



Douglass Elementary

Aug. 25, 2011

From the principal's desk...

Dear families,

Thanks for checking out our bi-monthly newsletter, and taking the time to read all the important information inside. In addition to this newsletter, which we send electronically to all families, you can also stay connected via Twitter for updates such as school-wide events and weather closures. Click on <http://twitter.com/DouglassElem> to connect!

I'd like to welcome our new staff members to Douglass Elementary:

- Carole Brandt-Fink will teach 5th grade.
- Josh McCormick teaches vocal music.
- Tim Eubank leads physical education.
- Erin Manzanares teaches 1st grade.
- Stephanie Mitchell is our school psychologist.
- Chris Henson is our social worker.

A few calendar reminders and a special request.

- There is no school for students on Friday, September 2, or Monday, September 5.
- Classes are also not scheduled on Thursday, September 1, but this is an assessment day where teachers schedule individual reading and math assessment appointments. Before you make long weekend plans, please check in with your teacher to ensure that you do not have an appointment scheduled on that Thursday.

The special request is to carefully consider the school calendar when making vacation plans. Last year, a couple of students received no score on their spring CSAP assessments – when they likely would have scored Advanced – because they missed school when the CSAP assessments were scheduled. As a result, we did not receive credit for their tests, nor did the students have the satisfaction of reviewing their high achievement.

Every day counts in the education of our kids, so if you can take care when planning vacations, our teachers and I will be grateful. Check the school calendar at <http://bvsd.org/schools/douglass>.

Next month, our PTO launches our Dedication to Education campaign, our largest fundraising event. This support from our parent community is an important element of our excellent school, as we are able to provide daily instructional support to all classrooms thanks to parent generosity. And as a parent myself, I appreciate the fact that our direct-giving campaign doesn't ask our kids to go door-to-door and sell items; this is a parent-led effort that takes pressure off kids. There's information in this month's newsletter, and I encourage you to take the time to review that and support our excellent school!

Thanks for all of your support of Douglass!

Your principal,
Jon Wolfer

School Calendar

Tues. Aug. 30th Thurs. Sept. 1st	Welcome Back Pizza Party - 5:30 pm <u>Elementary Assessment Day</u> <u>School at appointed time only</u>
Fri. Sept. 2nd	Professional Development Day - No School
Mon. Sept. 5th Tues. Sept. 6th Wed. Sept. 7th	Labor Day - No School Instrumental Rental Fair @ Platt - 4:00 pm Class Pictures PTO Meeting - 2:45 pm
Thurs. Sept. 8th	5th Grade Outdoor Ed -leave Douglass @ 9:00 am Class Pictures for T/Th Kdg. CAP All School Parent Meeting - 6:00 pm
Fri. Sept. 9th	5th Grade Outdoor Ed - return to Douglass aprox. 5:30 pm
Tues. Sept. 13th Thurs. Sept. 15th Fri. Sept. 16th	1st Choir - 7:25 am Choir - 7:25 am Vision & Hearing Screening
Tue. Sept. 20th Wed. Sept. 21st Thurs. Sept. 22nd	Choir - 7:25 am SAC Meeting - 2:45 pm Choir - 7:25 am
Tues. Sept. 27th	Junior Great Books Leader Training @ Crestview 5:30 pm Choir - 7:25 am
Thurs. Sept. 29th	Choir - 7:25 am
Tues. Oct. 4th Wed. Oct. 5th	Choir - 7:25 am Pictures Retakes PTO Meeting - 6:00 pm
Thurs. Oct. 6th	Choir - 7:25 am Pictures Retakes for T/Th Kdg.
Tues. Oct. 11th Wed. Oct. 12th Thurs. Oct. 13th Fri. Oct. 14th	Choir - 7:25 am Parent/Teacher Conferences Choir - 7:25 am Professional Development Day - No School
Tues. Oct. 18th	Choir - 7:25 am Parent/Teacher Conferences
Thurs. Oct. 20th	Choir - 7:25 am Parent/Teacher Conferences

DON'T FORGET



Tues. Aug. 30th

Welcome Back Pizza Party
5:30 pm



Wed. Sept. 7th

Class Pictures
PTO Meeting - 2:45 pm



Thurs. Sept. 8th

Class Pictures for T/Th Kdg
CAP All School Parent Meeting
6:00 pm



Thurs. Sept. 8th- 9th

5th Grade Outdoor Ed





Dear Douglass Elementary Families,

Construction of the renovations provided through our \$3.4 million Bond project is moving right along! As we start the year, I wanted to update you on the progress of the construction and remind you of the safety protocols we have in place.

Some improvements, such as renovations in the library, art room, Kindergarten, KE and other classrooms as well as the music room already have been completed. Work on the office, as well as construction of the preschool classrooms, will continue through the school year. Our main office has moved to the Quonset hut where it will remain for the duration of construction. While we are "under construction," the contractor will do whatever possible to minimize impact to the school from noise, dust and smells.

I have received some inquiries from families regarding what we are doing to ensure Douglass Elementary remains a safe place during construction. I want to assure you, **safety and security for students and staff is our top priority**. We will have a safety assembly for students. Our construction contractors are required to adhere to the BVSD Safety Manual and to provide an orientation on the manual for their employees. Once workers have completed the safety orientation, they receive stickers for their hard hats which indicate they are authorized to be onsite. Each sticker has a unique identification number.

The construction areas are separated from the rest of the school by fences and/or construction walls that are clearly marked with warning signs. Workers have separate foot traffic entrances/exits for the construction area. In general, there should be no contact between the workers and BVSD staff or students. Occasionally, a worker may need to leave the construction zone and enter the building for a specific task. These workers will have a BVSD badge issued by BVSD Security.

All Mark Young Construction employees are subject to a background (criminal history) investigation and a drug test. Mark Young superintendents are responsible to observe the behavior of all subcontractor employees and remove any personnel from the site that do not comply with BVSD safety and security policies. Construction workers are strictly forbidden from contact with children on the construction site and will be removed from the site for any violation. If you witness a member of the construction crew not adhering to these protocols, please report the instance to me so that I may follow up with our Project Manager and the contractor.

I will be meeting regularly with the construction company and the project manager and will update you as necessary about how construction activities will affect life at Douglass Elementary in the upcoming weeks. For more information, I also encourage you to visit the Boulder Valley School District web site at <http://bvsd.org/bondproject> and then follow the "What's Happening at Schools" link.

If you have any questions regarding the Bond work, please contact the Project Manager, Steve Schumacher at 720-839-1005 or steve.schumacher@bvsd.org.

Thank you for your continued support of Douglass Elementary School. We hope you share our excitement for the great changes coming our way.

Sincerely,

Jon Wolfer

Principal

Douglass Elementary School

Hello Douglass Parents,

It was great to see many of you at Back to School Night on Wednesday! This letter will provide further information on several important PTO items. Please take time to read through the complete letter—we are trying to minimize the number of emails we send, so this letter is long. However, it contains a lot of important information.

- **Air Conditioning:** Last year the Douglass PTO approved the purchase of air conditioning units for classrooms as part of our School Improvement Fund capital upgrades. This project has been pending the required electrical upgrades that will be provided by our bond project. While the electrical upgrades are in process, our PTO is also in the process of identifying a long-term solution A/C for our classrooms. We will provide more information on A/C as it becomes available.
- **Dedication to Education:** September is Dedication to Education (D2E) Month at Douglass! Information will come home in this week's Friday folder.
 - * **Donate Today:** D2E is THE major fundraiser for literacy and classroom support at Douglass.
 - * **Support your child's education this year:** Funds raised during D2E go directly to your child's classroom this year. These funds go directly toward small group literacy instruction, classroom supplies, curriculum enrichment, software programs and more. Every child benefits from this fundraiser, at every grade level. This fundraiser helps Douglass maintain it's incredible learning support, even during statewide budget cuts.
 - * Please read through the material, and please check our PTO website www.douglassselementarypto.org for additional information, or ask Stephanie Hein, Chris Zwolfer or myself your questions.
- **King Soopers:** King Soopers cards raise significant funds for Douglass, with no cost to you. When you use your reloadable card to buy groceries, Douglass gets 5% of the amount you spend. KS cards will be available for purchase at Back to School Night, and are always available in the office. The card costs \$5, but comes loaded with \$5.
- **Back to School Pizza Party:** Tuesday, August 30th at 5:30pm outdoors in the playground. If you are able to help out with serving, etc. please contact Nichole Foos at nicholefoos@yahoo.com
- **Student Safety Seminar--FRCAP:** At the request of many parents in the community, the PTO is sponsoring a Child safety program—Front Range CAP. This excellent program will be delivered to teachers, parents and students in September. You will see more information on this program in today's newsletter.
- **First PTO meeting** will be Wed, September 7 at 2:45 in the library. All parents are invited to attend, and child care is provided.
- **Girls Leadership Institute:** Coming to Douglass in November—stay tuned! Along with other Parent Engagement Network programs still being planned for Douglass.
- **Student Directory:** We are currently working to collect updated family information for our Douglass Student Directory. Directory forms came home in Friday folders last week. Unfortunately, we had several glitches with student specific forms getting to the correct family. If you have not completed your Student Directory update form, please complete the form attached with this newsletter, and return it to your child's teacher by Monday, August 29th. Or, you may contact Jenn Varra at jvarra@gmail.com with any questions. In order for your children to be published in our 2011/12 Student Directory, we must receive your signed update form.
- **BVSD School Lunch:** Our PTO School Food committee is committed to helping families understand the benefits to school lunch, and encouraging growth of this program. Please see the attached file for more information on the benefits of our lunch program.

Thanks for reading through this information! Please let me know if you have any questions about the information above!

Regards,

Bina Moser

PTO President

Important Community Events at Douglass Elementary

The Douglass community has demonstrated many times its commitment to supporting our own families in their endeavors of need to assist the children of our school. Please take a look at the events below. The events listed below directly benefit children with medical needs within our Douglass family.

These types of events will be published on our Douglass PTO website on an ongoing basis. We will send alerts of new information through the Douglass newsletter. If you would like us to be aware of an event to support a Douglass child, please contact us through the Douglass PTO website at www.douglass elementarypto.org

1. Five @ Five 5K Run/Walk: Thursday, September 8, 2011 - 5:30 pm Gunbarrel, CO The Lee family (Pamela and Michael) have a son Christopher who was diagnosed with Duchennes Muscular Dystrophy at an early age. Duchennes MD is the most common fatal genetic disorder diagnosed during early childhood. Christopher's older brother, Connor Lee is a 3rd grader at Douglass and Gracie is a 1st grader. Christopher will be a Kindergartener at Douglass next year.

Please join the Lee family from Douglass Elementary in their quest to raise money to fund research for a cure for Duchenne muscular dystrophy to help change the outcome for their youngest son Christopher and thousands of other boys with Duchenne.

Register to run in the **Five @ Five**, an evening 5K at 5:30 pm in the Gunbarrel area of Boulder. For registration and more information please visit the website at www.fiveatfive.org.

All proceeds will fund research for a cure for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. There currently is no cure but there is hope with increased funding for research. The Five @ Five is presented by Foundation for a Future, a local 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to funding research for a cure for Duchenne. Race professionally managed by Redline Run.

2. CF Cycle for Life: Saturday, September 17th @ Boulder County Fairgrounds The Stoutenberg family (Stacy and Mark) have two sons with Cystic Fibrosis (CF). Jack is in Mr. Spear's 4th grade class and Jason is in Mrs. Barbeau's 2nd grade class. Both boys have attended Douglass since Kindergarten.

The Stoutenbergs are welcoming bike riders to join their "JJ Riders" team (named for their sons) for the upcoming CF Bicycle event, "CF Cycle For Life", that will take place on Saturday, September 17th. (The ride starts and finishes at the Boulder County Fairgrounds located at 9595 Nelson Road in Longmont).

Riders have a choice of a 27, 44 or 70 mile routes. (The 44 mile route is to Jamestown and the 70 mile route goes past Ward and along Peak to Peak Highway and down to Lyons and back to Boulder County Fairgrounds). There are multiple aid stations along these truly gorgeous routes! Bring a riding buddy and join them for a fun and memorable day. (Because the routes travel along part of highway 36, it is not recommended for young riders).

The ride's information, registration and routes are mapped out on the link, <http://colorado.cff.org/cycle>. If you sign up, please be sure to identify yourself as a "JJ Rider".

For more information about both events, please contact Stacy Stoutenberg at stacystoutenberg@comcast.net or mark.stoutenberg@level3.com.

SchoolMessenger

In January 2010, BVSD began using SchoolMessenger to send various communications from the district and schools to parents and staff. This includes attendance calls, meal account balance notices, emails from the superintendent, and emergency notifications.

A test "emergency" phone call and email will be sent out via SchoolMessenger to all BVSD Parents on Thursday, Sept. 29.

Your contact information as it appears in Infinite Campus is uploaded into the SchoolMessenger system every night, so it is very important that your information is correct in Infinite Campus. If it is not correct, please contact your school to have your information updated.

A nice feature of the SchoolMessenger system is that parents and staff can set their own preferences for which telephone numbers or email addresses are used depending on what sort of communication is being sent. You can also enter a cell phone number in order to receive text messages. This feature is called "Contact Manager." BVSD Communications will email details to you about Contact Manager in early September OR you can learn more about it now in the parent section of the BVSD website at <http://www.bvsd.org/parents/Pages/default.aspx>.

BVSD Lifelong Learning's Fall Classes and Camps for Kids

BVSD's Lifelong Learning Program offers after school classes for kids in the arts, outdoors and adventure, fencing, digital photography, video production, and science. For our science classes, we partner with Science Matters and for our photography and video classes, we partner with the YWCA. Besides after school classes, we offer fun and creative camps for kids ages 6-12 during school breaks and on non-school days. If you want to get a jump on planning for Thanksgiving Break, Winter Break and the November 11th No School Day, look for listings in our BVSD Lifelong Learning Kids catalog, sent home in your child's Friday folder (on August 26th or Sept. 2nd). You can also see a complete listing of classes and camps by visiting our website, www.bvsd.org/LLL. For more information, call 720-561-3768.

BVSD Lifelong Learning
Phone Number: 720-561-3768
www.bvsd.org/lll

Hey students and parents of Douglass!

I'm absolutely thrilled and honored to be a part of the family at Douglass Elementary! I have had the wonderful opportunity to meet all of the students that pass through the music room and they are amazing! I just wanted to take this opportunity to let you know about a few things going on in the music classroom. First of all, all 4th and 5th grade students are welcome to join the **Dolphin Choir** come September. There are NO auditions to be a part of this ensemble! If they want to be a part of something great, please encourage them to join! We will be rehearsing **Tuesday** and **Thursday** mornings beginning **September 13th**. Forms can be downloaded on the school music website or picked up in person from Mr. McCormick. Please return the completed forms no later than Thursday, September 8th.

All **3rd grade students** will be receiving recorders in late September. Your school fees covered the cost of these recorders so thank you!! If you are a 4th grader you will also need a recorder throughout the year. If you are new to Douglass Elementary and/or do not have a recorder, you can purchase one from Mr. McCormick at any time. Lastly, I have a separate website dedicated to the musical happenings at Douglass Elementary. You can access the website through the Douglass Elementary website or the direct link is: <http://dolphinecho.shutterfly.com/> I would encourage you to become members of the website so that you are able to access all of the features of the website including participation in music polls and discussion boards, downloading classroom videos, and getting bi-weekly e-mails with updates to your child's musical endeavors.

I hope that you will take the opportunity to drop by the music room anytime before or after school and say hello. Until then, I hope you have an enjoyable school year!

Sincerely,

Josh McCormick, Music Teacher

josh.mccormick@bvsd.org

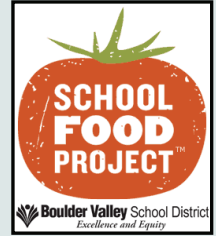
As the new fifth grade teacher, I would like to say how thrilled I am to be at Douglass. After spending several years home with my own kids and working for a textbook publisher, I am grateful to be back in the classroom. This will be my 7th year teaching. I'm delighted by this amazing bunch of kids, teachers and parents. I hope to bring my expertise to Douglass and to learn from the best, the teachers you have here. Thank you for the warm welcome. I look forward to getting to know you all.

Carole Brandt-Fink, "Mrs. Brandt"

5th grade, Douglass Elementary

Hello Douglass Parents,

As the co-chairs of the Douglass Elementary School Food Committee, we'd like to welcome you and your children back to school and to provide some information about the school lunch program.



The following are a few great reasons to have your kids eat school lunch:

- **Health:** There are no trans-fats, high-fructose corn syrup or added colorings or preservatives in the food. The salad bar always has animal and vegetable proteins as well as fresh vegetables and fruits. Breads, buns and rolls are all whole grain and made locally by Rudi's Organic. A vegetarian entrée is provided every day. The 1% bulk milk served at lunch is organic, Colorado milk. Unlimited water is provided for free.
- **Convenience:** Save the time it takes to pack those lunches for your kids (not to mention shopping for the items).
- **Cost:** Eating school lunch can be less expensive than providing a comparable meal (that includes some organic ingredients) from home.
- **Taste!** The food is all fresh and made from scratch using as many local and organic ingredients as possible. We encourage you to join your child for lunch to taste for yourselves.

You can find more information on school lunches from the Nutrition Services homepage at <http://bvsd.org/food/Pages/default.aspx>.

Here's to a happy and healthy 2011/12 school year!

Julie Hedlund | jhedlund33@yahoo.com



YOUTH NIGHT
Fairview vs Poudre
September 2, 2011
Recht Field 7pm



Come cheer
on your
Knights



- ★ Free admission for K-8 students wearing a youth football jersey or BVSD school t-shirt with paying adult
- ★ Don't miss the Boulder Bears Punt, Pass, and Kick Halftime Competition
- ★ Tailgate 5:30 - 6:30 pm before game: Free hot dogs, chips, and drinks for first 200 fans
- ★ Fairview cheer gear for sale !!

Douglass Student Directory—Important Information Needed

Dear Douglass Parents,

The Douglass PTO is preparing for the 2011/2012 Douglass Student Directory, which will be provided in e-mail format for you to print at home (printed copies will be available for families who may not have access to e-mail). In order to be listed in the Student Directory, your student/ family information must be updated in our PTO Manager database. (Due to BVSD confidentiality policies, the PTO is not able to obtain student/ family data from Douglass Elementary, so we must maintain a separate source of student/ family data).

To ensure that we have correct student/ family contact information in the 2011/2012 Douglass Directory, we request that all parents please do the following:

- 1) **Review Attached Form—Update Family Information:** Please review the attached form, and make any corrections to your family information—please update phone numbers, email addresses, address and student information.

- 2) **Update Volunteer Interests:** On the bottom portion of this form, please indicate your volunteer interests with a check mark. Volunteer interest information helps our PTO connect with parents who are interested in helping with specific areas and events at Douglass. (**Note: if you already completed this information on registration day, you may disregard this section)

- 3) **Sign and Return Directory Authorization Form:** In order to print your information in our 2011/12 Student Directory, we must have your signed authorization. Please sign and date this form.

Please return your updated form to your child's teacher as soon as possible. We appreciate your prompt response so that we can create our 2011/2012 Student Directory as soon as possible!

If you have any questions, please call or email:

Jenn Varra, Douglass PTO Manager Coordinator

E-mail: jvarra@gmail.com

Phone: (303)263-2505

**Douglass Elementary PTO
2011/2012 Student Directory**

This information will be used to create the Douglass student directory. The directory will include students by class with parent names, addresses, emails, and phone numbers, and will be sent via e-mail to Douglass families.

You can update this information yourself anytime in PTO Manager at <http://www.douglass elementary.ptomanager.com/>

To be included in the directory, you must sign one sheet per student and return it to the Douglass PTO.

Student name:

Teacher/grade:

Parent/guardian name:

Address:

Home phone:

Cell phone:

Email contact:

****If you wish to have your student(s) listed in the directory, you must return a signed form for each student****

****If any of this information changes, you need to update it in PTO Manager as well as with the school****

I hereby grant permission to the Douglass Elementary PTO to publish the above information in the 2011/2012 school directory. I understand that the information in the Directory is to be used for school-related/ personal use only.

Please Print Name

Signature

Date

PTO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We appreciate your help and couldn't do it without you!

****Please place an "X" next to all areas of interest. We will input this into our PTO Manager volunteer database.**

___ Cooking and Baking for School Events

___ Book Fair

___ Destination Imagination Parent Helpers

___ Jog-a-Thon

___ Family Fun Night and Teacher Raffle

___ Grant Writing

___ Front Office Support--clerical work, etc.

___ Library Volunteer

___ Gardening Committee

___ Running Club

___ Green Star Recycling Committee

___ Yearbook

___ Junior Great Books

___ School Clean-up and Maintenance Projects

___ Mitten/Giving Tree

___ School Picture, Vision, and Hearing Screening Helpers

___ PTO-Parent Teacher Organization

___ Teacher and Staff Appreciation

IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM
COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE



IF YOUR CHILD IS ON THE FREE LUNCH PROGRAM, YOU
ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL IN
COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE'S
FEEDING FAMILIES PROGRAM
WHERE YOU MAY SELF-SELECT GROCERIES FROM OUR
WAREHOUSE ON A WEEKLY BASIS

ON THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS OR SATURDAYS

8:00AM - 1:00PM

PLEASE BRING:

- 1) YOUR CHILD'S FREE LUNCH LETTER
- 2) A PARENT/GUARDIAN'S PHOTO ID AND
- 3) PROOF OF ADDRESS TO:

COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE

6363 HORIZON LANE

LONGMONT, CO 80503 OR

CONTACT CAROL AT 303-652-3663 EXT. 212,

CCORTEZ@COMMUNITYFOODSHARE.ORG

IF YOU NEED A FREE LUNCH LETTER,
YOU CAN GET ONE, BEGINNING JULY 18TH
MONDAY TO FRIDAY FROM 7:00AM TO 3:00PM
AT BVSD (FOOD SERVICE OFFICE)

6500 E. ARAPAHOE RD.

BOULDER CO 80303



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SPACE IS LIMITED!
Register today by calling
Misty Deiparine at
303-664-5455 x3303

MEND

MAKE NEW FRIENDS, GET IN SHAPE, AND HAVE FUN!

FREE sessions for all 7 - 13 year olds who are above their ideal weight, and their families.

Arapahoe YMCA

September 6 - November 13
Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7:30pm & Sundays, 3:30 - 5:30pm

Angevine Middle School

September 12 - November 21
Mondays, 5:30 - 7:30pm & Thursdays, 5:30 - 7:30pm

Why Join the MEND 7 - 13 Program?

- FREE healthy living program to help 7-13 year olds and their families lead healthier lives
- Make new friends
- Feel more confident and boost self-esteem
- Get in shape playing fun games
- Set goals to reach and maintain a healthy weight
- Learn how to cook tasty and healthy meals
- Turn conflict around food into family fun



The Colorado Health Foundation™



Find out how to be fitter, healthier and happier at www.mendfoundation.org.

YMCA of Boulder Valley
ONE membership, TWO locations.

Arapahoe Center
2800 Dagny Way
Lafayette, CO 80026
Ph: 303-664-5455

Mapleton Center
2850 Mapleton Ave.
Boulder, CO 80301
Ph: 303-442-2778

www.ymcabv.org