of sharing our school spirit! Go Hawks!!!

### The Fall Social is just around the corner!



Grab your boots and don your hats to join us for a fun evening of music and dancing at the "**Hawk Hoedown**". Admission is free. Bake sale items and souvenirs will be available for purchase. Be sure to bring some money to send friends to the Hawk Jail with the help of Mr. Havens! We need volunteers to help the evening run smoothly. Please contact Fall Social Chair, Kristen Stewart at [kristencecil@hotmail.com](mailto:kristencecil@hotmail.com) to volunteer or visit the McKenny PTO website at [www.mckennypto.org](http://www.mckennypto.org) for the link to sign up for a 1/2 hour shift.

**Fall Social is Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the school gym**

### Get your pictures in the yearbook!

The Yearbook Staff invites students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school and community events or you and your friends just having fun, we'd like to see them. Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have. Go to our website [www.mckennypto.org](http://www.mckennypto.org) and click on "Yearbook" to easily upload your photo.

## **Keep Clipping Box Tops for Education**

Congratulations to Ms. Campbell's class for winning the ice cream party! They collected the most box tops during this round, but don't put those scissors down just yet! We will continue to collect for another reward later in the year. Contact Box Top Committee Chair Marny Howell for more information at [marny421@yahoo.com](mailto:marny421@yahoo.com) or read more about Box Tops for Education at [www.boxtopsforeducation.com](http://www.boxtopsforeducation.com).

## **Open chair position for the PTO Fund Run**

We are still looking for a chair person for the Fund Run which will be held in the spring, 2016. You don't need to be a runner to fill this position, but that would be fun too! Please contact PTO President, Amanda Benjamin, at [lakeaman@hotmail.com](mailto:lakeaman@hotmail.com) for more info.

## **'Like' Us on Facebook**

Are you on Facebook? So are we! Be sure to "like" the McKenny Hawks Family fan page on Facebook and keep tabs on PTO activities and events.

## **Check Out Our Website**

Be sure to keep up to date with all the happenings of McKenny PTO at [www.mckennyppto.org](http://www.mckennyppto.org)

## **Calendar Check:**

Our next PTO meeting is **TUESDAY, November 10<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30pm in the school library. Hope to see you there!