



RYAN READER

Ryan Elementary School, BVSD, 1405 Centaur Village Drive, Lafayette, CO. 80026

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Cyrus Weinberger - Principal

March 13, 2009 Volume Twelve



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

March

- 10-20 Tues-Fri Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11-13 Wed-Fri Spring Book Fair
- 18 Wed Ryan Ringers perform at Exempla 2:40-4 pm
- 20 Friday 2nd Grade "Potlatch" 8:20 am
- 23-27 Mon-Fri Spring Break-NO SCHOOL

April

- 15 Wed 3-4 and 4th Grade Music Informance 7pm
- 17 Friday 5th Grade Civil War Camp
- 17 Friday Trivia Night 6pm

As the warm days of spring lift our spirits, Ryan Elementary is beaming with pride over the accomplishments of our students. This week marks the continuation of CSAP testing for grades 3-5 and the start of parent-teacher conferences. Thank you for helping to prepare your child for these important tests by helping them get a good nights sleep and a healthy breakfast in the morning.

The students, teachers, and parents of Ryan have put forth a remarkable effort, resulting in a rich and successful learning environment. Spring break is a time for us to rejuvenate, so we may continue to grow. While it is important to take time to come up for air, it is equally important to reflect about our goals for the remainder of the year. Please take a few moments to discuss with your child (or children) areas for continued growth so we can all make a commitment to having a strong finish to the year. On behalf of the entire Ryan Elementary staff, I hope everyone has an enjoyable and safe spring break.

After almost four years of being a Math & Science Focus School, we are taking specific steps to reflect about where we are as a school. We have many celebrations as math & science have been thoroughly entrenched in our school both in our classrooms and the many enriching activities we offer. We are also aware of some areas for us to improve, especially in mathematics. To help guide this work we have created a Math & Science Steering Committee comprised of classroom and specialist teachers. In an effort to create a well balanced group we have also enlisted the support of a district team who will periodically consult with this group as well as work directly with grade level teams and individual teachers.

Playground construction is scheduled to begin on the first day of spring break as planned. We will be having our staff safety meeting on March 19th followed by an all school assembly on the 20th. Please take the time to ask your child what they learned about the construction project and the many measures which are being put in place to insure everyone's safety during this exciting project. Also, if you are interested in running activities during recess to help positively engage students, please let the office know. Thank you in advance for your help and support.

I want to give a special thanks to Julie Daniel and the Math & Science Rocks Night planning team for all their incredible efforts. The evening was a tremendous success involving many fun activities. We surpassed our fund raising goal by over a \$1,000 for a grand total of approximately \$5,000. Thank you to everyone who participated to make our goal a reality. All the proceeds from this event will go directly back to the school to fund field trips and many other enrichment activities. I also want to recognize all the teachers who so generously donated their time and efforts. Your work was a major factor in the success of this event.

Please let me know if you have any questions or areas where I can be of assistance.

Best wishes,
Cyrus Weinberger

The Ryan Reader is published twice a month.
Email articles and photos for the Ryan Reader to
ryanelementary@yahoo.com.

~ Barbara Gstalder, Co-editor
~ Michelle Licata, Co-editor



Teresa Himel, Music Specialist

What: 3/4 and 4th grade Music Informance!

When: Wednesday, April 15th, 7:00 p.m. in the Ryan gym

Please note, this is one night earlier than previously announced.

Mark your calendars & plan to join us for an educational and informational sharing of the musical learnings during this school year.

Important Information

Student Placement Forms 09-10:

We would like to encourage you to provide any information in regards to the needs or type of learning environment most suited for your child, so that we can create the best possible classroom placements for next year. We do not take requests for specific teachers; however, your input does carry significant weight and will help to insure we find a good match for your child. Placements are based on a variety of factors including: student need, balanced classes, and input from parents and teachers. Student placement forms were distributed during conferences and are also available in the office.

Parent Survey:

One indicator we rely on to continually improve the effectiveness of our school is the parent survey. Please make sure you provide us with feedback so we may address any areas of concern as well as continue to provide the services and programs you believe to be successful. Surveys have been mailed home and should be returned



Parent Volunteers Needed for 5th Grade Civil War Camp

The 5th Grade Civil War Camp will be Friday, April 17th. Parent volunteers are needed to provide supplies and help with the camp.

Please consider offering some of your time to enrich your 5th grader's camp experience. If you can help, please contact Barbara Gstalter at 303-828-3159 or bgstalter@yahoo.com. Thanks!!!

What: Early Access Informational Meeting

For Whom: Parents/guardians who are interested in learning about Early Access to kindergarten or first grade for highly advanced gifted children who will not meet the age requirement of 5 years old by for kindergarten or 6 years old for first grade by September 30,

When: 5:30-6:30p.m., Thursday, March 19, 2009

How: Please call 303-447-5087 or 303-447-5067 for a 15 minute time slot to get your personal questions answered. Translators may be made available upon request.

For general information about Early Access and to determine if this might be an option for your child, go to www.bvsd.org and click on the link to Early Access or go directly to www.bvsd.org/tag and look under announcements.

Asunto: Reunión de Información sobre Acceso Temprano

Para: Padres/Tutores que estén interesados en aprender acerca del Acceso Temprano al kínder o a primer grado para niños superdotados y avanzados que no cumplirían el requisito de la edad de 5 años de edad para kínder o 6 años para primer grado al 30 de septiembre

Fecha: Jueves 19 de marzo, 2009; 5:30-6:30 p.m.


Qué hacer: Favor de llamar al 303-447-5087 o al 303-447-5067 para reservar una sesión de 15 minutos para responder a sus preguntas personales. Habrá intérpretes si lo solicitan.

Para obtener información general sobre el Acceso Temprano a fin de determinar si esto podría ser una opción para su hijo, visite la página web del distrito www.bvsd.org y oprima en el enlace para el Acceso Temprano o visite directamente a www.bvsd.org/tag y busque en los anuncios.

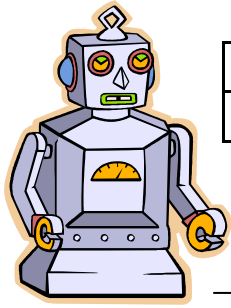


TALENT SHOW

We are so excited to announce that it's time once again to start thinking about the talent show. We need a variety of acts, including, but not limited to, singing, dancing, playing an instrument and hosting the show. If you are interested in auditioning, simply pick up a form in the office, fill it out, have it signed, and return it to the Talent Show Mailbox in the Ryan Office by Friday, March 20th. Our targeted dates are April 15th and 16th for auditions after school with a show date of May 1st. If you have any questions, please call Lisa Zidek at 303-665-2509. We look forward to seeing lots of you at auditions.



ROBOTICS HELP NEEDED!



ROBOTICS: INTERMEDIATE LEVEL	Mondays 4/13,4/20,5/4,5/11	2:45 - 3:45
ROBOTICS: INTRO IF NEVER TRIED BEFORE	Mondays 3/9,3/16,3/30, 4/6	2:45 - 3:45

Holly Saltz is offering two robotics classes for students at Ryan-but she needs HELP! If you have expertise with Lego NXT robots (or a desire to learn)-Holly would love your help! Please contact her at holly.saltz@bvsd.org



Ryan Elementary School
Trivia and Games Night
 The FunRaiser for Grown Ups

A Get a sitter for the kids and come enjoy an adult night out at the *15th Annual Trivia and Games Night* benefiting the Ryan PTA. Not a trivia expert? Then you can join in on the **games of chance and live auction fun**. In this game, bribes are as good as knowledge — our judges CAN be bought, so bring your dollar bills! **Prizes for team name, theme execution, and table enthusiasm**. Costumes are optional, yet add to the fun. Space is limited, so start planning today.

All proceeds from the auctions and judge bribing go to fulfilling the PTA's commitment to funding the field trips for this school year.

when **Friday, April 17**
 Doors open at 6:00 pm
 Trivia, games and live auctions 7:00-9:45 pm

venue **St. Ambrose Episcopal Church**
 7520 South Boulder Road, Boulder CO 80303
 10 minutes west on South Boulder Road from Ryan (enter from Barcelona Drive)

dibs! **Reservations**
 Put your team together and make your table reservations early because space is limited! Full payment due at time of reservation. Help will be provided to fill a table, if necessary.

- Up to eight people per team/table
- \$80 fee per table (\$10 per person)
- Leave your check, made out to *Ryan Elementary PTA*, in the PTA Treasurer's Box in the Ryan Office. Please put team contact on the check.

hVoh **Food and Beverages**
 Impress the judges and win the prize for the "most impressive food and drink spread." Bring your own food and drink for your table. Kitchen facilities are available. Beer and wine is allowed.

time **Schedule of Events**

6:00 pm	Doors Open
6:00-7:00 pm	Pre-game Party Break out your table's food and drink "tail-gating" style before the questions fly and the games begin. Come early and check out all of the silent and live auction items.
7:00-9:45 pm	Trivia, Games and Live Auctions The night's festivities will alternate between rounds of trivia, games of chance and live auctions.
9:45-10:00 pm	Check-out and Clean up Auction winners check-out and clean up of all food and beverages.

? **Questions**
 Please contact Julie Daniel with questions or help finding a team.
 303-666-4932
julie.m.daniel2@gmail.com



NEWS FROM THE RYAN PTA

Hope you all were able to attend Math and Science Rock Night! It was a fabulous night of fun and community. While we were having fun dancing, and celebrating Math and Science, we made \$5000, all of which will go to funding field trips on this years Wish List.

It takes so many volunteers to pull off an event with the complexity of Math and Science Rock Night. We needed all of you to make the event so successful! Our planning team started meeting last October, and though there were many of us on the team, we know we still couldn't have done it without the support of the entire Ryan community.

The Math and Science Rock Planning Team would like to especially thank the following:

- ◆ Our amazing Ryan Staff for their generous auction contributions, offering their time and talents in support of our school. Many staff members were also consulted during the planning process and their feedback was directly implemented into the event.
- ◆ The office staff, Ronda, Julie, and Maureen, as inevitably they help so much with questions and storing the trappings of the event as well as logistical issues such as ordering extra tables, sending out communication e-mails, teaching us to work copy machines, and unlocking the building for us.
- ◆ Ryan staff members also helped fill several volunteer slots that night, and we appreciated your help so much- Bethany Kearl (auction), Tanya Gessner (auction), Bob Nihan (cockroach races), Paul Nigro (photographer), Teresa Himel (sound system) Susan Metz and Teresa Himel for taking some of their PE and Music class time to teach the students so many of the dances like the Hustle, the Electric Slide, and Cotton Eyed Joe. They also loaned us the most of the equipment for the band.
- ◆ Bob "Travolta" Nihan, Cyrus "The Boss" Weinberger, and Carolyn "She Blinded Me With Science" Mundt for their enthusiastic and inspiring stage presence.
- ◆ Ginny Mitchell for being our Fabulous 50s DJ, leading dances, and wrangling the hula hoops, limbo poles, and air guitars .
- ◆ Lisa Zidek for preparing the 5th grade "Village People" act, and the "Village People" themselves- Cevin Perez, Levi Corliss, Lucas Autobee, and Pauli Zidek.
- ◆ Liana Bellon for preparing the 5th grade girls group for the Hustle.
- ◆ "Pi" our musical band of Ryan alum who did such a great job filling volunteer positions at the games, activities in the library before going on stage to wow us with their music and dance moves
- ◆ Jake Crosby from CU's Teams program for not only creating a really cool sound interactive, but also for his dance moves with Carolyn during "She Blinded Me With Science".
- ◆ Nikki Delaney and WOW for the brain teaser booth. WOW also donated to our silent auction.
- ◆ John Leahey for the way cool Math and Rockets demonstration.
- ◆ Trish Uchida for the candy clue algebra activity and recruiting her brother-in-law to give the rocket presentation.
- ◆ Holly Saltz for writing a grant that allowed Ryan to purchase the "hair raising" Van de Graaff generator and taking pictures of the little hair raisers.
- ◆ Rosalia DiSabato for recruiting and organizing the Kohl's A-Team, a group of volunteers from Kohl's who not only did a wonderful job helping that night, because they volunteered and came to help, Kohl's will give us \$500 for our school, which covered our expenses for the event, allowing 100% of our proceeds to go to the field trips.
- ◆ Crawdaddy's Toys for working with us to provide prizes and game supplies at a discount further aiding our efforts to minimize our expenses.
- ◆ Parent Donors for silent auction items: Karen & Jim Hunt, Tamara McCarty, Julie Daniel, Dina Long, Barbara Gstalder, Sarah Lems
- ◆ Setup-day savior husbands: Joel Bowman and Bob Luna for spending a whole Saturday hanging CDs and doing whatever other set up their wives could devise, and doing it with a smile!
- ◆ Volunteer Elves- The people who quietly help by bringing goodies for the cake walk, rootbeer float supplies, and pitch in where they see an extra hand is needed.

It is hard to list everyone individually. Know that every effort, no matter how apparently small, helped make Math and Science Rock Night so wonderful and we appreciated all your help so much!

THANK YOU!!!! Math and Science Rock Planning Team

- ◆ Beth Visscher (consultant for money/auction processes)
- ◆ Jane Schatz (games/floorplan development, rocking emcee)
- ◆ Jessica Schulz (money manager and master auction donation spreadsheet)
- ◆ Julie Daniel (auction donations: staff, music program, and a little bit of everything else)
- ◆ Karin Vergoth (math and science activities presenters)
- ◆ Kayla Battestelli (auction donations: grade level baskets)
- ◆ Laura Kohnert (games, science signs)
- ◆ Marla Joy Leonard (volunteer coordinator, consultant for event processes)
- ◆ Mary Luna (decorations, including creating, set up and clean up) Meleah Spencer (auctio donations:businesses)
- ◆ Mindi Vanzee (promotional materials, graphics, art, signs, and certificates)
- ◆ Dina Long (consultant and processing for silent auction)