

# McRae Elementary School (551 Students in Grades K-4)

## Mission Statement

*Searcy McRae Elementary strives for all of our students to be productive, responsible citizens. We, therefore, accept the challenge to provide the tools necessary for each individual to acquire the basic skills and knowledge which will accomplish this vision. We will provide all students with the opportunity to learn at their own level of proficiency, and encourage them to take pride in themselves, their school, and their community. It is our mission at Searcy McRae Elementary for all students to demonstrate excellence.*

## Accreditation and Academics

Searcy McRae Elementary School is fully accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education and the North Central Association. Students participate in the Accelerated Reading Program. A Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Program for at-risk students is offered. This program is implemented through Title I. An extended day program is provided for students who qualify for Title I Math and Reading. This program is available during the week. The C.A.T.S. (Can Achieve Terrific Scores) Club is for all students improving their academic performance. Students must also have an **A** or **B** in citizenship. “**A**” Honor Roll Awards are given quarterly for students making all A’s and B’s each nine-week grading period. Honor roll assemblies are held every nine weeks to recognize students with outstanding achievement. A comprehensive music education program with an emphasis on performing musical/dramatic arts is taught by a certified music instructor. A certified art teacher gives the students instruction/participation in a comprehensive art program. All students participate weekly in a structured physical/health education class to help them learn to build and enjoy healthy habits while learning their importance in leading a healthy lifestyle. A certified physical education specialist teaches classes. All students participate in 150 minutes of physical activity each week of which 60 minutes is organized physical activity

## Counseling Services

There are several counseling services available to students at McRae. These include: study skills, test-taking skills, personal/social development, conflict resolution/anger management (“A Peace-able Place”), career development, drug education (“Get Real about Tobacco” and “Here’s Looking at You”), and Banana Splits Divorce Group.

## Extra-curricular Opportunities and Activities

**Student Ambassador:** Members of this organization are outstanding students who assist in various school functions

**Jump Rope for Heart:** McRae students participate each year in this program through the American Heart Association. They placed in the top ten in Arkansas for the past several years. Over \$13,000 was raised in the fall of 2006.

**Parents Make a Difference Night:** During the fall and spring semesters, parents and students will be invited to the school after hours for extra practice in math and reading. This year, steps will be taken to incorporate art and literacy together and call it an art gallery/literacy night for grades K – 2 during the fall semester. A science/math night for grades 3 and 4 is held during the spring semester.

**Parent Involvement Center:** A parent center is located in the school library. Here, parents can find parenting books, magazines, and other materials regarding responsible parenting. Parents can also check out materials to work with their children on academics at home.

**Community Service:** Students have participated in the Junior Auxiliary Food Drive, Coats for Kids, and Eyeglasses Drive.

**Volunteers:** Classroom volunteers help teachers in classrooms with tutoring and clerical tasks. Classroom volunteers include: Harding University students, community employees, parents, and friends. This year a program called “Foster Grandparent Program” has been started and is in cooperation with the White River Agency on Aging. Homeroom moms coordinate classroom events and activities. The McRae PTO (Parent/Teacher Organization) helps by providing fund raisers including a spring carnival in which money is raised to provide materials and supplies for the classroom teachers.