



Douglas County  
School District

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# NEWSLINE

A weekly news source from Douglas County School District

[www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org)

October 1, 2009

## Board of Education Meeting Preview

The next Board of Education meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 6, beginning at 5 p.m. in the third floor Board Room of the School District Admin Building (620 Wilcox Street) in Castle Rock. Meeting agendas and minutes are available on the District website at [www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org) under the Board of Education link.

## Photo of the week ...



## Club with a view

Andrew England of Rock Canyon High School enjoys the view during a recent climb in Morrison with the Outdoor Club.

## Rock Ridge now an IB school!

Rock Ridge Elementary received notification that they are now authorized as an International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP). Rock Ridge has been a candidate school since 2007.

The IB program is an internationally recognized curriculum that aims to provide education with an international emphasis. "We are most excited about bringing the IB Learner Profile to Rock Ridge," says Kelli Bainbridge, IB Coordinator. "Rock Ridge students always strive to be caring, thinkers, risk-takers, knowledgeable, balanced, inquirers, open-minded, communicators, reflective and principled."

## DCSD receives Morgridge Family Foundation technology grant

The Morgridge Family Foundation (MFF) in Denver has awarded interactive and multimedia technology tools to Douglas County School District as part of the foundation's 21st Century Classrooms Collaboration initiative. The foundation provides grants to bring SMART interactive whiteboards and clickers to educators across the state. Including previous MFF and Douglas County Educational Foundation (DCEF) awards, the total contribution to DCSD is over \$350,000.

Most recently, 52 DCSD educators were chosen to receive the award, worth \$124,000. This was the third round of awards from the foundation through a partnership with the DCEF. The DCEF matched 10 percent of the MFF award so eight more teachers received the grant. The SMART company granted another \$32,400 which provided an additional 12 educators with these exciting tools.

In September 2008, DCSD received \$103,000 to provide SMART boards and clickers for 40 educators, and in January 2009, DCSD received \$85,000 to equip 26 educators. DCEF supported participating schools by paying for the SMARTboard stands or mounts totalling an additional \$20,000.

These teachers were also invited to attend a three-day seminar by SMART Technologies on how to use the SMART boards to design dynamic and interactive lessons.

"The 21st Century Classrooms Collaboration initiative provides exceptional professional development opportunities for our educators. It emphasizes 21st Century skills which goes beyond how to use the board or how to use the software," says Kim McMonagle, DCSD Education Technology Specialist. "What we do with the technology is meant to increase student engagement and student-led learning. Teachers gain new knowledge of how to make relevant, real-world problem-solving lessons that are collaborative and connected to global resources."

This professional development aligns with our DCSD Ends vision and District goals within the Educational Technology-Information Literacy plan to best prepare students for their future.



## DCSD Board of Education Candidate Forums

If you have not yet taken the opportunity to meet the candidates for the next Board of Education election, the upcoming forums provide a good opportunity to learn more about the candidates.

**October 3, 2009, 2:30 p.m.**

Highlands Ranch Library, rooms A & B  
9292 Ridgeline Blvd., Highlands Ranch

*Hosted by the League of Women Voters, Douglas County MAL Unit*

**October 5, 2009, 6:30 p.m.**

Castle View High School auditorium  
5254 N. Meadows Drive, Castle Rock

**October 14, 2009, 6:30 p.m.**

Legend High School auditorium  
22219 Hilltop Road, Parker

*Moderated by Nelson Garcia, Reporter Channel 9 News*

*Hosted by the Parker area School Advisory and Parent/Teacher Organizations*

All registered voters may select one candidate in each district; therefore they will be able to vote for a total of four candidates.

The Fall '09 election is mail-in only. Mail-in ballots will be sent to the homes of registered Douglas County voters in early October by the Douglas County Clerk and Records Office.

For more information, feel free to contact Courtney Smith, Douglas County Federation, at 303.688.3381.



Taylor Kane's nominated photo.

- Douglas County High School freshmen **Garrett Lewis** and **Taylor Kane** have been named as finalists in the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Picture of the Year Contest for their work on the 2008-09 Sierra Middle School yearbook *With In*. Garrett and Taylor are among six finalists nationally in the Middle School competition. Rankings of the finalists will be announced at the Fall NSPA convention in November.



Garrett Lewis' nominated photo.

- The students at **Redstone Elementary School** have met their goal by raising \$45,000 in a Move-A-Thon fundraiser. As a reward and celebration for the students, the administrative staff did the chicken dance on the roof – in chicken costumes! – on September 22.

#### ADMINISTRATION

Steve Herzog, *Interim Superintendent*  
 Bill Hodges, *Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources*  
 Annette Fante, *Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services*  
 David Hart, *Chief Finance Officer*  
 Randy Weldon, *Chief Information Officer*

#### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kristine Turner, *President*  
 Emily Hansen, *Vice President*  
 John Carson, Clifton Stahl, Ryan Stuart,  
 Timothy L. White and Justin G. Williams, *Directors*

## Class Notes: Arrowwood and Ethiopia Reads

For the third consecutive year, Arrowwood Elementary is partnering with Ethiopia Reads. Ethiopia Reads is a Denver based non-profit organization whose mission is providing books for children in Ethiopia.

This program was developed through the efforts of one individual, Yohannes Gebregeorgis, an Ethiopian refugee who came to America and became a librarian in San Francisco. After discovering the opportunities that children in America had for reading, he returned to Ethiopia and has opened numerous libraries and operates several donkey mobiles (same concept as book mobiles) in his homeland. Yohannes has been recognized as one of the top 10 CNN Hero Award Winners because of his work.

Arrowwood Elementary has hosted two separate month-long penny drives during the past two school years, raising approximately \$4,500 to support Ethiopia Reads, and they will be holding a Penny Drive again this school year. In addition, Yohannes will be making a return trip to Arrowwood on Monday, October 5 to visit with some of the students and staff about their importance to and impact on children in Ethiopia.



## News, Information and Resources

### October is International Walk to School Month

International Walk to School Month gives children, parents, school teachers and community leaders an opportunity to be part of a global event as they celebrate the many benefits of walking. The official website is [www.iwalktoschool.org](http://www.iwalktoschool.org).

### Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

ASIST is a FREE 2-day workshop designed to teach the skills to competently and confidently intervene with a youth at risk of suicide. Developed by LivingWorks Education, Inc., the workshop prepares Youth Gatekeepers to integrate principles of intervention into everyday practice.

By the end of the workshop, participants will be better able to:

- Reduce attitude barriers which hinder the ability to be direct and comfortable with suicidal situations
- Dispel myths about youth suicide
- Identify the indicators to assess suicidal risk
- Intervene with youth at risk of suicide
- Engage in efforts to build collaborative resource networks for suicidal youth.

**Workshop Dates:** Oct. 19-20, 2009; Nov. 9-10, 2009; March 22-23, 2010; June 7-8, 2010

**Workshop Details:** Individuals select one, two-day workshop offered for DCSD personnel and community members. DCSD registrants will receive one hour of relicensure credit or horizontal advancement credit if the workshop is not taken during contract time.

Workshops will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at: New Hope Presbyterian Church, 2100 W. Meadows Parkway, Castle Rock, CO 80109

Sponsored by the Kiwanis of Castle Pines and Douglas County School District. To register, community members contact Jill at [scootsnoop@aol.com](mailto:scootsnoop@aol.com).

### This week: Youth Congress 2009

The Partnership of Douglas County Governments will be holding *Youth Congress 2009* on Saturday, October 3 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Villa Parker, 10936 North Pine Drive, in Parker. Participants will also receive volunteer credit hours and awesome take-aways. If you are between the ages of 13 and 19, you can be a youth delegate. RSVP to Carla Turner at 303.688.4825 x5327 or [cturner@douglas.co.us](mailto:cturner@douglas.co.us).

### Save the date: Substance Abuse Resource Fair Oct. 9

The Douglas County Substance Abuse Coalition in conjunction with Douglas County School District, will host a Substance Abuse Resource Fair on Friday, October 9 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Rock Canyon High School. This open house style event is open to all professionals and community members interested in obtaining more information about substance abuse resources in the Douglas County region.

If you have comments, questions, suggestions, or a submission to *Newsline*, contact:

Douglas County School District, Communications Office, 620 Wilcox Street, Castle Rock, Colorado 80104.  
 phone 303.387.0033 • fax 303.387.0107 • email [communications@dcsdk12.org](mailto:communications@dcsdk12.org) • [www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org)