



Linton Lion's Den
 "A community school for excellence,
 making a difference one child at a time."

Back to School
 2009

Thoughts From Your Principal...

Everyone has inside of him a piece of good news. The good news is that you don't know how great you can be! How much you can love! What you can accomplish! And what your potential is!

-Anne Frank

My favorite commercial, bar none, is the Staples commercial where the father is singing "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" while buying school supplies. I totally identify with his excitement for the start of school. Kids start peeking in our windows to see if anyone is in the building yet. Kenny and Phil have worked their magic and the school is glimmering with the promise of a new year. New teachers can't wait to "get their room set up" and returning teachers are so eager to help them feel settled. And when everything is "just right", you send us your precious children. Some are excited, many are still sleepy from waking at an earlier time, and a few have some butterflies. But one thing is certain, the Linton Crew eagerly welcomes them back for another wonderful year.

You will notice several exciting changes at Linton this year! By now, I am sure your children have talked about our amazing new staff members. We have skillfully crafted our schedules to increase learning time. Students now have "specials" five days a week. We have added more literacy and math support. An additional intervention time was added with the support of our highly qualified special's staff. Recess before lunch allows your children more time to eat and helps for a smooth transition back to the classroom. Our focus continues to be maintaining high expectations for each child, and providing a multitude of opportunities for all children.... knowing that each child has unique strengths, talents, interests, and needs!

Your children started this year full of excitement, hope, and promise. They are ready to take on challenges, experience new things, and accomplish so much. With thoughtful planning, we strive to meet their needs so they may achieve at least a years' growth in a years' time. The entire Linton Crew welcomes you and your children back to school!

Stop in anytime. We are always happy to see you!

Fondly,

Kristin W. Stolte

1989-2009: 20 Years of Excellence!

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SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- 7th-NO SCHOOL Labor Day Holiday
- 9th-Boys Choir Auditions 7:30 AM
- 10th-School Picture Day
- 11th-Girls Choir Auditions 7:30 AM
- 16th-First Day of Pride Choir-meets Wednesdays and Fridays 7:30 AM
- 18th-Rockin 80's Dance for 20th Anniversary 7 PM
- 21st- NO SCHOOL Collaboration Day
- 25th-Community Open House for 20th Anniversary 7 PM

Welcome to New Staff!

As many of you know, the biggest factor in student learning is the quality of the teacher in the classroom. At Linton, we look long and hard and are committed to hiring only the BEST. I am excited to introduce the following staff members to the Linton Crew:

Kris Ferachi: 1st Grade; Sarah Shearer: Kindergarten

Greg Neal: PE; Julia Toland: Counselor

Bonnie Merson: Early Childhood; Kim Carlson: 3rd Grade

Jennie Bagnuolo: 5th Grade; Donna Miller: Integrated Services Paraprofessional

Elena Dearth, Occupational Therapy ; Kathy Nielsen-Gifted/Talented

Watch for a special feature about our new staff in an upcoming newsletter!



Speaking of New.....

Have you noticed all the changes at Linton? Over the summer, we have.....painted all bike racks, refurbished blacktop and repainted game areas, upgraded remaining modular, deep cleaned all classrooms (thanks, Kenny and Phil!), replaced 56 computers, changed our PSB posters and signs, replaced chipped laminate in classrooms, brought back Early Childhood to Linton, relocated many classrooms so teams may be together, refreshed front sign and landscaping, and added a patio waiting area for safer and faster student pick up. Come take a look!

Thank you.....THANK YOU.....Thank YOU!

Our first round of thank you's certainly need to go to the Linton Staff. Our teachers and paraprofessionals have worked tirelessly to have everything "just right" for the start of school....and many had to move their classroom to a new location. Kenny and Phil took on many moves and many new staff members....and had the building ready to go which amazed us all. Thanks to our office staff, Mrs. Anduss and Mrs. Stajduhar, for helping parents, students and staff with **EVERYTHING**. We truly appreciate the many efforts of the Linton team to make the start of this year FANTASTIC! HUGE thanks to our clerical volunteers: Dawn Kubicek, Brooke Antonio, Joline Muhl, Lynn Morales, and Jeni McClure!!!! Your time is MUCH appreciated by our entire staff!!!!

A special THANK YOU from Mrs. Bignall-She really appreciates your generosity in donating so many wonderful art supplies to her classroom this year!

And a THANK YOU from Ms. Scheirman to everyone who came to the Texas Roadhouse for the Battle of the Books fundraiser-you helped us raise \$462.75 for BOB this year!

Back to School Reminders

It is that time of year again....time to remind parents and students of a few Linton rules and routines! Please refer to the Linton Handbook for a full listing.

- Please.....NO DOGS on property when students are present. No matter how cute or well-behaved!
- Students may not be dropped off or arriving at school until 8:15 if they are eating breakfast, and 8:20 if they ate at home. There is no supervision until 8:20. The tardy bell will ring at 8:35. Students are marked tardy if they are not in their seat at that time.
- Please pick up students in the parking lot....and remember to PULL ALL THE WAY UP. Students will wait on the new concrete patio. This should make the process very safe and fast!

Communication

At Linton, we believe in establishing a climate that values direct, respectful, and timely communication. Newsletters, notes, home school journals, phone message system, and regular interactions help create that dynamic. **Our practice is to take questions and concerns directly to those involved.** To help clarify:

Questions or concerns involving other students:

1. *Contact your child's teacher.*
2. Contact the counselor.
3. Contact the principal.

Questions or concerns involving a staff member:

1. *Contact that staff member.*
2. Contact the principal.

Questions or concerns about building policies and procedures:

1. *Contact the child's teacher.*
2. Contact the principal.
3. Contact a SIT representative.

Questions or concerns about district policies and procedures.

1. *Contact the principal.*
2. Contact the Assist. Supt.

Questions or concerns involving the principal:

1. *Contact the principal.*
2. Contact the Assist. Supt.



The Turney family enjoys dinner at our Texas Roadhouse Battle of the Books Fundraiser!

LINTON PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION

Ways and Means

Right now is our busiest and best time for fundraising. By the end of October, we'll have completed half of all our fundraising events planned for the year. One benefit to this madness is that we're able to use these monies *now* to benefit this year's students. We thank you in advance for your generous support of these programs. Your donations of time and resources make such a difference in enriching our children's education.

Fall Fundraising Events

"E"book: Watch for info to come out in September. This is definitely a no-risk fundraiser - the coupon book literally pays for itself and more with discounts for King Soopers, lift tickets, food and entertainment. Linton is able to keep \$6 for each \$10 book sold!

Read-a-Thon: This was such an amazing success last year, it's no wonder we're thrilled to continue this new Linton fundraising tradition! The students will collect pledges from September 17th through October 1st. Feel free to talk with grandparents, other family, friends or neighbors now about supporting your child's efforts in collecting pledges. 100% of all money collected goes toward the school. All pledges will be due on the day of our Read-a-Thon, Friday, October 2nd. Every student who participates will receive a prize.

2008 Read-A-Thon Comments

3rd grader: My favorite was the guest readers. The whole thing just wasn't long enough!

5th grader: I liked just being able to read all day and the *In-Tents* reading in the gym.

School Pictures: Our school portraits will be on Thursday, September 10th. Retakes will be October 29th. Ordering information will come home with students the week before.

Upcoming October Events:

Original Works

Book Fair

We need your help!

Our fundraising depends on the wonderful parent volunteers at Linton who step up to help in these efforts. We have many volunteer opportunities available through September & October. Please make sure you return your volunteer interest form included in the back-to-school packet. We're looking forward to working with you!

Celebrate with Us!

Linton Celebrates 20 Years of Excellence!

To submit photos for our 20th Anniversary Celebration please email them to linton20@psdschools.org

Friday, September 18th from 7-9:00 **“Rockin’ the 80’s Family Dance”**

Party like it is 1989! What were kids like during Linton’s first year, 1989? Grab your family, dress in the 80’s, and come hear great 80’s music! Yes, you will even learn how to moonwalk. The event is free for all current and former families. Refreshments will be sold.

Friday, September 25th from 7:00-9:00 **“20th Anniversary Community Open House”**

Whether you are a former student, former teacher, current family, or just live nearby.... come on over! Take a walk down memory lane through photos and stories. Visit with old friends, connect with former teachers, tour the building, and celebrate with cake and punch! A program, honoring special guests Mr. and Mrs. Linton, will start at 7:30.

Linton is excited to “Celebrate 20 Years of Excellence” this year. We have a committee of former and current staff and parents coming together to host fun activities. We are honored and excited that Mr. and Mrs. Linton are able to join in these events celebrating our school.



**Want to have an impact on education in Poudre School District?
Attend "PSD 101" workshop September 14th**

The Poudre School District's District Advisory Board (DAB) invites parents, community members and staff to **"PSD 101: How your school district works and how you can affect it,"** which will be held **from 6:30 to 9 p.m., Monday, September 14, at O'Dea Core Knowledge Elementary School, 312 Princeton Road.** PSD experts will conduct presentations and answer questions during the workshop designed to share how the District operates and how parents and community members can make an impact in the decision-making process.

The evening will begin with a short general session followed by several breakout sessions. Each session will be lead by a District staff member and will be offered only once. Participants will have the opportunity to choose three of the nine sessions listed below.

Breakout sessions include:

- **District Overview (English and Spanish presentations):** find out about the scope of the District, demographics, decision-making, policy governance, site-based management, comparison to other districts
- **District Initiatives:** Learn about boundary changes, facilities use, zonal transportation, grade configuration.
- **Finance:** Hear about the current district budget and process, bonds and mill levies.
- **Assessments: School Accountability and Accreditation:** Learn about the CSAP growth model and other assessment tools; changes in state standards and graduation requirements.
- **Course Catalog:** See what is taught in each subject at each grade level; materials in use and how they interrelate (i.e.: Open Court, Everyday Math, Connected Math, and Foss).
- **Curricula Choices:** Hear about honors courses, advanced placement courses, current curricula in use (district curriculum, Core Knowledge, International Baccalaureate, expeditionary learning, etc.).
- **Web Training:** Learn to navigate the PSD Web site including Pinnacle Internet Viewer, Blackboard, and CSAP information.
- **Response to Intervention (RTI) and Professional Learning Communities (PLC):** Learn how this required framework will be used to help students be successful: essential learnings, differentiated instruction, acceleration, remediation, gifted and talented, and ability grouping.

About DAB:

Comprised of representatives from each school, community members, and District staff, the DAB serves as a sounding board to identify common goals and concerns in PSD. DAB presents information, suggestions, requests, or resolutions to the Board of Education and the Superintendent; provides support for the betterment of education in Poudre School District; and offers a valuable link between the community and Poudre School District.

For more information about the workshop or the DAB, contact Tami Wineinger at rtwineinger@comcast.net or Cathy Kipp at kipp_family@comcast.net.

PSD parent notification procedures

The PSD communications office coordinates several efforts to notify parents and staff when **ALL** schools are closed for conditions such as bad weather or for emergency situations.

PSD will communicate information and instructions directly to parents and staff through the following:

E-mails to parents who have signed up for PSD email alerts (sign up at www.psdschools.org – “Email Alert Sign-Up”) or provided their email on the student information form parents receive the first week of school.

Text messages to parents and staff who have that capability on their phone.

Phone messages through the School Messenger automated phone notification system.

PSD website (www.psdschools.org) information postings

PSD Channel 10 (Comcast and US Cable)

Local and Denver media including newspapers, radio and television stations

We Need Your Help to Control the Spread of H1N1 (Swine) Flu

Because flu can be easily spread from person to person, Poudre School District is taking steps to reduce the spread of flu in schools. We want to keep schools open and functioning in a normal manner during flu season. **We need your help to do this.**

Prevention is the best strategy, and here's how you can help:

Teach children to wash their hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub. You can set a good example by doing this yourself.

Teach children to cover coughs/sneezes and not share personal items like drinks, food or unwashed utensils, and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues. Students should cover their coughs or sneezes using the elbow, arm or sleeve instead of the hand when a tissue is unavailable.

Clean surfaces and objects that your child touches frequently with appropriate cleaning agents.

Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. Symptoms of the flu include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit, 37.8 degrees Celsius or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.

Do not send children to school if they are sick. Any children who are sick while at school *will be sent home*.

Keep sick children at home for at least 24 hours *after* they no longer have fever or do not have signs of fever, without using fever-reducing drugs. Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people infected.

Get your family vaccinated for seasonal flu and H1N1 flu when vaccines are available. According the Center for Disease Control (CDC), a vaccine specific to H1N1 may not be available until mid-October. They are recommending the vaccine be made available to individuals in priority groups, including school-aged children.

We are working closely with the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment and other city, county and state agencies to monitor flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take concerning schools. **Please make sure you are on the PSD Parent E-mail Alert list, so we can provide you with new information as it becomes available** (sign up at: www.psdschools.org by clicking on the *E-Mail Alert Sign Up* star). This also assures you receive email updates from your child's school.

Helpful websites and phone numbers:

H1N1 Flu Information and Resources: www.flu.gov, or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)

Steps if Children are Sick or School is Dismissed: www.flu.gov/plan/school/parentfactsheet.html

Steps to Protect Your Family from Flu: www.flu.gov/plan/school/parentfactsheet2.html

Steps for Children at High Risk for Flu Complications: www.flu.gov/plan/school/parentfactsheet3.html

Q&A from the Center for Disease Control (CDC): www.flu.gov/plan/school/questions.html

Larimer County Department of Health and Environment: www.co.larimer.co.us/health or call 498-6700

Health department offers immunization clinics

The health department's three immunization clinics are ready for to provide required immunizations for children. Larimer County Health Department's immunization clinics offer low-cost immunizations under the Federal Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program. Through the program, families without health insurance, who are low-income or otherwise can't afford full-priced immunizations can have their children under 19 years old vaccinated for \$14.50 per shot. However, no one will be turned away for inability to pay.

Larimer County offers child, adult and travel immunizations at its three locations: Fort Collins, Loveland and Estes Park. Walk-in hours for Fort Collins and Loveland are listed below. No appointments are necessary, except for travel immunizations.

Loveland Clinic, 205 E 6th Street, 679-4580

Mondays 12:30 - 3:30 pm; Fridays 9 am - 12 noon; and 2nd Wednesday of each month 3-6 pm. **Travel immunizations:** Mondays only, call for appointment.

Fort Collins Clinic, 1525 Blue Spruce Drive, 498-6700

Third Saturday of August, September, October and November, 9 am -12 noon; Mondays 9 am -12 noon and 1 - 3:30 pm; Tuesdays 3 – 6pm; and Fridays 9 am - 12 noon. **Travel immunizations:** Monday mornings and Friday afternoons: call for appointment.

For more information on childhood immunizations, adult immunizations, travel immunizations or Larimer County Health Department clinic hours, call 498-6700 or visit <http://www.larimer.org/health/chs/immunizations.asp>

Back to School 2009

LINTON ELEMENTARY
4100 CARIBOU DRIVE
FORT COLLINS, CO 80525

Phone Number 488-5850
Attendance Line 970-488-5851
Fax Number: 970-488-5852

Website
www.psdschools.org/linton



- **Recess before lunch? You bet!**

This year Linton joined the growing number of schools that do recess before lunch. One of the many benefits is that kids actually take their time and eat! When recess is after lunch, they often throw away their lunch as soon as they see they can go outside.

- **What about clean hands?**

Don't worry! They all take a healthy squirt of hand sanitizer before they enter the lunchroom. All students have the option of washing their hands in the restroom. Linton is lucky.....we have one right next to the lunchroom. If you prefer your child to wash in the restroom, please let your child know to do this.

*We would LOVE some donations of large jugs of hand sanitizer. We have some on hand, but they go through a lot each week! If you can donate a jug or two, please bring them to the office.

- Be sure to check out the PSD website for information on student insurance.
- Walk and Wheel Wednesdays-Ride your bike, scooter, skateboard, etc to school on the following days: Walking and Wheeling Wednesdays-Bike or ride scooters, skateboards, etc. to school on the following days: Sept. 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th.
- **Linton Handbook!!!!!!**

Be in the Know! The new and improved Linton handbook was completed by staff and SIT last year. If you would like a paper copy, please stop in the office. Otherwise, you may access it online at www.psdschools.org/linton

With the beginning of school everyone is in a rush, but now that things are starting to calm down Linton's Health Office and school nurse want to remind you that immunization records need to be turned in as soon as possible. A November 1st exclusion date is planned again this year, so get those records in to avoid exclusion. If you do not want your child to be immunized, please stop by the office to sign an exemption form. This needs to be completed before the November 1st exclusion date as well. Health condition forms and medications also need to be brought to the health office as soon as possible. You may receive a phone call from the school nurse if there are questions about your child's health conditions. And last, but not least, Linton's Vision and Hearing screening will occur the last week of October. An exact date will be published next newsletter. 10-12 volunteers will be needed the day of the screening, if you are interested please make sure you have registered with our volunteer partnership program. Thanks and have a great year!

First Grade has gotten off to a great start this year. We are looking forward to having lots of fun learning and becoming the best students we can be! We have been exploring our knowledge in reading, math and science. What a great year of learning this will be! From your 4 First Grade teachers

