

Merlin Messenger

Parent Newsletter - September



Believe the **BEST**

Can you believe we have completed the first 3 weeks of the school year? Our Merlins are learning procedures and routines, continuing to build a love for reading and participating in engaging lessons. We appreciate your assistance and patience with arrival and dismissal.

We hope to see you at our upcoming events. As always, if you have any questions, concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out.

We want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday! We look forward to seeing all our Merlins back on Tuesday, September 5th.

Labor Day - No School



OPEN HOUSE

A poster for an open house at McNeill Elementary. The poster is white with a yellow and dark blue background. It features a central illustration of a school building with a clock tower, a yellow starburst, and a blue chevron graphic. The text is centered and includes the school name, date, and session times. A cartoon penguin mascot is at the bottom left.

2023-24

OPEN HOUSE

MCNEILL ELEMENTARY



THURSDAY, SEPT. 7

SESSION 1: 5-5:45 PM
SESSION 2: 6-6:45 PM

Parents only need to attend ONE session.

BOOK FAIR WILL BE OPEN FROM 5-7 PM.



BOOK FAIR

The book fair will be September 1-8 in the library. Students will have the opportunity to shop for books during their specials time. Please send your child's book fair money (including tax, 8.25%) in a Ziploc baggy with their first and last name printed clearly on it. Parents may also purchase a gift card to pre-pay for their child's books at the book fair. Please visit efairs.literati.com to purchase a gift card.

Can't make the fair? No worries! Shop for exciting new books online at efairs.literati.com, and create student wishlists to share with friends and family. When you search for our school, double-check that you have the right city and state.

BOOK FAIR



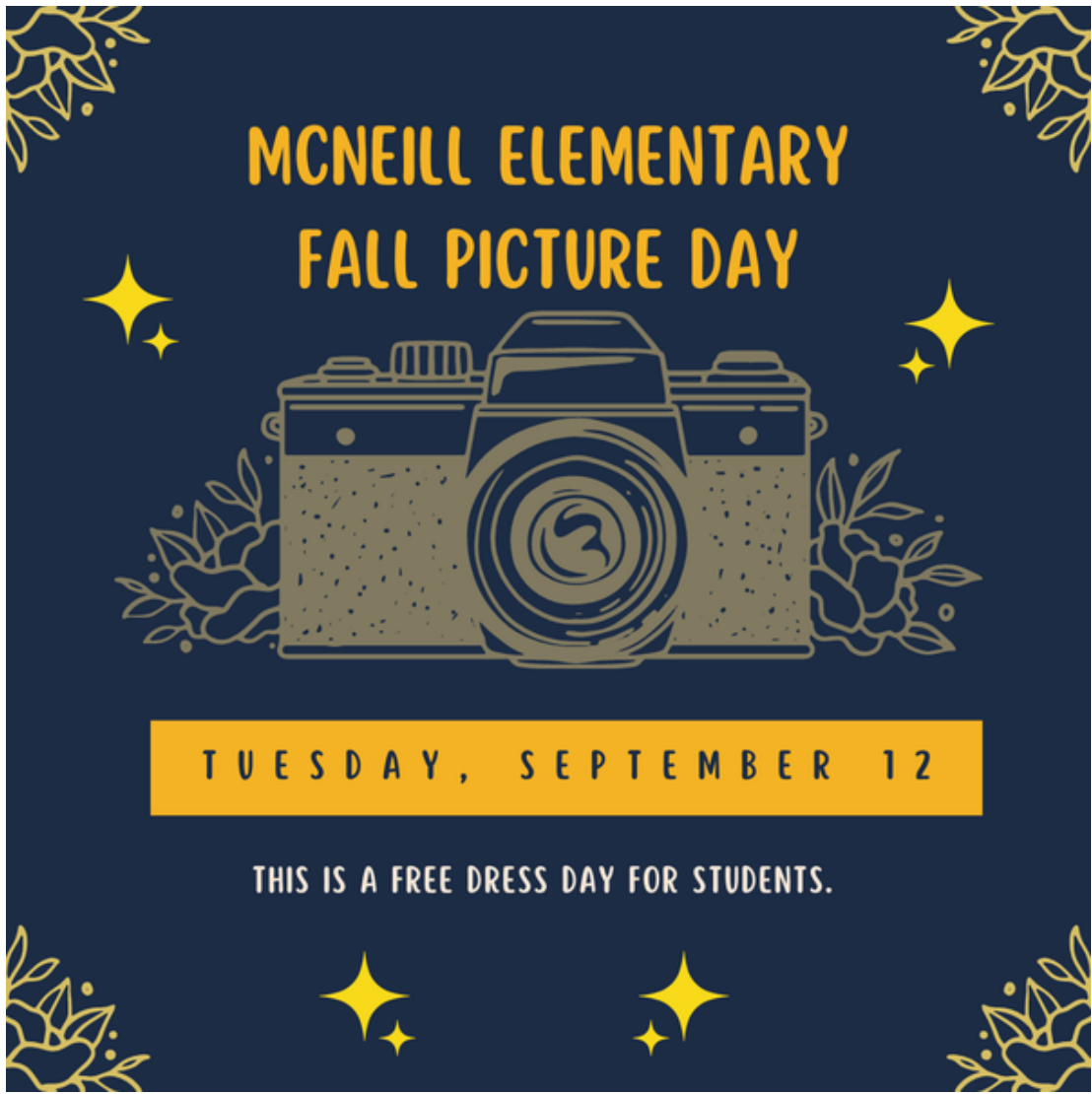
SEPTEMBER 1-8

COME SHOP SEPTEMBER 7 FROM 5-7 PM DURING
OPEN HOUSE

LEARN MORE AT [EFAIRS.LITERATI.COM](https://efairs.literati.com)



Fall Picture Day



Fort Bend County Fair Day - No School



SEPTEMBER 29TH

FORT BEND COUNTY FAIR DAY



No School for Staff and Students



HOUSE SHIRTS FOR SALE

MCNEILL ELEMENTARY HOUSE SHIRTS 2023

<https://gogandy.com/mcneilles-house23>

SALE ENDS: **September 18th!!**



1. Go online 2. Select your items 3. Securely check out



MCNEILL ELEMENTARY HOUSE SHIRTS 2023 for MCNEILL ELEM PTO

gogandy.com

CELEBRATE FREEDOM WEEK

Please see the themed dress days for Celebrate Freedom Week. Participation for students is optional.



LUNCH VISITORS

Beginning September 5th, we will begin welcoming lunch visitors back on campus. Please see the reminders below regarding our lunch visitors and procedures.

Lunch visitors will be welcomed daily during. Lunchroom visitors are limited to **TWO visitors** per child per day.

As a large campus, our space is very limited, and we must be creative with how we safely accommodate lunch visitors for parents who would like to eat with their children. There will be one lunch table and the lounge area designated for visitors. Please be sure to sit in these areas only.

Visitors may eat **ONLY** with their child. Visitors may not provide food for children who are not their own or interact with them.

Visitors must sign in at the front office with a government issued identification card or a passport to receive a pass. After the scheduled lunch time, parents must leave the building.

Parents are highly discouraged from dropping off lunches or having lunch delivery services at school. The constant deliveries are a disruption to the instructional environment. Students should bring easy to open items with them daily for lunch and snacks to minimize contact. No nut-based snacks for the classrooms.

McNeill Lunch Schedule (1).pdf

Download

151.7 KB

Lamar CISD Elementary Handbook / District Code of Conduct

The Lamar CISD Elementary Handbook has been approved by the LCISD board and is now posted with updated changes. Please follow this link to review:

<https://www.lcisd.org/departments/academics/elementary-education>

HIGHLIGHTS

Technology Devices

Personal Technology Lamar CISD believes that appropriate use of students' technology devices enhances our students' education. Students may be asked to bring their own device to school. This includes but is not limited to: cell phones, smart phones, iPods, iPads, electronic tablets, and laptop computers. Students may use devices in class at the teacher's discretion. Students must follow teacher, campus, and district rules and guidelines for use.

(Campus Guideline: All electronic devices must remain in the student's backpack turned off during the instructional day unless the teacher allows the student to use the device for an assignment.)

Vapes / e-cigarettes

During the last Texas Legislative session, a law was passed making it illegal for a student to be in possession of a vape / e-cigarette at school events or on campus. If a student is found in possession of such items violating the district code of conduct, there is a mandatory placement at ALC. (Page 113 Elementary Student Handbook)

Possession Of Prohibited Items Students shall not possess or use:

(For a complete list of prohibited items see page 99 of the LCISD Elementary Handbook)

- fireworks of any kind, smoke or stink bombs, or any other pyrotechnic device
- razor, box cutter, chain, or any other object used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another person
- "look-alike" weapon
- air gun or BB gun, firearm, stun gun
- a pocketknife or any other small knife
- mace or pepper spray

(Parents, please discuss this with your child and check your student's backpacks or pockets every periodically. Students have shared that on the weekends they go fishing or hunting where they use a pocket knife. We simply do not want a pocket knife left in a pocket or back pack from a fun weekend trip inadvertently. If you look on page 113, there's mandatory placement to ALC if these items are brought on campus.)

Compulsory Attendance Law

Excused Absences for Compulsory Attendance

State law allows exemptions to the compulsory attendance requirements for several types of absences if the student makes up all work. The District shall excuse a student from attending school for the following purposes:

- Religious holy days
- Required court appearances
- Activities related to obtaining United States citizenship
- Health-Care Appointments*
- For students in the conservatorship (custody) of the state
- TAPS at Military Funeral
- Parent, Stepparent, or Legal Guardian who is an active-duty member of the uniformed services leaves for active duty
- Personal Illness**
- Death/Funeral of an Immediate Family Member
- Quarantine Absences for a student who is required to quarantine will be excused with written documentation from a medical physician or the school nurse.

*Documented health-care appointments for the student or a child of the student, including absences related to autism services shall be excused, if the student returns to school on the same day of the appointment and brings a note from the health-care provider. A consultation over the phone or via video (telemedicine) is considered an appointment with a health care professional. However, an appointment with a school nurse does not count as an appointment with a health care professional.

**When a student is absent from school due to personal illness, the student upon return, or within 5 days of returning to school, must submit a note signed by a parent giving the date(s) and describing the reason for the absence.

Unexcused Absences

If an absence does not meet the criteria for an excused absence, the absence will be considered unexcused for attendance accounting purposes. Examples of unexcused absences includes, but are not limited to the following:

- Any absence without required documentation.
- **Family trips/vacations, reunions, weddings, parent business trips.**
- **Non-school sponsored activities.**
- Private lesson or tutoring.
- Religious retreats, camps, mission trips, and individual rites other than a religious holy day.
- Non-enrollment days – These are days that a student is not in school due to transferring to another LCISD campus or alternative placement.

ABSENT NOTES:

Parent notes may be sent by email but must come from a parent's verified email account. The note or email must be sent to the campus attendance clerk. Excuse notes turned in after 5 days are subject to approval by the campus principal. An excessive number of absences will be referred to the Campus Attendance Review Committee (ARC). If a student is absent 5 consecutive school days or more, a doctor's note is required within 5 days of the student's return to school for the absence to be excused.

MAKE-UP WORK:

It is critical for students to work with teachers when they return from an absent from school so that assignments can be completed.

Parent Standards of Conduct

The LCISD Board of Trustees approved the Parent Standards of Conduct on August 1, 2023.

Parent Standards of Conduct - 08.01.23.pdf

[Download](#)

147.2 KB

Parent Standards of Conduct - Spanish - 08.01.23.pdf

[Download](#)

145.5 KB



2023-24 McNeill's Standard Dress Code

Parents,

Please help to ensure that your child is in dress code everyday. Outside of dress down days, students are expected to adhere to our campus dress code. Thank you in advance for your help.

Collared (polo style, no logo) solid color tops in red, white, navy blue and yellow. Bottoms may be in solid color khaki, navy blue or blue denim jeans, slacks shorts, skirts, or jumpers. McNeill spirit shirts may also be worn.

Clarifications:

- Students are required to wear their ID's daily.
- On PTO Free and Pay dress down days students must follow the LCISD dress code policy.

PTO INFORMATION

McNeill PTO Membership Sign-up

JOIN McNeill Elementary PTO TODAY!!

McNeill Elementary PTO is a vital part of the school community bringing together parents, teachers, administrators, and students. We provide an excellent opportunity for parents to meet one another, get comfortable with the school and its staff, and support each other's common goals. Plus, we have a lot of fun in the process!

MEMBERSHIP IS ONLY \$10!!

Each year our PTO funds social events, tools for education, student programs, school supplies, etc. We also provide much needed extras to enhance our student's overall school experience. The PTO can only accomplish all of these things with your help, so please join us today and become involved.

If you would like to make a donation to the PTO we welcome your support. If you are making a donation, please make checks payable to "McNeill Elementary PTO". All donations are tax deductible.

PTO Membership 2023-24.pdf.pdf

[Download](#)

201.0 KB

Birthday Marquee



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MCNEILL STUDENTS!

Wish your child a very "Happy Birthday" on the Merlin Marquee. The week of your child's birthday, his/her FIRST name, LAST initial and birthdate will be placed on the marquee. We are pleased to offer a family plan this year. The cost for this special birthday recognition is \$20 for one child and only \$5 for each additional child.

There is **VERY limited space**, so get your birthday request in early. We **must** receive the form 1 month in advance.

Checks payable to McNeill Elementary PTO

PLEASE FILL OUT ONE PER CHILD. (Attach additional forms if needed)

- First Child (\$20)
- Additional Child (\$5)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Student's Name: _____
Teacher: _____ Grade: _____
Birthday: _____ (month/day)
Parent's name: _____
Parent's phone #: _____
Parent's email address: _____
PTO use only: _____
Received on: _____ Check #: _____
Received by: _____ Amount\$: _____

Birthday_Marquee_Form 2023- 2024.docx

[Download](#)

142.3 KB

DRESS DOWN PRE-PAY



DRESS DOWN PRE-PAY

Do you want your child/children to participate in Dress Down Days for the whole year? This year we have a total of eleven (11) Dress Down Days. Each Dress Down Day costs \$1 per child. This year you have the opportunity to pay for all of these days in advance. This means you pay \$10 per child now and never have to send \$1 with your child on the scheduled Dress Down Day and it is like getting one Dress Down Day for FREE. Your child's name will be on a list delivered to their Homeroom Teacher and you will receive a pre-paid voucher.

What is a Dress Down Day?

A dress down day is a designated day that your child/children get to express themselves and wear street clothes or whatever the theme is for that particular day. All clothes must meet the LCISD dress code requirements.

PLEASE FILL OUT ONE PER CHILD. (Make checks payable to McNeill Elementary PTO)

Please Print Clearly.

Student's Name: _____
Teacher: _____ Grade: _____
Parent's Name: _____
Parent's Phone #: _____
Parent's email address: _____

Received On: _____	Received By: _____
Check #: _____	Amount: _____

2023-2024 Dress Down Prepay flyer.docx

[Download](#)

31.0 KB

GOLD TRACK SPIRIT CLINIC

FHS Cheer & Foster Flairs Dance Team Spirit Clinic

COME SPEND TIME WITH OUR PHENOMENAL HIGH SCHOOL CHEER TEAM AND OUR
AWARD WINNING FLAIRS DANCE TEAM & PERFORM AT THE FOSTER HS FOOTBALL
GAME ON SEPTEMBER 15TH!

Clinic Info:

Who: Grades PK-6th Grade

Clinic Date: Saturday, September 9, 2023

Time: 8:30-12:30pm

Location: Foster HS Gym/ Dance Studio

Register today until September 8th @ 10am

Price: \$65

Participant Practice: Thursday, Sept. 14 from 6-7:15pm
Foster HS Gymnasium

Cost Includes:

Snack/ Drink, Certificate, T-Shirt, Free Participant ONLY
Admission to the FHS Varsity Football Game at Traylor
Stadium on 09/15/23, Cheer & Dance Choreography
Instruction, 2nd Qtr Performance with Cheer & Halftime
Performance with the Foster Flairs Dance Team.



FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:

CHEER COACH EMILY KORENEK 832-223-3897

FLAIRS DIRECTOR JUANITA VELASQUEZ 832-223-3965

Nominations for Naming New LCISD Schools

Beginning September 1, the Lamar CISD Board of Trustees is taking nominations for the names of four new elementary schools. These schools will be built with funds from the November 2022 Bond.

Staff, parents, and community members are invited to submit nominations for the Board to review as a part of this process.

Please click [HERE](#) to complete and submit a nomination.

Nominations must be completed and returned to the Chief Communications Office no later than **September 22, 2023**. Be sure to include your name, address, email, and phone number.

Before submitting your nomination, please review Board Policy [CW \(LOCAL\)](#), which outlines the requirements for naming a facility.

The Board of Trustees is tentatively scheduled to approve the school names on November 14, 2023.

Electronic Nomination Form: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=YLR5XW0hUkih1cpB5PakUqxlt0LD-lpGnW86NwH1YLZUMzBFNFVJNDZDVziWVUIJRDK2TzJJNDEyUiQIQCN0PWcu>

2023 Lamar CISD Nomination Form for School Names



MORNING BACK PARKING LOT DROP-OFF PROCEDURES

1. The back-parking lot is located at the rear of the building and is available for morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up.
2. Stay in the car line and follow staff directions.
3. Have your child exit the vehicle using only the front or back passenger side.
4. *If your child uses a car seat, please position it on the passenger side of the car.
5. Safety Patrol children assist with opening and closing the car doors of any child who needs assistance. Parents may not exit the car at any time to help their child leave the vehicle.
6. **Parents are not permitted to** park and walk their children to the building. A staff member will ask that you return to your vehicle and enter the car line to drop off your child.
7. **Please be patient and drive slowly.**

DISMISSAL

IMPORTANT: Please be sure your child's teacher knows how your child will be getting home on the first day of school. We will be calling on the first day to confirm transportation. Please give us a number that someone will answer.

Transportation changes- Transportation changes **MUST** be made before 2:15 PM. Please call the office or send a note with your child to indicate a change for the way your child normally goes home. These are delivered to the classrooms at 2:15pm. Therefore, we cannot accept changes after 2:15 pm. If you want to check your child out early for appointments, that must be done by 2:15 pm. as well. We will not release students for early pick up after 2:15 pm. This information is in the LCISD Student Handbook. Please try and keep the way your child goes home as consistent as possible. This decreases the likelihood of a mistake occurring.

Bus-LCISD Transportation is highly recommended for all students who are eligible. The buses are the first mode of transportation to leave each day. The buses will load and leave early the first 3 days of school. Parents are advised to arrive at the bus stops early on these days. Give your child's bus a 15-minute window before and after the publish time as drivers work to ensure everyone is accounted for and dropped off at the correct stop. PK and K students will only be released to an authorized adult listed in the SMART Tag System. Please bring your ID to the bus stop on the first day for verification. SMART Tags will be scanned each time your child gets on and off the bus, for lunch meals in the cafeteria, and in the library for checking out books.

Daycare- Daycare vans will line up behind LCISD Transportation. Students will be loaded in the daycare vans after the school buses have been loaded and have left. Please let your child's teacher know the name of the daycare your child will attend as well as the branch if it is a chain daycare, i.e. Kids R Kids Bella Terra.

Car-We anticipate a large number of car riders this year, so we are asking you to please be patient while we dismiss students safely. Please have your child's name and grade level written clearly on the sentence strip provided at Meet the Teacher or on a piece of paper. Place it on the passenger side dashboard, so that the person calling the names of the car riders can see it. The drop-off/pick-up line is at the back of the school right passed the playground.

Walkers/Bikers – They will be dismissed by grade level. PK/K students will be released to a parent/guardian only. Parents are not allowed to walk up to the school to meet your children. Please meet them at the edge of the front parking lot entry (for those who live in the direction of the park) and all others at the 4- way stop (Mason and Lakemont Bend). Please do not park your car in the street and wave for your child to run across traffic. This is very dangerous. If your child is a walker, you are saying that they are responsible enough to get home on their own without adult assistance. **If you do not want your child to walk home without an adult, please make sure to communicate that with the teacher prior to the first day of school. If they have older/younger siblings that they will walk home with, please communicate that information to the teachers as well.**

We know it might take a few days to develop a routine that works for your family. **It is very important that students' transportation is consistently set as soon as possible.**

AFTERNOON BACK PARKING LOT PICK-UP PROCEDURES

To ensure the safety of our students, we ask that you please follow the procedures listed below to help the car rider line remain safe and move quickly.

1. The car rider line is a **CELL PHONE FREE ZONE**.
2. **Dismissal will begin promptly at 3:10.**
3. Parents will hang their car rider signs on the rearview mirror.
4. A teacher will assign you a number as you enter the car rider line.
5. You will pull forward to your designated number indicated on the sidewalk to your right.
6. Do not stop when you see your child walking. A Safety Patrol student or teacher will assist your child with entering the car.
7. **Please do not get out of your vehicle for any reason.**
8. Once your child is in your vehicle, you must remain in the car rider line. **Do not go around the cars in front of you to exit the car line.**
9. **If your child is not at the designated number provided, you will be asked to move forward and park in a designated parking spot. A staff member will go to the gym and walk your child to your vehicle.**
10. **Please be patient and drive slowly.**



RAINY DAY DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

On inclement weather days, we will implement our Rainy Day Dismissal procedures to ensure all students get home safely. All dismissal procedures will remain the same for car riders, bus riders, daycare, and YMCA students. Please note the changes below for walkers and bikers in the event of a Rainy Day Dismissal.

Walkers & Bikers

- Students will report to the library and sit by grade level.
- After the bus and day car buses have departed, parents of walkers/bikers may make their way to the front of the school.
- Parents will be asked to sign their child out with one of the staff members in the front foyers.
- Students will be released from the library to the parent after they have been signed out.

In the event you would like to change your child's transportation method, please contact the front office before 2:15 pm. Thank you in advance for your understanding as student safety is our top priority.

EARLY PICK UP AND TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

If you take your child out of school before dismissal time, you will need to report to the office to sign him/her out. Your child will stay in the classroom until you arrive. If it necessary for someone other than the parent/guardian pick up your child, that person must be signed, dated note with the child. The person picking up your child must show photo identification to the office staff. Accumulated time of early pick-ups is calculated by minutes in lost instruction time. Request to check out your child must be done prior to 2:15 pm.

Any changes in the normal transportation of your child must be stated in writing with a parent/guardian signature. We ask for everyone's help in not making changes frequently. However, we understand that in rare cases, unexpected changes will need to happen. These can be called in to the front office by 2:15 pm. **We are not able to process changes after 2:15 pm.** This includes parents that come to the campus without prior notice to pick up their child. Any change in transportation arrangements for any student requires a note to the teacher. Make sure you write your child's first and last name, teacher's name and indicate the date(s) for the change and how the child is going to go home. We ask that the parents not email the change since there maybe times that a teacher is not in attendance or does not have a chance to read their email.

Please note on early release days the latest you can pick up is 11:00 am!

Attendance Awareness Month

Attend today, achieve tomorrow.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

At McNeill, we value our student's attendance as it is important in building responsibility which leads to success. It is important that our Merlins are at school on time each day. When a Merlin is absent from school, they miss out on valuable learning experiences. The staff at McNeill knows that kids are going to catch some sort of bug and parents must follow district guidelines to care for their sick child at home. Concerns have come forward that students are being checked out early or absent for a number of reasons unrelated to being ill, such as taking vacation trips for an extended period, when school is in session.

Our campus attendance goal is 97%. Please help us meet or exceed our goal.

Just a few reminders:

- The building opens every morning at 7:15 am.
- The tardy bells rings at 7:45 am.
- School is dismissed at 3:10 pm.

Please take a moment to review attendance requirements:

[LCISD Elementary Student Handbook](#)

OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE-TAKING TIME The district must submit attendance of its students to Texas Education Agency (TEA) reflecting attendance at a specific time each day. Official attendance is taken every day at 8:45 a.m.

DOCUMENTATION AFTER AN ABSENCE When a student is absent from school, the student upon arrival or return to school, and within 5 days of the absence must bring a note signed by the parent, medical professional, or court official giving the date(s) of the absence(s) and describing the reason for the absence. The campus will document in its attendance records for the student whether the absence is considered by the district to be excused or unexcused. Please note that, unless the absence is for a statutorily allowed reason under compulsory attendance laws, the district is not required to excuse any absence, even if the parent provides a note explaining the absence. *(If a student needs to attend a medical appointment, please obtain an excuse for missing class from the doctor's office.)*

DOCTOR'S NOTE AFTER AN ABSENCE FOR ILLNESS Upon return to school, a student absent for more than five consecutive days because of a personal illness **must** bring a statement from a

doctor or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's extended absence from school. Otherwise, the student's absence may be considered unexcused and, if so, would in violation of compulsory attendance laws. Should the student develop a questionable pattern of absences, the principal or attendance committee may require a statement from a doctor or health clinic verifying the illness or condition that caused the student's absence from school in order to determine whether the absence or absences will be excused or unexcused.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE School employees must investigate and report violations of the state compulsory attendance law. A student absent without permission from school; from any class; from required special programs, such as additional special instruction, termed "accelerated instruction" by the state; or from required tutorials will be considered in violation of the compulsory attendance law and subject to disciplinary action. A court of law may also impose penalties against both the student and his or her parents if a school-aged student is deliberately not attending school. A complaint against the parent may be filed in court if the student: Is absent from school for ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year.

**MCNEILL
ELEMENTARY**

CLUBS

CHEER CLUB (3-5)-MS. STEWART
raven.stewart@lcisd.org

CHOIR (4-5)-MS. GARNES
RHYTHM CLUB (1-3)-MS. GARNES
bailee.garnes@lcisd.org

INTRAMURAL SPORTS(3-5)-COACH YOUNG
jordan.young@lcisd.org

LEGO CLUB (1-2)-MS. KIRKPATRICK
megan.kirkpatrick@lcisd.org

KARATE CLUB (3-5)-COACH K
madisyn.komreich@lcisd.org

Please contact the club coordinator for further questions.

Our clubs are underway. It is important that parents pick up or drop off students on time. We appreciate your support! Below you will find a list of clubs, meeting dates, and sponsor name(s). Please reach out to the club sponsor with any questions.

Club Name

NEHS - Monday

- September Date(s): 9/11
- Sponsors - Ms. Patterson/Mr. Jones

Girls Above Society - Wednesday

- September Date(s): 9/20, 9/27
- Sponsors - Ms. Patterson

Rhythm Club - Wednesdays

- September Date(s): 9/27
- Sponsor - Ms. Garnes

Choir - Thursdays

- September Date(s): 9/14, 9/21, 9/28
- Sponsor - Ms. Garnes

RHYTHM CLUB

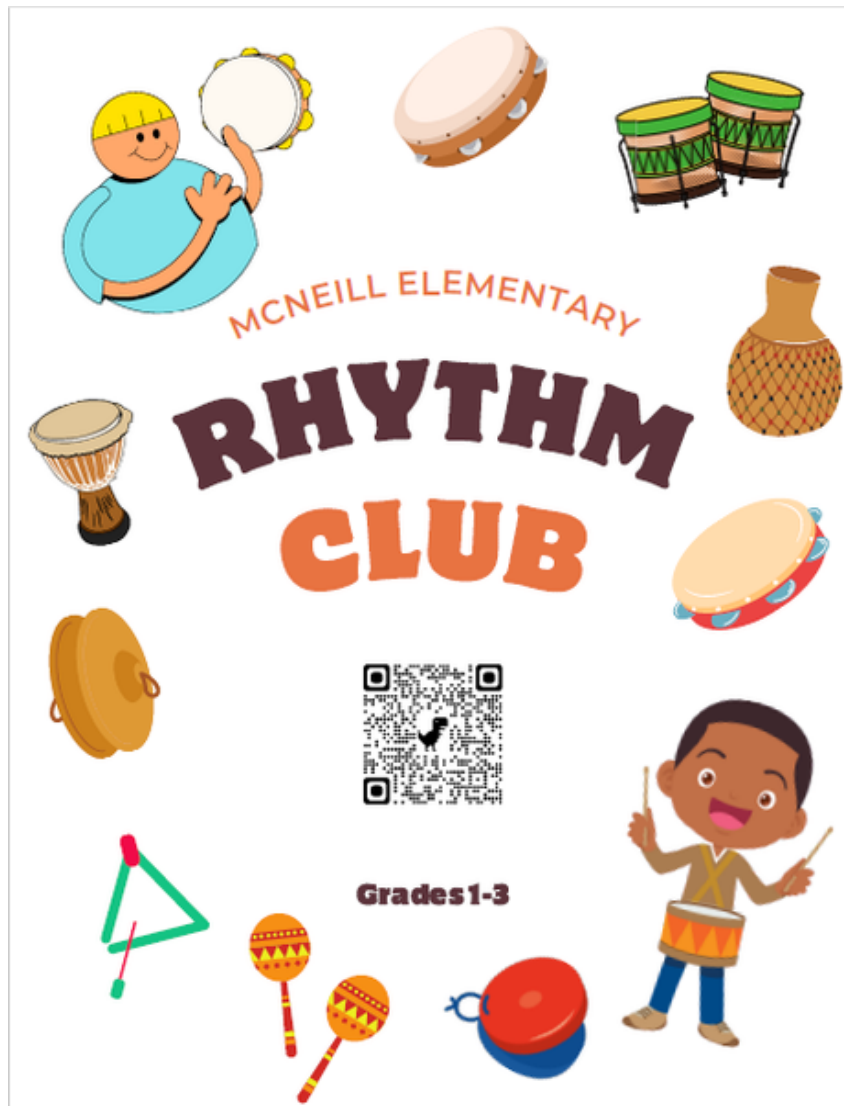
Rhythm Club is an organization where students learn to play different types of percussion instruments like drums, shakers, rhythm sticks, and tambourines. The purpose of rhythm club is to allow students to express themselves musically, build their confidence, and develop their rhythm skills.

The attached flier has additional information as well as the barcode to sign-up. Please reach out to the club sponsor, Ms. Garnes, with any questions.

Rhythm Club (1).pdf

[Download](#)

760.9 KB



MCNEILL STUDENTS EAT FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH

McNeill Elementary has been added as a CEP campus for the 2023-24 school year. Due to this all McNeill students will eat free breakfast and lunch. Students will still be required to pay for A la Carte (snack) items sold by the cafeteria. A la Carte items will not be available for sale until September 11, 2023. For more information please see the flyer below or visit the Child Nutrition website.

English CEP Press Release.pdf

[Download](#)

111.6 KB

Spanish CEP Press Release.pdf

[Download](#)

172.4 KB

Visitor / Volunteer Badges

Parents and other visitors / volunteers are welcome to visit district schools. For the safety of those within the school and to avoid disruption of instructional time, all visitors / volunteers must first report to the main office, sign in as a visitor / volunteer, present a valid State issued ID, and wear a visitor's / volunteer's badge. To better protect our students, visitors and staff, all LCISD campuses screen for registered sex offenders. A valid State issued ID is required to enter all campuses.

(New Requirement: Badges must be worn on the upper torso / chest area in clear view)



SMART TAGS/STUDENT I.D. BADGES

To increase our safety measures, students are required to wear their ID badges at all times on campus except during recess and PE. Student badges will serve as the student's ID and Smart Tag all in one badge.

The Smart Tag is used to ride the school bus, check out library books and for lunch in the cafeteria. We need parents to assist us with making sure students have their badges available each school day. Work with your child's homeroom teacher as to the procedures followed in the classrooms.

It is significantly important to register your child's Smart Tag in the system which provides a great deal of additional information should your student ride the bus. Click on this link to learn more about this process: <https://www.lcisd.org/departments/support-services/transportation/smart-tag-information>

This link has videos on how to:

- Create a Parent Portal Account
- Create Additional Parent Portal Accounts
- Setup Phone Notifications

KINDERGARTEN PARENTS: If your student is going to ride the bus, parents are required to register their name and any other person's name (adult and/or older sibling) who have access to assist your child getting off the bus. **Every person listed having this permission must have an ID on them to show the bus driver at the bus stop for your child to get off of the bus.** If that person does not have their ID at the bus stop, the child will be brought back to campus to check out the student from campus.

FAQ'S:

Are SMART tag ID badges required to ride the bus?

Yes, in order to foster increased student safety and security as well as to provide a more efficient process of loading and unloading our buses, SMART tag ID badges will be required for all riders. Additionally, in order to minimize the manual review of students who misplace or forget SMART tag ID badges at home or school, those students possessing SMART tag ID badges will be allowed to board the bus first.

Lamar Students are issued Smart Tag ID cards with an electronic chip Smart sensor (**please do not modify the ID cards, or place holes in the card**). The student name is printed on the front of the card, and there is no student information stored on the card.

Will students be eligible to ride the bus if they lose or forget their SMART tag ID Card?

Yes. If a student does not have their smart tag at the bus, the driver must personally log them in. This is more time consuming than students tagging in and can delay a route causing anxiety or late buses down the line. This is the reason why those not having their tags are loaded and unloaded last. Manually logging in is time consuming and the compliant students should not be held up.

What are the consequences of not having your Smart Tag?

Elementary. If a student does not have his/her Smart Tag ID badge for five (5) consecutive days, the Lamar CISD Transportation Department will contact the school/campus or parent to request that a Smart Tag replacement card be purchased. Replacement cards can be requested through the campus front office. There is a \$5.00 fee to replace Smart Tag cards. Replacement cards include the Smart Tag and clear plastic sleeve. A lanyard, badge reel, or zip tie are not included.

When a student receives the maximum number of warnings allowed by the school, the student may be subject to disciplinary action which may include the suspension of transportation service.

How do I link my students together on the SMART Tag Parent Portal?

Once you have registered, you will have the option to add multiple students within the Parent

Are notifications through SMART tag available?

Yes, electronic notifications (text alerts) are available through SMART tag. The parent must be registered for the Parent Portal and the option for notifications to be turned on. There is no cost to parents to utilize the SMART tag Parent Portal. The portal may be accessed directly at <https://www.parent.smart-tag.net>

Will parents receive a notification when their child gets on/off the bus?

Yes. The parent must be registered for the Parent Portal to receive an alert/notification. SMART tag will deliver an electronic notification (text) approximately 10-15 minutes prior to pick-up and drop-off.

Can parents view their child's bus route?

Yes. Parents will be able to track their child's bus once his/her student swipes his/her SMART tag ID badge upon boarding the bus. Bus activity/tracking will remain active until the child swipes his/her SMART tag ID badge to get off the bus. Please note, parents must be registered to use the Parent Portal to view bus activity.

Can a parent see when his/her child gets on/off the bus?

Yes. The parent can view a student's ridership activity for the entire school year. If the parent wants to review the daily history, it will take a minute from loading/unloading the bus for SMART tag to update its records due to network connectivity. Parents should be aware it may take longer if there is a poor signal or the network provider is experiencing a delay/latency issue out of Lamar CISD's control.

Is the information regarding a student's bus location in real time or is it delayed?

There may be a one-minute delay to process the exchange of information between the SMART tag tablet mounted on each bus and the SMART tag main server.

How does SMART tag benefit transportation departments and school administrators?

SMART tag not only provides immediate information regarding which students are on which bus, it also automates a number of reporting functions for transportation department personnel such as state headcount and mileage reports. SMART tag also provides efficient communication between the transportation department and parents.

How does SMART tag benefit drivers?

SMART tag provides the driver a student profile with a photo ID. The system enables the drivers to perform their duties more efficiently and effectively while improving overall safety and security. It also automates seating charts, maintenance requests, and other critical documentation.

How does SMART tag benefit parents?

The SMART Parent Web Portal is designed to enhance communication between the transportation department and the parents of student riders. SMART tag provides parents with improved security and leading-edge technology designed to keep students safe.

Smart Tag RegistrationSteps-Spanish.pdf

[Download](#)

343.2 KB

SMART TAG REMINDERS

- Students will be required to wear their SMART Tags daily. They should wear them with their lanyards to school. No items should be attached to lanyards.
- All students will start receive SMART tags by the end of the first week.
- Any student who misplaces their SMART Tag will need to purchase a replacement one. Replacement SMART Tags can be purchased for \$5 in the front office

SRP: STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

IN AN EMERGENCY TAKE ACTION



HOLD! In your room or area. Clear the halls.

STUDENTS

Clear the hallways and remain in room or area until the "All Clear" is announced
Do business as usual

ADULTS

Close and lock door
Account for students and adults
Do business as usual



SECURE! Get inside. Lock outside doors.

STUDENTS

Return to inside of building
Do business as usual

ADULTS

Bring everyone indoors
Lock outside doors
Increase situational awareness
Account for students and adults
Do business as usual



LOCKDOWN! Locks, lights, out of sight.

STUDENTS

Move away from sight
Maintain silence
Do not open the door

ADULTS

Recover students from hallway if possible
Lock the classroom door
Turn out the lights
Move away from sight
Maintain silence
Do not open the door
Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE! (A location may be specified)

STUDENTS

Leave stuff behind if required to
If possible, bring your phone
Follow instructions

ADULTS

Lead students to Evacuation location
Account for students and adults
Notify if missing, extra or injured students or adults



SHELTER! Hazard and safety strategy.

STUDENTS

Use appropriate safety strategy for the hazard

ADULTS

Lead safety strategy
Account for students and adults
Notify if missing, extra or injured students or adults

Hazard	Safety Strategy
Tornado	Evacuate to shelter area
Hazmat	Seal the room
Earthquake	Drop, cover and hold
Tsunami	Get to high ground

EMERGENCY DRILL PRACTICES

Every month McNeill students will practice a safety drill along with a fire drill. Drills are not announced so we can practice them in case we are presented with a situation to activate one in real time. Teachers reviewed the procedures for these drills with their students during the first week of school. These drills have not changed from last year to this year.

NEW SCHOOL HOURS

LAMARCISD
A PROUD TRADITION | A BRIGHT FUTURE

NEW SCHOOL HOURS


EFFECTIVE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

As one of the fastest-growing districts in Texas, it is our responsibility to anticipate and respond to the needs of our students, parents, and staff – now more than ever.

With campuses stretched across 385 square miles, our families and staff have spent the last two years combatting bus driver shortages and long transit hours, and the challenges have only increased.

To alleviate these growing pains, our Trustees approved new school hours at the February board meeting. We have designed the following four-tier system, which will be implemented at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. This shift ensures that we have enough drivers for each route and eliminates the need for comeback routes.



Our commitment to serve the community is strong. Thank you for staying engaged. Your involvement ensures that our District carries on a proud tradition of excellence.



7:15 AM to 2:40 PM Elementary (Group A)
7:45 AM to 3:10 PM Elementary (Group B)
8:25 AM to 3:50 PM High School
9:05 AM to 4:30 PM Middle School & Junior High

Group A		Group B	
Adolphus	Hubenak	Bowie	Meyer
Arredondo	Hutchison	Dickinson	Pink
Austin	Lindsey	Frost	Smith
Beasley	Morgan	Gray	Tamarron
Bentley	Phelan	Huggins	Thomas
Campbell	Ray	Jackson	Travis
Carter	Seguin	Lang	Williams
Culver	Velasquez	McNeill	

For more information, please visit www.LCISD.org/hours.



YEARBOOK INFORMATION

YearbookNews_Fall2023.pdf

Download

4.3 MB

HELPFUL DOCUMENTS

2023-24 School Supply List

23-24-school-supply-list.pdf

[Download](#)

179.5 KB

2023-23 LAMAR CISD CALENDAR

2023-24-instructional (1).pdf

[Download](#)

148.7 KB

DATES TO REMEMBER

Our calendar will not be as involved as it has been in previous years. We will adjust accordingly as the disease activity levels change.

SEPTEMBER

- September 1-8: Book Fair
- September 4: Labor Day - No School
- September 5 - PTO Meeting @ 6:30 PM (Cafeteria)
- September 6 - Spirit Night @ El Asador
- September 7: Open House / Book Fair Family Night 5-7 pm
- September 12: Picture Day / Last Day to Sign Up for Choir
- September 20-22: PTO Spirit Night (Half Baked Cookies)
- September 21: Progress Reports Posted in Skyward
- September 22: Wear Your House Colors
- September 26: 3rd Grade Field Trip - Group A (Long Acres Ranch)
- September 27: 3rd Grade Field Trip - Group B (Long Acres Ranch)
- September 28: Free Dress Day - Western Wear
- September 29 - Fort Bend County Fair Day - No School



SEPTEMBER 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 SPIRIT WEAR BOOK FAIR BEGINS	2
3	4 LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL <small>NO School Today</small>	5 BOOK FAIR PTO GENERAL MEETING 6:30 PM LIBRARY	6 BOOK FAIR PTO SPIRIT NIGHT (w/) EL ASADOR	7 BOOK FAIR FAMILY NIGHT 5-7PM OPEN HOUSE SESSION 1: 5-5:45PM SESSION 2: 6-6:45PM PARENTS ATTEND ONE SESSION	8 SPIRIT WEAR BOOK FAIR ENDS	9
10 GRANDPARENTS' DAY	11 FIRST RESPONDERS' DAY 9/11 REMEMBRANCE DAY NEHS MEETING	12 PICTURE DAY LAST DAY TO SIGN UP FOR CHOIR	13	14 CHOIR PRACTICE (7-7:45 AM)	15 SPIRIT WEAR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH BEGINS	16
17 CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATE FREEDOM WEEK 9/17-9/23	18	19	20 GIRLS ABOVE SOCIETY 3:15-4PM PTO SPIRIT NIGHT (w/) HALF BAKED COOKIES	21 PROGRESS REPORTS POSTED IN SKYWARD CHOIR PRACTICE (7-7:45 AM) PTO SPIRIT NIGHT (w/) HALF BAKED COOKIES	22 WEAR YOUR HOUSE COLORS/SHIRTS PTO SPIRIT NIGHT (w/) HALF BAKED COOKIES	23
24	25	26 3RD GRADE FIELDTRIP LONG ACRES RANCH <i>field trip</i>	27 3RD GRADE FIELDTRIP LONG ACRES RANCH GIRLS ABOVE SOCIETY 3:15-4PM RHYTHM CLUB (3:10-4 PM)	28 P.T.O. FREE DRESS DAY WESTERN WEAR CHOIR PRACTICE (7-7:45 AM)	29 FT. BEND COUNTY FAIR DAY - NO SCHOOL <small>NO School Today</small>	30

Character Trait for September

TRUSTWORTHINESS

Think "true blue" • Be honest • Don't deceive, cheat or steal • Be reliable — do what you say you'll do • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends, and country

McNeill Elementary

Email: jeanine.jordan@lcisd.org

Website: <https://www.lcisd.org/campuses/mcneill/home>

Location: 7300 S. Mason Rd., Richmond, TX 77407

Phone: (832) 223-2800

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/McNeillMerlins>



