



Jean McNair Elementary
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Principal
Sean Monahan

August 22, 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at Jean McNair Elementary School! It is hard to believe that another summer has come and gone and a new school year is beginning today, but we all hope that everyone found time to relax and enjoy a fun-filled summer. Here at McNair Elementary School, we are once again ready for an exciting year and I believe it's going to be a great one! Teachers and other staff members have been working on getting the building and classrooms ready in recent days as our building was under some pretty extensive construction for a good part of the summer. Despite the rush to get classrooms and the building ready in a few short days, teachers and staff were ready and eager to greet students this morning as they arrived for a new school year.

We are anxious to get to know our incoming third graders and promise your experience at McNair will be a memorable one! For those of you who are returning to McNair as fourth and fifth graders, we look forward to seeing you again and know that you will enjoy everything that 4th and 5th grade has to offer. For those of you new to the Winnebago School District, we welcome you and look forward to getting to know you.

I will be sending monthly news home each month, so watch for more information and important dates to come home at that time. Much of this information will also be included on the Jean McNair Elementary School website @ <http://www.winnebagoschools.org/schools/mcnair>.

A few very important things to note:

Students should arrive at school between 7:35 and 7:55am. Regardless of how they get to school, 3rd and 4th graders will report to the cafeteria, while 5th graders will report to the gym where they will be supervised and allowed to go to classrooms at 7:55am when our school day begins. Please make sure students are in the building no later than 7:55 so we may all begin our day right away.

We will once again also be serving breakfast every morning at McNair, similar to what they do at Simon Elementary. Breakfast will be available for students arriving at school before 7:40 am in order to ensure they have time to eat before heading to the classroom at 7:55am. The cost of the breakfast will be \$1.75 and would be charged to your child's lunch account. In addition, student lunches

are \$2.55 this year and milk that can be purchased at the time of lunch is \$.30. McNair Elementary does not have morning milk break. Of course, if your child receives free or reduced meals, your child's breakfast/lunch account will be charged accordingly (Breakfast \$.30 and Lunch \$.40). If you are in need of applying for free or reduced meals, those forms may be picked up at any school office and returned to the high school to Mary Ellen Droy's attention. *Also, please note that that our handbook states that we do not allow charges to lunch accounts, so please ensure your child's lunch account is kept current at all times.* Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Also, when coming to school during school hours, we ask that you do not park right out in front of the building along the sidewalk, as it is a fire lane. Please park in one of the available visitor parking spots, or if they're full, any of the other empty numbered parking spots located in front of McNair. Visitors during the school day will need to come in the front doors and buzz in with our office staff. This is in order to provide additional security for our students and staff. Please do not be offended if at anytime we should ask for identification, such as a driver's license or state ID card. *Please help facilitate this process by sending a note or calling the school office in advance when someone might be picking up your child that is not listed on your child's demographic form.* For those who are coming by to help in classrooms, you will be given a visitor's badge, which you can return upon leaving. ALL visitors and classroom helpers (no matter how long you anticipate staying) will sign in and out, as well. Anything you might be dropping off for students (forgotten lunch, homework, or instruments) can be left in the office and we'll get it to your child during their next break. Your assistance and support in this will be greatly appreciated and will help us maintain optimal school security.

IMPORTANT PICK UP and DROP OFF NEWS

In order to improve building security, we are no longer offering drop off and pick up in the back of the building. ALL students will enter the building either through the gym doors or the front entrance at the beginning of the day and they will exit the same way. Because of this, it is IMPERATIVE that you remain in the line of traffic and keep moving forward as space becomes available. We cannot have people parked and sitting in their vehicles along the sidewalk. If you choose to park, please park in the lot and then walk to the sidewalk to pick up your child. If your child is entering or exiting your vehicle, please make sure they do so on the RIGHT HAND (passenger) side along the sidewalk. Again, this is for the safety of our students. When pulling into the parking lot, please do so at the east entrance (closest to the high school) and follow the flow of traffic around and past the front entrance at McNair. Students may be dropped off anywhere from the crosswalk to past our front entrance and enter the building at either entrance as

described above, but again please keep the line of traffic moving.
Finally, just a reminder that cell phone use is PROHIBITED in school zones, including school parking lots. A huge thank you for your efforts in helping this process go smoothly and safely!

This year, we once again have posted our Parent/Student Handbook on our website. It can be accessed by going to www.winnebagoschools.org and clicking on the link to Jean McNair Elementary and found under the *MCN Popular Downloads* on the right hand side of the page. Please take some time to go over this document with your child. In addition, we will not be sending monthly lunch menus home with your child. We are, however, sending the first lunch menu home with all students today. They, too, can also be accessed at the above website, on the right hand side under *School Calendars*. For those of you who do not have Internet access, hard copies of the parent/student handbook and lunch menus are available in the school office. Your child just needs to stop in and pick one up.

Your child will also be bringing home a Take Home folder to help transport important papers back and forth. Be sure to look through all of the information in it and send it back to school the following day. In addition, children in 4th and 5th grades will also have an agenda, or assignment notebook, that they will bring home each and every day with assignments and activities recorded for your benefit. Please support us and take advantage of these simple, but effective means of communication between home and school.

Finally, if at any time during the school year you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself. It really will be a great year! Welcome back..



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