

February 28, 2008



Dean Brown

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Dear ACS Friends and Families,

I wanted to thank the Mestas Family for the donation of our new sound system in our gymnasium! We were able to really try it out today during our CSAP Kickoff Rally. Our 8th grade students wrote and performed a rap song about CSAP that the 3rd-7th graders really enjoyed. Also Mr. Goody hosted our “Are You Smarter than the CSAP?” game. Thank you, Mr. Goody, for being our game show host and 8th graders for the great song and performance!

We will begin our CSAP tests next week beginning March 4th through March 7th. Your child’s classroom teachers will send home details about what to expect during this week. Please ensure your child gets to school on time, has a good breakfast, and is well rested during this week! These things are important every day and we hope you can help your children with them not only during these tests but on a daily basis.

In your children’s Friday folders, you will find a survey about an after-school enrichment program. Please fill this survey out and return it next week to school. We are trying to figure out if our school would like this program for next school year. Your feedback is very important!

8th grade graduation is approaching quickly. Those parents interested in planning for this event, please plan to meet with the Deans on March 7th at 3:00. We would love to have your input and ideas for this event!

As always, thank you for your continued support and positive outlook on your children’s education and school. My door is always open; please stop by if you have any concerns or suggestions.

“Imagination is more important than knowledge.” –Albert Einstein

Respectfully,
Yvette Brown
Academy Charter School Dean
brownny@academycharter.org

[CSAP Released Items](#)
http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/released_items.html
What about the argumen

Important Dates

- February 29 4th and 5th grade Science Fair
- March 4-7 CSAP testing
- March 7 8th Grade Graduation Planning Meeting
- March 7 Spelling Bee
- March 10 Governing Board Meeting
- March 11 Spring Music Program K/1st
- March 12 PTO Meeting
- March 13 Dress Down Day
- March 14 Teacher Work Day/No Students

Dean Peters

Dear Families and Friends of ACS,

It's hard to believe we're finishing February and heading into March! I'd like to thank all of our wonderful parent volunteers who chaperoned the Middle School Valentine's Dance as well as provided a wonderful pot-luck supper! STUCCO did a great job of decorating and providing us with great dance music and of course the royal crowns for our Royalty!

We have a lot of activities going on here at ACS, so please take a moment to see what is happening!

CSAP TESTING DATES FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS:

- 6-8 CSAP testing dates will be on Tuesday, March 4th, 5th, and 6th, from 8:30-11:30 and from 1:20-2:30 each of these days.
- Our 8th graders will also be testing on Friday, March 7th, at these same times for the science portion of the CSAP. We have tried our best to condense this testing time down to one week in order to provide a minimal disruption to our regular class time.
- Please remember to avoid scheduling appointments during the timeframes listed above and please have your students here on time as we will begin testing first thing each of these mornings. Please refer to Dean Brown's article on some test preparation tips that assist students for these standardized tests. We would greatly appreciate this!

Here are a few of the activities that are scheduled in the recent days and weeks ahead:

CSAP KICK-OFF RALLY: Today, Thursday, February 28th, we had our CSAP Kick-off Rally in the ACS gym for students in grades 3-8. Our teachers planned this event and it was a great time of fun, laughter, drama, and song! Thank you to all who assisted with this!

VIRTUE ASSEMBLY: The next virtue assembly will be held on Friday, February 29th. The elementary assembly will be at 8:50 and the Middle School assembly will be held at 11:55 in the gym. This month's virtue is "Love of Country."

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES: Parent-Teacher conferences will be held next month on Thursday, March 27th, from 1:40-8:00 and on Friday, March 28th, from 1:40-4:00. The middle school teachers along with our specials' teachers will be available in the gym to visit with you. Parents can pick up their student's report card in the lobby prior to going into the gym to visit with the middle school and specials' teachers. From the parent survey last fall, it was determined that parents enjoyed the "arena" conferencing we offered in the gym. For this spring session, we are not scheduling appointments for conferences. When you are meeting with teachers, please keep your visiting time to 20 minutes so that all parents can get to their student's teachers.

8th GRADE GRADUATION COMMITTEE: Dean Brown and I are meeting with 8th grade parents who are interested in being a part of the 8th grade graduation committee for 2008! Please call Anne Belfrage and let her know you will be attending the meeting on Friday, March 7th, from 3:00-3:30.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Kendra Peters

ACS Assistant Dean

petersk@academycharter.org



CSAP is next week!

PTO



Schedule Items

- February 29 – Teacher Breakfast – See Social for details
- March 12 – PTO General Mtg. – 6PM – ACS Cafeteria
- March 27-28 – Teacher Lunch – See Social for details
- April 3 – May 8 – Academy of Art – See Enrichment for details
- April 16 – PTO General Mtg. – 6PM – ACS Cafeteria – ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS – See Special Announcements below

Other items – Sometime in April – Spring Yard Sale and Spring Family Movie Night

Special Announcements

Join the 2008-2009 PTO Board! The PTO Board is now accepting nominations for all Board positions, which are open for nomination and election each year. Elections for next year's Board will be held at our April 16th General Meeting. Please email Kassie Smith at Kassie-ACSPTO@comcast.net to inquire about a position or to learn more about what the PTO does. To learn more about the overall functions of the ACS PTO Board, we encourage you to attend the PTO's March General Meeting.

Two proposals to amend the PTO By-laws have received initial Board approval and will be voted on by the public at the General Meeting scheduled for March 12. The proposed amendment changes will be posted in the next PTO Newsletter for your review and are designed to ease voting procedures for the election of officers. For more immediate information, please contact Greg Polashock at Greg@GregIsFinancingSolutions.com.

Fundraising

Coming in April – **Spring Yard Sale**, and **Spring Family Movie Night**. More details to come.

Direct Donations – The PTO Board wishes to encourage your participation in Direct Donations. Based upon survey responses from last year, Direct Donations were projected to be a major success for our ACS community. Actual Donations are currently well under projections and the PTO is currently over budget as a consequence. Please contact Brandi Essegian at BEssegian@aol.com to find out how to complete your donation.

Enrichment

Academy of Art – This exciting Enrichment activity will run from April 3rd through May 8th. Students will experience a wide variety of Art subjects.

Golf – While we are finding it more challenging than anticipated to put together a full Golf Enrichment program, the PTO Board recognizes that this is a program of potential significant interest based upon last year's Parent Survey. The PTO Enrichment committee continues to look at possible ways in which a Golf Program can be implemented.

For more information on these programs, please contact Julie Harkin: toddpaco@aol.com or Emily Ragan: ceragan1@msn.com.

Social

The next teacher breakfast will be this Friday, February 29th. Additionally, there will be a teacher lunch on March 27th and 28th during Parent/Teacher Conferences. We appreciate all who volunteer to help. Look for sign up sheets on the PTO board or contact Allyson- allyson4d@hotmail.com or Gina- momofboyzzz@comcast.net



Heartfelt thanks from Student Council

The Academy Charter School Student Council and its sponsors, would like to gratefully recognize the following parents and teachers who contributed to the Middle School Valentine Dance this last Friday, February 22nd:

Food contributions (Thank you, Mrs. Knopp)

Sue Parks Terra DiBlasi Terry Willis Jayne Friesen Vicki Knopp

Set Up and Take Down

Mr. Hughey and Sean Hughey (nice lighting work)

Mr. Gordon (that disco ball and the storage bin were a little heavy)

Cafeteria, Money table, and Chaperoning those great Middle School students

Mr. and Mrs. Akavahan Maria Perea Adi Sanders Mr. and Mrs. Helton Kevin Hughey

Mrs. Kaylor Mrs. Tschudy Mrs. Rodriguez Mrs. Ireland Mrs. Silver Mrs. Heikes

Mrs. Schaffer Mr. Desormeaux (dance director) Sue Parks Mrs. Knaub Dean Peters

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mrs. Barrette

The students could not have been more helpful and parents and staff added to the success of this dance.

Thank you for your time and contribution to our student activity.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Matlock and Ms. Hollister

Student Council Sponsors



Governing Board News

Upcoming board meeting

The board will hold its monthly general meeting on Monday, March 10, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Meetings are open to the public; parents and staff members are welcome to attend.

School Advisory Council

The SAC is getting ready for our next meeting on March 26th from 5:00-7:00 in the school library. We'll be talking about curriculum updates, including plans for a new math curriculum. Babysitting and snacks will be provided. We hope to see you there!



Volunteer News

Our volunteers are working hard these days! I appreciate all of you and the time you spend here at the school.

I would like to thank Joanne Secrist, Sarah Wilborn and Elizabeth White for punching out all the math tools for the CSAP tests. This is a big job with a quick deadline. Thanks for helping us out!

You will notice a list of the many folks who volunteered to make the Middle School dance a great success in this newsletter. It means a lot to our students that their parents are willing to give of their time and talents to our school.

I need a couple of volunteers to help Cindy Hazlehurst label artwork and stuff packets for Original Works on Tuesday, March 11th. Please contact Cindy at 303-688-9134 to volunteer.

We are also looking for volunteers to be on the 8th Grade Graduation Committee. Please let me know if you are able to help plan this important event.

Thanks again for "Making a Difference" at ACS!

Anne Belfrage

Volunteer Coordinator

belfragea@academycharter.org



Graduation Committee

The Deans will be starting to work on the 8th grade graduation ceremony. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer to be on the Graduation Committee to help plan this exciting event. The first meeting will be Friday, March 7th, from 3:00-3:30. They would like to have 8-10 volunteers to help with this ACS event. Please contact Anne Belfrage, belfragea@academycharter.org, if you would like to volunteer.

Butter Braids

The 8th Grade students will be selling Butter Braids from February 22nd through March 7th. All orders need to be turned in by March 7th and orders will be delivered on March 11th. Orders can be placed through the front office or you can call Jennifer Justus at 303-663-1564 to place an order.

Thanks for your support!

Jennifer Justus

303-663-1564



Academy Charter School

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Phone: 303-660-4881
Fax: 303-660-6385

We're on the web!

Academycharter.org



Help us **EARN CASH by bringing these recyclable items to our school/organization:**

- *Used Cell Phones*
- *Digital Cameras*
- *Video Game Consoles* (include all accessories)
- *Laptops* (include power cords)
- *Video Games* (include case)
- *PDA's/Palm Pilots* (include all accessories)
- *Empty Inkjet Cartridges*
- *iPods* (include all accessories)
- *Empty Laser Cartridges*
- *DVD Movies* (include original packaging)

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