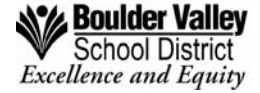




# Columbine Connections



## Columbine Recognizes *Bien Educados* Recipients

Columbine held it's last Bien Educados assemblies for the calendar year just before winter break. December's awards were given to students who care for themselves and others. These students take good care of themselves thru exercise, good nutrition and maintaining a good appearance. They also take care of others with their words and actions and their classrooms. Please join us in congratulating the following students:

**First Grade:** Diana Alarcon, Morrison Ario, Christopher Jimenez, Charlotte Jonker, Briseyda Magdaleno, Jacob Traum, Lizabeth Lopez, Jasmin Ramirez, Perla Ordaz, Manuel Barcenas, Saul Escobar, Manuel Castro, Alvina Longoria, Ricardo Gurrola, Juan González

**Second Grade:** Jackson Silva Escalante, Ricky Crespo-Mosqueda, José Pablo Lopez, Asusena Sanchez, Tania Sanchez, Angel Ocon-Gordillo, Rocely Ramirez, Cody Morris, Camila Avitia, Dulce Carillo, Emmanuel Flores-Reyes, Evan Gordillo, Emily Hernandez, Kawai Larson, Diana Martinez, Antonio Martinez-Robles, Ian McDiarmid-Sterling, Hao Nguyen, Alma Vazquez, Shreya Sharma

**Third Grade:** Alyssa Cartwright, Adolfo Monreal, Thu (Jenny) Truong, Eileen Longoria, Paloma Robles, Favian Silva, Joost Jonker

**Fourth Grade:** Christian Wood, Paige Carmichael, Luis Vasquez, Edwin Sanchez, Edgar Carranza, Luis Perez, Bryan Silva, Isaac Sanchez-

Mauricio, Elizabeth Quezada

**Fifth Grade:** Mayra Cerceda-Cota, Thalia Valles, Lorenzo Lujan, Jazmin Navarro, Alexis Lopez, Daniel Jonker, Jesus Ramirez, Oliver King, Lupita Martinez, Alex Morales, Jorge Zavala.

### Announcements

- If you are planning on joining your child(ren) for lunch, please tell the classroom teacher so the kitchen has a meal for you. Thanks.
- Now that the cold weather is here, help your child be prepared by making certain they are dressed warmly for school .

Columbine Elementary  
3130 Replier St.  
Boulder, CO 80304  
303-443-0792  
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January 9, 2009

## January Calendar

PTA Meeting (6:30—Art Room)	12
Preschool Story Hour (1:15-2PM Library)	14
TODOS Family Movie Night (5:30-cafeteria)	14
No School - (Martin Luther King)	19
TODOS -parent class (5:30 light dinner 6PM start )	21
Fiesta Night (5:30 PM)	30

## Enrollment Goes Paperless

Effective immediately, registration for students new to the district must be completed online. This applies to incoming kindergarteners for the 2009/10 school year and students new to the district entering any other grade. We will no longer be providing paper registration forms in the office. If you do not have a com-


puter available or need help completing the application, you can go to the Education Center at 6500 E. Arapahoe Road. Once you complete the online application, a receipt will be generated. Bring the receipt to our office with the following documentation:

- Student's Birth Certificate

- Proof of address
- Immunization Records

We will then fax the receipt and these documents to the Ed Center for final processing. Access online registration at: <http://mab.bvsd.org>

Thank you in advance for your patience with the new system.



Please be respectful of our neighbors and park on Glenwood when you come for school events. Make it your new years resolution to park on Glenwood if you pick up your child at dismissal. Those few extra steps will add up to a healthier you.

## Smoother Transition to Adolescence

By Dr. Jan Hittelman

For most of us, parenting our elementary-age children is easier than our adolescents. Younger children are fairly compliant and we feel less overwhelmed. When they hit adolescence, we often embark on a roller coaster ride of challenges and conflict. Many of our tried and true parenting strategies no longer seem to be effective.

What most parents don't know is that there are certain approaches that can be weaved into our parenting with our younger children that can significantly reduce conflict when they become adolescents. More specifically, consider the following strategies:

- **Teaching Responsibility:** If given the opportunity, most children (and many adults) prefer to project blame onto

others instead of taking responsibility for their behavior. The best way to teach children responsibility is to use empowerment. Empowering your child means giving them a voice in the rules, consequences and discipline plan. The more involved they are in this process the more they will take ownership of it. This doesn't mean that they get control over these issues, which still rests with the parent. It does mean that their views and feedback are taken into consideration by the parent and, whenever appropriate, integrated into the final decision.

- **Modeling Respect:** For whatever reason, adults often tend to treat children differently in terms of respect. This is a critical error that often

comes back to haunt us when our children become adolescents. If we want our children's respect, we must show them respect. Otherwise, when they hit adolescence we may be very disappointed with the lack of respect they show us as parents.

**Providing Positive Feedback:** As parents (and in general) we tend to focus on the negative more than the positive. This is an important habit to break because we inadvertently train our children to get our attention negatively. This pattern results in significant conflict once a child hits adolescence. .

## PTA News



The December PTA meeting was brief but included some important discussion. Design Team asked PTA for approval for an alternative to the book fair. Book fairs are labor intensive and don't offer many Spanish options. Design Team proposed using funds from Best Buy and The Opportunity Fund to purchase a book for each child via Scholastic. Books will be ordered in February and will be distributed on Drop Everything and Read day in April. Funding sources will need to be found for subse-

quent years. PTA voted to try this approach. Setting up a room parent network is in progress and we hope to have a system in place soon. Teachers were encourage to shift their thinking towards asking for volunteers more. PTA heard about the new "Take Art Home" program. Our art teacher will be teaching some afterschool classes in the winter and spring. Students participating in the classes will have a way to practice their art skills at home. Parents made some suggestions for next year's carnival.



Lights of December Float

val. The meeting closed by discussing a group effort to call regular PTA participants before meetings to remind them.

**Next Meeting—Monday, January 12th 6:30 PM in the art room, childcare, snacks and translation provided.**



Lights of December Float

## TODOS has more family fun planned



Our last two TODOS events for 2008 were great. We want to build on that momentum as we start a new year. We'll be starting the year with a family movie night on Wednesday, January 14th. The movie will be *Spirited Away*. We'll provide munchies and get started around 5:30. Next on tap will be two sessions for parents presented by Blue Sky Bridge on protecting your child from sexual abuse. January 30th will

be our popular fiesta night. In February TODOS will host a "get moving night" and an evening when we will make snack and soup mixes to take home. Later in the Spring we will include another movie night, a presentation by the Boulder Parks and Recreation and a father/son event. We will conclude with another community service project in May. Plan on coming to some or all of these great opportunities for family

involvement at Columbine. TODOS wants to extend a special thanks to Jorge Jimenez's and Zen McCollum's families for helping us clean up after our last two messy events. We also want to thank everyone for the beautiful wrapping paper that was made for shut-ins. The recipients were very grateful and impressed with our creativity.

Congratulations to 1st Grader Jesus Ruiz. He won the goodie basket from the staff.