



THE BULLDOG BULLETIN

McLouth USD 342 District Newsletter

FALL ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



The MHS band at the KU Band Day parade in Lawrence Kansas.

Volume 10, Issue 2

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October 2008

Special points of interest:

- Parent-Teacher conferences will be held on October 16.
- Check the school calendar for this month's activities.

"Chaos in the world brings uneasiness, but it also allows the opportunity for creativity and growth."

Tom Barrett, public speaker, author and entrepreneur



USD 342 Mission Statement

Together, we learn in a community that promotes academic excellence, respect, life-long learning, and responsible citizenship.

STAFF HIGHLIGHT



Mr. Torkelson joined the McLouth staff this year. He recently moved from Moscow where he taught Social Studies for three years. Mr. Torkelson teaches in the high school and coaches middle school.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT



Susan is a sixth grader at McLouth middle school. She enjoys volleyball and gymnastics. Susan...we're glad that you chose the McLouth school district!

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS



Parent-Teacher Communication

The first parent-teacher conferences for the new school year will be held on October 16th. The following information is provided by the NEA website.

Some good questions to ask are these:

- Is my child in different groups for different subjects? Why?
- How well does my child get along with others?
- What are my child's best and worst subjects?
- Is my child working up to his or her ability?
- Does my child participate in class discussions and activities?
- Has my child missed any classes other than ones I contacted the school about?
- Have you noticed any sudden changes in the way my child acts? For example, have you noticed any squinting, tiredness or moodiness that might be a sign of physical or other problems?
- What kinds of tests are being done? What do the tests tell about my child's progress?
- How does my child handle taking tests?

Congratulations...each year the University of Kansas Alumni association recognizes the top ten percent of each graduating class. Representatives from the senior class at McLouth High School are Jarrod Bechard, Gelia Gardner, Haley Holwick, and Lezley Lawson.

Tell Us What You Think...

What you want us to know – comment or concern: _____

What attempts have you made to resolve the situation? _____

Response Requested: Name _____
Please call me at _____ Address _____

Please respond to me by letter.

From Mr. Batman, Principal

ELEMENTARY ▪ 913/796-6152

Timely Investment: Half-hour a day with kids

What can you give your child that is priceless and yet it won't cost any money? Your time. There are programs around the country that are promoting investing time with our children. Currently the state of Colorado has a 5280 pledge which is 30 minutes a day for 176 days. The following activities are suggested:

What to do with that time?

1. Eat breakfast with your child.
2. Ask your child what was best about his/her day.

3. Walk the dog together.
4. Read the newspaper or watch the news together.
5. Read the same book your child is reading.
6. Tell your child about your family traditions.
7. Eat a healthy snack together after school.
8. Set aside one day each week for no computers or TV.
9. Introduce yourself to your child's teacher.
10. Walk, ride your bikes or drive your child to school.

*** How can I help my child with homework?**

ed.gov/parents/ Click on the "Helping Your Child" button to find help with reading, math, science and history.

pta.org/ Click on "Topics" on the top left of the page. Then click on "Student Success." The parent group offers advice when children "forget" homework and other issues.

REMINDER

P/T Conferences on 10/16. The elementary office will be sending a form home to sign up for P/T conferences. We look forward meeting with you!



October Dates to Remember

- 10/10** No School—Teacher Workday
- 10/14** Elementary Site Council 6:30 (Library)
- 10/16** No School—PT Conferences
- 10/17** No School
- 10/31** Halloween Parade- 1:50 (Downtown weather permitting)

Students in Ms. Parker's class learn what their "job for the day" will be.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY



Grandparents' Day was held at the elementary school on September 25, 2008. There were 124 grandparents in attendance.

A big thank you goes out to all grandparents who attended, the staff and others who made this day a success!

Thank you PTO for Sponsoring the Grandparents' Day!



More classroom pictures can be viewed on the district's website at www.mclouth.org

INFORMATION @ WWW.MCLOUTH.ORG

You can find information about our students' achievements, activity schedules, various forms, and general information on our website @ www.mclouth.org. Please check this site out for up-to-

date calendar changes, honor roll announcements, band/concert performances and for information about other extracurricular activities our students are involved in.

In addition, please feel free to post comments you would like to make or to ask questions you might have.

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From Mr. Bogard, MHS/MMS Principal

McLouth Middle and High Schools have had a positive start to this school year. The week of September 22nd McLouth High School celebrated its homecoming week. On Friday the 26th the week culminated with an afternoon parade, followed by the football game and dance later on that evening. A special thanks goes out to Mrs. Walbridge and Mrs. Campbell, student government and the cheerleaders for all their hard work in planning and coordinating the week's events.

The McLouth High School Band participated at the University of Kansas Band Day on September 20th. They represented our school and community very well and are to be congratulated.

MAP tests (measure of academic performance) were given to the middle and high school students this month. The tests measure where the students are in reading and math and their scores help the staff prepare for future instruction.

On September 24th Jarrod Bechard, Haley Holwick, Gelia Gardner, and Lezley Lawson were honored at the University of Kansas Lied Center for being the top ten percent of their graduating class. Congratulations to these students and their parents.

I encourage you to stay abreast of activities at McLouth Middle and High Schools by accessing the district's website at www.mclouth.org.

Please feel free to contact the school at 913-796-6122 with any concerns you may have.

MHS 2008-2009 HOMECOMING KING AND QUEEN CANDIDATES



Front Row: Skyler Terry, Jarrod Bechard, Derrick Crouse
Back Row: Brooke Thompson, Kasey Campbell, Kendall Patterson.

Notes from the A.D.

Tom Pierce, Activities Director ♦ 913-796-6122

As this is written, we are just a little over halfway through September and the activities for our students are in full swing. Our students have the opportunity to grow physically and emotionally through our sports programs. The lessons learned about teamwork, goal setting and perseverance will no doubt be valuable in the years to come for our young people.

I don't know who wrote the following, but I think it has great meaning.

Remember it is just a game and the primary objective is

fun, fitness, and fundamentals. The game is for the kids, not the coaches, parents, or officials. An overemphasis on winning or blaming officials for losses does not teach the student athlete the fundamental skills for dealing with and accepting setbacks or failures in life. The development of poise and skill under pressure can only take place in an environment that encourages success and accepts failures as a natural part of the growth process in life.

This fall, McLouth has hosted a middle school volleyball tournament (6 teams) and a cross-country meet (16 schools) besides the regular season sched-

ule. McLouth High School hosts a volleyball schedule for varsity, JV and freshman. One of our main goals is to give every one of our students an opportunity to participate in an activity at an appropriate level. This creates a hectic schedule for transportation and supervision but it is for our students' enjoyment.

In next month's newsletter, we will report the KSHSAA school classification for McLouth High School for this year.

Admission prices for regular season athletic contests at home and throughout DVL are as follows:

High School
Adults \$4.00
Students \$3.00

Middle School
Adults \$3.00
Students \$2.00

Don't forget that you have the opportunity to purchase a family pass from the central office for \$5.00. This allows \$1.00 off each family member at home regular season games. Senior citizens are able to purchase a pass from the central office that will allow free entry to all home regular season games. *Please remember that DVL and KSHSAA sponsored activities are not subject to our school passes.*

District Office Info.
Jean Rush, Superintendent
217 Summit
913/796-2201

**2008-09
USD #342
Board of Education**



Pictured left to right, top row to bottom: Dan Evans, Mike Tullis, Doug Walbridge, Andy Sullivan, Mitchel Campbell, Leah Bristol, Ed Courtney

**2008-2009BOE
Members**

Mitchel Campbell, Pres.

Doug Walbridge, Vice-Pres.

Leah Bristol, Member

Ed Courtney, Member

Dan Evans, Member

Andy Sullivan, Member

Mike Tullis, Member

Together, we learn in a community that promotes academic excellence, respect, life-long learning and responsible citizenship.

COUNSELORS CORNER

Cliff Weeks, MS/HS Counselor

McLouth High School junior and senior students are able to attend Kaw Area Technical School three hours each day. McLouth school district provides transportation to Topeka and pays the tuition cost for the students. Students are responsible for books, fees and tools for their classes. Grades and credits earned through programs at KATS count towards both technical school certification and a MHS diploma. There are 29 different programs of study at KATS. The following students are

attending KATS this year:

Seniors: Daniel Coffey and Luke Smarker-collision repair; Dylan Coleman-commercial construction; Michael Jantz-technical drafting; Hilary VanDyne-nursing asst.

Juniors: Dakota Cline-commercial construction; Curtis Dodd-occupational exploration.

Financial Aid Workshop

January 8, 2009, 7-9 pm in the school library. Baker university financial aid advisor will

be here to lead the work shop on how to fill out the free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Keep in mind that there are numerous scholarships and aid programs that require filling out the FAFSA, in addition to federal aid programs. Many students do not receive aid because their parents assume their income is to high. Parents of juniors may also attend to learn about financial aid.

BOE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

From August 11, 2008

Mr. Campbell requested a change in the July 14, 2008 minutes under I.C. as five members were present and the vote was recorded as 6-0. The board approved the consent agenda including the approval of minutes with the change above and the treasurer's report; authorized payment of bills (checks #24334-24444); and accepted resignations from Ms. Brown-paraprofessional and van driver, Mrs. Hernandez-paraprofessional and Mrs. Pierron-central office secretary.

There was discussion of sum-

mer school and the district strategic plan.

Action Items: approved the 2008-09 budget document; approved the first reading EBB, GAAE, GACD, IDCE, JDDC, JGCB, GARI, AND GARID; approved credit cards and limits as presented. No action on substitute teacher pay. Authorized the building principals to establish the faculty work day to meet the needs of students and programs which is compliant with the Negotiated Agreement. Accepted the low milk bid from Roberts Dairy for the 2008-09 school year. The board contributed \$100 to the Kansas "Change Lives. Teach!" campaign.

Personnel Approved: Mrs. Tara Stauch as cook. The board gave administrators a 2.25% increase and approved a retention bonus of \$2,000 for Mr. Ty Haas Professional dues for the administrators not to exceed \$300 each was approved. The supplementals as presented with the addition of Mrs. Stasch Smith were approved.

Complete official August board minutes are posted on the district website @ www.mclouth.org

BOE OCTOBER AGENDA

UDS 342 Board of Education holds a monthly board meeting on the second Monday of each month. The public is invited to attend. If you would like to address the board, please contact the Central

Office to complete the required form.

The September board agenda will include, but will not be limited to the following items:

1. Consent agenda (board minutes, warrants and cash summary)
2. Strategic Planning
3. Site Council membership approval
4. Personnel

School Calendar:

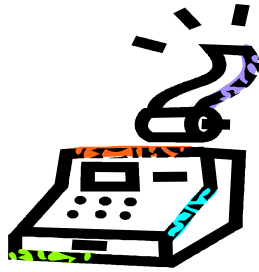
Current information is found on the website.

HOMETOWN FOODS GROCERY STORE RECEIPT DRIVE

The "Hometown Foods Register Tapes for Education," is being sponsored again this year at our local grocery store. This program, sponsored by Hometown Foods and Affiliated Grocers, gives the school an opportunity to obtain school supplies and materials from collected grocery receipts. The receipts will be totaled in the spring to be exchanged for instructional supplies.

Receipts can be dropped off at the HS office, or dropped in the collection bucket at the store. If you have any questions, please contact Dee Gill in the High School office at 913-796-6122.

Tape collection for the 2008-09 school year began September 1, 2008



2ND ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Friends of McLouth High School, Inc. will be hosting the 2nd annual golf tournament on Saturday, October 4, 2008.

Lake Perry Country Club, Ozawie
4-Person Scramble, \$200 per Team



Classes, companies and Individuals can sponsor a hole: Half-sponsorship: \$125 Full-sponsorship: \$250

Registration: 7:30 am
Shotgun Start: 8:00 am

Entry Fee Includes:
♦Green Fees
♦Cart Fees
♦Lunch

McLouth Public Library

McLouth Public Library is offering Craft Classes for Adults with Penny Woodring.

October 20th at 6:30pm
November 17th at 6:30 pm

Sign up today as class space is limited. Call the library at 796-2225. Materials will be provided by the library.

Library Hours

Monday 11am to 5pm
Tuesday 11am to 6pm
Wednesday 11am to 6pm
Thursday 11am to 5pm
Friday 11am to 5pm
Saturday 9am to Noon

COMMUNITY NEWS

USD 342 BOE approved a community section for the newsletter. Information about local events can be submitted to the district office on the 15th of each month. Information printed as "community news" does not necessarily reflect the view of the McLouth BOE and/or USD #342. The district reserves the right to edit, select, and/or reject submitted items.

GIRLS COUTS
OF MCLOUTH
USD #342
DAISY -
BROWNIE -
JUNIOR -
CADETTE - SENIOR -
AMBASSADOR
K-12 SCHOOL
AGED GIRLS
ARE WEL -
COME !!

Everyone is welcome to come to any meeting and check it out! If you want more information about Girl Scouts or would like to join, please contact Carrie Koch @ 913/796-6755, or email carrie-koch@embarqmail.com

HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVE

You have the Power to Save a Life. Right Here, Right Now.

16 Year Olds are Eligible to Donate Blood
(Must Have Parental Consent)

McLouth High School/Community
"FALL BLOOD DRIVE"

Wednesday, October 15

2:30—6:00 pm

High School Cafeteria

Free T-Shirts For All Registered Donors!

To make an appointment online go to
www.savealifenow.org.

Be sure to use sponsor code: mclouth comm.

Open Arms Christian Day-care and Preschool has vacancies for children age 6 weeks to 5 years old.

For more information call
913-796-6680

109 N. Union
McLouth, Kansas 66054

McLouth USD 342 District
Newsletter

Phone: 913/796-2201
Fax: 913/796-6440
E-mail: browns@mclouth.org
Submission deadline is the 15th of each month.

Check us out on the web @
www.mclouth.org

Please Note

10/10 No school/Teacher
Work Day & Collaboration
10/15 MHS/Community
Blood Drive, 2:30-6:00pm
10/16 No School/Parent-
Teacher Conferences
10/17 No School
10/28 Music Concert

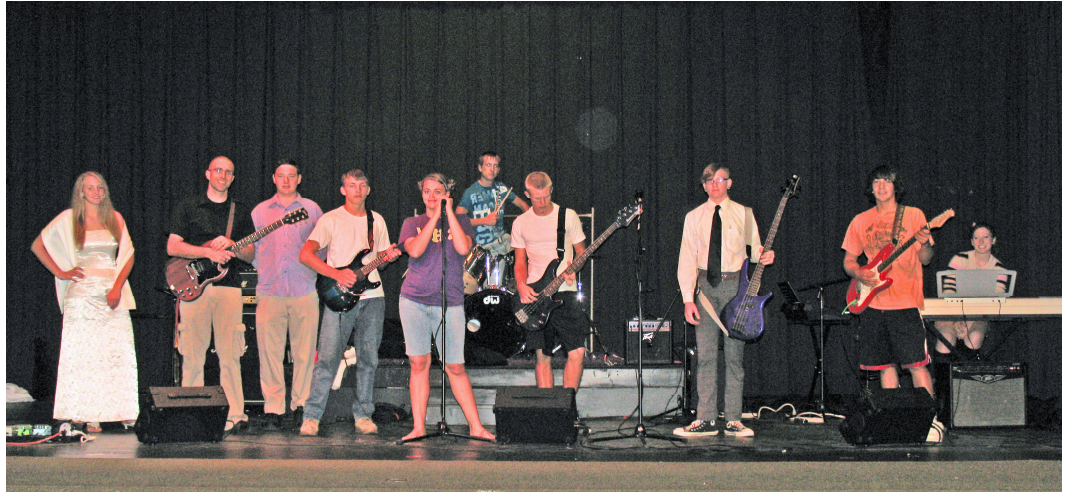
USD 342 Mission

Together, we learn in a community that promotes academic excellence, respect, life-long learning and responsible citizenship.

A color copy of this newsletter is posted at www.mclouth.org



Happy Fall!



Mr. Brandel and the members of the MHS Blues Orchestra: Amanda Friesz, Tyler Ottensmeier, Nate Friesz, Miki McHenry (lead vocalist), Cody Winborn, Alex Courtney, Adam Gray, Saul Hernandez, Taylor Rush.

The MHS Blues Orchestra & Jazz Band will have a concert on October 28 at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for an evening of music...jazz and rock & roll.



KU Honor Scholars, Jarrod Bechard, Gelia Gardner, and Lezley Lawson.

SUPPORT THE BULLDOGS!

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