



# Columbine Connections

## Columbine Recognizes Positive Identity

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. Tuesday 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:** Eric Morales, Miki Ogin, Jorge Cruz, Jesus Jimenez, Hannah Roth, Ian McDiarmid-Sterling, Tania Sanchez, Marco

Millan, Lauren Granados, Austin Taylor, Rocely Ramires

**Second Grade:** Citlalli Vasquez, Alejandra Cabarello, Thu Truong, Christopher Gutierrez, Bryan Navarro, Adolfo Monreal, Eileen Longoria, Janeth Longoria, Anahí Arellano, Luciano Pitones, Dara Ramirez

**Third Grade:** Orion Dinsmore, Jacial Gutierrez, Alan Roman-Rodriguez, Andrew Martinez, Estefania Ordaz, Andres Lopez-Zavala, Luis Portillo

**Fourth Grade:** Perla Romero, Edgar Chavarria, Celia Rodriguez, Vanessa Delgado, Alejandra Lopez, Deysi Longoria, José Ordaz, Lupita Martinez, Perla Magdaleno, Jorge Zavala

**Fifth Grade:** Manuel Longoria, Zunaira Zaman, Esteban Olguin, Esteban Rayos

## Announcements

- **The office will be staffed thru July 3rd. It will then be closed until July 27th and will reopen for the fall on July 28th.**
- Look for your fall information packet in early August. This will include a reminder schedule for our fall assessment days, a school supply list and the building calendar for the year.
- If your family needs assistance obtaining school supplies for next year, look for a flyer that will be mailed in your "back to school packets" in August with details about distribution dates and location.
- If you haven't turned in your child's registration form for next year, please do so before our office closes for the summer July 3rd.

Columbine Elementary  
3130 Repllier St.  
Boulder, CO 80304  
303-443-0792  
FRS: 303-441-4059  
[www.bvds.org/schools/Columbine](http://www.bvds.org/schools/Columbine)

May 29, 2008

Office opens 7/28

## August Calendar

A-F assessment day	14
G-N assessment day	15
O-Z assessment day	16
Kinder meet & Greet	18
First Day For Students	19

## 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 first thing in August. 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. We have plenty of links to fun, educational games on our website—check out the "Useful Links" on our *Parents* page. Have fun with your downtime and come back ready to learn in August.

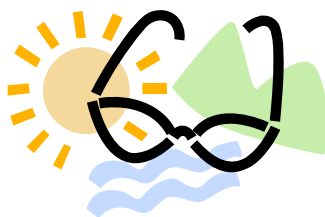
**Book Fair A Huge Success**

Thanks to everyone who helped us at the Book Fair. We had record sales at this Buy One Get One Free Book Fair. We want to thank all of you who did your shopping here. A big thank you to all the volunteers who made this possible: Kazuko Ogina, Hilda del Rjo, Jeanette Thiengen, Liesl Freudenstein, Francine Alberts, Sue Hines, Melanie Torres, Nancy Peterson, Jennifer Cleary, Stephanie Flynn, Marta Nava, Rebecca Brunner, Sara King, Jennifer Taylor, Trish Wood and Fran Brown. We couldn't have done it without you!

## The Secret Opportunity of Summer by Jan Hittlemen (submitted by PEN)

As another school year winds down, we start to set our sights on summer. For many of us the summer is a time of transition; finishing the school year, preparing for the next, moving up to the next grade or school, family vacations, and general rejuvenation for what's to come. It's interesting how the school year has a life of its own and we all seem to get so caught up in the demands, timelines, and all too harried pace. But once again the end is in sight and the promise of summer is around the corner. It is a welcome and much-needed time for everyone. Hopefully we will all get the opportunity for some well-earned rest and relaxation. Another challenge of the school year is trying to address all of the unexpected issues that arise and require us to provide feedback/educate/discipline

for our children on everything from school responsibilities, at-risk behaviors, and household chores to even larger life lessons involving morals, values, ethics and overall good judgment. No wonder we feel so exhausted this time of year! Invariably for most families the tenor of these conversations during the school year is more negative than positive. It is often in response to a behavior or situation that requires correction. Several years ago the National Parent Teacher Organization did a study that found that the ratio of negative to positive statements made by parents to their children was 18:1. That's eighteen negative statements to every positive one! This dy-



amic is more common in our own homes than we might like to think. This brings us to the secret opportunity of summer. As we decompress from the school year and find opportunities to relax with family, this is a great time to reconnect with our children in a positive way. To purposely schedule time to go for a walk, share a meal, go out for coffee, or go on vaca-

tion, and make a real effort to simply share and catch up. To discuss and heal from the challenges of the past, while beginning to brainstorm ways to increase our successes during the next school year. To make sure our children know how much we love them and to provide genuine praise for the very many things that they do right. To let our children know that we will always be there to support them and welcome them to seek us out whenever they'd just like to talk. To let them know how honored we are to be their parents. While we often assume that our children know that we love them, it is important to try and balance the necessary negative feedback that our children require, with the unconditional love that they need most of all. Make this summer a time of rejuvenation and strengthening of the relationship that you have with your child.

## PTA News

The PTA had their final meeting of the year on May 12th. It was a working meeting since we had 400 ribbons for the Mile Marathon to assemble. The calendar for the 2008-09 school year with dates for special events and conferences included was discussed and the PTA proposed three dates for the staff to consider for the carnival. We also discussed the Dia de los Madres celebration. It was a lovely performance and

the effort was appreciated. PTA offered suggestions for next year to not only add efficiency but also be more inclusive with bilingual acts. Finally, we discussed Officers for the 08-09 year. David Sterling will be president and will hopefully split the position with a parent of a new student. Sara King will take over fundraising. Other officer's positions will remain unchanged. Thanks to all who attended, join us next year again!

## Raffle Winners Celebrate Prizes

We're happy to report we had our most successful raffle yet! We sold over 2,300 tickets and raised close to \$7,000 for our school for a net gain of \$5,850. Ms. Sues 1st grade class took the honor of most tickets sold with over 300 tickets sold by her students. Way to go first graders! Thank you to ALL our students and their families who participated for all their hard work selling tickets. Funds raised will be used to support fun and important programs here at school like field trips, guest speakers and class materials. A special thanks to all our volunteers who helped stuff packets and fulfill orders: Hilda del Rio, Gabina Silva, Lori Kuczinski-Tripp, Sara King, Joni Burr,

Nancy Peterson, Debrorah Lieberman, Kathy Gilbert, Wanda Pelegrina-Caldas and Martina de la Cruz. Here's a list of our lucky winners:

1st Prize (\$750) Hesther Zavala

2nd Prize (\$300) Julie Morris

3rd Prize (\$100) Juan Ortiz

\$100 Target card: Aaron Hernandez

\$100 Whole Foods: The Bartels

Night @ St. Julien: Debra Anderson

Necklace/earrings: Betty Hines

**Restaurant Gift Cards:** Lori Kucaynski-Tripp, Kathy Wellman, Jose Chavez, Jona-

than Freedman, Connie Shaw, Norma Cervantes, Bartel Family, Aracei Ortiz,

**Gift Baskets:** Jennifer Taylor, Tiak Poudel, Juevenal Carrillo, Bartel Family, Sue Hines, Gloria Jimenez, Chris Goodwin, Harriet Isbell, Carissa Pillings, Judy Cohen

**Other Gift Cards:** Liesl Freudenstein, Bartel Family, Jane Spenser, Crystal Viguera, Yolanda Morales, Artemio Longoria, Guadalupe Valteirra, Hilda del Rio, Irene King

**Used TV's & Bikes:** Nicole Kalayeh, Juan Carlos, Lilita Roman, Rise Keller, Nadia Gutierrez