During the past few years I have been honored to be the recipient of letters from and to speak to various elementary and middle school children. One particular class, Mrs. McCormick’s Second grade at West Elementary, has written me letters several times. All of these letters are archived and can be accessed on the City’s web site.

These letters were written by each of the students in early March. You will read in the letters that the students consistently wish me well in the outcome of the April municipal election. For this reason I was not able to post the letters on the web site as it would be improper to do so prior to the election. Now the election is behind us, I am pleased to be able to share these letters with you.

I wish to thank the students for their heartfelt comments and their parents for allowing their children to share their comments with me. Some of these children will no doubt be the future mayors and council members who will continue the work of previously elected personnel to make Valley Center, and nearby cities wonderful places to live.

I hope you enjoy reading the letters from these children and the letters in our archives from previous Second graders.

Sincerely,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Valley Center, KS 67144
http://www.valleycenter-ks.gov
March 4, 2011

Dear Mayor McNown,

My second graders enjoyed writing letters to you. I hope the letters bring a smile to your face! Thank you for serving as our mayor.

Sincerely,

Phoebe McCormick
West Elementary
Valley Center, KS

Mrs. McCormick,
Thank you for once again sharing your students and their wonderful letters with me. I hope to visit your class and meet the students in the next few days.
Sincerely,
Mike McNown, Mayor
City of Valley Center
Dear Mayor McNown,

I like our good schools.

I am glad we have good roads. Can we have a sports store?

I hope you get re-elected.

by Austin.

Austin,

Valley Center is a great place to live and I am happy you like the schools and roads. I would also like to see a sports store in Valley Center. Hopefully an owner of a store will want to build one in Valley Center. I certainly hope so. Thank you for wanting to see me re-elected as mayor. As you probably already know, the voters of Valley Center also wanted me to be mayor for another four years.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Abby,
I am happy you like the good schools and I will pass that along to the school board members who are actually the elected people who make that possible, along with your excellent teachers and other school employees. We do have some very nice restaurants. I like them also. Thank you for wanting to see me re-elected as mayor. My favorite color is blue.
Your friend,
Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

Thank you for the good restaurants and for the nice read.

We need more restaurants from.

Jesse

Jesse,

I am happy you like the good schools and I will pass that along to the school board members who are actually the elected people who make that possible, along with your excellent teachers and other school employees. We do have some very nice restaurants. I like them also.

Thank you for wanting to see me re-elected as mayor.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Can we have another splash park please?

I hope you keep your job.

Gwyn,

I am glad you like the splash park. It is really nice, isn't it? One of these days I hope we can have another splash park. Until then I hope you have a good time at the one we have now. Thank you for your nice comments about be keeping my job as mayor.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

We have great schools and nice roads, and good parks, and good houses. How did you get to be mayor?

Sincerely,

Hannah

Hannah,

Yes, we do have nice things in Valley Center. I am happy you like them. As for being mayor, I had to tell people in Valley Center that I wanted to be their mayor. The people then vote and the person who gets the most votes is the mayor for the next four years.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

I like the parks you gave us. Thank you for the great schools. How did you get to be the mayor? What is your favorite color?

Sincerely, Jayce

Jayce,
I am glad you like the parks, roads and schools. All of these are possible because of the people, like your parents, who live here and pay taxes so we can all enjoy them. My favorite color is blue. I became mayor because I told people I wanted to be the mayor and they voted for me to be their mayor for another four years.

Your friend,
Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

Thank you for the water park. I wish we had a YMCA.

Thank you for a pool.

Taryn,

I am happy you like the splash park. I wanted a splash park in Valley Center, but it was the city Council that voted to spend the money and have one built in McLaughlin park. I will pass along to them that you, and other students, like the park and appreciate them providing one. A YMCA and nice big new pool would be nice, but new pools are very expensive. Maybe one of these days we will be able to afford one.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Katelyn,
A jewelry store, and other kinds of stores, would be nice. One of these
days as Valley Center grows I am sure owners of all kinds of stores will
decide to open businesses in our great city. Thank you for wanting to see
me re-elected as mayor.
Your friend,
Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

Thank you for the splash park. Valley Center has a great splash park!

To: Mayor McNown

From: Keara.

Keara,
I am happy you like the splash park. It is a fun place to play and stay cool during the hot summers. I hope you and your friends have a lot of fun playing with the water toys in the splash park in McLaughlin park.

Your friend,
Mike McNown, Mayor
Emma,

I wish I could make the ground higher in Valley Center. Everyone is working to try to make the changes that will help to get rid of flood water. It is going to take a lot of work and lot of money to make these changes. Hopefully we will make many of the needed changes in the next few years.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Melanie,

I am happy you like the good schools. I will pass along to the school board members your comments. They are the elected people who make that possible, along with your excellent teachers and all school employees. I like the roads too, and we are always working to make them better. A jewelry store, and other kinds of stores, would be nice. One of these days as Valley Center grows I am sure owners of all kinds of stores will decide to open businesses in our great city. Thank you for your vote for me as mayor.

Your friend,
Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown, What's your favorite color?
Thank you for the splash park! You are the best mayor!
You are so, so, so, so nice!
I hope you get to keep the job! I love the new Pizza Hut.

Sincerely, Timmy

Timmy,
My favorite color is blue. I am glad you like the splash park. It is really nice and has a lot of fun water toys. The new Pizza Hut is really nice. I like pizza. What is your favorite kind? Thank you for wanting me to keep my job as your mayor. Your friend,
Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

What is your favorite color?

Thank you for the great school. Thank you for the good town.

From Shawn

Shawn,

My favorite color is blue. I believe our schools are one of the best. I will pass along to the school board members your comments. Valley Center has some very nice homes. I am happy you live here.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

Can we have a jewelry store? You are a nice man and I hope you still are the mayor this year. Sincerely, Brooklyn

Brooklyn,

Business owners decide where they want to open their stores. I hope we can get a jewelry store and many other businesses soon. When Valley Center gets bigger more and more businesses will want to open their stores here. Thank you for your nice comments and wanting me to continue to be your mayor.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

What I like about Valley Center is a good town. We have good schools and good restaurants.

Sincerely,

Rylee Valley Center, Kansas

Rylee,

I agree with everything you like about Valley Center. We also have a lot of very nice people who live here and in the school district. With your help we will work to make it even better in the years to come.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear May or McNown,

Thank you for great schools of education.

I hope you can stay May or cause you are doing a good job. & I wish we could have more restaurants!
Faith,

The school board, teachers and all school employees are responsible for the great schools. I agree with you that our schools are great. Thank you for wanting me to keep my job as your mayor. The restaurants we have in Valley Center are very nice. Let's work together to get more restaurants in our city. We have to make sure we support our restaurants by eating the great food they cook for us.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

Can we have a Justice store? What is your favorite color? You are the Best Mayor.

From Maleiah
Maleiah,

My favorite color is blue. I hope many businesses will come to Valley Center as we continue to grow. Hopefully you will like many of these businesses. Thank you for your nice comments about me as your mayor.

Your friend,

Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor,

Manoun Valley Center is nice. We have good houses, nice roads, parks that are cool, yummy restaurants, good fun schools, good stores.
Brandon,
You sound like a boy who is really happy living in Valley Center! I like Valley Center too. I hope you continue to work hard, make good grades, and learn all your teachers teach you. Thank you for wanting me to continue to be your mayor.
Your friend,
Mike McNown, Mayor
Dear Mayor McNown,

Thank you for the splash park. I wonder if you helped put money in to it? I hope we can get →
that money for the new library. I really hope you will be elected again.

Sincerely,

Tripp Waters

Tripp,
The splash park was paid for by all people who pay taxes in Valley Center. I paid taxes and so did your parents along with everyone else in Valley Center, so we all paid a part so we can have the great splash park. I hope we can get the money to build a new library. A new library would sure be nice. Thank you for wanting me to be elected again as your mayor.

Your friend,
Mike McNown, Mayor