



# Douglass Elementary

Oct. 21, 2011

Dear families,

Halloween will look different at Douglass this year, and not just because of construction. First and foremost, we will have our Halloween events on Friday, October 28. I'm sure you can appreciate that finishing the week with parties is preferable to beginning the week with parties!

The costume parade will begin at 1:15 outside the first grade classrooms (weather-permitting – we'll relocate inside in the event of rain or snow). The parade route will be slightly different this year due to construction. We parade through the school, picking up one classroom at a time, walking through the gym twice where parents can witness the hundreds of creative costumes on display.

One costume note – please remember that any pretend or real weapon should be left at home and not brought to school for Halloween. This includes but is not limited to guns, knives, swords, martial-arts or other items that aren't appropriate for school. Also, Kindergartners will participate in this Halloween parade, so I'd appreciate it if blood and gore were kept to a minimum in costumes. Parties begin after the parade, at about 1:45 or so.

While we hope that you will consider healthy treats to Halloween parties, I know that there will be some sugary snacks there. That, added to trick-or-treat candy on Halloween night might give you some pause. How about collecting that excess candy and sending it to our troops overseas? Look in this newsletter for details on a worthy cause.

I anticipate parking challenges next Friday, and we will need to make sure that the bus lanes in the north parking lot are cleared. We'll have cones out there, but please remember that we need a clear pathway for buses to exit. Consider carpooling and putting one less car in the parking lot!

I'm sure you've received your mail-in ballot for this fall's important election. I encourage you to learn more about Proposition 103, which our PTO discussed in an email earlier this month. Please vote knowing how schools will be impacted, and get that ballot in before Tuesday, November 1 – the day after Halloween!

Finally, please drop by the two lost-and-found locations on either side of the gym to retrieve missing jackets and lunch items. We have limited space for these items this year, and will be donating items to charity sooner. If you know you have coats that have gotten too small, we have a coat drive collection box in our main office area.

Thank you all! Enjoy these beautiful autumn days.

Your principal,

Jon Wolfer

## School Calendar

Mon. Oct. 24th	Raising the Heart of Boys - 6:00 pm
Tues. Oct. 25th	Choir - 7:25 am
Wed. Oct. 26th	Beach Ball Volleyball - 2:30 pm Fall Family Folk Dancing Festival - 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Thurs. Oct. 27th	Choir - 7:25 am
Fri. Oct. 28th	Halloween Parade - 1:15 pm Halloween Parties - 1:45 pm
Tues. Nov. 1st	Choir - 7:25 am Girls Leadership Institute Workshop for 2nd & 3rd Grades -5:30 pm
Wed. Nov. 2nd	Beach Ball Volleyball - 2:30 pm PTO Meeting - 2:45 pm Girls Leadership Institute Workshop for 4th & 5th Grades -6:00 pm
Thurs. Nov. 3rd	Choir - 7:25 am
Fri. Nov. 4th	4th Grade Wax Museum in the Library - 1:00 pm
Tues. Nov. 8th	Choir - 7:25 am Girls Leadership Institute Workshop for 2nd & 3rd Grades -5:30 pm
Wed. Nov. 9th	Beach Ball Volleyball - 2:30 pm Girls Leadership Institute Workshop for 4th & 5th Grades -6:00 pm
Thurs. Nov. 10th	Choir - 7:25 am
Fri. Nov. 11th	4th Grade to CU Planetarium - 10:00 am Veteran's Day - No School
Tues. Nov. 15th	Choir - 7:25 am Girls Leadership Institute Workshop for 2nd & 3rd Grades -5:30 pm
Wed. Nov. 16th	Beach Ball Volleyball - 2:30 pm Girls Leadership Institute Workshop for 4th & 5th Grades -6:00 pm
Thurs. Nov. 17th	Choir - 7:25 am
Fri. Nov. 18th	First Grade Music Performances in Music Room Cohen/Manzanares - 12:15 pm Trautwein - 1:00 pm Morris - 1:45 pm
Mon. Nov.21st	No School - Parent/ Teacher Conference Exchange Day
Tues. Nov.22nd	No School - Parent/ Teacher Conference Exchange Day
Wed. Nov. 23rd	No School - Thanksgiving Holiday
Thurs. Nov. 24th	No School - Thanksgiving Holiday
Fri. Nov. 25th	No School - Thanksgiving Holiday

## DON'T FORGET



### Mon. Oct. 24th

Raising the Heart of Boys  
6:00 pm



### Wed. Oct. 26th

Fall Family Folk Dancing Festival  
6:30 - 8:00 pm



### Fri. Oct. 28th

Halloween Parade - 1:15 pm  
Halloween Parties - 1:45 pm



### Tues. Nov. 1st

Girls Leadership Institute  
Workshop for 2nd & 3rd Grades  
5:30 pm

## Open Enrollment for 2012-2013

The application period for open enrollment in the 2012-2013 school year will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Nov. 28, 2011, and it will end promptly at 4:00 p.m. on Jan.13, 2012.

In our efforts to be green, BVSD established an online submission process where parents/guardians may submit an application online. For those who do not have computer access, hard copies of the application will be available at the Open Enrollment Office at the Education Center beginning on Nov. 28. The link for the online application will be on the front page of the BVSD website at [www.bvsvd.org](http://www.bvsvd.org) during the open enrollment application period.

**Remember, this is a lottery process -- it is NOT "first come first serve."**

*Please feel free to contact the Open Enrollment Office if you have any questions at 720-561-5900.*

## Douglass Elementary School Tours

### Tour Dates:

*December 6th, January 5th and January 10th*

All tours will begin at 1:00 pm

Reservations are not required.

All tours will begin in the Library and will include an introduction and overview from Principal, Jon Wolfer, PTO members, School Age Care personnel and a tour of the classrooms.

*For more information please call the school office at 720-561-5541*

## THANK YOU

THANK YOU to Tracy Shiflet -- new chair for the Douglass Directory -- Amanda Keasling, Jenn Varra and Christine Zandstra for their direct work on this years' directory. A big thank you also goes out to our diligent office staff and teachers who helped to obtain the input forms and keep them organized for the data entry. If you have a change of information that you'd like to have updated in the directory, please let Jenn Varra at [jvarra@gmail.com](mailto:jvarra@gmail.com) know so it can be updated in the next edition.

## 4th Grade Wax Museum

Please join our 4th grade classes and be dazzled at their hard work at our Wax Museum. The museum will take place in library between 1:00 - 2:00 pm on Friday, November 4th.

## Last Chance for Nutcracker Tickets

If you would like to raise money for our school and support your fellow classmates, you can see them dance on November 25, 26, or 27 at Macky, on CU Campus. Order your tickets today using the Douglass Elementary School Form and our school will receive 20% of all school ticket sales as a donation from Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra/Boulder Ballet. ALL forms must be completed and returned to the Douglass office by **October 28th**, as they must be received by Boulder Philharmonic by October 29th. Our ticket representative, Kelly McGahan, will be turning in order forms every Tuesday and Friday. Forms will be picked up at Douglass by 3:00pm. Tickets will be available for distribution beginning Sunday, November 13th.

Cast A is performing Friday, November 25th at 4pm and Saturday, November 26th at 2pm.

Cast B is performing Saturday, November 26th at 7pm and Sunday, November 27th at 2pm.

## Cell Phone Collection

There are an estimated 4 billion cell phone users worldwide and the average American cell phone users owns 3 or more expired cell phones. About 125 million cell phones are sent to landfills every year.

Douglass is hosting a collection drive in October to collect as many outdated, broken, and exhausted cell phones as we can. If we collect more than 100 cell phones, we can earn \$50.00 for our school but more importantly, we can reduce our carbon footprint for future generations.

There will be a clearly marked collection box in our office. We invite you to participate in this recycle program.



## COLD WEATHER

Colorado weather can change quickly. Think ahead when sending your child off to school. Send along a jacket or sweater even if it's just tied around the waist. Help you child learn to keep his/her head warm and dry. Children will go out to recess unless it is below 18 degrees below with the wind chill factor.

1515 Greenbriar Boulevard | Boulder,  
CO |

## Fairview High School Presents



November 8-12 - 7:00 PM Performances  
November 12-13 - 2:00 PM Performances

Book by Joe DiPietro.

Inspired by and featuring the songs of Elvis Presley

\$10 all evening performances, \$8 matinees  
Box Office Open Nov 1, 2, 3 - 10:30-3:30  
Nov 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 - 6:00-6:55  
Nov 12, 13 - 1:00 - 1:55

Online ticket sales also available. Visit  
[www.fairviewhs.org/sites/musical](http://www.fairviewhs.org/sites/musical) for more information.



**eco-cycle®**  
Working to Build Zero Waste Communities



Congratulations to our winning schools! This fall, Douglass Elementary School was awarded one of Eco-Cycle's Green Star Schools grants. This grant provides Douglass with compostable bags for each of the cafeteria and hallway composting containers during the 2011-2012 school year until their compost container cleaning station is established.

The compostable bags will be used in composting containers in order to make it easier for the custodial staff to clean the containers. Currently, there is not a suitable cleaning station for the custodial staff and compostable bags will reduce the number of plastic bags being used.

Douglass Elementary qualified for this grant because they have gone the extra mile by using **washable** plates and cups for serving food and drink during their classroom parties. In addition, they strive to reduce waste through the Terracycle program (which recycles drink pouches) and continue to educate their community in ways to be good stewards of the earth.

Eleven different applications were made for a Green Star Schools grant. Congratulations to the four winning schools! Through the use of compostable materials, students and staff will be keeping a significant amount of material out of the landfill.



**eco-cycle®**  
Working to Build Zero Waste Communities



Curious about worm composting?

As a thank you to Green Star School families for their support, Eco-Cycle will be offering:

*FREE Composting with Worms workshops the entire family*

**Pre-registration for the workshop is required!**

Attend the workshop and receive:

- \* a free worm bin and bedding
- \* a 25% discount on red worms to start your bin
- \* training to set up your bin
- \* tips on maintaining and troubleshooting your bin

Composting with worms is a great way to reduce your organic waste in the classroom and at home and a fun activity the whole class and family can do!

Join us at one of the following six sessions (2 sessions at each school):

Crest View Elem. on Tuesday, October 18, 2:45-4:15 or 5:15-6:45 pm  
Manhattan Middle on Tuesday, October 25, 4:00-5:30 or 5:45-7:15 pm  
Fireside Elem. on Wednesday, November 2, 2:45-4:15 or 5:15-6:45 pm

**Pre-registration for the workshop is required!**

To register or for more information, please call Nancy at Eco-Cycle:  
303-444-6634, ext. 175

When leaving a voicemail message, please include your name, phone number, the date and time of the workshop you plan to attend, the number of people in your party and your child's school of attendance.

## Share a Coat

It's time again to donate those too small, some what worn, but still warm coats and other winter garments such as hats, gloves, sweaters and overshoes to the annual Share-A-Coat program. This is the twentieth year the Boulder Valley Rotary Club, with cleaning service donated by Art Cleaners in Boulder, collects coats from local schools, cleans them and distributes them to families and children who are in need of them.

A donation box is located in the Douglass office (south Quonset) so please send coats you are no longer using to school with your student. Both children and adult size coats are needed! The last pick-up is scheduled for December 3. In addition to coats, we are also collecting children's used story books and text-books that can be recycled back through our schools and other educational organizations.

Let's see what we can do for the less fortunate people in our community. Thanks for your support!

**Parent Engagement Network presents:**  
**Thriving During the Elementary Years**  
**Reading and School Success**  
 By Dr. Jan Hittelman

Everyone has strengths and weaknesses. Whether it's intellectual abilities, visual and auditory processing skills, or physical abilities, we all have areas of strength and areas of challenge. For elementary-age children, this is also the case in terms of academic skills. While some children excel in mathematics, others may exhibit strengths in writing. The most important academic skill, however, is reading. Reading is central to all subjects and by third grade reading level has been shown to correlate with a variety of outcomes including academic success, vocational opportunities, and college attendance. It is always sad to see a young child with reading problems who enjoys and excels in math, be robbed of that success with the introduction of math word problems that require reading ability.

We also know that parental involvement correlates with school success. A meta-analysis of 77 studies found that parents who were highly involved in their child's education, positively impacted overall education outcomes, grades, and academic achievement (Harvard Family Research Project, 2005). Furthermore, when they looked at specific components of parental involvement, reading with your child emerged as one of the most important factors. Given that parents are usually not trained in reading instruction, what is the best approach in helping your child to learn how to be a strong reader, particularly if they are already having reading challenges?

To learn more about effective parenting strategies to help your child become a strong reader, bring your elementary-age child, a fun book, and participate in the next Pathways to Parenting Success workshop:

**What: Strengthening Reading Confidence and Skills**

**When:** Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:00pm

**Where:** Meadows Branch Library (4800 Baseline Road, Boulder)

**Facilitator:** Iris Lee, Director, Dreamcatcher Direct Instruction Centers

**Cost:** FREE

**More info:** [www.BPSBoulder.com](http://www.BPSBoulder.com)

**UPCOMING PEN EVENT:**

The Bully, the Bullied, & the Bystander

Breaking the Cycles of Violence and Creating Circles of Caring

Barbara Coloroso, Nat'l Speaker/Author

[www.kidsareworthit.com](http://www.kidsareworthit.com)

Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30pm

Monarch High School (263 Campus Drive, Louisville)

*Learn more about PEN by visiting their website: [www.parentengagementnetwork.org](http://www.parentengagementnetwork.org) or by contacting Paula Nelson, PEN chair ([pnj6225@yahoo.com](mailto:pjn6225@yahoo.com), 303-880-6030) or Betsy Fox, PEN Lead Coach, ([foxbetsy123@msn.com](mailto: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](mailto:jan.hittelman@gmail.com), or by phone: 720-217-3270*