



The Bobcat Flyer

February 2009

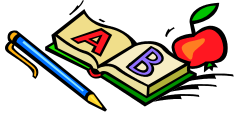


<http://www.bvsd.org/schools/Angevine>

Angevine Middle School, BVS D, 1150 West S. Boulder Rd., Lafayette, CO. 80026

Main Office: 303 665-5540 Counseling: 303-447-5464 Attendance: 303-447-5458

Principal – Mike Medina (mike.medina@bvsd.org) Assistant Principal – Tobey Bassoff (tobey.bassoff@bvsd.org)



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Angevine Community,

Hopefully this newsletter finds you in a good place given the recent and disastrous economic struggles our country is facing. This school year has been very positive and rewarding at Angevine. The many changes we have implemented are yielding positive outcomes. Our new seven period schedule is working extremely well. The grade level specific classes are a huge benefit to all. Teachers, Counselors, and other support staff find it much easier to monitor individual student progress. On a daily basis grade level teachers meet to discuss the progress of their students. On full weeks of school, our late start Wednesday approach provides valuable time for individual department teachers to discuss and adjust instructional practices. We are confident this approach will increase overall student academic achievement.

Recently we added a new Counselor at the 7th grade. Her name is Anna Gamble. This resource was made available through a grant from the Colorado Department of Education. We are hopeful that we can continue this grant for the next school year. We are also apprehensive, given the proposed budget cuts at the state level.

During the month of February our staff encourages all parents to attend Parent/Teacher Conferences. Please reference the enclosed schedule and plan on attending one of the three opportunities to formally conference with your child's teachers. Please note the first night is by *invitation only* and designed for students who are struggling. The other two nights will be drop-in arena-style conferences. Parent/Teacher Conferences should be an ongoing process, as parents can at any time request a conference with their child's teachers. These scheduled Parent/Teacher Conferences are an additional opportunity to encourage conferencing.

The month of March is rapidly approaching and is the time when the State of Colorado requires all schools to administer the Colorado State Assessment Program (CSAP) tests for all students. The CSAP is a measure of how schools are performing. At Angevine, we are initiating structures to closely monitor the progress of individual students. I encourage all parents to have a dialogue with their child's teachers, inquiring the proficiency level of your student in reading, writing, math and science. Our goal is for every student to become proficient or advanced in each of these content areas. Please discuss with your son/daughter their goal for the upcoming CSAP assessments.

Angevine is excited about the Colorado Growth Model. This approach will measure the amount of progress made by individual students and will report how individual schools are performing based on a cumulative growth measure. In the past only the overall average of each grade level was reported. The measure of overall performance was based on a composite and average result. Individual student scores were shared with families and contributed to the school average. The amount of growth made by individual students wasn't reported. We are confident with this new Colorado Growth Model, schools like Angevine will be more favorably compared to other schools as a result of the growth made by our students. As a parent, you may want to consider asking questions such as, "Where is my student currently on CSAP proficiencies and what are the goals that are realistic for my son/daughter?"

In Partnership with Community,

Mike Medina, Principal, Angevine Middle School



- Feb. 2- April 10 - Musical Rehearsals (3:50pm-5:00pm) Cafetorium
 - 4 - Late Start Wednesday
 - 5 - CHS Counselors Presentations for 8th gr. (Social Studies classes)
 - 9 - Transition Night for 8th gr. at CHS – 6:30 pm-7:30 pm, 9th-27th Students from Ecuador
 - 10 - Parent/Teacher conferences Invitation only – 4:15pm-7:45pm
 - 11 - Late Start Wednesday
 - 12 - Parent Engagement Network Event – 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm - Cafetorium
 - 13 - Jazz Band Valentine Dance Performance – EldoradoK-8, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm
 - 16 - NO SCHOOL – PRESIDENTS' DAY
 - 17 - SIT Meeting – Library – 5:00 pm-6:00 pm
 - PTA Meeting – Library – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
 - 18 - FAST Meeting 5:00pm-10:00pm – Library
 - 19 - NAEP Testing
 - Middle School Orchestra Festival - CHS
 - Latino Parents Leadership Meeting -5:30pm-7:30pm – Library
 - Middle School Orchestra Concert –CHS – 7:00pm-8:30pm
 - 20 - March/April Newsletter Deadline (12:00pm)
 - Performance of "Hamlet" by Colorado Shakespeare Festival Cafetorium – 1:30pm-3:30pm
 - 23 - NO SCHOOL – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY
 - 24 - Parent/Teacher Conferences A-L (4:15pm-7:45pm)
 - 25 - 7th/8th gr. Music students to CHS Musical Performance 8:40am-11:45am.
 - CHS Counselors at AMS for 8th gr. class selection on IC
 - FAST Meeting – Library – 5:pm-10:00pm
 - 26 - Parent/Teacher Conference M-Z (4:15pm-7:45pm)
 - CHS Counselors at AMS for 8th gr. class selection on IC
 - 27 - Student Council Dance - 3:45pm-5:30pm – Gym
- MARCH**
- 3-11 - CSAP Testing (all students)
 - 3-12 - CSAP Testing (8th gr.)

From The Attendance Office

Parents - Please call the attendance line (303-447-5458) if your child is going to be absent from school on any school day and for any reason! Please send a note with your child when he/she has to leave school during the day for an appointment or any other reason. Tell your child to deliver the note to the attendance desk in the morning. She/he will receive a pass to leave the classroom at the necessary time and they will meet you in the main office. This procedure will ensure less interruptions during class time. Please come into the office to sign your student in or out of school.

Health Room News

All students were given a flier last week about a Health Insurance Enrollment Fair and Dental Aid Free Day on Friday, February 6th from 8:30-5:00. If you have question about the fair or if you are unable to attend the fair and have questions about whether your child qualifies for CHP+ health insurance or Medicaid please contact Diana Yaner or Susan Montoya.

Student Council News

Sweetheart Dance and Activities:

February 27th 3:45-5:00—Admission free

Chocolate Rose Sales:

Student Council will be selling chocolate roses during lunches February 2nd- February 13th. If you would like to purchase a rose for your student please stop by the front office. All monies raised go to pay for dances and Bobcat Pride prizes.

Box Tops:

Student council receives 10¢ each for every box top.

January 30th - No meeting; Honor's Breakfast

Angevine hoodies and t-shirts make a great gift! You can purchase them at all times in the Main Office. T-shirts-\$12, hoodies-\$20. We have them available in all sizes.

TAG note for the newsletter:

Kate Bachtel just completed training to facilitate SENG groups for BVSD parents and guardians of gifted and talented children. SENG is a non-profit organization that seeks to inform about the unique social and emotional needs of gifted individuals and to empower families and communities to influence more positively and effectively the development of those individuals. Feedback from parents who have participated in SENG groups has been extremely positive, and Kate looks forward to co-leading a group sometime in the near future. In the meantime, we encourage interested parents and guardians to visit www.SENGI.org for more information.

The next few weeks Sheri Tappert and Nancy Murray will be co-teaching a unit on "Hamlet" by William Shakespeare for the 8th grade Advanced Language Arts class. We will introduce the unit by exploring the historical context of the play and will focus on building students' literary analysis and interpretation skills. The students will be exposed to "Hamlet" in a variety of forms: the original text, a modern translation of the text, some film clips, a graphic comic book, and---the highlight of our studies---a performance at Angevine by actors from the Colorado Shakespeare Festival on February 20. The play will be immediately followed by a question-and-answer session with the performers, who will then lead 5 smaller-group workshops with our advanced Language Arts and advanced ESL students, along with our 6th graders who are TAG-identified in Language Arts. This project is being funded from a variety of sources, including our state TAG grant, the Boulder Arts Commission, and some generous parents of students in Nancy's period 6 class.

On February 20, Special Education teacher Catherine Brown and Language Arts teacher Barb McGraw will attend the Beyond Giftedness XVI Conference at the Arvada Center for the Arts. This conference is open to parents as well as educators and counselors; if you're interested, you may obtain information and register at <http://www.openspacecomm.com/>.

The winner of the Angevine Spelling Bee will go on to compete in the regional competition on February 21st at Monarch High School.



Hello Bobcat Families – Happy New Year!

We are rounding the last half of the school year and have some big events approaching. We are looking for volunteers for the following activities:

Feb 24 & 26 Spring Conferences – AMS PTA historically organizes meals for the staff during the nights of conferences. Please contact me or one of the board members if you are able to donate either a food dish or money to purchase food for the staff.

March 2-20 CSAP Tests – In order for our students to perform at their top level, the PTA will once again organize bottles of water and chewy granola bars for the students. We have over 600 students, so we encourage as many donations as we can get (either money to purchase these items, or the items themselves; the chewy granola bars, and the 8 oz water bottles if possible!). Sam's or Costco are ideal spots to buy these.

May 4-8 Staff Appreciation Week – We need a coordinator for this event; it is a fun week of thanking our teachers and staff for the tireless work they do with our children. Please contact me mollywaterman@yahoo.com or phone 303-249-0250 if you would like to help. NOTE: Jorge Alonso is our bilingual PTA board member if you wish to work with him directly, call 720-984-4936.

As always, we encourage you to join PTA to confirm your support to our school and to the students. Countless studies have shown that children excel academically when they have interested and involved parents. Membership envelopes are located on the wall outside the office – you can leave the completed form plus payment with either Connie or Sonia in the office.

Thank you again for all your support and contributions to Angevine!

Cheers,
Molly Waterman
AMS PTA President 08-09
303-249-0250 mobile
mollywaterman@yahoo.com

What is FAST FUN?

Spending an Evening with Your Family...

- Enjoying a free delicious meal
- Winning a lottery gift basket
- Youth group fun for your kids
- Special time with your son/daughter
- Talking with other parents
- Playing fun family games

Free childcare for younger children

Families and Schools Together (F.A.S.T.) provides a relaxing evening for families to enjoy time together and meet other parents. Once a week for 11 weeks on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm come together for a meal, family activities, parent group, kid time, then finish up with a family game and lottery basket give-away.

To sign up or for more information contact: Michele Peel (School Partner) - 303-665-5540

Jorge Alonso (Parent Partner) - 720-984-4936 Julie Rappaport (Team Leader) – 303-954-0455



Proud To Be Bilingual Writing Contest

The Colorado Association of Bilingual Education sponsors a *Proud To Be Bilingual* writing contest every year. The Dual Language Program Teachers will support students who would like to submit a bilingual essay in order to participate in the competition. All bilingual students are encouraged to participate. To enter, please see Ms. Campos or Dr. Elsneparyzer. Winners and their families are invited to attend an Awards Banquet at the next CABA conference (June or October.)



THEATER TALK

Rehearsals:

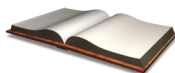
February 2nd through April 15th after school, 3:45pm - 5:00pm (rehearsal days vary by character role- rehearsals go later in April)

Performances:

Thursday and Friday, April 16, 17 - AMS Cafetorium - 7:00pm

THIS YEAR'S PRODUCTION: "THE NIFTY FIFTIES"

AVID UPDATE



AVID 7th and 8th grade classes used their research skills and creativity to design an assembly for the school. The Martin Luther King Jr. assembly presented by AVID students on Friday, January 16 celebrated the wonderful characteristics of Martin Luther King Jr. and the non-violent message and methods everyday people used to stand up for their civil rights. It also highlighted some of the unsung heroes. It was a multi-media and multi-talented presentation; skits, music, quotes, slide shows, and poetry. In addition, Angevine's very own Honor Choir sang a gospel concert that resonated justice. Bravo AVID students and Honor Choir!

The eighth grade AVID students are gearing up for the Friday Harbor Island trip. The trip is planned for May 11-15. In preparation for the marine biology field experience students will be researching and creating a written and visual presentation. Watch for further updates, students will be sharing their knowledge and expertise with the Angevine community.



Athletic News

Wrestling season has started! Please come and cheer on your Bobcat wrestlers at the following meets:

Interscholastic 6th, 7th, 8th Wrestling Meets:

Thursday, Jan-22 AMS team @ Aspen Creek

Tuesday, Jan-27 AMS team @ Monarch

Wednesday, Feb 4 AMS team @ Aspen Creek

Thursday, Feb-12 AMS team @ Monarch

The district will be announcing the host school for the final district meet soon.

Friday, Jan-30 Intramurals Girls Basketball Tournament @ Broomfield Heights Middle School at 4:00pm.

6th, 7th, 8th Intramurals Boys Soccer season begins March 9th. No physical is required

6th, 7th Intramurals Girls Volleyball begins March 16th. No physical is required

Go Bobcats!

Parent Engagement Network presents: Thriving During the Teenage Years

IF YOU THINK YOUR TEEN DOESN'T GIVE A HOOT...*MAYBE HE CANT*

By Dr. Michael Bradley

One of the frequent worries I hear from parents about their teens concerns what appears to be a frightening lack of empathy:

"Before she became a teenager Susan used to be the sweetest girl you could imagine. And now that her father has lost his job, she seems to care only about herself. She gets upset about the money worries but she seems to only be concerned with how this will affect only her. I tried to get her to see how distraught her dad is, and how he needs our love and support, but she just stares at me with these cold, blank eyes like she's some kind of sociopath or something. I can see she's listening, but I can't see any compassion for Bob [her father] or for her little brother. None at all! What happened to my sweet little girl?"

What happened was adolescence. New brain imaging studies confirm what many veteran parents have seen (and worried about) since forever, namely that teen brains are not neurologically capable of having adult levels of empathy. It's not that they like to be selfish; it's more because they lack the "caring wiring."

In a remarkable study from the University College London Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, adolescent and adult brain imaging (via functional MRI's) were compared to see if there were any differences when their respective brains were confronted with empathy situations. When considering what they would do in some action decision scenario, the kids mostly went to a brain region called the superior temporal sulcus, the place where we all go to predict *only our own* future actions. The adults, however, fired up their medial prefrontal cortex, a vastly more sophisticated brain center. That gray matter (often referred to as the "seat of civilization" by neuroscientists) can do that uniquely human trick of worrying about how our future actions might affect other people.

Young adolescent prefrontal cortexes are just beginning their most significant development to start to build higher-level *adult* capabilities such as empathy and compassionate decision-making (along with about a hundred other critical adult tools).

The best way to teach empathy is not to yell or punish for its lacking but to quietly model it with patience, tolerance, and love: *"Susan, I know Dad's job loss is scary for you, and it's only natural that you would think mostly about how this affects you. But please take a minute and try to also think about how Dad feels. He loves you so much and he's so scared that this will hurt you and your little brother, who by the way, looks to you to see how he should handle his own fears. If you can try to show a little empathy for them, you might be surprised to see how caring about others is a weird and wonderful way of caring about ourselves."*

Take care, and have an empathic day.

Mike Bradley

Dr. Michael Bradley Alert!

Dr. Michael Bradley acclaimed national speaker and author of several books, including *Yes, Your Teen is Crazy!*, will be in Boulder on February 27th & 28th. He will be presenting a PEN-sponsored talk as well as a parent workshop to help raise funds for September School and the Boulder Counseling Cooperative. For more information, please call (303) 443-9933.

Upcoming PEN Event:

Thursday, January 15 9-11am

Lafayette Library (775 W. Baseline Road)

Healing Circles, Jennifer Trinkle, MA, ATR, LPC, Embracing Life's Transitions, Healing Circles Program Coordinator, Effectively Coping with Loss HospiceCare Grief & Education Center, www.hospicecareonline.org

Learn more about PEN by visiting their website at: www.parentengagementnetwork.org or by contacting Betsy Fox with the Boulder County Healthy Youth Alliance at 303-441-3981.



CSAP Snack Volunteers Needed

2800 Small 8oz. water bottles (\$8 at Sam's or Costco)

2800 chewy granola bars (48 @ \$8 at Sam's or Costco)

Money donations towards water and granola bars

Ask local businesses for donations or money

Parents to sort snacks per room each afternoon

Water and granola bars can be dropped off in the health room now through March 11th. Our goal is one water and snack per day per student. We greatly appreciate your assistance in helping our students succeed.

Please contact Susan Montoya to volunteer or with further questions at 303-665-5540 ext. 226.

Angevine -ISSE 2008-09

As part of the Angevine - International School-to-School Experience, our school is thrilled to be receiving 7 Ecuadorian student delegates and their teacher from February 9 - 27. The delegates will each live with an AMS host family and attend school with their host siblings. Our host students are 6th grader Ben Vidaurre; 7th graders Erik Christensen, Lucy Houlihan, Schaeffer Weidman, Quinn Waterman, Siena Ruggeri; and 8th grader Lexi Beuning. 8th grade Math teacher Nikki Leonard will host the delegation teacher. In addition to learning about American and Colorado culture, our visitors will perform a cultural assembly for all of our students on February 18 and will also be visiting several of our classrooms to teach our students about life in Ecuador. We anticipate this will be an eye-opening and enriching learning experience for all!

ANGEVINE MEDIA CENTER

Over the past month and a half, the Angevine Media Center has featured six Newbery Honor books as important literature for the young adult reader. The first was Rules by **Cynthia Lord**. This book is about a teenage girl who is constantly making adjustments in her family for her brother's autism. The second book is Penny From Heaven by **Jennifer Holm**. It is about a young girl's struggle to understand the secretive death of her father during World War II. The third book is the Higher Power of Lucky by **Susan Patron**. It is the story of a young girl's coming to terms with the loss of her mother and acceptance of her life with her father's first wife. The fourth book is Upon the Head of the Goat by **Aranka Siegel**. It is the chilling true story of Mrs. Siegel's experiences of the Holocaust in Hungary during World War II. The fifth book is The Gammage Cup by **Carol Kendall**. It is a fantasy of a gentle, eccentric people coming under attack by invaders from the outside world. The sixth book is The One-Eyed Cat by **Paula Fox**. It is a story of a young boy's guilt and redemption from a careless act of defiance.

This past month-and-a-half teachers and students have used the Media Center's facilities and services for many different projects. **Mrs. Penner** brought her French students to the Media Center's Writing Lab to work on CD French language exercises. **Ms. Jones**, the Art teacher, used the Media Center's video camera to tape two days of painting lessons for her sub this spring. **Mr. Hernandez** used the Media Center computers and the Internet to study various Spanish speaking countries. **Mr. Hostetter** and **Ms. Cortez** brought their 7th grade Life Science students to the Media Center for a two week research project on invertebrates. **Mrs. Murray** used a classroom set of poetry books from the Media Center to help introduce her Language Arts students to good poetry. **Mrs. Leonard** used a classroom set of books on Canada to supplement her unit on that country she was teaching to her 6th grade Social Studies students. **Mrs. Smith**, **Mr. Juroshek** and **Mrs. Castle** have been using books on health issues from the Media Center to teach their Health classes. **Mrs. Elsnes-Paryzer** had her Dual Language, Language Arts students check-out books from the Media Center's Spanish language collection. **Mr. Slaby** used the Media Center for a week long unit on the first five presidents of the United States with his 8th grade American Studies classes. **Mrs. Rose** and **Mr. Romero** used the Media Center for a week long 6th grade Language Arts unit for research on ancient mysteries around the world. **Mrs. Brown** has been using the Media Center to help her students find appropriate lexile levels. **Mr. Hostetter** and **Mrs. Cortez** have been using David Attenborough's landmark video series *Life on Earth* from the Media Center's collection to teach their 7th grade Life Science students about different earth life forms.

ANGEVINE MIDDLE SCHOOL

1150 West S. Boulder Rd.

Lafayette, CO 80026

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Permit No. 19

Lafayette, CO 80026

