

Ralph Moody Mountain Rams

Doug Andrews, Principal



March 19, 2009

Telephone: (303) 347-4600 Attendance: (303) 734-5640



Dear Parents/Guardians:

The third, fourth, and fifth grade students have been involved in taking the annual CSAP Assessment the two weeks prior to Spring Break. We will complete any remaining 'make-up' testing the week after break. Students should be commended for their effort with these important assessments. Many thanks go to parents for your support during this time. We won't receive results from these tests until later in the summer. CSAP assessments are an important reporting and school accountability measure for our school.

As you are aware, Whitman and Ames Elementary Schools will be closed/repurposed at the end of this school year. Ralph Moody will be welcoming many 'new' students and families next school year. As of now, we anticipate that Ralph Moody will have about 100 additional students for the 2009-10 school year – giving us a total student population of close to 400 students. Since we are adding students, we will also be adding some new staff members from these two schools. The current plan will be to have three classes in each grade level – Kindergarten through third grade. Fourth and fifth grades will be staffed with two teachers each and our 4/5 Gifted and Talented classroom will be a self-contained combination classroom. Again this year, we will be asking parents for information that will help us address the academic, social, and physical needs of your children. As is always the case, we want to create heterogeneously/equally

grouped classes. As we welcome all of our new students and families, I want to thank you in advance for your support.

One other thing I'd like to mention; I've had some reports of adults smoking on school grounds at drop-off or pick-up times. Please refrain from smoking on school grounds and in the parking lot area. Thank you.

Have a wonderful Spring Break!!

Sincerely,

Doug Andrews



Important Dates

March

23-27 **Spring Break - NO SCHOOL**

April

Thru 3 CSAP Continues

6-May 8 MAP Testing Window

8 PLC Day – Late Start 11:01 a.m.

8 4th Grade Recorder Program, 2:55 p.m.

9 4th Grade Recorder Program, 7:00 p.m.

9 Class and Individual Pictures

16 Ralph Moody Accountability

Committee Meeting 7:45 a.m.

23 Spring Fling Celebration/Art & Author

24 EARLY DISMISSAL-1:03 p.m.

27 Elementary Non Student Day

28-May 1 2nd Grade District Writing Assessment Window

30 Talent Show 7:00 p.m.



Lost and Found

We have many items in the Lost and Found at Ralph Moody. Every effort is made to get lost items returned to their owners, but you can help greatly by **writing your child's name** on their coats, hats, gloves, sweatshirts, lunch boxes, etc. All items will be checked for a name and returned to the owner. Items without names that have not been claimed by the end of each month will be donated.

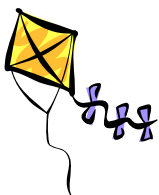


Counselor Corner

Over the past few months I have given tours to parents and kids who are planning to attend Ralph Moody next year. It is a pleasure to be a part of a school that is welcoming and friendly to these new families. We are working closely with the PTO to ensure the new students' transition to Ralph Moody easily. There will be many changes next year and we are looking forward to all the opportunities that will bring.

Bully-Proofing Point

The final piece in our bully-proofing program is to recognize caring kids. Students choose their peers who consistently demonstrate thoughtful and caring behavior. A paper heart is filled with the wonderful qualities each caring kid shows at school. Each classroom has a special spot to showcase their caring kids!



Art News

Congratulations to the following students whose art work was selected to go in the Curtis Youth Month Art Show at the Curtis Center. This is an art show that combines the best student work from LPS and the Cherry Creek School District. The show starts on March 9th and ends on March 30th.

Kindergarten: Savanna Otto, Madison Brown, Destinie Harris, Shyla Roy, Adelaide Auger, Jorden Wilson and Brittney Westerlund

1st Grade: Charles Scurlock and Joslyn Mortensen

2nd Grade: Gracelyn Keller, Noah Wells-Alirez, Miranda Bachofer, Grace Ralston and Phillip Ferguson

3rd Grade: Yuan Bank

4th Grade: Natalie Oliveira and Elizabeth Sprunt

5th Grade: Joy Mackey, Dylan Coe, Griff Hamm and Alana Shoob

Student Council

Right after the student council election, the board members got to work on helping the school. The members were assigned projects to lead, like recycling, Red Ribbon Week, Inter-Faith food drive, and other activities. Student council members also led tours of the school for families visiting on Open House night. We also do recycling every Friday at recess.

Our project right now is collecting school supplies and personal items for Tree of Life Orphanage in Mexico. All of the donated items will be taken to the children during spring break. Thank you for helping!

- Hadley Pettenger, 5th grade



Music News

Fifth grade classes are playing string instruments: the violin, viola, and cello. Soon they will finish up the Advanced Instruments of the Orchestra unit. Next, we'll be singing songs to get ready for Continuation.

Fourth grade classes are getting ready for their Recorder Music Program. The school program is Wednesday, April 8th at 2:55 p.m. The parent program is Thursday, April 9th at 7:00 p.m. Four Reel Production will be videotaping this program during our April 8th performance and will be available for families to purchase.

Third graders are studying about the string family. They are also playing soprano recorders.

Second grade classes are learning music notes. They are learning rhythm patterns. They are having a great time learning dance movements. They will also continue playing xylophones.

First graders and kindergartners are singing songs. They are also learning rhythm patterns and playing instruments. They will be starting dance movements soon.

On Wednesday, April 1st at 9:40 a.m. Euclid Middle School students in the Jazz Band, Orchestra and Jubilation Singers will present a short musical program for our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classes at Moody.



PTO Corner

I had the most wonderful thank you last month. Kindergarten students each drew a picture and wrote a couple of sentences about the Valentine's Party and what they enjoyed. Their favorite activities included dancing on the stage, tattoos and the balloon fights. The scary part is that there was no 'planned' balloon fights. I hope you had a chance to see these works of art as they were on the bulletin board for a couple of weeks. Thank you's go to all the volunteers that helped with the party. The children had a wonderful time.

If your student is interested in Ralph Moody wear, we have a new supply of hoodies, including blue and now also in pink. As this is not a fund raiser, prices are very reasonable. Order forms have been sent home or feel free to contact me directly.

Dates are still being worked out for some of the following events:

- Talent Show tryouts – Wednesday, April 1st
- Duffy Rolls - in time for Easter
- PTO Meeting – Tuesday, April 14th
- Spring Social – Thursday, April 23rd
- Talent Show – Thursday, April 30th
- School Dance – Friday in April

Check the bulletin board in the front hallway for specific dates and times. Karin Parker does a wonderful job of keeping this up to date and looking great.

Don't forget, Kerstin Shoob will be selling King Sooper gift cards Fridays after school. Look for her in front of the school with her King Sooper bag. If you already shop at King Sooper, use these gift cards and the PTO receives 5% from the store. This is an easy way to help our school!

Enjoy spring break.

Kristen Smith
PTO President
(303) 798-0874
smithwilliamf@msn.com



Thank You

Thank you for letting my girl scout troop and I do our book drive at Moody. We appreciate all of the donations. Thanks again!

Sincerely,
Troop 414

- Amelia Frauens - Hannah Lambrecht
- Morgan Mackey - Shelley Youngkin

Information from Powell Middle School

Parents: If your student will be attending Powell Middle School next year, please see our website at www.powell.littletonpublicschools.net for “Incoming Sixth Grade” news and the latest editions of our Newsletter. You will find important dates and pertinent information relating to your incoming student on our webpage. Please continue to check the website during the summer months for updated information. Powell is proud to be “Green”, thank you for supporting our “paperless” Newsletter.

Newton Middle School Becomes An Authorized MYP Program

Exciting News! Newton Middle School has received official notice of its formal authorization as an International Baccalaureate Organization World School. Site visitors from the IB organization noted that the school shows significant development and understanding of the Middle Years Program (MYP). IB is confident that the instruction, philosophy, and program offered by Newton for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students meets the international standards expected by the MYP.

Being an IB MYP school assures that each school year students will have a minimum of one semester of instruction in each of eight subject areas: Arts (visual and performing), Humanities (social studies), Language A (language arts), Language B (world language),

Mathematics, Physical Education, Science, and Technology. But more than this, the MYP seeks to develop students who have the skills and attributes necessary to become successful 21st century world citizens. Ultimately, the IB philosophy seeks students who question, learn, think, care, and act on their learning and contribute to their community for the betterment of others. We are honored to be recognized as educators who will contribute to this mission.

You can find out more about the MYP program at Newton by going to the Newton website at www.newton.littletonpublicschools.net or contacting the IB coordinator, Julie Lacey at 303. 734.6254.



Change a Life, Starting with Your Own

To the world, the America Red Cross is the helping hand at times of disaster, but our foundation is made up of the millions of individuals who give of their time, money, blood, sweat, and tears. Whether through CPR training, medical transportation, emergency military communication, or disaster assistance, we are simply the vessel that gives people the opportunity to perform extraordinary acts of compassion. This March is Red Cross Month. Support the Red Cross by making a donation or volunteering, and change a life, starting with your own. Go to www.denver-redcross.org or call (303) 722-7474.

Become a Certified American Red Cross Babysitter!

Get certified as an American Red Cross babysitter! If you're 11 to 15 years old, you can get the knowledge, skills and confidence to care for infants and school-age children. Combining video, activities, hands-on skills training and discussion, you get a complete learning experience and a certification card to show your clients. Want more? Sign up for Babysitter Bootcamp, our intensive two day class that not only includes babysitting skills, but also infant and child CPR. Classes are held on March 23-24 and 26-27. Space is limited. Sign up online at www.denver-redcross.org