

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT
2407 LaPorte Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80521

BLEVINS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
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Fort Collins, CO 80526
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www.psdschools.org/schools/blevins/

*“Celebrating 40 years serving
the Blevins Community”
1968-2008*

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ORGANIZATION**
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Fort Collins, CO

Spring 2009



Bear Tracks



Principal's Pen

March, 2009

As I prepare this letter, we are only five days away from Spring Break. Hard to believe! With the March winds come many school activities and planning for the 2009-2010 school year. Currently, we are registering upcoming 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, finalizing our plans for CSAP testing, practicing volleyball, putting the final touches on our spring music concerts, preparing for the state competition in Science Olympiad, making an academic push towards Spring Break, and planning for the 2009-2010 transition to middle school.

Since my last letter, Blevins hosted its fourth annual Community Fair, which was a great success. This year the event included a professional Jazz Band, hovercraft rides, many games and plenty of pizza for everybody. A big thank you goes out to the Blevins staff and students, Blevins PTO, the many community business partners and our Blevins' parents who gave up a Friday night to come over and participate in our awesome community event.

CSAP Testing always brings a significant amount of attention to teachers, administrators, parents and students in particular. The Blevins staff is committed to providing a testing assessment conducted with integrity and openness. It is important that all students are involved in taking the CSAP assessments and that every student completes all parts of each assessment. Student attendance each day helps us to ensure all students have an equal opportunity to demonstrate their academic ability, reduces the amount of time they would miss class for make-ups and reduces the time necessary for staff to administer make-ups. Complete evaluations will allow staff members to use student data to improve student performance in future instructional opportunities and assist schools in making curricular decisions related to class selection in high school and middle school. All students taking all of the tests helps Blevins reach the state and federal requirements for participation. Students who are not assessed count against our school progress and thus impact our school. **Each student not tested receives a zero score.** This in turn, reflects poorly on Blevins' State Accreditation Report, State Accountability Report, the Federal "No Child Left Behind" requirements and our ability to place your student appropriately and assess their academic performance. Please help us make certain that your student participates in this process with total effort and motivation to do the very best he/she can do. To assist in making this a positive experience, parents should ensure that their students have sufficient sleep and eat a good breakfast that morning. Most important is the sense of accomplishment students should get when completing a major assessment of their abilities that encourages them to look above present levels of performance and to seek continued improvement in their learning. Parents, your help, support and guidance will be most appreciated by the Blevins staff as we complete this critical assessment of our students.

The Blevins' staff is very excited about the upcoming 2009-2010 transition to "middle school." We look forward to the change and welcome 5th and 6th graders to the Blevins community and wish our 8th and 9th grade students success as they become members of high school. As a middle school, Blevins will have a focus on literacy, numeracy, student advocacy and teachers teaming/planning together. Our greatest hope is Blevins will transform itself into a school that is more developmentally appropriate and responsive to the social, emotional, and academic needs of a pre-adolescent student.

Reminders: Please support Blevins in keeping our campus safe by **not** using the front bus cul-de-sac for pick-up and drop-off from 7:15-8:00 am and 2:15-3:00 pm. For student and bus safety, PSD does not mix buses and students. Also, remember that there are no U-Turns allowed on or anywhere near the Blevins campus.

Have a great spring!

Respectfully,

David W. Linehan

PSD Information

Be Informed, Visit the PSD and Blevins Web Sites Often!

Visit www.psdschools.org and www.psdschools.org/schools/blevins/ to learn about what is going on in PSD and Blevins including special events, updates, school closure and delayed start information, and the many events going on at Blevins. The "News and Events" section of the Blevins website is of special value in keeping up with all of our activities. The information changes frequently, so visit often!

PSD Summer School Dates

Secondary Summer School offers secondary students a chance to take 1st semester, 2nd semester and year-long courses (including PE). Also, Independent Study and Virtual High School are available with counselor approval.

Secondary Summer School will be held from June 8 through July 2 at Fossil Ridge High School and Poudre Transition Center (Independent Study and Virtual High School only). Year-long classes will be from 8:00 am-3:50 pm; 1st semester classes from 8:00 am-11:40 am; 2nd semester classes from 12:10 pm-3:50 pm. Registration begins on March 23.

First Walking and Wheeling Wednesday is April 1st

Warmer weather means walking and biking! As spring approaches, the Safe Routes to School program is gearing up for an exciting spring. The first "Walking and Wheeling Wednesday" of the year will be held on April 1, 2009 (no joke!). These weekly walking and bicycling events are a great chance for children and parents to meet friends and neighbors and have a great time getting to and from school. Interested in volunteering with Safe Routes to School at your school? Contact Matt Wempe, the Ft. Collins Safe Routes to School coordinator at 970-416-2040, or email mwempe@fcgov.com.

Community Character Day

Character Ft. Collins invites you to our monthly Community Character Day on Thursday, March 19th, 2009! Join us for either Breakfast or Lunch and participate in an advanced discussion of our monthly character focus for the next month - "Sincerity: Eagerness to do what is right with transparent motives." We invite you to come and learn about our community's character initiative and the benefits of active participation for families, schools, and workplaces. Appropriate for ages 12+. **Free continental breakfast** - 6:45 to 8:00 am, Moot House Restaurant 2626 S. College Ave. **Free lunch** - 11:30-1:00, Cache Bank and Trust, 100 S. College Ave. For reservations or information, contact Character Ft. Collins at 970-266-2671. Mark your calendars - Character Day is held on the 3rd Thursday of every month in 2009! Visit our website at www.characterfortcollins.org

PSD Implements 6th Grade Athletics Plan for 2009-10

When the grade reconfiguration was approved, PSD indicated all district schools would offer intramural opportunities for 6th grade students. The objective of this 6th grade athletics plan is to provide a parallel experience for 6th graders that is a stepping stone to 7th grade athletics. Historically, PSD has provided 6th graders at elementary school with the opportunity to participate in the district elementary track meet. Additional 6th grade athletic opportunities have been offered through the City of Ft. Collins Recreation Department and PSD.

PSD and the City Recreation Department are finalizing a collaborative partnership agreement that will minimize costs and maximize the use of public facilities for the ultimate benefit of the community. Benefits include:

- The cost to participate in most City programs will be less than the current PSD 7th and 8th grade programs.
- Scholarship opportunities will be available to students based on financial need.
- The City will plan and organize programs, and provide program information to the schools prior to the registration periods. Schools will distribute program information to students and families.
- All City sports programs will be more aligned with school identity (i.e., school names and colors).

The additions and enhancements the PSD/City partnership will make possible are as follows:

- **Football** - The City will consider ways to enhance the 6th grade football program.
- **Softball** - The City will add a 6th grade girls' fall league.
- **Boys and Girls Basketball** - The City will offer its existing programs.
- **Girls Volleyball** - The City will offer its existing programs.
- **Wrestling** - The City will add a program to include 4th through 6th grades during the 7th and 8th grade season (October-December).
- **Track** - PSD is exploring opportunities to provide a track meet activity similar to the district elementary track meet.



As in the past, tennis and golf will continue to be offered to 7th and 8th grade students as a club sport through PSD middle schools.

Discussions concerning cross country are currently underway between the City of Ft. Collins Cross Country Club and the City of Ft. Collins Rec Department.

Middle schools will also offer a variety of co-curricular non-athletic opportunities for 6th-8th grade students. These programs vary by school. Parents will be encouraged to contact their child's school for additional information.

For more information, contact Sandi Martin, PSD athletic coordinator, at 490-3106 or email sandim@psdschools.org

March 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 PTO Mtg. 6:30 pm 9th gr. Lincoln Center Field Trip 10:00 am	4 SIT Mtg. 3 pm	5	6	7
8	9 8th grade Science CSAP testing	10 Choir/Orchestra Concert 7 pm	11 Symph. Orch. to RMHS 2:00 pm	12 Band Concert 7 pm 7 Vball @ Wellington 8 Vball @ Blevins	13 Last day of 3rd qtr.	14
15	16 	17	18	19	20 	21
SPRING BREAK—NO SCHOOL!						
22	23	24 7 Vball @ Blevins 8 Vball @ Webber	25	26 7 Vball @ Boltz 8 Vball @ Blevins	27	28
CSAP Testing						
29	30	31 All School Assembly Vball BYE				

Schedule of Events

- **Mar 3** - 9th grade Lincoln Center Field Trip
- **Mar 10** - Choir/Orchestra Concert 7 pm
- **Mar 9** - 8th gr. CSAP Science testing
- **Mar 12** - Band Concert 7 pm
- **Mar 16-20** - Spring Break NO SCHOOL
- **Mar 24-April 2** - CSAP Testing

April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 CSAP Testing SIT Mtg. 3 pm	2 7 Vball @ Blevins 8 Vball @ Lincoln	3 7 Vball @ Blevins 8 Vball @ Kinard	4
5	6 Track begins	7 PTO Mtg. 6:30 pm Talent Show auditions 3:30 pm 7 Vball @ Preston 8 Vball @ Blevins	8	9 7 Vball @ Blevins 8 Vball @ CLP	10 School Dance 7-9 pm	11 Vball Tourn. @FCHS
12	13 EVEN DAY Musical Rehearsal 4-10 pm	14 Musical Rehearsal 4-10 pm	15 Pirates of Penzance Performance 7 pm	16 Pirates of Penzance Performance 7 pm	17 NO SCHOOL Teacher Work Day	18
Poetry Cafe						
19	20 NO SCHOOL Collaboration Day	21	22 Talent Show Dress Rehearsal 5-8 pm	23 Talent Show Performance 7 pm Track @ PHS	24 Melanoma Run/Walk 3-9 pm	25
26	27 Biology Zoo Trip	28	29	30 Track @ PHS		


Schedule of Events

- **April 6** - Track begins
- **April 7** - Talent Show Auditions 3:30-6:00 pm
- **April 10** - School Dance 7-9 pm
- **April 15-16** - School Musical Performances 7 pm
- **April 17, 20** - NO SCHOOL
- **April 23** - Talent Show Performance 7 pm

May 2009

Schedule of Events

- **May 8** - 9th Grade Celebration
- **May 12** - 9th Grade Awards Night 6:30
- **May 15** - NO SCHOOL
- **May 18** - 8th Grade Celebration
- **May 19** - Band Awards Concert 7 pm
- **May 21** - Choir/Orchestra Awards Concert 7 pm
- **May 25** - NO SCHOOL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK	5 PTO Mtg. 6:30 pm	6 SIT Mtg. 3 pm	7 Track @ PHS	8 9th Grade Celebration	9
10	11 EVEN DAY	12 9th Grade Awards Night 6:30 pm	13	14 Track @ FRHS	15 NO SCHOOL Teacher Work Day	16
17	18 8th Grade Celebration/Awards Barbeque 3:00 pm Textbook Verification	19 Band Awards Concert 7pm	20 District Track Meet @ French Field	21 Choir/Orchestra Awards Concert 7 pm	22	23
24	25 NO SCHOOL Memorial Day 	26	27 Locker Clean-out	28 Yearbooks issued 7 am	29 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL! 1/2 Day	30
31						

From the Counselors:

Encourage your child to grow into a person of good character

Your child may have been born with certain personality traits, but think of his character as a work in progress. In other words, the kind of person he'll eventually become is still being shaped.

To help your child grow into a person of good character:

- **Be a strong role model.** Make sure your behavior demonstrates the values you're promoting.
- **Offer gentle reminders.** Give your child low-key prompts when he slips up. "I won't worry about reminding you to finish your homework. I know you're responsible enough to do it on your own."
- **Demand honesty.** If your child

breaks a rule and lies about it, add an extra consequence - one for the broken rule and one for the lie.

- **Notice positive behavior.** If you see your child demonstrating good character, praise him!
- **Find ways for him to give back.** Sign your child up to serve at a soup kitchen or animal shelter. Enroll him in a volunteer group. While you're at it, sign yourself up, too. Afterward, talk with him about the experience.

Source: Rita Sommers-Flanagan, Ph.D. and John Sommers-Flanagan, Ph.D., "Building Your Child's Character: Challenges and Solutions," American School Counselor Association, www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?contentid=482

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IMPORTANT GRADE DATES:

March 13 - Pass out 4th quarter schedules to 7th grade students during Advisor/3rd quarter ends.

March 23 - 4th quarter begins.

March 27 - Report cards passed out during Advisor.

April 24 - Mid-quarter grades passed out during Advisor.

April 24 - 5th grade visitation (9:30-10:45)

May 1 - 6th grade visitation (9:30-10:45 am)

May 8 - "D" and "F" Grade alerts mailed to parents.

May 29 - Last day of school (1/2 day)

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS!

SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to 8th grader Lake Reed. Lake won the Blevins Spelling Bee. He then went on to place in the top 4 at the PSD Spelling Bee, making him eligible for the State Competition on March 14th. Good luck, Lake!

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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BEE

Congratulations to Nathan Brinks for winning the National Geographic Bee for the second year in a row. He has taken a written test to qualify for the State Bee. Good luck, Nate!

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Good luck to our Blevins teams at Science Olympiad Regionals on March 7th! Check the Blevins website for results.

Success at the Wasson Inventor's Fair



Blevins students presented their inventions at the Wasson Inventors Fair and had a fabulous showing! All Blevins students who participated received a \$100 prize along with recognition of their achievement.

Blevins students who participated are: Kelli Lynch, Maddi Lynch, Trevor Skaar, Erik Evans, Sean Wright, Michelle Dworkin, Joy Robinson, Jana Macbeth, Ann Pusheck, Emma Riffle, and Raychl Reger. Several students received special recognition for their inventions. Fifth place went to Maddi Lynch for her expandable table. A third place tie went to Joy Robinson for her "Fat Cat Feeder" and Trevor Skaar for his "Sick Stopper" dog feeder. Second place went to Sean Wright for his cast aluminum helmet holders and first place went to Kelli Lynch for her ultraviolet water purifier.

Mr. Viney and Mrs. Duran are very proud of all our students who competed in the fair! Congratulations to all!

◀ IMPORTANT CSAP INFORMATION ▶

CSAP Testing Schedule:

Wednesday, March 9 - 8th Grade Students Science
Tuesday-Thursday, March 24-26 - All Students Reading and Writing
Wednesday-Thursday, April 1-2 - All Students Math

Ways Parents Can Help:

- **Ensure your child gets a good rest the night before each testing day.**
- **Provide your student a nourishing breakfast each morning.**
- **Plan ahead to ensure that your child is present and on time for the test.**
- **Schedule appointments or vacations on non-test days.**
- **Have your child dress in layers - kids do better on tests if they don't have to think about how hot or cold they are.**
- **Don't be too anxious. Say, "This test is important. I know you will try hard and do your best." Your confidence will be contagious.**
- **On the day of the test, give your child these tips:**
 - ***Skip a question and move on if you don't know the answer. You can always come back later. Maybe you will be ready to answer that question then.**
 - ***Check your answers carefully. Make sure the numbers of your answers correspond to the numbers of the questions on the test.**

8TH GRADE CELEBRATION & BARBEQUE

Please mark your calendars for Blevins 8th grade Celebration and Barbeque on May 18th after school. It will include food and beverages, games and other activities. After the festivities, **parents will be invited** to participate in an awards ceremony for outstanding 8th graders.

Parent volunteers are needed! The first parent-planning meeting will be held Tuesday, March 31 at 4:00 pm in room 238. If you would like to help plan this celebration, please email Susan Life at slifeost@psdschools.org.

We are looking forward to a fun celebration!

ATTENTION PARENTS

For students entering 6th/7th/10th/11th/12th grade in the fall 2009-2010 school year:

A Tdap booster is required for all 6th/7th/10th/11th/12th graders.

- This is different than the DTaP vaccinations they received as infants and pre-kindergarten
- The "p" (pertussis) has been added to the standard Td booster in order to protect teens against whooping cough.
- Your student will be considered "in Process" if they have received a Td booster in the past 2 years. When the 2 years has passed, the requirement will be enforced.

Prior to the first day of school, a copy of the immunization record from the doctor's office must be provided to the school.

- If they have already received the booster, you may give this record to their current school before school is out.

*State law in Colorado does allow parents to sign the back of an immunization card if they choose to take a personal or religious exemption for not receiving the booster. This must be on file as well.

*Medical Exemptions must have a physician signature on the back of the immunization record and be on file at school.

SPECIAL INVITATION TO 9TH GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS

Please mark your calendars for Blevins annual 9th grade Awards Ceremony. It will be on **May 12th** at 6:30 pm. We want to recognize our wonderful 9th graders who have made a difference while at Blevins by participating in activities, serving on groups, academic achievement, and by strength of character. The jazz band and choir will be performing and various displays of 9th grade work will be set up. Please join us for this special occasion.

Thank-you!

**If your 9th grader has received special awards or recognition in a major activity outside of Blevins (Figure skating, competitive softball team, theater...) please let us know of their accomplishments ASAP. Please email Beccie Duke at rduke@psdschools.org with your responses.

SPORTS INFORMATION

Blevins Junior High School Youth Football Camp

Bruin Pride!



Who: Any 4th-6th Grade Student

When: May 20-22 2009, from 4:00pm-6:00pm

Where: Blevins Junior High School Football Field

Cost: \$20—Includes a T-Shirt and Refreshments
(Checks Payable to: Blevins Junior High School)

What: A football camp instructed by the Blevins Bruins football coaching staff and players, emphasizing football fundamentals and skills.

Sign up: Pick up a registration packet in the front office after March 30th 2009, or download the registration form and turn it in.

www.psdschools.org/schools/blevins

Questions?: Contact Coach Schachet at 488-4031 or Coach Holbert at 488-4040

CHAMP AWARDS

The CHAMP (Character in Athletics - Make it a Priority) Awards celebration was held on Feb. 12th, and once again Blevins was well-represented.

Of the 5 PSD teams honored as CHAMP Elite teams, 3 were from Blevins! We are so proud of our student-athletes and coaches.
Keep up the good work!

Girls Volleyball season has begun!

Schedule:

March 10 - 7th @ Lesh, 8th @ home
March 12 - 7th @ Wellington, 8th @ home
March 24 - 7th @ home, 8th @ Webber
March 26 - 7th @ Boltz, 8th @ home
March 31 - BYE
April 2 - 7th @ home, 8th @ Lincoln
April 3 - 7th @ home, 8th @ Kinard
April 7 - 7th @ Preston, 8th @ home
April 9 - 7th @ home, 8th @ CLP



Golf has begun!

Matches: April 7th (City Park), April 9th (City Park), April 15th (Collindale), April 21st (City Park), April 27th (Southridge), May 1st (City Park), May 8th (City Park), May 20th - Districts all day

Blevins Track Season begins with the first day of practice on April 6th. Please have physicals on file in the office before the first practice.

Thursday, April 23

Blevins/Lesh/Welington @ PHS

Thursday, April 30

Blevins/Lincoln/Webber @ PHS

Thursday, May 7

Blevins/Boltz/CLP @ PHS

Thursday, May 14

Blevins/Kinard/Preston @ FRHS

Districts - Wednesday, May 20 @ RMHS

Meets begin at 3:30 pm, with the exception of Districts.



"ART"icles

(News from the Art Department)

*Congratulations to the following students whose art work was selected to be displayed at the Lincoln Center for Youth Art Month or YAM. Their art work will be on display from February 27th to March 26th. Make sure you take a moment out of your busy schedules to stop by the Lincoln Center and admire the amazing talents that are developing in Poudre School District.

The following students will have displays:

Jordan Hildebrand	Metal Bracelet
Evan Larson	Glass Necklace
Halie York	Creative Word Necklace
Jana Macbeth	Initial Design Necklace
Kelli Lynch	Initial Design Necklace
Trevor Skaar	Photo
Lauren DeQuasie	Photo
Kaley Smilie	Photo
Ben Adelman	Photo

Great job, students!

*Cara Cromwell won a Gold Key Honor in this year's Scholastics Art Competition. Her bracelet will go on to the National Competition in New York City. Check out more winning entries on Scholastics.com. Congratulations Cara! We are proud of you!

*The Art Club is busy with another community project. We are making and painting kites that we will construct into a flying archway for the Second Annual Kites In The Park Festival. The skies of Ft. Collins will come alive with kites of all shapes, sizes, and colors. Families will discover how being green and utilizing natural resources can be a fun, creative, and fulfilling experience. What better way to celebrate wind power, the outdoors, and spending time with the family than by coloring the sky together with beautiful kites at this free community event? We are excited about this event and hope you and your family will join us on April 25th at Spring Canyon Park from 10 am to 4 pm. Bring your kites and join in the fun!

PSD Junior High Honor Band

Congratulations to the following students who were selected for the PSD Junior High Honor Band:

- Mando Ramirez - clarinet
- Kelli Lynch - clarinet
- Meleena O'Neill - clarinet
- Nathan Brinks - alto saxophone
- Holly Kessler - selected as 1st chair trumpet!
- Jazzy Schmich Kinney - French horn
- Lucas Harrison - trombone
- Tim O'Grady - baritone horn

These students performed an amazing concert on Feb. 24th after 9 hours of rehearsal over 3 days. Congratulations to these students for being among the best of the best 8th and 9th grade musicians in PSD!



More Band Dates of Interest

- April 24 Greeley Jazz Festival
- May 2 Solo and Ensemble @ Preston

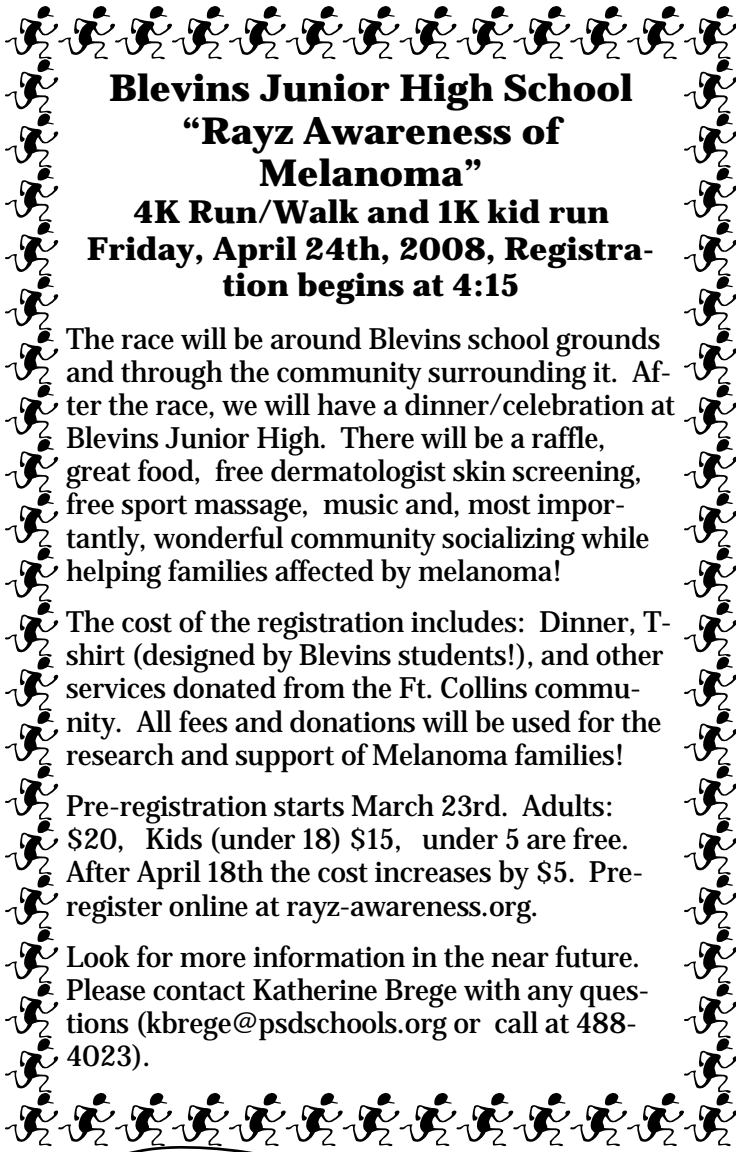


Poetry Cafe



The Blevins English Department is excited to announce the 5th annual Poetry Café! It was a huge success last year, and we are looking forward to it on April 15th - 16th this year. Students will have the opportunity to share poetry with each other in the library. Hot cocoa and snacks will be served as well.

Parent volunteers are greatly appreciated. Please contact Meriam Valley at 488-4014 if you can help.



**Blevins Junior High School
"Rayz Awareness of
Melanoma"**

**4K Run/Walk and 1K kid run
Friday, April 24th, 2008, Registra-
tion begins at 4:15**

The race will be around Blevins school grounds and through the community surrounding it. After the race, we will have a dinner/celebration at Blevins Junior High. There will be a raffle, great food, free dermatologist skin screening, free sport massage, music and, most importantly, wonderful community socializing while helping families affected by melanoma!

The cost of the registration includes: Dinner, T-shirt (designed by Blevins students!), and other services donated from the Ft. Collins community. All fees and donations will be used for the research and support of Melanoma families!

Pre-registration starts March 23rd. Adults: \$20, Kids (under 18) \$15, under 5 are free. After April 18th the cost increases by \$5. Pre-register online at rayz-awareness.org.

Look for more information in the near future. Please contact Katherine Brege with any questions (kbreg@psdschools.org or call at 488-4023).

The Blevins Science Department is in need of a good, used refrigerator. The one they had has died. Please contact Mr. Viney at 488-4057 if you can help.

Congratulations to the following students for being recognized as Blevins Student of the Month!		
7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade
January:		
Tia Clark	Josh Rogers	Dani Crosson
February:		
Anika Pounds	Hannah Klemperer	Callie Morgan

**When to Keep Your Child
Home From School**

Poudre School District recommends that parents keep children home if they have:

- **A temperature over 100 degrees**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Vomiting**
- **Ear pain**
- **Eye drainage, redness, or itching**
- **Sore throat**
- **Swollen glands**
- **A significant cough**



Remember we do not have a full time nurse on site every day. Please do not send your child to school to be "diagnosed". Thanks for your consideration.

Longs Peak Science and Engineering Fair

Good luck to the 55 Blevins students who will be representing Blevins at the Longs Peak Science and Engineering Fair at the University of Northern Colorado on March 5th. We are proud of you! The 9th grade students are: Christina Bartlett, Rylee Johnston, Ellery Goelzenleuchter, Tim O'Grady, Brynna Hasvold, Josh Hattis, Ben Knees, Kelli Lynch, Abby Ney, Mando Ramirez, Trevor Skaar, Lydia Swartz, Andrew Thomas, Rennie Winkelmann, Kyle Wray, Sarah Duke, Erik Evans, Lucas Harrison, Lindsey Haskett, Greg Luft, Callie Morgan, Makenna Mulcahy, Cassa Niedringhaus, Richard Pixley, Ann Pusheck, Doug Watterson, Sean Wright, and Emily Zachman. The 7th and 8th grade students are: Nathan Brinks, Daniele Croteau, Michelle Dworkin, Luc Freiburg, Raven Dixon, Andi Heath, Kaia Heer, Hannah Klemperer, Raychl Reger, Avery Riffle, Emma Riffle, Karlie Svoboda, Cory Vernon, Breann Watterson, Gena Archuleta, Jasyn Bruemmer, Mitch Cooper, Isaac Effner, Kathryn Flynn, Sarah Goodwin, Tanner Hall, Holly Kessler, Clayton Lyell, Joy Robinson, Laura Pintauro, Hannah Powers, and Rylee Thomas.

GOOD LUCK!



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

January 28, 2009

Dear Parents,

Every few years we survey students in PSD about issues related to school culture, tobacco, alcohol and other drug use. Just as it is critical to assess our students' academic performance, so is it necessary for us to find out if the use of illegal and dangerous substances is affecting their academic, social or emotional growth. We know that safe and drug free environments are crucial to student achievement.

This year we will be surveying 5th, 6th and 7th graders at selected schools. Working with the Research and Development Center at Colorado State University, we have developed an on-line survey that is completely anonymous and should take students approximately thirty minutes to complete. The survey is completely voluntary and you have the opportunity to excuse your son or daughter for participating if you so choose. We encourage all students to participate, as the results will assist us in our continued efforts to maintain healthy students and safe schools. This year your child's class will be scheduled to participate in the survey between March 30th and April 10th. Your principal and the office of Student Assistance will coordinate the surveying. Please contact Melanie Voegeli-Morris at 490-3238 or mvoegeli@psdschools.org if you have questions or need additional information.

Thank you for being a partner with us to keep our children and schools healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Melanie Voegeli-Morris
Student Assistance Services Coordinator

Please excuse my student _____ from participating in the survey.

parent/guardian signature

date

If you choose to opt out of the survey, please return this form by March 23, 2009.

Pirates of Penzance

Wacky, irreverent and as entertaining today as it was when it first opened in 1879, The Pirates Of Penzance spins an hilarious farce of sentimental pirates, bumbling policemen, dim-witted young lovers, dewy-eyed daughters and an eccentric Major-General, all morally bound to the often-ridiculous dictates of honor and duty.

Dates: April 15 and 16; 7:00 PM; Blevins Auditoria

Costs: \$5.00 for adults; \$3.00 for PSD students and children 3 and over; no charge for children under 3 years. Due to production costs, no PSD badges can be accepted.

“Brain Days”

On April 8-9, the 9th grade Biology classes will experience “Brain Days” -a special presentation on brains by the CSU Neurobiology Department.



Old Soles for New Hope

Donate to the Holocaust Shoe Project in remembrance of victims of genocide. Drop off your gently worn pairs of shoes at Blevins through April 20th. The shoes will be given to families in need across Colorado. The following is the link to the main website for the Shoe Project:

<http://www.holocaustshoeproject.org>

Don't forget to sign up for the Blevins email list. This is a great communication tool!
Go to the PSD Website and follow the instructions under “Email Alert Sign-up” - make sure to click on the box by Blevins.