

August 28, 2008



## Dean Brown

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Dear ACS Parents and Friends,

It's hard to believe we are almost done with the first month of school. We will start our MAPs assessment (Measuring Academic Progress) next week. The students will be assessed during their regular computer class time in grades two through eight. They will be assessed in Reading, Language Usage, and Math. During your parent/teacher conferences you will receive the data from these assessments. We hope this information is useful to see the academic progress and growth of your children!

You will be receiving your child(ren)'s CSAP scores in the mail this week. Please review them and share them with your children. Your child(ren)'s teacher will go over this data with you at Parent/Teacher conferences. The teachers will also provide a snapshot of your child's CSAP data from C-SNAP and answer any questions you may have.

On September 2, 2008 we will have our PTO/SAC meeting. PTO will begin at 5:30 and plans on going over their budget. SAC will begin at 7:30 and will have a guest speaker, Jed Bowman. Jed Bowman is an Executive Director of DCSD. He will give a presentation on the Colorado Growth Model as it refers to CSAP and help us understand the scores and interpret their meaning. Please join us for these informative meetings next week!

### Important Dates

Aug. 29 - Dress Down Day

Sept. 1 - No School/Labor Day

Sept. 2 - PTO/SAC Meeting  
5:30 pm

Sept. 8 - Governing Board Meeting  
6-8 pm

Sept. 9 - Picture Make-Ups

We are pleased to have a new afterschool program at our school. Springboard provides academic time with the assistance of certified teachers. Their goal is to have homework completed, checked and fully understood by students prior to leaving the program in the evening! This is a great opportunity for your child to get his/her homework completed and to receive individualized support on academic areas that cause them difficulty.

Springboard has also partnered with various community experts to provide electives for your child. These electives include: Music/Guitar Instruction, Tae Kean Do, Karate (with Omega Martial Arts), Tech Lab, Art, and Science Lab. When students first arrive at Springboard after school they engage in "den time." According to the National Association for Elementary School Principals students of all ages need a short break in between the end of the school day and the start of a structured after school program. Den time accomplishes this by offering many games including Nintendo Wii, checkers, chess and electronic Battleship to name a few. Springboard is at our school from 3:30 to 6:30 five days a week. Your child can come one day a week or up to five. If you are interested in finding out more you can contact

Dr. Brett Prilik at 303-523-1543 or visit the website [http://www.springboardafterschool.com/?page\\_id=274](http://www.springboardafterschool.com/?page_id=274)

Our ACS staff has been doing online training over the summer regarding literacy. This online course also offers parents a course on literacy too. If you are interested in this training, go to [www.drswaby.com](http://www.drswaby.com). The username is: PAccess, and the password is: parents. Both items are case sensitive. I hope you enjoy this course because it gives you some great tips on helping your children to read!

Enjoy your long Labor Day weekend! We'll see you back at ACS on Tuesday!

“Humor is the great thing, the saving thing.  
The minute it crops up, all our irritations and resentments slip away  
and a sunny spirit takes their place.”  
-Mark Twain

Sincerely,

Yvette Brown

ACS Dean

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

## *Governing Board News*

The board met after school yesterday with teachers and staff members at ACS to talk about any concerns, comments or questions they might have. These meetings are held periodically throughout the school year. This was followed by a working session of the board where the main topics were carpool and the school's budget.

The various sub-committees of the board – operations, policy, strategic planning, communications and the School Advisory Council (SAC) - are still looking for interested parents and staff members to join. If you have an interest or a background in any of these areas, we need you! Contact information for board members is on the school's website.

The SAC meets Tuesday, September 2 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

The board will hold its next general meeting on Monday, **September 8 at 5:00 p.m.** in the school cafeteria. Please note - this is a slight time change from the previously-posted time of 6:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!

## *8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip*

A brief meeting to start planning the annual 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington D.C. will be held today at 4:00 p.m. in the **elementary science room**. Note that the location was changed from meeting in the conference room. If your child is interested in participating, please plan to attend.

## SAC News

Welcome back to the new school year from the School Advisory Council (SAC)! CSAP scores have been mailed home and in our next meeting we want to help you better understand what they mean. Next Tuesday, September 2nd at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria, we are excited to welcome Dr. Jed Bowman, Executive Director with Douglas County School District, as he shares with us an understanding of CSAP data and the progression of scores over time for our students. He will present the CSAP growth models and a breakdown of the ratings. All parents are encouraged to attend to better understand their child's academic progress each year. Babysitting and snacks will be provided.

## PTO Corner

### Calendar

- September 2<sup>nd</sup> – PTO General Meeting – 5:30 PM – Annual Budget Approval
- September 10<sup>th</sup> Magazine and cookie dough fundraiser begins
- September 12<sup>th</sup> Movie Night
- October 7<sup>th</sup> cookie dough delivery
- November 6<sup>th</sup> Family game night
- December 6<sup>th</sup> Parents' Night Out - Kids go to Omega Gymnastics

### Social

The first breakfast is fast approaching.... it is scheduled for Aug. 29th We need to have the food at school by 8:30am. If you can help out with this breakfast please email [Kassie-acsppto@comcast.net](mailto:Kassie-acsppto@comcast.net) with what you are bringing so that I can make sure we have the correct amount of food (we have 70 teachers and staff to feed)

We are still very short on food for the teachers.

Thanks ,  
Kassie Smith 720-229-0334

### Fundraising

**How can I Help?** Well, I am glad that you asked! First, we are still looking for some great volunteers to help us with various activities. Please contact Ed Guns at [BigSkyBounce@comcast.net](mailto:BigSkyBounce@comcast.net) for some opportunities.

**Magazine/Cookie Dough Drive** - The sale will start September 10<sup>th</sup> and end on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. To go with our Go GREEN Theme, for every household that orders 3 magazines, American Publisher will have a tree planted in the name of ACS! We are simply asking families to renew their Magazines through the school and not through the publisher. And for Cookie Dough, need we say more than Delicious!

Movie Night - is currently Scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup>. To volunteer to help with this event, please contact Kristen Bushlack at [Kristen.Bushlack@gmail.com](mailto:Kristen.Bushlack@gmail.com).

**Direct Donation** - We have set up the Sponsorship program as an alternative to conventional fundraising.

To learn how you can make a Direct Donation, please contact Ed Guns [BigSkyBounce@comcast.net](mailto:BigSkyBounce@comcast.net)

**...and Don't Forget!..**

### **BOX TOP FUNDRAISER**

Congratulations to Austin Hazelhurst!! He cut 100 box tops over the summer to win the big summer prize of a **\$20 gift certificate to Amazing Jakes!!**

***In September, the person with the most box tops wins a Dress Down Day!!!***

Place your box tops in a bag with your name and grade in the box **BY SEPTEMBER 22nd, to be counted in the September box top drive.**



## Academy Charter School

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**We're on the web!**

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