



Douglas County
School District

Learn today. Lead tomorrow.

NEWSLINE

A weekly news source from Douglas County School District

www.dcsdk12.org

September 10, 2009

Board of Education Meeting Preview

The next Board of Education meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 15, 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 under the Board of Education link.

Photo of the week ...



In an effort to streamline disbursement of donated school supplies intended for DCSD students in need, the Douglas County Educational Foundation (DCEF) is happy to be the coordination site for donations through their new "Fill the Gap" initiative, created to support various gaps identified throughout the district, like school supplies.

Over the past several months many organizations and individuals have generously donated school supplies, and it was becoming difficult to get the donated items to the students in need. The DCEF has created a synchronized program to disburse needed supplies.

The DCEF offices will house the donated items and will also disburse the supplies as requested by each school. The schools' role will be to identify individual needs and contact the DCEF with a list of needed supplies. The DCEF will then try to "fill the order" from donated items.

To donate school supplies, contact the DCEF at 303.387.0505.

New Early Childhood Center South opens its doors

The new Early Childhood Center South facility held its grand opening festivities on September 9.

The new building, located at 3950 Trail Boss Lane in Castle Rock, replaces outdated facilities at the Cantril building. The new ECC South was paid for by funds from the 2006 bond.

The new facility features three preschool classrooms, two Group Intervention classrooms, two Child Find Assessment teams, state of the art sound booths for audiology services and an outdoor play area designed for young children. "This is the first building in Douglas County designed and built specifically for Early Childhood Education," said Steve Herzog, Interim Superintendent, who spoke at the grand opening. "This beautiful new facility demonstrates the District's commitment to preparing preschool students for lifelong learning."

Other speakers included Assistant Superintendent Annette Fante and Early Childhood Coordinators Kerry Goudy and Mary Byrd. Students from Renaissance Expeditionary Magnet School provided a colorful drum performance, and preschoolers entertained with songs.

The mission of the Early Childhood Program is to *...provide an educational foundation for young children and to develop relationships among families, staff and community for individual student achievement.* The Early Childhood Program provides a developmentally appropriate curriculum for children aged 3 to 5.

For more information about Early Childhood Education in DCSD, contact the information line at 303.387.0801.



Destination Imagination program active in DCSD

Destination Imagination (DI) is a community-based, volunteer educational program which teaches creative problem solving, critical thinking, teamwork and decision-making skills. DCSD has participated in DI for more than 15 years, and annually supports as many as 30 teams from kindergarten through high school. DI team challenges are created to adhere to educational learning standards and goals.

This year, DI has a challenge for middle and high school teams called projectOUTREACH[®] which is designed to engage students in community activism by addressing real concerns through personal expression. The 2009-10 projectOUTREACH[®]

Challenge is called Band Together! and inspires teams to use music to address an issue in the community. This challenge also aligns to District student learning goal 1: to teach students responsible citizenship by thinking critically, making ethical decisions and leading with integrity.

One DCSD family whose children participated in DI found the program beneficial. "It has been rewarding to see all of the team members make strides in their teamwork skills, problem-solving abilities, presentation and performance skills, and self-assurance, all while having a great time. ...I am grateful to DCSD for offering Destination Imagination to my own kids, and hope to see other students in the district get the same opportunity."

For more information on Destination Imagination in DCSD, contact Gayle Ehret at gaylehret@msn.com. Visit the DI website at www.idodi.org.



- Forty Sierra Middle School literacy students were treated to special field trips on September 2. Using funds received through the DCEF's 2009 Elitch's event, funds from "Boxtops for Education," and the support of DCSD Transportation and the Southlands Barnes and Noble, students were able to travel to the bookstore and select books and magazines. The goal was to promote literacy by providing students the opportunity to select reading material of personal interest. While at the store, students were given a tour of the bookstore and assistance with finding books of personal interest. Students expressed appreciation and excitement about this opportunity.



- Colorado Secretary of State Bernie Buescher paid a visit to **Castle View High School** this week to promote a "Civic Stampede" to encourage high school seniors who are 18 to vote. Mr. Buescher spoke about voter registration, getting involved, learning about the issues and the candidates, and being an Election Judge. In 2008, 51% of Coloradoans between the ages of 18 and 24 voted, compared with 68.4% of residents 18 and over. The talk was videotaped and will be used in other government classes at the high school.

ADMINISTRATION

Jim Christensen, *Superintendent*
 Bill Hodges, *Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources*
 Annette Fante, *Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services*
 Steve Herzog, *Chief Operating Officer*
 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*

News, Information and Resources

New Community University classes

The L.E.A.N. Programs® are a family of workshops developed by William Sears M.D. and Exercise Physiologist, Sean Foy, MA. These educational programs utilize Dr. Sears' simple techniques for parents and children in making nutrition fun, tasty, and easy to understand and implement. Additionally, Dr. Sears and Mr. Foy provide creative ways for children to get the proper amount of exercise.

L. E. A. N. Essentials – For parents of children ages three to twelve years

A fun, interactive and educational course for parents and caregivers who have limited time or may want to initially take small steps towards learning more about nutrition and healthy living for their children and families. This introductory program focuses on the four pillars of health:

- Lifestyle – How we live
- Exercise – How we move
- Attitude – How we think
- Nutrition – How we eat

Instructor: Joy Dysart

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (1 night)

Cost: \$25 person/\$35 couple

Session 1: December 3; Legacy Point Elementary School (Parker)

Session 2: February 10; Flagstone Elementary School (Castle Rock)

L. E. A. N. Start – For parents of children ages three to twelve years

Provides more in-depth information about nutrition and healthy living. Objectives include:

- Develop a lifetime of achievable healthy habits for the entire family
- Improve the mood, learning and behavior of children through proper nutrition
- Avoid nutrition related diseases such as type II diabetes and heart disease
- Make nutrition at home easy and fun, while preparing healthy food that tastes great
- Keep children and family members physically active

Instructor: Joy Dysart

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (3 nights)

Cost: \$50 person/\$65 couple

Session 1: September 23, 30, October 7; Timber Trail Elementary School (Highlands Ranch)

Session 2: January 13, 20, 27; Legacy Point Elementary School (Parker)

Session 2: April 29, May 6, 13; Flagstone Elementary School (Castle Rock)

Register online at www.dcsdk12.org - Choose "Community University" on the left.

Becoming a Love and Logic Parent class available

Douglas County WrapAround, a program under the DC Youth Initiative, will be offering the *Becoming a Love and Logic Parent* training course beginning September 8. The class will be offered on Tuesdays from September 8 to October 27, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the CSU Extension Office at the Douglas County Fair Grounds.

There is no cost for families to attend, and WrapAround will be arranging for daycare. For more information, contact Carla Turner at the Douglas County Youth Initiative, 303.688.4825 or cturner@douglas.co.us.

Save the date: 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.

Birth certificates necessary for enrolling

Certified birth certificates are needed to enroll children in school, sports and numerous after-school programs. They are also required when applying for a driver's license, social security card or passport. A souvenir baby footprint birth certificate from a hospital is not acceptable as a legal document. Certified Colorado birth certificates are available from Tri-County Health Department in person, by mail and over the internet. Birth certificates can be ordered online at the Tri-County Health Department web site at www.tchd.org. For more information, call 303.220.9200.

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

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