

McKinley Classical Leadership Academy 2156 Russell Blvd. St. Louis, Missouri 63104

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"The school of "The Ultimate Challenge!"

KELVIN ADAMS, PH.D. SUPERINTENDENT

STEPHEN D. WARMACK SR. PRINCIPAL

Dear McKinley Families:

I am writing this letter on the morning of Veterans' Day. The sun is shining through my window, the birds are chirping in the trees, and the wind is rustling the orange, red, and yellow leaves as some of them fall to the ground. I am thinking of the men and women who have served our country and am reminded of how thankful I am to serve the families of McKinley--to watch our young men and women become our future leaders. During the month of November, I challenge you to tell the people you are thankful for how much they mean to you.

November has started off to be quite a busy month. We completed our second round of content assessments in the middle school (ELA, math, and science). Our fall sports wrapped up and our winter sports have begun. Remember to check the webpage calendar for dates of upcoming games. The school musical *Footloose* is set to debut this week on Wednesday at 6:30 pm (11/15). It will also show Thursday (11/16) and Friday (11/17). I am overwhelmed by the hard work the teachers, students, and parents have put forth to produce our second annual musical and I highly encourage you to attend one of the performances.

There are a couple of pieces of business to discuss. Thanks for the improvement with drop off and pick up. We are doing better with dropping off and picking up school-side and allowing students to get in/out the car as soon as the car is at the sidewalk. In contrast to that improvement, we do have some behavior concerns. I am asking that our McKinley parents/guardians talk to their children about behavior. We are having too many students not exhibiting self-control while dealing with their peers and the adults in the building. Future leaders show respect to all the people they interact with throughout the day. We need to be reminded of this. Students should extend both patience and politeness with each other. Additionally, there has

Important Dates:

- November 16, 17, 18—School Musical (Footloose) 6:30 pm
- November 17<sup>th</sup>—Quarter 2 Progress Reports go home
- November 21<sup>st</sup>—MS Goldbucks Party
- November 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>—Thanksgiving Break—No School
- November 27<sup>th</sup> to December 8<sup>th</sup>—Can Drive
- December 7<sup>th</sup>—Vocal Music Concert 6:30 pm
- December 11<sup>th</sup>—MS/HS PTO meeting @McKinley 6:30 pm
- December 14<sup>th</sup>—Band Concert 6:30 pm
- December 21<sup>st</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup> Winter Break

been an increase of graffiti around the school. Please remind your child that damaging school property affects morale and is a total disrespect of the efforts we put forth the make McKinley a welcoming place for all. Lastly, students need to be coming to school every day and on time. Our average daily attendance should be at 95% percent every day and we are hovering slightly below that on a daily basis. By all means, if your child is ill, please keep him or her home, but if your child simply doesn't feel like coming to school, please encourage attendance. If there are issues that are making your child not want to come to school, I encourage you to reach out to our counseling staff (Zegge Bien--HS, Sharon Grant--MS, and Delphia Brown--school social worker). Thank you for your support with the abovementioned concerns.

As we move toward the holiday breaks, please enjoy that extra time with friends and family during your breaks. In the text box, you will see all our important dates. I would like to draw your attention to the CAN FOOD DRIVE that will begin on Monday, November 27th. Students will bring canned and boxed foods to their 1st hour class and all donations will be distributed to the Sunshine Mission by December 8th. The middle school student council will provide a pizza party for the 1<sup>st</sup> period class that donates the most cans per person the following week.

Best Wishes for the Holidays!

Sincerely,

Stephen Warmack Stephen Warmack Principal