



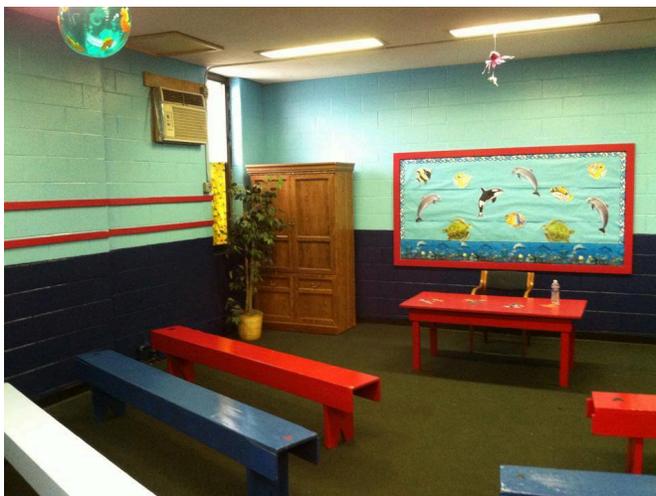
## McIlvain Playground Update

*By Steve Schmidt, Facility Supervisor, McIlvain Playground*

McIlvain Playground was buzzing with activity two weeks prior to our annual summer day camp. What was all the buzz about? McIlvain was fortunate to have over 220 volunteers call Penn and Pratt their home for two weeks. Through a partnership with the Northeast Bible Fellowship, adults, as well as teenagers, visited us from Orange City, Florida; Marietta, Georgia; and Hopkinton, Massachusetts.



"The Journey" from Orange City, Florida repainted and touched up McIlvain's mural.



Eastside Baptist Church from Marietta, Georgia revitalized McIlvain's MP room for the beginning of Summer day Camp.

During the week of June 23, twenty-five members from "The Journey" in Orange City came and painted all of our outside benches, painted a mural and cleaned the playground.

During the week of June 30, we had two groups visit us. Faith Community Church from Hopkinton ran a kids club every

day from 2-4:30 for over 45 children. Activities included story time, crafts, sing alongs and games. On July 3, they organized a community fair that had music, dancing, face painting, carnival games and a cookout for the entire Frankford community. During the same week, Eastside Baptist Church from Orange City ran a week of various sports camps. 122 participants took part in a soccer, baseball, basketball and football

camp. Basketball legend Dikembe Mutumbo helped sponsor the basketball game and was scheduled



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to attend. However, he had to return to the Congo that week. Mutumbo promised to visit McIlvain next summer. Eastside also donated the materials and their time to paint the hallways and the multi-purpose room, and they also purchased and assembled 32 cubbies for our day camp, after school program and tot recreation program to use throughout the year. In addition, Eastside surprised me on their last day after they purchased the domain name of [mcilvainplayground.com](http://mcilvainplayground.com) and pledged to build a website and absorb the cost of all fees for five years. Eastside has committed to organize a sports camp as well as service work to McIlvain until 2019.



Summer Sports Camps sponsored by Eastside Baptist Church.

McIlvain is grateful to these three organizations for choosing McIlvain Playground to visit and share their talents with. We are looking forward to having two more groups from Illinois and New York join us later in the summer.