

# Buzz Bits

No. 8

April 12, 2006

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 21	-----	No School – Professional Development Day
April 28	-----	Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast – 8:00 – 9:00 AM
April 30	-----	Spring Work Day – 2:00 – 5:00 PM
May 4	-----	Upper El Music Program – 6:30 PM
May 5	-----	Class Pictures
May 7	-----	All School Celebration – 3:00 – 5:00 PM
May 15	-----	Upper El Track & Field Day (16 <sup>th</sup> rain date)
May 19	-----	No School for Students – Prof Dev Day
May 25	-----	Lower El Track & Field Day (26 <sup>th</sup> rain date)
May 29	-----	No School – Memorial Day
June 8	-----	End of Year Picnic – 11:30 – Last Day for Students
June 8	-----	Whole Foods “Taste of the Season” Fundraiser

## CUSTODIAL NEWS

We would like to thank *Pat Laoboutsa* for serving as custodial helper these past few months. We are happy for him in his new job. We are also fortunate that the Laoboutsa family is part of our CM community and we'll continue to see *Pat* as an involved parent.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to *Harold Smith* who joined our community after spring break. *Harold* has worked for BVSD for 4 Years. In fact, *Harold* was one of the very dedicated BVSD staff who helped us move and get settled in past years. We couldn't be luckier that this past month *Harold* specifically requested a transfer to be part of Community Montessori and to work hours that align with his school schedule. With *David* at the helm and *Harold* joining our staff, we will be in great hands! Please stop and welcome *Harold* when you have a chance. His hours will generally be from 3:00 until 8:00, Monday-Friday.

## LUNCH MONEY

Please be sure to keep your child's lunch account up to date. The cashier closes out June 7<sup>th</sup> and no charges will be permitted after May 22<sup>nd</sup>. No exceptions. Thank you.

## RAZZLE DAZZLE

Impact on Education is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising support from the community for Boulder Valley Schools. The organization impacts student learning within its three areas of focus: teacher excellence; science, math & technology; and at-risk students. Impact on Education's annual fundraiser, Razzle Dazzle, is one of the premier fundraising events held in Boulder Valley and raises nearly 75 percent of Impact on Education's annual operating funds, as well as major support for the Opportunity Fund. The Opportunity Fund is Impact on Education's largest program. It was established in 2004 to ensure that the 4000+ students in Boulder Valley from low-income homes are able to access academic, extracurricular and enrichment opportunities that require participation fees. Through a distribution of \$100,000 to participating schools every year, the Opportunity Fund allows students from low-income families to rent musical instruments, attend field trips, take advanced placement classes, secure transportation to school and much more.

With over 500 people, Razzle Dazzle is bound to be a veritable “who's who” of area business and community leaders. This year's theme—Beach Ball, Parasol—will extend to the food, décor and music. The event, which will take place from 6:00 p.m. until midnight, June 10, 2006, at the Boulder Reservoir, will include dancing, a brief program and exciting live and silent auctions. The event's title sponsor is Fresh Produce. To reserve tickets, which are \$150 each, contact Impact on Education at (303) 524-3865.

## **READY SET MOVE!**

### **“READY, SET, MOVE!” The Impact on Education Grant to Improve Recess**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Impact on Education** and **Irene Shaffer –Remax of Boulder** for accepting our grant request this year. The students at Community Montessori need a recess where they interact socially through activities and games. These activities should be engaging, promote physical activity, and provide challenges in a variety of movement forms. Last fall, our school started its second year at the Paddock Campus. The playground was undeveloped and had no play structures except for a set of swings and a basketball court. When playground structures were installed, the insulation was in phases and woefully inadequate for the number of students we serve. To address the situation, we collected equipment from P.E. that could be spared, like balls and jump ropes. Our storage had been a plastic trash bucket rolled out at lunch time. This equipment was often unnoticed, hard to dig out of the bottom of the tall bucket, and inconsistently returned at the end of recess. Without quality durable equipment and a workable storage receptacle, what was not lost or damaged, was not being used.

The \$600 Impact Grant provided funds to purchase new quality equipment for a variety of ages and ability levels. The result is that many more of our students are engaged in games and are much more active. Games involving running, jumping, throwing, kicking, and catching are now much more prevalent. The Grant equipment has reduced boredom at recess (expressed by some students) and the number of situations requiring adult intervention. A large numbers of students would roam or sit, talking for long periods each recess. There were always about 30 students not being active at any time when a count was taken. Presently, this number is reduced to 4-6 students at any given time. These dramatic results include inclement weather. Our students are not only more active and focused in play but are also taking greater responsibility. The newly purchased equipment cart is designed to hold balls, cones, jump ropes and hoops, all visible and easy to return. Children have taken good care of the equipment with only one soccer ball lost since November.

Recently, we added a challenge for the elementary students. They can walk and talk as they circle around a quarter mile course. A certificate will be earned if a student can walk or jog for 2 miles a week for 10 weeks, ending on May 23rd. We have many students participating in this activity.

And, of course, we continue to enjoy our playground equipment provide by the GOCO grant.

Thank you again to all involved in helping our recess program at Community Montessori.

Susan Hausle, Physical Education Specialist

## **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION TEA**

All you wonderful volunteers – please come to the library on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM. We want to serve you breakfast and say thank you for volunteering your time and expertise to our CM community.

## **SPRING WORK DAY**

Please join us on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 5:00 PM to help spruce up our grounds. More info to come.

## **LOVE & LOGIC**

Be sure to check-out the pink flyer in this week's Wednesday folder.