



# Bacon Bacon

October 2004

## Inside this issue:

- Page 1 - Dr. Chenoweth's Letter
- Page 2 - PTA Page: Enrichments, Tshirt Sale, Staff Appreciation
- Page 3 - Autism Program, Can Recycle, Music Volunteers Needed
- Page 4 - Poudre School District Info

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

**Bacon Elementary School . 5844 S. Timberline Road  
Ft. Collins, CO 80528**

**Office: 494.5300**

**Attendance Line: 494.5310**

**Fax: 494.5306**

**[www.psdschools.com/schools/Bacon](http://www.psdschools.com/schools/Bacon)**

## The Principal Perspective

Parents,

Believe it or not we have already completed seven weeks of school and it's almost time for parent-teacher conferences. You will be contacted by your child's teacher during the next couple of weeks and asked to come to school to share information and learn about what's been happening. Our goal is very simple. We want to discuss ideas and plan strategies with you to help your child be as successful as possible.

When you arrive you will find that teachers are prepared with work samples, information about your child's daily interaction with other kids and, ideas about how your child can be even more successful school. We will also have questions so that we can get to know you and our students better.

One thing we know for sure is that all children learn in different ways. They have their own individual personalities and their own listening and work habits. To help their students learn new knowledge and skills, teachers must know as much as they can about each child including what motivates them, what likes and dislikes they have and how they communicate their experience at school. This is where you can really help because no one knows your child as well as you do, and no one has more

influence over your children than you.

The parent-teacher conference is not a one way street. Start thinking now about what you have to share to help us know more about your child. Perhaps there are things you want to share about your child's life at home, personality, problems, habits, and hobbies that you think are important for us to know.

Then give some thought to the specific questions you have for us. If there is something said that you don't understand ask for clarifications or examples. Some questions you might want to ask are these:

How well does my child get along with others?

What are my child's best subjects and where do they struggle?

Is my child working up to his/her ability?

How does my child handle taking tests?

Does my child participate in class discussions and activities?

Conferences are important! Please take the opportunity to join your child's teacher as we keep building for the future. Strong parent teacher partnerships are the key to helping your child succeed.

Thanks for your great support.

Sincerely,



## Back to School Night

It's that time of year again! Plan to attend Bacon's Back to School Night on Thursday, October 7 at 6:30pm. Students

and parents are invited to visit Bacon classrooms and enjoy perusing samples of your student's work and talking with teachers. Back-to-School night also provides the opportunity for you to meet students' classmates and their parents. Don't miss it!

# PTA News & Notes

## Chess Club Starting Up

By Marie Krizanovic, Chess Club Co-leader



The Bacon Elementary PTA will again be sponsoring Chess Club as one of their enrichment activities. We will begin meeting on Monday, October 4th. This first meeting will be an instructional meeting for beginning players. However, anyone is welcome to attend. Chess Club will meet on Monday afternoons from 3:35-4:15pm from October through April. We will be meeting in the Explorer's Lab (Room 231). If your child missed the signup on Sept. 27th, he/she is still welcome to come to the meeting on the 4th. I would also like to announce that parent volunteer, Steve Yonkaitis, has agreed to co-lead the Chess Club with me this year and I look forward to working with him. If you would like to be a parent volunteer in the room or if you have any questions regarding Chess Club, you can contact me at 970-377-1975 or [krizanovics@aol.com](mailto:krizanovics@aol.com).

## Staff Appreciation

By Sue Laughlin

The staff appreciation committee is off to a great start! We had a great response to our "kick-off" breakfast on Sept. 24. Our thanks to the many willing volunteers who contributed those awesome goodies! The teachers and staff were most appreciative.

October's theme is "No Tricks, Just Treats." We will be continually filling a bowl in the teacher's lounge with candy and other goodies throughout the month. If you would like to help out, consider purchasing an extra bag of Halloween candy or other treats and drop it off in the PTA room. We'll see that it gets in the bowl. No tricks though, just treats!

There is also a special thank you planned for our dedicated classified staff members in honor of classified appreciation week.

## Fall Bacon Shirt Sale is Coming!

By Kelly Trupkiewicz

It's almost time to order Bacon Elementary shirts! Check out the display of exciting new looks as well as last year's favorites in the case by the office beginning Monday, October 4th. Visit the Bacon Shirt table at Back to School Night, Thursday, October 7th, for a closer look at all the styles and to check sizes. Ordering information will be available that night and order forms will come home with students on Friday, October 8th. Boost your Bacon school spirit now, or for early holiday shoppers, consider these items for nice gifts. If necessary, pick-up/delivery can be arranged to help keep purchases a surprise. Happy shopping!

## Reflections Program

By Sue Laughlin



The nationally sponsored PTA program, **Reflections**, is gearing up. This year's theme is: "A Different Kind of Hero." For those of you unfamiliar with the program, students are invited to create an artistic project exemplifying the theme. All projects are judged and displayed at the school. Those projects selected by the judges as best portraying the theme are sent on to compete at the district and possibly state and national levels. There are several categories including visual arts, dance, music composition, literature and photography. Watch for more information to come home in Friday folders in the coming weeks! Put on those creative thinking caps and create a project based on your definition of a "hero."

**POUDRE VALLEY FOOT  
& ANKLE CLINIC PC**  
*"Accurate Diagnosis, Effective Treatment"*  
**Proud Supporters of the  
Bacon Bulldogs!**  
1355 Riverside, Suite C • Fort Collins • 484-4620  
OFC50

**Brian A. COX, D.D.S., P.C.**  
FAMILY DENTAL CARE  
1343 E. PROSPECT RD. SUITE D2  
FORT COLLINS, CO 80525 • (970) 484-3959

**5<sup>th</sup> Graders “CAN” Recycle**

*By Sara Thompson*



The Bacon 5<sup>th</sup> graders have begun their annual can recycling drive! Please send all of your empty aluminum cans to school with your child in a plastic grocery bag. They can deposit them in the blue and green recycle containers across from the Flex Room. There is also a container outside the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. This will be an all year project so save up after those holiday parties! All money generated from the recycling project goes to help offset expenses for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders at EcoWeek next year.

Part two of the project is saving the tabs from the cans to make a donation to the Ronald McDonald House in Denver. Bacon’s efforts last year resulted in \$150!!! This is a great community service project for our students. Just send in your can tabs in a ziplock bag and have your child deposit them in the Ronald McDonald “house” across from the Flex Room.

Take your kids in the backyard and have them help crush cans and then take the tabs off. They’ll love it! Then simply bag the cans and tabs separately and send them to school. Thank you in advance for all of your support!

**Music Volunteers**

Our music teacher, Dr. Pietras will be instructing Bacon students in musical programs. Parent volunteers are needed to help create set designs, banners and props. Donations of supplies are also welcomed. Dates of these programs are as follows.

- 1st-2nd grade: Sept. 13 - Oct. 26
- 3rd-4th grade: Oct. 12 - Dec. 3
- 5th-6th grade: Jan. 11 - Mar.4

The time slots available for volunteering are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

- Mondays Anytime during school hours
- Wednesdays Between 11:05 - 1:20
- Fridays Between 11:05-12:50
- Fridays Between 2:15-3:20

If you can help, please contact Dr. Pietras. Thank you.

Bacon Elementary is proud to be home to one of Poudre School District’s Autism program centers. The school community is a very important part of the supportive environment for our students with autism. One of the main components of a supportive environment is to nurture independence in people with autism and to help them become integrated into their community. Some of the ways students with autism are integrated into the school community at Bacon include classroom activities, school assemblies, lunchtime, and recess. Children with autism benefit from educational intervention provided in a variety of settings, and the staff and students at Bacon are pleased to provide a welcoming and supportive environment.

Autism is classified as a pervasive developmental disorder and affects many areas of development. Although symptoms vary greatly from person to person, the symptoms fall into the categories of (1) social interaction (2) communication and (3) patterns of behavior, interests and activities.

General Characteristics of Autism	Social Interaction	Communication	Patterns of behavior, interests and activities
Examples (remember that symptoms may vary greatly from person to person)	Difficulty with eye contact	Delay or lack of spoken language	Limited repertoire of interests and activities
	Difficulty with making and understanding facial expressions	Unusual speech patterns	Insistence on following the routines
	Difficulty with gestures and understanding nonverbal social cues	Difficulty with social conversation	Repetitive body movements such as rocking or hand flapping
		Difficulty with imaginative or social imitative play	Attachment to objects and/or preoccupation with objects or parts of objects

# END Notes

## School Closures Due to Weather

From Poudre School District

### Are You Registered to Vote?

From Poudre School District

Monday, October 4 is the last day to register to vote in the November 2 General Election. Several important issues are on this year's ballot, some of which impact public education in Colorado.

Voter registration forms are available at public libraries and post offices and at many banks and grocery stores throughout Larimer County. In addition, walk-in voter registration is available at the Larimer County Clerk's Office at 200 West Oak from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. weekdays.

For more information, including forms and voter registration locations, visit the Larimer County website at <http://www.co.larimer.co.us/elections> or call (970) 498-7820.



Remember to clip those **Box Tops!**

## POSTNET®

POSTAL & BUSINESS SERVICES

South of Lemay on Harmony  
1112 Oakridge Dr., Ste 104  
Fort Collins, CO 80525

(970) 223-5916 Fax: (970) 223-0999  
postnet4@frii.com

Authorized UPS & FedEx  
Shipping Center  
Mailbox Rental  
Notary Service  
Passport/ID Photos  
Binding/Laminating  
Fax Services  
B&W/ Color Copies  
Business Services  
Office Supplies  
Mail Services  
Laptop Rental  
Greeting Cards

FedEx Canon COLOR COPIES UPS

If schools are closed due to extreme weather or other situations: Parents should tune in to local radio, television stations, or go online to PSD's Web site to find out about school closures the morning of the day in question. Media outlets are only informed if schools are closed; no announcements by the media means schools are open, as usual.

A decision about weather-related school closures is made by approximately **6:00 a.m.** and media outlets are notified immediately. **Parents should not call schools, district offices, or broadcast media.**

The following radio and television stations and PSD Web site will provide information about PSD school closures. We will notify Spanish radio station KGRE, AM 1450 and KJJJ, AM 1170 for our Spanish speaking families.

#### TELEVISION STATIONS:

Channel 2	WB2 News - KWGN
Channel 4	NEWS 4 - KCNC
Channel 7	7 News - KMGH
Channel 9	9 NEWS - KUSA

**NEWSPAPER:** [www.coloradoan.com](http://www.coloradoan.com)

#### LOCAL RADIO STATIONS:

BEAR 107.9 FM	KUNC 91.5 FM
KCOL 600 AM	KGRE 1450 AM (SPANISH)
TRI 102 102.5 FM	KIIX 1410 AM
KUAD 99 FM	KCSU 90.5 FM
KJJJ 1170 AM (SPANISH)	KKQZ 94.3FM

**PSD WEB SITE:** [www.psdschools.org](http://www.psdschools.org)

On severe weather days, when school is held as scheduled, parents are reminded to expect delays in school bus service, and to help dress children appropriately for potential longer waits at the bus stop.

A logo for the Bacon Beacon Newsletter featuring a cartoon bulldog holding a large, stylized letter 'B' with a plaid pattern. The bulldog is wearing a blue and white striped shirt.

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.

Newsletter Committee: Susan French, Krista Viola, Toni McConnell