



MCPOLIN OFFICE UPDATES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 2020

Dear caregivers and parents,

Sundance is gone, February is here, and McPolin just keeps on a R.O.C.K.'ing. These next two weeks leading up to the February break (2/17-2/21) will be extremely busy for everyone as we complete the Parent/Teacher Conferences. One of the most important goals of these meetings is to continue to maintain an open and safe relationship between the school and the home.

Research shows that the most accurate predictor of academic achievement is not socioeconomic status, nor how prestigious the school is that the student attends. The best predictor of student success is the extent to which families encourage learning at home and involve themselves in their child's education.

In more formal terms "parent involvement" is when parents and teachers share the responsibility of helping children learn and meet educational goals. Parent engagement happens when teachers involve parents in school meetings or events, and parents volunteer their support at home and at school. In this way, they make a commitment. Parents commit to prioritizing their child's educational goals, and teachers commit to listening and providing a space for collaboration with parents.

Here are some examples of what parent involvement looks like:

- **Checking students backpacks for school information sent home each day.**
- **Reading the weekly Office Updates and the grade level Weekly Notes**
- **Contacting teachers through e-mail, text, or scheduled meetings whenever you have a question or clarification.**
- **Since we are a community school, most students get picked up, just saying hello and having those easy informal conversations with teachers help when more courageous conversations are required.**
- **Talk to your students everyday about school. When you make these conversations routine you are demonstrating for your students the priority of school.**

When we all work together, students benefit! As always, contact the school with all questions, concerns, or clarifications.

Sincerely,
Bob Edmiston

Important Dates:

- **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES START THIS WEEK!**
- **Wednesday, February 5th – School Community Council meeting – 3:30-4:40pm in the library:**
 - **Preliminary ideas for the 2020-21 Land Trust Plan will be discussed.**
- **February Recess – NO SCHOOL 2/17-2/21**