

Dear McAuliffe Families,

Welcome to McAuliffe Elementary School and the 2021-2022 school year! I am excited about continuing into my 4<sup>th</sup> year as Principal at this amazing school. Mr. Brett Wiltz is in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year as our Assistant Principal. Last year we experienced another challenging year transitioning in and out of remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are proud of the strength and resiliency our staff, students, families, and community demonstrated during these unprecedented times. We are fortunate to have a dedicated staff who work cooperatively with our families to provide students exceptional instructional experiences that will improve student learning while providing an environment where all students feel supported, safe, and happy. At McAuliffe, we encourage students to do their best, celebrate their academic growth, and let them see their “Unlimited” possibilities.

Our teachers embrace the Capturing Kids Hearts (CKH) program and we were selected as a 2020-2021 CKH National Showcase School! We are also proud to be the first elementary school in District 11 to receive a “Purple Star School” designation, highlighting our commitment to supporting military-connected children. In addition, we will be recipients of the CDE K-5 Health Pilot Grant providing much needed mental health and wellness support to our students and families through additional counselors and social workers on our staff.

We will strengthen our classroom management through our Comet Commitment Program by establishing collaborative agreements of acceptable behavior and encouraging our students to be a “STAR” (S: Show Respect, T: Try Your Best, A: Act Kindly, R: Responsibility). We will continue to foster a school climate that inspires our students to discover and achieve their unique greatness through meaningful, inquiry-based, hands-on experiences that serve as the foundation for learning. By doing so, we hope to develop innovative thinkers, problem solvers, collaborative learners, encourage creativity and “Inspire Every Mind.” In alignment with our District 11 Mission, “We dare to empower the whole student to profoundly impact our world.”

We are committed to providing the best educational experiences for our students and we know the best way to achieve this is through teaming together with our families. We look forward to you becoming a part of our McAuliffe team. It is our hope you become involved in our school and be an active participant in your child’s education. We invite you to become a member of our PTA and take advantage of one of our many volunteer opportunities. In addition, we are excited about our continued partnership with the YMCA for our Daycare Program and Thriveworks Counseling.

During the year, if you have any questions, concerns or ideas on how to improve our school, please contact us by email [toni.schone@d11.org](mailto:toni.schone@d11.org) or [brett.wiltz@d11.org](mailto:brett.wiltz@d11.org) or contact the main office at (719) 228-0900 to make an appointment to speak with us. Our school leadership is focused on creating a culture of excellence as we proudly serve the Cimarron Hills and Peterson Air Force Base communities. We look forward to meeting you all and working together to make this another incredible year at McAuliffe! Go COMETS!!!

Toni Schone  
Principal

Brett Wiltz  
Assistant Principal

