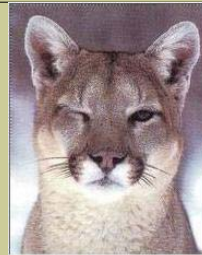


Cougar Tracks

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

April

- 2 CSC Meeting
- 8 Picture Day
- 14 CSC Parent Meeting
- 16 PTA Meeting
- 23 Character Education Meeting

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

Happy Spring! I can't believe that we are in the last trimester of the school year. The staff will continue to work to ensure maximum growth and development for all students. The CSAP tests are complete for this year and all students in grades three, four and five have resumed their regular curriculum. We look forward to a great remainder of the school year.

As you are aware there are changes taking place for next school year. I have announced that I will not return as the principal next year and the search for my replacement is already underway. Also, the CSC agreed to reduce our kindergarten classes from three classes to two and add an additional third grade class to accommodate this

year's two second grade classes moving up to grade three.

The personnel committee has interviewed and hired what we believe to be two wonderful teachers for next school year's third grade classes. One teacher will replace Kristin Decker who has decided to be a stay at home mom next year with her two wonderful children. We wish Kristin and her family the best. The committee has also interviewed for a deaf/hard of hearing teacher, but has not made a selection at this time. We hope to do so soon. The incoming teacher will replace the long term substitute that we have had all school year. Ellen Cahill has filled this role and we appreciate her hard work. Lastly, regarding teaching

staff, Jonathan Smith, deaf/hard of hearing teacher will move back to Hill Middle School. Jonathan came to Carson from Hill two years ago. Carson will have nine fifth grade students continuing from the deaf/hard of hearing program decreasing the numbers in our program.

As we conclude this school year, we yet have a lot more to look forward to doing as a school community. We will gather for the Community Dinner, Field Day and the Fun Run to name a few. I am hopeful that you all will stay tuned and check the Thursday folders each week for upcoming events.

Thanks for all you do to make Carson a great school.

Late Start Day
Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Playground supervision will be available at 11:30.

***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.”**

Picture Day

***Wednesday
April 8***

***Community
Dinner***

***April 30
RSVP Only***

CSC Election to be Held

Three nominations were received for the upcoming traditional classroom parent position to be vacant on the Collaborative School Committee. An election will be held allowing the parent community to elect one parent to serve in this position. The parent elected will serve for the 2009-2010 and 2010 - 2011 school years.

Please look for information about the nominees along with a ballot in the Thursday folder in the next week or two. As in the past, all ballots collected will be counted by outside district personnel. The winner will be announced via the Thursday folder.

Sneaker Alert

Every child is expected to wear socks and sneakers to school on the day of physical education class, to ensure safety during the activity. Also, sneakers should be worn during recess on the playground. Slip on shoes do not provide stability during movement and allow the foot to slide around during vigorous activity, which is unsafe for your child.

Sandals, clogs, crocs, flip flops, jellies and dress shoes are not acceptable for providing safety. Please help keep your child safe by ensuring the appropriate foot wear during recess and physical education class.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to give Mr. Van Dyke, physical education teacher a call. You can also reach him via email at Michael_VanDyke@dpsk12.org.

Carson Town Gym Jog!

Join us for a fantastic family event to support our Physical Education program. Participants will run/walk 1 mile around the track and then everyone can stay to enjoy the day together. Bring a picnic!

Saturday, May 9 at 10:00
\$15.00 registration per person includes a T-shirt
All proceeds will benefit Carson's PE program.
Register by Thursday, April 30th

Contact Carrie Corrigan at 303-863-6053 with any questions or if you would like to volunteer at the event.

Character Education

Our classroom discussions for March continued with integrity. We spent two months talking with the kids about what it means to show integrity and how it takes courage. We talked about knowing the right thing to do and have the courage to do it. The character trait for April will be courage.

CARSON MAKES A DIFFERENCE DAY! Our children will have the opportunity to take part in a school wide community service enrichment program during the month of April. The entire Carson staff and students will spend 40 minutes during the 3 Friday's in April preparing 'Carson Cares' Boxes for US Soldiers deployed to Iraq. These boxes will include hand written notes and pictures from the students, and non-perishable donated items. On the last Friday of April, the students will assemble their boxes and then approximately 70 boxes will be mailed to the soldiers using funds that the Carson Student Council raised through school store and chocolate rose sales.

On April 2nd, LTC Laura Clellan from the Colorado Army National Guards will come to speak with our children on behalf of the soldiers that will receive these boxes. LTC Clellan will speak to the students on what life is like as a soldier and what comfort it brings to receive such thoughtful packages and support from friends back home.

Please see the flyer in the Thursday folders with suggested items for donation. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please contact Wende Abrahm at Abrahm5@msn.com or 303-321-2250.

Our next Character Education meeting will be on Thursday, April 23rd at 5:00 pm in the library. We hope to see you there.

S a v e t h e D a t e	April 2	CSC Meeting
	April 7	RIF
	April 8	Picture Day
	April 16	PTA Meeting
	April 17	<i>Professional/Planning Day-No Classes for Students</i>
	April 21	<i>Late Start Day</i>
	April 23	Character Education Meeting
	April 30	Community Dinner
	May 1	<i>Assessment Day - No Classes for Students</i>
	May 7	CSC Meeting
	May 8	Shakespeare Festival
	May 14	PTA Meeting
	May 15	<i>Late Start Day</i>
	May 21	Field Day
	May 22	Rain Date for Field Day
	May 25	Memorial Day Holiday
	May 27	Fifth Grade Continuation
	May 29	Fun Run - Last Day of School

PTA NOTEBOOK

UPDATES

Original Works Fundraiser

This program was a tremendous success with approximately \$1000 raised for Carson. Money raised will be divided between the art program and general PTA operating fund. Thanks to all parents who purchased your child's artwork. Your orders will return just in time for Mother's Day and the end of the school year.

Carson Night at The Bookies

Once again, we had a great time supporting a local business and supporting Carson. The kids had a great time roaming free through the wonderful store while parents enjoyed delicious desserts. Bookies was thrilled with our support and will send a check for \$357 to the PTA. Thanks for coming out and shopping with Carson.

Mobile Computer Lab

Laptops for the Mobile Computer Lab have arrived at Carson. Since the computers have been ordered through DPS, they did arrive loaded with all necessary software. We are still waiting on the arrival of the carts that will house the laptops. Once everything is set up, the staff will be trained by district personnel and they will be ready to start working with the students. Thanks again for your support of the 2008 Silent Auction. The mobile computer lab will be a tremendous addition to the entire Carson community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Carson Art Show

Saturday, April 11th. 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Post Modern's building - 2734 Walnut St

Join us for an extraordinary show of Carson talent. Students will be exhibiting their artwork that will be available for purchase. Ms. Kreizel is working with students to select their artwork and to set a selling price (\$5-\$10). Sales of art will directly benefit the Carson art program. In addition, Ms. Hanning and the Carson Choir will perform some terrific songs for everyone to enjoy while viewing the art. The art will be displayed through the week and the exhibit will be open again on Saturday, April 18th 10 a.m. to noon. Contact Mary Hemmingway-Emrich at 303-321-7292 or Ms. Kreizel at MARYBETH_KREIZEL@dpsk12.org if you have any questions.

April PTA Meeting – Thursday Night, April 16th. 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Carson Library. Free babysitting. Please note the date change is due to the Passover holiday so we will meet the third Thursday this month. This is the last PTA meeting of the year so join us!

May PTA Meeting/Volunteer Appreciation Party – Thursday Night, May 14 6:30 p.m.

While we generally do not hold a PTA meeting in May, this year we have decided to celebrate the end of the year with a volunteer appreciation party. In addition, we hope to have a chance to meet our new principal and show them just how great the parent community is at Carson. More details will follow but mark your calendars and plan to join us so that we can thank you for all the work you have done to make this year so fabulous.