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FYI:

Please check out the school website at:
<http://www.mcclusky.k12.nd.us>

The power school site at:
<https://mcclusky.ps.state.nd.us/public>

**Christmas Concert
December 17,
2019 at 7:00 pm
in the High School Gym**

**Last day of school before
Christmas break is December 20**

**Back to School
January 2, 2020**

THE MISSION...

... Of the McClusky Public School and community is to empower all students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to meet the challenges of our changing world.

Our vision is...

**WE EXPECT
SUCCESS**

MSN

McClusky School News

Dale Ekstrom-Superintendent
Sarah Beck-Principal
Andrea Lauer-Business Manager

News and Reminders from Administration to Students and Parents:

- A BIG thank you to those parents who joined us in November for **Pizza with Parents!** It is so good to see you in the building. I do hope you enjoyed it as much as the students, faculty, and staff did! Thank you again and we hope to see you all during the next designated Pizza with Parents get-together. See below for an updated schedule/dates:
 - Friday, December 13 – 11:20 AM to 11:45 AM – Kindergarten through second grades
 - Updated to make-up for cancelled date in October for Kindergarten through second grades
 - Friday, February 7 – 11:20 to 11:45 AM – Kindergarten through second grades
 - Friday, March 13 – 11:40 AM to 12:05 PM – Third and fourth grades
 - Friday, April 17 – 11:40 AM to 12:05 PM – Fifth and sixth grades
 - Friday, May 8 – 11:20 AM to 12:05 PM – All K-6 grades and parents are invited
- If you have an **issue or concern** about a faculty or staff member, please speak with that person first to resolve the issue. Many times, problems can be resolved with a quick phone call or email. Faculty and staff are available periodically during the day, if you prefer to speak on the phone, and will respond to emails within 24-48 hours. Keep in mind, teachers are doing their best to educate your child as well as complete other assignments. If a teacher does not get back with you, try again. For more information see page 56 of the Student Parent Handbook. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.
- As the holidays sneak up on us, administration would like to wish all parents, students, and community members a **happy holiday season!** We hope your holidays are filled with family and friends, tasty food, and warm indoor days and nights. If you ever need anything from administration and/or a teacher, don't hesitate to call. Once again, we hope you have a wonderful holiday season and see you next year!

From the Music Room

by Mr. Schneider

Greetings from the music department at McClusky school...what a great year of learning we are experiencing! The kids and I are diligently learning Christmas music for our **upcoming concert to be held on Tuesday evening December 17th at 7 p.m.** We are looking forward to performing for you. The concert will consist of traditional as well as new arrangements of familiar Christmas pieces, Both the elementary and high school bands, as well as choirs will be performing. I would ask that the student attire for the concert be dark slacks and dress shirt with a collar for the boys, ties optional, and appropriate dresses or dress pants and tops for the girls. I hope you have a blessed holiday season. Hope to see you at the concert!

From the Kindergarten Room

by Mrs. Anderson

Our kindergarten classroom has really revved up in November and we are excited about all we are learning every day!

This month we have really been working on word families like ug, un, og, and op. It has been fun to see how many words we can make in each family. We have also been adding words to our word wall like crazy! We have new sight words we add every week. We also like to add new words that we learn that are in our leveled readers. Words like "friend, shell, and grapes". Working with your student at home really helps to familiarize them with these words. If you can use the flash cards I provided, at least a few times a week, it's very helpful! I will send home additional sight words as we add them to our wall!

We have also been learning a lot about reading comprehension and words like "visualize, setting, opinion, predict, infer" and others. We work on the same story for the whole week and learn how to use all these reading strategies. Ask them to "retell" the stories "The Relatives Came", and "Wemberly Worried". These are the most recent stories we have read.

Math has become one of our favorite learning blocks. This month we've been learning about all the ways to make 1-10. We use counting manipulatives, snapping blocks, and our white boards for this. For example, your student should be able to show different ways to make "5" (1+4, 2+3, etc.) up to 10. One of our favorite activities is when I ask them to work a problem. They use their teddy bear or dinosaur counters to help if needed. When they have worked out the problem, they write it on their white board using all the correct symbols. We are also learning terms like "less than, greater than, and sum". And we are counting to 100 every day using a Jack Hartman learning song from YouTube.

As you know, we are learning to read books by ourselves. Many of us are well into level B readers. For context we want to be at level D at the end of the year. I do separate the kids based on their levels and so I have a few different guided reading groups. My goal is to meet with all of them at least 3 times a week and when possible, 4 or 5. The "book buddy" bags that come home are books we have read together as well as some other leveled readers that your kids should be able to sound out and read. If they struggle remind them to sound out words using the "fist method" and to use pictures and first letter sounds to help them figure out the word.

I love getting to know these kiddos and am grateful and excited for every day. We have definitely become a little family and it's amazing to see their friendships grow as they continue to learn about and bond with each other every day!

Wishing you all a wonderful Holiday Season!

1st and 2nd Grade

Welcome to December and all the excitement it brings! We have some fun things planned at the elementary school, but I won't spoil any surprises 🎄.

The first and second grade children have been working very hard to become better readers and are discovering the richness of fluent reading at their levels. We have done some poetry and quite a bit of reading informational text (nonfiction). They are so eager to learn, which is truly enjoyable.

The students are becoming "mathemagicians" and are having a great time with various math games and learning the more challenging concepts presented to them daily. It's an active time of learning.

I look forward to every day with this group of children!

Treasuring the moments,
Mrs. Schneider

I want to share some pictures with you:



From the Math Room

By Mr. Avalon

This past Tuesday, November 19th, McClusky High School took part in a regional math meet against 7 other schools in Underwood. The meet itself was split into two divisions, the 9th-10th graders, and the 11th-12th graders, each group having 6 members per team. For McClusky, our teams were made up of: Megan Jerkovich (12), Kassidee Logsdon (12), Baleigh Ripplinger (12), Baylee Parsons (12), Cole Felchle (11), Ty Beck (11), and: Jayce Lauer (10), Karleigh Baker (10), Gryphon Mulkey (10), Easton Frey (10), Natalie Whitcomb (9), Parker Jerkovich (9). The questions themselves were divided into four individual tests and one team test. As a team, McClusky students represented themselves with class and respect, and made me proud to be their teacher. I'm also ecstatic to say that a few of our students really did excellent work on the individual test! Namely, Cole Felchle (11) nearly took home 5th place in the 11th-12th grade competition and Parker Jerkovich earned 2nd place overall in the 9th-10th grade division! These tests were *extremely* difficult, and all students should be proud of their success!

As the math teacher of McClusky, I'd like to provide some takeaways from the meet. First off, I really love the attitudes of our students and I'm happy to say their behavior at this meet should make anyone from McClusky proud. Secondly, I really feel a sense of community from the other staff members here at McClusky. Everyone is so supportive and curious about what is going on over in the math department. I'd like to thank everyone for asking how we did and how the school year is going in general. Next, I want to give some advice to the students. Always understand the rules of a test when you take it and maximize your odds of success. Don't leave questions blank on a test! If it's a multiple-choice test with 5 options, your odds of a correct answer are 20% even if you're shooting into the darkness, which is better than the 0% chance you give yourself if you leave it blank. Finally, make sure you ask questions while your education is free! Don't let a rumbling thought in your head slumber. Ask! We, the teachers, are here for you. Thanks for reading.

TEACHER/STAFF

Mrs. Roberta Netzloff has been with McClusky Schools for fifteen years as a substitute teacher and fifteen years as a classroom teacher. She enjoys working with students of all ages and it shows in her extracurricular responsibilities. She advises the elementary, junior and senior high academic teams as well as the fifth and sixth grade math teams. These teams compete during the late winter and early spring months. Mrs. Netzloff reads and completes puzzles such as suduko, word finds, and jigsaws. Her favorite book series is Harry Potter and favorite movies are the Pirates of the Caribbean. Mrs. Netzloff loves to travel and has been to Hawaii and Australia, to name a couple. Strudles is her favorite food. Snickers is the best candy bar, she says, and her go to drink is Sprite. In her free time she also enjoys gardening and getting her hands dirty. It is wonderful to have Mrs. Netzloff here in the district!

Mrs. Leah Anderson is our long-term substitute kindergarten teacher. She is very much enjoying her time here in McClusky and working with our kinder kiddos! She has lived in four different states including North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Her favorite season is Fall and her favorite holiday is Thanksgiving. I'm sure she had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday last month with her family and friends! Mrs. Anderson has been singing since she was three years old. She also sings in a band called County Road 7. Mrs. Anderson is very compassionate and cares deeply about her students and the elderly. She helps out as a CNA at the Turtle Lake Hospital, when available. She enjoys camping with her family and knitting. You may find her in the Turtle Lake – Mercer gym as she spends a lot of time there during the basketball season because her husband coaches. Lastly, words straight from Mrs. A, "I am so grateful to be teaching at McClusky Elementary. There is nothing more rewarding than teaching and receiving unconditional love and hugs!" She also said, "The support and advice I receive from all staff has been a game changer!" We are lucky to have you here Mrs. A!



Mrs. Bev Faul is a paraprofessional who supervises online, ITV, and study hall classes at the high school. She also works in the office, as needed, and designs and builds the newsletter each month. She enjoys reading, cross stitching, and baking. Her favorite part about working in the school is watching the students grow and learn over the years. She likes to see all they can accomplish. Mrs. Faul's favorite author is Karen Kingsbury. Her favorite season is Fall and her favorite holiday is Christmas. Don't worry Mrs. Faul, Christmas is almost here! She doesn't have a favorite sports team but enjoys watching the olympics. Her favorite food is chicken and strudels, almond M&Ms, Sixlets, and coffee. We are glad she is here with us, even though when she was first hired it was a temporary position, which was almost eleven years ago. She must like us!

CLASS SPOTLIGHT



The McClusky Elementary fifth grade class consists of seven students, whereas, the sixth-grade class consists of six students, all housed in one combination classroom with Mrs. Roberta Netzloff teaching. These upper elementary students are lucky to have such a caring, kind, and devoted educator in the classroom whom they may learn from. Fifth grade kiddos enjoy reading, playing video games such as Fortnite, and riding hoverboards. Sounds fun! Sixth grade pupils enjoy fishing, hanging out with friends, and taking care of animals. This group of students is very competitive, and it shows on the court or in the field! Both groups of students said they play sports such as basketball, volleyball, and football. Students are looking forward to graduating, seventh grade, Christmas, and the weather project in science. Some favorite meals the students gobble up are pizza, taco in a bag, tator tot hot dish, chicken wraps, and turkey over biscuits. Favorite snacks include apples and peanut butter, goldfish, and granola bars. These kids know what is yummy! Birthday months include September, October, June, February, July, April, and November. Finally, see the colorful word art to learn more about our fifth and sixth graders, specifically what they want to be when they grow up.

Marine
 Engineer
 Nurse
 Butcher
 Scientist
 Basketball Star
 Veterinarian
 Farmer
 Ninja
 Trainer
 Singer
 Rancher

FFA Report

By Megan Jerkovich, FFA Reporter

The McClusky FFA Chapter traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana for The National FFA Convention and Expo from October 27th to November 2nd. The students that traveled were Baleigh Ripplinger, Cole Felchle, Megan Jerkovich, Jaxston Hausauer, Kassidee Logsdon, Elisa Wolt, and Jon Strobel. Ben Kothrade and Mr. Axt chaperoned us.

We started off our journey by heading east to Waterloo early Sunday morning, where we stayed for the night. Early Monday morning we went to a John Deere Engine Works Factory where we watched engines being made, and then on to a John Deere Museum where we learned many things about the John Deere industry. The last thing we did that day was tour Hansen's Dairy Farm in Hudson, Iowa, where we got to do many activities such as milk cows, make our own butter, pet kangaroos and many other things. We were lucky enough to stay the night at Kassidee Logsdon's grandparent's house in Knoxville, Illinois.

On Tuesday, we traveled from Knoxville to Peoria, Illinois, where we toured the Caterpillar Visitor's Center to get a closer look at Caterpillar products and what they can do. After our tour we traveled the rest of the way to Indianapolis, Indiana.

On Wednesday, we went to a turf tour at the Indiana Speedway and learned about how much time and effort they put into keeping their grass perfect and how they must be very precise in everything they do to make sure it is uniform. Later that day we went to a haunted house as an FFA chapter where there were many different scary buildings and even a haunted hay ride.

On Thursday morning, we went to the first general session of the National Convention where we got to listen to the National FFA President's retiring address, and we got to see a great presentation about the women in agriculture. We also attended a work shop which focused on pursuing your goals and dreams and making them happen no matter what kind of fears you have.

On Friday, the chapter split up and went to two different workshops, one focused on not being so quick to judge other people, and the other on assembling a program of activities. We all then attended a workshop about a man who told us the importance of diversity and how it doesn't help anything to judge people because in the end, we are all just people.

On Saturday morning, we packed up and headed towards McClusky, North Dakota, making a stop at The World's Largest Truck Stop in Iowa. We travelled through the night and arrived home around midnight. It was a long trip but we all had so much fun and learned a lot from the experience.

Kassidee Logsdon went to compete at state FFA in Job Interview at the State Capitol on November 20th, where she placed bronze in her event. Congratulations to Kassidee for advancing to state from district leadership.

We also held the Elevator appreciation supper this past week where we served many people and had games for the children. A big thank you for everybody who helped participate in serving and prepping the food.
