



# Messenger



Dec. 2011  
Issue 4

McKinley  
Elementary  
3045 Felton St.  
San Diego, CA  
92104

619-282-7694



Be Caring  
Be Balanced  
Be Reflective



Terra Cycle  
www.terracecycle.net  
Our school  
recycles! Bring in  
drink pouches,  
glue sticks, corks,  
chip bags, ink  
cartridges, old  
pens and  
crayons!



Please sign up  
with the office to  
get flyers and  
notifications  
through email.

## Auditorium Work Party – Dec. 10 & 11, 9am

Please help us complete the beautiful facelift of our auditorium. We'll paint the lunchroom and auditorium foyer over these 2 days. Even an hour or two of your time is helpful.

## Ascent Real Estate Offers a Unique Way to Raise Money for McKinley

For any referral from McKinley parents, teachers, family or friends that turns into a closed sale, Ascent Real Estate agents Bruce Weinkauf, Brian Lacklen and Kim Hawley will make a donation to McKinley. The donation will be a percentage of the final sale amount, with a minimum donation of \$500. For example, on a transaction of \$750,000, they will donate \$750 to McKinley.

So use these three agents yourself or refer them to your co-workers, friends or family! They do business almost anywhere in San Diego County and have been long-time, dedicated supporters of McKinley. Not only have they supported the school financially over the last few years with donations to the Variety Show and other PTC events and projects, but they have also volunteered their time at many of these events, including the SoNo Park Holiday Fest and Jog-a-thon. So please keep their information handy and pass it along to anyone you know who's looking to buy or sell real estate.

### Bruce Weinkauf

619-972-0020 or [weinkaufb@gmail.com](mailto:weinkaufb@gmail.com)

### Brian Lacklan

619-814-3439 or [blacklen@ascentrealestate.net](mailto:blacklen@ascentrealestate.net)

### Kim Hawley

619-890-3447 or [kimhawley@cox.net](mailto:kimhawley@cox.net)

These three designated McKinley partners are the only participants in this donation. All donations will be paid following the close of the transaction.

## Variety Show Planning Meeting, Dec. 14, 4pm, Auditorium

Any students and parents who are interested in participating in this year's Variety Show are invited to attend this planning meeting. We'll discuss ways to make the show shorter and the rehearsal schedule easier. Show tryouts will begin in mid-January and the show takes place on Friday, March 16.

## Jog-a-thon Results

We want to thank all the individuals and businesses that contributed to this year's Jog-a-thon. It was amazing to see the effort of the students getting pledges and running laps for the art, music and language programs that they love. In all, 421 students ran a total of 4,551 laps for a total of 770.45 miles! We brought in a record \$17,125 in donations!

We encourage everyone to personally thank the businesses that contributed prizes: Vertical Hold and Solid Rock Gym, Ultrazone Laser Tag, the Media Art Center, Belmont Park, the New Children's Museum, Birch Aquarium, Yog-Art, PromoDeli.com, Speed Boat Adventures, and Flagship Cruises and Events.

A very special thanks to Sandy Mattson and the other parents on her committee, as well as the many parents who helped out the day of the event.

## December Dates

- 9th – Award Ceremony
- 9th – [Suzie's Farm Deadline](#)
- 10 & 11 – Auditorium Work Party, 9am
- 13th – Winter Music Concert
- 14th – Variety Show Meeting, 4pm
- 15th – [Pizza Night](#)
- 19-Jan 2 – Winter Break NO SCHOOL

## Fundraiser Tip of the Month!

### Online Shopping with e-Scrip

Did you know you can automatically raise money for McKinley every time you shop online merchants like Amazon.com, Land's End, Pottery Barn, Expedia, Diapers.com, Apple Store, Shutterfly, PetSmart, Sephora and hotels.com? Here's all you have to do:

- Register with e-scrip (yes, it's the same site where you register your Vons card!)
- Every time you shop online go to [escrip.com](http://escrip.com) and then click on their "At the online mall" link - enter your favorite websites through this portal and a percentage of your online purchase automatically goes to McKinley! How easy is that?
- Remember to always enter your favorite websites via the e-scrip portal to get credit!

Registering with e-scrip is easy. Go to:

<https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supporter/registration/step1.jsp>

McKinley Group ID #: 4728227 (We do not recommend signing up for AutoEarn.)

### Other Fall Fundraising Successes!

A special thanks to the parents who led recent fundraising projects! These fundraisers always go so smoothly that you might not realize how much time, effort and coordination go into them, but it is considerable! If you see these parents, please congratulate them on their fundraising successes!

**Taura Gentry** – Taura headed up this year's Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough Fundraiser. We raised \$2,436 from this effort! Thanks Taura and thanks to all of you who bought these yummy treats.

**Shannon Griffin** – Shannon continued her fundraising efforts on the gift wrap/magazine sales. Shannon has been doing this for a number of years and we raised \$600 from the event this year!

**Amy Victor** – Amy organized the 2nd annual Fresh & Easy shopping night, which raised \$1,015.72 - all for one night's work! This amount does not include the donated receipts collected that night, which will bring our total up even more! Thanks Amy and all the volunteers who helped that night.

### Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive

Thanks to everyone who contributed. We provided 21 meals to needy families.

# A Few Words from Principal Julie Ashton-Gray

Email: [jashton-gray@sandi.net](mailto:jashton-gray@sandi.net)

Dear Parents and Families,

Happy Holidays! We have been very busy this past month getting ready for report cards and parent conferences. Thank you for attending your child's report card conference. Our goal is to have 100% attendance to strengthen the partnership between the school and home to promote student achievement!

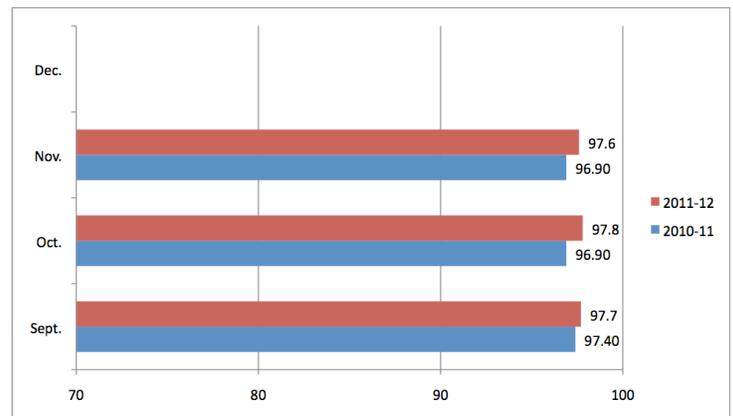
During the conference, students completed their **Learner Profile Report Card** as part of our International Baccalaureate Program. The IB Learner Profile is the IBO mission statement translated into a set of learning outcomes for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The attributes of the profile express the values inherent to the IB continuum of international education. It is a set of ideals that inspire, motivate and focus our work with a common purpose. You are your child's first teacher and instill these strong values with your child at home. We are privileged to work with you in this fabulous journey.

## Attendance Counts

Thank you for making sure our students attend school on time every day. As of November 30, McKinley's portion of lost ADA (Average Daily Attendance) to our district totals \$17,064. With the cold and flu season here, I know you will take every measure to keep your child healthy for school!

At the end of November, McKinley's attendance was 97.68%. We are ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in the district out of 118 elementary schools! This ranking has increased from 13<sup>th</sup> as of October 31st! Classes with the best attendance for the month of November were Mrs. Som and Mr. Pike. Classes received a certificate and a health snack from the principal. The chart below shows the attendance for our school compared to our attendance last year. Our attendance is improving! Congratulations! Check out our progress!

## ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGE BY MONTH



Have a wonderful holiday and vacation!

## Student News Section

### Artwork on Display

During the month of December, Room 6 first graders will have their art on display at the North Park Library. The exhibition is: Desert Landscapes an essay in pastel and watercolor.

Please stop by and view our work and at the same time, make sure that your child has a public library card.

Room 6 is also raising money (nickels, dimes and quarters) to adopt an endangered species through the WWF or World Wildlife Fund. Last year we adopted tree frogs.

This is an opportunity to develop social awareness and an obligation to the planet at an early age.

Mr. Rittko, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher



Join other parents to discuss school issues at [www.McKinleyPTC.com](http://www.McKinleyPTC.com).

Or visit us on the School District website at <http://new.sandi.net/schools/mckinley>

### Sun, Moon and Stars

Did you know that Saturn's rings are younger than Saturn itself? Scientists found this out by the water ice on the rings. The rings are made of water ice, dust and other chemicals. Saturn's rings increase Saturn's brightness. In 1610, Galileo Galilei was the first person to see Saturn's rings through a telescope, but he did not know what they were. In 1655, Christiaan Huygens saw the rings through a telescope and described them to people. Saturn's rings are about 100 million years old.

The Sun was first named in Greece as Helios. In ancient Roman times, they called the Sun 'Sol' and that is why our planets are called the Solar System.

Did you know that Mars has volcanoes that don't erupt anymore?

All McKinley third graders have been studying these and other interesting facts during their Sun, Moon and Stars unit of study.

Meghan Bovee, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade