

**McCall Middle School Parents Association Newsletter**  
**October 2007**

**From the Principal**

**Evander French, Jr.**

I am pleased to welcome the following new staff members who were hired after I submitted my remarks for the September Newsletter: Kalli Baker, Grade 6 Teaching Assistant, Elaine Fleckenstein, Grade 7 Special Needs Instructor, Amy Hatzigiannis, School Psychologist, Julia Kimball, Grade 6-8 Special Education Teacher, Sharon Nielson, Grade 7 Teaching Assistant, Karen Ruccio, School Psychologist Intern, Mary Starck, Grade 6-8 Special Needs Instructor, and Rachel Sulis, Grade 6 Special Needs Instructor. Additionally, this year we will have permanent substitute teachers assigned to McCall Middle School called "Instructional Support Staff." These capable people are: Karen Comeau, Armand Lavoie, Walter Lewis, Patricia Minihane, Mario Pedi, and a person to be hired.

**Energy Conservation:** Last year, with the strong support of the Winchester School Committee and the Board of Selectmen, the Energy Management Committee (I am the School Department's representative on this committee) was able to save over **\$200,000** in energy costs (electricity, natural gas, fuel oil). The school buildings account for **70%** of these energy costs. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to do everything we can to conserve energy. In a late summer meeting in 2006, the Winchester School Committee voted to support the following recommendations from the Energy Management Committee: **1.** To lower the heating set point in the heating season in all school buildings where practical from 68 degrees to **66 degrees**. **2.** To raise the set point in the cooling season where practical from 72 degrees to **76 degrees**. These recommendations have been adopted by the municipal side of our town government as well. The Energy Management Committee estimates that there is a 4% cost savings for every degree lowered or raised. A two degree lowering of the set point from 68 degrees to 66 degrees across the town will save @ **\$103,016!** Before we know it, the heating season will be upon us. Please make sure your McCall student (s) is dressed warmly during this time of the year, wearing coats, long sleeve shirts, sweaters, or sweatshirts. Thank you in advance for your support of our efforts to conserve energy.

**New Recycling Center:** Thanks to a **\$5,000** grant from the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, we were able to build a new recycling center this summer located in the front of the building adjacent to the South Parking Lot. We are indebted to Technology/Engineering Teachers, Charlie Corley and Rich Monagle, for their design and construction efforts and for bringing this project to fruition. We plan to continue our paper recycling efforts and to add items that are recycled at the Town Transfer Station such as books, bottles, cans, plastics, cardboard, and clothes. If funds allow, we will establish an Energy Conservation Club/Green Team with a faculty advisor that will provide the manpower to run the recycling center. At McCall Middle School, we want to do our part to support the "Winchester Recycles" campaign!

**Extracurricular Activities:** For the past two years, we have not received any funding in the Town Budget for our extracurricular activities program. However, thanks to successful fund raising efforts, we have been able to raise the funds (@ \$35,000 each year) necessary to offer a quality program. As this October Newsletter is being prepared, we are in the process of soliciting funds for this important program. In the past, funds have come from the McCall Parents Association, grants, and businesses and other organizations. To date, we have received donations from the following: AE Allstate Electric, Richard Bardi, Book Ends, Kidstock Theater, Litho-Craft, Millwork Inc. Builders, Nick & Lizzie's Sweet Surprise, Radar Media Group, Inc., W. Allan Wilde & Son Insurance, WinCAM, Inc., and the Winchester Rotary Club. We are very grateful for their support! In the **November** Parents Association Newsletter, we will provide you with a list of all of the activities we are able to fund along with the names of the advisors and when and where the activities meet. In the meantime, students should listen to the morning announcements to find out the days and times of the meetings.

**Parent Conferences:** This year, we will have three Early Release Days in October (October 24, 25, and 26) and March (March 12, 13, and 14) for Parent Conferences in Grades 6, 7, and 8. By the middle of October, you will receive information from your McCall student's Core Team regarding how to sign up for an October conference. Since there will be a large number of these conferences taking place, please be sure to follow the parent conference guidelines established by each Core Team, including the amount of time allotted for each conference. If you need more time to meet with a teacher or a Core Team, please contact your child's Guidance Counselor to arrange such a meeting for you. Guidance Counselor assignments are as follows- Grade 6- Ms. Shareen Dolan, Grade 7- Mrs. Christine Nunziato-Bonenfant or Mrs. Melissa Suvak, Grade 8- Mrs. Rebecca Jacques.

Please note the following administrative matters:

- Students/parents may pre-pay for lunches on **Wednesday mornings from 7:00 to 7:40 a.m. in the McCall Cafeteria**. Each individual lunch costs \$2.75, a week of lunches costs \$13.75, and two weeks of lunches cost \$27.50. If your McCall student is pre-paying, I strongly encourage you to have him/her **pay by check** as it is not a good idea for students to have large amounts of money with them at school. The check should be made out McCall School Lunch. Hopefully, by the time you receive this newsletter or shortly thereafter, you will be able to pre-pay online.
- There will be no New York Trip this year for our 7<sup>th</sup> Graders. With a number of new staff members in Grade 7 and the major challenges of planning and implementing overnight trips, we have decided to take a year off and focus on quality one-day local field trips.
- A list of this year's McCall Middle School Staff Roster is included with this newsletter for your information and convenience.
- Our monthly Calendar of Events includes designated (\*) no homework days due to religious holidays, long weekends, or vacations. Teachers have been asked not to assign homework, tests or quizzes on these dates, nor should special programs including field trips be planned for these dates.



**From the Co-Presidents *Martha Sampson and Robin Wolf***  
([president@McCallpa.org](mailto:president@McCallpa.org))

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to get the school year off to a good start. We are especially appreciative of the efforts of our Newsletter/Technology team, who started their work even before the end of last school year. If you haven't yet visited our new web site, please go to [www.mccallpa.org](http://www.mccallpa.org). New material is being added frequently, so check back often!

Thanks also go to Anne Lucas and Jan Curran for organizing refreshments for this year's Open House, and to all the families who donated desserts.

**Direct Appeal**

Each year the McCall Parents Association funds its activities through donations from McCall families. This year our budget is almost \$44,700. Due to the town's budgetary constraints, we are providing substantial funding for extracurricular activities, intramurals, enrichment activities (including Authorfest), the Library, and even furniture and textbooks. Direct Appeal contributions also pay for this newsletter and various Parent Association activities such as the Teacher Appreciation lunch. If you did not make your donation at Open House, please consider contributing as soon as possible to help us with our planning for the year. Look for the Direct Appeal transmittal form below. Thank you!

**Electronic Newsletter**

If you have not already done so, please sign up for electronic distribution of the monthly newsletter and weekly updates by going to [www.mccallpa.org](http://www.mccallpa.org). Sending the newsletter electronically saves us a substantial amount of money, and weekly updates keep you informed of new developments between monthly newsletters.

**Box Tops for Education**

McCall participates in the General Mills BoxTops for Education program. This is an easy way for us to earn money for the school to supplement the funds we receive from Direct Appeal -- simply cut out the box tops from the qualifying products and deliver them to the box in the Main Office. Every little bit helps—we receive around \$200 per year from this program. The next batch of Box Tops will be submitted around the end of October. For information on the program and a list of qualifying products, go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).

**Volunteering**

We need you! As this is being written we still have several openings on the Board.

One important position is the Wish List coordinator. The wish list enables teachers to request supplies they need to do their best job teaching their students. These are items that are not included in the school budget but are needed in the classroom. It also lets parents know what they can do for their children's teachers. Please consider helping out with this volunteer position. For information on this and other open positions, please contact Co-Presidents Martha Sampson and Robin Wolf.

**School Directory**

If you would like to be included in the whole school directory this year but missed your chance to sign up during the Open House, it is not too late. Contact Patty Castro at [apcastro@mac.com](mailto:apcastro@mac.com) to sign up.

**Parent Association Meetings**

Watch the newsletter or check out the weekly updates to find out what's planned for upcoming parent association meetings. Please join us, and bring your questions and comments! If you have any suggestions for future meetings, please contact the Co-Presidents.

**The next meeting is on Tuesday, October 9 at 9:00 a.m. in the Library.**

**McCall Parents' Association Direct Appeal**

This year, the Parents' Association has set an ambitious goal of raising \$44,700.00 through a direct appeal. In recent years, parents have shown extraordinary generosity to McCall, and their money has gone to support extracurricular activities, intramural sports, enrichment and special programs, the monthly newsletter, teacher support and appreciation, library funding and other valuable programs. Please give as generously as you can as we face another year of tight school budgets.

**The goal of the Parents' Association Direct Appeal is to raise \$44,700.00 through the contributions of 100% of McCall families.**

Please mail your check payable to the *McCall Parents' Association* and this form to Debe Holland, Assistant Treasurer, 332 Highland Avenue, Winchester, MA 01890 or drop it off at the McCall Main Office.

Thank you!

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**Direct Appeal Form                      McCall Parents' Association                      2007-2008**

Name of student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Sibling(s) at McCall \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$150 \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes from the Nurse *Joan Wallwork, R.N.***

Welcome all new and returning families to McCall. I am in the Health Office every day, and I look forward to getting to know you.

If your child has any allergy or asthma symptoms, please make sure they are properly medicated before coming to school so they will be more comfortable. Parents are asked to call me if their children require emergency EpiPen to be kept in school as new guidelines from the Department of Public Health require completion of Emergency forms, including one signed by a physician. Please let me know of any other health concerns as well. Parents of students with food related medical issues are invited to tour the cafeteria and meet the Lunchroom Supervisor. Please call me if you would like to participate in a tour.

If medications are to be given during school hours, please pick up a permission slip outlining instructions for the medication. Any prescription medications administered by a school nurse must be in a pharmacy labeled bottle with the student's name on it.

If your child has any health concerns, please call me any time at 781-721-7026, Ext. 1119 or email [jwallwork@winchester.k12.ma.us](mailto:jwallwork@winchester.k12.ma.us)

**WELLNESS DEPARTMENT *Donna Gildersleeve, Michael Kasprzak, Jeannine Lavoie, Jane Maloney*****Physical Education**

It has been less than two weeks into the school year and we are already thinking ahead to the 2nd Annual Halloween Obstacle Course. This course is designed to help students strengthen the following skill related components of fitness: agility, accuracy, balance and coordination. We are in need of your help!!! The gymnasium is a large area to decorate and we really want to provide a "haunting" experience for your children. If you have any extra Halloween decorations that you would like to donate we would happily accept them. Please bring them to the main office or arrangements can be made to pick up the items. We also will have a canned food drive the week of Halloween and encourage all students to bring in at least one canned food or packaged item.

On another note, if you have any athletic/ fitness equipment in good working condition that you are no longer using and would like to donate it to the Wellness Department, we would gladly accept it. We are in the process of developing a new curriculum that focuses on lifetime fitness and are in need of equipment to support this.

**Health Science**

Food and Nutrition Lab- The 7th and 8th graders are busy teaming kitchen safety and care and use of equipment in the foods lab. They will begin to create nutritious snacks and meals and will analyze the nutritional content of the food. Be ready to have your "chefs" prepare the foods for you at home!!

The 7th grade Nutrition Classes are examining the food pyramid and are developing an understanding of what makes a food nutritious. Students will be evaluating good eating practices and the need for good nutrition as it relates to each individual.

**The Wellness Department is hoping that you will be physically active and eat nutritiously. Remember a brain is only as healthy as the body it is attached to!!!**

**From the Library *Jane Henchey*****New Computers in the Library!**

We have eight new computers in the library. Proceeds from the June Summer Reading Book Fair enabled this purchase. Students and faculty are pleased with the machines quick response! Thank you to all who made last year's book fair so successful.

**Classes**

During September classes have been in to use the library for research; Ms Hebda's eighth grade classes have been investigating careers in geology, astronomy, meteorology, and oceanography. During class we discussed accessing information, evaluating information, note taking, plagiarizing, and creating bibliographies.

Grade 6 students have all come, with their English teachers, for library orientation and book talks. As a part of the orientation each student is given a bookmark that details the McCall Library policies.

If you are interested in volunteering in the library, but were unable to attend the coffee hour, please contact Kirstie Miller at [quzors@yahoo.com](mailto:quzors@yahoo.com).

**McCall Book Fair - October 23-26th**

McCall will be hosting our annual Book Fair by BookEnds during parent conferences week. Please plan to stop by and help support the Library with your purchase of quality books. Do you have some time to volunteer to help? Please contact Lynn Bailey at 781-729-6136 or [lynn.bailey@comcast.net](mailto:lynn.bailey@comcast.net).

**Attention Parents: Chaperones Needed For The October 19<sup>th</sup> Activity Night For 6<sup>th</sup> Graders.**

To volunteer to chaperone the first 6<sup>th</sup> grade activity night please contact Kim Gladstone at [c.gladstone@comcast.net](mailto:c.gladstone@comcast.net) or 781-729-5799. It's a fun and easy way to get involved at McCall!

**McCall Math Team**

Are you a sharp math student? Want to be a better one? The McCall Math Team is where you'll find challenging math problems and a chance to learn some extra math in both cooperative and competitive situations. Top scoring students are announced when the scores are known after each competition; however any student may opt-out if there's a preference not to stand out in this way. Information is at <http://www.imlem.org/sch/winchester/>, where you can also subscribe to a mailing list to know about upcoming events, packets on current topics, and other interesting problems.

The McCall Math Team took third place in the Eastern Massachusetts Math League last year out of over 50 schools, and last year McCall qualified for the AMC-8 Honor Roll, one of only 11 schools in Massachusetts to do so.

The math team meets weekly through the year, with 7th / 8th grades on one day and 6th grade on another. Competitions are open to all students, regardless of attendance at weekly practices. Practices are always open to new students as well.

## **Some FAQs About the New POS System at McCall,** *Thanks to Kevin Richardson, Food Service Director, Chartwells*

This information is current as of September 14, 2007. The program is still evolving and some aspects will change as McCall and Chartwells become more familiar with the new system. Watch the McCall Parents Association newsletters and this web site for new developments.

### **What is the POS system?**

The new "POS" ("Point of Sale" system) is a computerized system, purchased by the Winchester School Department and managed by Chartwells, which allows students to pre-pay for their food without the need for cash or meal tickets. Money is deposited into a child's account, and these stored amounts are available for purchases.

### **How does it work?**

Each student has been assigned a four-digit number. Parents and students pre-pay by depositing funds into their account. **The use of this program by the 6<sup>th</sup> grade is mandatory**; it is optional for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. At lunch time, the student chooses his or her meal and enters the 4 digit PIN code on the keypad at the cashier. The cost of the food deducted from the student's account.

Eligibility for free and reduced priced meals is also entered into the computer so that students are charged appropriately. This information is completely confidential.

### **Why did McCall/Chartwells implement the new POS system?**

1. To make the lines move faster.
2. To preserve the privacy of students who receive free and reduced-price lunches.
3. To reduce the need for students to carry cash which might be lost or misused.

### **How do I put money in my child's account?**

Until the online payment system becomes available, you or your student may deposit funds (cash or check payable to McCall Middle School) with Mrs. Bowen, the Cafeteria Supervisor for Chartwells, who will be available every Wednesday and Thursday from 7:00 a.m. until 7:40 a.m. in the Cafeteria.

### **Can I charge my child's lunches to a credit card?**

Not yet. The School Department is working towards enabling a secure web-based system that would allow payment by credit card.

### **How long does it take for a deposit to show up in my child's lunch account?**

Deposits are reflected immediately.

### **What if my child forgets his or her PIN?**

Cashiers have the ability to search for a child's account by name. Students are encouraged to learn their PINs to reduce delays.

### **How do I know if their balance is running low?**

Cashiers will notify students that their balances are running low. Once a web-based system is in place, other notifications may be available. You should encourage your child to ask as well

### **If they run out of money can they still eat?**

Yes! The system can "go negative" but students are expected to bring payment the following school day. (This is an exception to the Wednesday deposit schedule; payment for students with negative balances will be accepted on any school day.)

### **Can I find out what my child is eating?**

Not yet. The only information that is currently stored on the POS system is the dollar amount spent by each child, NOT what they have purchased. As the system evolves it may be possible to monitor what your child is purchasing. You will be notified if that is the case.

### **What happens to money left over in my child's account at the end of the school year?**

Account balances are stored from year to year and also follow the student to Winchester High School.

### **Can I get a refund of money left over in my child's account?**

The funds in your student's account will follow him or her from year to year. This system is expected to be implemented at Winchester High School during this school year, and funds would follow your student to WHS as well.


You should pay attention to the amounts in your child's account as the year winds down to minimize the amount of leftover funds so that refunds of unused balances will not be necessary.

### **What happens if someone else uses my child's account?**

The system stores photographs of each child to reduce the possibility of misuse of a student's PIN. If you believe that your student's account is being used by another student, contact Kevin Richardson, Food Services Director at 721-7033.

**YEARBOOK FORM**

**THIS McCALL YEARBOOK IS**



**NOT YOUR PARENTS!**

**ALL COLOR - ALL NEW!!**  
**2007 - 2008 YEARBOOK**  
**100% COLOR • 70 PAGES • \$45.00**

The time is NOW to reserve your 2006-2007 McCall Middle School Yearbook!  
 This is the book your child will treasure today, and in the years to come.  
 Hardcover bound, it contains 70 professionally published pages of all the McCall students.  
 Celebrate this important stage in your child's life with this incredible book of McCall memories!

PRE-ORDER YOUR CHILD'S BOOK AT THE YEARBOOK TABLE LOCATED ACROSS FROM THE FRONT OFFICE.

**BOOKS SOLD AFTER JANUARY 1ST WILL BE \$60.00**



Please provide the following information and leave your check for \$45.00 payable to McCall Yearbook in the yearbook folder in the front office.



Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL EDUCATION PAC**

**Autism Therapies Panel Discussion: RDI, Floortime, and A.B.A.**

**Thursday October 11<sup>th</sup> McCall Library 7:00-9:00pm**

Does your child carry a diagnosis on the spectrum? Come hear this panel of three specialists in these different types of therapies sometimes recommended for autistic children. Panelists will be Leslie Deutchman, BCBA Board Certified Behavioral analyst specializing in ABA/Verbal Behavior therapy, and Lauren Weeks, Psy.D., Certified Relational Development Consultant who is one of two certified RDI consultants in Massachusetts. A third panelist TBD will speak about Floortime therapies. For more information contact [winspedpac@verizon.net](mailto:winspedpac@verizon.net) or visit our website at [www.winchesterspedpac.org](http://www.winchesterspedpac.org).

**General Business Meeting**

**Tuesday October 16<sup>th</sup> McCall Library 7:00-9:00pm**

PAC kick-off meeting to review plans for the 2007-08 school year and discuss items of interest. Please come support the PAC in its efforts to drive important issues that concern our children. For more information contact [winspedpac@verizon.net](mailto:winspedpac@verizon.net) or visit our website at [www.winchesterspedpac.org](http://www.winchesterspedpac.org).

**Out-of-District Parent Coffee**

**Thursday October 18, 7:00-9:00pm**

Join us for our first-ever Out-of-District Parent Coffee at Cara Falconi's home, 62 Water St. Come and talk with other Special Education parents who have children in out of district placements. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit with old friends, meet new ones and share our experiences. For more information contact [winspedpac@verizon.net](mailto:winspedpac@verizon.net) or visit our website at [www.winchesterspedpac.org](http://www.winchesterspedpac.org).

**October Coffee**

**Tuesday, October 23, 9:30-11:30 am**

The PAC holds informal, monthly coffees for parents and guardians of Children on IEPs or 504 plans. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other parents and share knowledge, advice and concerns. There's no need to R.S.V.P., just drop in. October's coffee will be held on Tuesday, October 23rd, 9:30-11:30 am, at the home of Jean Batty, 58 Bacon Street. Questions? Contact [winspedpac@yahoo.com](mailto:winspedpac@yahoo.com). Also see the PAC website, [www.winchesterspedpac.org](http://www.winchesterspedpac.org).

**Parent to Parent Presents:*****Whose Homework Is It Anyway? Fostering Independence and Responsibility***

Please join us on Tuesday, October 23rd at Winchester High School, 7:30 to 9pm.

Homework can be a challenge in families causing stress for both children and parents. Parents often find themselves feeling frustrated and confused about how to help their children without nagging and completing the work for them. This interactive workshop by Susan Marx from Families First will offer approaches to promote a positive attitude toward homework. It will focus on strategies for providing children support and assistance with homework without taking it over or engaging in power struggles. Participants in this workshop will have an opportunity to identify their own concerns, learn approaches to communicate appropriate expectations in an effective way, and acquire tools to establish homework routines that enable children to organize themselves responsibly and work independently.

**Winchester Public Library Molly Wiellette, Young Adult Librarian**

As the new school year begins we welcome you all to the Winchester Public Library. The library is yours so feel free to use it and ask us for help. It is open to everyone, young and old alike, so remember to share space, Internet access and resources.

Students, please remember that

- o food and drink are not allowed in the library so fill up your empty stomach before you come in.
- o we have rulers, scissors, scotch tape and staplers for you to use but we do not supply paper, index cards, colored pencils or markers.
- o you must bring your library card with you if you wish to have access to internet in the library.
- o photocopying and printing costs 15 cents for black and white, 25-cents for color.
- o cell phones should be on vibrate inside the building.
- o the **library closes at 5:30 pm on Fridays and Saturdays**. The person responsible for picking you up after school on Fridays needs to know this important fact. Remind them and share this with them!

We're happy to see you and look forward to another wonderful year together. Thank you.

**The Winchester Friends of Art "Back to School" Art Exhibit & Reception**

The Winchester Friends of Art present the annual "Back to School" art exhibit at the Winchester Public Library, now through October. The display is a wonderful collection of artwork done by students of all ages, from all of the Winchester Public Schools. Artists included in the exhibit are:

Winchester High School - Avery Bazemore, Jake Goodman, Greg McGowen, Laura Westover.  
 McCall Middle School - Ida Ahmad, Sunatib Choudhry, Brooke Christopher, Christian Ladd.  
 Vinson-Owen Elementary School - Mia Corrado, Grace Sabation.  
 Lynch Elementary School - Saba Challant Katherine Wong.  
 Ambrose Elementary School - Olivia Calnan, Donnie Coughlin, Antonie Kowal, Jacob Zuch.  
 Muraco Elementary School - Tom Fishbach, Maria Zhang.  
 Lincoln Elementary School - Keziah Hoyt, Jake Pike.

**There will be a reception at the library on October 2, 2007 from 7-8:30pm**, and a brief Friends of Art meeting. Everyone is welcome! For more information about the Winchester Friends of Art, please contact [winchesterfoa@hotmail.com](mailto:winchesterfoa@hotmail.com).

**Winchester Boy Scout Troop 503**

Winchester Boy Scout Troop 503 meets Tuesdays at 7:30, at the First Congregational Church Chidley Hall (basement) 21 Church St. We invite all interested boys and their parents. This year, the troop plans to go Canoeing, Backpacking, Rock Climbing, Downhill Skiing, Swimming, and Snowshoeing, and that is just the first six months!

For more info, call Darrell Ricke (781) 729-3534, or check online <http://www.bsatroop503.com>

**Winchester Educational Technology Department presents  
i-PARENT by i-SAFE**

The following is a link to a newsletter called i-PARENT Times which is published by i-SAFE, the leader in Internet safety education:

<http://www.isafe.org/imgs/pdf/newsletter/2007/i-Parent-09-07.pdf>

Winchester works together with i-SAFE to ensure that our students have an understanding about safe practices when using the Internet. Please take a look at this link and refer to [www.isafe.org](http://www.isafe.org) for future editions. Thank you! Kelly Lyons and Kurt Paul, Elementary ITS - Winchester Educational Technology Department.



**Winchester Youth Center**  
 458R Main Street  
 Winchester MA 01890  
 781-721-0906  
[www.wincyc.com](http://www.wincyc.com)

*The Winchester Youth Center (WYC) is committed to fostering leadership skills and a long-term commitment to community service through healthy social and experiential-learning activities for teens.*

The goals of the WYC are to:

- Provide Winchester teens with their own space that will foster healthy, safe, and enriching alternative activities outside of school hours. This is a place for Winchester teens to engage in substance-free activities and develop healthy social skills.
- Supply valuable work and service-learning opportunities in the community that enhance leadership development through real life experiences.
- Strengthen the relationship between teens and the community and instill a commitment to civic responsibility and community involvement.
- Promote positive and healthy youth development.

**WYC MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is \$40 for the year and is non-refundable. Membership applications are still available at the WYC, the McCall Middle School office, and the Rec. Dept. Benefits of WYC membership:

- Access to after school Drop-in Center and all of our amazing daily activities
  - Email updates on upcoming programs and special events
  - Reduced rates on various programs and special events

**DROP-IN CENTER**

The Winchester Youth Center has a Drop-in Center that is open daily from 2:15 to 5:00 pm on regular school days and 11:10-3:00 on early release days throughout the school year. The WYC staff including Winchester's Youth Coordinator, the WYC Program Director, and the Peer Leaders provides a safe, supervised space where kids can have fun while interacting responsibly. Sixth-twelfth graders are all welcome to come hang out with friends, play games, watch a movie, do homework, and take advantage of all the cool things that the WYC has to offer. Everyone is required to treat others with respect, be accountable for their own belongings, take care of the Drop-in Center equipment, and clean up after themselves.

**The WYC Drop-in Center is open to WYC Members only.**

**\*Students continue to come and go on a completely voluntary, drop-in basis\***

The Drop-in Center now features organized activities everyday from 3:00-5:00 led by the WYC's Peer Leaders. Daily activities include a sports option, an arts & crafts option, and a video game or game table option.

Example Drop-in Center activity schedule:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ultimate Frisbee	Basketball	Touch football	Soccer	Yoga
Scrapbooking	Jewelry making	Watercolors	Drawing	Trash art
Pool tournament	Video game tournament	Air hockey tournament	Video game tournament	Pool tournament

\*The schedule of activities is subject to change based on weather and members' interests.

The Drop-in Center also features a fully functioning homework room, furnished with new computers. All members will be required to agree to and sign a PC User Agreement form in order to use the computers. The homework room will be staffed each afternoon with Peer Leaders who are available for homework help. The Peer Leaders are also available for one-on-one tutoring, please see WYC Tutoring Program description below.

**WYC Tutoring Program**

The WYC offers tutoring for all middle school academic subjects. The Peer Leaders provide one-on-one tutoring after school in the Homework Room at the WYC. Each student is matched with a Peer Leader who will meet with him/her on a weekly basis. All sessions are 3:00-4:30pm, coupon books are \$100 and equal 6 sessions for WYC members, 5 sessions for non-members. Please contact the WYC for more information.

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Activity Night**

Friday, October 20 will be the date of this year's first 6<sup>th</sup> grade Activity Night. The WYC co-sponsors monthly activity nights for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders with the McCall Middle School Parent/Faculty Association and Student Council. Participants are welcome to hang out, play games, or watch a movie in the Drop-in Center and listen to the DJ spin records for the dance in the gym. Admission is \$7 at the door. **All students must enter through the McCall front door by the Auditorium.**

**LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS**

**Discover**

Discover is the WYC's middle school youth group. It is open to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and provides them with the opportunity to make new friends, participate in programs, activities, and discussion groups on topics that are important to them, and have fun on Wednesday nights. Members are provided with opportunities to learn how to make informed decisions and positive choices.

Discover meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:30 pm, during the month of October we will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>. All members will be given a participation contract to review and sign with their parents.

**Little Brothers & Sisters**

This is a select group for 8<sup>th</sup> graders who attend Discover, want to participate in community service, and aspire to become Peer Leaders. Our Little Brothers & Sisters will be selected this fall by the Peer Leaders who will serve as their mentors for the remainder of the school year. The Little Sisters & Brothers will volunteer in the Drop-in Center after school; participate in numerous community service projects such as Halloween Window Painting, the Books for South Africa project, and Breakfast with Santa; learn what it means to be a Peer Leader; participate in fun activities with their Big Brothers & Sisters; and attend weekly meetings on Wednesdays from 7:00-7:30 beginning November 7<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who is interested in this program should come to Discover on Wednesday evenings.

[WINCHESTER YOUTH CENTER (WYC) CONTINUED]

**ABS: Anti-Bullying Squad**

The 2007/2008 Anti-Bullying Squad (ABS) is up and running! The ABS volunteer in small groups after school from 2:15-2:45 to help prevent and diffuse bullying activity and to encourage their peers to "Think Twice, Be Nice". Their job is to be student leaders and role models and to help all WYC and McCall community members achieve the goal of true respect for one another. Please encourage your students to follow their lead!

**SERVICE PROJECTS**

If you're interested in doing something good for our community, stop by the WYC and find out how you can get involved.

**PB&J Jewels**

The WYC's first entrepreneurial endeavor is our jewelry business. The Peer Leaders have created beautiful jewelry made of fresh water pearls, glass beads, turquoise, and more. All of our hand-crafted jewelry is on display in the WYC and can be purchased Monday-Friday from 2:00-6:00 pm. The proceeds from all jewelry sales go to benefit the WYC and our youth development programs.

**Lowell Wish Project: Jeans & Sweatshirts Drive**

The Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters are collecting new/lightly-worn jeans and sweatshirts to donate to the Lowell Wish Project. The Lowell Wish Project provides emergency, basic, and seasonal goods to low income families in the Merrimack Valley. Please bring your donations to the WYC any day between 2:00-6:00pm or contact us and we'll pick them up from your home.

**Hands Across the Water: Books For South Africa Project**

The Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters assist the Hands Across the Water Project by collecting books at the WYC and going to the collection bin on a weekly basis to help sort and pack the books to be sent to villages in South Africa. Please contact the WYC if you have books that you would like to donate.

**Halloween for the Hungry**

On Sunday, October 28 the WYC Peer Leaders and Little Brothers & Sisters will be "trick-or-treating" for non-perishable food items for families served by the Woburn Council of Social Concern. Please be on the lookout for them in your neighborhood!

**Habitat for Humanity**

During February vacation the WYC Peer Leaders will be participating in our third annual Habitat for Humanity trip. Each year we travel to a different area of the country to participate in a week-long service-learning project with Habitat for Humanity and help build homes for needy families. Throughout the fall and winter, the Peer Leaders will be running a variety of events in an effort to fundraise 100% of the expenses for our trip. Please contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.

**FRIENDS OF MUSIC FUNDRAISING BENEFIT**

When: Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
Where: Crate and Barrel – New Store at the Burlington Mall  
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

The Friends of Music is holding a fun-filled fundraising benefit at the new Crate and Barrel store at Burlington Mall. You will be able to enjoy food preparation demonstrations, food tasting, hot beverage tasting, wine tasting all while shopping for holiday gifts for others and yourselves during a private shopping opportunity during which the store is open specifically for those attending the benefit.

**Crate and Barrel will generously donate 10% of all sales made during this benefit to Friends of Music.** Also included at this event will be a raffle of wonderful packages assembled and donated by Crate and Barrel. Gather neighbors, do a friends night out, call your book clubs, call your relatives and come get a great start on your holiday and personal shopping at a really fun event, all the while helping to support the music opportunities our children have in the schools.

Tickets are available for this benefit at the great low suggested minimum donation price of \$10 per ticket. You may purchase these by submitting your name, phone number, number of tickets you want, \$10 per ticket (checks made payable to Friends of Music), **and** a self-addressed stamped envelope in the container marked "Friends of Music" in the school office or designated room. If you have questions or you are placing your order after November 1<sup>st</sup>, please contact Wendy Jo New at 781-721-1675.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember: Self-addressed stamped envelope ✓**

**McCall Middle School Staff Roster - 2007-2008**

**Principal-** Vandy French  
**Assistant Principal-** Skip Marotta  
**Special Education Supervisor-** Cynthia DeAngelis  
**Secretary to Principal-** Carol McGrath  
**Secretary/Registrar-** Diana Deering  
**Secretary to Guidance-** Sue Malatesta  
**Special Education Secretary-** Barbara Carr  
**Librarian-** Jane Henchey  
**Nurse-** Joan VVallwork  
**Reading Specialist-** Carol Weir  
**School Resource Officer-** Danny Perenick  
**School Psychologists-** Ed Shaughnessy, Amy Hatzigiannis  
**Speech Pathologists-** Pam DiMatteo, Steve Synan  
**Clinical Counselor-Home-School Liaison-** Phyllis Greenspan  
**ESL Teacher-** Pam Cairns  
**Custodians-** Danny Doucette, Head Custodian; Steve Cannon, Phil Doucette, John Lannon, Brendan Minnehan,  
**Director of Food Services-** Kevin Richardson

**GRADE 6****Core Teachers****Champions**

\*Linda Pickering- English  
 Frank Row- Math  
 Marebeth DiMare- Science  
 Evelyn Galatis- Soc. Studies

**All Stars**

Beverly Daniel- English  
 Matt Taylor- Math  
 \*Lanie Higgins- Science  
 Marvin Williamson- Soc. Studies

**A-Team**

Emily Chatfield- English  
 Jacquie Murphy- Math  
 \*Tara Kosinski- Science  
 Dennis Kronenberg- Soc. Studies

**Guidance Counselor:** Shareen Dolan

**Special Education:** Dianne Cohen, Julia Kimball, MaryBeth Little, Alison O'Keefe, Teachers ' Pat Malcolm, Reeva Meyer, Rachel Sulis, Mary Starck, Instructors; Kalli Baker, Paula Macinanti, Mark Gallagher, Teacher Assistants

**GRADE 7****Core Teachers****Globetrotters**

Alison Pomerantz- English  
 John Gill- Math  
 Jim Gogolos- Science  
 \*Annmarie Migausky- Soc. Stud.

**Olympians**

Sara Gollogly- English  
 Amy Labnouj- Math  
 \*Jane Gehron- Science  
 Erika Guckenberger- Soc. Stud.

**Marathoners**

\*Tara Donner- English  
 Steve Heckley- Math  
 Rob Leonard- Science  
 Ellie Stroud - Soc. Stud.

**Foreign Language:** Paul Arena- Italian, Tina Burke- French, Phil Day- Spanish, Grace Tringale- Spanish

**Guidance Counselors:** Christine Nunziato-Bonenfant and Melissa Suvak

**Special Education:** Meghan Callaghan, Nancy Healey, Julia Kimball, Alison O'Keefe, Teachers; Elaine Fleckenstein, Patty Loubsky, Pat Malcolm, Reeva Meyer, Mary Starck, Instructors; Sharon Nielsen, Teacher Assistant

**GRADE 8****Core Teachers****Gold Team**

Vijaya Sundaram- English  
 Lauren Campbell- Math  
 Mary Dunn- Science  
 \*\*Ken Tully- Soc. Studies

**Silver Team**

Peggy Walker- English  
 \*\*Jack Squeglia- Math  
 Katie Hebda- Science  
 Kyle Ambrose- Soc. Studies

**Platinum Team**

Jason Van Dinter- English  
 Sue Marchese- Math  
 Sue Marchese- Science  
 Jason Van Dinter- Social Studies

**Foreign Language:** Paul Arena- Spanish, Tina Burke- French, Veronica Lindmark- Spanish

**Guidance Counselor:** Becky Jacques

**Special Education:** Julia Kimball, Lynn King, Alison O'Keefe, Teachers: Jessica Bixby, Pat Malcolm, Reeva Meyer, Mary Starck, Instructors; Chris French, Paul Guarente, Jean Keady, Teacher Assistants

**LINC Program (Learning, Inclusion, Networking, and Collaboration)- Grades 6, 7, and 8**

Amy Hatzigiannis, Psychologist; Nancy Healey, Julia Kimball, Teachers; Kalli Baker, Paul Guarente, Sharon Nielsen, Teacher Assistants

**EXPLORATORY TEACHERS - ALL GRADES**

**Art-** Laurie Schmidt, Haining Wang; **Computer Ed.-** Patricia DeVries, Anna Kerkorian; **Health-** Jeannine Lavoie, Jane Maloney-, **Music-** Adrienne Caselle, Mary Costello, John McCann, Sandra Neumann, Jeanne Snodgrass; **PE-** Donna Gildersleeve Mike Kasprzak, Jeannine Lavoie; **Technology-** Charlie Corley, Rich Monagle

**INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT STAFF**

Karen Comeau, Pat Minihane, Armand Lavoie, Walter Lewis, Mario Pedi, TBA

\*Team Leaders, \*\*Co-Team Leaders

# October 2007

## Public Access

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>01</b> DAY 5	<b>02</b> DAY 6 Faculty Meeting at 2:30pm in Library K-12 Art Show: 7-8pm at the Winchester Public Library	<b>03</b> DAY 1 Parent Conversations: 8-45am-check in at main office	<b>04</b> DAY 2 Mid-point of first quarter-Progress reports for all students	<b>05</b> DAY 3	<b>06</b>
<b>07</b> (Week 41)	<b>08</b> COLUMBUS DAY- NO SCHOOL	<b>09</b> DAY 4 McCall Parents Association Meeting at 9am in Library	<b>10</b> DAY 5	<b>11</b> DAY 6 November Parents' Association Newsletter deadlines-2:30pm Autism Therapy Discussion; 7-9pm	<b>12</b> DAY 1	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> (Week 42)	<b>15</b> DAY 2 NCLB Meeting-C210 School Council Meeting-7pm in Library	<b>16</b> DAY 3 Special Education-Business Meeting-7-9PM	<b>17</b> DAY 4	<b>18</b> DAY 5 Special Education; Out of District Coffee-7-9pm	<b>19</b> DAY 6 Grade 6th-Activity Night; 7:30-9:30PM in the Gym and WYC	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> (Week 43)	<b>22</b> DAY 1	<b>23</b> DAY 2 McCall Book Fair starts October 23 8:30am- SpEdPAC October Coffee	<b>24</b> DAY 3, Periods 1, 2, 3, 4 EARLY RELEASE -ALL GRADES-PARENT CONFERENCE-School dismissed at 11:10AM	<b>25</b> DAY 4, Periods 5, 6, 7, 1 EARLY RELEASE ALL GRADES-PARENT CONFERENCE-School dismissed at 11:10am	<b>26</b> DAY 5, Periods 2, 3, 4, 5 EARLY RELEASE-ALL GRADES-PARENT CONFERENCE-School dismissed at 11:10am.	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> (Week 44)	<b>29</b> DAY 6	<b>30</b> DAY 1 PRIME TIME SCHEDULE	<b>31</b> DAY 2 PRIME TIME SCHEDULE			

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**NEW WEB SITE**      [WWW.MCCALLPA.ORG](http://WWW.MCCALLPA.ORG)

**To Receive the McCall Parents' Association Monthly Newsletter by email** please sign up today on the NEW McCall Parents' Association web site: <http://www.mccallpa.org/>  
(Put your email address in the "Join Our Mailing List" box and follow the instructions.) Or, send a request to: [newsletter@mccallpa.org](mailto:newsletter@mccallpa.org)

**Newsletter Submission Deadlines:**

<b>Submission deadline (2:30pm)</b>	<b>Issue</b>
Thursday, <b>October 11, 2007</b>	<b>November</b>
Thursday, November 15, 2007	December
Thursday, December 13, 2007	January
Thursday, January 10, 2008	February
Thursday, February 14, 2008	March
Thursday, March 13, 2008	April
Thursday, April 10, 2008	May
Thursday, May 15, 2008	June

*It is preferred that you email your articles to*  
[newsletter@mccallpa.org](mailto:newsletter@mccallpa.org)

*If you cannot email, please submit a hard copy to the  
Newsletter mailbox in the McCall Middle School Office or  
mail to:*

*McCall Newsletter  
458 Main Street  
Winchester, MA 01890*

*Please submit your articles for the newsletter by 2:30 pm on  
the deadline date.*

Thank you.