

# Welcome Back!!

## McMillan’s Magnet Moments: Engineering and Technology and Mathematics, Wow!

McMillan Magnet Center offers a vast array of courses and extra-curricular activities in each of our magnet-theme areas. We provide students many opportunities to participate in a multitude of competitions, expand their knowledge, and work hard to win recognitions for their knowledge, skill, and talent.

Last year our **Engineering** students competed in VEX robotics and SAME/SMP (Society of American Military Engineers/Student Mentoring Project) programs. VEX students designed innovative robots and worked together in competitions throughout the metro area. Our SAME teams chose an engineering-based problem to research, design, and present to a panel of professional architects and engineers. Our 2012 McMillan “Lakers” team project is going to be implemented by the Army Corp of Engineers as part of the new flood protection plan. This upcoming school year, engineering students will again participate in both of these competitions, and will design and implement a McMillan beautification project for the front of our school with the help of our advisement teams.

Our **Math** students regularly bring home awards and medals from area competitions. This past school year was no exception, with our Mathletes excelling at many local competitions and the AMC8 Math Contest. Our Mathletes are looking forward to the full schedule already lined up for the upcoming school year. Our competition math students will be busy preparing for our annual **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Contest** in November, the North High Math Contest in October, the AMC8 Contest and Central High Math Olympiad in November, the Benson Math Contest in December, and the Math Counts Regional Math Contest in February.

*Continued on Page 3*

## Principal’s Message

We have had a wonderful start to the year! We have several building wide expectations that will help students move from class to class using common procedures and rules. We have also ensured that the hallways, cafeteria, and other common spaces are a safe environment for students and staff. We ask that parents request to see their child’s agenda every evening to check on student work in classrooms. This will generate

good conversations among students with parents and guardians. The agendas are required to be used every day and if for some reason the student cannot find their agenda, please contact the counseling office to purchase another. The agenda serves as an organizational tool, which middle school students desperately need for their success now and later. We have a building focus on reading, math, and writing. We

will be testing these areas throughout the year. We encourage good attendance to school and an effort for all students to give their best everyday. No matter how difficult the task, we ask students to work hard to reach their potential. With everyone’s hard work and cooperation, every student will leave McMillan better than they entered. Thanks for all you do to help ensure your child reaches their potential!

Dr. Jeaneen Talbott,  
Principal

Volume 1, Issue 1  
August 26, 2013

### Upcoming dates:

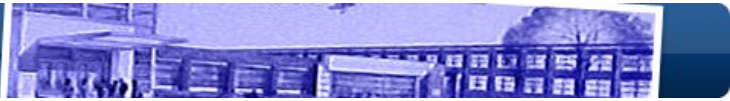
- *Picture Day, September 5 & 6*
- *Open House, Tuesday, September 10, 6:30-8:30 pm*
- *1st Quarter Progress Grades Thursday, September 12*
- *PTO Meeting, Monday, September 16, 6:30-7:30 pm*
- *No School, Friday, September 20, Curriculum Day*
- *1st Quarter ends, Friday, October 18*

**PLEASE VOTE!!!**  
**Help us earn as much as \$10,000!!**



It really is simple. Follow the information below to vote for McMillan. You can vote once a week. Anyone with a Facebook or Twitter account can vote. We get \$1 for every vote. This is real. This year we are working for bigger things for our building.

<http://givewith.target.com/school/56039>



# Open House

McMillan's open house will be held Tuesday, September 10, 2013 from 6:30-8:30PM. We hope your family will join us for an exciting evening. Not only do you have the opportunity to tour the school, meet the teachers and see what rigorous curriculum the teachers have in place, there will be a wide variety of extras in which you may take part!

We are so excited about the RAFFLE that we will have that evening! We will be raffling off an iPad to one lucky winner thanks to our PTO! The proceeds will go toward purchasing technology for our teachers and students in their classrooms. Raffle tickets will cost \$5/ticket or 5 tickets for \$20! You do not need to be present to win!

The band The Urban Scrunchies will be playing in the library. The band consists of 5 female members who all are between 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade. They have been together ever

since making their debut with the Omaha Girls Rock 3 years ago. Jamie Sutula, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at McMillan, has organized this event and is excited to share the chill, Indy music with the school. The band played this summer at The SlowDown and also played at the Maha Music Festival.

The McMillan PTO will be having a bake sale and selling spiritwear! If you have items that you would like to donate for the bake sale, please bring them to the front office the day of open house. Any and all help is greatly appreciated!

Dr. Talbott, Principal, will be giving a brief assembly at 6:30 and 7:30PM that evening in the auditorium. Please consider hearing the message she has to deliver. At 7:00 and 8:00PM in the auditorium, Mr. Reddick, our Lion's Pride after school program director will be presenting the benefits of joining the

McMillan after school extension program. There will be applications for your student to participate in Lion's Pride available that evening.

In the gym, Wii Fit/Sports will be available for friendly competition, along with a representative from the EHA Wellness program to discuss the importance of healthy foods and cooking.

As always, our counselors and administrators will be available for questions or concerns! Please join us for an evening of family and fun! We look forward to seeing you in our building!



Tuesday, September 10  
6:30-8:30 pm  
McMillan Magnet

# Nurse Reminders

A reminder about the OPS medication policy...medication cannot be given at school without all of the following:

- A physician's prescription with the time and dose of the medica-

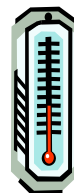
tion to be given.

- Parent permission note
- The pharmacy labeled container matching the physician's written order.

\*This also includes any over-the-counter

medications such as Tylenol, cough drops, topical creams/lotions and cold medicine.

**PLEASE...if your child is running a fever or vomiting- DO NOT SEND HIM/HER TO SCHOOL!**



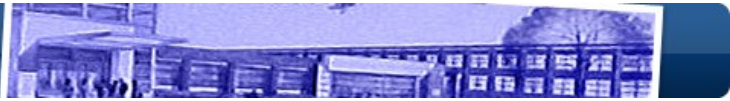
# Gifted and Talented Program

The Gifted and Talented program at McMillan Magnet Center offers many opportunities for students throughout the year. We are very proud of our three-time City Championship **Quiz Bowl** teams and look forward to the coming year of academic competition. For students who love a fast paced, academic, and team oriented environment, Quiz Bowl is for you! Practices will begin in

September with the first competition scheduled for October.

The Monarchs are two time city and state champions in the **Academic Pentathlon** competition and have placed in the top four spots nationally both years. Our Pentathletes are looking forward to the 2013-2014 contest which will focus on World War I.

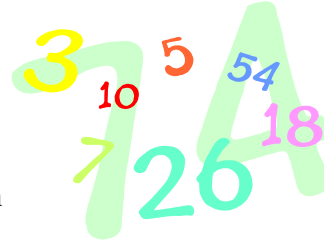
The Gifted and Talented department offers all students an opportunity to take the **ACT test**. Nearly 100 Monarchs participated in ACT testing last February and took an important first step toward their post high school education. More information about this opportunity will be available at the McMillan Open House on Tuesday, September 10, from 6:30-8:30 pm.



## McMillan’s Magnet Moments Continued:

Two important offerings of our Math department make us unique. First, we are one of two middle schools in the state of Nebraska using the Carnegie Cognitive Tutorial math program, which is the closest curriculum to artificial intelligence on the market. It adapts to student needs depending on individual responses and is accessi-

ble anywhere that the Internet is available. Second, we are the only middle school in the state equipped with the TI-83 Navigator system in every math classroom. Our teachers have the ability to send data to and receive data from the students’ calculators instanta-



neously. Student responses are organized graphically and displayed in so the entire class’ solutions can be discussed immediately.

In addition to those, we are excited to offer a brand new classroom set of iPads to provide the most advanced technology in learning!

## “Pride Time”—Advisement

The staff at McMillan is excited to announce the implementation of “Pride Time” during our daily schedule. Pride Time will be our school-wide advisement program in replacement of our past “Homeroom” time. In Pride Time, students will have the opportunity to learn about current events, practice daily skills, work on self-esteem, and gain practical knowledge about health and wellness. Our program will use a cross-curricular focus to build positive school relations within the curriculum. We will be having Pride Time everyday day between first and second block. This time will also include our daily announcements and any



information that needs to be distributed to students to take home. Furthermore, we will be working with students to build independence by utiliz-

ing the assignment notebook everyday. During this transition period of middle level education, it is important to assist our students in building positive relationships, independence, and learning the importance of high expectations. Our staff is looking forward to building more community within our building, and most importantly with our students. With integration of the research based, MindSet approach and the

40 Developmental Assets, we hope to support our students in building confidence, fulfillment and achievement. Along with the alignment of a MindSet approach, we will be working towards our building-wide EXCELS goals to improve math, reading, writing, and school climate during our Pride Time. Our staff has been hard at work over the summer creating interactive curriculum and activities for the coming school year. We look forward to your help and support in our development of this program. For questions or concerns regarding our Pride Time, feel free to contact Kelly Arbuckle or Kathleen Schmedding.

## SAME Competition

The McMillan Engineering teams will be competing in the Society of American Military Engineers SMP (student mentoring program) competition. The teams will address a real world engineering problem and using the design process, will devise a solution. The teams will



research and write a twenty page engineering proposal, develop

physical and virtual models, give a fifteen minute oral presentation and answer five minutes of technical questions from the local engineering judges. The teams meet as part of the Design and Modeling engineering classes offered at McMillan.



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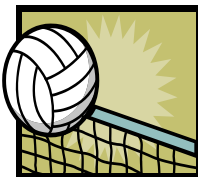
**We're on the WEB!**

**[www.ops.org/middle/mcmillan/](http://www.ops.org/middle/mcmillan/)**

## Information from the Athletic Director

Fall sports have begun! We are excited about the amount of student athletes who have decided to join our three Fall sports: cross country, football, and volleyball. We encourage everyone to come cheer on our teams and help us support the McMillan Monarch athletes.

Volleyball is hoping to improve their record this year. The 20 girls are looking strong at practice due to the addition of some 7<sup>th</sup> graders. The season is defi-



nately looking promising. The first home game is Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> versus King Science and Technology Magnet. Go Monarchs!



The cross country athletes are looking to improve their title of

runner-up City Champions to City Champions. The athletes are bearing the heat and are dedicated to the program. They start their season on September 4<sup>th</sup> with a home invite.

Football is looking to defend their City Championship title this year. The coaches are eager that the 45 young men will achieve this goal. The majority of the games will be



played at Blackburn, located on 26<sup>th</sup> and Hamilton. Check the schedule on the McMillan website for a complete list of dates.