



Bacon Bacon

December 2006

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The #1 News Source of the Bacon Bulldogs

**Bacon Elementary School . 5844 S. Timberline Road
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www.pdschools.com/schools/Bacon

The Principal Perspective

Dear Parents,

Although this letter will come out after the Thanksgiving Holiday, as I sit here writing to you, I can't help but ponder all the blessings in my life that I am most grateful for. On a personal note, I am truly blessed with a beautiful family, a nice home and the best job I can imagine. Without a doubt the best thing about this job are the people that I encounter on a daily basis at Bacon Elementary. The children that you send out the door each day are truly the greatest blessing that we share. To witness children express their excitement about the little things in life, to see their curiosity and willingness to discover all the richness in the world around them, and to experience the joy on their faces when they read a word for the first time or conquer a concept that they have been struggling with, makes it all so worthwhile. These things remind me how thankful I am to have chosen such a fulfilling career.

You and I are both blessed with such a tremendous, talented group of teachers and support staff working with children here at Bacon. The expertise, dedication, and commitment to continuous improvement shown by this staff are so impressive, and make it such a joy for me to work with them. When summer starts to wind down, and it is time to get back into the routines of the school year, reconnecting with the folks that I have developed

relationships with makes it all the easier to drag myself off the golf course and out of the mountains to get back to work.

And lastly, I am most grateful for you, the parents of all the great kids we have here at Bacon. So much has taken place this fall that you parents have stepped up and accomplished. You do it without pay, and in many cases not even much of a thanks. We have had very successful fund raising efforts with Gold C books, Sally Foster merchandise, box tops, Scripps coupons and others. We have participated in community service projects such as Cans Around the Oval, Thanksgiving food baskets, and a giving tree for Project Self-Sufficiency. We held a very successful Fall/Halloween Festival, that is, if attendance is the marker of success. It featured a 'real' Haunted House, a carnival, feast sponsored by Chic-Filet, and a silent auction to raise funds for a Bacon family that experienced a tragic fire earlier this school year. We just closed up another very successful Scholastic Book Fair that put hundreds of dollars of new books in our student's hands, and paid for the purchase of many new books for our media center. When I think about all this great work, it makes my head spin. I can only stop long enough to say, "Wow". You are truly a blessing to each other, your children, and all of us that are fortunate to work at Bacon Elementary School.

Sincerely,

494-5301, wills@pdschools.org

Box Tops

By David Johnson

I want to encourage families to think of Box Tops for Education when shopping on-line. It is so easy to raise money for Bacon Elementary. First go to the Box Tops for

Education website (boxtops4education.com). Sign up for on-line shopping. Then place your orders from your favorite on-line stores through the Box Tops for Education website. A percentage of your order will then be donated to Bacon Elementary School from the participating on-line stores. Can it get any easier than that?

PTA News & Notes

PTA Corner

By Kim Johnson

Our last PTA meeting was well attended and we are still very happy to see new faces and hear new ideas. It seems that with the holidays creeping up on us there are still odds and ends going on at school. A large amount of Bacon products were ordered so it seems that the fall sale was well received. Our silent auction from the Halloween Carnival was a huge success. Many people have asked if we can do this again. It was discussed that we may do it again at the spring social. Since we do not have a chair for Community Events, we are very open to suggestions of what the Bacon community would like to do in the spring. Usually we have a family picnic outdoors, socialize and have fun.

For staff appreciation in November, Sara Thompson organized a breakfast for the teachers. This was tied into the book fair preview for them. For December we are keeping with the tradition of wrapping presents for all those early shoppers! Look for more information on this soon. Another thing to keep in mind is the holiday shopping for those hard to buy for people on your list. We have SCRIP cards! You can go to GLSCRIP.com for a complete list of all the different cards available. Even if you have to buy for people out of state, a gift card fits nicely into a Christmas card!

We also want to give sincere thanks to Sue Laughlin and Nancy Tafoya. These ladies are true angels when it comes to thinking of others in our community. They did a fabulous job with the Giving Tree and organizing non-perishable food donations. The VIPS room was full! We could not do this without you and want you both to know how grateful we are that you organize these events.

Carnival Fun

By Cathy Karlicek

A huge thank you must be given to all of those parents and older siblings of Bacon students who helped put on this year's great Halloween carnival. In the Haunted House, Peter Anderson, Jeff & Rosanna Tracey and Michelle Karlicek helped plan and set up while Michelle, Katie Netter, and Krista Roper acted as our ghost buster team leaders with Aaron Crawford as our mad scientist. We had some great parents and grandparents help with setting up and decorating the Haunted House. Our thanks to Preston Junior High's Drama department for loaning us some actors in the Haunted House....you did a great job!

Thanks to Patti Weber and Kim Johnson for their efforts with the silent auction. Great job to Elizabeth Oppenheimer and Kim Johnson for stepping up and helping Chick-Fil-A serve food. Thanks to Alison Hopfe and many parents and even some great friends who don't have kids here for setting up the games and running the booths for our kids. We couldn't have a carnival without your volunteer efforts. Thanks to Staci Miller, the PTA treasurer, and Bill Smith for getting everyone in so that they could have fun. Thanks also to Margaret and Bill, Bacon's custodians, for their help. Many thanks to Joe Oppenheimer, our resident DJ.....it was great as always! I must also send out a special thank you to Elizabeth Oppenheimer for her encouragement.....it made a big difference!

And last, but certainly not least, a BIG THANK YOU to all of the parents and students at Bacon for coming. We hope you had a great time and lots of fun! The PTA puts on this carnival to have fun and to foster the community spirit which makes Bacon a great place to learn! See you next year. Thanks!

Volunteer Connection

By Allyson Smit VanAlstyne

This month finds us thankful for many things. Among them are Bacon Volunteers. The number of people wanting and willing to volunteer at our school has amazed me. Our children and, in turn, our school community are the beneficiaries of your support. A word of thanks to all of you for giving your time.

Currently we have 330 registered volunteers at Bacon. Registered volunteers will have personalized nametags at the sign in podium in the office. If you have not registered

through the PSD website, you are not to be volunteering in the school as mandated by the Poudre School District. You can go online to www.psdschools.org and follow the directions under the Volunteer heading to register. You can also update your information at the same site. Be sure I have your current email address as this way you will receive announcements and volunteer opportunities via email. If you need assistance or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at: Okoboji50@msn.com or WithoutPaddle@upsmitcreek.com

Again, thank you Bacon Volunteers for all your time, energy and efforts. We are thankful for YOU!



Office Notes

By Jana Parker

Just a reminder Parents: if your student is going to miss school due to illness or is going to be out of town we would appreciate a call to our attendance line, 488-5310. Please continue with the communication with your student's teacher if you know ahead of time that they will be gone. Here are some reminders of when to keep your child home when they are ill:

General Guidelines:

- If your child is contagious to other children
- If your child is too uncomfortable to learn or participate in learning

Fever:

- Temperature of 100 degrees or higher
- Must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicines, such as Tylenol or ibuprofen, (i.e. Advil, Motrin)

Diarrhea:

- Frequent watery stools

Appearance/Behavior:

- Unusually tired, pale or irritable, fever

Ear:

- Ear pain and/or drainage from ear, fever

Eyes:

- Eye drainage, redness and/or itching

Rash:

- Body or local rash especially with itching, red bumps, discharge

Sore Throat:

- Especially with fever, swollen neck glands and/or white areas on throat

Vomiting:

- Especially if your child vomits before leaving for school in the morning

Upper Respiratory Infections/Colds:

- If your child has a fever, large amounts of nasal drainage, a productive or dry cough that would be disruptive to your child and/or the class, and/or significantly uncomfortable and unable to participate in class

Burns: Consult with your health care provider if your child has a serious burn.

- Burn is on your child's eye or eyelid
 - The center of the burn is white or charred
 - Burn starts to look infected with pus, red streaks and/or increased tenderness
 - Blisters that are greater than ½ inch in size
- If burn was caused by acid, alkali or electrical burn

Remember, medications cannot be given at school without the proper documentation. This includes cough and throat drops. Students are not allowed to carry any type of medicine in their pockets or in their backpacks. We have blank forms in the office if your need to have your doctor approve any type of medication.

Lastly, as you know, Colorado's weather can change quickly. Please be sure your student comes to school with appropriate attire for being outside for recess. Students will be outside unless it is raining/snowing or below ten degrees.

From the Lunch Staff

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for being so patient with our "new computer system" (point of sale). We are trying hard to make adjustments. I would like to ask parents to please specify if they would like their checks or cash split between siblings. (Please write all names). We do not split checks unless you tell us. Please write their full name and their student ID numbers. Also, if you send the money in an envelope, it is very important to have your student(s)' name written on the outside as well.

Also, with the new system, the kitchen doesn't keep a lot of cash on hand. Parents, if you are coming to Bacon for lunch with your student, please try and bring correct change. The price for an adult lunch w/drink is \$2.85.

Again, we thank you so much and Happy Holidays!

Bacon Kitchen Staff

Media News

By Jean Brodahl



A great big thank you to Allison Pulsipher, Wendy Cleaverly, Kim Johnson, Elizabeth Oppenheimer, Kim Sterkel, and all the other parents for our tremendously successful book fair. Another huge thank you goes out to everyone who bought books and supported the Bacon Media Center. The turnout was amazing and the proceeds go to buying books for our library. Please know how grateful and appreciative we are for your support. Your children benefit the most, of course, but you're not only helping them but future Bacon students as well. Thank you, thank you, thank you to the best parents in the Poudre School District! Keep Reading!

End Notes

Season's Greetings from the Community Service Committee!

By Sue Laughlin



The response to our Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive was overwhelming! Thanks to everyone that supported our effort to provide Bacon families with a little holiday cheer. We were able to provide 6 families with stuffed-to-the-top baskets of food for a traditional holiday meal as well as a wonderful supply of additional food items!

And our holiday gift giving tree was once again a huge success! Our thanks to everyone who chose an ornament (or ornaments!) to provide a happy holiday to some folks who might otherwise not have one. A reminder, the UNWRAPPED gifts are due back to the school by Monday, December 8. Please attach the paper ornament to the outside of the gift and drop your donation in the main office. We offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this program so successful. The generosity shown by our Bacon community is amazing!

We wish you and yours a happy and healthy holiday season!

Students Invited to Compete in Annual Hoop Shoot Contest

The local Hoop Shoot free-throw shooting contest will be held Saturday, January 6, 2007, at the Boys & Girls Clubs, 1608 Lancer Drive, Fort Collins. The contest, sponsored annually the Elks Lodge, is a opportunity for all students, ages 8–13, to compete for prizes and recognition. Each contestant gets 25 free throws divided into two sessions.

The Hoop Shoot is a nationwide competition, starting at the local level and proceeding to district, state, regional, and national levels. The six Fort Collins champions (one girl and one boy from each age group) will advance to the district finals in Sterling, Colorado. Age groups are determined by the student's age as of April 1, 2007, and proof of birthday is required.

All Hoop Shoot participants will receive free admission to a Colorado State University men's basketball game on January 9, 2007. This will include a half-time presentation and basketball shooting on the court.

Information: Doran Beaman, 226-2438, or dbeaman@dellenbach.com



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The Bacon Beacon Newsletter is published by the Bacon PTA and is distributed the last week of each month. The deadline for article submission is listed on the Bacon Bulldog Calendar. We appreciate electronic copies of articles emailed to Susan French at 2sfrench@comcast.net.

Contact Susan by phone at 282-8600 if you need to submit a paper copy of your article.

Newsletter Committee: Susan French, Krista & Mike Viola,
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