



Creekside Connection

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Superior Elementary School

www.bvsd.org/schools/superior

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Families,

We hope you enjoyed the week-long Thanksgiving break and the gorgeous weather that went along with it! The holiday season is upon us and our winter break will be here before we know it; two weeks to be exact. Often during this time of year many families begin to think about and plan for *warm* spring vacations. As you make your travel arrangements we would like you to keep in mind the dates of the Colorado State Assessments (CSAP) that our third, fourth and fifth graders will be taking during the months of February and March.

- 3rd Grade Reading CSAP – February 13 and 14; make-ups February 15, 16, 17.
- 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade CSAP March 5 – 20; make-ups March 21, 22, 23.
- **Spring Break March 26-30.**

Please consult the district calendar as you plan your family vacations. You can click on <http://bvsd.org/calendar> and find this year's calendar and next year's calendar as well. We only have our students in class for approximately 175 days each year. A five-day family vacation in many cases means a child misses an entire unit of study, and while teachers can send work with you on the trip, nothing replaces the instruction that our teachers provide.

As we move into our second trimester of the year, we are finding tremendous value in our Thursday Collaboration time - the early release time on Thursdays. As you may remember, ***the purpose of Collaboration Time is to engage in conversations that improve teaching and learning.*** During Collaboration Time, it was the intent of our district to build shared knowledge of

- State standards
- District curriculum
- Assessment results
- Monitoring for student progress and responding to learning challenges and learning extensions
- Criteria used to communicate the "target" students are expected to reach and measure student progress toward that target

At Superior, we are working as teams to design units using the backwards design model, improving our inter-rater reliability on writing samples and DRA2 assessments and developing pre- and post-assessments for units of study. Our teams work with grade levels above and below them to create vertical articulation of curricula and with the special education and literacy teams to identify student progress and needs. Knowing best practices and staying current on new research ideas is at the core of our work with a book study imbedded in our ongoing and continuous professional development.

As a staff, we are committed to providing your child with a high quality education and we know that occurs when the school and family work together. Each year, the Boulder Valley School District administers a survey to school community members to gain information about their perspective on school processes. Upon receiving these results we review, reflect and make necessary changes according to the feedback collected from this survey. In the past, these results were shared with staff at the end of the year, often too late to make necessary changes. **Please complete the survey that is in today's Friday folder.** It is our goal to continuously look for and identify ways in which we can better our relationship with our SES community. Your feedback is invaluable as we continue to work to improve.

Please complete the survey and return it to your child's teacher by Friday, December 9th. Thank you so much in advance for your participation.

Jenn Ikenouye
Principal



I would like to thank the many people who made the Jungle Book Musical a great experience for our 5th graders!

The following parents helped with the numerous rehearsals, making costumes, building and decorating the set, putting on make-up, dressing kids, gathering props, running the backstage during shows and videotaping the performances:

Mary Beth Chen, Kim Christianian, Eileen Coleman, Ashley Cullaton, Katherine D'Souza, Ann De Franco, Alisa DeWitt, Brain Driscoll, Sheryl Driscoll, Garon Duncan, Tom Greene, Stacey Hartmann, Barbara Hill, Kerry Howard, Megan Kelly, Dot Kellner, Andria Kennoy, Mina Khadem, Sue Kirkman, Lisa Kyle, Bobby Lehman, Daryl Leeson, Randi Leeson, Cindy Manzano, Megan McDonnell, Kathryn Messman, Michelle Muckle, Kim Orr, Brandon Parkes, Marci Parsons, Charlie Peterson, Cris Pfromer, Don Quinn, Maggie Reuter, Laura Rick, Kimberly Rouland, Kate Sales, Carrie Schneider, Bonnie Selby, Beth Shogrin, Denise Simpson, Steve Simpson, Sue Stone, Susie Stricker, Kati Suing, Brandy Sylvester, Carol Thames, Gloria Timmons and Alexander Volgunin

Parents provided support in so many ways – you are an exceptional group of parents to show so much support for the musical education of your children and we appreciate all you do!

Thanks to Bethany Kearn and Katie Graf who were the stage managers and to Deb Seigel for choreographing and teaching the kids to dance for “Bare Necessities.”

Also, thanks to the staff for their help and support. Many helped with equipment and logistics while others gave up their classrooms and time or dealt with schedule changes and very excited kids. Thanks especially to: Adan Gonzalez, Jose Silva, Ed Rodriguez, Lynette Schulz, Merry Mungo, Kathy Carty-Mullen, Mike Wojczuk, Bethany Kearn, Erin Sciscione, Jen Dickey, Bobby Lehman, Eric Kisskalt, and Kelly Marcus.

And to our wonderful administration and office staff: Jenn Ikenouye and Johnna Wynn, Patrice Kinderman, Jerri Warkenthein, Marti Eurich, and Susie Stricker.

SCHOOL NEWS

IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 7: Songbirds/Hand bells Concert
1:30 and 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 13: PTA meeting 6:30-8 p.m.
Dec. 15: 4th grade Winterfest
Dec. 16: Hat Day
Dec. 16: 1st grade field trip – Arvada Center
Dec. 19-Jan. 3: Winter Break
Jan. 6: 1st grade Family Potluck

Art Room Needs:

- * Long wrapping paper tubes
- * Shoe boxes
- * Large styrofoam egg cartons
- * Yarn



All 4th and 5th grade students are invited to participate in **Songbirds**. We will meet Tuesday and Friday afternoons in the kiva, 2:40-3:20 p.m. starting in January. Please see the information letter and permission slip that will be in Friday folders or check our website at www.bvsd/schools/superior (look to the left and click on music and Mrs. Austin). Our concert will be on March 21st.

Read-A-Thon is coming!

Read-A-Thon (R-A-T) is our second trimester fundraiser and our theme this year is **SPACE!** We will be asking families to support reading, writing and drawing while raising money for our PTA. The R-A-T kicks off on Friday, January 27th at 3 p.m. and ends at 7 a.m. on February 3rd. The awards assembly will be on February 10th. There will be an optional art contest beginning on January 13th (due January 24th), a writing contest (details to come) and of course lots of reading, reading, and more reading! Please remember that this program exists to enhance opportunities to choose reading, not to replace other activities, sleep or family time. If you are interested in helping with R-A-T, please email Kate Sales at katebsales@comcast.net or Jen Tucker at tuckerredout@comcast.net. Thank you for supporting your child and our PTA!

OPEN ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

The Boulder Valley School District Open Enrollment application period runs from November 28, 2011 through January 13, 2012. If you would like your child to attend a school other than the one he or she is currently enrolled in, you must submit an application online at <http://bvsd.org/openenrollment> or visit the Open Enrollment office no later than **4:00 p.m., January 13, 2012**. Applications received after that date means your student will be added to the bottom of any existing waitlist for that school and grade.

Please note that there are important changes in the Open Enrollment process starting this application period including:

- New notification of acceptance
- Earlier notification of waitlist position

For more information regarding these and other important changes, please view "Open Enrollment in BVSD: What's New This Year?" at: <http://www.bvsd.org/Documents/OEbrochure.pdf>

2012-2013 Eldorado 6th Grade Information

2012-2013 6th Grade Orientation and Open Enrollment Information Evening:

December 1, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

2012-2013 6th Grade Shadow Days:

December 5, 2011 8:45a.m. – 11:15a.m. (R.S.V.P. by November 29th)

December 9, 2011 8:45a.m. – 11:15a.m. (R.S.V.P. by December 5th)

January 6, 2012 8:45a.m. – 11:15a.m. (R.S.V.P. by December 16th)

January 9, 2012 8:45a.m. – 11:15a.m. (R.S.V.P. by December 16th)

**For more information please call the
Eldorado K-8 Registrar, Cathy Queen at 720-561-4405.**

Students who are open enrolled to their current elementary or middle school, and are completing the last grade at that school, will be enrolled in their district designated neighborhood school for the next grade level unless they are accepted through Open Enrollment to another middle or high school.



Superior/Eldorado PEN event in December:

***Words Will Never Hurt Me:**

**Helping Parents and Educators Deal with Bullying,
Difficult People, and Power Struggles**

National Speaker/Author: Sally Northway Ogden

www.FearFreeEd.com

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

6:30 - 8:15 pm

Eldorado K-8

For further information please email Sheryl Schwabe (Superior PEN rep) at sschwabe@comcast.net or call 303-520-6803.

*This presentation is free. Childcare will be available for children 3 yrs. and above, please RSVP. We are requesting a \$5 donation for childcare.

Girls Leadership Workshops are coming to Superior in January

These workshops give girls and parents time to learn, in a fun way, about friendships, feelings, apologies and healthy approaches to conflict. Families learn techniques and establish healthy practices that will serve girls well in elementary school and beyond. The workshops are once a week for four consecutive weeks. A parent attends with their daughter. For workshop details, more information, and registration please visit www.girlsleadershipinstitute.org/programs/Colorado There is a cost for these classes, although scholarship money is available on a limited basis for Superior families. Please see our principal for details.

"Real Parents, Real Daughters" workshops at Superior Elementary

Grades K-1 - Tuesdays, Jan. 10 - 31, 2012, 4-5 pm

Grades 2/3 - Wednesdays, Jan. 4 - 25, 2012, 6-7:30 pm

Grades 4/5 - Thursdays, Jan. 5 - 26, 2012, 6-7:30 pm