

PAW PRINTS

Grant Ranch School
5400 S Jay Circle
Littleton, CO 80123
Phone# 720-424-6880
Fax# 720-424-6905

July 31, 2009

Summer Vacation

As the end of summer approaches, we want to welcome all students, new and returning, to Grant Ranch School. We sincerely hope they will all have a positive educational experience during the 2009-2010 school year.

School Begins...

The first day of school is Wednesday, **August 19, 2009**. The school day hours are from 8:00 am to 2:45 pm. There is a 7:55 am bell for middle school students to enter the second floor hallways, go to their lockers and be seated in the classrooms by 8:00am.

Early Childhood Education (ECE)

The Early Childhood Program at Grant Ranch is still taking applications for the upcoming school year. We have added a three and four year old half day program (AM only). If interested, please pick up an application in the office. Our new half day teacher is Ms. Kelly Francis. For those who have already applied, letters will be arriving in the mail explaining the beginning of school schedule. You will also receive a health form which must be completed by Sept. 1st for each child. We are very excited for the 2009-2010 school year! If you have any questions, please contact the office. Please spread the word about our program!

Early Childhood Education (ECE) classes begin on August 19, 2009. This will be an orientation day with parents and children attending from 8:00-9:30 am. The children will spend time with their teacher and participate in a tour of the school. Parents will have the opportunity to complete all necessary paperwork and ask questions. We are asking that every **child** attend and have at least **one** parent with them. Our regular schedule will begin on Thursday, August 20, 2009. See you then!

Kindergarten

PLEASE NOTE! Important Schedule Information for Kindergarten Parents!

As in 2008-2009, kindergarten teachers will have three half-days of non-pupil contact time for teachers to complete required assessments of their students. Therefore, All Kindergarten Classes will have a revised schedule for the first week of school. The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, August 19 – Kindergarten Orientation 8:00 – 10:00 am

All parents must attend the first day of school with their child for an important orientation and welcome. Students are dismissed at 10:00 am with their parents following the orientation. Please report to your child's Kindergarten classroom at 8:00 am.

Thursday, August 20 – Half day for All-Day Kindergarten Students!

All-day Kindergarten students attend school from 8:00 – 10:40 am.

Half-day Kindergarten – No Classes! Assessment Day

Individual assessments will take place in the afternoon by appointment.

Parents will sign up for assessment times during the Kindergarten Orientation on August 19, 2009.

Friday, August 21 – Half day for All-Day Kindergarten Students!

All-day Kindergarten students attend school from 8:00 – 10:40 am.

Half-day Kindergarten – No Classes! Assessment Day

Individual assessments will take place in the afternoon by appointment.

Parents will sign up for assessment times during the Kindergarten Orientation on August 19, 2009.

Monday, August 24 –

- First full day of school for All-day Kindergarten classrooms - 8:00 am – 2:40 pm
- First day of school for Half-day Kindergarten classrooms - 12:00 – 2:40 pm

Student Registration

Student registration will be held in the school lobby on Monday, August 10, 2009 through August 12, 2009 with the following schedule:

Returning students with last names A-M	August 10, 2009	8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Returning students with last names N-Z	August 11, 2009	8:00 am to 3:00 pm
New Students	August 12, 2008	8:00 am to 3:00 pm

During these times, parents/guardians will have the opportunity to complete Verification Forms, and gather information concerning bus schedules, lunch applications, calendars, supply lists, schedules, etc. Members of the Grant Ranch School PTO will be available to provide information on volunteer activities, sign up sheets, fundraisers, etc.

To ensure that “Paw Prints” will “reach more households,” we will be asking for email addresses. Thank you for your cooperation in this request!

Sixth Graders

On Monday, August 17 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm sixth grade students will have the opportunity to get their schedules, find their classes, and learn how to open their lockers! (Fees must be paid prior to the assignment of lockers). These activities should take about 40 minutes to complete, but students may remain longer, if necessary. Teachers and National Junior Honor Society members will be on hand to help and to answer questions.

New Staff Members

Please welcome the newest members of the Grant Ranch School family. They are as follows:

Martha Foelker	First Grade Teacher
Kelly Francis	Early Children Education (ECE) Three Year Olds Program
Bernadette Howell	Secretary II
Lisa Stotts	School Psychologist (Megan Francisco is on Maternity leave)
Phyliss Whitaker	Seventh Grade Teacher
Kate Wilcox	Kindergarten Teacher
Ann Westra	Music Teacher
Genaro Mercado Perea	Gifted/Talented Teacher

We are excited to have them at our school!

Fall Sports

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students are encouraged to participate in the fall sports program offered at Grant Ranch School. These include boys' soccer, cross-country, flag football, girl's softball, cross country and volleyball. Tryouts for these fall sports will be held during the last week of August. A physical and a \$25 fee payment are required to participate in the tryouts. We advise your child to have their physical done right away, as the Denver Public School policy does not allow them to participate without one.

Sports Physicals

Inner City Health Center is a primary comprehensive health care provider that offers five principal areas of care: adult medical, prenatal, pediatric, dental, and pastoral counseling. Their principal focus is to serve those without health insurance. They also perform beginning of the school year & sports physical examinations. For a cost of only \$10, any of our DPS student athletes can schedule an appointment @ the clinic and receive a physical. The clinic is located at 3800 York Street, Denver, CO 80205.

Counseling Corner

We all remember the mixture of emotions that going back to school often brings. You're anxious and excited, but disappointed that summer coming to a close. Whether the sunny season was jam-packed with activities from start to finish, or filled with complaints that they were bored to tears with nothing to do, many kids of all ages have a hard time making the transition from pool to school.

Allow your child time to adjust. Remind him/her that everyone feels a little nervous about the first day of school - even Mom and Dad and probably even the teacher. Also, remind your child that it will all become an every-day routine in no time.

Grade Level School Supply Lists

School supply lists are available on the Grant Ranch School website <http://grantranch.dpsk12.org>. Beginning on Friday, July 31, 2009 the school office will be open from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm to provide information and/or answer your questions.

“Back to School Bash”

There are many individuals in our Grant Ranch School family: staff, students, parents/guardians and community members. You can get to know others by attending the “2009 Back to School Bash” on Monday, August 17, 2009. From 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm the school will be open for parents/guardians and students to meet their teachers, “drop off school supplies,” walk through the building, etc. A social will follow from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm with live music, Outback Cheeseburgers, soccer, basketball, baseball, Grizzly Wear, prizes, and much, much more!!

Come join the fun. Hope to see you there!!

Curriculum Night

Grant Ranch School realizes the importance of parental involvement in the success of their child's education. During a Curriculum Night on Thursday, August 27, 2009 parents/guardians will have the opportunity to learn more about Denver Public Schools instruction and curriculum and Response to Intervention (RTI), a state mandated program

that improves the learning of all students. In addition, the second Positive Influence in Education (P.I.E.) meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm on Tuesday, August 25, 2009.

Tutor Train

We are proud to continue with one of our finest resources for parents and students at Grant Ranch School, the Tutor Train Math and Reading Program.

This summer Tutor Train helped 20 students “Ride the Train to Success” by maintaining and improving their skills. The Tutor Train summer program will continue until August 13th. There’s still time to get your student enrolled.

GRS Student – “Tutor Train helped me do math by myself. It made me finally learn and understand it.”

GRS Parent – “I can tell what the summer program has done. He would have forgotten everything over the summer without this program.”

GRS Teacher – “Tutor Train students have shown improvement in all classroom skills not just their particular subject area”.

Tutor Train will begin the after school program on August 24th. Registration is open now. This is a great opportunity to make sure your student gets the upper hand next school year. Call to enroll:

Mary Ann Barwick – 303-973-5919

Thanks

Many thanks to Rod Gomez for helping us get the flyer together to send out to approximately 4,000 families across Grant Ranch and other neighboring communities. We are hoping to increase enrollment by getting the word out of everything we have to offer. Be looking for your brochure in the mail.

Saturday, September 12, 2009

Cure Walk-n-Roll & Run Across America ~ Colorado at Clement Park!

Troy Lino has been a student at GRS since it opened. You might know him best by his power wheelchair traveling the halls©. Both Troy and his sister, Jamie, have Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). Their parents, Brian and Julie Lino organize this event to raise funds for SMA research and invite them to join them on September 12, 2009. See attached flyer.



Hope to see you at our upcoming events, if not before!