



The Voyager

3rd Quarter

April 2008

Lesher Jr. High School
Principal: Tom Dodd
Asst. Principal: Mike Grigg
Counselors: Wylie Cate &
Helen Kaplan

From the Principal's Desk

I am so fortunate to be the principal of such a great school!! As you will read inside this issue of The Voyager, Lesher Vikings have been succeeding at academics and extra-curricular activities of many kinds. We are proud of the efforts of the Lesher students and staff in so many worthwhile endeavors!

CSAP testing has come to an end and I want to thank students and staff for their hard work, and also our parents for their support during this time. While the CSAP test scores certainly are not the sole indicator of a good school, we appreciate everyone's efforts to be sure that Lesher has the highest scores reasonably possible.

Now we are into the 4th quarter, which always goes so quickly. 9th graders are getting ready and anxious to move on to high school; many of our current 8th graders will be leaving Lesher for the IB program at Poudre High School; and currently 227 6th graders are pre-registered to start at Lesher in the fall of 2008. Change is exciting and challenging and we strive to support all our students for success during these middle school years.

There will continue to be many special events and activities scheduled in these last few weeks of the school year. I want to encourage everyone to stay focused and to continue giving their best efforts as we close out another successful year.

Go Vikings!
Tom Dodd, Principal

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Special points of interest:

- * Odyssey of the Mind Team will compete at World OM Tournament in Washington DC in May
- * Science Olympiad Teams going to State Competition
- * "Little Shop of Horrors" performances April 24-25-26. Get your tickets NOW!
- * 7th Grade Girls Volleyball team has best season ever!!
- * Come to the Talent Show on May 1st. Sign up for auditions no later than April 17th.

LESHER STAFF HONORED

Lisa Crossland (Outstanding Teacher) and **Wylie Cate** (Promising Educator) were recently honored as nominees at the annual Poudre School District Foundation Excellence in Education Banquet.

Kim Holtz, Lesher Office Manager has been selected as a Classified Employee of the Year for Poudre School District, and will be honored at a banquet on April 23rd.

IMPORTANT IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION



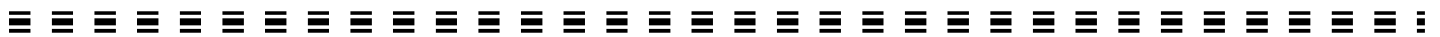
For students entering 6th / 7th / 10th / 11th grade in the fall 2008-09 school year:

A one time Tdap booster is required for all 6th / 10th graders

- The student would risk exclusion in 7th/11th grade if they did not receive the scheduled booster in 6th/10th grade
- 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 at the school.
- Medical Exemptions must have a physician signature on the back of the immunization record and be on file at the school as well.



Información para los estudiantes que entran a los grados 6^o, 7^o, 10^o y 11^o en el otoño del año académico 2008-2009

Se requiere un refuerzo único de la vacuna *Tdap* para todos los estudiantes de 6^o y 10^o grado

- El estudiante se puede exponer a que se le excluya en los grados 7o y 11o si no recibió el refuerzo programado en 6o y 10o grado.
- Esta vacuna es diferente a las vacunas de DTaP (difteria, tétanos y pertusis o tos ferina) que los niños recibieron cuando eran bebés y niños pequeños.
- La “p” (pertusis o tos ferina) se ha agregado al refuerzo estándar Td (tétanos y difteria) para proteger a los jóvenes contra la pertusis (tos ferina).
- Su estudiante se considerará “en proceso” si ha recibido un refuerzo de Td en los últimos 2 años. Cuando hayan pasado los 2 años, el requisito se pondrá en efecto.

Antes del primer día de clases, se debe mandar a la escuela una copia del registro de vacunas de la oficina del doctor.

- Si el estudiante ya ha recibido el refuerzo, ustedes pueden enviar, antes de que finalice el año educativo, el registro de la vacuna a la escuela donde su niño asiste en la actualidad.
- Si los padres de familia eligen tomar una exención personal o religiosa para no recibir el refuerzo, la ley del estado de Colorado permite que ellos los firmen la parte de atrás de una tarjeta de vacunación. Esto se debe guardar en los archivos de la escuela.
- Las Exenciones Médicas deben tener la firma del médico en la parte de atrás del registro de vacunas, y también estar en los archivos de la escuela.



Children’s Immunization Clinics ~ available every week at

Larimer County Health Department ~ 1525 Blue Spruce Drive ~ 498-6700

Monday/Lunes 9:00 AM—12 Noon and 1:00 PM—3:30 PM

Tuesday/Martes: 3:00 PM—6:00 PM

Friday/Viernes: 9:00 AM—12 Noon

Cost is \$14.50 per injection but **no one is refused for inability to pay.**

Counselor's Corner

LESHER DRESS CODE

As we move into Spring and warmer temperatures (we hope!) it is a good time to review our Dress Code. According to the Code of Conduct, rules concerning student dress are established to ensure cleanliness, healthfulness, safety, and preservation of a positive learning environment.



Not all current fashion trends can be worn to school. If you are in doubt as to whether clothing will be acceptable for school attire, please check these lists:

Yes

- Clothing that is clean and neat in appearance. Torn clothing is discouraged.
- Clothing that promotes a positive, safe, and productive learning environment.
- Clothing that covers the shoulders and torso (shoulders to waist)
- Tops that fall comfortably to the belt line or buckle of the pants.
- Clothes that allow students to move comfortably and stretch in all directions without exposing undergarments or skin.
- Clothes that allow students to focus on learning and promote a positive self image.

No

- Short shorts or skirts
- Halter tops, bare midriffs, shoulder straps less than 2 inches, see-through shirts, mesh shirts, tube tops, or any top without a back
- Clothing with obscene language and/or pictures.
- Clothing which advertises or advocates the use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco or makes reference to gangs, including bandannas and tattoos.
- Hats and/or coats. These are to be placed in student lockers during the school day.
- Sagging pants (pants must be worn at the hips or waist)
- Tank tops unless a t-shirt is underneath.
- Dog chain necklaces, wallet chains.
- Costumes, pajamas, slippers, or bedroom attire.
- Hanging belts
- Clothing that shows underwear, the midriff, chest, or buttocks.

BULLYING

Recent exposure of teenage girls beating another girl on MySpace has caused great concern. Rachel Simmons, author of *Odd Girl Out*, says that even though girls are skilled at being subtle with their aggression, there are ways for you to talk to your daughter about what's really going on at school.

Ask trigger questions in the third person. For example:

- *How do girls treat each other at school?*
- *Can girls at school be mean without saying a word?*
- *How do you feel when you're at school?*

The most important action you can take is to listen to and hold your child.

If your child admits to being bullied:

- *Never tell them it's a "normal phase"*
- *Avoid minimizing the problem*
- *Never tell them they are being oversensitive*
- *Never tell them that they are doing something to cause the bullying*
- *Never tell them that they must be joking*
- *Never tell them to ignore it*

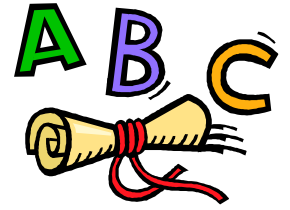
Again, the most important action you can take is to listen to and hold your child.

WELCOME NEW VIKINGS!

Current 6th graders who will be attending Lesher Junior High next year will be coming to visit the school on Friday morning, April 25th, from 9:15-10:45 AM. During this time an assembly will be held with orientation information, students will get to tour the building, meet some teachers and get acquainted with their new classmates. Counselors will be on hand to answer any questions about course selection and schedules. We're looking forward to meeting all of you!

Counselor's Corner

HONOR ROLL—3rd Quarter



Congratulations to these Lesher students for their hard work during the 3rd Quarter of this year! Keep it up!



GOLD ~ 4.0

9th Grade

- Morgan Beltz
- Whitney Foster
- Yoon Kim
- Jerae Martinez
- Sarah McLaughlin
- Tessa Melli
- Aileen Mendoza
- Allison Perry
- Claire Seitzinger
- Abigail Smith
- Lucas Suazo
- Nikolas Szejna
- Nicole Trent
- Marci Witczak
- Frances Wright

8th Grade

- Emma Bridges
- Ashley Brooks
- Lisa Buccafusca
- Eleanore Campbell
- Julia Cooper
- Kyra Daniels
- Sofia Drummond-Moore
- Kala Early
- Kevin Emory
- Elisabeth Fahrenbruch
- Jordan Gless
- Jonah Greene
- Laurel Kassenbrock

- Shagun Kaul
- Wahida Khan
- Kadie Kobielusz
- Olga Larrea Rodriguez
- Ryan Lembitz
- Mary Lopez
- Alba Mariner
- Nicole McAuliffe
- Jared Miller
- Socorro Ontiveros
- Reid Palmquist
- Eric Parsonnet
- Griffin Paul
- Jason Pelkey
- Diana Pham
- Juliana Pham
- Diana Potterveld
- Spencer Price
- Andrea Raab
- Carolina Restrepo
- Heidi Roche
- Logan Rogers
- Brook Santangelo
- Hannah Simpson
- Susannah Spurlock
- Heather Sepp
- Emily Swartz
- Cody Taulman
- Keith Tuttle
- Marie Van Dyne
- Edward Zhu
- Olivia Zoch

7th Grade

- Straten Ahlbrandt
- Meghan Barker
- Marissa Beccard
- Harrison Bishop
- Kyle Bortner
- Colter Broadwell
- Katherine Brokish
- Miranda Brugman
- Jack Carroll
- Kathleen Craig
- Julia Cross
- Katrina Damschroder
- Jonas David
- Ryan Davis
- Brandi Demmer
- Lee Elder
- Andrew Epstein
- Grace Farley
- Isabelle Febvre
- Nicole Finnman
- Grant Fischer
- Rebecca Halter
- Elise Hayashi
- Ayla Hendrickson
- Latham Hendrickson
- Rachel Herndon
- MacKenzie Hewitt
- Ryan Johnson
- Sierra Jubin
- Digby Kalert
- Brielle Kelley

- Noah Larsen
- Andre Lesartre
- Christopher Leydens
- Samuel Loftis
- Sarah Loftis
- Daniel Mallal
- Pratheeksha Mallikarjun
- Rosendo Marquez-Vazquez
- Urangua Mijiddorj
- Sierra Pandey
- Christopher Panella
- Russell Pavsek
- Lauren Petersen
- Lea Ramer
- Zoe Roth
- Manny Sasick
- Kate Schirmer
- Kaeli Schmidt
- Mary Schooler
- Teagan Sebba
- Luke Siddens
- Charlie Theobald
- Adeline Thompson
- Nicola van den Heever
- Karla Venzor
- Evelyn Von Nieda
- Erin Walters
- Menglan Wang
- Sienna Wdowik
- Amy Weintraub
- Larissa Willkomm
- Kaylee Zimlich



SILVER ~ 3.75 - 3.999

9th Grade

- Stevie Becker
- Samantha Boyce
- Susan Downing
- Hayden Etter
- Evon Harmon
- Allison Hatch
- Courtney Hawker
- Laura Johnson

8th Grade

- John Schenderlein
- Katie Wetzel
- Andrea Arreguin
- Alexander Bieman
- Tyne Clifton
- Tori Colegate
- Alexes Diaz
- Rebekka Fahrenbruch
- Canace Finley
- Bryan Fischer

- Grant Fourcroy
- Austin Gloss
- Ryan Hoenig
- Rocio Lara-Gutierrez
- Brianna Lewis
- Charles Linkenheil
- Marcus Martinez
- Brady Mosbrucker
- Angela Natrasevschi
- Karen Perez
- Emily Pillard

- Saige Pritchard
- Charles Rappé
- Lauren Short
- George Simpson
- Molly Smith
- Gwendolyn Snider
- Bristyn Thompson
- Timothy Thompson
- Robert Tuttle
- Marissa Watson
- Jeanette Yanez

7th Grade

Naomi Andre
 Kelsey Belk
 Alexander Blaho
 Austin Blaho
 Kyle Buhrmann
 Tommy Chaparro
 Seth Conklin
 Christine Dial
 Lexi Dowdy
 Jacqueline Espinosa
 Magnolia Garcia

Benjamin Greuel
 Joel Hade
 Wesley Hager
 Alexander Herold
 Tate Hoeven
 Erin Hooker
 Hadar Karni
 Julian Kley
 Laurel Kukafka
 Taylor Landstrom
 Ethan Lindhout
 Anastasia Linn

Ethan Markey
 Olivia McDermott
 Patrick Mead
 Grace Miller
 Vincent Norton
 Zola Owsley
 Christa Pacheco
 Connor Payne
 Hayley Pedersen
 Nathan Phipps
 Alexandra Rennat
 Jacob Roth

Abigail Sanchez
 Pranaya Sathe
 Riley Snider
 Margaret Stitzel
 Zac Suazo
 Nicholas Sullivan
 Cheyenne Wald
 Christine Ward



BRONZE ~ 3.2 -3.749

9th Grade

Axel Anguiano
 Katherine Burke
 Sean Dolan
 Tayler Elwell
 Daisy Espindola-Martinez
 Alexia Garcia
 Aldo Gomez-Reyes
 Kyler Griffeth
 Fransisco Huerta
 Ian Laupa
 Nicholas Lawler
 Sean Maley
 Hailey Miller
 Tawnya Miller
 Rebecca Moeser
 Nicolette Nash
 Gabriella Perkins
 Adam Petty
 Tyler Romero
 Teresa Stackhouse
 Blythe Stowe
 Maria Torres
 Travis Turek
 Alma Vargas
 Alejandro Vera
 Matthew Welenc
 Brittany Wetzel
 Jazmine Williams
 Magali Wuarin
 Jacob York

8th Grade

Javier Aguirre
 Megan Arent
 Christopher Bakel
 Acadia Barker
 Jaclyn Bassett
 Gabriel Brull
 Duncan Calhoon
 Rocio Castaneda
 Alex Chambers
 Alexandra Chrostowski
 Neel Cole
 Susannah Coryell
 Aaron Demmer
 Anthony DeNardo
 Connor Finnell
 Anna Fowler
 Rudrani Gollapudi
 Brian Gurrola
 Griffin Hay
 Andra Helton
 Madeline Hill
 Skye Holiday
 RobertHuibregste
 Kara Johnson
 Brittany Maddocks
 Jasmine Martinez
 Hannah McCarthy
 Avery Miller
 Caitlyn Murphy-Dunn
 Frank Nava
 Kyle Neith
 Kyle Neuroth
 Ashley Nye
 Dana Osborn

Caydi Patrick
 Bryce Pennington
 Sabrina Perkins
 Halle Poppaw
 Jeremy Pounds
 Monica Rivera Chavarria
 Patrick Rohlfs
 Ryan Romero
 William Seng
 Dylan Shawley
 Natalya Smith
 Jacob Sober
 Paul Sorensen
 Kalyn Specht
 Damon Tatum
 Gilbert Trent
 Andres Vargas
 Brian Verde
 Jeff Vinton
 Hannah Wood
 Misha Zimmerman

7th Grade

Brandan Adams-Palmer
 Kurtis Arnold
 Amber Bassett
 Annaleigh Bauer
 Marcus Benjamin
 John Boxberger
 Andrew Brown
 Angelo Capolungo
 Lucas Costanza-Chavez
 Jessica Dominguez
 Cody Fuqua
 Claire Gallagher

Jose Garcia
 Sydnee Gerlach
 Kayla Griffeth
 Edgar Hernandez
 Johana Hernandez
 Shaundra Herold
 Shayla Herold
 Eric Hoenig
 Austin Hunt
 Morgan Hill
 Emma Kanter
 Bo Ryung Kim
 Isabel Lee
 Fadiil Mahgoub
 Victor Martinez
 Lanie Matsumoto
 Kaylee Mazza
 Noah McCorkel
 Rebecca McLaughlin
 Whitney Nagel-Mart
 Cody Olson
 Anda Paul
 Savanna Phelan-Jones
 Krista Pirek
 Tessa Rehbein
 Cassidy Rinker
 Alyssa Rodriguez
 Sergio Torres
 Taylor Wanstreet
 Curtis Wilkins
 Matthew Witczak
 Genasee Worman

What's Happening at Lesher

Odyssey of the Mind Team Going to Washington DC for National Competition!!

We are very proud to announce that the Odyssey of the Mind team from Lesher competed in the "Dino-Stories" event and won *1st place* at the regional competition. From there they went on to the state competition where they again took *1st place!* Team members **Rebecca Halter, Christine Dial, Lauren Peterson, Ana Linn, Katie Schirmer and Kyle Buhrmann** and their coach, **Susan Halter**, will now travel to Washington DC for the OM World competition May 31—June 3, 2008. CONGRATULATIONS & GOOD LUCK!!

2 Science Olympiad Teams Headed To State Competition

Our two Science Olympiad teams from Lesher had a very impressive showing at the regional competition. There were thirty teams competing from all over northern Colorado. The Lesher Blue Team ended in 2nd place overall and the Lesher Gold Team placed 3rd against very tough competitors.

We will be competing at the Colorado Science Olympiad State competition in Golden at the School of Mines on April 12th. GOOD LUCK!!

Technology Student Association Inventor's Fair Fundraiser

On Saturday February 23, 2008 Wasson E.C.E. held the 4th annual Inventors Fair. Four students from Lesher Jr. High's TSA Chapter were there, and all four won. Many students from other schools were competing for the prize as well, and over 20 new inventions were presented overall.

For the fair, the students were told to design and create an invention, or make a significant improvement to an old one. Some of our events were Flight Challenge, Video Game Design, and even the Inventors Fair itself was an event.

The prize was \$100, and that money is going toward our trip to the TSA State Conference in April. We will be competing against other students from all over the state of Colorado at the Denver Tech Center Marriot.

Our TSA meetings are held in Mr. Oien's room (room 31) every Wednesday. Come in and see us some time! Our Chapter wants to thank QLT USA, Lesher PTO, Wasson E.C.E. Instrumentation, and Kathy Smith (our Read 180 Teacher) for their support of our TSA Chapter.

Thank You!
TSA President Blythe Stowe
& TSA Advisor Jens Oien



News from The Media Center – Mrs. Flippen

National Library Week ~ April 13 –19

Thursday, April 17th, has been designated **Support Teen Literature Day**. The Lesher Media Center will be celebrating with a Book Talk Lunch. Pizza will be provided, and Sue Ellen Jones, Young Adult Librarian from the Fort Collins Regional Library District, will be here to talk up some great new books. The first 35 students (per lunch) to sign up will be invited.

Happy National Library Week & Happy Support Teen Literature Day!

Barnes & Noble Book Fair ~ Saturday, May 10 ~ SAVE THE DATE!



The Lesher Media Center will receive a percentage of all sales made to Lesher families from the Barnes & Noble store at 4045 S. College on Saturday, May 10th. Sales of books, music, café treats, etc. will all be counted; as well as orders for Cheesecake Factory cheesecakes and Starbucks coffee beans.

Look for more details as we get closer to May 10th.



Inside Outside Upside Down Lesher Magazine Ranks Excellent!

The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) recently ranked student literary magazines throughout each state. We are proud to announce that Lesher’s annual magazine, “Inside Outside Upside Down” received an EXCELLENT ranking from this organization. Mrs. Marsh is the faculty advisor for this publication. If you would like to have further information you may visit this website:

<http://www.ncte.org/about/awards/student/128933.htm>



Leadership Fort Collins

Congratulations to Ariel Coster, Cody Bernal, Acacia Barker and Javier Aguirre for attending Leadership Fort Collins, sponsored by Character Fort Collins and the Chamber of Commerce. This project was designed to help students understand the connection between character and leadership and give them an opportunity to put what they learn into action through simple hands-on community service project.

After the 1st session students will be asked to develop a simple “pay it forward” type of community service project demonstrating character and leadership in motion.



Teamwork **H**onesty **O**rganization **R**espect

Awareness Campaign

In January a small group of Lesher IB students spent the day in Thornton, CO attending the Student ARMS Summit. The Summit was designed to get students thinking about the world in which they live. Students listened to presentations about working and traveling and learning abroad; they learned about current global health issues; and economic and infrastructure issues in developing countries.

Probably the most exciting part of the Summit was when the students took part in an NGO-fair. Non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) displayed their missions and their projects that were taking place around the world. You may remember last year our students attended this fair and came back wanting to raise money to clean up land mines.

This year our group was excited by an organization that was raising money to help build schools in Africa. Laura Mann, an

extended member of the Lesher family, created a chapter of Building Tomorrow at the University of Denver and has been working with our kids on getting this project going. Our group is looking forward to bringing an awareness campaign at Lesher. You may have seen 46 students/staff members around Lesher wearing a white T-Shirt with a big red “X”. Each “X” represents 1 million children in sub-Saharan Africa with no access to education. We plan to follow up the awareness campaign with a “Change for Change” (given the ongoing turmoil in Africa we thought “Penny Wars” was an inappropriate) fundraiser.

Our students are extremely excited about this and plan on challenging other schools in the district to adopt this cause. I hope you will be as excited as I am seeing our students working for something much bigger than themselves.



Experience Germany, Italy, & Switzerland

Travel to these beautiful countries and experience the architecture, food, culture, and languages FIRST HAND!! We leave the first week after school gets out and will be touring the beautiful cities of Rothenberg, Munich, Heidelberg, Lucerne and Venice. Yes, Venice, Italy is a MUST see!!! We will also tour the famous Neuschwanstein castle and see the former concentration camp, Dachau.

If you love other cultures and learning while immersed in other languages, please contact Mrs. Ross at 472-3841. Bon voyage und gute Fahrt!

We will hold a Garage/Bake Sale Fundraiser on Saturday, May 3rd to raise funds for our trip ~ GREAT BARGAINS!!

Extra-Curricular Activities



Presented by
**Leshor Musical
 Theater**
 on
April 24-25-26
7:00 PM

A singing plant. A daring hero. A sweet girl. A demented dentist. Business blooms at Mushnik's Skid Row flower shop when an exotic potted plant arrives. It turns out to be a Carnivorous pod with a menacing appetite, filling that Little Shop with lotsa Horrors.

The musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" will be presented on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 24-25-26, at 7:00 PM in the Leshor Auditorium.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and will go on sale the week of April 14th. The tickets will be sold before and after school in the main lobby. Purchase tickets early....don't miss this great show!



9th Grade Dance May 9th

The 9th Grade Dance will be held on May 9th from 7:00-9:00 PM in the cafeteria.

Each 9th grader can sign up one guest. Guests must be an 8th or 9th grade student from a PSD school with a good academic and behavior record. 7th graders and high school students (grades 10, 11, or 12) are not permitted at the dance. 8th graders must be escorted by a 9th grader and listed on the guest list.

9th graders need to sign up their guest in the main office 5 days before the dance. Dress is semi-formal and limos are discouraged.

Dinner & Theater Fundraiser



Plan a special evening of dinner and the theater!

The new McAlister's Deli on College Avenue is sponsoring three Community Nights to help support the music program at Leshor. If you dine at the restaurant on any of the three evenings for Little Shop of Horrors performance (April 24-25-26) a percentage of your bill will be donated to the Leshor Musical Theater budget. Thanks for your support!

Honor Orchestra

Leshor Orchestra Director, Matt Spieker is very proud of the twelve Leshor students who auditioned for and were chosen to participate in this year's PSD Honor Orchestra. This is one of the largest groups we have ever had. The students who performed on February 26th were:

- Juliana Pham - Flute II
- Hannah Wood - Oboe, Chair 2
- Claire Seitzinger - Clarinet I
- Diana Pham - Clarinet II
- Misha Zimmerman - Percussion
- Logan Rogers - Violin, Chair 7
- Sarah McLaughlin - Violin II, Section Leader
- Alex Bieman - Violin II, Chair 2
- Evon Harmon - Viola, Chair 2
- Bryan Fischer - Cello, Chair 7
- Allison Perry - Cello, Chair 10
- Diana Potterveld - Cello, Chair 11



TALENT SHOW

Don't forget to audition for the Leshor Talent Show to be held on May 1st at 7 PM in the Auditorium. We're looking for singers, dancers, actors and actresses to perform skits, create movies, play music, and make us laugh! Forms are available in the Office and must be turned in to Ms. Peterson's mailbox by Thursday, April 17th.

SPORTS INFORMATION Athletic Physicals

Athletic physicals are required for participation in sports programs in Poudre School District. It is important to remember to keep your athletic physicals current. Physicals must be less than one year old to try-out and participate.

If you haven't done a sport this year, please have your physical form and proof of insurance into Mrs. Jones before the season starts.

NEW 7TH GRADERS for the 2008-2009 school year may pick up physical forms in the Main Office. Be sure to have physicals this summer so you will be ready to participate in the fall!



Girls Volleyball



Tuesday, April 19th saw the end of a tremendous volleyball season by the 7th grade team. Their final match showcased the talents they demonstrated throughout the season as Leshar convincingly defeated Blevins (25-16: 25-7) to end their season with SEVEN victories and only one loss.

Throughout the season the Leshar Ladies played as an unselfish and confident team. Teamwork was very evident as the 7th graders won every home match and lost a very close contest at Boltz (31-33: 20-25). The 7th grade team is already looking forward to next year's volleyball season.

CONGRATULATIONS to all the 7th & 8th grade players who participated this season:

7th Grade Teams coached by Mr.
Dan Downing

Meghan Barker
Katie Brokish
Kathleen Craig
Izzy Febvre
Nikki Finnman
Sydnee Gerlach
Brielle Kelley
Olivia McDermott
Zola Owsley
Savanna Phelan-Jones
Zoe Roth
Katie Schirmer
Kaeli Schmidt
Addie Thompson
Cheyenne Wald
Kaylee Zimlich

8th Grade Team coached by Mr.
Dan Reinke

Megan Arent
Andrea Arreguin
Jaclyn Bassett
Emma Bridges
Susannah Coryell
Kyra Daniels
Jessica Espinosa
Canace Finley
Jordan Gless
Andra Helton
Madeline Hill
Laurel Kassenbrock
Brittany Maddocks
Sabrina Perkins
Heidi Roche
Molly Smith
Kalyn Specht
Rosemary Wakkinen

Good Luck to ALL at District Tournament on April 12th!

Leshar Golfers 2008

Leshar Golf Coach, Chris Nickel, says our Leshar Golfers are off and running - or sauntering really - We want to make sure we abide by course etiquette! Anyway, the 7th/8th grade Leshar golf team is, once again, strong and ready to compete with the other 8 programs as we look to improve on last year's 4th place finish.

Leshar will be lead by returning players Brady Mosbrucker and Mike Hurley and will look to some new faces (Tate Hoewan, Jesse Kerns, Sam Loftis and Nate Johnson) to provide leadership and a shot at a district title! We will play dual matches throughout the months of April and May and will complete our season on May 21st with the district



Poudre School District Initiatives Update

1. ECO-Week decision submitted for endorsement

After analyzing feedback from elementary school sites, **PSD assistant superintendents and the executive director of student achievement and staff development recommended that ECO-Week remain at the elementary level after grade configuration changes are implemented in fall 2009.** The recommendation was submitted to the superintendent and to the Grade Configuration Committee for their endorsement.

As a result, ECO-Week will include both sixth and fifth grade students during the 2008-09 school year. The district is supporting schools with some of the costs associated with 5th graders attending Eco-Week next school year, through the use of Site Readiness Plan money.

2. 2008-09 calendar revisions approved

Principals Marc Ryby, Riffenburgh Elementary, and David Linehan, Blevins, serving as co-facilitators for the calendar development process, presented recommendations for two changes to the 2008-09 school year calendar in early February, and the Board adopted the changes on February 26.

The two changes approved involve:

- 1) Moving the second quarter teacher workday from Friday, December 19, 2008, to Monday, January 5, 2009. This change results in one additional student attendance day in the fall semester.
- 2) Moving the December 1, 2008, staff collaboration day to October 31, 2008. This will allow additional middle school staff to attend the 2008 National Middle School Conference, which is being held in Denver at this time.

You can review the 2008-09 school year calendar at:

http://www.psdschools.org/documentlibrary/downloads/Superintendent_Office/Calendars/School_Calendar_2008-2009.pdf

3. Committee reviewing PSD Graduation Requirements

PSD's newly formed *Preparing Children for the 21st Century Committee* is studying graduation requirements, focusing on standards that will help the 21st Century learner be successful. PSD is studying graduation requirements as part of the state's efforts to establish new statewide requirements, which will be implemented for the freshman class of 2009. The 26-member committee will develop a recommendation for PSD requirements based on district policy, state guidelines, and input from Fort Collins'

employers, PSD's pre-school through grade 16 (P-16) Partners, and other local leaders.

Timeline and decision-making process:

- PSD and the Fort Collins Chamber of Commerce will host a 21st Century summit April 3 to engage the community in the process.
- The committee will review the state P-20 council's recommendations (June-November).
- The committee will develop a recommendation and solicit feedback from staff and students (November).
- The committee will revise the recommendation and submit it to Superintendent of Schools for approval (December).

Visit the PSD website at www.psdschools.org under District Committee Updates and Graduation Requirements for the latest information.

4. Boundary Committees Study Community Feedback for High School Boundary Recommendation

The Boundary Steering Committee and Review Committee are studying community feedback about high school boundary changes in Poudre School District as they work toward making a recommendation that would best serve students. New high school boundaries will help balance enrollment in PSD, and make room for ninth graders who are scheduled to enter high schools in 2009 when grade configuration changes are implemented.

Information on four scenarios was presented at community open house meetings held in late February and early March. About 200 people attended the meetings and 170 surveys were collected from the meetings, main offices and from phone calls. Surveys results, including comments, were compiled and are currently being reviewed by Steering Committee members. The Steering Committee is using all feedback to update scenarios and narrow the recommendations before presenting information to the Review Committee on April 10. The Steering Committee will present a high school boundary recommendation to the superintendent, who will make a final decision in May 2008.

New boundaries will be phased in beginning fall 2009. For detailed information or maps of the scenarios, visit the PSD web page at www.psdschools.org, click on Boundary Changes, or call Sarah Siple, PSD Business Services, at 490-3501.

Poudre School District Initiatives Update - cont'd

6. Fort Collins Police Services Youth Academy Application Deadline April 14

Students in grades 8-11 are encouraged to apply for the Fort Collins Police Services Youth Academy, a five-day "behind the scenes" inside look at law enforcement. Students can choose from two Youth Academy sessions. Sessions are Monday through Friday. Session one will be June 9-13, and session two will be June 16-20, both from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The brochure with more in-depth information and the application can be found online at:

https://www.psdschools.org/documentlibrary/downloads/Security_and_School_Operations/Youth_Academy_2008.pdf.

For more information contact your school resource officer or call Sergeant Joel Tower at 221-6561.

7. Grade level changes: middle school video, readiness plan being developed

What's new in March in the 2009 grade level change process? A TV and online video series on middle schools will be aired starting in April, school teams are continuing to work on their readiness plans, and teachers are beginning to consider options for moving to different school.

Middle school video series

Tune in to PSD Channel 10 (Comcast Cable) or the PSD website in early April and learn about middle schools—how they're the same as and different from junior highs, components essential to their success, and the planning and preparation underway to successfully make the transition. Members of the Middle Schools Study Committee will share insights in question and answer segments.

Visit the PSD website at www.psdschools.org under District Committee Updates to access readiness plan templates, a link to the TV schedule, and other in-depth information.

8. Small Schools Study Committee Preparing Report

The Small Schools Study Committee has been working in financial and programmatic subgroups and then reporting completed work back to the large group. After eight months of work, the goal was to prepare a final report and submit the report to Jerry Wilson, Superintendent of Schools, and the PSD Board of Education.

The final report will address the four charges of the committee:

1. Analyze the different size schools for program offerings, scheduling implications and cost ramifications.
2. Determine consistencies and essential classes, which can be offered through the analysis of prototypical models.
3. Recommend cost implications to affect 2008-09 student-based budgeting.
4. Identify school sizes at which closure may be considered.

As part of addressing the fourth charge of the committee, to identify school sizes at which closure may be considered, the financial subgroup has reviewed information on per pupil, administrative, utility, and cumulative costs.

For detailed information, visit the PSD web page at www.psdschools.org, go to District Committee Updates, select Small Schools Study or email kevinh@psdschools.org.



HELP WANTED! Interested in working at your child's school or other PSD schools?

Poudre School District is currently hiring substitute paraprofessionals for both regular and special ed classrooms. No teaching license is required for paraprofessional positions. Pay for regular ed is \$ 9.67 /hr and special ed is \$ 10.73 /hour. For further information, please contact Dawn at 490-3078.

Fit for Life—Wellness Week

The first annual "Fit for Life Wellness Week" is April 21 – 25, 2008. The goal for the week is to increase awareness of personal health, fitness and wellness through a balanced lifestyle of vigorous physical activity, proper nutrition, wellness practices and a healthy weight.

Please visit <http://www.psdschools.org/> and click on Fit for Life! Wellness Week Coming under PSD News on the right side of the PSD homepage for lots of information about activities and services offered this week.

Let's make the healthy choice the easy choice!

The Voyager

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT
2407 LaPorte Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80521

LESHER JR. HIGH SCHOOL
1400 Stover Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Phone: 970-472-3800
Fax: 970-472-3880

We're on the Web!

<http://www.psdschools.org/schools/lesher/>



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For the Leshar Family of:

Mark Your Calendars



APRIL

- 7 Track Season begins
- 12 Jr. High Volleyball Tournament—FCHS
- 18 NO SCHOOL - Comp Day
- 21 NO SCHOOL - K-9 Collaboration Day
- 24-25-26 🎵 All School Musical ~ 7 PM nightly
"Little Shop of Horrors"
🎵 McAlister's Deli donating proceeds from meals served to Leshar families these nights of performance.
- 28 PTO Meeting ~ 1 PM



MAY

- 1 Talent Show ~ 7 PM
- 2 Cinco de Mayo Celebration
- 2 Spring Dance
- 3 European Trip Garage/Bake Sale
- 8 Track Meet
- 5-9 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 9 9th Grade Dance
- 14 8th Grade Theater trip to Lincoln Center
- 15 🎵 Beginning Music Ensembles Awards Concert
- 16 NO SCHOOL—Teacher Work Day
- 20 🎵 Vocal Music Awards Concert
- 21 PSD Track Meet
- 22 🎵 Advanced Instrumental Ensembles Awards Concert
- 23 Choir field trip to Elitch's
- 23 PHS Graduation
- 24 FCHS, FRHS, RMHS Graduation
- 26 NO SCHOOL ~ Memorial Day
- 27 Inquiry Night
- 28 9th Grade Awards Assembly
- 29 7th & 8th Grade Awards Assemblies
- 30 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL ~ 11 AM Dismissal