Welcome Future Tiger Cubs!



McComb Elementary 2024-2025 Kindergarten Round Up







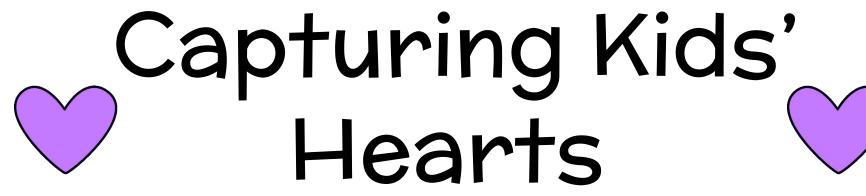
Make New Friends

- Your name
- Your child's name
- Share something good

We Cannot Hide Our Tiger Cub Pride!



Here at McComb Elementary, we take pride in our Tiger Cubs. Our focus is to cultivate academic excellence in an environment that fosters physical, social, and emotional growth which empowers students to become responsible citizens in our community and in an ever-changing world.



"IF YOU HAVE A CHILD'S HEART...
YOU HAVE A CHILD'S MIND." ~Flip Flippen





CKH National Showcase School Program

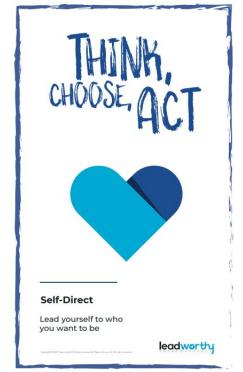




Recognizing outstanding school administrators, teaching staff, and faculty for producing exemplary outcomes with Capturing Kids' Hearts processes.











ENGAGE: Find the Good!

Self-direct your thoughts and each day share Good Things as a family. After school, around the dinner table, or before bed, ask each member of your family to share something good from the day. We often see what we seek! Let's focus on finding the good.



CKH



- Social Emotional Learning Education
- Transformational Process
- School Culture & Climate
- Meaningful Relationships
- Helps Children and Adults
- Students THRIVE when they are cared for & engaged



SEL



Process of learning social and emotional skills

NAEYC (2021)...

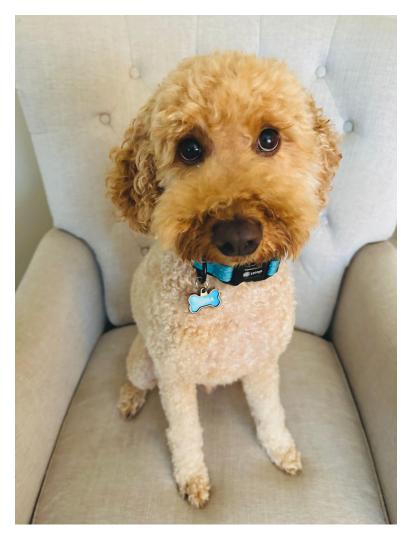
"Children's social and emotional health affects their overall development and learning. Research indicates that children who are mentally healthy tend to be happier, show greater motivation to learn, and demonstrate higher academic performance."

"Students and their social-emotional intellect and coping abilities from this point forward are dependent on our actions today."













- Guidelines and expectations for how students and teachers will treat each other
- Students work together to build the contract and the teacher acts as a facilitator
- Guides students to internalize and practice character traits & skills now and in the future
- Goal: develop self-managing skills



EXCEL MODEL



The EXCEL MODEL (relationship/leadership/teaching)

- E Engage (handshake, welcome, affirm, model)
- X X-plore (needs, listening skills, safe environment)
- C Communicate (content, "Real World")
- E Empower (use and do, develop skills, encouragement)
- L Launch (end and send, summary, commitment to action, passion)



4 Questions



Help your children focus on appropriate behavior and make connections between school and home.

What are you doing? What are you supposed to be doing? Are you doing it? What are you going to do about it?

It's not where we start but where we finish.

So let's FINISH STRONG!!!!!





Relationships



When relationships are positive and meaningful, the sky is the limit!







McComb Elementary School School-Parent-Student Compact

High quality education is a shared responsibility between school staff, parents, and children. The Caro Community Schools mission statement says, "We cultivate academic excellence in an environment that fosters physical, social, and emotional growth which empowers students to become responsible citizens in our community and in an ever-changing world." Listed below are the essential, shared-responsibilities that will help make your child successful in school.

As the McComb Staff we agree to:

- Provide a quality education in a safe and supportive environment
- Provide curriculum, instruction, and assessments that provide every opportunity for students to achieve the Common Core State Standards
- Help students follow the school and classroom rules
- Demonstrate care and concern for each student's individual strengths
- Encourage and provide opportunities for positive communication between students, parents, and staff
- Provide communication about student expectations and academic progress

Teacher	Signature:	[Date:
	- J		

Principal: <u>Miss Heather LaBerge</u> Date: _____

As a parent/guardian I agree to:

- · See that my child attends school regularly and is punctual
- · Read with my child daily and let my child see me read
- · Support the staff in its efforts to maintain proper discipline
- · Stay aware of what my child is learning
- · Maintain high expectations for my child
- · Attend parent-teacher conferences and other school functions
- · Supervise the completion of my child's homework

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

As a student I agree to:

- · Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to
- · Give my parents all notices and information received from my school every day
- · Help to keep my school clean and safe
- · Participate in classroom activities
- · Follow all school and classroom expectations
- · Respect all students, adults, and their belongings
- · Always try to work to the best of my ability
- · Believe that I can and will learn

McComb Tiger
Cubs

Choose Respect

Use Safety

Be Responsible

Student Signatue______Date _____

McComb Elementary Open House & First Day

- In August, a special evening is set aside for our building to allow students and families to meet the teacher and see the classroom.
- On the first day of kindergarten, students <u>and</u> parents attend for 1 hour. Students join their teacher in the classroom while the parents attend an informational meeting with Miss LaBerge. Our second day of school is a full day.
- More information on these events to follow.

Daily Schedule

Young Five's

- Breakfast
- Movement
- Calendar & Carpet Time
- Discovery Time
- Workstations
- Specials
- Lunch & Recess
- Rest Time
- Snack
- Story Time
- Writing
- Recess
- Reflect, Review, and Revisit

Kindergarten

- Breakfast
- Reading Block/Daily 5
- Math
- Specials
- Lunch & Recess
- Writing/Social Studies/Science
- Rest Time (beginning of the year only)
- Cub Clubs (interventions)
- ABC Buddy Time
- Recess
- Reflect, Review, and Revisit

Specials

- Students spend 45 minutes a day in one of the three "specials" classes.
- Gym
 - Physical Education. Students need to make sure they wear proper footwear on gym days!
- Library/Media Center
 - Students are able to check out library books and learn basic computer skills.
- CCS
 - Students receive core curriculum support in a hands on learning environment.

Cub Clubs (Intervention System)

- A portion of our school day is set aside for Math and Reading interventions.
- While some students will remain in the classroom with their teacher, other students will go to "Cub Clubs" for intervention services.
- Placement for these services are determined by data collected in our fall and winter assessments.
- Cub Clubs are held Monday-Thursday for 20 minutes a day.
- Cub Clubs is led by our Title 1 teacher, Mrs. Wenzlaff, and her amazing staff of paraprofessionals.

ABC Buddies

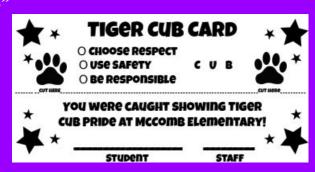
- Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade Students who meet school guidelines join us once a week for 25 minutes.
- Each kindergarten student is paired with a middle school buddy.
- Buddies work together on reading and math skills.
- Many kindergarten students look forward to Buddy Time each day. It is a highlight of the afternoon.

Assessments

- <u>NWEA</u>: This assessment is completed using a Chromebook and to monitor growth in reading and math. It is done in the fall, winter, and spring.
- <u>Acadience</u> (formally DIBELS): This assessment monitors growth in reading and math. It is completed with a staff member from our Title One team.
- <u>DRA2</u>: The Developmental Reading Assessment is completed twice a year (winter and spring) to monitor the student's reading level.

TIGER CUB CARDS & Tiger Cub Pledge

- McComb Elementary currently uses Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) to help our students.
- Students are awarded Tiger Cub Cards when they are "caught" demonstrating the positive behaviors.
- We use the acronym C.U.B. to remind us to C=Choose Respect, U=Use Safety, and B=Be Responsible.
- Each morning, children recite our "Tiger Cub Pledge" with Miss LaBerge as a reminder to always be a "Tiger Cub."
- Students who have been awarded a Tiger Cub Card in each category get to participate in a monthly celebration.



McComb PTO

- McComb PTO is our parent teacher organization at McComb Elementary.
- This group is responsible for sponsoring so many of our fabulous events that children and families love and look forward to each year.
- Events include, but are not limited to:
 - Donating pumpkins to decorate for the Pumpkin Festival
 - Holiday Celebrations
 - Spring Dance
 - Science Alive
- You can support this organization by:
 - o Joining the organization
 - Volunteering for one of their events
 - Participating in their annual fundraiser





Food Service

- Universal Breakfast Every student eats free at school!
 - When students arrive at school, they enter the building, make their breakfast selection, place their breakfast and backpack in their locker and go outside to our playground until the bell rings.
 - At 8:00 am, students eat breakfast in the classroom.
- Universal Lunch- Every student eats free at school!
 - Hot lunch is served daily and includes Milk (Skim and 1% or Fat Free Chocolate), hot vegetable, salad, fruit & condiments.
 - Lunch menu is provided monthly with two choices a day. Children make their selection in the morning when they arrive in the classroom.
 - Students who wish to bring a cold lunch from home have the option of purchasing milk or can bring their own drink with their lunch.

Transportation

- Caro Community Schools offers bussing to students who live in district. Arrangements can be made for students who live out of district to meet the bus at assigned "bus stops."
- Shuttle Service is available for those who live near Schall School.
- Safety is #1 priority when it comes to our transportation department.
 Each fall students participate in a bus safety and evacuation lesson.
- For more information on transportation, visit
 https://www.carok12.org/student-parent-resources/transportation/

Welcome to McComb "Elementary's" Elementary's " "The second of the se

Pikmykid

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Supply List for 2024-2025 School Year

Young Five's

★ Large Backpack	\bigstar	Large	Back	pack
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- ★ Nap Mat/ Sleeping Bag (nap mat preferred and can be found at Walmart) Small Blanket and pillow for rest time
- ★ 1 snap lip pencil box
- ★ 1 Take Home Folder
- ★ 1 Reusable water bottle labeled with name
- ★ 1 pair of child's scissors
- ★ 1 24 box of Crayola Crayons
- ★ 2 boxes of 8 thick Washable Crayola Markers
- ★ 2 or more glue sticks
- ★ 2 Normal size containers of Play Doh
- ★ 2- 4 Black Expo Dry Erase Markers (fine point)
- ★ 1 or more large boxes of tissues
- ★ 2 or more container of Clorox Wipes
- ★ 1 medium or large bottle of hand sanitizer
- ★ 1 wide-ruled spiral notebook
- ★ 1 box of prepackaged snacks
- ★ Lunch box if needed

★ Class Wish List:

- ★ Plastic Storage Bags Sandwich size and gallon size.
- ★ Play Doh
- ★ Paper plates
- ★ Paper lunch bags
- ★ Flushable wipes or baby wipes

Kindergarten

- Backpack (full size that can fit a folder without bending)
- Reusable Water Bottle with flip top straw
- Extra change of clothes (shirt, pant, underwear & socks) to keep in locker
- Towel or Small Blanket(for rest time--beginning of year only)
- I pair Fiskar Blunt Tipped Student Scissors
- 1 Snap Lid Pencil Box
- 4 packs of Crayola 24 count Crayons
- 1 pack of Crayola 12 count Colored Pencils
- 1 Manual Pencil Sharpener
- 1 pack of Crayola 10 count Classic Colors Washable Markers
- 4 Glue Sticks
- 4 Expo Dry Erase Markers
- 3 containers Lysol/Clorox Disinfecting Wipes
- 3 boxes of Kleenex

Getting Your Child Ready For Kindergarten

- Have conversations with your child (practice taking turns to talk)
- Read to your child EVERYDAY!
 - Sit near your child
 - Talk about the pictures
 - Ask what the story might be about
 - o Point to the words as you read. This will help show that your read left to right, top to bottom.
- Practice rhyming words
- Establish a good routine. This will help with promoting good attendance!
- Limit time with video games/screentime

Skills to Work On Before Starting Kindergarten

- Tie shoes
- Zip Coat (understand how to pull sleeves if coat gets turned inside out)
- Open packages of food (i.e. fruit snacks, cheese sticks, juice boxes/pouches)
- Independent with bathroom skills
- Respect adults (listen to them/do not talk when adults are speaking)
- Follow Directions
- Sit and Listen to a story
- Count to 10
- Write name (1st letter capitalized, the rest lowercase)
- Be kind to others





Student Success

This guide provides an overview of what your child will

KINDERGARTEN

English Language Arts & Literacy

- Read with your child every day, books like Are You My Mother by P.D. Eastman or Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss. Ask your child to explain his or her favorite parts of the story. Share your own ideas. To find more books for your child to read, visit www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf.
- Encourage your child to tell you about his or her day at school. Keep paper, markers, or crayons around the house for your child to write letters or words or draw a picture about his or her day. Have your child describe the picture to you.
- Play word games like I Spy, sing songs like Itsy Bitsy Spider, and make silly rhymes together.

English Language Arts & Literacy

Learning new language skills is a hallmark of kindergarten. Your child will learn about the alphabet and its role in reading. Your child will practice rhyming, matching words with beginning sounds, and blending sounds into words. Practice with these types of activities is a powerful step toward learning to read and spell correctly. The size of your child's vocabulary is another key factor in his or her ability to read and comprehend books and stories. Your child also will begin to experiment with writing and will be encouraged to use a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing letters to share information, ideas, and feelings.

A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in Kindergarten

- Naming upper- and lower-case letters, matching those letters with their sounds, and printing them
- Comparing the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories, such as fairy tales and folktales
- Retelling familiar stories and talking about stories read to them using details from the text
- Using a combination of drawing, dictating, and writing to describe an event, including his or her reaction to what happened
- Stating an opinion or preference about a topic or book in writing (e.g., "My favorite book is . . .")

- Taking part in classroom conversations and following rules for discussions (e.g., learning to listen to others and taking turns when speaking)
- Speaking clearly to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas, including descriptions of familiar people, places, things, and events
- Asking and answering questions about key details in stories or other information read aloud
- Understanding and using question words (e.g., who, what, where, when, why, how) in discussions
- Learning to recognize, spell, and properly use those little grammatical words that hold the language together (e.g., a, the, to, of, from, I, is, are)



Mathematics

Look for "word problems" in real life. Some kindergarten examples might include:

- Play "Write the next number." You write a number, and your child writes the next number.
- Ask your child questions that require counting as many as 20 things. For example, ask, "How many books do you have about wild animals?"
- Ask your child questions that require comparing numbers. "Who is wearing more bracelets, you or your sister?" (Your child might use matching or counting to find the answer.)

Mathematics

Young children arrive in kindergarten with widely varying knowledge in math. By the end of the year, your child must have some important foundations in place. One of the most important skills your child should develop is the ability to add and subtract small numbers and use addition and subtraction to solve word problems. This will rely on gaining some fundamentals early in the year, such as counting objects to tell how many there are. Addition and subtraction will continue to be a very strong focus in math through 2nd grade.

A Sample of What Your Child Will Be Working on in Kindergarten

- Counting objects to tell how many there are
- Comparing two groups of objects to tell which group, if either, has more; comparing two written numbers to tell which is greater
- Acting out addition and subtraction word problems and drawing diagrams to represent them
- Adding with a sum of 10 or less; subtracting from a number 10 or less; and solving addition and subtraction word problems

- Adding and subtracting very small numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., 3 + 1)
- Correctly naming shapes regardless of orientation or size (e.g., a square oriented as a "diamond" is still a square)

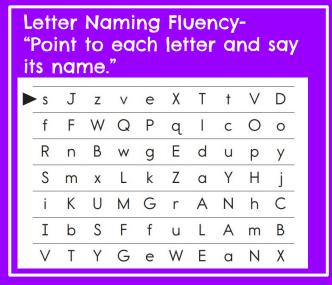
Fall Acadience Reading Assessment

The purpose of Acadience Reading is to monitor your child's development in reading, to identify students who need additional help, and to guide the teacher's classroom instruction. Each Acadience test provides an indicator of how well a child is doing in learning a particular **early reading skill**. The scores tell us whether a child is likely to be "on track" for learning to read, or whether that child may need some additional help in learning important reading skills.

Phonemic Awareness Understanding that spoken words are made up of individual sounds.

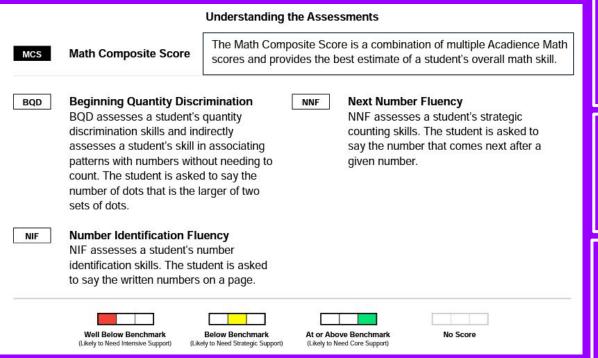
First Sound
Fluency
"What is the
first sound
you hear in
the word
""

Grade K/Benchmark 1		measures the		
Test Items	Correct/2 points	identify the initial sounds		
1. laughed	/1/	•		
2. pine	/p/	<u>in words.</u>		
3. skirt	/s/			
4. flag	/f/	/fl/ /fla/	0	
5. rang	/r/	/ra/	0	
6. crow	/k/	/kr/	0	
7. hide	/h/	/hie/	0	
8. blame	/b/	/bl/ /blai/	0	
9. deck	/d/	/de/	0	
10. crab	/k/	/kr/ /kra/	0	



Fall Acadience Math Assessment

Acadience Math consists of several brief tests that are used as indicators of critical skills that students need to master in order to learn math.



<u>Discrimination-</u> "Say the number of dots that is larger of two sets of dots."

Next Number FluencyStudents are asked to say
the number that comes after
a given number.

Number Identification
Fluency- Students are asked to say the numbers on a page.

Phonemic Awareness Activities Each OR code links to a video example of the activity









Demonstrate clapping a word into its syllables. Ask your child to clap words into syllables.



Prompt your child to produce rhymes. Ask, "Can you tell me a word that rhymes with 'cake'?"

To help your child segment (separate) sounds in words:



Give your child 3-5 blocks, beads, bingo chips, or similar items. Say a word and have your child move an object for each sound in the word.

Next Steps: Give your child 4-7 blocks.



Play Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes with sounds. Say a word and have your child touch his/her head for the first sound, shoulders for the second sound, and knees for the third while saying each sound.



Jump for Sounds. Say a word and have your child jump for each sound in the word while saying the

Phonemic Awareness Video





Read at Home Plan for Parents



Give your child a small toy car such as a Matchbox car. Write a 3-4 letter word on a piece of paper with the letters spaced apart. Have your child drive the car over each letter saying the letter sound. Have your child begin driving the car slowly over the letters and then drive over them again slightly faster. Continue until the word is said at a good rate.



Build words. Using magnetic letters, make a three letter word on the refrigerator (cat). Have your child read the word and use it in a sentence. Every day, change one letter to make a new word. Start by changing only the beginning letter (cat, bat, hat, sat, mat, rat, pat). Then change only the ending letter (pat, pal, pad, pan). Finally, change only the middle letter (pan, pen, pin, pun).

Meet the Staff

•••

The following slides are some of the amazing staff your child may work with in the upcoming school year!

Miss Heather LaBerge, Principal

Hi Friends! I am Heather LaBerge your Principal at McComb Elementary School! I am beginning my 17th year in education this fall. I joined the Tigers when my career started in 2007. I taught Developmental Kindergarten for two years and then Kindergarten for ten years. Since then, I have been the Principal starting in 2019 and I am exhilarated to welcome you to our tiger family. There truly is no place I would rather be than McComb Elementary!

I was born and raised in Caro, which makes me a true Tiger! I went to McComb Elementary as a kindergarten student and had the honor of graduating from Caro High School in 2002. I obtained my undergraduate and Master's degree in Early Childhood Education from Saginaw Valley State University. I also have my endorsement for the Principalship.

I believe that positive relationships are the key to learning and growing and look forward to creating these relationships with McComb Elementary students, families, and teachers. In my spare time, I love adventure, spending time with my family/friends, and visiting my favorite mouse at Disney World! I am a proud owner of a furbaby named Simba, who has my whole heart! I am SO, SO, SO excited to meet YOU! My favorite slogan is, "We Cannot Hide Our Tiger Cub Pride!!!!!"



Mrs. Theresa Kitchen, Acting Assistant Principal

Hello everyone!

I am a 1985 graduate of Caro Community Schools. I grew up here in the thumb, and I am a very proud Caro Tiger! I obtained my undergraduate in Elementary K-6 and Early Childhood Education from Saginaw Valley State University. I then received a Master's in reading and literacy from Marygrove University, along with a Master's in Education for principalship K-12 from Concordia University, Ann Arbor. I am a lifelong learner and love to see the light in a child's eyes when they understand a new concept. I will continue to let kids know that learning is always happening and that knowledge is power!

I love the CKH, "Capturing Kids' Hearts" process in our school district. It is so powerful that, I cannot wait to share my passion of kindness, caring and knowledge with your children! I strive to demonstrate and live the way I expect your children to. We are so much better together!



Office Staff



Miss Natalie, Secretary

Whether you stop in person or are calling on the phone, you will be greeted by one of these fabulous ladies in our front office.



Miss Becky, Nurse

Ms. Cathy Convery, Young 5's Teacher

Hello Caro Families,

I am Ms. Cathy Convery. I have been teaching for 20 years. I have taught Preschool through 3rd grade. I taught in Idaho, Wyoming, and of course Michigan! I graduated from Saginaw Valley State University with a Bachelor's in Elementary Education. I am also Montessori certified through The American Montessori Society, and taught in a Montessori School for five years.

I moved to Caro in 2019 and fell in love with McComb Elementary School the moment I walked in. I knew this was a special place. I taught in Play Pals and moved to Young 5's last year. I absolutely love working with children. I look forward to meeting you and your child!

I have a son and a grandson, whom I adore. I enjoy spending time with them and my entire family. I enjoy the outdoors, being physically active, gardening, reading, and animals. I currently have two dogs, a guinea pig, fish, an aquatic frog, and a Ball Python.



Mrs. Juliana Weidman, Young 5s Teacher

Hello Tiger Cub Families,

I'm Mrs. Juliana Weidman. This is my second year teaching Young 5s here at McComb and I'm so excited to have you be a part of our class! My 3 children have attended Caro Community Schools their entire academic careers. I am Native American and an immigrant from Canada. I am proud of my naturalized American citizenship.

I worked at McComb Elementary as a Title I Intervention Specialist for 4 years before finishing my teaching certification at the University of Michigan. I have a BRE, M.C.E. and M Miss. Our class is partnered with several organizations to help foster our McComb Tiger Cub Memorial School Garden.



New Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Randi Skinner, Kindergarten Teacher

Hello!

I am Mrs. Randi Skinner and I have been working in the Caro Community School District since 1999. I started as a Substitute Teacher in all buildings but have been at McComb Elementary since 2011. I started teaching in the Library/Media Center and then was blessed in 2016 with a Kindergarten Teaching position. I graduated from Saginaw Valley State University with a Bachelors in Elementary Education. I am married and have 4 step children and 10 grand babies! I love spending time outdoors whether it be with my family or my fur babies.

I look forward to meeting you!

Randi Skinner



Mrs. Mary Kaye Wichert, Kindergarten Teacher

Hello Everyone!

I am Mrs. Wichert and I have been working at McComb Elementary since August 2013. I have taught both preschool and kindergarten while here. I have a Bachelors in Elementary Education and Masters in Early Childhood Education, both from SVSU.

My free time is spent with my family. My husband, Trever, and I have two sons, Tyson and Colton. We enjoy planting and harvesting a garden throughout the summer, camping, fishing, and enjoying the great outdoors!

I cannot wait to meet our new Tiger Cubs!



A Few More Friendly Faces Your Child May See







Top Left: Title 1 Staff
Top Middle: Playground

Supervisors

Top right: Mr. Mike our

custodian

Bottom Left: Foster

Grandparents

Bottom Right: Food Service





Student Success Team

From left to right:

Mrs. Franklin

Miss Carter

Mrs. Buffman

Mrs. Enos









We look forward to meeting our new Tiger Cubs this fall.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact the McComb Office (989)673-3169 ext. 4001

Kindergarten Clinic Dates ***

Tuesday, May 28th Wednesday, May 29th* Thursday, May 30th* Friday, May 31st

8:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

*Health Department will be here on Wednesday & Thursday to do hearing and vision screening. Play Pals (GSRP) will have had this screening done, all other children will need to sign up on Wednesday or Thursday or need to make an appointment through the Health Department to schedule a screening before school starts.

QR Code Ben H. McComb Elementary Facebook







https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3XLIRRQbYk

