

# University Elementary November Newsletter



## MR. HOPKINS GOES TO CHINA

For those of you that didn't know, I was in China between October 20-29th, 2019. I visited China along with the principal from Templeton Elementary as part of the Chinese Bridges Delegation, sponsored by the College Board with the support of MCCSC. The purpose of this visit was to learn about the culture, traditions, and school system in China. I was able to visit six different schools ranging from primary (elementary) to secondary (middle/high school).

While visiting the different schools, I was able to learn how schools function and the expectations that are present. Imagine sending your child to a school with 3,000 students! Once I was able to move beyond this staggering number, I was able to really dive into learning. I was able to see structured settings (students sitting in rows while teachers give information) as well as classrooms where students were collaborating with their peers and exploring multiple strategies to learn. China is clearly proud of their culture and traditions. Their hospitality was humbling. The entire time I was visiting these schools, I was looking at it through the lens of "American School System" and more specifically, "University Elementary."

Throughout my visit, I was thinking about University School. It is natural to think about how things compare to where you come from - America - Indiana - MCCSC - University School. I give me great joy to share that the work we are doing at University School is the "right" work. What your children are learning alongside their peers and teachers at University is amazing.

During the visit, I had the honor of being one of three American principals to give a presentation about American schools. I presented alongside administrators from Texas and Idaho. Given the opportunity to talk about our school, our kids, our teachers, and our families was a moment of pride. As I presented, talking about our curriculum, instructional strategies, family involvement, social/emotional learning, and equity, the congregation from the US and China both were impressed. I had multiple conversations following the presentation where educators wanted to know more about what we are doing at University.

Thank you for your support at University School. Thanks to you, your children, teachers, and administration, I was able to take advantage of this amazing opportunity. I am looking forward to our next steps following what I learned in China.

Visit our Facebook or Twitter account to see pictures and videos from the trip!

~ Glen Hopkins  
Principal

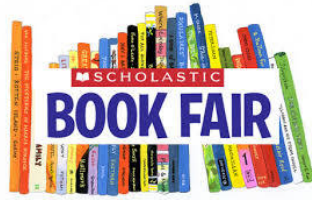


## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Nov. 1-8: Scholastic Book Fair
- Nov. 11: Veterans Day Program @ 9:30
- Nov. 12: PTO Mtg. @ 6:00
- Nov. 14: MCCSC Parent Talk @ 3:00 @ CoLab (Online Curriculum)
- Nov. 14: Dine and Donate @ Noodles and Company 4:00-8:00
- Nov. 15: Picture Retake Day
- Nov. 19: PTO Skate Night @ 6:30
- Nov. 19: Dine and Donate at Smokin' Jacks
- Nov. 20: MCCSC Parent Talk @ 6:00 @ Fairview (Redistricting)
- Nov. 25-29: Thanksgiving Break - No School
- Dec. 5: MCCSC Parent Talk @ 3:00 @ Colab (Student Data Privacy)

## UES Book Fair

Our UES Book Fair is up and running! The Book Fair will run through Friday, November 8th from 8:45-4:00 each day.



Parents, feel free to shop with your children before or after school. Some parents may choose to shop for holiday presents during the school day as well.

This year, Scholastic is making an eWallet available, so students won't have to bring cash to school. It's easy, free, and parents can set a limit and connect it to your credit card. Unused funds are released back to the cardholder.

Here's how. Go to: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/uni> Scroll down to eWallet. Set up a new account, or use an account you may already have from placing classroom book orders.

The profit made on this sale goes to buy library books that all students share. Thanks for your support.

## November Lifeline and Learner Profile

For the month of November, we will focus on the Lifeline of "Self-Control" and the Learner Profile of "Communicators."

- **SELF-CONTROL.** We use strategies to manage our emotions and actions.
- **COMMUNICATORS.** We express our ideas and opinions, and listen to others' ideas so we can work together.

Each month, teachers will nominate students from their classrooms that model these traits. Students will have their pictures taken and placed on the large bulletin board outside the gym where we hope to have a collage of our students by the end of the year.

Ultimately, all of our Lifelines fall under the umbrella of the Lifelong Guidelines, "*Do the Right Thing*" and "*Treat People Right*."

## Winter is Here (maybe?)

Snow on October 31st..... 60 degrees on November 2nd.... welcome to Indiana!

Indiana is beautiful for the four seasons we get - sometimes Mother Nature doesn't want to play by our rules.

Please be mindful of "Indiana" weather. Sending your child with layers, coats, hats, gloves, etc. are wise as we will go outside for recess per MCCSC policy. If the temperature is between 18-20 degrees or warmer, with windchill, we will go outside, while taking into account the sunshine.



In addition to this, please remind your children to pick their coats, hats, gloves, etc. up when they are coming in. In a school of 600 kids, these materials can accumulate quickly. Lost and Found is located in the cafeteria.

## Classroom Snacks

University Elementary has a variety of health restrictions in our classrooms. For this reason, it is important that we are following MCCSC's Wellness Policy which states that "no food shall be served in classrooms that is prepared in a private home unless it is specifically connected to the curriculum." This does not include lunches you are preparing for your children. Basically, if you are bringing in food for snacks or parties, be sure that they are store bought. As always, please be in communication with your child's teacher about additional dietary restrictions in their classroom.

## Equity Spotlight Award

MCCSC is proud to announce the Equity Spotlight Award. This award will recognize students, faculty, staff members, community partners, and student organizations for their commitment to an equitable and inclusive learning environment that is reflective of our corporation mission, vision, and core values. Anyone within our MCCSC community may [submit a nomination](#) at any time.



## MCCSC Textbook Fees

From an email sent out by the MCCSC Business Office (slightly modified):

The Textbook Rental Fee is established within the Indiana Code (IC 20-26-12). This Code has been in place for many years in the State of Indiana and requires the Governing Body of each school Corporation to purchase curricular materials and rent the materials to each student by charging appropriate fees to reimburse the costs of the materials.

Families with students in grades K-6 may see their fee schedule on the MCCSC website ([www.mccsc.edu](http://www.mccsc.edu)). These fees are already calculated by grade based on curriculum needs.

Students in grades 7-12 will have their fees determined based on their class schedule which they should have already received. After class schedules have been finalized, then the fees can be calculated and assessed to students.

**Families with fees were notified of their balance on September 28, 2019, with fees due to MCCSC no later than November 30, 2019.** Families are asked to log in to [Skyward Family Access](#) regarding their balance, and deadlines for payment. At this time, those listed as the primary contact for their student will be the recipient of the notices. Please make sure your email address in Skyward Family Access is correct. If your email needs updated please contact your building administrative assistant. Reminders about student balances and due dates will be included in the Corporation Family Newsletter that is sent out on a weekly basis.

## MCCSC Parent Talk Series

The recent October 16th Parent Talk on Instructional Technology sparked great conversation and constructive feedback on the MCCSC technology initiatives and curriculum offerings. MCCSC is very appreciative of parent feedback and we are constantly looking for ways to support our parents in increasing their understanding on how to navigate the technology that our students and teachers are using in our classrooms. As previewed during the parent talk, we will be launching our new Parent TechTalk series. The dates and topics are listed below. Series details are posted at [www.mccsc.edu/techtalk](http://www.mccsc.edu/techtalk).

- Thursday, November 14, 2019 3:00PM - Online Curriculum Resources
- Thursday, December 5, 2019 3:00PM - Student Data Privacy
- Thursday, December 19, 2019 3:00PM - Student Accounts and Access.

Each session will be videotaped and posted on our corporation webpage.

## Dine and Donate

Our October "Dine and Donate" will take place on November 14th from 4:00-8:00 PM at Noodles and Company. Noodles and Company is located in the shopping strip next to DSW Shoes.

## Exact Path FAQ

Please access this [link to Parent FAQ](#) about Exact Path, provided by MCCSC.

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- Download the MCCSC app for Apple or Android - MCCSC
- Visit our webpage - <https://www.mccsc.edu/university>

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