

August 27, 2010



## SAC

### Inside this issue:

- [Volunteer Corner](#) 2
- [Help Wanted](#)
- [CVHS Carnival](#)
- [Our Kids Our School](#) 3
- [PTO Corner](#)
- [SAC Brochure](#) 4

*Welcome back for the 2010 / 2011 school year!*

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is an avenue for parents to become informed about how ACS addresses academics, safety as well as several other issues related to our school. We invite you to attend SAC meetings to become informed and offer input regarding these topics. Since we meet in the evenings and offer free babysitting, it is a great way to get in your volunteer hours while helping ACS. Please see the attached brochure and September 7<sup>th</sup> regular meeting agenda for more information related to the SAC.

#### 2010 / 2011 SAC Calendar of Regular meetings

- \*September 7<sup>th</sup> 5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m. – Regular meeting click [Here](#) for SAC Meeting Agenda
- \*November 1<sup>st</sup> 5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m. – Regular meeting
- \*February 15<sup>th</sup> – 5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m. – Regular meeting
- \*April 26<sup>th</sup> – 5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m. – Regular meeting
- July 12<sup>th</sup> – 5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m. – New member training meeting
- \*August (TBD) – 5:30p.m. – 8:00p.m. – Regular meeting
- \*Free babysitting available

### Important Dates

- Aug. 28 - PTO FUN RUN 8:00am
- Aug. 30 - Elementary Testing Day
- Sept. 2 - Love and Logic Parent Class 6pm
- Sept. 6 - No School
- Sept. 7 - SAC Meeting 5:30
- Sept. 9 - Love and Logic Parent Class 6pm
- Sept. 11 - CVHS Carnival 10-4
- Sept. 13 - GB Meeting 6-8
- Sept. 16 - Love and Logic Parent Class 6pm
- Sept. 23 - Dress of Choice Day
- Sept. 23 - PTO Meeting 5-6

Look for information, in the SAC portion of future ACS newsletters, regarding:

The new science curriculums (K – 8<sup>th</sup>)  
Our new academic goals

#### **Information on our school's CSAP and other academic achievements**

What our teachers and administrators are working on in the 2010/2011 School Improvement Plan

Scheduled date (TBD) for our guest speaker on interpreting CSAP scores.

Scheduled date (TBD) for Board of Education President John Carson (District B) to engage our SAC, staff and parents through open forum

We look forward to seeing you at our meetings and value your participation.

Robin Warnke  
ACS SAC Chairman  
303-814-1873

## Volunteer Corner

Welcome to the new school year here at ACS. I have already seen a lot of volunteer activity and we are so grateful! The Classroom Coordinators are getting started working with the teachers to schedule volunteers for the elementary classrooms. Just a reminder, please keep track of the time you spend volunteering and log it on your family time card on the table by the volunteer bulletin board in the lobby. It is important that we keep track of all the hours that are spent volunteering at our school.

We are in need of volunteers to help us during lunch time—11:00 to 1:00—in the Cafeteria. Our staff members are spread very thin during lunch time and we could really use some help. Please let me know if you can volunteer.



Have a great weekend!

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

## Help Wanted!



Sadly Sue Parks has decided to resign her position as Facilities Manager due to personal reasons. She will continue to work at ACS until we are able to replace her. If you know of anyone who would be interested in this position, please have them send me a resume, cover letter, and [ACS Employment Application](#).

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

## CVHS Carnival

ACS Parents!

Castle View High School has invited all schools on our side of the freeway to participate in their annual Homecoming Carnival on September 11th from 10-4. CVHS has invited any school interested to manage their own booth or game and all proceeds from the game, less any expense, will be donated to each respective school.

Academy Charter School will host a game at the carnival, so come by and support ACS!

We are in need of 2-3 parents to help volunteer at the ACS game during the carnival. The ACS PTO, Governing Board, and SAC will provide volunteers from their boards, but we still need 2-3 more parents if possible. You can work whatever shift fits your schedule.

Please contact Misty O'Leary at [jimandmisty@comcast.net](mailto:jimandmisty@comcast.net) if you would like to help volunteer. Remember, this goes toward your ACS volunteer hours.

Thank you.

ACS-PTO



*Wholesome food. Healthy Fundraisers.*

Dear Academy Charter Families:

Just a friendly reminder that the Our Kids Our Schools lunch option is now available. Partnered with Whole Foods Market, Our Kids Our Schools (OKOS) provides your choice of fresh, healthy and affordable lunches delivered to Academy Charter. Please note that if you would like your child to receive a lunch for next week, you'll need to place orders by today, Friday, August 27.

If you do not already have an account, simply visit the OKOS website at [www.OurKidsOurSchools.com](http://www.OurKidsOurSchools.com), select "Join Now" and follow the easy steps for account set-up.

## *PTO Corner*

### FUN RUN

It's not too late to join our Fun Run Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, at 8am. You can walk, run, or push a stroller...whatever works for you. Cost for the run and breakfast is \$20 per family or \$10 for an adult and \$5 for a child. This will be a fun event to get the ACS community together, while raising money for ACS. Breakfast will be served at 8:45.

### DADS CLUB

The Dad's Club met Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, for their first meeting. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please text Dennis Desormeaux at 303-717-6846 or email him at [enozzad@yahoo.com](mailto:enozzad@yahoo.com).

### BOX TOPS

Nate Carpenter is the Summer/August Box Top winner. Nate won a Baskin Robbins gift card.

Thank you to the following students who participated in the box tops fundraiser from May to August: Conor Lemon, Noah Smith, Jonah Smith, Daniel Smith, Mitchell Colander, Courtney Solomon, Taylor Knight, Maddison Amiot, Amanda Amiot, Claire O'Shea, Katie Keeling, Jeremy Brown, Spencer Ford, Brooklyn Rose, Eric Tschudy, John Tschudy, Morley family, Brooke Bolen, Erynn Hargrave, Lucas Tokarski, Bivona family, Academy Kids, Andrew Wojtkewicz, Casey Marsh, Cameron Coyhis, Petyon Ralston, Ava Lange, Ethan Coyhis, Zachary Coyhis, Briana Coyhis, Morgan Ford, Daniel Bodiford, Gianna Spangler, Mikaela Berzins, Steven Hanger, Hayden Guth, Garrett Smith, Jasmine Joel, Callie Dortch, Ben D., William Merrick, Morgan Parks, Hannah Russell, Rachel Russell, McKinley Dirks, Courtney Parks, Thomas O'Leary, Conor O'Leary, Hailey Midolo, Brock Hardison and Paityn Hardison.

### Enrichment Opportunities

- "I Want to be an Astronaut" Grades K-3, September 8<sup>th</sup> to October 13<sup>th</sup>, \$65.70 [spacet.meKids.com](http://spacet.meKids.com) to register
- Lego Engineering Fundamentals Class, Grades 2-5, October 26<sup>th</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>, \$135.20 [Play-well.org](http://Play-well.org) to register
- Drawing and painting with Artful Journey
  - Grades K-2, September 7<sup>th</sup> to October 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Grades 3-5, September 9<sup>th</sup> to October 14<sup>th</sup>, \$102.00

Call 303-674-0446 to register



**Why do we have a SAC?**

Public schools have had functioning SACs for many years which have allowed parents to be involved in their school's educational processes. Until recently, for most charter schools, SACs didn't exist. The planning and evaluating of school instructional programs and quality improvement processes resided in the hands of the Governing Boards. However, as of the 2007/2008 school year the Colorado Board of Education offered an incentive of \$60.00 per student per year to any school having a fully compliant SAC. For ACS this has equated to \$30,000 per year for our school! In addition, it has provided the added

## Calendar

Baby Sitting Available

- \*September 7th: 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.  
Vote in officers, by-laws, 2011/2012 calendar
- Update of roll over School Improvement Plan (SIP) Input on fall parent survey questions
- Beginning of year Dean report
- \*November 1st: 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.  
Update on fall assessments data analysis
- Review of finalized SIP goals
- Vote on process used to involve SAC in the SIP Fall Survey results
- Update on fall DAC conference
- Update on how ACS budget & expenditures
- \*February 15th: 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.  
Update on winter assessments data analysis
- 2011/2012 SIP priorities
- Input on spring survey questions
- Possible revisions to academic goals
- Mid-year Dean report
- \*April 26th 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.  
Update on SIP rollover and 2011/2012 advisements
- Spring Update
- on spring DAC conference
- End of year Dean report
- \*July 12th: 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.  
SAC new member training
- Data analysis final assessments and data reporting
- SIP final analysis and reporting
- SAC evaluation
- \*August (TBD): 5:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.  
Final discussions on data & SIP reporting
- Vote in officers, by-laws, 2011/2012 calendar

Academy Charter School  
**School Advisory**

### What does your SAC do?

They are parents asking the question "How is academic success achieved at ACS?"

They keep an eye on the big picture.  
**They ask "Is ACS staying on track with its academic goals?"**

They review school safety issues.

They report back to you, our Governing Board, the BOE & the DAC on how ACS is doing!

The purpose of the SAC is to inform, encourage and provide opportunities for parent and community members to be involved in the planning and evaluation of the school's instructional program and quality improvement processes. Completing your fall and spring surveys is an easy way to get involved by providing valuable input to the SAC. Another way is by attending SAC meetings and voicing your opinions regarding academic or safety issues during open forum. Try coming and just listening during meetings or give your input on topics being discussed. You can quickly start making a difference for ACS! Volunteer for various subcommittees: Data Analysis, School Improvement Plan, Survey, or Communications. If you become a SAC member there are: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Recorder and DAC Liaison positions.

## How can you be involved?

The SAC gives parents a say on the direction ACS will take in achieving long term academic success.

## Why be involved? "Being in the know"

The SAC helps parents understand how to make academics a priority for ACS.

Parents can learn the process of how ACS chooses to teach, challenge and assess its student body.

## ACS Academic Goals

1. In the CSAP areas of Reading, Writing, Math and Science, for each grade we will work to be within the top three schools of the Douglas County charter schools, our direct peers.
2. We will work to show one-year-plus growth for each cohort group as measured by MAP results.
3. We will measure growth by attaining/maintaining a placement in the High Growth/High Achievement quadrant of the Colorado Growth Model Assessment.
4. To ensure that each student attending ACS has every opportunity for academic success, we will identify and

## What issues should you bring to your SAC?

Our SAC can make advisements on general academic achievement and safety issues as well as academic grant and budgetary expenditures. They can use information provided through regular SAC meetings, parent surveys, open forums at SAC meetings and written concerns submitted to the SAC chairman and then read during open forum to determine general trends regarding academic & safety concerns. The SAC is not able to address personnel issues, individual student disciplinary issues, or any issue dealing with a specific student, staff member or parent. Consult your Student Handbook, page 32, "Parental Conflict Resolution Policy" for solving these types of issues.

By definition, the School Advisory Council is an advisory body. Final authority of any decision rests with the Dean and Governing Board.

## How to contact your SAC

[www.academycharter.org](http://www.academycharter.org)

Parent

SAC Information

