



MCPOLIN OFFICE UPDATES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 2020

Dear parents and caregivers,

Apparently, the rumor that McPolin is the best elementary school “IN” Park City (our little joke as we are the ONLY elementary school “IN” Park City) is legit! As of today, we are on day #76 and week #17 of in-person learning one perfect day after another during a pandemic. We all deserve a celebration! I can share that celebrating the simple fact that school is open is nothing that I ever imagined to be appropriate or necessary, but then this 2020-21 COVID year has offered experiences and challenges that none of us ever imagined. One for all and all for one! It is taking the work and sacrifice of us all to keep the in-person learning and our run of perfect days going.

As we prepare for our extended December vacation we thought we would share ideas for supporting our students and all this imposed and often unwelcomed change.

- **STAY CALM, LISTEN, AND OFFER REASSURANCE**
 - **Be a role model.** Children will react to and follow your reactions. They learn from your example.
- **MONITOR TELEVISION VIEWING AND SOCIAL MEDIA**
 - Parents/guardians should monitor television, internet, and social media viewing
 - Provide alternatives, engage with your child in games or other exciting activities
- **TAKE TIME TO TALK**
 - Let your children's questions guide you
- **BE HONEST AND ACCURATE and KEEP EXPLANATIONS AGE-APPROPRIATE**
 - **Early elementary school children.** Provide brief, simple information that balances COVID-19 facts with appropriate reassurances that adults are there to help keep them healthy and to take care of them if they do get sick
 - **Upper elementary and early middle school children.** This age group often is more vocal in asking questions about whether they indeed are safe and what will happen if COVID-19 spreads in their area. They may need assistance separating reality from rumor and fantasy. Discuss the efforts national, state, and community leaders are doing to prevent germs from spreading.
- **STAY CONNECTED TO SCHOOL**
 - Stay in touch. Find out how the school is communicating with families and students. Be sure to read any communications you receive. Check with your children, particularly older ones, as they may be receiving information directly that would be helpful for you to know.
 - Connect with school staff. Reach out to your child’s teachers and other relevant school staff if you have concerns about their coping and keeping up with assignments or activities.
- **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**
 - Our McPolin (<https://mpes.pcschools.us/>) and PCSD (<https://www.pcschools.us/>) websites
 - Our Summit County Health Dept. (<https://summitcountyhealth.org>) website

Of course, you can contact us at any time, and we will provide whatever supports we can. Thanks for a most successful year despite all the challenges and change. We will continue to work with a servant’s heart approach and appreciate everyone’s collective efforts to stay safe and stay open. We Got This!

Sincerely,
Bob Edmiston

Important dates and events:

McPolin Giving Moose activity

- Monday, November 30th- December 18th
- Contact the school and visit the website for info.

Motivated Moose Assembly

- Thursday, Dec. 17th - 8:15-8:45am