

January 8, 2009



*Dean Peters*

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Dear Families and Friends of ACS,

We hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing Winter Break. It was great to have wonderful weather during this time off, not real blizzards, but it did seem a bit cold at times. It is good to be back and see all of our students and staff ready to bring in the second half of our 2008-2009 school year!

The School Accountability Report Cards (SAR) scores have been released. We are pleased to announce that ACS scored “High” for overall academic performance on state assessments for both our elementary and middle school. Our elementary scored “High” for academic growth of students. For grades 6-8 our Academic Growth of students was “Typical.” We are very pleased with our scores. Last year our growth scores were “stable” for elementary and “decline” for our middle school. We are making improvements in our curriculum and it is being reflected in our growth scores! All ACS families will be receiving a copy of this report along with our Annual School Report in the next few weeks.



Middle School students will begin their new carpool procedures starting Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. Please see the attached letter explaining this process. All middle school parents were notified about this change prior to Winter Break. Click [here](#) to access the letter.

Please join us at some of the highlighted ACS events coming up in the very near future:

**Important Dates**

- Jan. 9 - Testing Day K-5
- Jan. 9 - Regular day for 6-8 / Dress Down Day
- Jan. 12 - Governing Board Meeting 6-8 pm
- Jan. 13 - PTO/SAC Meeting 6:30-8:30 pm
- Jan. 14 - Bully Assemblies
- Jan. 19 - No School Martin Luther King Day
- Jan. 20 - 23 ACS All School Spirit Week
- Jan. 20 - 23 PTO Direct Donations Drive
- Jan. 23 - Funky Brewster 7:30 -9:30 am
- Jan. 28 - Band Program 6-7
- Jan. 30 - Virtue Assemblies / Dress Down Day
- Feb. 18 - CSAP Begins

- Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>-K-5 Testing Day; 6-8 regular school day
- Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>-Douglas County High School In-coming Freshman Parent Night. Please look on DCHS website for exact times or call them at 303-387-1000.
- All 8<sup>th</sup> graders who are planning on attending DCHS next year, must turn in their long, green registration sheet to the office by 4:00 p.m. on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Dean Peters and our counselor, Angela Krautz, will be meeting with students on Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, and will go over their forms for accuracy. These forms will be sent to DCHS by noon that day.
- Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>- Bully Assemblies in the cafeteria. K-2 from 9:00-9:20; 3-5 from 9:40-10:00 and MS from 2:55-3:25.
- January 20-23<sup>rd</sup>-**ACS All School Spirit Week**. Please look in the newsletter for an informational flyer regarding this week of showing our Eagle Pride! If you have questions, please contact Dean Peters.
- Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>-ACS Band Concert from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the ACS gym.
- Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>- Virtue Assemblies along with all school fundraiser, “Pennies for Patients” kickoff rally! We will have more information later in the month regarding this event!
- February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading CSAP testing begins. Please be sure to not schedule appointments from 8:30 a.m. through lunch time on these days.

- March 2-5<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade CSAP testing Week. Please refrain from scheduling vacations, as well as appointments during this week. We will be having testing periods from 8:30-12:00 each day as well as in the afternoon.

Remember our Core Virtue for this month is COURAGE. As stated in the Core Virtues book “we stress that courage is not being “unafraid”; it is moving beyond fear in order to accomplish a higher good. Or as Plato had it, courage “is knowing what things are truly to be feared.” Talk with your students about how they have shown courage and what steps were involved. Or you might want to read a book that demonstrates the virtue of courage with your student. We know there are many students here at ACS who have been or who are dealing with the many faces of courage and they are an inspiration to us all!

Have a fantastic week!

Kendra Peters

ACS Assistant Dean

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

## *Governing Board News*

### **Board meeting on Monday**

The board will meet this coming Monday evening, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria, preceded by a 5:00 working session in the conference room. We invite all ACS parents and staff members to attend. To preview a copy of the agenda before the meeting, please click [here](#).

### **SAC to meet on Tuesday**

The next SAC meeting is Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 in the school cafeteria. We'll be hearing about upcoming CSAP scheduling and will be planning a February meeting with an update on the math curriculum. As always, we welcome all parents who wish to attend!

## *Kindergarten Siblings Enrolled*

It is that time of year that I need to know about your incoming Kindergarten students. Please call me and let me know your student's name and the Kindergarten class that you want for your student. You may also email me at [belfragea@academycharter.org](mailto:belfragea@academycharter.org). We will be preparing registration materials later this month in order to get your student officially enrolled in our school. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Anne Belfrage

Office Manager/Registrar

## *Rock Canyon High School Information Night*

8<sup>th</sup> Grade students planning to attend Rock Canyon High School are invited to attend an informational meeting on Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rock Canyon High School Gym. Preceding this at 6:00 p.m. there will be an Honors and Advance Placement meeting in the theater for all students interested in possibly registering for Honors and Advanced Placement courses in their freshman year.

## Volunteer News

A brand new year to make our mark upon the world! I hope you are inspired to continue your volunteer efforts at Academy Charter School this year. If you have not logged any volunteer hours, I hope you are planning to dive in and spend some time contributing to the success of our school.

A special thank you to **Kerry and Sarah Kayton** for doing a special project for the office! Let me know if you need some ideas regarding getting your volunteer hours done.

Thanks again for being our “shining stars” at ACS!

Anne Belfrage  
Volunteer Coordinator  
[belfragea@academycharter.org](mailto:belfragea@academycharter.org)



## PTO Corner

### Calendar

- Next General meeting will be January 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m. (SAC Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.)
- Direct Donation Drive January 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>

### Social

Next teacher breakfast will be Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>  
Kassie Smith 720-229-0334  
ACS PTO Social Chair



List of dates for the upcoming year for teacher breakfasts:

- January 30<sup>th</sup>
- February 27<sup>th</sup>
- March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> luncheon/dinner
- April 24<sup>th</sup>
- May 1 5<sup>th</sup>

### Fundraising

Direct Donations Reminder

On January 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>, the PTO will be set up to take your direct donations, either by check or credit card every morning from 7:45 a.m.-8:45 a.m. and in the afternoon from 3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.

Don't make that Starbucks run on Friday! Instead, buy a cup of coffee or other hot drink on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. from The Funky Brewster and help support ACS!

### Box Top Fundraiser

Keep cutting out those Box Tops! The deadline for the January competition will be Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, so be sure you have your box tops cut and bagged with your name on the bag or envelope and placed in the Box Top



box by the 23rd to be eligible for the prize! Don't forget that only Box Tops go into the Box Top Box in the lobby. Campbell's Labels and Tyson Labels have their own receptacle.

Don't forget to log onto [BoxTops4Education.com](http://BoxTops4Education.com) and shop online to earn additional money for our school.

### Other News

ACS Hoodies are now available from S&S Sports in Navy, Red and Dark Green. The cost is \$23, not including tax. S&S supports our school by returning a portion of the proceeds. Please stop by and get your ACS Hoodie today or this weekend.

Please note that the ACS Dress Code (available on our website) states:

*"Hoodies may contain the student's initials, first and/or last name only."* S&S will be happy to personalize your Hoodie for an additional fee. Any Hoodies containing personalization other than the student's initials, first name or last name will be treated as a coat and will need to be removed once inside the building.

### S&S's New Location:

136 S. Wilcox St. (Near the Philip S. Miller Library and the UPS Store)  
(303) 317-6671

### New Store Hours:

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: 1 p.m.-5 p.m.



## Academy Charter School

1551 Prairie Hawk Dr.  
Castle Rock, Co 80109

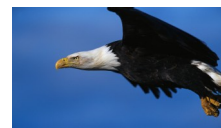
Phone: 303-660-4881  
Fax: 303-660-6385

We're on the web!

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

**COMING TO ACS**  
**SPIRIT WEEK '09**  
**JANUARY 20,21,22,23**

**SHOW YOUR EAGLE PRIDE**



**Tuesday 1-20**

**Pajama day**  
 Appropriate PJ's Only



**Wednesday 1-21**

**Hollywood Day**  
 Dress like a STAR!



**Thursday 1-22**

**Clashing Clothes Day**



Mix up colors and patterns

**Friday 1-23**

**Twins & Triplets Day**



**Please note: Students who choose not to dress in spirit clothing, will need to wear their regular dress code clothing.**