

# McKenzie Monitor

## E-NEWS YOU CAN USE

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### From the Principal

Dear McKenzie Families,

It's hard to believe this "school" month is nearly at its end. As you prepare for the Thanksgiving holidays, please take a moment to read all that this newsletter has to offer, as when we return, many events and activities will be underway.

Our **Sharing Committee** reminds us of their Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> deadline. If you have not yet contributed to the Share the Warmth, Joy, or Feast—it's not too late. Also on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, parents are invited to take advantage of an evening of learning at New Trier High School. The **Parent Learning Network** will host a facilitated discussion following the viewing of the new movie, Race to Nowhere. I hope to see many of you there! For more information, please see details below.

#### Other reminders:

In order for the district to continue to offer the convenience of credit cards as a payment option, it has become necessary to implement a mandatory \$4.95 transaction fee for each credit card transaction, whether in person or online. This credit card fee will become effective December 1, 2010.

Also effective December 1, 2010 school lunch fees for grades 1-6 will increase from \$2.90 to \$3.15.

Lastly, the Village of Wilmette Transportation Commission has approved some changes to improve traffic and safety during our hours of heaviest use. Similar to the restrictions that are currently in place on Prairie and Central Avenues, **between 8:00-9:30 am and 2:30-3:30 pm**:

- **Do not Enter** for southbound 15<sup>th</sup> St. at Washington Avenue;
- **No Left Turn** from northbound 15<sup>th</sup> Str. to westbound Highland Avenue;
- **No Right Turn** from eastbound Highland Ave. and the alleys between Washington and Highland Avenues to southbound 15<sup>th</sup> Street;
- **No Thru Traffic** on both ends of the east/west alleys between Washington and Highland Avenues and 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets.

Wishing you and yours a very Happy Thanksgiving! See you back on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Welter

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#### DID YOU KNOW?

Each Fall and Winter, the District 39 Educational Foundation board awards Gripp Grants that promote innovative ideas and new approaches to learning. The Foundation recently announced that McKenzie teachers, **Mrs. Weil and Ms. Dolkart**, are one of the seven grant recipients for Fall, 2010. Through this funding, our teachers will attend Columbia University's Reading/Writing workshops, bringing back new instructional ideas to share with their colleagues. For more information regarding this year's Gripp Grants: <http://216.45.200.1/d39foundation/Fall2010GrantsRelease.pdf>

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# COMING UP...

## Monday 11/22 – Friday 11/26

- **NO SCHOOL:** Thanksgiving Break

## Monday 11/29

- **LUNCH:** Cheese Tortellini w/wo Sauce, WW Roll, Broccoli, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **McCLUBS:** 8-8:45 a.m. - Scooters and More; 3:20-4:15 p.m. - After School Sports, Dance/Hip Hop, Legos

## Tuesday 11/30

- **LUNCH:** Salad Bar, WW Roll, Soup, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **McCLUBS:** 8-8:45 a.m. - Smart Board; 3:20-4:15 p.m. - Bollywood Dancing, Hoops, Amazing Minds, Drum Club
- **DOCUMENTARY:** *Race to Nowhere*, 7 p.m. at New Trier HS (Winnetka campus); meet at 6:00 at Gaffney auditorium

## Wednesday 12/1

- **LUNCH:** Italian Chicken Tenders, Mashed Potato Smiles, Green Beans, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **STUDENT COUNCIL:** 8:25-8:50 a.m., Auditorium
- **ENRICHMENT:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - High-Tech/High-Touch "Newton in a Nutshell" in-class program; 9-10:30 a.m. (Torf); 1-2:30 p.m. (Flondro)
- **McCLUBS:** 3:20-4:15 p.m. - Intro to Nerf Football, Express Yourself, Cheerleading, Painting

## Thursday 12/2

- **LUNCH:** Square Sausage Pizza, Carrots, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **ENRICHMENT:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - High-Tech/High-Touch "Newton in a Nutshell" in-class program; 9-10:30 a.m. (Martin); 1-2:30 p.m. (Safran)
- **McCLUBS:** 3:20-4:15 p.m. – Flag Football, My Gym

## Friday 12/3

- **LUNCH:** Grilled Cheese on WW, Tomato Soup, Carrots, Fresh Fruit, Milk
- **ENRICHMENT:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - High-Tech/High-Touch "Newton in a Nutshell" in-class program; 9-10:30 a.m. (Brighty)
- **McCLUBS:** 3:20-4:15 p.m. – Baseball Club, Lego Club

## Saturday 12/4

- **REMINDER:** Wish-List Gift Delivery to Carman-Buckner...details to follow

# From the P.T.A.

***Race to Nowhere* Viewing** – McKenzie PLN and New Trier High School invite you to view the documentary film, *Race to Nowhere: The Dark Side of America's Achievement Culture*, on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. at New Trier HS (Winnetka campus). Check out the movie trailer at [www.racetonowhere.com](http://www.racetonowhere.com). McKenzie parents will meet outside the Gaffney Auditorium at 6:30 pm. Allow extra time for parking, as New Trier is expecting a large crowd. Dr. Welter will facilitate an informal discussion following the movie. Please RSVP to Julie Johnson at [jujohnson007@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jujohnson007@sbcglobal.net).

**Register for Chess Club:** Registration for the winter session of chess club continues through November 28<sup>th</sup>. Please register at the PTA website. Participation is limited and is on a first come first served basis, so please hurry!

**Register for Junior Great Books** – Register now through November 26<sup>th</sup> for McKenzie Junior Great Books (JGB). This 8-week program starts in January and is for 1-4 graders. Once a week, discussion groups led by parent volunteers meet at lunch/recess to discuss JGB readings selected to

encourage analytical reading and a love of literature. The cost is \$30. Go to [http://www.mckenziepta.com/shop\\_pta.html](http://www.mckenziepta.com/shop_pta.html) to register. Call Danae Melnick at 847-251-4703 with questions.

**Wish-List Gifts Reminder:** Don't forget to drop off your wish-list gifts for Carman-Buckner before or after school on the Tuesday after break (11/30). Gifts should be wrapped with the yellow star securely taped on top. Thank you! Also join us in delivering the gifts to Carman-Buckner on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Questions? Contact Sarah Rudrud at 847-853-9868 or at [springrud@gmail.com](mailto:springrud@gmail.com).

**It's Not Too Late...** to purchase grocery dollars for Carman-Buckner School!

Purchase on-line by clicking on the link or drop-off a check to the Sharing Committee in-box written in an increment of \$25 (\$25, \$50, \$75, \$200, etc.) to the McKenzie PTA. Collection ends Tuesday, 11/30.

**Share the Warmth Drive Ending Soon** - The McKenzie Sharing Committee is collecting NEW hats and mittens for children in need at Carman-Buckner School in Waukegan. Please bring your purchases to the McKenzie lobby by Tuesday 11/30.

**Reminder:** Submissions for the **McKenzie Monitor** are due by **Thursday at 12:00 pm**. Go to <http://mckenziepta.com/communication.html> for the submission form. Questions? Contact Mindy Rittner, McKenzie Monitor Editor at [mruttner@brinkshofer.com](mailto:mruttner@brinkshofer.com).

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## On the Web...

[McKenzie P.T.A. Website](#)

[McKenzie Elementary School Website](#)

[District 39 Website](#)