Dear McCorkle Academy PK-8 Families,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! The first day of school is August 1, 2019.

We want to welcome our new families to our school and welcome back our continuing families. It is our privilege to be a part of your child’s education.

We strongly believe in TEAMWORK and our partnership with all of our parents. Our continued mission is to work as a team with parents and our community to provide all students the opportunity to acquire the skills needed to be successful citizens in the future.

The following information is intended to be of assistance to you and your child in understanding the procedures and upcoming changes at McCorkle Academy PK-8 Academy of Excellence.

Our start times will continue to be the same as last year. First bell will be at 9:10 a.m. and the tardy bell will be at 9:15 a.m. The expectation is that students are in their classrooms at 9:15 a.m. so instruction may begin. If students arrive after 9:15 a.m., they will need to go through the front office to sign in and receive a tardy pass. Attendance and punctuality are very important. The dismissal times for our students in K-5th grade are at 3:25 p.m. and 6th - 8th grade at 4:15 p.m. On Wednesdays K-5th will be dismissed at 2:25 p.m. and 6th - 8th grade at 3:15 p.m. Breakfast will be served beginning at 8:30 a.m. for kinder – 8th graders. Please be aware that students may not remain on campus after the dismissal bell unless they are waiting for a bus or participating in an after school activity. School Community Education does offer a fee-based before and after school care program for students. If you need this service, applications will be available in the front office.

In addition, we do use the Parent Link phone communication system to inform you of any events or emergencies. Please make sure we have the correct home phone or cell phone number. We also have a school Facebook page, Twitter and Website. These are good information sources.

This year we have expanded our New Tech Project Based Learning to 4th grade. This means that students in 4th – 8th grade will be using the New Tech project-based learning approach which engages students with dynamic, rigorous curriculum. Our teachers evolve from keepers of knowledge to facilitators of rich, relevant learning. Students also have their own laptop in 4th-8th. Please look for a technology (laptop) contract to be sent home shortly after school starts. Both students and parents sign it.

In addition, our school is a New Tech Network Project Based Learning Ambassador School. This means we will are a national training site for other schools. If you would like more information about New Tech PBL, please click on the link above or go to www.newtechnetwork.org
Our K-8 students will continue to have access to Spanish, Art, Physical Education, and Civics, and Technology electives. Our 5th grade students will also have OMA Theater Arts as a special this school year.

We will continue to offer our Advanced Learning Experience course of Dual Language classrooms in Kindergarten-7th grade. 5th-7th Dual Language students will also be participating in New Tech Project Based Learning. The only difference is they will be doing it in Academic English and Academic Spanish. There are some Dual Language entrance requirements. We will have a flyer available at registration. If you would like to know more about it, please feel free to contact me.

We will post schedules and class assignments on July 31, during our Meet and Greet which will be from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the courtyard. Please feel free to come by during this time to meet your child’s teacher and tour our campus. Just be aware that teachers will have professional development during the day from July 29th - July 31st. We look forward to visiting with our families at the Meet and Greet.

McCorkle K-8 Academy of Excellence is a place where quality teaching and learning happens in each and every classroom. On behalf of the faculty and staff, I strongly encourage you to be an active member of our McCorkle PK-8 school team. I extend an invitation for you to visit our school and your child’s classroom. Please remember to sign in at the front office every time you visit the school since we are a secure facility. Additionally, we could use your talents on our volunteer program and/or Parent Teacher Organization. If you would like to be an active member of our school team, please give me a call at 877-2004.

Respectfully yours,

Sandra O. C. Thiffault
Principal