



Bacon Bacon

January 2007

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The #1 News Source of the Bacon Bulldogs

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The Principal Perspective

Dear Parents,

As the first semester draws to a close, (yes, I too think it has gone by awfully fast) we are preparing to take time to give our families the gift of our selves and our time over the holiday break. As fast as it slips by, it is so important to take the time to be present to our children, to listen, to interact, and enjoy them. I want to extend my best wishes to all of the Bacon families for a wonderful holiday season filled with peace, love, and joy.

I have only a couple of informational items that I want to pass along to all of you to keep you informed of the latest pressing issues. First, is the boundary issue that affects our families in Brittany Knolls, Paragon Point, and Southridge. You will be receiving, if you haven't already, a letter from the Poudre School District Administrators informing you that you have a choice as to whether or not you want to stay at Bacon or attend Werner. If you choose to stay at Bacon you will need to fill out a School of

Choice form for each child in your family. **Note, you will only have to do this once, and the form is due by Feb. 9 in the Bacon Office.** We would love to have all of you stay at Bacon, but we understand this is a decision that you have to make for whatever is best for your family.

Next, I want to inform all of you that our kindergarten orientation is scheduled for the evening of Jan. 25th right here at Bacon at 6:30. I would encourage you to get that message to all of your neighbors who might have incoming kindergarteners, as it is difficult to reach everyone, especially if they are going to be new to Bacon. The orientation is designed to give parents of prospective students an overview of the kindergarten program, plus a chance for me to talk briefly about the overall school program at Bacon.

Again, I extend warm wishes to all of you, and look forward to working with you and your children in the new year, as the 2006-2007 school year continues.

Sincerely,

494-5301, wills@psdschools.org

PSD School of Choice Deadline February 9

Approximately 70% of PSD students attend neighborhood schools, where PSD's rigorous standards-based curriculum is complemented by enrichment activities. However, parents who would like their children to attend a school outside of their attendance area can do so through School Choice.

Parents may choose from a neighborhood school, a

school close to work, all-day or half-day kindergarten programs, before and after school care, and various programs and curricula (on a space-available basis).

PSD's School Choice deadline is Friday, February 9. School Choice students are accepted on a space-available basis, and transportation is the responsibility of the parent.

To access a School Choice application form, visit www.psdschools.org and click on "School Registration," or pick up an application at any school office or at the Johannsen Support Services Center, 2407 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins.

PTA News & Notes

PTA Corner

By Kim Johnson

Our December PTA meeting agenda was short and sweet. We had a presentation by Todd Howard of Stand Out Math. This was a neat and informative concept in teaching math that some other schools in the district are currently using. We decided to do some further investigation before pursuing this further. There is a price for this and we agreed that all the teachers would need to feel comfortable with this in our curriculum before we purchased it.

Jill Wood, who is our Science Fair coordinator, is doing a great job and has spoken to some people from CSU about doing a couple of presentations to help motivate the kids to participate in this year's Science Fair. More information will be coming home the closer we get to this.

PTA will be conducting a meeting to discuss future fundraising options for Bacon in February. We agreed that this would be good opportunity for parental input in the process. Look for more information in the next newsletter. PTA is also going to try to hold some additional nighttime parent informational meetings. Mr. Smith has suggested one session on CSAP information, and we have also spoken to Elizabeth Anderson about doing a Parenting with Love and Logic talk.

So that is about it for now. We hope you and your family have a wonderful holiday vacation time. See you next year!

Surrounded by Science

By Jill Wood



Don't forget that science surrounds us everyday over the winter break! Bacon Elementary will again be holding a Science Fair this spring and it is never too early to start thinking up interesting questions to investigate. Information and registration packets will be sent home in mid-February and the Fair will be held for all grades on April 4, 2007. If anyone is interested in helping with the advertising, posters, set-up, etc. for the Science Fair, please let me know at 266-8095 or at jjacwood@aol.com.

There are exciting shows coming up at the Discovery Science Center (www.dcsn.org or 472-3990). Admission to the shows and activities is free with the cost of admission. For more information please contact the DSC. *Physics Extravaganza* with Brian Jones and the Little Shop of Physics will be performing on Dec. 27, 28, and 29 at 10:30 and 1:00. At *Explore Dinosaurs* on Jan 3 between 10:00 and 2:00, you can hold a real dinosaur bone!

A few interesting websites for all grades to explore are:
NASA science education:

<http://imagers.gsfc.nasa.gov>

Bayer Making Science Make Sense Program:

www.bayerus.com/msms

And for older children:

Franklin Institute in Philadelphia:

<http://fi.edu/learn/index.html>

PSD Kindergarten Registration Scheduled for February 8

Kindergarten registration for students entering school in PSD in fall 2007 is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2007. Registration will be held from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. at all elementary schools (schedule available at school offices or on the PSD web page at www.psdschools.org under "School Registration"). Children who will be 5 years old on or before September 15, 2007, are eligible to register.

On the day of registration, parents should bring their child's birth certificate (original or certified preferred), Social Security number, immunization records, and emergency contact information.

There is no tuition for half-day kindergarten programs; full-day programs are \$2,100 per year, except at Livermore, Stove Prairie, and Laurel, which are free.

The first payment is due at the time of registration; the remainder is due in 9 monthly installments from August 1, 2007 – April 1, 2008. Full and partial scholarships may be available; check with the school for eligibility requirements.

One-way transportation is provided for kindergarten students attending a half-day program who live more than one mile from their neighborhood school. Round-trip transportation is provided for students in an all-day program who live more than one mile from school. Transportation is not provided for School Choice students (those who attend a school outside their attendance areas).



Bacon Bits

Office Notes

By Jana Parker

First, all of us here in the office wish to thank everyone for a great first semester. We appreciate your understanding of helping us to keep our students safe and comfortable by checking in through the office and signing in when coming into the building.

Also, a big thank you to those parents who are dedicated to keeping our students safe before and after school at the crosswalk on Zephyr Road. They are Dale Ulland, Mark & Patressa Pojar, Klaus & Marie Krizanovic, Darla Mader, Nancy Tafoya, Donna Horne, Allison Pulsipher, Susan Butters, and Jessica Rivas. We ask that you are considerate of the job they are doing and pay attention to your speed while traveling past the school when kids are present. Safety is the name of the game!

Media News

By Jean Brodahl



During this holiday break we hope your busy days are filled with joy and lots of reading! Also, the Bacon Media Center still needs a few more volunteers to help with shelving and checkout. Just come to the library and we'll show you our schedule. You can choose when you'd like to come in. Happy Holidays!



Chess Tournament on January 13, 2007

There will be a chess tournament for players in grades K-6 at Tavelli Elementary on January 13, 2007. A registration form is available on line at www.psdschools.org under the Gifted and Talented Enrichment page. All PSD students in K-6 are invited to attend, and the tournament is free for Kindergarten and first grade students! We hope to see you there!

Fort Collins, Loveland and Colorado State University Communities Celebrate MLK Day with Multiple Events

The Fort Collins, Loveland, and Colorado State University communities will gather for joint activities in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. on January 14–15. The theme of this year's celebration is "Courage to Build a Community of Social Justice."

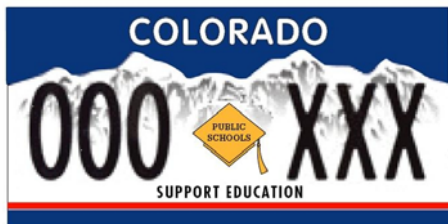
Schedule of Events:

- * Sunday, January 14
 - 6–8 p.m., "From Dr. King to You: Taking Action in Our Community," an international potluck dinner hosted by CSU Apartment Life, University Village Center
- * Monday, January 15
 - 9:30 a.m., Poetry and essay reading at CSU Bookstore, Lory Student Center. Readers include children whose winning poems and essays were selected through the 2007 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. essay and poetry contest.
 - 11 a.m., One-mile community march from CSU's historic Oval to Linden Street in Old Town Fort Collins, recreating the historic 1963 Civil Rights March on Washington, DC. The march will kick off with music performed by Poudre High School junior Emily Fehler, an address by guest speaker Dr. Norberto Valdez, an expert in Anthropology and Ethnic Studies, and music by CSU graduate student George Jackson, III. March route: East on Laurel Street to College Avenue; north on College Avenue to Mountain Avenue. Participants will enter Old Town Square from the northeast intersection of College and Mountain Avenues, then continue on to Linden Street.
 - Old Town Square: Keynote speech from Valdez accompanied by music from the Fort Collins High School Jazz Band

Loveland's 17th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration will be at 6:45 p.m. on Monday, January 15, at Thompson Valley High School, 1669 Eagle Drive. The Loveland event will include a performance by Grupo Folklorico, a presentation of essay contest awards from the local Martin Luther King Jr. Day essay contest, and a performance of "William the Slave" by Blane Harding.

Information: www.mlkfortcollins.org.

End Notes



Who's Driving Public Education?

The Poudre School District Foundation, in conjunction with the Colorado School Foundation Association, has gained legislative approval to have a new "Support Public Education" license plate.

The Support Education license plate will be available in January 2007, for a \$20 fee, plus a DMV \$25 fee. After January 1, go to www.supportcoloradoschools.org and follow the instructions to send your donation to the Poudre School District Foundation and to download a certificate to be taken to the Department of Motor Vehicles to purchase your plate. New plates can be purchased at any time, you don't have to wait for your renewal month!

The plate will help to promote awareness of public education, and raise money to be given back to the schools through program funding from the Poudre School District Foundation as well as the other Colorado education foundations.

Show your support of public education and watch for the CBS4 "Who's Driving Public Education" commercial featuring Reggie Rivers, and Colorado Strongman, Brian Shaw. Let people know that you support public education!

For more information contact the Poudre School District Foundation, 970-490-3292.



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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.

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