

9/25/20 8:45am

Good morning McKinley Lions!

Typically each month we have monthly outdoor schoolwide assemblies. Even though we can't come together in person, we still want to come together as a school community at virtual events. Please enjoy this video of our second virtual monthly schoolwide assembly where our 2nd graders present about the pillar of character, Respect. All students will be watching the video during their Morning Community Meeting today.

(LINK EMAILED TO PARENTS)

(This link is an unlisted link for the McKinley community only, and not available to the public. For privacy please do not share this link on social media or public sites).

Continuing to have community building and family events are important to give our students a sense of normalcy, school pride, and a feeling of joy and connectedness. I'm proud of how we at McKinley have creatively transformed our traditions into fun virtual experiences. We had a great turnout at our Virtual Movie Night with over 240 families viewing the movie and 60 students in the movie chat. It was wonderful to see how happy and excited the students were to watch and chat about the movie together. Coming up on October 2nd at 6pm will be the live streamed Talent Show (the link for the event will be emailed to parents that evening). A reminder that Talent Show videos are due today to e.diaz@smmk12.org. Also October 15th is the deadline for art submissions to the National PTA Reflections Art Content; in November we will have a drive through art show featuring the students' artwork. In addition, at the end of October we will have a very creative and fun Virtual Harvest Festival and Haunted House. Volunteers needed so be sure to check the weekly Mini-Messenger for committee meeting info and updates. Then in November we will have a virtual Literacy Night with guest authors.

Now that students have settled into Distance Learning, starting this month we will begin our supplemental enrichment to further engage students and tap into students' talents and interests. Optional live virtual grade level STEM Club begins next week (to sign up go to the [virtual science lab](#), locate your child's grade level tab at the top, then click 'STEM Club,' and click the link to fill in the permission slip). Recorded lessons in performing arts theater will begin starting Monday, and live visual arts lessons will occur in the spring. Fourth and Fifth grade student clubs will begin to meet virtually including Green Team, Student Council, and the McKinley Times Student Newspaper; the teachers will share information with their students, and info will also be in the Mini-Messenger. And our other enrichment will continue: live music instruction for 3rd-5th grades and recorded music lessons for TK-2nd, exciting PE lessons from our PE coaches (sample viewable [here](#)) and recorded grade level inquiry-based lessons in STEM.

We're off to a great start in this challenging year, and I look forward to the fun and creative events and learning we have in store.

Go Lions!



Ashley Benjamin, Ed.D.
Principal