



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Community Montessori Office	720-561-3700
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Boulder, 80305	
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Attendance Line	720-561-5408
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Web Site:	http://schools.bvsd.org/communitymontessori/
E-mail addresses:	marlene.skovsted@bvsd.org , Principal
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	kathy.kinney@bvsd.org , Principal's Assistant



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 16	----	Barn Dance/Auction – 4:00 – 7:00 PM
April 25	----	Parking Lot/Traffic Circ. Mtg – Library – 7:00 PM
April 29	----	No School – Professional Development Day
May 6	----	Volunteer Appreciation Tea – 8:00 – 9:00 AM
May 11	----	Elementary Field Day – 8:45–10:45 AM – rain date 5/18
May 11	----	Community Forum – 5:45 – 7:30 PM
May 12	----	SAC/PTA Meeting – 5:30 – 7:30 - PM
May 20	----	Retirement Celebration for Marlene – 5:00 PM
May 25	----	5 th Grade Continuation – 9:30 AM
May 25	----	Report Cards Home
May 26	----	Last Day of School – End of Year Picnic 11:30 AM

Bond Program Updates



As you may know, thanks to the generosity of Boulder Valley School District voters, Community Montessori is in the midst of a \$2.5 million facility renovation project. The project includes improvements to learning spaces, facility maintenance items, improvement to building systems, and exterior site improvements.

I want to thank the DAT (Design Advisory Team) members for the endless hours spent guiding the design process for our bond work. Six parents (Ruth Anderson, Steve Brauneis, Lisa Gardner Sweeney, Marshall Lee, Rick Meyers, Rodney Russ), a community member (Andrew MacGregor), teachers (Patti Bleil, Jenny Dube, Elizabeth Ross), principal (Marlene Skovsted), project manager (John Bollinger), and our architectural and construction teams served on the DAT committee. Thank you also to the user groups for their invaluable input into the design of specific areas as we worked through this process.

Attached are diagrams of the work to be completed. The office has a copy of the complete construction documents if you are interested in browsing. The recommendation for the proposed modifications to the parking and traffic circulation has

now been reviewed by traffic engineers and a community meeting on the specifics of the site plan will be presented at a meeting at the school on April 25th at 7:00 p.m.

The final decision for the timeline of our construction has now been determined. Our work will be accomplished in stages:

- During the summer of 2011, the east wing improvements will be completed.
- Art and SAC will move to their new space (rooms 110,112) for the fall of 2011.
- The food preparation area for primary and PE storage will be ready for the fall of 2011.
- Occupants of room 110 will have temporary homes for most of the 2011-2012 school year.
- During the summer of 2011, the outdoor site work will be completed (playground, parking, traffic flow)
- During the fall of 2011 arrival and dismissal procedures will change. We will no longer implement a valet drive-through arrival/departure system. Parents will park to drop-off and pick-up their children. The procedures will be similar to current elementary dismissal practice. Please look for the details of 2011-2012 arrival-dismissal procedures in the May Buzz.
- In December of 2011 Community Schools will move to their new site at the education center.
- In January of 2012, renovation on the wing previously used by Community Schools will begin. This work should take about three to four months.
- In January of 2012, music will move to a temporary space.
- In spring of 2012, Community Montessori will begin to move into the new wing.
- By fall of 2012, we will fully inhabit our new spaces and all construction will be complete.

As excited as we are about these improvements, we also look forward to the next BVSD bond to complete the remaining building needs identified during the CM re-assessment process which identified over \$5 million in facility needs for our school building. One critical need that we were not able to accomplish with our allocated funds was new construction to accommodate separate spaces for our cafeteria and gymnasium. In the meantime, we look forward to our new flex space to mitigate our scheduling challenges with the multi usage of our current space.

If you have any questions about these bond program updates do not hesitate to contact me, any of the DAT members or John Bollinger at 720-561-5113 or john.bollinger@bvsd.org.



BVSD Bike to School Day is Earth Day, April 22, 2011

The third annual human powered event celebrates walking and biking to school as a way to take part in daily physical activity that is fun and refreshing, and good for the Earth.

This year's event will be simple and fun, a day all students and staff will enjoy. All registered participants will receive:

- * A free school lunch and coupons at local stores.
- * A chance to win prizes, such as bikes and tune-ups, helmets, bike lights, jerseys, bells, and more.
- * The school with the most registered participants, based on percentage, will be awarded a RUSH Smoothie Party!

Please register for BVSD Bike to School at BVSD.org/TOSchool. Be part of the FUN!

Thank you to our partners: BVSD Safe Routes to School Program, BVSD School Food Project, Cateye, Community Cycles, Full Cycle, and RUSH.



Personal Giving Campaign –LAST CHANCE, ACT NOW!

As of March, we are at \$18,783. This is 63% of our goal of \$30,000. Currently 47% of our families have contributed, and our goal is 100% participation.

We are very fortunate to have a public Montessori school here in Boulder. Please remember that state money does NOT cover all of our expenses even in the best of economic times. Money raised allows the school to remain true to the Montessori model by supporting a strong para educator presence in the classrooms, providing quality Montessori materials, and offering scholarships to enhance the diversity of our school community. WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP! Great parent support both physically and financially make Great Schools. If you have not yet donated for school

year 2010/2011, please do what you can to ensure the vision lives on. We are wrapping-up PGC donation counts **May 5**, so please act now!

To donate, please drop off or send your check to the office: Community Montessori, Attn: PGC, 805 Gillaspie, Boulder CO 80305. If you have any questions about the PGC or how to donate, please contact Denice Choka at denice.choka@leanintree.com, or Rosa Invernizzi 720 561-3721 Rosa.invernizzi@bvsd.org (Bi-lingual liaison).

Thank you for your support!

From the Library Media Center



Thank you to the CM Parent Community for your tremendous support in sponsoring the Book Fair earlier this year. Some of the new titles purchased with "Scholastic Dollars" are beginning to arrive! The generosity of the Parent Community means so very much to every child at Community Montessori. Thank you for making our library a better place!

ST. BALDERICK'S

Article by Cole Werner:

St. Balderick's Organization helps raise money in order to provide research in hopes to cure cancer. St. Baldrick's Day took place in Boulder on St. Patrick's Day. Participants either shave their heads bald and/or donate money.

This year at the St. Balderick's festivities from Community Montessori were: Cole, Jacy & Kent Werner, Luke Bass, Ryan, Nicholas & Duane Caraballo, Parker Sanchez, Calvin & Timothy Heiman, Sage Mozier.

Congratulations to such bravery for shaving their heads!



From the Heiman Family:

Our family would like to send a sincere THANK YOU to our community who supported our efforts to raise awareness and funding for the St. Baldricks Foundation---raising money for research of Childhood Children's Cancer and There With Care--supporting families with critically ill children.

In our school community---the above listed joined together and shaved their heads in honor of children who do not have a choice: Some of the boys grew out their hair for months in preparation for this amazing event. As one of the kids said, "We HAVE a choice about whether to shave our heads, kids with cancer don't." Seeing the kids come out to our community event to 'go bald' for the cause, was an amazing and emotional connection. Learning how to show up and serve, especially at such a young age, is an inspiration to our family and so many others.

Together, we can be proud that our community donated approximately \$3,500.00 to these incredible foundations. Thank you for opening your hearts, awareness and making a difference for so many children in search of a cure!

We thank you humbly for the support,

Tracy, Timothy, Calvin and Klaus Heiman
tnheiman@midairdesign.com

Volunteer Appreciation Tea



We hope you will be able to join our staff on Friday, May 6th at drop-off (8:00-9:00) in the library for coffee/tea/juice and a bite to eat. This is a small gesture from our staff to say a big thank you to all of you for the many ways that you contribute to the success of Community Montessori. Whether you volunteer in the classroom, at home, toward an all-school event, or provide SAC-PTA leadership, we appreciate you so very much. The support you provide your child, your participation in school functions, and your donations of time and money are invaluable to the building of a strong school community and a quality Montessori program. Please save the date—May 6th (8:00-9:00 AM). Our staff would love to have the chance to say THANK YOU. WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!



MUSIC CLASS NEWS



LOWER ELEMENTARY MUSIC PERFORMANCES: An Earth Day Celebration!

The Lower Elementary classes will be performing songs, dances and instrumental pieces in celebration of Earth Day on Tuesday, April 26 during the school day.

Dress for the performance is nicer than everyday clothing with dark pants/skirts for everyone and green shirts for Christina's & Sarah O's classes, yellow shirts for Jenny & Holly's classes, and blue shirts for Sarah C.'s class. The schedule of performances are as follows:

8:30 Christina, Jenny & Sarah C's classes
9:30 Sarah O. & Holly's classes

Please mark your calendars!!

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Our staff would like to thank the parents who provided the luncheon on March 10th. Each time we are so amazed at and grateful for the generosity and hard work parents put toward this wonderful meal. Please know your time and delicious food are so appreciated!

UPDATES



- ☞ **All-school principal forum** – In order to increase our pool of quality applicants, our School District has extended the timeline for applicants to apply to April 22nd. The principal forum has been moved to Wednesday, May 11 from 6:00-8:00. The three final candidates will be at the school answering your questions on the evening of **May 11th**. Thank you for making this change on your calendar. Attached be sure to find the **Childcare Form** for the **Principal Forum**.
- ☞ Please let your friends and neighbors know that at this time **we do not have a 3-yr-old waitlist for the 2011/12 school year**. That age group may still apply through open enrollment. The cut-off birth date is September 30th. Thank you for helping us spread the word.
- ☞ **Returning 3 and 4-yr-old families** – please turn in the blue 2011-2012 Tuition Contracts (4/15 Wednesday folders) and deposits by Thursday, April 28th. Thank you!
- ☞ **Reminder – Pre-school staggered start dates** – All **new** 3 & 4-year old 11/12 students will receive letters in June noting the date when they will begin school for the 11/12 school year. As always, the 3's and new 4's are staggered, a few each day, the first week and one-half back. Returning 4's will start on Thursday, August 25th. Kindergarten students will start on Monday, August 15th along with elementary students. New 3 & 4 year-olds will start on their designated date.

👉 **BVSD Lifelong Learning Program Need something fun to do on April 29th? Check out No-School Day**

Classes.	Acting Workshop Ages: 7-12	Cartooning Workshop Ages: 7-11
	Community Montessori	Community Montessori
	8:30am to 12:30pm	8:00am to noon
	\$89.00	\$59.00
	Digital Wizardry for Boys & Girls Ages: 8-12	
	YWCA of Boulder	
	8:30am to 3:30pm	
	\$79.00	

Also, they now offer over one hundred summer camps and have launched the new College4Kids, classes for advanced learners. For more information and to register, visit www.bvsd.org/LLL or call Tammy at 720-561-3768.

Parent Engagement Network presents:

Thriving During the Elementary Years

Importance of Early Intervention

By Dr. Jan Hittelman

We all know that long-term habits are hard to break. That's why addressing our children's learning, language, emotional, and behavioral challenges early on is so important. If your child is struggling at home, in school and/or with peers, it is important to first understand where these challenges are emanating from. And that's not always so easy to do. A child who "is not listening" in class may have a language-processing problem. Someone who bullies others may be struggling with self-image issues. Temper tantrums may be a desperate cry for attention. While its every parent's hope that our children are simply going through a phase (and sometimes they are), if these challenges continue consider the following steps:

1. **Get Other's Feedback:** Check in with other adults in your child's life (teachers, other parents, relatives, etc.) and get their feedback as well. If these issues are occurring in other settings then it may be an issue unique to your child. If it's only happening in one setting then the dynamics of that setting may play a role.
2. **Talk to Your Child:** On a good day at a positive moment discuss your concerns with your child in an open, supportive, non-threatening way. Try to elicit your child's viewpoints and feelings about your concerns. Ask what you can do to help.
3. **Consider an Assessment:** There are excellent learning, language and behavioral experts who are trained to assess children and provide valuable feedback regarding their challenges. Ask your child's teacher and/or principal for recommendations.
4. **Develop an Action Plan:** Once you're clear about the type of issues that your child is struggling with, develop a plan of action to ensure that your child's difficulties are being addressed.

The longer we wait to address these issues the more challenging they are to remediate and the more damage they are likely to cause.

UPCOMING PEN EVENT:

Get real, Girls

Presenter: Rachel Simmons

National presenter and author, "Odd Girl Out" and "Curse of the Good Girl"
(In memory of Rachael Kessler, author of the ground-breaking book, Soul of Education)

www.GirlsLeadership.org

Thursday, April 28, 6:30-8:30pm, Fairview High School (1515 Greenbriar, Boulder)

Learn more about PEN by visiting their website: www.parentengagementnetwork.org or by contacting Paula Nelson, PEN chair (pjn6225@yahoo.com, 303-880-6030) or Betsy Fox, PEN Lead Coach, (foxbetsy123@msn.com, 720-563-7007).

Dr. Jan Hittelman, a licensed psychologist, is Director of Boulder Psychological Services and the Founder of the Boulder Counseling Cooperative. Questions or comments for this monthly column can be sent via email to: jan.hittelman@gmail.com, or by phone: 720-217-3270

Do you want to be involved in choosing your new Principal?

*Please attend the Community Forum on **Wednesday, May 11th from 5:45 - 7:30 PM.***

The three final candidates will be at the forum to answer your questions. From 5:45 - 6 PM you will have a chance to review resumes of the 3 candidates. Translation will be available.

At 6 PM, you will be allowed to write your questions down on note cards. Your questions must be addressed to all three candidates, or they will not be chosen. Von Sheppard, Assistant Superintendent, will moderate and ask the questions from our note cards. Each candidate will give their answers to the entire audience. There is limited time so not all questions will be addressed.

At 7:30 the forum will end and you will be given a Feedback Form. On this form, you will rank each candidate in order of preference and also write your comments for each of them. The district takes your input very seriously!

Childcare will be provided from 5:45 - 7:45 PM. Children will not be allowed to run around in the gym during the forum

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sarah Lee at sarah-beth@comcast.net (303) 618-3786 or Lisa Gardner-Sweeney at edgardnersweeney@comcast.net (303) 443-0280.

Thank you for your participation!

Childcare will be provided during the meeting.

Childcare Registration for Wednesday, May 11, 2011

For staffing reasons all children must pre-register
Childcare will be available from 5:45-7:45

Child 1: _____ age _____

Child 2: _____ age _____

Child 3: _____ age _____

Please return this form to school office by Tuesday, May 10th, 2011