



IMPORTANT DATES

MONTH + DAY	TIME	EVENT
October 14 - 20	All week	Classified Employees Week (Thanks go to all non-teachers here!)
October 15	After school	Report cards + Original Works art + order forms home
October 16-17	All day	Parent-teacher conferences - NO SCHOOL either day
October 21	All day	B.A.T.-sponsored Beattie Night at CiCi's Pizza
October 22	3:20	School Improvement Team meeting
October 23	3:30	Original Works orders due
October 24		Pajama Day; Enrichment class #1
October 29	8:15 - 9:00	Picture retakes
October 29		Wear RED Day for Red Ribbon week
October 30	2:15	Halloween Parade followed by party
October 31		NO SCHOOL - Staff collaboration day
November 3		Exclusion Day for students w/out immunizations current
November 6	1:45 + 6:00	Independence Pass Music Program
November 6	7:00	B.A.T. meeting
November 7	9:00 - 10:45	MV and IP to Fort Collins Symphony
November 11	Morning	Turkey Trot for MV, LP, IP
November 18	6-7:30 p.m.	Blevins Information Night for current 5 th /6 th graders
November 26- 30		NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving break

PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING.....Mr. Sam Aldern

Hopefully you're reading this newsletter just prior to joining your child's teacher for a conference, or perhaps you already had a recent visit. In either case, I want to commend you for your involvement in your child's learning. Working together makes such a difference for kids!

As you look at the important dates above and plan accordingly, I want to make a few comments about some of these items.

- We certainly want to invite all of you who can make it to join us for the Halloween parade on 10/30. It works best for parents and other guests to line the walls of our gymnasium in order to see the parade, which begins at 2:15. Our morning kindergartners will parade through the school at 10:45. In order to make it a fun experience for all, we ask that costumes are appropriate for school. In part, this means that we don't allow "gory" costumes, fake blood, or weapons of any kind – even pretend ones.
- On 10/31 we have our second staff collaboration day, so students get to stay home that day. You'll recall that on 9/15 we studied our school data and from that developed our School Improvement Plan (SIP). On 10/31 we will be carrying out part of that SIP by developing our essential learnings in reading and writing, studying how to use guided reading strategies to best address the varying needs of our students, and analyzing our data related to our work with PBS and student behavior. The SIP is available on our school website for you to read.
- Also on the website is the latest version of our school readiness plan. This will be addressed at the 10/22 SIT meeting, with the final version due by the end of October. Input is welcomed.
- Our Health Tech, Duffy Freeman, has been in touch with every family whose child is not current with immunizations. In working with the Larimer County Health Department, it is PSD policy to not allow any student in school on November 3 until the immunizations are current. **Look for more information in this newsletter!**
- The recent cool weather reminds us that it won't be long until snow arrives. Thanks for ensuring your child has appropriate outerwear, including footwear, for those snowy days. Thanks, also, for reading the information from PSD later in the newsletter regarding how to determine if school is canceled due to weather. Kindly note that the directions ask you to **NOT call the school office to check on weather-related closures.**

MUSICAL NOTES from Ms. SPARKS



1. Mesa Verde and Independence Pass students will be going to the Fort Collins Symphony Orchestra "YES" Concert Friday, November 7, 2008 from 9:30-10:15. The cost for this activity is \$3.00.

"Olympic Games" conducted by Maestro Wes Kenney and narrated by Scott Wheeler the Choir Director at Kinard Junior High will include the following selections:

Composer	Title
John Williams	1984 Olympic Fanfare
Traditional	National Anthem
Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov	Dance of the Tumblers
Hector Berlioz	March to the Scaffold
Amilcare Ponchielli	Dance of the Hours
Gregory Smith	Orchestra Games*

2. Sunshine Singers upcoming rehearsals: Oct 22, 27, 29

3. Independence Pass students will be presenting their musical "Turnip Soup" on Thursday, November 6 at 1:45 for the school and 6:00 for the parents. Don't miss this folk tale about Babushka, her brown and lifeless garden, and the turnip that suddenly appears in her garden.

4. *Break it!* Hip Hop and Break Dance Club will host a camp for K-6th graders at Putnam Elementary School of Science on Saturday, November 8th. Proceeds go to support *Break It!* Club, an anti-gang, drug, alcohol dance group.

Campers will learn break dance techniques and exciting hip hop dances. A performance will follow at the end of camp! Registration will begin at 12:30pm and the camp will occur from 1:00-1:45pm. The cost for the camp is \$20, t-shirts and other merchandise will also be sold. To reserve a spot at the camp and receive a registration form, please contact Jasmine Faulkner.

jfaulkne@psdschools.org 970-488-7751

This Year's Music Events

Independence Pass Music Program Nov. 6 1:45 and 6:00

Fort Collins Symphony Concert Nov. 7

Sunshine Singers Musical Dec. 11 1:45 and 6:00

Mesa Verde Music Program Feb 12 10:30 and 6:00

Sunshine Players Auditions Feb. 24-26

Castle Rock Music Program Mar. 5 10:30 and 6:00

Beattie Showcase Auditions will be in late March or early April

Kindergarten Musical Informances May 13 and 14

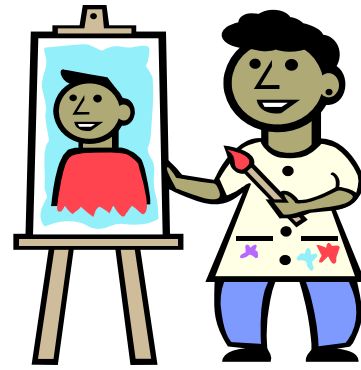
Beattie Showcase May 26 1:30



All students in Mesa Verde, Longs Peak, and Independence Pass need recorders. Recorders can be purchased for \$5.00 from Ms. Sparks or from a local music store.

Artistic Expression with Mrs. Noel

***"The habits we form from childhood make no small difference, but rather they make all the difference."
Aristotle***



Beattie Artists are working on making a difference. We selected the Original Works art based program to raise money and make a positive impact in our community through art. All the profits raised by the OW program will be used to pay for the food provided at the Beattie Evening for Art Events and will be used to buy grocery certificates that will be donated to The Food Bank of Larimer County. The Original Works fundraiser has many benefits; it celebrates children's art, helps build self esteem, and it empowers students to realize that they can make a positive impact in their school and community. **Look for Original Works Fundraiser Packets to come home with grade reports.** The wide varieties of quality products by Original Works make wonderful gifts. Last year my son's school did OW and we ordered canvas bags for all the grandparents. We used the canvas bags as gift bags for the holiday treats we baked. The art pillow cases can be a unique and colorful way to display art in your child's room. Other families collect a quilt square every year to create a finished quilt for elementary school graduation. Please share your creative ideas! You can check out examples of some of the products in Beattie's display case right outside the office.

Please know the program is completely optional, and if you choose not to order, you may keep your original artwork. Those that decide to order will get their original art back with their products.

The deadline for returning orders is Thursday, Oct. 23rd and the finished products will be sent home by Friday, December 12th, just in time for the holidays.

Rocky Mountain High School Student Council is proud to announce that we are once again offering a safe, fun night of trick or treating at this year's

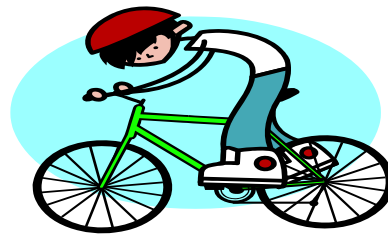
Trick-or-Treat Street!



Bring your children, ages 12 and under between the hours of 5:00 and 8:00 on October 30. As always, there will be trick or treating in the halls and games in the commons for free, and if you don't feel like cooking when you get home, the concession stand will be selling hot dogs, nachos, cotton candy, drinks and snacks for a great price! Adult supervision is required. Candy donations are always welcome and we hope to see you there!

Healthy Thoughts from PE

with Mr. Rumbold



During the past 3 weeks students in **EV, CR and SV** learned how to use "scoops", a school version of the South American game of jai alai. We did this activity for the first time and it was a popular choice. **MV, LP, and IP** learned lacrosse skills. Some of the kids really enjoyed playing and I hope they pursue their interest outside of Beattie. Organized lacrosse is gaining popularity in Colorado and may be in all four high schools in the future. I look forward to introducing youth rugby to Beattie starting October 13. **Bear Lake** students have been doing cooperative games and learning different ways to move through space. They are also learning the challenges of jump roping.

Congratulations to the kids who participated in **International Walk or Bike to School Day**. I hope to have one more **Walkin' and Wheelin' Wednesday** before the snow flies, including the lottery for fabulous prizes from Mr. A's prize basket. You may have seen the numbers on our bike racks. These are how winners are selected. When you walk or ride a scooter or skateboard you may participate by guessing a bike rack color and number. If you get a ride you must jump rope for 10 minutes to make a guess. A last note regarding Bike Day— The City of Fort Collins is selling bike helmets again for \$7.00. **If you are interested, pick up a bike helmet form from the information table. Bring it, AND YOUR CHECK, made out to Bicycle Colorado, to me by Monday, October 20, 2008.** We are unable to accept cash.

PSD and the city of Fort Collins support the nation-wide initiative to make our country healthier and provide opportunities to all citizens to achieve that goal. One opportunity is right here at 3000 Meadowlark. It goes by the name of **Beattie Park!!!** After 4:00, all of the grounds are open. Rec soccer, RMHS softball, and basketball are all played at the park.

The equipment in the playground areas (think "monkey bars") is also available. Please, take advantage of this convenient open space. Bring some friends, a ball, and have a great time.

The **Healthy Kids News** is another terrific resource for parents. It contains information about nutrition, sleep and activity levels that will promote your child's success in school and with friends. The Kids News and the **October Activity Log** are available outside the Beattie Office at the information table.

MAP vs. CSAP MAP is a nationally norm-referenced test, so **percentiles** are much more important than a performance level, like CSAP, because the MAPs results are compared with other students in the same grade across the country. If a child scores in the 50th percentile that indicates s/he scored higher than 49% of peers nationally. This is why there is such a broad "proficiency" range that shows up on the SIP for reading, because scoring at the 35th percentile or up is considered "typical". (15th or below is critically low and 92nd or higher is significantly high.) Every child in the country taking MAPs will show up somewhere on the continuum.

This is in contrast to the CSAP, which is a criterion-referenced test. As such, it tests a child's proficiency in knowing assessed standards. We obviously hope that a high **percentage** of our students will show proficiency in these standards. We hope to have all kids at the proficient side of performance, rather than spread across the performance levels.



AT BAT with the Beattie Action Team

Thank you everyone that attended the October 2 BAT meeting. The meeting minutes can be found on the Beattie website at: <http://www.psdschools.org/schools/beattie/batparentgroup.aspx>

The last day for sale of Gold C Books is October 30th!

The very popular Qdoba coupon sheets are now available for purchase at the front office. At \$10 a sheet they are a terrific value, and would also make great stocking stuffers!

Through October 30, BAT is selling Beattie youth and adult t-shirts, available in blue or white. Short sleeve shirts are \$7 and long sleeve shirts are \$10. Stop by the front office to order yours today!

The holidays are just around the corner and that means it's almost time for the Beattie Holiday Shop! If you have any new or handcrafted items for donation, please contact Chris Garza at 282.7094.

The next Beattie Day at CiCi's is November 18, all day. No slip is required; just drop your receipt into the Beattie jar by the registers. Last month Beattie parents and friends earned over \$50 for our school!!

Go to BAT for your child! The next BAT meeting will be held on November 6 at 7:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

November 1, 2008 is the PSD exclusion date for students that are not compliant with Colorado School Immunization Law. This will affect students starting Monday November 3, 2008. The Health Services staff is working hard to promote that all students meet the immunization compliance criteria.

The Larimer County Health Department is located at 1525 Blue Spruce Dr. in Fort Collins, 970 498-6700. All immunization services are available as walk in, no appointment is necessary.

The **Immunization Clinic** schedule:

Each Monday 9:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 3:30

Each Tuesday 3:00 - 6:00 PM




Each Friday 9:00 - 12:00 **There is no school for students this Friday October 17th!**

The 3rd Saturday of each month 9:00 to 12:00 noon. **That is this Saturday October 18th!**

The immunization division is working very cooperatively to provide as much clinic access as possible. They are hoping to provide an additional Special Clinic for PSD students, on Wednesday 10-29 in the afternoon/evening. We will be informed ASAP of the arrangements and details.

All vaccines are provided for the cost of \$14.50 each, and no one is denied service for the inability to pay the fees.

QUICK and EASY FUNDRAISERS!!!




CAPS 4 CASH

Cash for your school! It's as easy as drinking milk! Caps 4 Cash is a Morning Fresh Dairy program where schools can earn cash by collecting caps from Morning Fresh Dairy glass bottles. Each cap will be redeemed for 5c and spent any way the school would like!

How you can start earning money for your school

1. Drink your milk
2. Save your bottle caps
3. Collect caps from family and friends
4. Bring the caps to school
5. Drop them in the collection box

www.morningfreshdairy.com



Our school will earn 5 cents for each bottle cap collected!!!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



Don't forget to save your **BOX TOPS** for **EDUCATION** for our school. Have your children bring them in and drop them in the box right outside the office.

Last year we are able to purchase assignment notebooks for students in 1st - 6th grade through the funds raised from this program. **THANKS FOR HELPING US OUT!**

School Portrait Makeup Day

Wednesday, October 29, 2008 from 8:15 to 9:10am



If you were absent you may purchase a new package or have one taken for the records.

If you purchased a package but want a retake, you must return the original package in full.

Please pick up your picture retake order form at the office!!

November Lunch Menu

The November lunch menu was unavailable at this printing. If you would like a copy when it becomes available, please go to www.psdschools.org and click Lunch Menus on the home page. You may also pick up a hard copy at the school office.

Blevins Middle School 5th and 6th grade Parent Info Night November 18, 2008 6:00 pm in the Blevins Gym

Come and hear information about the changes in grade configuration that will be occurring next year. This will also be a great chance to hear about our school and ask any questions you might have. Please feel free to contact our Student Services Office (488-4008) at any time to schedule an appointment to tour the school or talk to a counselor.

We also welcome you to the following events:

Concerts: (7:00 pm)

Dec. 11, 2008-

Choir/Orchestra Holiday Concert

Blevins Community Fair

January 16, 2009-6:00 pm

Blevins Musical

Pirates of Penzance

March 5-6, 7:00 pm

Dec. 16, 2008-Band Holiday Concert

Thank You Volunteers



We would like to thank all of our vision and hearing screening volunteers. It was a very successful endeavor and we appreciate your time and effort on behalf of our students!

PSD November News Briefs - Elementary

1. Find out what's going on in PSD

Make the PSD Web site at www.psdschools.org your first stop for PSD news, events, activities, district committee updates, goals and other important information including school closure and delayed start information!

2. Attend a Superintendent listening session

Listening sessions are opportunities to talk informally with Dr. Wilson on topics of your choice. Although scheduled around PTO/PTA meetings at the sites – all parents and community members are welcome.

Dates	Time of Day	Location
November 6	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Irish Elem.
February 3	7:00-8:00 p.m.	CLP E
April 21	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Zach
May 5	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Blevins

3. No parking in school fire lanes

Poudre Fire Authority wants to remind motorists that parking is prohibited along designated fire lanes on school property. In 2007-08, PFA and PSD worked together to identify fire access lanes at all 44 schools in Fort Collins. All the fire lanes have been similarly marked: red paint on the curbs and signs that read "Fire Lane – No Unattended Vehicles."

Drivers may remain in their vehicle while in the fire lane but may not park the car and leave it unattended. This applies during the school day and also for school activities in the evening. Cars must be parked in designated stalls in parking lots or on adjacent public streets.

The fire lanes must be kept clear to ensure fire apparatus and ambulances can access the property during an emergency. Also, fire trucks may need to deploy outriggers and aerial ladders, which would require at least 20 feet of roadway width. Vehicles parked in fire lanes are subject to ticketing and/or towing, at the owner's expense.

4. Be prepared in case of school closure

Parents -- please review the information below regarding 3 school closure situations, due to weather or other reasons: (1) a 2-hour delayed start; (2) school closure; or (3) early release.

(1) Delayed start of schools due to weather, road conditions

Should the need arise due to inclement weather and/or questionable road conditions, PSD may implement a **2 hour delayed start of all schools.**

- Parents should tune in to local radio and television stations, or go online to PSD's Web site at www.psdschools.org to find out about delayed starts the morning of the day in question.
- **Media outlets are informed if the district implements a 2 hour delayed start.** A decision about weather-related delayed starts is made by 5:30 a.m., and media outlets are notified immediately.
- If there are no announcements by the media or on the PSD Web site, all schools will open on normal schedules. **Parents should NOT call schools, district offices, or broadcast media.**
- **Bus pick up times:** Buses will pick up students at bus stops 2 hours later than regularly scheduled pick-up times. Buses will make every effort to be punctual, although traffic and road conditions may increase travel time. Please ensure your child is dressed warmly in anticipation of a potentially longer wait time. Parents are encouraged to walk their children to bus stops and avoid walking along the roadways. Sidewalks are safer even if these areas are not cleared of snow.
- **Drop off and arrival times:** Parents dropping off students, students who walk, and students driving to school should arrive 2 hours after their regular arrival times. Please do not arrive earlier.
- **Kindergarten and Early Childhood programs:** Morning-only kindergarten programs and morning Early Childhood programs are cancelled when there is a delayed start schedule. Afternoon kindergarten and afternoon Early Childhood programs will run on normal schedules. Full-day kindergarten and full-day Early Childhood programs will start 2 hours later than normal.
- **Before and after school childcare:** B.A.S.E. (Before and After School Enrichment) Camp will open as normally scheduled for students attending these programs. If your childcare provider is other than B.A.S.E. Camp, contact them for start times.
- **School dismissal times:** School dismissal times will remain on regular schedules, including bus drop-off times in neighborhoods and parent pick-up times at schools.

(2) School closures due to weather, road conditions

If **schools are closed** due to inclement weather and/or questionable road conditions, parents should tune in to local radio and television stations, or go online to PSD's Web site at www.psdschools.org to find out about school closures the morning of the day in question.

- **Note:** When PSD schools are closed, B.A.S.E. Camp will be closed.
- **Media outlets are informed if schools are closed.** A decision about weather-related school closures is made by 5:30 a.m., and media outlets are notified immediately.
- If there are no announcements by the media or on the PSD Web site, all schools will open on normal schedules. **Parents should NOT call schools, district offices, or broadcast media.**

(3) Early release of schools due to weather, road conditions

If the weather forecast suddenly changes to adverse conditions, PSD may put into action an **early release**. Parents are urged to please develop a plan for the possibility of your student's early release to your home. **B.A.S.E. Camp will not be available after school if schools release students early.**

- **When PSD makes a decision to close schools earlier than the regularly-scheduled release times due to inclement weather and/or questionable road conditions, parents will be notified by phone.** In addition, media outlets and the PSD Web site (www.psdschools.org) also will communicate early release information.
- **Parents are urged to make sure family contacts and telephone numbers are current at your child's school for such an emergency.**

Media outlets

The PSD Web site (www.psdschools.org) and radio and television stations will provide information about PSD school closures.

**THANKS FOR READING THE
BEATTIE NEWSLETTER!**

