

School Improvement Council
Parent Update

Dear Parents and Community Members,

The staff, students, and parents at McLaurin Elementary are proud of the progress we have made this year. McLaurin students continue to improve academically and we continue to see the attendance rate for students and teachers increase. McLaurin received an excellent rating on the School Report Card for the 2012-13 school year.

We are proud of the many accomplishments we made during the last year which include: Our teachers continued extensive professional study sessions this year with a focus on closing the achievement gap between all sub groups of students. We provided after school tutoring for 40 students. Early intervention was provided to students needing additional instruction in reading. Our students, staff, and parents walked over 20,000 miles this year during our walking program. McLaurin students read over 65,000 books this year. Our school was recognized as a Gold Award winner by the State Department of Education for improved academic success on the state assessments.

McLaurin is a community where expectations are high, and everyone is encouraged to be a lifelong learner. Our staff is dedicated to providing our students with a strong academic program enhanced with an equally strong focus on character. Daily communication with our parents through student agenda books is a means to keep parents informed and involved in their child's education. In addition to the agenda book communications, teachers provided good news messages to all students throughout the year. Our school also held two additional conference days to allow our parents more opportunities to be involved.

We are extremely fortunate to have a strong component of community involvement at McLaurin. Our Terrific Kids program is sponsored by a local Kiwanis club. Our school is actively involved with the Faith Based Support Initiative. We have several area churches that have adopted our school and provide encouragement and support to our school family. These churches provide an after school Bible Club for students. These churches also provide mentors and tutors who work with our students during the school day. Our school is also a member of the National Network or Partnership Schools which encourages family and community involvement.

McLaurin's Association of Parents (APT) and our School Improvement Council are vital to the success of McLaurin. Our APT raised funds to offer financial support for the overall program at McLaurin. Our School Improvement Council and APT focus for this year was increasing parental involvement and making improvements to our playgrounds. We continue to have strong parental involvement in meetings, conferences, and other events offered at our school. This year the APT projects included providing new play structures on the playground as well as helping to sponsor our Walking Celebration. We are proud of all the accomplishments at McLaurin this year.

Deborah Cribb, Principal
Brent Tiller, School Improvement Council Chairperson