



# PANTHER PRIDE

November 2016



## Principal's Corner: Ms. Marino

Dear McClure Community,

As we settle into chilly November, let's take a moment to reflect on all the exciting happenings in October!

Our attendance goal for this year is to have at least 95% attendance on a daily basis. Good news - for the month of October, our attendance rate was 95.1%. However, we can do even better --- we have noticed that attendance dips on Mondays with lower attendance and many more late students. Let's make an extra special effort to be on time on Mondays so we can bring our attendance rate up even higher!

In even more exciting news, this month, we started our Extended Day program for K-5 students for ELA and Math. City Year and Playworks have also kicked off with the support of many of our wonderful staff members. Activities offered so far include My Daughter's Kitchen with our Music teacher, Mr. Feldman, Playworks Junior Coach Leadership program with Coach Pam, Coding Club with Ms. Brown, and lots more exciting activities with our City Year partners. At the moment, our after school programs are at capacity, but stay tuned for more opportunities for your children!

We also recognized a number of exemplary students this month through our first Celebrations of Learning on October 29th and our 2<sup>nd</sup> Panther Paw celebration on October 28<sup>th</sup>. If your child was rewarded at any of these events, give them a high five and a big, warm hug for being Pawsome!

Thank you for your continued support of our vision and mission for our students!

Respectfully,  
Sharon Marino



## Panther Spotlight: Joel Cruz

Congratulations to Joel Cruz, our 5<sup>th</sup> Grader from Ms. Carlin's class, who is our second Panther Spotlight of the year!

Joel serves as a proud member of our Safety Patrol, which means he has the responsibility of helping our younger friends transition into and out of classrooms. Joel has been especially helpful with Ms. Jewett's class, where he helps set up breakfast, sets up laptops, cleans up as needed, and gets our Kindergarten friends ready to learn! According to Ms. Jewett, having Joel is like "having another adult in the room to help out."

Wow, Joel – we are so proud of you, and the example you are setting for all of our friends at McClure. We can't wait to learn more about the good work you're doing at McClure!

## Announcements

### PERFECT ATTENDANCE TIP!

*Do you usually set one alarm? Set two or three alarms, just in case you're extra super tired, and miss the first one!*

**JOIN US AT OUR TI PARENT MEETING ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M. & OUR HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> AT 9:00 A.M.**

### MATH AND ELA BENCHMARKS ARE HERE!

*The ELA Benchmark and Math Benchmark for Grades 3-5 will take place in November. This is an important assessment for our students as it measures their progress toward the Common Core Standards.*

*Best of luck Panthers!*

## Staff Spotlight: Mr. Chris Conolly



Congratulations to Mr. Christopher Conolly who is the Children's Literacy Initiative (CLI) Coach this year for our K – 3 teachers. Mr. Conolly is thrilled to be at McClure because as a native of Philadelphia, he gets to give back every single day. Most of all, Mr. Conolly is incredibly grateful work at a school with such friendly, supportive, and motivated staff members.

Mr. Conolly has a calm, collected demeanor, and is often seen joking around with students. His advice to teachers? "When things become overwhelming, one step at a time, one hour at a time, one day at a time!"

Watch out, McClure - outside of school, Mr. Conolly is very involved in the martial arts! He currently teaches 4-6 year olds ("Little Dragons") and adult classes in Bensalem. Welcome to our team, Mr. Conolly!