This year, at McMillan, we are working on implementing and utilizing Project Based Learning (PBL) within the classrooms and across content areas. The purpose of PBL is to prepare our students with 21st century skills. The PBL process is designed to teach students how to communicate effectively, collaborate with others, think critically about major issues our society is facing, and promote creativity in finished product and presentation.

**Project N.O.**

The end product of Project N.O. will be student created sculptures of the letters N.O., similar to the O! Public Art Project. Prior to creating these structures, students will work on building local business support for the project. Students will also be a part of the location selection process. One other component of this project is to promote the project through print media and social media.

**The Civil War Today**

In this project, students will discover how the issues of the Civil War still affect our country in 2014. Student will learn about the breakup of the United States and the factors leading up to the Civil War. Students will also learn about "state rights" past and present and how this issue has evolved over time.

**Africa in Conflict**

In this project, students will learn about various social issues affecting the African content. Social issues will include the Ebola virus, child soldiers, the Sudan conflict, and ethnic cleansing. More importantly, students will learn how they can raise awareness and influence change in the regions they are researching.

There are so many exciting things happening in the magnet right now! One thing that we are particularly proud of is a Sherwood Foundation grant that we received $125,000.00 to lease an office suite at the Mastercraft Building located at 11th and Nicholas in Downtown Omaha for at least two years. This space will be utilized by the McMillan Green Architecture students to begin, but will hopefully include many of our other Project Lead the Way courses, as well. This opportunity will provide real-world studio space amongst a variety of young entrepreneurs who also work at the Mastercraft building who will become mentors and community partners for our students. We will also be working with North High School students on different projects. This grant will allow for us to have a class set of state-of-the-art laptops, a 3-D printer, a laser engraver in the future, and a beautiful working studio.

Our Green Architecture students have been busy working on the blueprints for their models that they will be constructing at the Mastercraft Building. Mr. Mayberger began by having the students tour local Habitat for Humanity homes so that they could get an idea of what they would be designing as a virtual model, as well as the physical models. We will be going there for the first time on Friday, October 17, 2014. The students are extremely excited and are the only students in the district who have this opportunity as of right now.

Also, on Tuesday, October 14, these students will have the opportunity to tour the Lozier Corporation for Manufacturing Day. This is a special opportunity because Lozier actually donated the shelving and storage units that we will have in the Mastercraft Building.

In other magnet news, about 50 our Medical Detective students will get to tour the Omaha Police Department’s Crime Lab on November 4 and 5. The students will receive a lesson on the chemistry background that the CSI agents use when solving crimes. They will also get to participate in a mock crime scene and be able to deduce the crime based on what they learned earlier in the tour. Mr. Huber will then relate all of the field trip experience to what the students are currently learning in Medical Detectives! Such a great opportunity!
Ms. Debra Wallman is the September Teacher of the Month. Ms. Wallman received a PTO giftcard for $30, a flower and vase, and donated gift-cards from area businesses. She is a tireless educator working with students in Language Arts and Social Studies. She is a leader among her peers, an educator utilizing best practices in instruction, and a professional who works to develop positive relationships with students. Specifically, Ms. Wallman has helped structure the Lion’s Den to support special education students, has supported the structure and implementation of Teaming and Project Based Learning, and has provided staff support to improve student writing.

As a class, Pride Time students in Ms. Niemiec, Ms. Preston, Ms. Reinhart, and Ms. Balentine performed the best in Math and/or Reading Acuity. Because of their effort and hard work in achieving, students received a pancake breakfast that included sausage, bacon, and juice. We will continue to provide these celebrations for students who continue to show achievement progress.

Students have been in Friday Clubs for a Quarter and will receive new assignments after returning from their day off after Parent Teacher Conferences. Whether it is the Chess Club, Garden Club, Craft Club, Cheer Club, Math Games Club, or one of the many other Clubs McMillan offers, it is fun to see students involved. Clubs will be showcased in our upcoming All School Video which will be performed on Thursday, October 30. If you received a form to sign for your child’s participation, please consider signing and get it back to us.

Students of the Month

Team 7A Tyleana
Team 7B Janaya
Team 8A Talanda
Team 8B Phadziana
These students received PTO giftcards to Subway, a lunch with the Principal from Jason’s Deli, and Certificate for their hardwork during the Month of September. All of them received nothing but praise from their teachers both academically and behaviorally. Congratulations Students of the Month!!

The McMillan 8th grade engineering classes are taking part in the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) competition. The students will produce a twenty page technical paper, a fifteen minute oral presentation, create virtual and physical models of their presentation. The A4 class has decided to look at creating a healing garden at McMillan. The team will look at the various soil, water, and light needs to create a green space with plants that have homeopathic properties. This class will work with Ms. Kirschbaum and the Truck Farm to make McMillan’s Wellness Garden. The A2 class is working with the Omaha Arts council, Ms Castanos and the McMillan Art department on Project NO!. This project is goal is to portray North Omaha in a more positive light. The students are going to create NO! (North Omaha) artwork and have them placed throughout the area. The engineering class are research possible materials and paints that will stand up to Omaha weather. The presentations and projects will be presented at the PKI building at UNO on March 26, 2015.

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COUNSELING NEWS

Our mission is to provide a strengths-based school counseling program to empower all students to reach their highest potential. Our role is to advocate and connect all students and families with support systems available within Omaha Public School system and the Omaha metro area. It is our goal that every student will be empowered to gain the knowledge and skills needed for personal, career, and academic success. Along with a school counseling staff, McMillan also provides a community counselor for additional support of students and families. We welcome all questions and concerns and look forward to working with our McMillan community this year. Mrs. Gonzales can be reached at shea.gonzales@ops.org or 402-557-4513 and Mrs. Schmedding at Kathleen.schmedding@ops.org or 402-557-4512.

INCLUDICITY

Our 8th grade population is working towards building a wide sense of acceptance and diversity. This year, McMillan was approved for a grant to participate in the Inclusive Communities’ Inclusive Middle program. McMillan is the only Omaha Public Schools middle school to currently participate in this organization. This September, thirty plus 8th grade students were selected by teachers and administrators to participate in the day long IncluCITY retreat held at UNO’s Center for Community Engagement. Students had the opportunity to discuss societal issues and work towards promoting a more culturally diverse climate. These students will participate in our Diversity Club as school and work alongside Inclusive Communities staff to provide school wide diversity activities such as Mix It Up at Lunch and Diversity Equality in Education Week.

YOUTH FRONTIERS

All 7th graders had the privilege of participating in an all day Courage Retreat from Youth Frontiers on August 19th. In addition to our 250 seventh graders who participated, we had 60 high school volunteers from Omaha North, Omaha Northwest, Omaha South and Omaha Central. Students participated in team building activities as well as learned about using everyday courage to make McMillan and our community a better place for all. The high school volunteers were fantastic group leaders and role models who helped our students in small groups discuss what they were learning about and how they could put it into practice every day. We will continue to revisit the idea of using everyday courage throughout the year and encourage you to ask your 7th grader how he or she is using everyday courage, as well. Thank you to the Omaha Schools Foundation for granting us the funds to allow our 7th graders a fantastic retreat!

COLLEGE COLORS DAY

This year, McMillan kicked off the school year celebrating our annual “College Colors Day” on August 29th. Throughout that week students were able to participate in the College Fight Song Trivia, learn new and interesting facts about many different colleges and universities and each student received college admissions information for one of the thirty plus schools (locally and nationally) including institutions such as Harvard, Stanford, University of South Carolina, the Nebraska University system, and many more that donated admissions packets and college gear for each student. This day would have not been such a huge success without the support of the many programs located throughout Nebraska and neighboring states.
Welcome to the new school year; what an exciting year we have ahead in Math Club! We are busy preparing for our first competitions of the school year. We have been studying questions from past North High contests to learn as much as possible as quickly as possible. North High has not set a date for this year’s contest yet but we want to be prepared. The next contest we will focus our attention on is the American Mathematics Competition scheduled for the second week in November. This event allows students to compete against other 7th and 8th grade students across the nation. The Central High Math Olympiad is scheduled for November 13th this year so we will begin preparing for this contest soon.

In addition to preparing to compete in area math competitions, we are also hard at work writing questions for the sixth grade contest we will host on Tuesday, November 4th. Last year we had over 200 of the strongest math students in the Learning Community compete in our very own student-created, student-led contest! This year we hope to have even more eager young mathematicians join us for this amazing event.

Math Department News

The Carnegie Cognitive Tutor is up and running for all 7th and 8th grade Algebra Plus students as well as the 7th grade Honors Algebra students. Again this year, students can complete their Carnegie work from anywhere they have access to the internet! This means that students may complete the computer portion of their math class from home if they fall behind or if they simply want more practice. The Carnegie Learning Cognitive Tutorial program is the closest thing to artificial intelligence on the market today. The software adapts to individual student needs as students work through the Pre-Algebra and Algebra curriculum. This software is the perfect companion to classroom instruction to ensure students gain the most thorough understanding of content possible.

In addition to the Cognitive Tutor curriculum, all math classrooms at McMillan are equipped with the Texas Instruments (TI) Navigator system. The TI-Navigator allows teachers to send data and questions to students’ calculators from their computer. Students then send their responses back to the teacher’s computer where they are instantaneously dropped into a power point for discussion. McMillan is the only middle school in the state equipped with this technology.

The McMillan math department also uses a classroom set of I-Pads to engage students in meaningful instruction. Teachers are finding the I-pads to be an effective way for students to practice math content in a non-traditional method as well as an effective tool for students to share their work with the class which leads to rich classroom discussions. In addition, students simply like using the interactive technology so students are excited to be in math class.

Also, please don’t forget: Math help is available every day from 2:40-4:00 through Lion’s Pride and the new Macademic Center. Students can get help on math homework or work on the Carnegie program while having teacher support. There is never a reason to fall behind in Math at McMillan!
MONARCH MATH

The 8th grade Math students are learning how to solve one-step and two-step equations and learning how to convert math expressions into number form. Examples of these concepts are included below:

One Step Equation: 2x = 5  Two Step Equation: 3x + 2 = 7

Math Expressions (converting a written expression into number form):
**Five less than y → y - 5**

The 7th grade Math students are finishing up their units on ratio, proportion, and percent. The area of focus for second quarter includes fraction, decimal, and integer computation. In addition, students are practicing interpreting data presented in a variety of formats. Students will be deciphering graphs of all kinds to emphasize the real-world connections behind data analysis. In an effort to provide students with authentic data use, classrooms will be analyzing the results of the September pre-assessments in preparation for the NeSA-M in the spring. Students will be interpreting the data by making graphs from data at the building level, the classroom level, as well as the individual level. Teachers and students will use the data to drive classroom discussions and to set goals for learning in identified areas of weakness.

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS

MindMaster Quiz Bowl Tournament: Thirty Quiz Bowl teams and approximately 140 students from Nebraska and Iowa descended on McMillan on Saturday, October 18th for the second annual Monarch MindMaster Quiz Bowl tournament. Thanks to all of the Volunteers that helped create a great opportunity for students to hone their competitive skills. Although the Monarchs did not place in the top contenders, they know what to practice for to improve their performance in the next competition.

The Scholars: The 8th grade Scholars toured the north and south Metro Community College campuses on October 1st where they discussed dual enrollment, and learned about resources available to them at the MCC. The 8th grade Scholars will attend an Etiquette 101 workshop and fine dining lunch on November 5th. Eighth grade Scholars are Michaela Atkins, Burdette Becks, Arnett Bonner, Elisha Burts, Makenzi Dexter, India Grayson-Pattar, Angel Hayden, Lewis Kirke, Nadia Spurlock, and Zander Townsend-Longcrier.

Congratulations to our 7th grade Scholars! We have an exciting year planned which kicks off with a parent meeting at 6:30 p.m. on October 30th during Parent-Teacher Conferences. Our 7th grade Scholars are Lindsey Bateman, Rebecca Bernhardt-Schmidt, Luis Cuadra, Dejunae Dandridge, Karahn Gaymon, Janaya Hanks, Devon Mahone. Claudette Ndayisaba, Christian Reeves, and Say Wah.

Both 7th and 8th grade Scholars have registered for the February 2015 ACT test and will be meeting for test prep sessions in November and December.

Poetry SLAM: Poetry comes alive as students perform original writings in a forum of collaboration and celebration at the Poetry SLAM. Students will gather at Benson’s P.S. Collective on December 4th to take the stage and share their creations. Seasoned metro area poets perform and model slam protocol. Students may visit their Language Arts teachers for more information. Students interesting in participating must submit their work to Mrs. Figueroa before October 29th.
JOURNALISM

Journalism students are completing their first articles for the Prowler (online newspaper). Students are also learning how to conduct professional interviews and the value of critical thinking questions. In the next two weeks, students will be interviewing teachers, administration and others students for more articles in the Prowler.

MONARCH READING

The 8th grade reading students are examining fiction and non-fiction text. Students will analyze text and apply understanding of different structures and features that texts use. Students will also evaluate why these features are added and determine if the text is enhanced by the features and structure or if the features and structures take away from what the text is saying.

In the 7th grade, Reading students will begin the Story Elements unit by exploring different elements of setting. Other topics in this unit include plot, character, conflict, author’s purpose, and theme.

TECH & LIVING AND COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

The Tech and Living students are currently working on a unit learning about measurement. Within this unit, students are learning about linear measurement (distance, size, etc.) and kitchen measurements (cups, tablespoon, teaspoon, etc.)

Students in Tech and Living continue to complete their regular module work in two-week shifts. Some examples of modules include:
* Research & Design
* Plastics & Polymers
* C & C Manufacturing

The 7th grade Computer Applications I students have been working hard learning the home row and proper posture for keyboarding. Students are also learning about computer basics (information processing cycle, hardware, software, etc.) and Common Sense Media (Internet ethics and safety).

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Instrumental and Vocal Music students are already working hard to prepare for our annual Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 9th at McMillan. Reminder: Students are required to wear khaki/tan pants and a McMillan Music Shirt for all music events and performances.

Selected music students will also be attending a Jazz Workshop on Friday, November 7th at Northwest High School.

On another “note”, Ms. Simpson would like to personally thank the following students for singing the National Anthem at our home volleyball games: *Lula Gout, *Diamon Bennett, *Emma Dawkins, *J’La Ervin, *Allora Mowery, and *Ayriel Brown-Love. The National Anthem can be difficult song to sing, especially in front of a large audience, and takes a great deal of confidence and skill. Thank you ladies!
The 8th grade Science students are learning about the Periodic Table of Elements. Students will be conducting experiments in order to observe different chemical reactions.

In 7th grade Science, students are currently finishing up the ecology unit by presenting projects they have been working on. The next unit is Cells and Human Body. Students will be examining cell slides in the upcoming weeks.

Medical Detectives students are learning about the anatomy of and the nerves that are connected to the brain. Students will be learning about the different senses and how the brain affects those senses. Students will also be dissecting a sheep brain to explore its anatomy.

It has been a great start to the school year at McMillan’s library. McMillan’s card catalogue has been updated to reflect students reading interests, we have started offering eBooks, and students have learned how to utilize their personal library record to organize interests. These updates have led to 1,760 book checkouts in the first five weeks of school. Our checkout goal for this year is 5,000 books.

McMillan’s library opens at 7:10 to allow students time to check out books, work on projects, and prepare for the school day. The library stays open until 3:30 allowing students to check out books and work on projects. The library is also offering Maker Space activities Wednesdays from 2:50-3:50. Make Space allows students to explore a variety of concepts including circuits, robotics, building, and creating.

Do you want to help others? Do you enjoy making things? Then join Youth Volunteer Club (YVC) at McMillan. YVC meets the second and fourth Wednesdays each month. You can find us at 2:50 in room 151. Please see Ms. Stevens or Ms. Pratt with questions.

Learn to Lead! Network with business and community leaders! Develop friendships! Gain experience! Earn Recognition!

All these adventures and more await you when you become a member of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). FBLA meets the first and third Wednesdays each month. You can find us at 2:50 in room 158. Please see Ms. Pratt with questions.
The Entrepreneurial Club led by sponsors Stefanie Conley and Christine Smith, has started the year off strong, holding a Pride Time competition to raise money for a bake sale the club held during Open House. Students in the club sought out baked goods donations from staff, parents, and other community members. Students also ran the bake sale and raised over $300 for McMillan! The club is also going to run the McMillan school store where McMillan hats, sunglasses, and other gear will be sold. Store hours will be posted soon! The Entrepreneurial club will be holding future bake sales, Pride Time contests, popcorn sales and other fundraising activities that our students in the club will set up, organize, and run!

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This year, McMillan is implementing the middle school teaming model. Your child has been placed on a team consisting of teachers that represent the core curricular areas of Social Studies, Language Arts, Math, Science, and Reading. Three additional teams consisting of elective teachers meet with the core teams to provide additional support to students and teachers.

McMillan’s objective in teaming is to provide your child with a network of support, a sense of belonging, and a positive outlook on their education. Within their teams students and teachers build an atmosphere of unity by creating positive connections, participating in cross-curricular activities, and participating in project-based learning opportunities.

Team teachers meet twice a week to discuss curriculum, assessments, and student success. Various support staff attend each meeting to assist teachers in planning and implementing meaningful, unique, and challenging curriculum.

You can find your child’s team on their student schedule. Team teachers are listed below. Names in bold & Italic denote team leaders.

**Team 7A**
- Mr. Walter
- Mr. Kiviranta
- Ms. Wallman
- Ms. Rabiola
- Ms. Kirschbaum
- Ms. Mattson
- Ms. Stevens
- Ms. Figueroa

**Team 7B**
- Ms. Niemiec
- Ms. Hutchins
- Ms. Wallman
- Mr. Andersson
- Ms. Colton
- Ms. Mohrbutter
- Ms. Preston
- Dr. Anderson

**Team 8A**
- Mr. Staller
- Mr. Costanzo
- Mr. O’Donnell
- Mr. Kammandel
- Mr. McKenzie
- Ms. Reinhart

**Team 8B**
- Mr. Smith
- Ms. Balentine
- Mr. O’Donnell
- Mr. Huber
- Ms. Brandt
- Ms. Rico
- Ms. Smith
- Mr. Hagen

**Electives A**
- Mr. Henderson
- Ms. Fefee
- Mr. Mayberger

**Electives B**
- Ms. Sherman
- Ms. Rydberg
- Ms. Simpson
- Ms. Parfitt

**Electives C**
- Ms. Tschetter
- Mr. Jelken
- Mr. Benak

**Team 8B**
- Ms. Reinhart
- Ms. Reinhart

**Electives A**
- Mr. Mayberger

**Electives B**
- Ms. Sherman

**Electives C**
- Ms. Tschetter

In 8th grade Language Arts, students are reading the novel *Seedfolks*. Along with the quizzes and discussions over the novel, students will also complete a project where they will create their own chapter about themselves as part of the novel. We continue to work on descriptive writing skills, grammar, and vocabulary daily. The 8th grade Social Studies students are finishing the Constitution Unit. At the beginning of the 2nd Quarter, students will start learning about American History from 1820-1825. Topics in this unit include: Westward expansion; War of 1812; Louisa Purchase; Rise of political parties; and The Era of Good Feelings.

In 7th grade Language Arts, students will be working on descriptive writing during the month of October. We will be focusing on paragraph writing by learning how to complete an "I" chart and turn this into a complete, descriptive paragraph. In 7th grade Social Studies, students are finishing up with the Middle East. We have debated foreign policy and created public service announcements about human rights violations in Syria. During the 2nd quarter, students will be creating projects for several events going on in Africa.
We have a number of students who consistently come to the health office with stomach aches and headaches between 8:00-11am. MANY of these children have had nothing to eat all morning. It is important for middle school children to eat breakfast! These years are crucial growing years as the children hit puberty and their bodies need extra calories to grow and develop. Without these calories, blood sugar drops and can cause headaches and stomach aches. There is free breakfast offered every morning here at school from 7:10-7:30. Please have your child stop by the cafeteria in the morning to have a hearty breakfast and avoid mid-morning trips to the health office!

If your child has asthma, is there an inhaler at school? If your child has seizures, are their medications at school? Is your child allergic to any food or bug bites/stings? If the answer to any of these questions is “YES”, the nurse MUST have an action plan from the doctor in case of an emergency. Please contact the health office as soon as possible: Ms. Hargrave, School Nurse, (402)557-4515. Please update all phone numbers with the office so we can reach you should your child need to go home due to illness or injury.

A reminder about the OPS medication policy….medication cannot be given at school without:
* A physician’s prescription with the time and dose of the medication to be give.
* 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.)

Help keep our students and teachers healthy! A student must be without a fever or vomiting for 24 hours without medication before returning to school. This will help avoid spreading around any germs while they are still contagious. If the student receives medication for a fever and is sent to school, they are still contagious. The best way to protect you and others against the flu is to get vaccinated each year and use the following preventive measures that can help cut down on the spread of the illness in your home and at school.

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.

Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.

Try to avoid close contact with people who are sick.

If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)

While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
Lady Monarch volleyball led by head coach Lori Danner and Assistant Coach Stefanie Conley had a very productive 2014-15 year. The season started off slow with tough losses to Buffett and Marrs Middle Schools, but the ladies rallied to turn things around and finished the regular season as the 8 seed in the City Finals Tournament. After an opening round loss to Buffett in the tournament, the Lady Monarchs led by Evie Kay and Kaelynn Caldwell finished the City Finals Tournament strong with victories over King and Monroe Middle Schools to finish 5th overall! GO LADY MONARCHS!!

Our B team also played a good season and showed steady improvement throughout the season and finished strong with a sound victory over the Nathan Hale B team. Led by Selindia Lopez and MaKenzi Dexter, the ladies showed growth and progress every match...GO MONARCHS!

Look for information about a summer volleyball camp led by the coaches as the year progresses!

Join the McMillan PTO!

School Year 2014-2015

McMillan PTO Annual Dues: $5.00 a year per family

PTO dues help support our PTO events throughout the year

Added benefit: 10% discount on Spirit Wear clothing 50% discount on Spirit Wear, IF donating $25 or more to McMillan Direct Fundraising Campaign

Checks payable to: McMillan Magnet PTO(

Name: ____________________________
E-mail address: __________________@__________________ Please add my e-mail to the McVolunteer List* (circle ) yes/no
Student name: ______________________ Student grade: _____ Phone #________________________

*Requests for McVolunteer help are sent via e-mail unless otherwise requested. (Please print clearly on all lines.)

McMillan’s PTO meets every month, Monday nights from 6:30-7:30 pm. The schedule is on the McMillan Webpage. We have the opportunity to hear from a variety of student and teacher presenters that provide information about what is happening at McMillan, what students are learning, and events that are happening. We are looking for more attendees and parent volunteers. We had a strong start and need the continued support. The PTO has already support Student of the Month, Teacher of the Month, Technology Software for students, Teacher Grants to support instruction, and will support the Teacher dinner at Parent Teacher Conferences. There are many ways you can help: *save boxtops and Hyvee receipts to turn in to your child’s Pride Time teacher, *volunteer to help with the teacher meal at Parent Teacher conferences, *provide side dishes for the Parent Teacher conferences teacher meal, *give a donation to the Direct Giving Campaign. Fill out the form above and turn into the main office. We look forward to seeing you at the November 10, PTO Meeting!
CROSS COUNTRY

The 2014 Cross Country season has come to an end. The season went by quickly, but all students who represented McMillan had a great time. The McMillan Cross Country Team spent late nights after school practicing hard preparing for every race. “I am extremely proud of the entire team,” stated Coach Benak. “They all worked hard at practice and gave 100% effort at every race. A special shout out goes to my Assistant Coach, Ms. Brandt, without you I couldn’t have done it!”

City Final top placers for the Girl’s included:
- Jordan McLaughlin – 19th
- Hannah Miller – 25th
- Theresa Mora – 26th

City Final top placers for the Boy’s included:
- Richard Marcoux – 13th
- Devin Lundberg – 19th
- Brandon Jackson – 20th

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

We would like to recognize our Season 1 participants in cross country, volleyball and football. As the fall begins we kickoff Season 2 October 13 - December 19, 2014, with Girls Swim and Boys Basketball. Remember that before you play, any 7th or 8th grader must have a current physical, sports contract with insurance information. OPS offers physicals at the following School-Based health Centers: Belvedere and Kellogg Elementary, King Science Magnet Middle and Northwest High Magnet School. The State of Nebraska requires a physical exam prior to entrance or upon transfer into the school district from a district outside of the state and for all 7th graders regardless.

All middle school students participating in, or who plan to participate in sports must maintain a passing grade in every class during that sport’s season. OPS policy: ”No pass, no play.”

FOOTBALL

The McMillan Monarchs football program has had a very successful 4 year run. The program has sent athletes to their high school ready for them to compete for their Varsity and JV teams as Freshmen. The Monarch football players are being prepped for high school through film studies, being students of the game, learning high school offensive and defensive schemes and learning the fundamentals and techniques needed to allow them to be a step ahead of other players coming from other middle schools.

We would like to congratulate some of our former football players who are playing for their varsity teams. Jordan Strong, Arlin Williford, Alex Williford, Tyliss Harris, Cyrus Collins, and Joey Martin for Omaha North. Dontre Branch, Jaylen Perkins, Jayden Minton, Jordan Minton, Larry Bell, and Javon Minton for Omaha Northwest. Derick Young for Omaha South and Isaac Hacket for Omaha Central.

Coach Kammandel and Coach McKenzie are very proud of our student-athletes for a tough loss to Davis Middle School in the City Semifinals this year. The loss ends a streak of City Championships in 2012 and 2014. The Monarchs are 15-2 over the last three seasons. We will end our season playing Lewis and Clark for 3rd place. The Monarchs would also like to wish Davis and Buffett good luck in the City Championship game.
SAFETY PATROL

McMillan is excited to have a trained Safety Patrol to help with before and after school student safety. With an increase of parents and after-school program providers picking our students up, McMillan Administration felt that implementing a Safety Patrol would be a benefit to our students. The Safety Patrol went through training with the Omaha Police Department. Students will be located at the two crosswalks in front of the building on Redick Ave. Parents please be mindful of these children so that they can do their job safely. Also, Please remind your students that they must cross at the crosswalks in front of our building.

WEBSITE/FACEBOOK/TWITTER

PLEASE make it a point to visit our website weekly, mcmillan.ops.org, if not daily. Our website has connections to our Facebook and Twitter accounts that you will find very informative and necessary to your knowledge of your students activities and opportunities at McMillan. Jeaneen Talbott, EdD @McMillanMagnet1 is the Principal’s Twitter and OPS McMillan Middle @OPS_McMillan is the school’s Twitter. Please follow both to keep updated regarding all of the wonderful happenings at McMillan.

HIGH SCHOOL SELECTION

The high school selection process begins in December and is finalized in the spring. In December, students receive an envelope, distributed at the middle schools, containing information about the high school selection process and a letter of introduction to the seven OPS High Schools. You are encouraged to attend one of the two 8th grade parent orientation sessions. The sessions are as follows:

- **Mon., Jan. 5, 2015**
  - **6:00-7:30 p.m.**
  - **TAC Building Auditorium**
  - **3215 Cuming Street**

- **Wed., Jan. 7, 2015**
  - **6:00-7:30 p.m.**
  - **Morton Magnet Center**
  - **4606 Terrace Drive**

The Student Assignment Plan allows eighth grade students to attend any of the OPS High Schools beginning with their 9th grade year, providing space is available. **Students are guaranteed placement at their home attendance area high school if this school is selected in January.**

**Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, citizenship status, or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to address inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2001).**

**Las Escuelas Públicas de Omaha no discriminan basados en la raza, color, origen nacional, religión, sexo, estado civil, orientación sexual, discapacidad, edad, información genética, estado de ciudadanía, o estado económico, en sus programas, actividades y empleo, y provee acceso equitativo a los “Boy Scouts” y a otros grupos juveniles designados. La siguiente persona ha sido designada para atender estas inquietudes referentes a las pólizas de no discriminación: El Superintendente de las Escuelas, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (402-557-2001).**