



# Maverick Matters

April 2009

Volume 2, Issue 08

## Message from the President

I'm getting spring fever - how about you?

The school year is on the downside - well, it will be once the kids get done with TAKS testing next week! Lots of fieldtrips going on lately, lots of planning for upcoming events - Field Day and the Carnival! The rest of the time is going to just fly by!

WOW - check out the article about our volunteers in this issue. Our volunteers rock! It's not so much what we saved the district, it's about the value of what we added to our children's learning experience! From those parents that helped out with the walk-a-thon to the parents that make copies every week, from the lunch parents that take a turn monitoring lunch periods to the parents that staff the Book Fairs - Each of you is so incredibly amazing! If you haven't been able to volunteer as much as you wanted - check out the upcoming Carnival! If you are willing to volunteer for at least 45 minutes at the carnival, you will save \$2 on each wristband you purchase for your family!

Wishing everyone the best!

Alice Leal  
McGowen PTA President



## Upcoming Events and Programs

Please check our website at [www.mcgowenPTA.org](http://www.mcgowenPTA.org) for complete details on all these activities/events and many others not listed here!!

Mini Maverick Storytime	Tuesday, April 21 11:30am-12:00pm
PTA General Meeting	Tuesday, April 21 6:30pm
Earth Day	Wednesday, April 22
Relay for Life	Friday, April 24
TAKS (No Visitors/Volunteers)	April 28-30
Mav Fan Jam	Friday, May 1 9:00am
Kindergarten Registration	Monday, May 4 - Friday May 8
Teacher Appreciation Week	May 4-8
Restaurant Night at McDonald's	Tuesday, May 7
Field Day	Friday, May 15
Butterfly Garden Dedication	Monday, May 18
Memorial Day (No School)	Monday, May 25
Mav's Rockin' Beach Bash	Saturday, May 30 4:00-7:00pm

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## Grass and Garden Savings

From the April 2009 ideal bite newsletter

### Is there anything that smells better than fresh-cut grass?

If there is, it's sure not gasoline. Opt for a reel or electric mower instead of a high-pollutin' gas-powered one, and inhale the sweet scent of grass and greenback savings.

#### The Benefits

- **Cutting gas waste.** Each year, Americans use 800 million gallons of gas to mow their lawns - and we spill more fuel while filling lawn equipment each year than the Exxon Valdez spilled in '89.
- **Raking in some green.** Using an electric mower, you'll pay about \$5 per year for electricity. With a gas-powered mower, you'll pay that much in just two mows.
- **Air that smells better.** Gas-powered lawn mowers account for up to 5% of U.S. air pollution.
- **Mowing down noise pollution.** Reel mowers are basically silent, and electric ones make a tenth of the noise of gas-powered ones.



### Does your green thumbing require lots of water?

Give your wallet a lift: Save cash and H2O by watering your garden in the early morning. Not quite a free ride, but still pretty sweet.

#### The Benefits

- **More H2O to keep hydrated on road trips.** Up to 30% of water used for midday watering will evaporate, while nighttime watering causes your garden to stay damp longer, sometimes leading to mold.
- **Not (hitch)hiking up your water bill.** About 50%-70% of the water a typical American household uses goes to the lawn and garden.

## Teacher Appreciation Week - May 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

Let's show our teachers how much we appreciate them. Here are some suggested activities for you to do for your teachers. You can do some of them or all of them. It is your choice.

Monday--You Were "Mint" to Be a Teacher!  
Bring a package of mints for your teacher.

Tuesday--You've Got The "Write" Stuff!  
Bring a dry erase marker for your teacher.

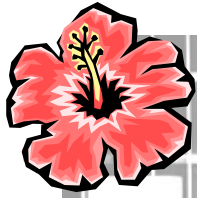
Wednesday--You're Someone Worth "Noting!"  
Bring a package of blank notecards or notepad for your teacher.

Thursday--We Want You to "Stick" Around!  
Bring your teacher a package of stickers.

Friday--You Make Learning Such a "Treat!"  
Bring your teacher's favorite candy, snack, OR drink.



Let our teachers know that we are  
"Walking Together and Rocking Forever!"



# **May's Rockin' Beach Bash**

**May 30th  
4-7 pm**

**Live music, Games, Crafts,  
Chili cook-off, Inflatables,  
Dickey's BBQ,  
Auction, Raffle,  
G2U Gaming, Vendors,  
and more!**

**Free entry!  
Unlimited play wristbands  
are \$8 each. Beach Bash  
volunteers pay only \$6 for their  
kids wristbands!**

**Contact Jen Hicks at  
[Jenifer.3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Jenifer.3@sbcglobal.net)  
for more info!**



## Jesse McGowen PTA Treasurer's Summary Report

I trust everyone had a wonderful spring break. I last reported on our financial position back in December 2008.

As of mid April 2009, our financial position is as follows:

Starting Cash	\$11,979.46	(Excludes Escrow amounts for sales tax and state membership dues)
Income	\$ 5,365.70	
Expenses	<u>\$ 7,459.53</u>	
Net	<u>\$ 9,885.63</u>	



Our ending balance includes approximately \$3,875 collected for yearbook sales. At the time of publication of this newsletter, the invoice for the publication of the yearbook had not been received.

Most of the expenses incurred in this period included spending related to the purchase of art supplies. These expenses were funded through the It's My Artwork fundraiser held earlier this year. Directory publication costs, expenses associated with the holiday store as well as conference fees represent the major spending areas during this reported period.

I invite you to read the general PTA meeting minutes and to familiarize yourself with the financial position of our PTA. If you have any questions I plan to report, in more detail, our financial position at our next general meeting and would be happy to respond to any of your concerns.

In the meantime you can also send me your questions/concerns via the following email address [treasurer@mcGowenPTA.org](mailto:treasurer@mcGowenPTA.org)

## **FREE IMMUNIZATIONS** FOR INFANTS TO 18 YEARS OF AGE



**Thursday, May 14th**  
**McKinney ISD Central Office**  
**#1 Duvall St., McKinney**  
**5:00 - 7:00 PM**

**Please bring your child's immunization record. No appointment necessary.**

**Child must be accompanied by parent or guardian.**

# \$77,766.86

This is the amount that McGowen has saved the district in volunteer hours! McGowen recorded a total of 3,986 volunteer hours from August 25, 2008 until March 31, 2009. Since volunteering is given from the heart, it is very difficult to put an actual dollar amount on volunteer time, and therefore, volunteers are invaluable. However, if we use the Department of Labor's average hourly rate for volunteer service of \$19.51 per hour, we can compute how much we've saved the district by not having to hire additional personnel and pay benefits. This allows the district to put more funds towards programs and events for McKinney's children!

McGowen would like to recognize some of our wonderful volunteers such as Marcel and Chantal Pellerin, who spend countless amount of hours helping this school and it's teachers; Alina Meakin, who is always at every event taking pictures for the yearbook; Terra Hatcher and Lisa Perry, who are spending an amazing amount of hours to make sure that McGowen has a yearbook this year; the three (3) with the top volunteer hours: Shana Prugh, Jenni Wheeler and Shellie Sanders, and all of you who have given any amount of time to making 2008-2009 a rocking school year!

Thank you McGowen volunteers for all your giving!

## Kindergarten Registration

begins  
Monday, May 4th  
from 8:45am - 3:30pm  
AND  
from 6:00 - 7:30pm  
(May 4th ONLY)!

Please make sure you bring a current proof of residency such as a utility bill, the child's social security card, and current shot records.

McGowen PTA is currently taking school supply pack orders for the 2009-2010 school year.

Please return your order form or purchase online at [www.epipacks.com](http://www.epipacks.com) (school code is MCG010) by Friday, May 29th.

# Mavs of the Month

For March

## Kindergarten

Carisela Ramirez  
Bradley Rios  
Esha Bains  
Chloe Orozco  
Kade Grizzle  
Jaxon Harris  
Liberty Mora  
Colton Newell  
Kailee Foster  
Dylan Seiter  
Alan Drake  
Aila Reyes

## First Grade

Grayson Self  
Katrina Forsyth  
Billy Martinez  
Emma Ponder  
David Bonbrys  
Alyssa Manderscheid  
D'Erricka Frierson  
Shanaka Bringhurst  
Ashley Goodmark  
Sara Rackler  
Tony Martinez  
Samantha Mitchell

## Second Grade

Tomayah Briggs  
Tyler Nguyen  
Angelina Garcia  
Jaedyn Greene  
Alannah James  
Lucas Streanga  
Meagan Singleton  
Spencer Morrow  
Jordan Burns  
Branden Kruppe

## Third Grade

Caleb Crider  
Blanchard Montgomery  
Carlos Echeverria  
Tanner Johns  
Alexis Davidson  
Madison Lancaster  
Cameron Adams  
Avery Hayes  
Emily Evans  
Paul Rosso  
Ryan Garza  
Dylan Vargas

## Fourth Grade

Allyssa Pritchett  
Ryan Hollis  
Mason Canady  
Sasha Chege  
Kyra Brooks  
Nicole Mwamba  
Cody Copeland  
McKenna Holcomb  
Abigail Stallbaumer  
Bryant Hollandsworth  
Alena Horvath

## Fifth Grade

Nikki Caballero  
Addison Duhon  
Isiah Henry  
Carson Walling  
Nick Krueger  
Sharon Slakter  
Nick Adams  
Dwight Butler  
Josh Cunningham

## Little Mavericks

Daniel Baker  
Sam Lutz

## Athlete

### of the Month

Myka Sullivan (K)  
Emily Chastain (1st)  
Kaylen Sexton (2nd)  
Carson Bryant (3rd)  
J.T. Kipsambu (4th)  
David Funes (5th)

## Musicians

### of the Month

Maracyn Sanders (K)  
Shanaka Bringhurst (1st)  
Aaron Dietz (2nd)  
Ryan Gabel (3rd)  
Meredith Bakke (4th)  
Zachary Quek (5th)

## Artists

### of the Month

Esha Bains (K)  
Hunter Bammert-  
Mueller (1st)  
Afreen Rajani (2nd)  
Mena Bahram (3rd)  
Ty Crigler (4th)  
Emelie Pellerin (5th)



*Congratulations!*

## Volunteer of the Quarter

### Jessica Montano

Thank you Jessica for dedication, willingness, and endless hours that you give to help us all! Your efforts

## Volunteer Recognition

By Jenni Wheeler

The following are the parent volunteers that have given countless hours of their time to help the teachers. They have helped in the classroom, making copies, stuffed folders, etc. These parents were nominated by their child's teacher.

Kassy Bombrys  
Jill Carpenter  
Jackie Elizondo  
Isabelle Estrada  
John Forsythe  
Beth Gambrell  
Jennifer Gourley  
Traci Holcomb  
Veronica Hutcherson  
Angie Jones  
Christine Ladner  
Shanthy Pardieu  
Afsheen Qureshi  
Catherine Rafteseth  
Jenn Sonnier

Thank you to all of our volunteers for all their hard work.



Volunteers are essential pieces to McGowen!

## Newsletter Staff

### Managing Editor

Jenni Wheeler

[volunteers@mcgowenpta.org](mailto:volunteers@mcgowenpta.org)

### Mailing address

McGowen PTA  
4300 Columbus Drive  
McKinney, TX 75070

You may also contact us by  
sending an email to  
[president@mcgowenpta.org](mailto:president@mcgowenpta.org)

We appreciate your feedback!

## Writers / Artists Wanted!!!

We are always looking for articles about children's health, children's safety, parenting tips, parental involvement with the school and the community, community events appropriate for elementary children, environmental information, legislative information regarding children and education and specialty articles on seasonal topics and holidays.

We would also love to publish artwork from any of our McGowen Elementary kids!

If you would like to submit an article or artwork to be published, please contact our volunteer's chair at [volunteers@mcgowenpta.org](mailto:volunteers@mcgowenpta.org).

## 2008-2009 McGowen PTA Board

Alice Leal (President)

[President@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:President@McGowenPTA.org)

Shana Prugh (Secretary)

[Secretary@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Secretary@McGowenPTA.org)

Jennifer Sonnier (Parliamentarian)

[Parliamentarian@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Parliamentarian@McGowenPTA.org)

Kimberly Singleton (1st VP - Membership)

[Membership@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Membership@McGowenPTA.org)

Chantal Pellerin (Treasurer)

[Treasurer@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Treasurer@McGowenPTA.org)

Roxann Bennett (Legislative)

[Legislative@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Legislative@McGowenPTA.org)

Kelly Bohl (2nd VP - Fundraising)

[Fundraising@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Fundraising@McGowenPTA.org)

Carlos N. Leal (Mav Dad's Club)

[MavDads@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:MavDads@McGowenPTA.org)

Serena Allgood (Council Rep)

[CouncilRep@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:CouncilRep@McGowenPTA.org)

Sabriyyah Hudson (3rd VP - Arts & Ed)

[StudentPrograms@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:StudentPrograms@McGowenPTA.org)

Deborah Wells (Hospitality)

[Hospitality@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Hospitality@McGowenPTA.org)

Mike Forsyth (Principal)

[mforsyth@mckinneyisd.net](mailto:mforsyth@mckinneyisd.net)

Jen Hicks (4th VP - Programs)

[Programs@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Programs@McGowenPTA.org)

Jen McIntosh (Publicity)

[Publicity@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Publicity@McGowenPTA.org)

Bobby Hartzog (Teacher Rep)

[teacherrep@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:teacherrep@McGowenPTA.org)

Jenni Wheeler (5th VP - Volunteers)

[Volunteers@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Volunteers@McGowenPTA.org)

Stephan Singleton (Historian)

[Historian@McGowenPTA.org](mailto:Historian@McGowenPTA.org)

## McGowen PTA Mission



everychild.onevoice.®

The mission of the PTA is three-fold:

- To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the public schools, in the community and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
- To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children;
- To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.