



February 10, 2010

## Our Mission

The McClelland School promotes the **highest standards** of academic achievement while considering the needs and gifts of each child. We educate the **whole child** in a **safe** physical and social environment. McClelland strives to prepare each child to be an enthusiastic **lifelong learner**, prepared to face life's challenges and choices.

## Solar Panels

Thanks to Mass Service and Supply and Pueblo



Electrics, McClelland will be getting a 10kw solar array on the roof of the gym. This is a great opportunity for the school to not only save money, but to educate our children

about the importance of alternative energy sources.

Again, thank you to Mo Ghamdi, Cathy Grasmick and Ron Guarienti for making this happen.

## Update from Alex



I cannot express in any form what a great experience it has been to teach at the McClelland School. I treasured the times I shared with the students, teachers and parents when I was in the school. I cannot tell you how much I appreciated your effort and the support you rendered to me. Greetings from the entire community of Keyo S.S and my family. Everyone is very happy with the experience I had at McClelland.

Greetings to everybody in McClelland School.

Be blessed!  
Truly yours  
Alex

## Talent Show

We had a great turnout for the talent show with a



total of 25 acts ranging from dancing and singing to magic and martial art demonstrations. Thanks to everyone who performed and

the great audience participation. Special thanks to David Aldag, who acted as our Master of Ceremonies.

# Beyond the Desk

"Education is not the filling of a bucket, but the lighting of a fire"

-W.B. Yeats



## Flags

McClelland is an incredibly diverse community with families from around the globe. To illustrate this, we want to hang flags from the Primary Continuum ceiling. If you would like to donate a flag from your family's country, we'd love to have as many as possible up to show off the international nature of our school.

If you are interested in getting a flag, please make sure it is 3 X 5 in size and made of nylon. Talk to Monica about details.



## Blubber Gloves

Yes, the name does sound kind of gross. The First Grade is studying the polar regions and how animals stay warm. As part of this unit, students got the opportunity to try on a "blubber glove" made of vegetable shortening to see just how effective an insulator blubber really is in cold climates. I'm sure if you asked nicely, Mrs. Pitts would let you try the blubber glove on!



## Preschool and Astronomy

The preschool is studying the winter sky and recently took a trip to the Planetarium at Centennial High School to view the program, "New Horizons. Students learned about constellations, the planets and our moon. The children brought their experience back to the classroom where they now use models of the planets to review what they learned.

The planetarium is open to the public on the third Wednesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 and 7:30-8:30.



## **McClelland Graduate in Peru**

Rachel Kippur '06, currently a senior at Fountain Valley School, is heading to Peru next

month as part of a school trip which involves community service and learning outside the classroom. They have identified a number of

Peruvian families in need and are collecting winter clothes for them.

If you have any winter clothing that you no longer need and would like to donate it, please wash it and bring it to the school-there will be a collection box in the lobby. Rachel Kippur will pick the clothing up on March 1st and then transport it to Peru and distribute it directly to the families.

They are looking for warm clothing for both adults and children.

## **McClelland Performs**



Theo DeCenzo'07 currently a junior at Fountain Valley School, will be performing Friday Night from 7:30-9:30 at the Daily Grind on South Union in Pueblo. Hope to see you there.

## **Who would've known?**

U.S. cars and trucks emit 314 metric tons of CO2 every year, and -- in case you were wondering -- that's equivalent to burning as much coal as would fit in a 50,000 mile long freight train.

## **Sustainability**



McClelland is committed to doing all we can to safeguard the environment and to teach our students to be good stewards of our resources. At its core, sustainability is about respecting the world around us and the future generations that will inhabit it.

In the spring, the school will be putting in an organic garden and instituting a school-wide composting program to take care of food and yard wastes. If you are interested in getting involved, contact Mickey Belcher, McClelland's very own Sustainability Coordinator.

[mbelcher@mcclellandschool.org](mailto:mbelcher@mcclellandschool.org)

## **Casino Night**



Believe it or not, Casino Night is right around the corner. This year it will be held at the PCC Ballroom on April 23 and will surely be a good time. The live and silent auctions are big parts of the evening, so please contact Monica if you have something you would like to donate.

## **McClelland Family Businesses**

The school is putting together a list of McClelland families and their businesses. It's a great way to get your business name out there to the community. Please contact Monica for details.

[mcarruth@mcclellandschool.org](mailto:mcarruth@mcclellandschool.org)





## What's Going On?

There is so much going on at McClelland that it's hard to keep track. Here are a few highlights:

**Preschool:** Studying the winter sky and they will take a field trip to the planetarium

**Kindergarten:**

## Art Opening



On Wednesday February 3rd, McClelland had another art opening in the lobby featuring Mrs. Pugel's Kindergarten class. Thanks to Miss Grant for helping our students be artists!

### *Other Art Happening:*

-PreK and JrK mixing colors and painting landscapes

-Kindergarten drawing Olympic winter sports

-Primary finishing collages based on Eric Carle fable

-Intermediate-weaving and tempera landscapes-Greek culture

-Middle School-Greek, Middle Ages, and Baroque

**1/2:** Giving oral presentations on polar animals

**3/4:** Researching and preparing project and reports for Science Expo

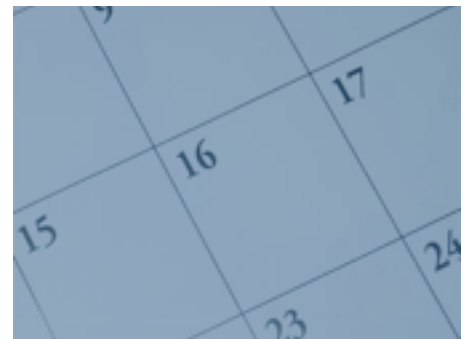
**Middle School:** Science Expo Prep, Explore Week using primary documents to research McClelland's history, Camp Halfblood, and biographies.

## McClelland Online



If you haven't already become a fan of McClelland on Facebook, please check it out online. We are regularly updating the page with what is going on at the school with both narrative and photos. It's a great opportunity to keep up with the McClelland community. You can easily access the facebook page by going to [mcclellandschool.org](http://mcclellandschool.org) and clicking on the Facebook link on the front page.

## Upcoming Dates



February 11 Valentine Program (6:30)

February 15-16 No School

February 17 Lobby Gallery for Intermediate 8:00-8:20

February 19 Last Day of Term

February 20 Open House

February 26 Report Cards

March 1 No School (Conferences)

March 5 MS Science Expo

March 12 Intermediate Science Expo

March 19 Student Faculty Basketball game



## A walk to the library

It is sometimes easy to forget the resources McClelland is able to utilize in Pueblo. The fact that the school has a world class library right down the street is a fortunate situation. Our students at every grade level regularly head to the library to do research or to simply pick out a new book. Just last week the JrK class and parents made the trip down the street. Thanks to all the parents who showed up to make it a family event.



## Kinetic Energy Cars and Buddies

One of the nice features of the Kindergarten and Uptown Programs (3rd & 4th grade) is that they "buddy up" for the year. Children in Kindergarten are paired with an uptown buddy who reads to them for about 15-20 minutes a week, usually on Thursdays after Town Meeting. Sometimes, however, we move outside the box and have students share what they are doing in the classroom.

Such was the case last week. Uptown children designed and built cars using mousetraps, CD discs, and other interesting materials to study energy. They shared their inventions with their buddies who were delighted with the ingenuity of the cars.



## Wish List

Below is a list of items that various folks in the school need. If you have access to some of these, let us know!

- two drawer file cabinet
- dry erase markers
- tall bookshelf
- computers
- flat screen monitors
- new carpet
- doll house with accessories
- large clock for teaching time
- construction paper
- top soil-for organic garden
- Kindergarten level biographies
- Art Supplies
- K-3 Developmental Reading Assessment



## Mandarin Chinese

Starting soon, Mandarin will be offered after school as an enrichment program. It will run much like the extended care program with a similar fee structure. If you are interested in registering yourself or your child/children, give us a call as soon as possible.

Why study Mandarin?

Read the article in Time Magazine by typing "Time Magazine Postcard: Minneapolis" into Google in your web browser.

# Why McClelland?

Sam Sumeracki-Class of 2006



Hello, my name is Samuel Sumeracki and I am currently a Senior at Dolores Huerta High School where I serve as Student Body President. I consider myself to be a well accomplished student. When I was fifteen years old I began attending CSU-Pueblo and I still continue to take all my classes there. I have completed all of the CSU-Pueblo's general education requirements and were I to stay in Pueblo I would be able to acquire my Bachelor's degree in about two years. I am currently applying to colleges such as Vassar, College of the Atlantic, Denver University, and the College of William and Mary, which is my top choice school. When I was a 7th grade student I had the pleasure of attending McClelland and I have to say I honestly do not think I would be doing as well as I am today had I not been enrolled here.

From kindergarten through sixth grade I attended public schools and I felt lost in the crowd. Sixth grade was the worst of all however. I was picked on for stupid, childish reasons but I also found myself beginning to conform to various cliques and groups that I knew very well I didn't belong in. My parent's saw my changes in behavior and recommended that I change schools. We began looking at the end of my sixth grade year and we fell in love with McClelland.

I was terrified my first day but I made friends easily...it was hard not to when all the students and staff introduced themselves and made me feel at home, made me feel like I had been there my entire life. In those two short years I spent at McClelland I learned so much about not only class subjects, but also real life lessons. I learned how to be a good friend and how not to conform to the expectations others have of you. I learned the importance of the saying "whatever you are be a good one." I mean where else will a student learn about Ellis Island not through bookwork but instead dressing up like an immigrant, acting the part, and seeing all the rigors which were involved in coming to America in the early 1900s. Where else will a student learn about patents by having to create their own business idea and then market them at a special business night? Well I can tell you I never did anything like that anywhere else and even if I had it wouldn't have been the same.

Robert Frost said: "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I- I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." I can tell you that by going to McClelland I took the road less traveled, and I can honestly say, for me, it truly has made all the difference. What McClelland offers is unique, and from McClelland I have gained lasting friendships, an unbeatable education, and most of, I learned how to just be myself.