

September 18, 2009



## Academy Charter School



*Dean Brown*

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Dear ACS Families and Community,

Last night I attended the Board of Education Candidate Forum at Platte River Academy. This was an interesting and informative evening about the four positions open on the board. The DCSD Board of Education is made up of seven members and this year four of them are up for election. I implore you to find out about these candidates. These future board members will be determining the future of DCSD, the education of our children, hiring the new superintendent and future relations with charter schools. The candidates are District B-John Carson (incumbent) and Sue Catterall, District D-Dan Gerkin and Kevin Leung, District E-Doug Benevento and Kristine Turner (incumbent), and District G-Emily Hansen (incumbent) and Meghann Silverthorn. All of these candidates have websites, please check these out so that you can be an informed voter for this future election!



On Wednesday, Mark Overmeyer visited with our Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers and students. Your children may have come home and talked about a tall, slim man who taught them about writing. Mark Overmeyer has written two books on writing instruction for teachers. We received Title II funds for Mark Overmeyer to help our teachers instruct our students in writing. This instruction will help us in achieving our School Improvement Plan (SIP) goal in writing. Mark will return in November to work with our 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers and then again in January to work with our middle school students and teachers.

### Important Dates

- Sept. 22 - DAC/SAC Forum at CVHS 6:30
- Sept. 23 - PTO/SAC Meeting 5:30
- Sept. 24 - Dress Down Day
- Sept. 25 - Teacher In-Service/No Students
- Oct. 8 - End of 1st Quarter
- Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> – No School, Teacher Work Day
- Oct. 12 - Governing Board Meeting 6:00
- Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> – Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> – Fall Break!

*“The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who cannot read them.”*

*Mark Twain*

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

### Miscellaneous Items



#### Fun Facts

The heart of a giraffe is 2 feet long and can weigh as much as 25 pounds!

### Fun Website

Maze Games

<http://www.prongo.com/maze/>

## Volunteer News



It is so good to see so many of you in the building volunteering! We are still taking pictures in the office to make volunteer badges for anyone that has not received their name badge. I will have quite a few badges coming in next week.

The Classroom Coordinators are all trained and equipped with the information they need to facilitate volunteering in the classroom. Please feel free to contact your classroom coordinator to see what needs to be done in the classroom. We have been using volunteers to help during the lunch periods, so if this is a good time for you, just let me know and we will put you to work!

Ms. Huskins in the Art room would like to have some classroom help in the afternoons Tuesday through Friday. If you are available, please let me know. Also, Ms. Staley, our school librarian, can use some help.

Thanks again for giving some of your time to ACS!

Anne Belfrage  
 Volunteer Coordinator  
 Belfragea@academycharter.org

## Flu Shots

Shoo the Flu and Pneumonia Too! Beat the Bug and get your flu shot!

Flu Shot Clinic for all friends and families of ACS

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2009

Time: 7:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Location: ACS Library

Who: Any friends or family of ACS who is 4 years or older

Prices:

Flu Shot: \$25

FluMist Nasal Spray: \$30 (must reserve this by emailing or calling Jaynee Hodgkins)

Pneumococcal Shot: \$45



For Questions or to reserve a FluMist Nasal Spray (only for healthy individuals ages 4-49 who are not pregnant), email Jaynee Hodgkins [JMHodgkins@msn.com](mailto:JMHodgkins@msn.com)

To get more information on the vaccinations or if you cannot make this date, there are numerous other clinics offered in DCSD. For this you can go on Front Range Flu Shot's website at <http://www.frontrangeflu.com>

H1N1Update: Please note the seasonal influenza vaccine is not expected to protect against the H1N1 (Swine) flu. An H1N1 influenza vaccine is expected to be available later this year to protect against the H1N1 virus. Distribution of the H1N1 vaccine in Colorado will be governed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. For more information about the H1N1 vaccine visit: [http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/general\\_info.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/general_info.htm)

Insurance: Seasonal flu shot is No Cost for those covered by one of the following insurance plans: Medicare B or Railroad Medicare Part B if they are your primary insurance. Also DCSD Cigna or Rocky Mountain Health Plans. Additional insurance carriers or networks may be accepted. Bring your insurance card the day of the clinic and ask the nurse if your insurance covers these vaccinations. The Flu Mist nasal spray is covered by DCSD Cigna or Rocky Mountain Health Plans. The Pneumococcal Shot is covered by DCSD Cigna or Medicare Part B or Railroad Medicare Part B if they are your primary insurance.

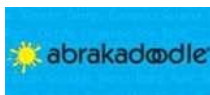
## *PTO Corner*

### ***Important Dates--***

Please join us for our first PTO General Meeting of the school year. The 6:30 p.m. PTO meeting will begin immediately following the 5:30 p.m. SAC Meeting. The PTO will be voting on the proposed budget for the school year. Free babysitting will be available for both meetings provided by the YMCA and ACS parent volunteers.

**REMEMBER**, get those recipes turned in for our 15th anniversary cookbook fundraiser! The deadline for the recipes is October 1st. Look for order forms soon. Also, Otis Spunkmeyer cookie order forms will be going home September 24th, so start asking family, friends and co-workers if they would like to order.

We are looking for parents to be on a committee for specific fundraising events. This does not mean you are in charge of fundraising. For example, the PTO is in need of help with collecting order forms and assembling the cookbooks. This is a great way to get volunteer hours. Please contact Allyson Ford: [allyson4d@hotmail.com](mailto:allyson4d@hotmail.com) or Deb VanSicklin: [castlerockvans@gmail.com](mailto:castlerockvans@gmail.com).

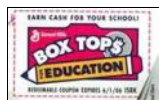


AbraKadoodle enrichment Art Class for grades 1-8 will begin Wednesdays Oct. 7th - Nov. 18th from 4:00-5:15 (skip Oct 21).

Cost is \$90 for a 6 week session. The registration deadline is September 30, 2009.

Register online at: [www.abrakadoodle.com/co04.html](http://www.abrakadoodle.com/co04.html)

The Box Top Deadline for September is Thursday, the 24<sup>th</sup>.



### ***Thank You's:***

The Family Movie Night was a success! We want to give a big THANK YOU to the parents who helped make it successful (would love to name you individually but there were no names attached to the snacks). Thank you for pulling through at the last minute with the snacks. The kids really enjoyed the goodie bags, especially the glow sticks. Again, thank you, we could not of pulled it off with out you!

### **LVF Supporters!**

Many thanks to The Buckley Family, The Belfrage Family, The Delasantos Family for supporting ACS through Local Value Fundraising.

### ***Ongoing Ways to Support ACS:***

Papa John's Pizza and the Douglas County Educational Foundation support ACS by giving back .50 for every order placed. Please share our school code, "ACHART", with friends, family and neighbors. This code can be used at any Papa John's Pizza within the state of Colorado.



Local Value Fundraising - The PTO has extra cards available for purchase in the school office. Local Value Fundraising can always be accessed through the ACS website. Don't forget the new "universal cards" are available any time you have a need for a gift or just for your own use. ACS always earns 50% back.

## *Box Tops for Education*



Betty Crocker is giving away 100 Bonus Box Tops for 100 days, from July 6<sup>th</sup> through October 14<sup>th</sup> and one Grand Prize of 1,000 Bonus Box Tops! Go to [www.BakeLifeSweeter.com/Win100BoxTops](http://www.BakeLifeSweeter.com/Win100BoxTops) to enter for your chance to win this great prize from Betty Crocker.

## Original Art Works



We have an exciting program this fall in our Art Department. All proceeds will directly benefit our Art Department.

Ms. Huskins has our students creating some wonderful masterpieces. Original Works will transform these works of art into beautiful full color products, such as magnets, mugs, journals, shirts and much more. Posters and samples will be on display next week. Information about the program and how to order these products will be sent home in your Elementary student's Friday Folders on October 2nd. **Orders will be due on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**, to ensure delivery in time for the Holidays.

We are very pleased to announce that a few new products have been added, such as recipe cards, a sketchbook and a bandana. In addition, new kitchen and office packages are being offered this year. The kitchen package contains an apron, 2 pot holders and 16 recipe cards, and the office package contains a mouse pad, mug, and a wall clock.

This is a great opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind gifts to help raise money for our Art Department. If you have any questions about this program, please do not hesitate to call Cami Lemon at 720-733-3972 or Kristen Sidney at 303-660-3346. Thank you for your support!

## 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Ski Passes Available

**What's better than free?** Parents of Colorado students graduating into fifth and sixth grade should mark their calendars for this fall to register for the free Vail Resorts fifth and sixth grade School of Shred program.

This popular program returns for the 2009-2010 ski and snowboard season and provides four free days of skiing at each of the state's top ranked resorts of Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone and Arapahoe Basin for all Colorado fifth and sixth grade students who register.

How to get your pass:



Show your 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade report card for Fall 2009 at any resort season pass office or any Front Range Pass sales locations during fall pass sales.

Get your photo taken

Go home with your new pass! It's that easy.

Students must prove eligibility by showing a 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade report card or student ID for Fall 2009. Documents will need to be presented at any resort season pass office of any Front Range pass sales location during fall pass sales. Passes are non-transferable. Students will be required to get their photo taken and will then receive a School of Shred Pass with days loaded onto the pass.

## Target Take Charge of Education Program



Parents, teachers and other school supporters can use Target REDcards to shop at Target and Target donates up to 1% of the purchases to their school K-12 school. To participate, all you need is a REDcard and to enroll in the program at [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe) or by calling 1-800-316-6142. ACS earned \$147.31 this month as a result of this program! To learn more about this program, you may go to [Target.com/tcoe](http://Target.com/tcoe).

## Counseling Corner

Greetings from the counseling corner! I want to let you know about all the new things happening in the counseling department this year. First, I would like to introduce you to a new face in my office; I have a counseling intern this year and she is fantastic! Her name is Lucia Puchalski, so please feel free to utilize her services as well as mine this year.

Counseling programs are finally beginning to take shape as our students are settling in and the school year is in full swing. This year I will be running a peer counseling program in the middle school as well as group counseling for social skills/friendship building, divorce care and peer mentoring for all age levels. We will also continue doing second step, our bully/violence prevention program in the middle school and our quarterly anti-bullying assemblies for all grade levels. There are many opportunities for students to get involved and connected with their peers this year! If you feel like your student would be a good fit for any of these programs, please contact me.

Here at ACS we have been fortunate enough to adopt the Love and Logic program in our building! This is an amazing program that we have been working very hard to learn and implement in our school. As part of our training, I would like to offer support to any of our parents that are interested in learning more about Love and Logic. I will be offering monthly love and logic tips through my newsletters and as the year goes on some of our staff will become trained Parent Instructors for love and logic and you will be able to utilize them as resources as well.

Please contact me if you have any student concerns or questions about counseling!

Angela Krautz  
ACS Counselor K-8  
krautza@academycharter.org

Love and Logic tip of the month:

### Say "No" by Saying "Yes" to Something Else

"No" seems to be the most dreaded word in the English language. Kids hate to hear it almost as much as adults! There's nothing that starts a fight faster than the simple sound of this teeny, tiny two-letter word.

The world is full of "No's." That's why preparing kids for the real world requires that we deny their requests from time to time.

But how do we say "No" without finding ourselves in constant battles? By saying "Yes" to something else!

Instead of: *No, I'm not taking you until your chores are done.*

Try: *Sure! I will take you when your chores are done.*

Rather than: *No. I am not paying \$200 for a pair of sneakers.*

Experiment with: *I want you to have those. The ones I was planning on buying cost \$25. I'll provide that amount.*

Instead of: *No. You are not watching rated R movies.*

Try: *Renting a movie is a great idea. Find a G rated one, and we'll pop some popcorn tonight.*

Give this little tip a try...and enjoy fewer battles with your kids!

- Dr. Charles Fay