



# Columbine Connections

## Wildcats With Positive Identity Recognized

Kids these days are exposed to many negative images and ideas. This makes developing and maintaining self-confidence and a positive identity hard. Our staff works on reinforcing student's natural desire to create a positive identity by recognizing students who have traits that strengthen their identities.

Today we recognized our students who maintain a positive identity. These students consistently:

- Exhibit pride in their culture
- Demonstrate pride in their language
- Are optimistic about their future
- Resist negative peer pressure

**First Grade:** Joshua Torres, Citlalli Vásquez, Carolina Lechuga, Frankie Gutiérrez, August Conway, Nolan Brunner, Joel Lemus, Luz Gordillo, Martín Rodríguez-Ledesma, Alex García-Sarmiento, Edgar González, Juan Fernando Campos

**Second Grade:** José Bautista, Leidy Guerrero, Rubén Ordaz, Becca Smith, Orion Dinsmore, Tristan Cress, Aly Martínez, Haley Larson, Daniel Olguín, Josue Ake-Pech, Alán Román-Rodríguez, Edgar Carranza

**Third Grade:** Cynthia Puentes, Daniel Macias, José Hernández-Mauricio, Besty Sánchez, Isabel Hinojosa, José Corchado, Alejandro Morales, Lorenzo Lujan

**Fourth Grade:** Zach Padilla, Jacqueline Macias, Fermín Alday, Nayeli Coslor, Kylie Sutphin, Denise Bugarin, Esteban Rayos.

**Fifth Grade:** : Rodolfo Castro, Cristian Hernández, Araceli Araiza, Sarai Molina, Lynn Widger, Reyna Mares, Cindy Maxfield, Angie Araujo, Mariana DeLa Cruz

Congratulations to our students who have positive identities and their families.



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June 1, 2007

### June Calendar

Preschool story hour (10-11 am in library)	1
Talent Show (2 PM—Cafeteria)	4
Field Day AM Kinder 8:30—9:16 Grades 1-5 10—12:13 PM Kinder 12:45-1:31	5
Kindergarten Graduation (Courtyard) AM Classes 10 AM PM Classes 1:30 PM	6
Fifth Grade Graduation (6:30 Cafeteria)	6
5th Grade Farewell (9:00 AM Cafeteria)	7
<b>Last Day for Students!!</b>	<b>7</b>

### August Calendar

Assessment 1/2 days (see article)	
Blue Assessment Day (last names A-F)	15
Pink Assessment Day (last names G-N)	16
Yellow Assessment Day (last names O-Z)	17
First Day of School	20
Taste of the Nation (Whole Foods Market)	23

## Summertime Should Include Reading

The carefree days of summer are upon us. The days will be filled with swimming, playing and lazy afternoons. These activities are what make summer so special. It's easy to fall into the idle routine, but that isn't what's best for our students. Kids need to keep their brains active over the summer to avoid the regression we



often see when they return to school in the fall. This year, it is especially important to keep them thinking since we will be assessing students earlier than normal. Establish a daily reading time the first day of

summer vacation so your child adapts to the expectation. Variety will help them stay engaged. Choose exciting books, play math games, watch an educational program or keep a summer journal. Have fun with your downtime and come back ready to learn in August.

## Fall Assessment Days Planned

The Boulder Valley School District has assigned three days in August to welcome students to school and complete reading and math assessments.

These assessments inform our instruction and help us determine literacy and math groups.

The school year will officially begin on Monday, August 20th for all students, but we have organized the students alphabetically to attend school one day of the week before school starts so we can perform the required assessments. It is very important that your child attends school the day assigned. Transportation will be provided for all children who normally

ride the bus. Students will be picked up at 8:30 AM and they will return home at 11:30 AM

Columbine will be conducting reading and math assessments over three days. The assessments will be for BOTH returning and new students. Children in grades 1-5 will come on one of these mornings based on the first letter of their LAST name. Since kindergarten assessments will be done later in the fall, incoming kindergarten students will **not** participate in the assessments. Instead, kindergartners will have a special orientation on Friday, August 17th from 2-3 PM. The first official day for kindergartners will be Monday, August 20th.

Below is a list of the last names assigned to each of the assessment days. The list also indicates the color of the letter you will receive on the last day of school and in the mail over the summer.

Last Name(s)	Color of Letter	Date
A-F	Green	Wed., Aug.
G-N	Pink	Thur., Aug. 16th
O-Z	Yellow	Fri., Aug. 17th

**ALL STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOL STARTING MONDAY, AUGUST 20th**

## PTA Finishes the Year

The PTA had their final meeting of the year on May 14th. It was a working meeting since we had 400 ribbons for the Mile Marathon to assemble. Ms. Widger presented the calendar for the 2007-08 school year with dates for special events and conferences included. Parents approved the calendar and noted all the PTA meeting dates for next school year. A new policy on toys in school was also considered and discussed. Parents approved the new policy which prohibits toys that cause distraction, contain batteries, or are violent. Trading cards were also forbidden because they consistently cause conflicts between

students. Ms. Widger also reported that the dress code approved earlier this year will go into affect next year. Plans for the building renovation are moving forward. A meeting between the principal and the architect is scheduled for June 5th to get preliminary plans in place. A steering committee consisting of parents and staff will be formed in the fall to oversee the renovation and keep communication flowing to and from our school community. Finally, the assessment committee presented their plan for the fall assessment days and received feedback from the parents.

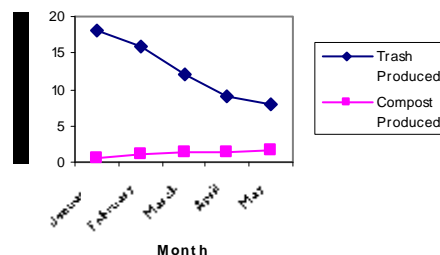
### Collect Box Tops This Summer

Columbine will be participating in the Box Tops For Education program next year. Please clip the box tops (shown above) off cereal, snacks, and hundreds of other products in the grocery store this summer and save them to bring to school in the fall. Many other schools earn significant funds for their schools by participating in this easy program.

## Green Star Effort Drastically Reduces Trash

We recently received some exciting news from Eco-Cycle! Columbine has cut our trash in half since we became a Green Star school. In fact, we only need our trash collected once a week now! Not only are we reducing trash, we're producing compost which is useful for gardening and helps even our own plants in the courtyard thrive. The graph to the right illustrates how well we are doing. We're proud of the work all the students and staff put into this program and look forward to reducing even more next year.

Columbine Waste Reduction



### A Special Thanks

All year we have been supported, pampered and surprised by the volunteers from First Presbyterian Church. They have adopted us in many ways including Kids Hope, spring clean-up, connecting us with Dibert school in New Orleans for our book drive and continually treating our staff with food and words of encouragement. We are truly blessed by their support and ask that next time you see a volunteer around school, be sure to thank them for their kindness.