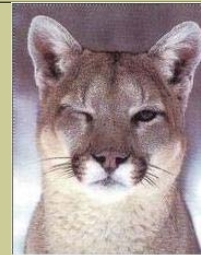


Cougar Tracks

Parent Newsletter

Distributed the 1st Thursday of Every Month



Carson Elementary School
5420 East First Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220
Phone: 303-355-7316 TTY: 720-424-9116 Fax: 720-424-9115

Upcoming Events

February

- 10 CSAP Testing - Grade 3
- 11 CSAP Testing - Grade 3
- 12 Late Start Day
- 12 PTA Meeting
- 16 Presidents' Day, No School
- 17 Teacher Planning Day
- 18 CSC Meeting
- 19 Sock Hop
- 25 Drama/Music Program
Grades 1/2 & 2

2008 - 2009 CSC

PARENTS

- Norma Barron
- Michael Culhane
- Robert MacLaren
- Anne McCord

Business/Community

- Catherine Hance

Teachers

- Darby DeGroat
- Dawn Goodner
- Angela Hanning
- Cheryl Osgood

Classified

Principal

- Gwen Henderson-Gethers

Principal's Message

Carson Implements New Behavior Policy

The Denver Public Schools mandates that all schools have in place a Behavior policy that supports the academic and social growth of all Carson students. The discipline committee has met ongoing this year to come up with an appropriate behavior chart for all Carson students. This same committee has worked to ensure the implementation of the Positive Behavior Support program. We ask students to "Show Three" to demonstrate respect, responsibility and kindness. Students at the start of the school year received collectively over 3,000 character links and continue to do so. Students also continue to receive Cougar Bucks.

Carson's Behavior chart has three levels of behaviors that include violations and consequences. Please see the enclosed chart in its entirety. If you should have any questions, please feel free to give us a call. The behavior chart was implemented in the classrooms on Monday, February 2 after a lot of discussion with teachers and students.

Lockdown/Modified Lockdown and Shelter-in-Place

Lockdown, Modified Lockdown, and Shelter- in-Place. These procedures shelter students, staff and visitors inside the school.

***Lockdown** secures the building and safely shelters all students, staff and visitors inside the school building. School business and classroom activities cease.

***Modified Lockdown** secures the building and safely shelters all students, staff and visitors inside the school building. School business and classroom activities continue as normal.

***Shelter-in-Place** shelters all students, staff and visitors from a threat of severe weather.

Many of you are aware that we do Fire Drills once a month. We practice these emergency evacuations in the event of a real emergency. During these drills, we have an accountability system in place to ensure that every child is accounted for.

Late Start Day

Thursday, February 12, 2009

School Starts at 11:55

Playground Supervision begins at 11:30

A Sack Lunch will be Served

***The PTA IS ONE WAY
YOU CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE FOR
NOT ONLY YOUR
CHILD, BUT FOR ALL
CARSON STUDENTS.***

**CHARACTER
EDUCATION**

**Denver Public Schools
Carson Elementary**

*Respect
Responsibility
Kindness
Tolerance
Perseverance
Integrity
Courage*

“We are proud students,
involved parents,
committed educators and
a caring staff. We are a
warm welcoming
community offering a
safe, nurturing and
challenging environment.
Our children are
comfortable growing,
learning and celebrating
differences with
consistency, honesty,
responsibility, kindness
and respect.”

***Happy Valentine's
Day***

February 14

***Music/Drama Program
February 22***

Grades 1/2 & 2

Birthday Celebrations

Birthdays are a very special time and we appreciate that they all need to be celebrated. However, we would like to request that birthday parties be done at home. All students will be recognized for birthdays during the morning announcements. If you wish to share a birthday treat with classmates, we ask that you send commercially prepared and wrapped treats that will be distributed at the end of the day. Perhaps donating a book in your child's name to the library or classroom or distributing non-edible treats would be more appropriate.

Save the Date

**Saturday, April 11 - Carson Student Art Show & Choir Performance
Emerich Art Gallery**

4:00 - 7:00

Tuesday, April 14 - CSC Parent Meeting

6:00 - 7:00

Thursday, April 30 - CSC Annual Community Dinner

6:00 - 8:00

Thursday, May 21 - Field Day

9:30

Rain Date - Friday, May 22

Patricia Polacco

She will be signing her new books. For the Love of Autumn and Someone for Mr. Sussman, as well as old favorites.

Saturday, February 14

2:00 - 4:00

The Bookies

4315 E. Mississippi Avenue

***3rd Grade Reading CSAP Testing
February 10 & 11***

Character Education

Our parent led classroom discussions for January focused on perseverance. This character trait was perfect for the month of January when the kids were also learning about Martin Luther King, Jr. and Barack Obama and how they persevered to make changes in our country. The character education trait for February and March will be integrity.

On Friday, February 13th we will host another Mix-It-Up lunch in the cafeteria. The students will be asked to sit with someone they do not normally sit with at lunch. The discussion prompts will focus on Valentine's Day, Black History Month, and Chinese New Year.

On Saturday, February 28th Carson will hold its 3rd Summit Meeting. This meeting will be held at the Daniels Fund Building from 8:30-3:00. The purpose of this meeting is to gather teachers, parents and staff to discuss our intentional school culture at Carson. We will work together with the facilitation of Bill Fulton to set goals around how Carson is growing and changing as a school. If you are interested in attending the summit please contact Wende Abraham.

In April the Character Education Committee will host a community service project called Carson Makes a Difference. As a school community we will work together to support the Any Soldier Project. Each Friday in April the students will be mixed up by grade level and write letters, make boxes, gather and sort donated items to send to soldiers overseas. More information about how you can help with the project to come.

Our next Character Education meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26th at 5:00pm in the library. We hope to see you there.

Progress Reports

Progress Reports for the second trimester will be sent home on Thursday, February 27. Although we will not schedule a formal conference day during the month of February, you are more than welcome to schedule a conference with your child's teacher if you should have any concerns. Also, teachers may call you to discuss your child's academic and social progress.

Carson Summit

Carson's third Summit will be held on Saturday, February 28. This is an opportunity for staff and parents to come together to discuss, reflect and set common goals around our school community, its growth and the positive changes that will drive us in the coming years. The Summit will be facilitated by Bill Fulton. Bill Fulton has facilitated meetings for the Summit in the past as well as meetings for the Carson staff. We are looking forward to a great day. To attend this meeting you must R.S.V.P. by February 13 to Wende Abraham at 303-321-2250.

PTA Notebook

UPDATES

Carson Family Night Out at Steve's Snappin' Dogs :

Once again we had a fun family night out with a fantastic turn out at Steve's place. The place was packed with over 50 Carson families and the kids all had a blast. We raised \$225.00 and Steve is ready to have us back again soon. We will keep you posted on upcoming Carson nights out.

PTA Officers and Coordinators for 2009-2010 School Year

While many of the event coordinators want to stay on next year because they had so much fun, we still have openings and would love to get many more people involved. Contact Laura Kent at 303-321-5633 if you would like to get more involved with any specific PTA program. We will also have an opportunity later this year and at the start of the school year for you to sign up as a volunteer for all events.

Please contact Tracey Pliskin at 720-468-1585 if you are interested in a PTA officer position or in co-chairing the **2009 Carson Silent Auction**. Since the auction is our biggest fundraiser of the year, we would like to get the co-chairs in place to get started strategizing the strategic strategy for the event.

Carson Fun Day Out – Tuesday, February 17th

Looking for something fun to do with your kids on February 17th? Heather Colliander is working with Jungle Quest to schedule a Carson session at their place. Look in your Thursday folder on February 12th for more details.

RIF Book Distribution

On Wednesday, February 18, Carson students will once again head to the library to choose a free book to add to their personal collection. This is the second of three RIF (Reading is Fundamental) distributions for the school year. Anyone interested in helping out on that day, please contact Chris Wells at 303-358-0408.

Carson Sock Hop. Thursday, February 19th. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Be sure to RSVP for this great night of pizza, dancing and fun! Costumes are encouraged and get ready to rock 'n roll! Contact Donna Hickey at 303-340-3722 if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

Carson School Wide Summit. Saturday, February 28th. 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Please join us at this incredible event that brings together parents, teachers and staff for a fantastic day of brainstorming, strategizing and fun. We truly work as a team to shape the future of Carson. Contact Wende Abrahm at 303-321-2250 if you have questions or would like to attend the Summit. We encourage everyone to attend so that you can be involved and have an impact on our school.

Original Works Fundraiser

The students have begun working on their spectacular artwork that you can place on great products like t-shirts, tiles, tote bags, magnets, notecards and so much more. Artwork, product catalogs and orders forms will be sent home in Thursday folders the last week of February. Orders will be due on March 6th. All items will be finished in time for Mother's Day and we can't think of a better gift than one that showcases your child's artwork.

February PTA Meeting - Thursday Night. February 12th. 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Carson Library. Free babysitting.