

McCarty Elementary School – LEADERS IN LEARNING!
2006 Illinois Honor Roll School Academic Achievement Award Winner

Chuck Wagon Chatter

February 13th, 2010

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Kimberly A. Earlenbaugh, Principal

OPEN HOUSE – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH, 2010 – 6:30-8:00 p.m.

CHARACTER COUNTS! EVERYWHERE ALL THE TIME!

CC! Fifth Pillar: CARING

CC! Word of the Week: COMPASSION

The definition of compassion is: a sense of feeling or empathy for someone else's misfortune.

CC! Quote of the Week

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”

-Aesop

– To reinforce what your child is learning in school, we hope you can take some time to share what compassion means to your family and discuss how your family shows compassion to others. Supporting last week's Help for Haiti campaign is a perfect example. Encourage your child to demonstrate compassion for their siblings, friends, pets, classmates, and you. Thank you for supporting us in reinforcing the character trait of compassion!

Suggested readings: Two Good Friends (grades K-2) by Judy Delton

The Cat Next Door (grades K-3) by Betty Ren Wright

McCarty Helping Haiti

Thank you and congratulations to all our Mustangs and their families for donating \$1,837.37 to help the people of Haiti. We have one more deposit on Tuesday morning, so I'll forward a final total to everyone next week. We will be sending a letter and the donations from McCarty to the American Red Cross. Your generosity, compassion and citizenship are truly inspiring. Please take some time to thank your child for their participation.

Public School Funding

I hope everyone has had an opportunity to read the information from Dr. Birkett regarding the financial crisis our State is in and how it affects public education. It is not surprising to read that Illinois is ranked last in the nation by *Forbes* regarding finances. California was ranked 50th previously and Illinois was 49th, but CA has moved from 50th to 46th in the most recent ranking. Currently District 204 is waiting on over \$7.8 million in past due funds from the State.

A bill designed to assist school districts with the myriad of unfunded mandates placed on educators was scheduled for a hearing in the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee last week. **HB 4711 (Eddy, R-Hutsonville)** provides that no school district is obligated to comply with any statutory or regulatory mandate or requirement unless a separate appropriation has been enacted into law providing funding for the school year during which such mandate is required. If the amount appropriated to fund the mandate is insufficient to fully fund the mandated activity, the school district may choose to discontinue or modify the activity to assure that the cost of compliance does not exceed the funding received.

For more information please contact your State Representative. A list of committee members can be found at:

<http://www.ilga.gov/house/committees/members.asp?CommitteeID=587&GA=96>

Reading, Math and Writing Connection

MEASUREMENT – Give your child many opportunities to explore different kinds of measurement in natural settings. Look around for the many tools that we use to measure things, such as scales at the grocery store, dials in the car, thermometers, growth charts and measuring cups.

COMPREHENSION – Ask questions as your child reads. Instead of yes or no questions, use the 5Ws (who, what where, when, why and how). Take it a step further and have your child think of questions to ask you. Sharing ideas this way helps him/her think about what he/she is reading.

McCarty Dates to Remember

Mon., Feb. 15 th	NO SCHOOL – President’s Day
Thurs., Feb. 18 th	Open House – 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 25 th	Second grade program 6:30 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 26 th	NO SCHOOL – Teacher Institute Day
Sat., Feb., 27 th	Market Day – 9:00-10:00 a.m.
Mon., Mar. 1 st -12 th	ISAT and IAA
Tues., Mar. 2 nd	General PTA meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the MPR
Thurs., Mar. 4 th	Incoming Kindergarten Parent Information Night – 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Together we are always able to accomplish
what none of us could achieve alone. -Zadra**

EMPOWER YOUR CHILD TO SUCCEED!

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