



We "Beelong" to each other!
a Bi Monthly Publication

Volume 18 03/04

June 2, 2004

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

June 3	-----	End of Year Picnic/Last Day of School for Students
June 10	-----	Last Day School Office is Open
August 16	-----	School Office will Re-open
August 24	-----	Back-to-School Walk-Through – 4:00 – 5:00 PM Social – 5:00 – 6:00 PM
August 26	-----	First Day of School for Students
September 2	-----	Back to School Night – 6:30 – 8:00 PM
September 6	-----	No School – Labor Day
September 7	-----	New Parent Orientation – 8:15 – 10:00 AM
September 17	-----	No School – Professional Development Day

SCHOOL INFO

Community Montessori Office	.....	303-447-5407
3130 Replier Dr	.....	303-443-0792
Boulder, 80304		
FAX	.....	303-443-0792
Attendance Line	.....	303-447-5408
After Care (4:00 – 5:00 PM)	.....	303-447-5407
Web Site:		http://www.bvsd.k12.co.us/schools/communitymontessori/
E-mail addresses:		marlene.skovsted@bvsd.k12.co.us jeanne.matlin@bvsd.k12.co.us kathy.kinney@bvsd.k12.co.us

FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL...

Dear Community Montessori Families,

Thank you for taking time to read the information that came home with your child on Friday and yesterday regarding a future home for Community Montessori. If you did not see either of these documents there are extras in the office. It was also good to have a chance to talk with many of you at the Washington site visit this morning. As determined by the School Board members at the May 27 Work Session and the Staff-SIT of Community Montessori, immediate next steps are:

1. To understand that the major considerations on the table at the current time are to place Community Montessori in the former Washington building or at the Paddock site (former New Vista) for the 04-05 school year.
2. To understand that the position of the Community Montessori Staff and SIT is that the Washington site does not meet the programmatic needs of a Montessori school. In addition, there are safety and facility concerns. The Paddock site would provide our own dedicated site and would meet programmatic needs well.
3. Be sure your email is listed with the school for summer communication.
4. Attend the School Board meeting on June 8 at 6:00. Discussion on our future is on the agenda to be voted on June 22.

5. Attend the School Board meeting on June 22 to hear the School Board's decision.
6. Let your child's teacher know that you will help move this summer.
7. Contact myself or any of the Community Montessori teachers if you have questions.
8. Contact Lesley Smith (smithlk@cires.colorado.edu) if you can help in any way.
9. We are already planning for a terrific school year in the coming months. In the meantime, let's not lose site of special summer time fun with our friends and families!

Sincerely,

Marlene Skovsted
Principal

FROM YOUR LITERACY TEACHER...

Cristi's Writing Ideas!

Make a summer journal. Encourage children to write about fun things they are doing during the summer. Writing is richer when children have lots of ideas. Summertime is the time for children to collect ideas for other writing during the school year. Include pictures, souvenirs, post cards from the places visited and anything else that will help children keep the memory forever.

Send postcards to friends and relatives. Writing postcards are fun and they also encourage letters in return. Kids love receiving mail!

Make lists of summer activities. Brainstorm a summer hit list and have your children keep track of what you have done.

Read books that are written as journals to give children ideas about how they could write their own journals. The Amelia books by Marissa Moss are a great place to start!

Model your own writing in front of your children. Write letters back and forth. Send postcards to your own friends. Talk about interesting details you could include in your writing.

Look for writing contests in local newspapers. Local publications are always advertising writing contests. Children need a purpose and an audience for writing.

Write to your teachers. Encourage your children to send letters to their teachers. They may even write back!

INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOOL ENTRANCE AGE

The Colorado state legislature made some changes in the school entrance age law during the recently completed legislative session.

Beginning in the fall of 2005-06, first graders must be 6 years old on or before September 30. No exceptions to the entrance age requirements would be allowed.

For the fall of 2004-05, Boulder Valley will continue to follow its current policy and consider parent requests to enroll first graders before age 6 if the students have completed an accredited private or public kindergarten.

The district has asked the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Association of School Boards to clarify how the new law will be applied starting in 2005-06 to students who attended kindergarten in another state. Entrance ages change from state to state. Thus, parents moving to Colorado from states or districts which permit a later entrance age would have no other option than to have their child repeat kindergarten or to enroll in a private or home school. Districts in Colorado would be required to turn new state resident students away from the public schools.

Boulder Valley has requested school districts be allowed to enroll students who have not turned 6 by September 30, providing they have documentation they have completed a public or private accredited kindergarten outside of Colorado. They hope to have an answer before the start of the 2005-06 open enrollment period next December-January. If approved by the state, the district will ask the Boulder Valley Board of Education to amend district policy next fall to reflect the change.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL PICNIC

Please read – additional information!

Join your child for a picnic lunch on June 3rd, the last day of school. All families will join together from 11:30 – 12:30 on the Glenwood side of the school. Bring your lunch and something to sit on. Your child may stay at school in the afternoon or leave with you. If it rains, this event will be cancelled. In that case please send a cold lunch with your child.

- Bring a picnic lunch & something to sit on.
- Enjoy dessert & drinks provided by SIT/PTA.
- The picnic will be in the area outside the classrooms on Glenwood.
- If you choose to take your child with you after the picnic you **MUST** sign the Student Sign-out Sheet (the sheet will be with your child's teacher). You may **NOT** sign your child out in the office.
- If you choose to leave your child at school for the remainder of the day, please notify the child's teacher that you are leaving and that your child is back in the care of their teacher.
- Children may not leave with other parents unless prior arrangements have been made.
- If you are unable to attend the picnic, please send your child with a sack lunch and he/she will be supervised by their classroom teacher
- If it rains this event will not take place. Send cold lunch with your child.

This will be a great opportunity to spend time together as a community and wish friends well for the summer. See you there!

The following rules are to be enforced during the picnic. Parents, we would appreciate your help with this:

- No tree climbing
- Remain in Montessori outdoor area so as not to disturb classrooms in session

SAFETY FIRST – Don't forget to tell the classroom teacher if you leave and be sure to sign your child out if you take him/her with you. Classroom teachers will have sign-out sheets.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Susan Hausle would like to recognize the following students from Becky's & Patti's class for doing an outstanding job of running the Track & Field events for the Lower Elementary students. Many compliments were shared that day. Thanks to both Becky & Patti for letting them out of class to help!

Juli Genosar, Patrick Glynn, Carlton Halaby, Jack Hickman, Marie Hoeger, Marisa Ishikawa, Luisa Jaeger, Jesse Larson, Emma Lattes, Naomi Megory, Taylor Meneley, Ayana Otteman, Kenna Tuggle, Deanna Wrangham, Amber Broscovak, Ian Copeland, Harry Heiberger, Dylan Platt & Ian Scheuermann

UPDATES

- **The first day of school** for the 04-05 school year will be Thursday, August 26th for K – 6th. Class will begin at 8:10 and be dismissed at 2:40. Children may arrive at school as early as 7:55 AM. The pick-up window will be 2:40 – 2:55 PM. Children who are not picked up by 2:55 will be brought in to the classroom of the teacher who is on duty for that day and will need to be signed out in the office.
- A group of 4th and 5ths graders trained for the **Bolder Boulder** during the months of April and May. *Patti Bleil* and *Debbie Miller* sponsored the after school training with help from *Cristi Hacker* (literacy teacher) and *Susan Hausle* (PE teacher). *Kerry Glynn* set up the training, arranging a CU student volunteer and parent helper, *Darryl Dargitz*, to help. She also got all the necessary information together for the runners/walkers. Everyone's hard work paid off on Memorial Day as, approximately, twenty Upper El students participated in the race. A great time was had by all!
- **Instrumental Music** Optional for 5th graders, 3:00 – 3:40 on Mondays and Wednesdays. More information will be available in August.

Community Montessori is committed to making our school and programs accessible to students and visitors with disabilities. If you need special accommodations, please contact our school office at 303-447-5407 at least 5 days prior to a scheduled event or meeting.

COMMUNITY MONTESSORI SUPPLY LISTS FOR 2004-2005 SCHOOL YEAR

If your child is in Primary (3 year-olds – Kindergarten), there is not a supply list.

LOWER ELEMENTARY SUPPLY LIST

- 4 Spiral Notebooks (NO easy-tear pages please)
- 4 Dozen #2 Pencils (No Sanford Eagle brand)
- 1 Package 24 Colored Pencils
- 1 Package of Markers
- 1 Box Tissues
- 1 Box of Band-Aids
- 4 Glue Sticks
- Scissors (that cut!)
- 1 Wide-ruled Composition Book
- 2 Pocket Folders with Fasteners
- 3 Pocket Folders without Fasteners

Please do not put child's name on supplies as they are all placed in general classroom supplies.

UPPER ELEMENTARY SUPPLY LIST

- *2-3 Steno Pads with spiral tops
- 5 Composition Notebooks
- *2 Graph Paper Notebooks for math
- ¼" Graph Paper Composition Book
- 1 Black Permanent Marker
- 1 Box of Basic or Classic Markers (no smelly markers)
- 1 Box of Colored Pencils
- 1 Box of Crayons
- 1 Set of watercolor paints
- 1 Pair of Standard Size Scissors
- 1 Small Bottle of White Glue
- 2 Glue Sticks
- 4 Pocket Folders with horizontal pockets (slick covers please)
- 2 Red Pens
- 2 Blue Pens
- 10 #2 Pencils
- 1 Package Three Ringed Tabbed Dividers
- 1 New Mac Formatted Floppy Disk (or purchase at school)
- 1 Pencil Box
- 1 Pack of Wide Ruled Loose leaf Paper
- 1 -1" Three Ring Binder
- 1 Blue 3-brad Pocket Folder

All supplies are for student's own personal use.

Individual classes may have additions to this list, which students will receive in the fall.

The amounts marked with * represent an estimate of what will be needed over the course of the year. Students only need to bring one of each of these items on the first day of school.

If you choose to buy the full amount in the fall, we ask that you keep extras at home until needed, since storage space is limited in the classroom.

Please don't bring trapper-keepers or other large supplies not included on list.

Please bring items ready to go on the first day of school: Mark student's name on all items, place unwrapped pens and pencils in pencil box. We want to hit the ground running!

West Nile Virus

As you know, the West Nile Virus is a health threat in Colorado again this year. From now until October, West Nile precautions should be followed. Please consider the following:

- West Nile is spread by mosquitoes, which are most active between dusk and dawn. Before and after-school activities would be the most likely times to pose a risk for students and staff.
- Stagnant water is a place for mosquitoes to breed; eliminating standing water on the school premises is advised.
- If you chose to make mosquito repellent available to students, it is a site-based cost. Parent notification is in order, so that some may decline the application. If the school makes repellent available, it is the responsibility of the administration and staff, to follow the specific product instructions and be familiar with the product's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). This information can be obtained on the product's website, or by calling the 1-800- number on the package.
- If parents want their children to use insect repellent during the school day, this is permissible. No physician order is required. Each student should have his or her own supply, individually labeled. Students may need close supervision or direct assistance by an adult to apply the repellent safely. Product instructions should be followed.
- General advice about the application of insect repellent, according to the Center for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics:
 - 1) DEET-containing products are the most effective products available.
Repellents with a concentration of 10% DEET appear to be as safe as those with a 30% concentration. DEET products are not recommended for use on children under 2 months of age. DEET should not be applied more than once a day. Repeated application may increase the potential toxic effects of DEET.
 - 2) DEET should not be used in a product that combines the repellent with a sunscreen. Sunscreens often are applied repeatedly because they can be washed off. DEET is not water-soluble and will last up to eight hours.
 - 3) DEET should be applied sparingly on exposed skin; do not use under clothing. Do not use DEET on the hands of young children; avoid applying to areas around the eyes and mouth. Do not use DEET over cuts, wounds, or irritated skin. Wash treated skin with soap and water after returning indoors; wash treated clothing. Avoid spraying in enclosed areas; do not use DEET near food.

Boulder County Public Health has provided flyers in English and Spanish for distribution to all students. Please look for them in your child's Wednesday folder.