

Mesa Elementary School
February 24, 2006



THE
MESA MESSENGER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO
COMPLETE SURVEY**

Dear Parent Community,

At the beginning of March, our school will send all parents the Parent *Snapshot Survey* via the U.S. mail. Your participation is very important as the questions in the survey are aligned with the district's strategic plan, and your answers can help us determine how well our school and the district are performing.

It is also important for our school to have a high response so the data collected accurately reflects parents' perceptions and opinions. The anonymous survey results are reviewed by our school staff as well as district staff in order to determine what programs and processes are working and which ones need improvement. Consequently, the survey results can have a significant impact on our school operations.

Because this same survey has been given for several years, our school and district staff members will be able to study trends and patterns in the responses. All this information will help us serve you in the best way possible. Because your feedback is important, we hope you will take a few minutes to complete the survey when you receive it in the mail and return it in the postage-paid envelope.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me or our front office staff, Judy Bullert and Emily Robbie, at 303-494-4704.

In Partnership,

Mike Medina

**ART EVENT AT MESA
THIS TUESDAY FEB 28**
**Plan some time to see Boulder
artist Jim Freeheart when he
paints *plein air* on the west side of
the school this Tuesday. Mr.
Freeheart will be painting his
mural IN ONE DAY!**
Details on Page 2.

MARCH CSAP SCHEDULE

GRADE 3: March 6-7 & 20-21

GRADE 4: March 8-20

GRADE 5: March 6-21

Please make sure your student is well-rested, well-fed, at school on time and ready to work. If your child will be absent on one of the test days, let us know right away so arrangements can be made for a make-up test. The office phone number is 303-494-4704, with voice mail from 4:00 PM until 8:00 AM during the weekdays and all day Saturday and Sunday.

VISUAL ART SPECIAL EVENT NEXT WEEK AND PARENTS ARE INVITED

Next week Mesa Elementary School will host Boulder painter Jim Freeheart. Many of you will recognize his paintings of the Boulder Mall and the scenery of the Flatirons; he was the commissioned artist for the 2002-2004 Bolder Boulder road races.

On Tuesday, February 28, weather permitting, Mr. Freeheart will be painting *Plein Air* on the west side of the school and will finish his painting in one day! Students will take time during the day to visit and observe his progress. Prints of the painting will be available as a Mesa fund-raiser. Order forms will be available at the auction and in the school office in March.

This will be a unique learning opportunity to see a painting in progress and then completed. Feel free to stop by this Tuesday to watch the progress. PARENTS: If you have a time-lapse digital camera which could record the painting process and then be combined to create a teaching DVD for future art classes, please let April Christenson in the art room know right away. Leave a message at 303-494-4704.

Special thanks to Hannah and Ben Gould and their mother, Debbie, for bringing Mr. Freeheart to Mesa.

MESA MAGAZINE SPRING EDITION

We hope everyone has received and is enjoying the winter edition of the Mesa Magazine. Students are urged not to miss out on the chance to have their poems and stories included in the upcoming spring edition. The deadline for this next edition is Friday, March 24, which is the last day of school before Spring Break. Students can put their submissions in the box just inside the doors of the Mesa library. We look forward to reading more wonderful stories, poems and articles. Let's go, Mesa students; you are the greatest!

"ONCE ON THIS ISLAND" SETS AND SCENERY

In preparation for the upcoming play "Once on This Island" (did you remember to get tickets?), many student and parent volunteers helped to transform the Mesa gymnasium stage into a tropical island paradise. On January 28 the sets were constructed, and on February 11 they were painted and decorated.

Thank you so much to the following helpers:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| Debra Bond | Michael Carter |
| Maryanne Cast | Rob Fauver |
| Kirk Johnson | Sarah Knoebel |
| Kendall LaVine | John Schlager |
| Terry Snyder | Bruce Watkins |
| Mike and Ben Boggs | |
| Janna, Dave, Shawna and Kara Gustafson | |
| Peggy, Sarah and Will Kaufman | |
| Jan and Abby North | |
| Kay Kay and Winky Rosmarin | |
| Courteney and Tim Schwander | |
| Barb and Sarah Vlasity | |
| Kirsten and Sarah Walters | |

BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SUMMER CAMP (FORMERLY SPIRIT CAMP)

Get ready for a summer of fun! The district runs a day camp program with swimming, field trips, games and exciting activities to keep children active throughout the summer. The summer camp runs Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM until 6:00 PM. There is flexible scheduling to work around your family's busy summer.

Please explore the website to see what BVSD Summer Camp has to offer: www.bvsd.org/sac If you have questions, contact Mike Stein, School Age Program manager at BVSD, 303-499-1125, ext. 242.

TASTY FOOD PROVIDED DURING PARENT CONFERENCES

From Lisa Melli Gillespie, Dinner Coordinator

Thank you to all the people who helped out with meals for Mesa teachers on parent/teacher conference days. The teachers really appreciated the delicious food provided on those very long conference days.

A tip of the hat to all the parents who prepared the wonderful food, to Judy Bullert for helping with set-up and organizing, and to the clean-up crew of Jacy Bruno, Sarah Knoebel and Leah Strehlow.

Thank you, everyone, for taking care of the Mesa teachers and staff!

BIRTH CERTIFICATES REQUESTED

The policy of the BVSD School Board requires a birth certificate for proof of age for your student. The Colorado Department of Education also requires a birth certificate to document date of birth as well as full legal name. If you have been asked to provide a birth certificate, that means we do not have a copy in your student's cumulative record file. Please bring a copy of either a birth certificate or passport as soon as convenient to the Mesa office.

HOW TO KNOW WHEN SCHOOL IS CLOSED

Under all but the most extreme conditions, school officials have a responsibility to keep school open and in session. When the weather is bad but school is open, parents should make a family decision regarding attendance or late arrival for their children. A personal contact by the parent or a written note to school officials will excuse a student for a late arrival or absence during adverse weather.

When the weather is severe enough that it is necessary to close schools in all or part of the district, it is important that working parents have pre-arranged child care available to them; arrangements could be with a friend or neighbor, a child care center or possibly a neighborhood teenager who also would be out of school. It is important for parents to make arrangements in advance, because the weather in Boulder is unpredictable and March is often the snowiest month of the year.

When it is necessary to close schools, the district immediately contacts the following TV channels and radio stations:

KWGN Channel 2	KUSA Channel 9
KCNC Channel 4	KDVR Fox 31 News
KMGH Channel 7	KCEC Channel 50

KBNO 1280 AM	KBPI 106.7 FM
KHOW 630 AM	KGNU 88.5 FM
KOA 850 AM	KISS 95.7 FM
KRCN 1060 AM	KOOL 105.1 FM
ALICE 105.9 FM	KOSI 101.1 FM
FOX 103.5 FM	KTCL 93.3 FM
KBCO 97.3 FM	

Notice is also posted on the district webpage at www.bvsd.org; click on "school cancellations."

Notice is provided prior to 6:30 AM, or as soon as the decision is made to close during the day. Typically the media will release information only if school is closed. If no announcement is made, schools are open.

IMPACT ON EDUCATION DONATIONS COLLECTED AT WILD OATS UNTIL 3/15

Through March 15, every Wild Oats Market in Boulder will be collecting donations from shoppers at cash registers. These donations will support Impact on Education's Opportunity Fund, which provides funds so that 4000+ BVSD students from low-income homes can access academic and extra-curricular activities that require participation fees.

WORLD CLASS MUSICIANS TO PERFORM

The Broomfield High School Orchestra will present their 2006 Benefit Concert at 7:30 PM on Friday, March 3. Featured musicians are Edgar Meyer and Mike Marshall. The BHS Symphony Orchestra will also perform several selections.

Edgar Meyer is widely regarded as the world's greatest bass player and plays with the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society. He has recorded with Yo-Yo Ma and Josh Bell. Mike Marshall plays mandolin, guitar and violin. He has also recorded with Josh Bell and Mark O'Connor. Meyer and Marshall have been headliners at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival. To find more information about these two world class performers, please go to www.mikemarshall.net and www.edgarmeyer.com.

The concert will be in the Broomfield High School Auditorium, One Eagle Way in Broomfield. Tickets for this fundraiser are \$25.00 for adults and \$18.00 for students 18 and under. Proceeds will benefit the BHS Orchestra Instrument and Activities Fund. Tickets may be purchased with cash, check or credit card. All seats are general admission. Doors open at 6:45 PM. For ticket information, please call 720-260-6525.

**NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY
From Arlene Martin**

Thank you to Susan Richstone and the Mesa PTO for organizing the Scholastic Book Fair again this year. As a result of the generous purchases made by Mesa parents, students and friends, our library received \$240 worth of vouchers. We chose to purchase books on machinery and warriors for our library because both sections were woefully old or small. Thanks to everyone for your support!

BVSD CIPC CHARETTE MARCH 7

There will be a meeting for community dialog to examine and comment on the findings of the Boulder Valley School District's Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC) for the Fairview service area (which includes Mesa) on Tuesday, March 7, 7-9 PM at Fairview High School. Details of this meeting are posted on the Mesa Community Board.

MESA TO BE A GREEN STAR SCHOOL

Starting in March, Mesa is joining Eco-Cycle's Green Star School program, to become one of the first schools in America to move toward zero waste. Mesa will be one of eight BVSD schools in the project, which includes increased recycling opportunities, the collection of food waste and non-recyclable paper for composting and other waste reduction projects. Watch for information coming home soon.



Mesa Elementary School February 24, 2006

**A Triple 'A' School
Academics
Arts
Athletics**

Winner of the:

**?? John J. Irwin Excellence Award
1999/2000, 2000/2001, 2001/2002, 2003/2004 and 2004/2005
?? Kennedy Center Schools of Distinction Award
for Arts Education
?? Colorado Department of Education
2004 Accomplished School Award**

Principal: Mike Medina

Secretaries: Judy Bullert and Emily Robbie

1575 Lehigh Street
Boulder, CO 80305

Phone: 303-494-4704

Fax: 303-494-5908

E-mail: mike.medina@bvsd.k12.co.us

We're on the web
www.bvsd.k12.co.us/schools/mesa/

PTO CORNER

Top Five Reasons To Attend Mesa's Silent Auction:

5. Enjoy an entertaining and inexpensive adult-only evening.

For only \$10, you will have the opportunity to eat all you want from a scrumptious food assortment, peruse silent auction items, and experience the beautiful Nature Conservancy building. You will even be able to socialize with other Mesa parents without child interruptions!

4. Rub elbows with Mesa celebrities

Even though it seems Mesa's staff and teachers live at school, they actually have other lives and outside interests. Come to the auction and have a glass of wine with Mr. Medina and our teachers and talk about life outside of Mesa.

3. View artwork by Mesa artists

Mesa has some very talented artists, not the least of which are our own children. You won't want to miss seeing the beautiful pottery pieces created by each Mesa class, the original piece of art by Mrs.

MESA CALENDAR

*Wed. Mar 1 8:00 AM—
Student Council*

Fri. Mar 3—NO SCHOOL

*Mon. Mar 6 8:45 AM—All-
School Assembly*

Tues. Mar 7 6:15 PM —SIT

*Wed. Mar 8 8 AM—School
Store*

**Fri. Mar. 10 Report Cards Go
Home**

Sat. Mar. 11 6:30 PM—

Silent Auction

Christenson, or the beautiful jewelry and artwork from some very talented Mesa parents.

2. Make your child's day

Just imagine your child's joy if you come home from the auction with something just for him/her. Whether it is an arts and craft basket, a pony lesson, museum tickets, or a special ice cream outing with their teacher, they're sure to be thrilled.

1. Impact on your child's education

The money raised at the Silent Auction will help continue the funding of Mesa's academic support programs, (personnel to assist teachers with math, literacy and computer activities), and for classroom supplies and programs.

Hope to see you on Saturday, March 11, at 6:30 PM.

Don't forget to buy your tickets now to save money - tickets will be \$12 at the door.