

*High Levels of Learning
for All*



McEachern Messenger

January 2012 Vol. 1, No. 6

2400 New Macland Road, Powder Springs, GA 30127 Phone 770-222-3710 · FAX 770-222-3712

A Monthly E-Newsletter for McEachern High School Parents, Students, Staff, and Community

IMPORTANT DATES

January 10—11	Advisement & Report Cards	January 28	SAT
January 11	Sr Parking on Sale; Cafeteria	February 2	Advisement—Progress Reports
January 12	Jr Parking on Sale; Cafeteria	February 2	Open House; PAC— 6:30
January 13	All Parking on Sale; Cafeteria	February 7	Financial Aid Night, PAC—7:00
January 16	MLK Day—School Closed	February 11	ACT
January 19	Advisement	February 20	President's Day—School Closed
January 19	School Improvement Surveys will be sent home	February 29	GHSGWT Retest & Report Cards

FROM THE ADMINISTRATION...

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I hope each and every one of you had a wonderful Winter Break! Can you believe we are halfway through the school year? Make 2012 a great year by: keeping track of your grades, completing your homework, studying just a little bit more, paying attention in class, and getting tutorial help if you need it. Also in 2012, try to “give back” some. Volunteer for a club or service organization. Did you know that colleges now look at not only your grades, but also your service in and out of school. Make sure in 2012 that you are becoming all you want to be!

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SURVEY

On January 19th during advisement, students will receive a School Improvement Parent Survey. Your feedback is very important to us because it helps drive what we do at McEachern. Please fill out the survey and return it to Russell Hall by Friday, February 3rd.

ADMINISTRATORS

9th GRADE

A-K	Maxine Walker	x 288
L-Z	Jim Bishop	x 309

10th-12th GRADE

A-B	Paul Gillihan	x 227
C-G	Krystal Wattley	x 273
H-L	Ashley Campoli	x 228
M-R	Chase Stroempl	x 280
S-Z	James Lockhart	x 225

Send submissions by the 15th of each month to McEachernMessenger@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

Now you can follow the McEachern Messenger on Facebook and Twitter!! “Like” us at McEachern Messenger on Facebook, and “follow” us on Twitter at @MHS_Messenger.

MHS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Go to www.meachernhigh.org and click on the Upcoming Events tab for a year-long calendar of events.

STUDENT PARKING

Every student who drives on campus MUST purchase a parking decal. The parking decals are \$50 per semester and are sold in the Macland Office after school if not purchase in the Cafeteria during designated days at the beginning of each semester. See the McEachern website for all parking rules, regulations, and forms needed to apply.

LEAVING CAMPUS POLICY

Any student who leaves campus without properly checking out will receive disciplinary action and may lose his/her parking permit and driving privileges for at least 45 school days. *McEachern High School is a closed campus. Students must stay on the school grounds from the time they arrive, even if school has not started, until dismissal.* Any student leaving the school grounds must check out through the attendance office. Students may not go to the parking lot without prior written permission. This includes during lunch time.

Discipline Actions:

Truancy/Leaving Campus without Permission

Parent notification and 2 days ISS.

Failure to Follow Check in/Check Out Procedures

Loss of parking privilege minimum 45 days for student drivers

1st - Saturday School

2nd - Saturday School

3rd – ISS

BUS NOTE POLICY

We have a new bus pass with the following procedures:

1. The student will get the bus pass from their bus driver.
2. The student will take the form home and have their parent/guardian fill it out.
3. The student will then bring the pass to their administrator's office for approval first thing in the morning.

Forms can be printed from http://www.meachernhigh.org/School_Info.html

TUTORIALS

Tutorials will be held every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:45—5:00pm. See your teacher for a tutorial ticket. Students may leave early from tutoring, but must have a ride within 15 minutes of being dismissed.

COLLEGE READINESS...

Mark Your Calendars:

National College Fair @ Georgia World Congress Center on Sunday, February 12th

QUEST College Fair @ McEachern on Tuesday, March 6th

AP Testing May 7th - 18th (\$15 registration fee per student; \$87 per test; due March 16th)

SAT & ACT DATES

SAT– Jan 28, Mar 10, May 5, June 2

ACT– Feb 11, Apr 14, June 9

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

To be eligible for regular HOPE students must have a 3.0 HOPE GPA graduating from an eligible high school. They must maintain a 3.0 GPA in college to remain eligible to keep HOPE. The HOPE amount is capped at 90% of the 2010-2011 University of Georgia System tuition rate and does not include any tuition increases that may be implemented by the System.

To be eligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship students must have a 3.7 HOPE GPA from an eligible high school and have a combined 1200 on the critical reading and math sections of the SAT or a 26 composite ACT score from a single test sitting. Students must maintain a 3.3 GPA in college to remain eligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship. This scholarship will cover 100% of tuition for an academic year. Students who drop below the college 3.3 GPA can earn regular HOPE if their GPA remains at a 3.0 or higher.

For both regular HOPE and the Zell Miller Scholarship, book and fee allowances have been eliminated and remedial courses are NOT covered. Students who remain academically eligible may receive HOPE until they have attempted a maximum of 127 semester hours. Students who lose regular HOPE or the Zell Miller Scholarship will have a SINGLE chance to regain HOPE. Beginning with the class of 2015, students will be required to demonstrate that they have taken a certain number of rigorous high school courses in math, science and foreign language (which will include dual-enrollment courses in those areas).

SCHOOL COUNSELING NEWS...

Counselors – Serving 9th-12th grade

A-C Pam Fowler (x230)

D-H Kristy Royer (x313)

I-M Andrea Brown (x314)

N-R Dr. Thom Canning-Skinner (x312)

S-Z Melissa Lynch (x234) – Mrs.Lynch’s e-mail is still under Melissa Alexander

We look forward to working with you this year. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

ATTENDANCE NEWS...

EARLY DISMISSAL

If you are planning to check your student out of school early, please send an early dismissal note to school with your student. Your student will give the note to his/her first block teacher. The teacher will write your student a pass to come to the Attendance Office at the time you stated on the early dismissal note. Parents will not need to come to the Attendance Office to check out his/her student if the students has turned in an early dismissal note.

PTSA NEWS...

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents-

Dawn Archie and Wanda Morris

Co-Vice Presidents-

Faye DiMassimo and Michele Rice

Secretary–

Aprile Evans

Treasurer-

Cynthia Hall-Harris

Committee Members-

Karla Bush, Shelly Render, Deborah Salmon-Ford, Connie Holloway, and Janice Ritchey

CHICK-FIL-A BREAKFAST

Calling all advisement homerooms!! Have a Chick-fil-A biscuit breakfast for your next advisement courtesy of PTSA when your whole advisement homeroom and teacher join PTSA. We will provide breakfast for your next advisement! PTSA membership is just \$7.00!! Membership forms are available in Russell Hall!! Place completed membership forms, dues collection, and attendance roster in the PTSA mailbox in Russell Hall. Contact Michele Rice, Co-Vice President at mceachernptsapres@gmail.com for more info!!

VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to volunteer with PTSA this year please contact us at mceachernptsapres@gmail.com.

CLUBS & COMMUNITY NEWS...

DECA

DECA Students Give Back during the Month of December—DECA students participated in three community service activities during the month of December, including: Shop with an Indian, volunteering for Jennifer's Pet Rescue in Hiram, and selling raffle tickets to raise money for the Make a Wish Foundation. All of the students who participated came away with a deeper understanding of how meaningful it is to give, not only during the holiday season, but throughout the year. DECA wants to thank those of you who donated time and money to help support our efforts. We will be able to present the Make a Wish foundation with a second check at our regional competition in January.

The WINNER is.....—DECA would like to congratulate McEachern High School Student, Kevin Dae, for winning the DECA iPod raffle benefiting the Make a Wish Foundation. Congratulations Kevin and thank you for participating! DECA students would also like to thank all of those who participated in the raffle. We were able to raise enough money to donate to the Make a wish foundation a second time this year. Students will be delivering a second check at their regional competition in January.

RELAY FOR LIFE

McEachern will once again be sponsoring a team of 100+ students and teachers who will be walking to raise money to find a cure for cancer and provide services for cancer patients in our community. Students will begin walking at 7:00 pm on Friday evening May 11th and will continue walking (in relay) until 7:00 am on Saturday May 12th at Jim Miller Park. Last year our team raised over \$5,000 and we would love to pass that this year. To make a donation to the team, visit <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/mhsindians>.

HONORS AND AWARDS...

WIND SYMPHONY

In January each year, the University of Georgia hosts a music festival for talented high school musicians throughout the Southeast. This festival provides instrumental music students with nationally renowned conductors and performers on the campus of UGA. In addition to clinics and rehearsals, the high school students attend concerts performed by University of Georgia students as well as premier high school ensembles. In June, after review of the application materials by the University of Georgia, the McEachern Wind Symphony was selected as a premier ensemble to perform for the 62nd Annual High School Music Workshop! The McEachern Wind Symphony is a 63-member ensemble comprised of mostly upperclassmen. Students audition to be placed in the group and must maintain high standards to remain in the ensemble. The students have been preparing for this event throughout the fall and look forward to performing for approximately 1200 people on January 20th. The McEachern band program serves approximately 260 students throughout the year in three concert bands, jazz band, percussion ensemble, winterguard, marching band and various

chamber ensembles.

The McEachern Wind Symphony will perform at 2PM on Friday, January 20, 2012 in the Hugh Hodgson Auditorium on the campus of the University of Georgia. The program will include a mixture of standard and contemporary composers spanning over a century of great repertoire. The band program is under the leadership of band directors Jeff Harper, Sheldon Frazier and Cecilia Clark.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION...

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

We hope to see you for the spring semester drive on February 1st!

ROBOTICS TEAM

[FIRST](#)® team # [3265] at John McEachern High school is one of 900 high school teams being sponsored this year by JCPenney. [FIRST](#)® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a not-for-profit organization founded by [Dean Kamen](#) to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology by engaging students in innovative robotics competitions. The McEachern Indians are a veteran team that will spend six intense weeks designing and building an original robot for the [FIRST](#) Regional Competition scheduled for Peachtree Regional in Duluth.

Accomplished inventor [Dean Kamen](#) founded [FIRST](#)® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) in 1989 to inspire an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Based in Manchester, N.H., [FIRST](#) designs accessible, innovative programs to build self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills while motivating young people to pursue opportunities in science, technology, and engineering. With support from three out of every five Fortune 500 companies and more than \$14 million in college scholarships, the not-for-profit organization hosts the [FIRST](#)® [Robotics Competition](#) (FRC®) and [FIRST](#)® [Tech Challenge](#) (FTC®) for high-school students, [FIRST](#)® [LEGO](#)® [League](#) (FLL®) for 9 to 14-year-olds, (9 to 16-year-olds outside the U.S. and Canada) and [Junior FIRST](#)® [LEGO](#)® [League](#) (Jr.FLL™) for 6 to 9-year-olds. Gracious Professionalism™ is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community. To learn more about [FIRST](#), go to www.usfirst.org.

ATHLETIC NEWS...

TENNIS

Tennis Tryouts will begin on January 23rd. You must have a yellow physical form on file before you can try-out. If you need a physical form or information, please see Coach Montgomery in FC 10 or FC 108 or Coach Minish in Junior 104 or FC 05.

*** All athletic schedules are subject to change dates and/or times. ***

GO INDIANS!

Please make mceachernmessenger@gmail.com and icontact.com as "an acceptable email address." It is used to distribute the McEachern Messenger. The McEachern Messenger will also be posted on the www.mceachernhigh.org website each month. Send submissions by the 15th of each month to McEachernMessenger@gmail.com

