Important news for May & June

Please see more complete May and June calendar information inside this PTA newsletter.

✓ May 20: Budget Vote
The annual district budget vote and school board elections run from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the auditorium at Baker.

✓ May 20: King Tut
Third-graders take a field trip to a Civic Center performance.

✓ May 22: Spring Concert
The concert is set for 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium at Baker.

✓ May 29: Erie Canal
Two classes of fourth-graders visit on May 29; another two classes attend June 2.

✓ June 9: Sports Bowl
Fifth-graders take a field trip to the local Sports Bowl.

✓ June 10: PTA Dinner
We celebrate the year at 6 p.m. at Tassone’s Wine Garden.

✓ June 11: Olympics
McNamara students slide into fun at the summer Olympics.

✓ June 19: Off to Albany
Fourth-graders visit the capital to learn about our government.

✓ June 23: Moving Up
Departing fifth-graders and loved ones celebrate at 9:05 a.m.

A message from your PTA president ...

Dear Parents,

As my time as PTA President winds down, I have thought back as to why I have volunteered my time as President. I concluded: I volunteer because my kids enjoy having me involved with their school. I volunteer at different PTA activities because I enjoy working with our students. I volunteered to be president because I enjoyed seeing committee members excited about the programs they were putting on and because I wanted to make a difference. I hope as you read this you can think of what volunteering in PTA means to you and if you will be able to help out next year. We still need a President and President-Elect for the next school year, as well as a few committee chairs. If you have ever thought about any position, please give me a call to learn more about it.

Thank you to Catherine Memmo for helping McNamara staff display this year’s science experiments at the Science Fair. Also, great job to Jen Guild, Michele Petrelli and all their volunteers for putting together another fantastic time at our Family Fun Night. Thanks to Charlotte Mordaunt for giving us great ice cream for our Art Festival. Finally, thanks to Lisa Santoro and her committee for what promises to be a great yearbook coming out in June. And a special thanks to all the other committee members and volunteers who have given their time throughout the year and made our activities this year such a success.

Please join us for our last PTA meeting of the year on June 10. It is our annual dinner meeting beginning at 6 p.m. at Tassone’s. The form to R.S.V.P was sent home recently in students’ backpacks. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 635-7856 or by e-mail at panama9692@yahoo.com

Kelly Dickter

Art Festival

Hundreds of pieces of student artwork filled the halls and cafeteria of McNamara Elementary School on April 30 during the annual Art Festival and Ice Cream Social. A special thanks goes to art teacher Leslie Nicoletti and her helpers for a spectacular display of fine student work. Please see another photo on page 4.
A message from Ms. Schiltz

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe this is the last edition of the McNamara Newsletter for the 2007-08 school year. For some families and our 5th graders this marks the end of one phase of their lives, elementary school. Many of our 5th grade parents have been actively involved throughout their child’s time at McNamara. I would be remiss if I didn’t express my gratitude and sincere appreciation. Without your support and help, McNamara would not be the wonderful place that it is.

For those families who will be continuing with us, I look forward to our partnership and your involvement in the many school and PTA activities that help further enrich the educational experience of the children at McNamara.

I wish you well over the spring and summer season.

Sincerely,

Mary Schiltz, Principal

At the time this newsletter went to print on 5/14, the exact date and dismissal time for the last day of school was still unknown. Baldwinsville Superintendent Jeanne Dangle said she would distribute this information shortly.

LOOKING AHEAD

5th GRADE FAREWELL

Fifth-graders will take part in a graduation ceremony set for 9:05 a.m. June 23 in the school cafeteria. Parents, guests, and other loved ones are invited to attend this ceremony. In the afternoon, fifth-graders will have their own celebration -- students only! -- to mark their transition to sixth grade. We will miss you, fifth-graders!

READING CAMP

Students entering second and third grades can attend a half-day reading camp during the summer. Please be on the lookout for more information.

Need more information about the McNamara PTA? Just click on www.bville.org, then “McNamara,” then “PTA.” Our web site offers previous issues of McNews, PTA meeting minutes, and more.

Keep sending in Box Tops!

McNamara has earned $971.00 so far this school year, but it’s not over yet! Please send your collection of Box Tops to school by May 19. We want to make one more submission before June.

Thanks to Darlene Drake, Cathy Fenton, Erica Hass, Dawn Kinville, and Renee Mooney, (the Box Tops committee) for faithfully trimming and counting the Box Tops this year.

PS: Don’t forget to save Box Tops over the summer. ☺
Important news from your school nurse ...

Two immunizations required for children entering 6th grade in fall 2008

Two immunization requirements need to be addressed prior to your child entering 6th grade. The first is a new requirement called Tdap and took effect last year. The second is Varicella (chickenpox). Most 5th graders already have been immunized for chickenpox, but I have a few at McNamara that either have not had the vaccine/disease or I have no documentation in your child’s health record. All parents should have already received a letter (mailed 4-7-08) regarding the Tdap vaccine. This information will be repeated below. For the Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, only those parents of students for whom I have no documentation will be receiving a letter by the beginning of May.

The Tdap vaccine requirements are:
- Students who are entering 6th grade, and who are 11 years old or older, must receive an immunization containing tetanus toxoids, diphtheria and acellular pertussis (Tdap).
- Students who are 10 years old entering sixth grade must be vaccinated as soon as they turn 11.

It is imperative that you talk with your doctor now to verify your child has received Td, DT, or Tdap within the past two years.

To prevent your child from being excluded from sixth grade:
- Speak with your health care provider about when your child needs to be vaccinated.
- Bring in a copy of your child’s official immunization record showing proof of their recent Tdap booster. After June 25, please drop off or send your child’s immunization record to the Ray Middle School health office.

The Varicella vaccine/disease requirements are:
New York State’s Public Health Law 2164 requires all students entering the sixth grade to be immunized against varicella (commonly known as chicken pox). New York State recognizes the following options as proof of immunity:
- Shot record, signed by your health care provider, indicating varicella vaccination
- History of varicella as documented by your health care provider. Parent statement, alone, will not be accepted as proof of immunity.
- Serologic proof (blood test) of immunity to varicella.
- Medical or religious exemptions must be reviewed on an individual basis.

You will receive a letter from me only if I have no record of your child being in compliance with the Varicella vaccine/disease requirement.

Physicals required for students entering kindergarten, second, fourth grades

Education Law and Regulations of the Commissioner of Education require physical examinations of children when they:
1) Enter the school district for the first time including kindergarten
2) Are in grades 2, 4, 7, and 10

Ideally, your child’s primary health care provider should perform the physical examination as they know your child’s health status and history. I encourage you to see your own health care provider. If you do not have a physical exam completed by your own health care provider, the exam will be done by our school nurse practitioner.

The physical exam must not be more than one year prior to the start of the school year in which it is required. The 2008-2009 school year begins on September 3, 2008, therefore, all entering kindergarteners, 2nd and 4th graders with a physical exam dated September 3, 2007 and later will satisfy the requirement for the 2008-2009 school year.

Please plan accordingly and provide a copy of your child’s most current physical exam to me. If you have any questions, call me at 638-6132.

Margie Duger, McNamara School Nurse
To date, no one has expressed interest in the position of PTA President. Without a PTA President, PTA activities will be canceled for next school year. If you have an interest or want to learn more about the PTA President position, please contact Kelly Dickter at 635-7856. Also open: President-Elect and various committee positions.

The annual McNamara PTA budget meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. June 3 in the story room of the Baldwinsville Public Library. We will be setting next year’s PTA budget, should a PTA President be found. All requests for PTA money should be provided to Kelly Dickter or Sharon Catalino by May 23.

The end-of-year PTA meeting will be held 6 p.m. June 10 at Tassone’s Wine Garden. Please reserve the day and look for more details in your child’s backpack. If you attended the May 6 PTA meeting, you had a chance to win a free dinner. Hope to see you at Tassone’s on June 10!

Thanks to all for help with Family Fun Night

We wanted to say thank you to all who helped make Family Fun Night a success. We would not have been able to provide all the fun activities without you. First, a special thanks to Chris Smith for all her help setting up for the past two years. Thanks so much to our adult, staff, and teen volunteers; families and businesses that donated the great raffle baskets; our artistic face painters and creative bakers/buyers for the cake walk game. Also, our appreciation to the community for their support; Wegmans, P & C Foods, Price Chopper, Sal’s Pizzeria, Dougherty’s Fun Services, Skippy Ice Cream, and the Saini family.

Again, thank you! We look forward to next year’s event.

Jen Guild & Michele Petrelli

So much to see

Members of the Spaulding family take a look at a table of pottery set up as part of the annual Art Festival at McNamara Elementary School. Hundreds of student pieces representing all grade levels were on display in the hallways and in the cafeteria. PTA also offered an ice cream social as part of the event.
PTA MEETING MINUTES – May 6, 2008
Minutes subject to approval at the June 2008 PTA Meeting

Call to Order: 7:22pm. Attendance: Laura Finn, Kristin Zimmer, Julie Yerdon, Kelly Dickter, Patty Lyons, Christina Mueller, Janel Bohman, Sharon Catalino, Mary Schiltz, Lisa O'Reilly, Deb Hitchcock, Catherine Eros-Streeter, Lynn Fofi, Katrina Grady, Jackie Wiegand, Jenn Miles, Amy DeJohn, Barbara Todd, Kathy Day, Julie Gottlieb & Allen Wolf.

Opening Message: Kelly Dickter opened up our meeting with listing the various positions available for next year including PTA president. Most committees have been filled; a few are still vacant. The purchasing of fans for a school gift are strongly being considered & PTA is looking into this further. Dollars for Scholars, which is a scholarship for Baldwinsville High School Seniors, is being considered as a PTA donation for a qualifying McNamara alumni.

Minutes from the March 11th, 2008 meeting were approved.

Corresponding Secretary’s Report: Christina Mueller, Corresponding Secretary, sent out two congratulations cards recently. Both were for Marilyn Sindone & Dale Nissen for the birth of their babies.

Treasurer’s Report: Sharon Catalino, PTA Treasurer, advised she will need an auditing committee containing both parent & teacher to go through receipts for past year. Monies have been coming in & out regularly. The PTA budget meeting to propose & write up the budget for next year will be on June 3rd @ 6:30pm @ the library.

Teacher’s Liaison: Mary Schiltz reported that Bike Safety is on 5/13 with Rodeo @ 4:30pm. On 5/14 Fire Safety will be instructed with visitors from fire department; along with the spring fire drills. On 5/22 @ Baker H.S. will the spring concert. On 5/23 there is a ½ for Professional Development; AM K in. On 5/27 there is no school pending there are no more snow days. :) The 4th graders will be participating in Colonial Fest on 5/30, the Summer Olympics will be held on 6/11 & Flag Day will be observed with a ceremony on 6/13. On 6/19 the 4th graders will be visiting Albany while the 5th graders will have their moving up day on 6/23. On 6/24 the awards assembly will commence & the last day of school is TBA by the district superintendent.

Principal’s Report: Mary Schiltz reported that there will be many changes for next year. Adding classes, moving of classes & teachers will all take place. The Developmental Kindergarten will not be held at McNamara next year as it is rotated throughout the district from year to year.

Programs: Katrina Grady, VP of Programs, reported that everyone enjoyed Rene’ Bibaud a world champion jump roper. She is looking for authors to come & visit next year. Family Fun Night was a huge success & needs a chair for next year. Jen Guild has kept wonderful notes from the past 2 years for reference for the future. The ice cream social took place in conjunction with the art show and went well as well. The Summer Olympics are coming up; volunteers should contact Jeanie Roberts.

Ways & Means: Jackie Wiegand reported that the yearbook turned out beautifully & will be here & handed out the last week of school. She also added that Lisa Santoro would like to have a co-chair for window painting for next year.

New business: Janel Bohman was voted in as treasurer for 08-09 year. Reminder: the next meeting is held on June 10th @ Tassone’s. Prior to that, the PTA budget meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. June 3 in the story room of the Baldwinsville Library.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:49pm

Submitted by: Patty Lyons, Recording Secretary
**McNamara Elementary School**  
**May 2008**

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| Board of Education 7 p.m., Durgee  
Third Grade Celebrates Mexico | McNamara PTA Meeting, 7 p.m.  
Success in First Grade Night, 6:15 p.m. | First Grade Field Trip to Beaver Lake |     |     |     |     |
| 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  |
| Mother’s Day | Public Budget Hearing, 7 p.m., Baker cafeteria  
Bicycle Rodeo, 4:30 at school | Fire Safety Day |     |     |     |     |
| 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |
| Board of Education 7 p.m., Durgee  
School Transportation Recognition Week | Annual School Board Election and Budget Vote, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., Baker  
Third Grade Field Trip to King Tut | McNamara Spring Concert, 6:30 p.m., Baker auditorium  
Includes 3rd grade orchestra, and 4th and 5th grade band, orchestra, and chorus |     |     |     |     |
| 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |
| NO SCHOOL Memorial Day  
NO SCHOOL Memorial Day Holiday |     |     |     | Fourth Grade (Zimmer & Wallon) field trip to Erie Canal |     |     |
|     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| McNamara Elementary School  
7344 O’Brien Road, Baldwinsville, NY 13027 | Main office: 315-638-6130  
Web site: www.bville.org | **LUNCH PRICES**  
DAILY: $1.50  
MILK: $.50/pint  
ICE CREAM: $0.65 | This year, click on www.bville.org, then “McNamara” and “PTA” to get the most up-to-date calendar listings. |
McNamara Elementary School
June 2008

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<td>Fifth Grade field trip to the Sports Bowl</td>
<td>McNamara PTA Dinner, 6 p.m., Tassone's Wine Garden</td>
<td>McNamara Summer Olympics</td>
<td>Fourth Grade Walking Tour of Baldwinsville, 9:30 a.m.</td>
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<td>FLAG DAY</td>
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HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER!

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7344 O’Brien Road, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

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