

9-28-16

Dear Parents:

Please read this important update. Thank you kindly.

## 1. SCHOOL PARTIES

We are currently moving to a set structure at McKee for our school parties, which are the **upcoming Halloween Party, the Winter Holiday Party, and Valentine's Day**. We are tightening up and following the USDA Smart Snacks in School Guidelines and the Federal Meal Guidelines. Smart Snack Options for School Parties in schools participating in PA's School Nutrition Incentive (which we are) have specific guidelines for classroom parties. We have incorporated these options into our structure.

The items that could be sent in for school parties would be identified to you by the classroom teacher using our party structure which will be similar to the following example. Please pay close attention to the following procedures. All food has to be pre-packaged (store bought). We ask you not to bring food items made at home. Please stay away from all peanut products and no SODA may be offered ever. We ask you not to send any food items to school if you are not on the party list. These items will be returned to you if this occurs.

\*There may be some alternative, non-food items that teachers request, due to students with food allergies. The classroom teachers may have that in place already. Please be informed of this.

*\*YOU WILL SEE SOMETHING SIMILAR TO THIS IN YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM FOR YOU TO SIGN UP FOR HOLIDAY PARTIES DURING OPEN HOUSE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup>:*

HALLOWEEN PARTY Name of parent responsible for party Item or snack	WINTER/HOLIDAY PARTY Name of parent responsible for party Item or snack	VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY Name of parent responsible for party Item or snack
1. Send CUPCAKES – must be pre-packaged- NAME: Sue Smith	1.	1.
2. Send APPLE SLICES - must be pre-packaged-NAME: John Doe	2.	2.
3. Send BAKED CHIPS and/or WHOLE GRAIN PRETZELS – must be pre-packaged-NAME: Terry Jones	3.	3.
4. Send CARROTS – must be pre-packaged-NAME:	4.	4.
5. Send SMALL WATERS or 100% JUICE DRINKS-NAME:	5.	5.
6. Send in PAPER PLATES/NAPKINS-NAME:	6.	6.
7. Send in bag of CHOCOLATE CANDIES (plain- such as Hershey Kisses) – must be pre-packaged-NAME:	7.	7.
8. Teacher can use this slot if needed; -NAME:	8.	8.

## 2. BIRTHDAY TREATS

Starting next week (October 3<sup>rd</sup>), we are strongly recommending you to send in non-food items such as stickers, pencils, erasers, etc. Should you want to send in a birthday treat, you must follow the Healthy Snack Guidelines which mandate that you can send in the following pre-packaged items only:

- Baked Chips
- Baked Cheetos
- Sunchip Mix
- Whole Grain Pretzels
- Whole Grain Goldfish
- Bagged, Sliced Apples
- Bagged Carrots
- Oranges, Clementines – Not Peeled – Students would do so;
- Cereal Bars

We do not wish for drinks to be sent in for birthday treats.

Please note that the above options all ***have to be under 200 calories; have minimal or no trans fats (zero grams); the first ingredient must be whole grain, fruit, or vegetable; and must be under 200 mg of sodium per serving;***

Lastly, as with the school parties, if your child's teacher has requested non-food items, instead of food items, due to students with food allergies, please comply with this request. The classroom teachers may have that in place already due to this type of situation.

## 3. DAILY SNACK IN CLASSROOMS

Classes that allow a snack to be brought in on a daily basis may continue to have students bring in a snack. We do ask that you follow whatever guidelines the classroom teacher has in place with regard to other students who may have allergies. The students are not permitted to share snacks with others. It is just a quick snack and should not be multiple items.

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP AND ATTENTION TO THESE UPDATES.**

Sincerely,  
Mr. Orr  
McKee Principal