



# Bacon Bacon

March 2007

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**The #1 News Source of the Bacon Bulldogs**

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## **The Principal Perspective**

Dear Parents,

Brrrr! I have told the children that this is a winter that they will be able to tell their grandchildren about. I have lived in Colorado my whole life and can't remember a winter this cold and long. While we are coping at school just fine with the elements, it has created a few challenges that we aren't used to dealing with. For example, there are portions of our playground that have been inaccessible since we came back from break. We have some new students who started in January that haven't even seen parts of our school grounds! Also, there have been a record number of days that we have had to stay indoors for recess. As a reminder, our policy is that we stay in if the temperature (with wind chill) is 10 degrees or lower.

In light of these challenges, there are a few things that you can help us with. On mornings when it is cold, snowy, rainy, or just plain lousy outside, please keep in mind that I will bring the children directly into the building. I know all of you try to keep them home as long as possible on those mornings, but it creates additional traffic problems around our drop-off zone when that occurs, and increases the number of students coming in tardy. So, if you would plan to bring your children at the normal time on those mornings, knowing that we will allow them to go directly to their classroom, it will really

help.

Another area that your help is being requested is at the morning bus stops. I occasionally get a phone call from someone in a neighborhood where a bus stop is located, and their concerns are usually related to students not having adequate supervision before their bus gets there. As student safety is always a priority for me, I definitely need your help with this particular issue, because I obviously can't be present at all of these bus stops in the morning.

Any help you can afford in all of these areas is always appreciated.

The last area that I will request your support is helping your child to be prepared for our annual state and federal accountability assessment, better known as CSAP. While we try to keep a healthy perspective on the importance of this assessment, we don't want children feeling undue pressure or stress because of the test. That said, we do want children to take the test seriously as we get valuable information about how we are doing as a school, and how much growth each individual student is making with their learning. These are both important to us as we work on improving the overall educational experience your children so deserve.

Regards,

494-5301, [wills@psdschools.org](mailto:wills@psdschools.org)

## **Grandparents Day 2007**

*By Sharon Baeverstad*

Mark your calendar for the 2007 Grandparents Day!  
Bacon Elementary invites all Grandparents to

Grandparents Day on **April 5, 2007** from 2:00pm through 3:15pm. Please come and meet Mr. Smith, enjoy refreshments and have a special tour of your grandchild's classroom. This event will be enjoyable for all that attend. Hope to see you there this year at Bacon for a special day.

# PTA News & Notes

## Science Fair News

By Jill Wood

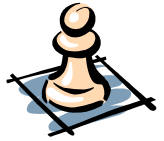
The SCIENCE FAIR registration packets were sent home on February 16. The registration forms for the students that want to participate are due by Friday March 2. Look for all information regarding the SCIENCE FAIR to be sent home on gold paper. Students have from now until April to work on their experiments and display boards for the fair. Students should bring their display boards (tri-fold poster boards available at most stores for about \$4) to school on Wednesday, April 4. The posters will be set up on tables in the hallways. Visiting judges will review the projects Wednesday morning. Classes will be able to visit the SCIENCE FAIR on Wednesday and Thursday. Parents and friends will be invited to see the posters on Wednesday evening. Students will take their display boards home after school on Thursday April 5. The top student from each of the fourth, fifth and sixth grades will be eligible to compete in the district Science Fair at the Discovery Science Center on Saturday, April 21.

If you are still looking for an idea, there are books available at the school and local libraries. There are also several internet sites that suggest ideas and experiments for children to try at home. Example titles from last year's fair include: *Why Things Float and Sink*, *Effect of Temperature on Popcorn*, *Can Daisies Change Color*, and *Film, Pixels. And Photos*.



## Bacon Chess Tournament (Grades 2-6)

By Marie Krizanovic



Although the Bacon Chess Club has not been meeting this year, I am offering a ladder-style chess tournament for experienced players in Grades 2-6 to run through the month of April. We will be meeting on Thursday afternoons (3:35pm-4:15pm) in Ms. Haywood's room. There will be a 1st place trophy and a 2nd place medal awarded to the top finishers. All participants will receive some recognition of participation. If your child is interested in participating, they can just come to the first tournament session which will be on Thursday, April 5th. No pre-registration is required. Students must attend all four (4) sessions to be considered for the 1st and 2nd place awards.

Also a reminder: the final PSD Chess Tournament for 2006-2007 will be held at Tavelli Elementary School on March 3, 2007. This tournament is open to all K-6 students enrolled in a PSD school or registered with the district to participate in extra-curricular activities. Registration forms are available on line at: <http://www.psdschools.org/curriculuminstruction/programs/giftedtalented/enrichment.aspx>. You may also register on-site that morning. Scholarships are available for students with a financial need and all K-1 players are free. Please be there by 8:15 to get checked in before the players' meeting. For this tournament, team trophies will be awarded in addition to individual trophies. All participants will receive a ribbon or a trophy. Hope to see you there!

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## Character Traits Spelled Out in Story

The following paper was written by Kyle Gronberg, a 6th grader at Bacon. His assignment was to use spelling list words in a paragraph and he did so with a wonderful story illuminating Bacon's character traits!

Davis Parker was not the class brain and not the class clown. He was however, the class bully. Davis was aggressive, annoying, and arrogant. He didn't have a very ambitious attitude, either when it came to schoolwork. He did reckless stunts that were dangerous to everyone around him. Everyone was afraid to stand up to him, until the day Jonathon came to school. He was a brilliant, generous, although clumsy boy. He quickly made friends

with almost everyone in school. This put Davis into a blind, jealous rage. Davis was always envious of his peers. After Jonathon's first encounter with Davis, he set his mind to an industrious plan. He would help Davis by becoming his friend.

Jonathon's friends thought his idea was foolhardy and ignorant, but Jonathon was stubborn. Although he is nervous, he decides to seek out Davis during recess.

Davis was lurking in the corner during recess. When Jonathon approached him, he growled. Jonathon quickly snapped back "cool your jets." Jonathon didn't hand him an elegantly wrapped gift, but instead offered the gift of friendship. Davis found this energetic boy's sentimental words to be spellbinding. That simple gesture melted the bully away, and Davis was never the same.



# Bacon bits

## Spelling Bee

By Diane Odbert

The Bacon Elementary Spelling Bee was held on Monday, January 29. Our qualifying contestants for the Spelling Bee were Laurel Kornblau, Madi Larson, Brandon Canino, Nathanael Markman, Josh Bell, Marissa Tracey, Connor Murphy, Erin Johnson, Yoni Ephraim, and Ryan Baeverstad. Mr. Smith was the official pronouncer for the event that was attended by parents and friends of the contestants. Thank you to judges Mr. Teska, Mrs. Nicholas, and Mrs. Podolski.

Our Spelling Bee winner, Laurel Kornblau, went on to qualify for the District spelling bee which was televised on February 21. Additional times for replay can be found on the PSD website at this address: <http://www.psdschools.org/services/channel10/schedule.aspx>.

Congratulations are also in order for our Spelling Bee runner-up, Brandon Canino. Both Laurel and Brandon received special dictionaries. If you see any of these 10 awesome spellers, congratulate them all on a job well done!

## Media News

By Jean Brodahl



In April we will celebrate poetry month! Kids LOVE poetry! We have so much fun reading and singing. Mr. Smith will be singing poems with the students so there will be lots of music going on in the Media Center.

Thanks for all your help with finding wayward Bacon library books! Your efforts are greatly appreciated! Ask your children what they learned about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Did you know George really didn't have wooden teeth? We read the great and funny book, "GEORGE WASHINGTON'S TEETH" by Deborah Chandra. Ask your children and they will tell you all about it.

Kids will become lifelong readers if we don't push them to read above their level. They will become frustrated and end up not wanting to read. Save those harder books for read-aloud time together as a family. Don't forget about audio books for your spring vacation trips. Thanks for all of your wonderful support of the Bacon Media Center! Keep Reading!

## Music Notes

By Dr. Allison Pietras



Hello Bacon Parents! The 5th and 6th graders will be presenting our musical, "Dig It!" on Tuesday, February 27th at 2:30 p.m. for the entire school and at 6:30 p.m. for all the parents. We invite you all to come support these diligent singers, actors, and dancers! Costume suggestion sheets were sent home in January. If your child doesn't know what to wear, have them ask me at school. If your child is a choir member in the show, he or she will wear a white toga. This can be accomplished easily by taking a bed sheet and tying it around your child's body. Make sure they wear something else under their togas! All Egyptian mummies: we had a GREAT suggestion for costuming. Get a pair of sweats, put them on your child, then use hockey tape or white masking tape or duct tape and tape around their legs and arms. Then use a stocking cap for their heads and tape those up to look like "rags." It will save tons of time!

Just a summary of what's going on:

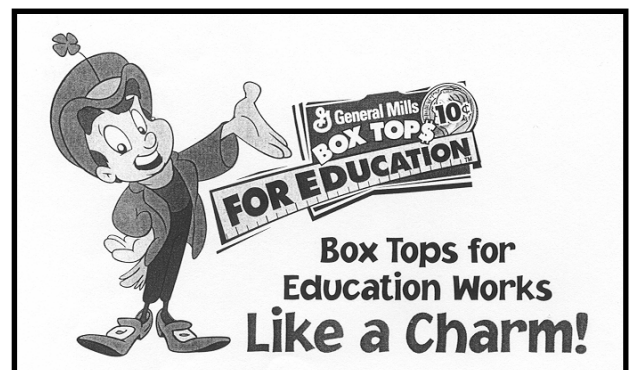
**Friday, February 23rd, 3:30 p.m., Gym, Set up risers, stages, scenery** (any help is always welcomed)

**Monday, February 26th, 10:40-11:40 a.m., Gym, Dress Rehearsal** (bring costumes to school)

**Tuesday, February 27th, 2:30 p.m., Gym, School Performance** (wear costumes, then take them home)

**Tuesday, February 27th, 6:30 p.m., Gym, Parents' Performance** (all kids need to be at school at 6:15 p.m. wearing their costumes).

This show will be a blast! See you there.



# From the District

## New PSD Budgeting Process Increases Equity, Transparency of Funding

### NEW Immunization Requirements!

- On January 17, 2007, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Board of Health approved additional vaccine requirements for children in childcare settings, and schools beginning in the 2007-2008 school year.
- Kindergarteners entering school in the 2007-2008 School year will be required to have 2 Varicella vaccines, (Chicken Pox) or a history of having the disease documented by a doctor or lab test.
- All students entering the 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades in the 2007-2008 school year will be required to have proof of receiving the Tdap vaccine. This is based on the Center for Disease Control recommendations to prevent cases of Pertussis (Whooping Cough).
- Consult with your health care provider about your student receiving the vaccines. Immunization Clinics are held regularly, at the Larimer County Health Department, call 498-6700 for schedules and information.
- Documentation of your child's entire immunization information should be provided to your school office, to be part of the official school immunization record.
- The state of Colorado Immunization Law, allows Medical, Religious, and Personal Exemptions. In the event of an outbreak, exempted persons may be subject to exclusion from school and to quarantine.

*Phase-in will allow for smooth transition; Small School Study to be convened*

In early February, Superintendent Jerry Wilson and cabinet members adopted Student-Based Budgeting (SBB), an equitable, transparent, student-centered model, as the method PSD will use to allocate funds to schools beginning in fiscal year 2007-08.

In February 2006, the Board of Education directed PSD administration to appoint a design team to develop a district funding model using SBB. The new formula has been studied for the past year by 2 committees—design and implementation teams of district administrators, principals, and parents, who made the recommendation to adopt SBB.

The funding model will be phased in district wide to assure a smooth transition for schools. For additional information, visit the PSD website at [www.psdschools.org](http://www.psdschools.org) or call 482-7420.



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The Bacon Beacon Newsletter is published by the Bacon PTA and is distributed the last week of each month. The deadline for article submission is listed on the Bacon Bulldog Calendar. We appreciate electronic copies of articles emailed to Susan French at [2sfrench@comcast.net](mailto:2sfrench@comcast.net).

Contact Susan by phone at 282-8600 if you need to submit a paper copy of your article.

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