

McAlear-Sawden Messenger

A Newsletter for Parents

Oct/Nov 2018

Points of Interest and Upcoming Events

Nov 6th- No School

Nov 7th- Twin Day

Nov 8th- 3rd-5th
grade Field Trip to
Delta College and
Parent Teacher
Conferences 4-7
p.m.

Nov 9th- Popcorn &
Veteran's
Assembly at 9:30
a.m.

Nov 13th-
Parent Teacher
Conferences 4-7
p.m.

Nov 21st-23rd- No
School

Nov 27th- College
Day

Nov 28th- 2nd grade
Wreath Auction

Dec 5th- Solid
Color

Dec 12th-14th-
Holiday Shop

Dec 14th- Popcorn
Day

Dec 24th-Jan 2nd-
No School

Jan 9th- Sports
Day

Jan 11th- Popcorn
Day

Dear parents,

November is just around the corner, so that means the snow will be flying any day now. With the colder temperatures, please make sure that your children are dressed according to the weather. There have been a few students who have come to school without a coat, which made for a really cold outdoor recess. Again, please make sure they are dressed appropriately for the weather conditions.

We had another successful Truck or Treat again this year. I would like to thank all of the parents who came out and decorated their cars and passed out candy. I would also like to thank the volunteer coordinator of this event, Melissa Garvie. And last but not least, all of the volunteers who helped out behind the scene.

Our winners for the trunk decorations this year are as follows:

3rd Place – The Sundholm Family

2nd Place – The Hart and Trombley Families

1st Place – The Horner Family

Congratulations to this year's winners and again, a big thank you for all of those that participated and volunteered!

Lastly, I would also like to thank the sponsors for this year's Bobcat T-Shirts:

Nathan Smith Builders

Graff Chevrolet

Labadie Auto

Rock Products

Wieland Contracting

Cosmetology University

Mr. Chips

DeShano Farm Drainage

K&B Truck & Trailer

Honey B Cleaning (1-989-482-2176)

Dow Bay Area Family YMCA

Lemon & Leigh Boutique

Because of your generous donations, each of our students are able to get a Bobcat T-shirt and wear it with PRIDE!

Sincerely,

Michael Connors

MCALLEAR-SAWDEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

INSTRUCTIONAL DAY: 8:40 a.m. - 3:29 p.m. Monday - Friday

ADDRESS: 2300 Midland Rd

Bay City, Michigan 48706

PHONE: (989) 684-7702

FAX: (989) 266-8214



ATTENDANCE POLICY

The instructional day begins at 8:40 a.m. and ends at 3:29 p.m. If your child enters the building after this time, they will be marked tardy. The Bay City Public Schools attendance policy states that a student will be marked **½ day absent arriving 30 minutes after the beginning of the day or leaving 30 minutes before the end of the day.**

EARLY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

At the beginning of the year you will find in your child's book bag a yellow pad for dismissal/absence communication. ***Please use these note pads whenever your child has a change in their end of the day transportation and any appointments or absences that may occur throughout the school year.*** If you need more please contact the office.

1. **If there is a change** in the afternoon transportation of your child, a note signed by the parent, or a fax about the change with the parent's signature must be in the school office by **2:00 p.m.** When a person contacts the school, we do not always know that we are speaking to the parent or guardian. The school office can be very busy at the end of the day, with children being picked up for appointments or waiting in the office for their ride, please keep this in mind when making last minute phone calls.
2. **If your child has an appointment** and will need to be picked up early, please use the yellow note pads to notify, your child's teacher and the office. We understand that occasionally there are situations that arise where it would be difficult to inform the school in a timely manner. We expect that these will be at a minimum.
3. **Please wait outside for your child** if you are picking them up at the end of the day. Unnecessary phone calls and extra people in the office having conversations can create an unsafe atmosphere as we are getting the students to their appropriate forms of transportation.
4. **Please end all cell phone conversations before entering the office.**

Security Procedures

When entering the building all visitors and volunteers must come to the office. Please use the buzzer located outside the office door. A staff person will then allow entry into the building. When you enter the office, please sign in as a volunteer or visitor.

Skyward Student Management Information

Parents now have access to their child's information on the Bay City Public Schools Skyward Program. On this site you can view and change the emergency information on file for your child. You can also view attendance information and Progress Reports. In addition to this, parents of Fourth and Fifth grade students can view current grades and missing assignments.

You will be notified by the school when your child's midterm and report cards are available to view and print at home if you would like. With this feature in Skyward your child will no longer be bringing home a Mid-Term Report or Marking Period Report Card.

If you have not accessed Skyward recently please go to the Bay City Public Schools website at www.bcschools.net. Once there, click on Parents and Students at the top of the page. Then click on Skyward Family Access. If you have logged in previously and have forgotten your user name and/or password, Click on "forgot username/password" and it will send that information to the email we have on file. If your email address has changed please let the office know.

There is also a free app on your phone for Skyward. You can view your child's information if you do not have a computer at home.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Volunteers are an integral part of the education team and they truly enrich our schools. Everyone is welcome to become a part of the Parent Advisory Committee. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities at McAlear-Sawden! If you are interested in volunteering there will be a Volunteer Opportunity form sent home early in the school year. Place a check mark next to the areas of interest. The first meeting is September 25th at 4:00 p.m. As a volunteer you will also be asked to complete the Bay City Public School Volunteer Application. **Please contact Cecilia at mcalear@bcschools.net**

RAZ KIDS!

Raz-Kids Early Risers Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers to supervise our Raz-Kids Early Riser students in the computer lab on T, W, Th, **or** F mornings from 7:50-8:30. Even volunteering twice a month would help. This would include turning on the computers, taking attendance, helping students type in teacher names, and reading quizzes to students.

You can bring your McAlear children with you if needed.

If you can help or have questions talk to Dawn Michalak 3rd grade teacher. michalakd@bcschools.net

SCHOOL MESSENGER

The Bay City Public Schools has a phone system called "School Messenger". The phone system will call you to remind you about McAlear-Sawden events or events happening in the Bay City Public Schools. The system will also call you when your child is absent from school. Please inform the office if you have changed your phone number.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

The contact information that the school office has on file must be up to date. Please remember to let the office know when changes need to be made. Remember to turn in the blue emergency forms that were sent home at open house or first week of school.

MEDICATION INFORMATION

- If your child needs to take a medication during the school day you will need to complete a medication form. These forms are available in the school office. **Please remember that medications can only be brought into the school by an adult.** Any medications brought in by a student cannot be administered to the child until the parent or guardian comes into the office to verify that the medication is correct.
- The prescription bottle that the medication is brought to school in must be current. **No** medication can be accepted without the proper bottle and prescription label. Medication form has to be filled out and signed by a physician.
- Over the counter medications, like **ibuprofen, aspirin, cough drops, throat drops** etc must have a medication form signed by a physician.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

- Students may only ride the buses they are assigned.
- If you have questions or concerns about busing, please contact the Transportation Department at 662-4416

FACEBOOK!

McAlear-Sawden has a Facebook page. Please search McAlear-Sawden Elementary and "Like" us.

School Website

McAlear-Sawden has a website too. Please visit www.bcpsmcalear.com

Phone calls to Teachers

During school hours we are unable to transfer calls to a teacher as this interrupts the student's learning time. You may call and leave a voicemail or you may email your student's teacher.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks will be sold this SPRING! Please look for information in either March or April.

Rokooj Fundraiser

Now that the new school year is underway, we are seeking new and unique ways of raising funds to improve our students' experience at McAlear Sawden Elementary School. In this regard, we've recently partnered with an exciting new online fundraising marketplace called "rokooj".

The rokooj marketplace - www.rokooj.com - has thousands of high-quality, everyday products at discounted prices for people of all ages. For each order generated by our students, faculty or family members, rokooj will donate 10% of the total purchase price to our school – every month! For example, if during the month of October, members of our school's community collectively purchased \$5,000 worth of products, rokooj will donate \$500 back to us in November.

The rokooj marketplace has high-quality, discounted products in numerous categories which include; school and office supplies, guys and gals apparel, women's skincare and cosmetics, men's grooming, light electronics, cameras, jewelry, sunglasses, watches, outdoor products, household items, children's toys, car accessories, specialized medical products, frozen meals and artisan coffee, bedding and so much more! Plus, rokooj will be continually adding exciting new products and brands each month, so please visit the site frequently!

In order for us to be successful and raise funds every single month, we respectfully ask that whenever you shop online, please remember to visit rokooj as your first option. You may just find what you're looking for and need to go no further!

McAlear Sawden Elementary School has been assigned the Cart Code: MSE10 for our community's members to use upon checkout so our orders can be tracked and properly credited. We encourage you to share the code with members of your extended family and friends as all purchases by anyone using our code will provide our School with a 10% donation. If at any time you forget our code, you can always "search" the school directory on the rokooj site.

For more information please visit www.rokooj.com/pages/how-rokooj-works or contact us in the school office.

Thank you for helping contribute to McAlear Sawden Elementary School's success and happy shopping!