



# Beattie Bighorn News

R.A.M.S—Respect Always Means Success

Page 1

Beattie Elementary School Newsletter

August 2011

Advertising in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by Poudre School District.

## IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	TIME	EVENT
August 25	3:15 – 4:15	G/T Steering Committee meeting in Beacon room
August 30	5:30 – 7:00	Back-to-School Night for ALL grades. <b>PLEASE JOIN US!</b> 5:30–5:50 Welcome + staff introductions for everyone in gym 5:55-6:25 Grade level presentations in units (Session 1) 6:30-6:55 Grade level presentations in units (Session 2)
September 1		Supplemental newsletter sent regarding ExCEL classes
September 1	3:15 – 4:30	Beattie Action Team ( <b>BAT</b> ) meeting – all parents welcome!
September 2		Student Rights & Code of Conduct signature form AND student data verification forms due back to school for each child
September 5	<b>No School</b>	School will not be in session for Labor Day
September 13	7:45 – 4:30	Longs Peak field trip to the YMCA in Estes Park
September 14	3:20 – 5:00	School Improvement Team ( <b>SIT</b> ) meeting
September 15	3:15 – 4:30	G/T Steering Committee meeting
September 19	<b>No School</b>	PSD Collaboration day for elementary and middle schools

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–Ashley, Fort Collins



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## Principal Thoughts.....Mr. Sam Aldern

Greetings to each of you! Thanks for taking the time to read the Beattie parent newsletter. This will be the only time all year we send a hard copy for every child. Please sign up to receive newsletters electronically ([www.psdschools.org](http://www.psdschools.org)) to ensure that you directly receive future newsletters. We have included a form with this newsletter if you need to request a hard copy of other newsletters.

On behalf of our staff I want to express appreciation to the broader Fort Collins community for the support shown through the passage of the mill/bond initiative last fall. This has truly been extremely helpful in providing the degree of support we are able to provide for Beattie children. Fort Collins stands above other communities in the entire state of Colorado in supporting education!

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend **Back-to-School Night** next **Tuesday, August 30**. It is very important for parents to hear from teachers about the upcoming school year so we hope every family can be represented. While it would be difficult if *all* students were here that night, we will have activities for children during that time if this is the only way for you to participate. Parents will need to sign their children in to one of three rooms: the art room, the music room (now next door to the art room), or the computer lab. Children will not be released from that room until parents come pick them up. We will have visual art activities in the art room, movement activities in the music room, and computer learning games in the lab. Please plan on arriving early enough so that you can be seated in the gym by the start of our large group time starting right at 5:30. The first session in the actual classrooms will begin at 5:55, and if you have two children at Beattie we'll have a second classroom session at 6:30. Because of time limits teachers will have to share general information, there won't be time that night for individual conferencing. However, please feel free to contact your child's teacher(s) by email or voicemail to set up an individual time to discuss your child.

In order to access teachers' email and voicemail contacts, please use our **Parent Handbook**. This valuable tool can be accessed through our website: <http://www.psdschools.org/schools/beattie/>. I would encourage you to save that Parent Handbook on the desktop of your computer so that it is a handy reference tool for you. Another resource that is on our website is the **Student Rights & Code of Conduct** booklet. We are required to collect a signature form from a parent that indicates you will access and review this important document. We do have a limited number of hard copies of the booklet in English and Spanish parents can request. The form we need to collect is included with this newsletter and we appreciate a prompt return of that form to your child's teacher, ideally by Sept. 2.

We appreciate all Beattie parents and community members who give of their own time to volunteer here at Beattie. If you have not already done so, and would like to volunteer, please register online at [www.psdschools.org](http://www.psdschools.org). ALL volunteers must be registered in order to assist at any PSD school. There are many ways to help here at school – from working directly with individual students to helping supervise on the playground or cafeteria. Contact Amy Quinn: [amynjosh1@hotmail.com](mailto:amynjosh1@hotmail.com)

Data verification forms are also included here. Please carefully look over the form to ensure that all information is accurate. Mark any changes that might be needed and return this to school with your child BY 9/2. **We must have a SIGNED form for each child** even if there are no changes.

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## Beacon Program for Gifted and Talented Learners



The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled."~Plutarch

Welcome to a new school year at Beattie. I'm thrilled to announce that our new K-5 Beacon Program for Gifted and Talented learners is here! My name is Kelly Parks and I am truly honored to be serving as the Beacon Program facilitator. As an educator, supporting gifted and talented learners is my passion and the reason I became a teacher. I recently finished a master's degree in Special Education: Gifted and Talented Specialist at the University of Northern Colorado, and look forward to utilizing my skills to reinvigorate Beattie's status as the Beacon School for Gifted and Talented.

In the Poudre School District students may be identified as gifted and talented (GT) in the following areas: mathematics, language arts, and creativity. We are excited to announce that we have several students who have been recently identified as creatively gifted. This will be a new area for service (K-5) this year at Beattie! In the near future PSD will also be adding music, visual arts, and leadership as possible areas for gifted and talented identification.

In the first part of the year I will be organizing the program and working to identify gifted and talented students who meet the districts requirements for identification. In

PSD we utilize a body of evidence to formally identify students. Primary data sources for the body of evidence include CSAP, MAPS, CogAT, and Torrance Test of Creativity. Students who demonstrate performance at or above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of age peers in two different categories for the same subject area will be formally identified, and they will have an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP). An ALP is a document that organizes student goals and progress in their strength areas. The ALP will follow students throughout their K-12 education, and are updated annually.

If your child has been indentified as GT according to district guidelines in past years, you will be receiving information about the Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) process in September. Newly identified students' ALP information will be sent home in early October. Please look for more information about our new K-5 Beacon Program in upcoming newsletters and on the Beattie website. A new Beacon Program website will be posted soon! If you have any questions regarding the Beacon Program or the identification process please feel free to contact me at [kparks@psdschools.org](mailto:kparks@psdschools.org). I look forward to getting to know our wonderful Beattie community members!

Best Regards,

Kelly Parks, M.A.

Beacon Program Facilitator  
(Gifted & Talented Specialist)

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### A New Look!

Some of you may have noticed the new format of our newsletter. The School Newsletter Company will be formatting our newsletter submissions and adding some school appropriate advertising to our pages. Beattie will earn revenue through this advertising which will be used to enhance the educational experience for all of our students! We are very excited about this opportunity.

**HURRAY!**

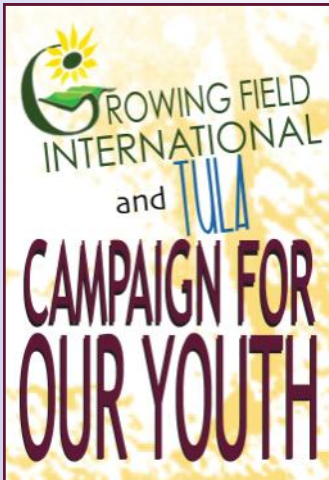
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## Musical Notes from Mrs. McCollum

Welcome back! I am thrilled to be in the new music room at Beattie (formerly the flex room). I look forward to a great year of music making.



### Here are some dates to put on your calendar:

- Auditions for Sunshine Singers (Choir): August 31 - September 2
- Sunshine Singers Rehearsals begin Thursday, September 8
- MV Music Program: November 10, 1:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
- Sunshine Singers: December 8, 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
- CR Program: March 22, 1:30 & 6:00
- BL Informances: May 2, 3, 4
- Beattie Talent Showcase: May 25



Hello Beattie Community! My name is Ryan Van Scoyk, and I will be student teaching with Mrs. McCollum this semester. I am double majoring in music education and saxophone performance at Colorado State University, and plan on

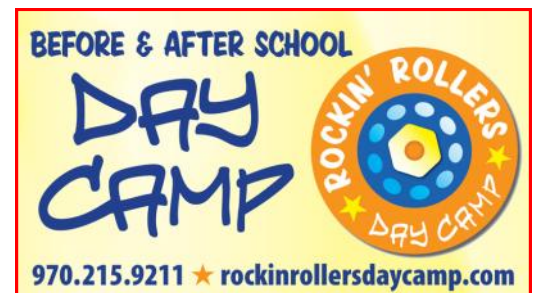
continuing my saxophone studies in graduate school next fall. I can be seen around Northern Colorado playing baritone sax with local funk band Archie Funker as well as tenor with my jazz trio, The TriTones. As a Colorado native I am an avid skier, cyclist, and disc golfer, and I am a third degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do. I am excited to begin my student teaching Beattie and to work with studes!

### Thank you to Beattie!

I have enjoyed my years at Beattie so much! It is with mixed feelings that I retire and begin a new phase of my life. This is a very special group of parents, children and staff. As you prepare for another school year, I will be thinking of you and remembering my many happy years here. I am excited to begin my new adventures and I promise I will come and visit often!

Thank you, again, for many special memories and friendships!

Pat Fleming, Former Beattie Counselor



## PE and WELLNESS NEWS

### We are Strong, but Fragile. Be Safe. Be Kind.

Welcome back everyone!

I hope you are as excited and enthusiastic as I am to begin a new year of games, moving, playing, and skill building! Parents, you can be a huge help with all our activities this year and I am really looking forward to seeing all of you at our PE and wellness events.

**PE Shoes** are a necessary part of your child's wardrobe. Flip flops worn in the summer and boots in the winter can be dangerous when worn during gym time and may result in *avoidable* accidents. Please help to keep your child safe by sending them to school with PE shoes. **Thank you for your attention to this!**

At the end of last year the wellness team was able to give away two bicycles and one scooter to three lucky wellness activity participants. **Congratulations** to Julia Allen, Maddie Heald and Hibiki Irwin.

They join the prize winners from the previous year, Brooklyn Himmelberg and Damon Loughrey, in the lucky winner's circle. We will be giving away another two bikes this year. Every time your child participates in a wellness activity, their name will be added to a drawing for the bikes. The wellness committee will offer many, many wellness opportunities this school year such as: the Get-up-and-Go Club on Mondays after school; riding or walking to school on Wednesdays; lunch laps or games on Wednesdays at noon recess and participating in wellness activities during PE classes.

After school wellness activities like the Spring Family and Friends Frolic or Rollerland's roller skating parties also count. **Please encourage your children to participate!**

**Rollerland**-Parents and children had a ball at the three Rollerland skating parties that were held last year. This activity is a great fundraiser for PE and last year we were able to buy new equipment for field day and new hockey sticks with the money that we earned.

**The first roller skating party is Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.** The next day is a day off from school for your children, so I really hope you will consider coming to Rollerland for the fun. It is just \$4.50 to get in!

**The next two roller skating parties are: Tuesday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**Turkey Trot-November 8**—The Turkey Trot will take place at Beattie during PE time. This is a 1 mile loop around the school. Intermediate grades get to predict their

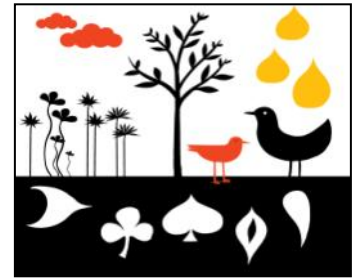
finish time and the winners are the people who run a time closest to their predicted time. The primary students will simply run for fun. Please come out to watch your child run and help me run a safe and fun event for everyone.

Contact me at [mmueller@psdschools.org](mailto:mmueller@psdschools.org) for your child's running time and/or if you can volunteer.

**Family and Friends Frolic-March 7<sup>th</sup>**—This is an after-school wellness activity, where parents and children can play together while learning interesting facts about each other's fitness. Last year we had a huge turn out and a good time was had by all.

**Track and Field** events and **Field Days** are activity filled events that will be held in April and May. Look for more information in the spring.

**Beattie Nature Center.** The Beattie wellness team has received a grant to improve the Beattie Nature center and plant several gardens. Each grade will do a project in our Nature Center that will involve some of the science and reading curriculum. If you have never noticed this area, we invite you to take a look. It is located at the end of the Nighthawk Street cul-de-sac. This area has not been cared for on a regular basis and we are looking forward to transforming this outdoor area with the help of our students. I will keep you up-dated on this new and exciting project.



**Remember, "It doesn't matter if you win or lose, as long as you have your PE shoes."**

*See you soon,  
Coach Mueller.*

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# Beattie Elementary School 2011-2012 Student Rights & Code of Conduct Certification

## (Electronic Booklet)



The 2011-2012 Poudre School District Student Rights & Code of Conduct booklet is available online at the District's website:

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

[https://eweb.psdschools.org/documentlibrary/downloads/School\\_Services/Student\\_Rights\\_and\\_Code\\_of\\_Conduct.pdf](https://eweb.psdschools.org/documentlibrary/downloads/School_Services/Student_Rights_and_Code_of_Conduct.pdf)

It is also available at the Beattie School website, under Information. Click on Code of Conduct.

The undersigned parent/guardian hereby certifies that he/she is able to access the Student Rights & Code of Conduct booklet online and that he/she has or will review it with his/her child. The undersigned parent/guardian understands that his/her child is responsible for compliance with the District policies and regulations in the booklet, and has informed his/her child of that responsibility.

The undersigned parent/guardian understands that copies of the Student Rights & Code of Conduct booklets are also available for review in the main office at Beattie School, and that if he/she has any questions regarding the booklet they should be addressed to the school principal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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## Student Rights and Code of Conduct

Starting with the 2010-11 school year, students and parents who have Internet capabilities will now access and view the *Student Rights & Code of Conduct* information electronically instead of receiving a paper booklet as done previously. **The English & Spanish 2010-11 Student Rights & Code of Conduct** are linked to our school's website. The electronic booklet will also be available on the PSD website.

Schools will still collect signatures from parents at the elementary level. The signature verifies they have Internet access and will review the *Student Rights & Code of Conduct* on the district and/or school website or that they will review the hard copy if they received a paper

booklet. Each copy of Beattie's August 25<sup>th</sup> newsletter will have a copy of the signature form for electronic viewing.

The district office and all school main offices will have a limited amount of English & Spanish paper booklets available for families who are not able to access the *Student Rights & Code of Conduct* electronically. If you need a hard copy, please fill in the form in this newsletter and return it school. Parents receiving a hard copy will be asked to sign when they receive the booklet from our office.

Poudre School District has implemented this change to save paper, printing costs, and staff time, while increasing accessibility and notification.



## Dr. Seuss Book Club

*...new Lunch Bunch program for preschoolers!  
All 4-5 year-olds are welcome, not just current Beattie families*

**What:** new literacy program to get kids excited about reading and writing, as well as to prepare kids for kindergarten. This "drop-off class" also helps kids become comfortable with the school building, and the routines that they will need to know for school, such as lining up, washing hands, etc.

**When:** Wednesdays, 12:00-1:30. Please pack a lunch and drink for your child. We will eat together and then do fun activities that relate to the monthly Book.

**Who:** Miss Joy, teacher and co-owner of **Play 2 Learn Tutoring, LLC**. She is a licensed Early Childhood educator, and has almost 20 years experience with preschool/kindergarten age children.

**Where:** Beattie Elementary, 3000 Meadowlark, Fort Collins.. We will meet in the art room.

**Cost:** \$35 per month, which includes a new hardcover Dr. Seuss book each month.

**How do I sign up?** Please go to our website at [www.play2learntutoring.com](http://www.play2learntutoring.com) and click the "CLASSES" page. It will direct you to our paypal site, where you can pay with a debit/credit card. You may also call us at 970-391-1534 if you have any questions!

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## Delivering and Picking Children Up From School

It is very important that children do not arrive at school prior to 8:15 a.m. unless they are in a supervised activity such as eating breakfast, which can begin at 8:00. Also, children need to leave school right after 3:08 p.m., again unless they have a supervised activity.

Parents are asked to pick up or drop off their child(ren) on Meadowlark in front of the school south of the crosswalk, or in the cul-de-sac north of Beattie on Nighthawk. We especially encourage parents of primary aged children to use the cul-de-sac and/or the church parking lot.

### Please remember:

We have a daycare van loading area on the east side of Meadowlark and it extends from the crosswalk to the parking lot entrance. **We request there be NO PARKING here during the day.**

Red areas will be no parking zones during the day. This is for student drop-off and pick-up only. This is also on the east side of Meadowlark, extending from the crosswalk to the bike rack.

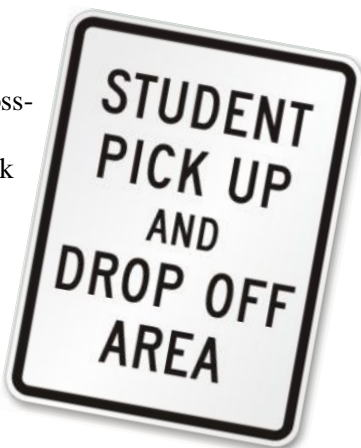
In order to keep children safely away from bus and auto traffic, we have designated the **parking lot for staff members only**. (Certainly parking will be allowed in these areas during the evening for programs, art shows, and other events.)

Parents using the church parking lot should meet their children and escort them to their car.

Staff members and buses will enter the parking lot only from Meadowlark and will exit only onto Nighthawk.

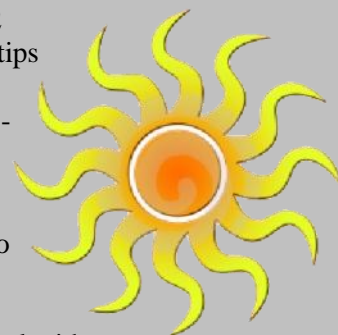
Please remember that we keep our students safe by: Not double parking on Meadowlark or Nighthawk, however briefly

- Not making U-turns
- Crossing only at the crosswalk on Meadowlark
- Walking on the sidewalk around the cul-de-sac, not crossing on Nighthawk and parking parallel to the curb around the cul-de-sac.



## “Beat the Heat”

As we begin the 2011-2012 school year, here are some tips to keep in mind for dealing with potentially warm classrooms during the first few weeks of school:



- Encourage students to wear lightweight clothing if possible
- Send students to school with water bottles (*your school should allow students access to water bottles, even if school policy typically does not allow water bottles in the classrooms.*)
- Make sure students remain well hydrated during the day

Facility Services has been preparing for the beginning of school by programming occupied and unoccupied schedules into the HVAC systems. Typically, these systems start one hour prior to the beginning of the school day and shut down at the end of the school day.

Additionally, PSD staff may take the following steps to help students remain cool in classrooms during the first few weeks of school:

- Allow students to sit on the floor where the air is cooler
- Provide water coolers on the playground
- Plan indoor activities as opposed to going outside for recess or PE
- Keep blinds down and closed during midday
- Open windows first-thing in the morning to let the cool morning air in
- Use a circulating or box fan to spread cool air

Please remember: warm weather conditions are typically temporary. As the days get shorter and night-time temperatures begin to cool down more quickly, daytime temperatures traditionally take longer to reach their highs. This helps reduce the heat load gained in the buildings during the day and should keep inside building temperatures at more comfortable levels.

Thank you for your cooperation as we work together to help create positive learning environments in every classroom during the short warm weather period we can experience in August.

Should you have any questions regarding how your school handles warm weather, please contact your school principal.

### E-mail Alert Sign-up



**Please register!**

In order to abide by the Districts' policy of "going green", we will be e-mailing all of our monthly newsletters to our families after this initial August 25th newsletter, unless you specify otherwise (see below).

In order to be placed on our Beattie parent email list, please go to the district's homepage at [www.psdschools.org](http://www.psdschools.org) and click on E-mail Alert Sign-up. This will bring you to a site that will allow you to register for news and information from any school in the district. Please add Beattie to your sign-up. Our newsletters will also be posted on the Beattie school website. We urge you to read these newsletters every month as they contain important dates, times and events pertaining to your child's education.

*Thank you!*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Request for Hard Copy of Newsletter and/or Parent Handbook and/or Code of Conduct**

Please send a **printed copy** of each newsletter with my child \_\_\_\_\_ who is in the \_\_\_\_\_ unit.

The Beattie Parent Handbook has been posted on Beattie's school website. If you would prefer a printed copy, please mark the box below and return the form.

- Please send a **printed copy** of the Beattie Parent Handbook with my child.
- Please send a **printed copy** of the Student Rights + Code of Conduct booklet

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Please cut this off and submit this form to your child's teacher or the office by **Friday, September 9** if you would like printed copies.

## Welcome to the Art Room, a Place Where Ideas Happen!



*“A discovery is said to be an accident, meeting a prepared mind.”  
Albert-Szent-Gyorgyi*

The beginning of the school year is so exciting! Meeting new students, reconnecting with returning students and their families is one of my favorite times. The art room is in full swing! Our first project celebrates ideas and how each individual artist communicates in his/her own way. It takes courage to make your own creative choices and to follow a unique idea. In the art room we honor being different. The students are beaming with excitement and new ideas for the coming year.

### September 21<sup>st</sup> is International Peace Day

At the beginning of each new school year I introduce a project that honors International Peace Day. For our first year we planted hundreds of peace pinwheels in the front of the school, the second year we draped peace pennants throughout the school, our third year we created individual peace projects, our fourth year we wrote poetry and created watercolor paintings, last year we decorated a hand shape to represent each of us and displayed them all together in one big peace sign. This year we will be creating an installation for the outside classroom and the future site of our school garden. The students will be exploring the many facets of peace through poetry, artwork and music to inspire their designs. Each student artist will offer his/her own unique perspective and commitment to honor peace. The Beattie community is invited to participate in the peace project by creating an artwork or by helping with the installation of the project.

### Evening for Art Events Mark your Calendars

We are entering our sixth year of Evening for Art Events. These evenings celebrate the creative work of our students. Students in 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be exhibiting work at this event. These events are made possible by the many volunteers who give their time and talents to create a festive art happening.

### Original Works Fundraiser

We introduced this program three years ago and have had great success. The Original Works program is a fundraiser that reproduces children's art work to create fun products to cherish as keepsakes or to give as gifts. All the profits raised by the OW program will be used to pay for the Evening for Art Events and a portion will be donated to an organization in honor of International Peace Day in our community. The Original Works fundraiser has many benefits; it celebrates children's art, helps build self-esteem, raises funds for our art shows and it empowers students to realize that they can make a positive impact in their school and community.



### Evening for Art Event Dates:

- Longs Peak Art Show January 26<sup>th</sup> 2012, 5:00- 6:30
- Silverton Art Show February 23<sup>th</sup> 2012, 5:00- 6:30
- Evergreen Art Show March 29<sup>th</sup> 2012, 5:00- 6:30

### Volunteer Opportunities Original Works Coordinator – Evening of Art

We are looking for a person to apprentice with the Original Works representative to organize and place the student orders. I take care of all the artwork with the kids and you will be working on gathering and placing the orders, and making sure all the orders get back to the families. This is the one volunteer job that has a financial perk. You will get free Original Works products designed by your child.

The Evenings of Art also require many volunteers to make the evening a success.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please contact me via email [knoel@psdschools.org](mailto:knoel@psdschools.org), or call me at school 488-4237, or drop by the art room.

*As always, thank you for the opportunity to teach your children!*

*Kimberly Noel*

### Parents! We Need You!

We are very excited to be revitalizing our enrichment program this year under a new name ... **ExCEL** (**Ex**plore **Chal**-lenge **E**xceed **L**imitations). We will be offering students a variety of subjects to choose from, and they will spend 4 one-hour sessions learning about them. The schedule for the Fall is 2-3 pm on the following Fridays: 9/23, 9/30, 10/7, 10/14. The schedule for the Spring is 2-3 pm on the following Wednesdays: 4/18, 4/25, 5/2, 5/9.

The subjects are standards-based and focus on a wide range of interesting topics from foreign language to wellness to technology and the arts. Each one will be facilitated by a Beattie staff member and a volunteer. One will be the lead person and the other will be the support person. If you are interested in supporting this effort and/or learning more about the specific subjects, please contact Anne-Marie Hasstedt ([hasstedt@aol.com](mailto:hasstedt@aol.com)). You can also drop off the form, below, at the office. We are really looking forward to this amazing opportunity for our students! Many thanks!

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### Volunteer Form for ExCEL Enrichment Program

Please complete and return to the office at Beattie. Thank you.

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER (HOME): \_\_\_\_\_ (CELL): \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT'S GRADE LEVEL(S): \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED SESSION: FALL \_\_\_\_\_ SPRING \_\_\_\_\_ BOTH \_\_\_\_\_



ARE YOU REGISTERED WITH PSD AS A VOLUNTEER?

If not, please go to <http://www.psdschools.org/partnerships> and register. Thanks!