

May 29, 2008



### Dean Brown

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Dear ACS Friends and Families,

Our 8<sup>th</sup> graders graduated on Wednesday evening and I would like to thank all of our parent volunteers who made this evening wonderful. Tori Davis made a wonderful video of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders-thank you, Tori! Tammy Brinkman of Bitter Sweet Cakes donated a beautiful cake! Her webpage is [bittersweetcakes@yahoo.com](mailto:bittersweetcakes@yahoo.com). As you can see below, it was a gorgeous cake! Congratulations 8<sup>th</sup> graders and good luck next year. We will miss you! Enjoy the summer!



**Important Dates**

Our Kindergartners also graduated on Thursday morning. They were very cute and sang some wonderful songs. Thank you Mrs. Marble, Ms. Zimmerman, and Mrs. Sanders for preparing our kindergartners for 1<sup>st</sup> grade!

I am amazed the end of the year is here. It seems like yesterday that we were outside waiting to greet our incoming students! It has been a wonderful year getting to know the teachers, students, and families of ACS. I have been blessed to have this position and enjoy knowing your children. Thank you for a fantastic school year and I can hardly wait for next fall.

Dean Peters, the office staff, and I will be working over the summer to prepare for next school year. Our classrooms will be getting new carpet over the summer months! We have also

made some staff changes for the 2008/2009 school year. Below is what we have decided thus far. We are still interviewing for some of our open positions. We will post the student lists by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Kindergarten Teachers

Full Day Kimberly Runyan  
 AM Adi Sanders  
 PM Kaely Johnson

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teachers

Heather Fortelka  
 Alisha Cambria  
 Sarah Zimmerman

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teachers

Mary Martinelli  
 Tina Villari  
 Erin Frederiksen

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teachers

Jill Condon  
 Cindy Solomon  
**Kim Pearson**

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers

Brian Delimont  
 Becky Larkins  
**Kari Vier**

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers

Jenny Bigbey  
 Michaela Gauer  
 Sandy Kelly

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers

Angie Hotzfield  
 Tara Lindburg  
 Christine Spangler

### 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers

JoEllen Solita  
 Christy Matlock  
 Ryan Gudmundson  
 Lauren Gallagher  
 Laurie Hughes  
 Computer Teacher-open

### Specials Instructors

Wendy Hollister	Computer
Alice James	Science
Judi Huskins	Art
Nat Ross	Music
Lisa Arnell	PE/Athletic Director
Beth Midolo	Reading Specialist
Jennifer VanKooten	Reading/Tutor
Michelle Barrette	Spanish
<b>Open</b>	Librarian
Christie Marble	BRT
<b>Angela Krautz</b>	Counselor
Open	Band/Orchestra

Have a wonderful summer. Keep reading and we'll see you in the fall!

“Good Opportunities: Make up your mind to grasp the next.”

-Author Unknown

Respectfully,

Yvette Brown  
 Academy Charter School Dean  
[brownny@academycharter.org](mailto:brownny@academycharter.org)

## Dean Peters

Dear Families and Friends of ACS,

I can't believe how quickly this school year has flown by. It seems we were just greeting our students as they came in for the first day of school. This year has also been filled with many new beginnings and some changes as well. Our goal is to continue to make ACS the best school in Douglas County.

Important News:

- Report cards will be mailed home by June 6<sup>th</sup>. Included in this mailing will be the standards reporting form. If your student has any outstanding fees, textbooks, and library books, their report card will not be mailed.
- I want to thank all of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents who generously helped with this year's 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation. Everything fell into place perfectly and it was such a wonderful evening. I know everyone was so proud of our graduates.

Final thoughts about the year:

As our 8<sup>th</sup> graders left for Elitches today, we started to prepare for our Legacy of Leadership activities for our current 7<sup>th</sup> graders who will become our new student leaders at ACS. I spoke to them about the importance of being good role models as they will now be the student leaders of our school. We also talked about the responsibility leadership takes and the choices they make will have a great influence not only on the other middle school students, but the younger ones as well.

The middle school teachers and I want to thank you for your support of our middle school team. We look to you to continue to support your student as they move through middle school and learn to become more responsible year to year.

We look forward to next year and the remarkable memories we all will make as we endeavor to prepare our middle school students for becoming responsible, well-rounded citizens for the future. Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of their lives!

Have a safe and relaxing summer and I will see you in August!

Kendra Peters

ACS Assistant Dean

[petersk@academycharter.org](mailto:petersk@academycharter.org)

## School Supplies Available



Though the current school year is just about over, it is time to think about school supplies for next year.

We are working with the same supply company as last year (EduKit, based out of Colorado Springs). On line ordering is available now till June 6 at <http://www.edukitinc.com/page.asp?id=15&schoolid=369>. There will also be a link via the schools web site. Order forms will be sent home in Friday folders, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Check payments should be turned in by the last day of school. School supplies will be delivered to your child's classroom to be sorted out during the "Meet the Teacher Day" in August. If you have any questions, please contact me. My e-mail address is [bonnie\\_buckley@msn.com](mailto:bonnie_buckley@msn.com). Thank you in advance for supporting the PTO and the school in this manner.

Bonnie Buckley

## *Registration for Next Year*

We are planning to do our registration on July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup> in the Gym. For planning purposes, we would like you to make a note on your calendars as we know how quickly summer passes. At this time the students will have their school pictures taken so we need them to come with you to registration. The middle school students will receive their ID cards at this time also. Students will need to come with a uniform shirt to have their picture taken. Following is the schedule for registration:

### **Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**

9-10:00 a.m. Last Name A, B, C	1-2:00 p.m. J, K, L
10-11:00 a.m. D, E, F	2-3:00 p.m. M, N, O
11-12:00 a.m. G, H, I	

### **Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>**

9-10:00 a.m. P, Q, R	1-2:00 p.m. Open for those who
10-11:00 a.m. S,T,U	can't make
11-12:00 p.m. V,W,X,Y,Z	scheduled time

We are requesting that you adhere to your scheduled time if possible since we can only accommodate so many in the building and having their pictures taken. If you would like to pick up your registration packets early, they will be ready on Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>.

We will email you a reminder of these dates and we also will have this information available on our web site. If your email address changes, please send a change request to [keelingc@academycharter.org](mailto:keelingc@academycharter.org).

If you have questions or concerns regarding registration, please let me know.

Anne Belfrage

## *Governing Board News*

### **Thanks for a great year!**

Many thanks to all of the parents and staff members at ACS who let their voices be known at this parent-governed school during the past school year. Your participation and contributions help us to continually improve things at ACS, and make it the best school it can be!

We greatly appreciate seeing and hearing from all who attended board meetings and gave their input. To those who volunteered to serve as members on our board committees – your willingness to be involved is very much appreciated and valued. And to everyone who took the time to give their feedback and opinions on parent and staff surveys – you rock!

Our thanks go as well to our excellent teachers and staff members for a beneficial, upbeat year with our children. Finally, we would like to give major kudos to our two deans for making this transition year a smooth and very productive one!

Have a relaxing summer with your children. We hope you will come back in the fall refreshed and ready for another positive, involved year at Academy Charter School!

### **Upcoming board meetings**

The board will meet for a working session tonight, Thursday, May 29, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the conference room.

Don't forget that we meet during the summer too, and parents and staff are welcome to attend these sessions. Our general meeting in June is tentatively planned for Monday, June 23. A reminder - you do earn volunteer hours for your attendance at these meetings. Hope to see you this summer!

## *Governing Board - Policy Committee Meeting*

The Policy Committee will be meeting to work on a proposal for changes to the Policy and Procedures manual. All ACS parents are welcome to attend. Please let me know if you plan to attend. Thank you!

**Date:** Wednesday, June 4, 2008

**Time:** 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

**Room:** GSWC Conference Room at the Philip S. Miller Library in Castle Rock

**RSVP:** Cindy Hazlehurst @ [Hazlehurst@alumni.utexas.net](mailto:Hazlehurst@alumni.utexas.net) or 303-688-9134.

## *PTO Corner*

Please click the below link to read our last PTO Newsletter.

[ACS PTO Monthly Newsletter](#)

## *A letter from the ACS Teachers*

Dear Parents:

As we come to the end of another school year, the teachers of Academy Charter School wanted to thank you for your support and share with you some of the changes we felt made this past year such a success.

We were especially pleased to have had the support and guidance of our Deans, Yvette Brown and Kendra Peters over the past year. Both Deans work very well together. They both came into the new school year last August with a lot of new energy and enthusiasm that we feel was instrumental in making positive changes that benefited the entire school. Changes included:

- Introduced new ideas for ways to help the students
- Developed more spring-board programs for the students
- Increased teacher salaries to be more consistent with district levels

Starting the school year with a new Dean is the kind of change that affects everyone in a school. The teachers found that Deans Brown and Peters were immediately very positive and very approachable. They helped us sort out many issues and treated all of the staff at Academy Charter like professionals.

In addition, the Deans supported the teachers in coming up with new ideas and letting us test new strategies to effectively teach our students. We were also given a voice in making school decisions, and given greater opportunities for collaboration between the upper and lower grades in the school.

Even with all of the positive changes, Deans Brown and Peters also helped us get back to basics, returning to a discipline of more rigorous academics and holding the students more accountable for their learning.

It's been a year with a lot of changes, but we feel that the changes have been very positive for everyone involved with Academy Charter. We hope you agree. Thank you for your patience and support. Have a great summer and we will look forward to seeing you all again in August.  
Sincerely,

The Teachers at Academy Charter School

## *Volunteer News*

As we are putting the finishing touches on the school year, I want to let each and every one of you know how much I appreciate your involvement at Academy Charter School. Your commitment to volunteer at the school makes a huge difference! Throughout the year, you answered any requests that I had and willingly pitched in to help with many different projects and tasks.

Please log in any hours that you may have overlooked earlier or forgot about. I am willing to post hours if you want to email them to me. I will be working on our final tally of hours next week, so I need all hours logged up to date for the year.

Thanks again for "making a difference" at Academy Charter School. Enjoy your time with your students this summer!

Anne Belfrage

Volunteer Coordinator

[belfragea@academycharter.org](mailto:belfragea@academycharter.org)

## Academy Kids Summer Program News

It's never too soon to start thinking about summer and what your kids, as well as, your plans may include. The staff at Academy Kids is in the planning stage of what we hope to be a new and improved summer program.

With new administration, (the Deans) and new ideas, we are looking forward to a fun filled and affordable schedule planned for this summer!

Here are just some of the ideas we are "cooking up":

- Local field trips
- Denver field trips
- Crafts
- Fun fitness activities
- Special guests
- And much more...



We would also like to have some input from the kids as well as parents on any activities you would be interested in participating in, so please feel free to contact Sara Sanchez at any time with any ideas or requests you may have to make this a stellar summer for the kids. Remember, parents are always welcome to join in too!

Keep a lookout for registration packets and calendars with daily schedules headed your way soon.

The staff at Academy Kids is really excited about these changes and new schedule we are planning. We look forward to a fun-filled summer with your kids!

Thank you,

Directors:

Dean Brown

Dean Peters

303-660-4881

Assistant to Directors:

Sara Sanchez

720-935-7044



## Academy Charter School

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We're on the web!

[Academycharter.org](http://Academycharter.org)