

#### December 2 – December 6, 2024 Wednesday Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday Dec 2 Dec 3 Dec 4 Dec 5 Dec 6 Day 1 Day 2 Day 1 Day 2 Block A 8:30 9:40 Collaboration 8:30 9:50 Block A Block A 8:30 9:40 8:30 9:40 Block A 8:30 9:40 Flex Time Block A Flex Time Flex Time Flex Time 9:55 10:55 9:45 10:20 10.20 9:45 10:20 9:45 10:20 Sign-in Sign-in Block B 11:00 12:00 Sign-in Sign-in 10:25 11:35 10:25 11:35 10:25 11:35 Block B Break 12:00 12:15 Block B 10:25 11:35 Block B Block B 11:35 Break 11:50 Break 11:35 11:50 Break 11:35 11:50 11:35 Block C 12:20 1:20 Break 11:50 Block C 11:55 Block C 11:55 1:05 1:05 Block C 11:55 1:05 Block C 11:55 1:05 Lunch 1:20 1:55 1:05 1:05 Lunch 1:05 1:45 Lunch 1:45 Block D 2:00 3:00 Lunch 1:05 1:45 Lunch 1:45 Block D 1:50 3:00 Block D Block D 1:50 3:00 Block D 1:50 1:50 3:00 McNair Staff Social @6pm Lunch and Learn Winter Concert @7pm Collaboration Day Staff Meeting Trauma Infromed Practice (Theresa Watts Theatre) (Classes begin at 9:55am) (after school) (Library) SBT Meeting Mini School Potluck @6:30pm (Large Gym) (at lunch)

## Marlin Strong: Every student, every day, whatever it takes!

"Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common. Celebrate Winston Churchill

As we approach winter break and the holiday season, we are reminded that we design our school and our celebrations with diversity at the forefront. The heritage, culture and languages of all students, teachers and our community are celebrated at McNair.

When we share the unique gifts, life experiences, identities, values, attitudes, perspectives and traditions of all people at McNair, we strengthen our learning process, our school and our community. Our goal is to create bonds among students and teachers, fostering interconnectedness. When we celebrate our diverse culture and each other, we collectively take the responsibility for moving forward together.

Diversity is a natural state of being. Indeed, the survival of a species depends on diversity. Maintaining high diversity allows species to adapt to future environmental changes. It also safeguards the health and vigor of a population. Highly diverse communities are more resistant to stressors. Moreover, where is the enjoyment in interacting with individuals who are exactly like you? While groupthink might feel safer and more certain, it invites cognitive dissonance, one-dimensional ideas, and limits conversations and celebrations.

We need new ideas, views, and practices to stimulate and inspire us, to show us the way others eat, celebrate, and love! Therefore, it's important to recognize that diversity is absolutely fundamental to our happiness.

In our school, in our classrooms and in our community, diversity is a strength, inclusion is a right, and personalization is the way forward. Together, our differences create a strong, beautiful community, especially in the face of intolerance, discrimination, and violence. When we share our culture, we share what makes us happy, and we are all reminded that "happiness is never dimensioned when shared." At McNair, we "Champion students and their learning."

### Students with Emerging or Insufficent Evidence

Final evaluations of student learning for Semester 1 will occur in late January 2025. On December 18, 2024, a small number of our students will receive an "At-Risk Learning Completion Plan" because they are not yet meeting expectation in their courses and are at risk of not completing the Learning Standards by the end of the semester. These plans will detail the learning that must be demonstrated to successfully meet the Learning Standards for the course and thus successfully complete it. These reports will be emailed home on December 18<sup>th</sup> with the expectation that students will engage in the necessary steps to improve their standing.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Dec 11	Ed Fac Meeting (at lunch)
Dec 11	Lockdown Drill (Lunch-1:35pm)
Dec 16	SCC Meeting (at lunch)
Dec 16	At-Risk Learning Completion Plans Due (3:00pm)
Dec 18	At-Risk Learning Completion Plans Emailed Home
Dec 18	Mini School Meeting (at lunch)
Dec 18	Staff Winter Luncheon
Dec 19	Locker Clean Up
Dec 20	Last Day of Classes before Break
Dec 20	Santa/Winter Breakfast all students and staff welcome

Dec 20 Turn off/unplug electronics before break

Dec 23 Winter Break

First Day of Classes after Break Jan 6

Jan 8 Collaboration Day (Classes begin at 9:55am)

Jan 9 SBT Meeting (at lunch) Jan 15 Ed Fac Meeting (at lunch) Grad Assessment - Literacy 10

# Staff: Helping a Student Who Is Struggling Academically:

- 1. Get the student's parents involved early. Call home if a student is not succeeding and make another call home when the student shows improvement. Challenge: send a personal email home for each struggling student.
- 2. Try to meet "one on one" with each student who is struggling in your class to develop a learning plan.
- 3. Provide opportunities for students to self-reflect on their experiences in class. Ask them, "What can they do to improve?"
- Ask both students and parents how you can help.
- 5. Look for underlying problems (such as learning gaps or misunderstandings) in the student's learning.

Follow up with other teachers, counsellors, and administrators to gain a better understanding of each struggling student.

## **Marlinaires Food Drive 2024**

Marlinaires have been bringing awareness of food security as an initiative to show kindness for others. They have been collecting non-perishable food or cash for the Richmond Food Bank. Thank you to all those that pareticpated and shared your good fortunate with those that need a little extra help.

### Mini School Potluck Dinner

Potluck 2024 is Wednesday! This is a great opporuntity for parents, guardians, and family members to break bread with their Mini School student.

#### Winter Band Concert

The McNair Music Winter Concert is December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm at the Theresa Watts Theatre. We are proud to showcase our Choir, Strings, Concert Bands and Jazz Bands in this event. All of the students have been working hard and are looking forward to sharing their music. Doors open at 6:30 and tickets are sold out.