

McBride Elementary

NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 2 | November 2023

Dear McBride Family,

November is the time when we reflect on how fortunate we are. We can be thankful for our family, friends, health and the liberties that we enjoy as Americans. As a learning community, we are thankful for your partnership as we ensure that each student reaches his/her fullest potential. McBride Elementary is so fortunate to have dedicated teachers, staff, and volunteers who contribute to the success of our students. We are also grateful for our 21st Century building and the resources that we have to support student learning.

Please have a Happy Thanksgiving, relax, and enjoy your family and friends.

Educate, engage, and empower military-connected students to Succeed in a dynamic world.



Respectfully,



*Ms. Edwina Smith, Principal
Dr. Courtney Roberson, Assistant Principal*



Welcome New Faculty

Ms. Constance Bacon

Constance Bacon is our new teacher for Pre-school students with disabilities (PSCD). She is from New York. She has two children, Sahara and Ethan, with whom she loves to travel the world. Ms. Bacon began her DoDEA career in 2018 as a paraprofessional at West Point Elementary after serving in the Army for ten years.



She has taught at West Point Elementary School and Amelia Earhart Intermediate School. She is excited to begin her journey at McBride Elementary School.

Ms. Bacon received her Master's degree from Mercy College in New York with a tri-certification in early childhood education and special education.

Mr. Matthew Page

Mr. Page is our new Administrative Officer. He was born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts. In 2008 he moved to Knoxville, Tennessee where he obtained his EMT certification and worked as a local EMT. In 2010 he enlisted in the US Navy as an Aviation Boatswain's Mate - Aircraft Handler (ABH) taking him to Bootcamp in Great Lakes, Illinois.



Upon graduation, Mr. Page was stationed in San Diego, CA on board the USS Ronald Reagan (CVN-76), where he went on two deployments, 4 RIMPACS and multiple other exercises.

During his tour onboard the Reagan, he found his love of administration. He quickly made his way up the ranks to later become the Commanding Officer's Administrative Assistant. In 2015 Mr. Page was given orders to NAS Sigonella Sicily, Italy where he provided administrative support to Navy sailors and became one of three sailors to manage the airfield. July 2018, he went back to San Diego, California and reported to USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD-6) where he became the Air Department Administrator.

Mr. Page's spouse received orders to Iwakuni, Japan in 2023 resulting in yet another move overseas. While there in Japan, Mr. Page started his DoDEA journey at MC Perry High School and MC Perry Primary School as their Administrative Officer. He is making a very quick turnaround back to states to join the McBride Elementary School family.

"Joining DoDEA and McBride Elementary is an exciting opportunity for me to continue my journey in education and make a positive impact on the lives of our students. Thank you for welcoming me into your school community. I am honored to be here and can not wait to embark on this incredible journey with you all."

Mr. Page is the father to an 8-month-old German Shepard and a 9-month-old Golden Retriever.

Dr. Tiffany Spinks

Dr. Spinks is our new kindergarten teacher. She is originally from New York City but when her husband retired from the US Army, they decided to move to Columbus, GA.



In 2012, she began her teaching career. She comes to us from Muscogee County, where she taught second grade, fourth grade and pre-kindergarten.

Her career also includes teaching for the Killeen Independent School District as well as working as a paraeducator in Meridian, MS.

Dr. Spinks has an Associate's degree and a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education. She also has a Bachelor's degree in Business/Technical Management, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership.

As a former military spouse and mother of four children, Dr. Spinks understands the unique challenges of military-connected students.

School Updates

Counselor's Desk

Can you believe we are almost halfway through the school year?!!! I can't but we have been doing some amazing things in the counseling program. Plus, there is so much more coming your way to ensure that we impact the lives of children emotionally, socially, and academically. Thank you so much for the support that was received during the month of October with Red Ribbon Week, where our theme was "Being Kind to our minds and living drug-free." We had some amazing poster entries which are now on display in our halls because they were amazing!

Coming in November we will be celebrating World Kindness Day on Monday, November 13th by wearing either YELLOW or a shirt with a KINDNESS theme. In addition, we will be hosting a can food drive as a random act of kindness from November 2nd-November 15th because McBride "CAN" be Kind. During our next months of large group counseling lessons, we will focus on Child Help, feelings, and Gratitude. Lastly, we be highlighting our STAR Patriots of month on the last Thursday of November. The character word that we will focus on this month is Citizenship. One more thing if you have not met our new counseling team, I wanted to share that with you as well. We have Dr. Murrell working with Pre-K-2nd grade; Ms. Fleming working with 3rd grade; and Dr. Madler working with 4th & 5th grade. Dr. Murrell will remain at McBride full time but below you will find Dr. Madler & Ms. Fleming's schedules as they serve two schools:

Ms. Fleming: Tuesday & Thursday

Dr. Madler: Monday & Wednesday & every other Tuesday

As always feel free to reach out to the McBride Counseling Team at any time.

We are here to support!

Be Kind,

McBride Counseling Team

Safe School Updates

To ensure that students are safe during arrival and dismissal, students will only exit or enter the vehicle on the curbside. Please always have your car tag with you and visible when picking up and dropping of your child. Car tag numbers are how we identify your child.

Health Reminders

It's flu season! Please help us keep our school community healthy. The influenza vaccine is important for your child's well-being, ability to attend school and the health of our school community. The influenza vaccine is required for all DODEA students. The due date is December 1, 2023. Failure to provide proof of vaccination will result in parents receiving a disenrollment letter notifying them their student will not be permitted to attend school the following school day, Monday, December 4th. Once the school receives an updated record with documentation of the flu vaccine or an appointment date has been provided the student will be able to attend school. FORT MOORE / MACH COMMUNITY FLU IMMUNIZATIONS WHO: All eligible beneficiaries ages 6 month and older WHEN: Saturdays, October 28, November 18, and December 9, 9:00 a.m. – 1 p.m., each day WHERE: Ground level of MACH, Atrium. Please contact the school nurse via email at angela.hendry@dodea.edu or by phone at 762-524-6521 regarding any questions or concerns you may have.

Educational Technology Updates

Let's Connect! I'm here to answer any questions you may have about our school's technology programs and tools. Whether it's about our digital platforms, online safety, or technology-enhanced learning, I'm just an email or a phone call away. You can reach me at:

Email: andrea.humber@dodea.edu

Phone: 762-524-6525


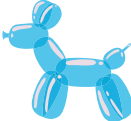

Andrea Humber, EdD.

REMINDERS

DON'T FORGET



MCBRIDE SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Literacy Fair
 - November 6-10
- Veteran's Day Ceremony
 - (Tuesday, November 14th)
 - Attendees- Grades 3-5
- National Education Support Professional Day
 - November 14th 
- 2nd Grade Balloons Over Broadway
 - November 17 
- Native American Heritage Month 
- Military Appreciation Month



MCBRIDE DRESS UP DAYS:

- World Kindness Day
 - Monday, November 13th
 - Wear Yellow or a Kindness Themed Shirt

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thanksgiving Break-November 20-24
- Fort Moore School Board Meetings:
 - Parents are invited to attend.
 - DSO Building 11800
 - December 4th @ 1:00
 - February 13th @ 12:00
 - April 8th @ 1:00
- December 12- Early Release Tuesday
- December 20-January 2 - Winter Break
- January 3- Report Card Prep-No school
- January 4 - school resumes
- January 9 - Early Release Tuesday
- January 10- Report cards go home
- January 12- Staff Development Day- No school
- January 15- Martin L. King Jr. Holiday- No school



School Hours

Regular Schedule- 8:30-3:15

2nd Tuesday of the Month-
Early Release at 2:30

Reminders

Please have your ID card when
visiting the school.

Breakfast begins at 8:00 and
students move to their classrooms
at 8:25

Please do not use the bus, Child
Development Center lot and/or staff
parking areas for loading and
unloading unless you have specific
arrangements to do so.

Please refrain from making changes
to student transportation after 2:45
P.M. Transportation changes must
be in writing. Please contact your
child's teacher. (email or writing) For
emergency changes (after 12:00 pm)
please send an email via
McBrideTransportation@dodea.edu

DoDEA/McBride Mission:

**Educate, engage, and empower military-
connected students to succeed in a
dynamic world.**

DoDEA/McBride Vision:

**Excellence in Education for Every Student,
Everyday, Everywhere**

Contact Us:

<http://www.dodea.edu/McBrideES>

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