



FEBRUARY 2010
ISSUE 6: 2009-2010

What can you do to help at Little Elementary?

Ongoing - Crossing Guards

Do you have 15 minutes in the morning or in the afternoon to ensure that the Little students stay safe? Have you always wanted to wear an orange vest or hold a stop sign? Well, does the school have a job for you! Please call the school office and say you can help. Again, a special thanks to Kathy Ruscio, who has taken time out of her day to help! Thank you so very much!



Wednesday, March 24th

Love to bake? Are your brownies the best? We need desserts and drinks for the teacher dinners during spring student conferences!



Thursday, March 25th

We need main dishes, sides, desserts and drinks for the second night of teacher conferences. We are trying for an Italian theme but anything you can provide for our hardworking teachers would be appreciated.

If you can help out, please contact Jen Strong at jstrong@homesincolorado.com or leave a message at 303-467-1563.

Thank you for your help and your continued support.



Mission Possible!

Dear Parents,

February promises to be a fully packed month of learning and working for all of our students. Below you will find some important information regarding testing for all our students. Please make note of the CSAP assessment dates for 2010 and avoid scheduling appointments or activities that would take kids out of school. All students are expected to be present and participate fully in the CSAP assessments. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support.

CSAP TESTING DATES

Date	Grade Level
February 17 & 18 March 2, 3 March 10, 11	3 rd Grade
March 3, 4, 5, 6, March 9, 10, 11, 12, 13	4 th and 6 th Graders
March 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 March 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	5 th Grade

- Assessments are generally given in the morning hours of school, but in some cases may also be in the afternoon.

All students in kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades were also tested this past month of January using the DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills.) This assessment is administered to each student individually. Teachers tested students throughout the month during the regular school day. We look forward to celebrating our students' progress as we strive to reach or exceed the mid-year benchmarks for reading achievement.

January is also mid-year assessment time for our students for whom English is a second language. Mrs. Angelo, our ESL Tutor, has been administering the CELA (Colorado English Language Assessment) throughout the month. The CELA measures achievement in English in speaking, listening, reading and writing.

WOW! Look at all that work! Our teachers and students work very hard. Take a minute to recognize your favorite teacher and student(s) for their hard work.

Sincerely,

Esther G. Valdez
Principal

Letter from the PTSA President

Dear Little Families:

Hello, I am Anna Topkoff and I am looking forward to taking over for Cyndy as your PTSA President for the last half of the school year. I know that I have some big shoes to fill. This is my first time rowing this boat. The PTSA is open to any new and positive ways to enrich and benefit Little and our community around us. I feel a little like another president, coming into a time for our school district, that has many financial challenges ahead. I am looking forward to the challenge and with your support I know this will be a successful last half of the year.

We have some fun and rewarding events coming up.

Friday January 22, 2010 was the kick off for our Read-a-thon. This is an event that will benefit all students who participate and our classroom and school libraries. 50% of money raised goes to our school and 50% to your student. Monies are due Monday February 8th. We hope that you are excited about this opportunity and participate.

There was another kick off on Friday January 22, help for Haiti. The coin drive is headed up by our very excited and tenderhearted kindergarteners. There are containers available around the school to drop off coins (or dollars) that will benefit the charity Save the Children. This charity is already on the ground in Haiti. This is the part where helping our community comes in to play. Albeit our world community.

Mark your calendars for next month's Little Nite Out on February 25th. It will be at Chuck E. Cheese at the Superior location. 15% of money paid at the cashier, including food and tokens, will be given back to Little. You will also receive 10 free coins for mentioning Little at the door. No other schools are there that night.

So as we gear up for the rest of the school year still ahead of us, I want to thank you for the participation and support you have already given Little. We can't continue to help provide your student(s) with the ever changing technology needs and various supplies and equipment for Little without you and our community support. Get involved for your kids. I'll save a spot for you at the next meeting. <smile>

Anna Topkoff
Co-President, Little PTSA



COLLECT BOX TOPS

Two great ways to make \$money\$ for your school...THAT DON'T COST YOU A DIME! Clip the "Box Tops for Education" from participating General Mills products, put them in a baggy, with the name of your child's teacher, and return them to the school. General Mills will donate .10 for each current box top. You can also log onto www.boxtopsforeducation.com and select "Bonus Offers" for more chances to earn money for Little



We also participate in Campbell's Labels for Education. Go to <http://www.labelsforeducation.com> to view the program. Your child will soon bring home details and fun formats to help collect the UPC symbols that will help Little earn extra money for our children.

Due to the Snow Days

June 2, 2010 will be the last day of school instead of **May 28, 2010**



Jeffco Public Schools is pleased to announce the availability of our 2008-2009 Annual Report to the Public. The Report is posted on the district Web site at: http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/publications/annual_reports/. Hard copies of the report are also available at the school, or you can call 303-982-6808 to request one.

Every year, school districts in Colorado report about their performance to their communities, based on requirements in the *No Child Left Behind Act*. In addition, state law has required that districts report district accreditation information. This information is now available on the Colorado Department of Education's Web site at <http://www.schoolview.org/SchoolPerformance/index.asp>

There you will find the district profile for "Jefferson County R1," which includes:

Assessment Data

1. Colorado Growth Model. The Colorado Growth Model provides a common understanding of how individual students and groups of students progress from year to year on the Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) toward state standards based on where each individual student begins.
2. CSAP results by grade level for each school and for the district. Results are disaggregated by race/ethnicity, English language learners, economically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities.
3. School and district CSAP performance for the last two years, compared with the state of Colorado as a whole.
4. CSAPA results (for students given the alternate assessment), if applicable.
5. National Assessment of Educational Progress results for Colorado.

Accountability Data

1. Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results. Adequate Yearly Progress is the federal accountability measure for schools and districts under the No Child Left Behind legislation. The report includes the overall AYP determination for schools and districts as well as their specific AYP results.
2. The names and number of schools in your district that are identified as Schools on Improvement under No Child Left Behind.

Teacher Quality Data

1. The percent of classes not taught by Highly Qualified Teachers, and disaggregated by high and low poverty schools
2. Information about teachers including the professional qualifications of teachers, and the percent of teachers with emergency licenses.

Post-Secondary Readiness Data

1. Post-secondary readiness indicators including (as applicable): the number and percent of students taking advanced placement courses, students enrolled in institutions under the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Act.
2. Graduation rates and drop out rates.
3. Results of the college entrance exam (ACT) for the district as a whole, and compared to the state average.

Other Data

1. District budget, revenues and expenditures
2. Attendance rates
3. Evidence of a safe, civil learning environment, and
4. Number of expelled and suspended students;

This information is also posted on the district's Web site at: www.jeffcopublicschools.org. If you would like additional information about the annual report and federal reporting requirements, please call 303-982-6808.

THE READ-A- THON IS COMING! April 17th



Since last year was such a big hit, this year's read-a-thon will be a repeat (sans the snow, we hope.)

50% of all donations collected will go directly to your child and their book choices. By now, your student should have put together their "wish list" of Usborn Books. Ask them!

The remaining donations will go to purchase books for the library and to purchase technology for the school.

The Read-a-thon pledges are due on February 8th!

The reason pledges are being collected so early this year is so students can concentrate on their CSAPs without having to worry about pledge collection.

Still need to pick books?
Go to:
<http://www.usbornextreme.com/>

WHERE HAVE ALL OF THE GIRLS GONE?



On **Mon., Feb. 22nd, 6:30-8:30pm**, JAGC (Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children) in cooperation with Jeffco's GT Department will present globally renowned expert **Dr. Linda Silverman**. "Where Have All the Girls Gone?" addresses the tendency of gifted girls to hide their abilities in the face of social pressure (likewise gifted boys will "go underground" under certain circumstances). The presentation is NOT for parents of girls only; all GT parents are encouraged to broaden their understanding of GT gender issues! This free seminar will be held at **Bell Middle School, 1001 Ulysses Street, Golden CO, 80401**. In conjunction with the seminar, JAGC will hold a Book Fair in the lobby **6:00-9:00**, offering carefully selected, GT-relevant parent and student guides, plus thought-provoking children and young adult books. RSVP for the seminar (or for more information): rsvp@jeffcogifted.org, or questions to Vicki Ray at 303-431-8054 (leave message). Visit the JAGC website at www.jeffcogifted.org.



The Colorado State Legislature convened this week for its 2010 session and already there is talk of more cuts coming to K-12 education. The state is facing a \$1.3 billion deficit in its 2010-11 fiscal year. State reductions to school districts will likely exceed \$300 million.

What does that mean for Jeffco? For the current 2009-2010 school year, we've heard that the state will rescind more than \$13 million in revenues from the district. That's after a \$2.8 million hit in the 2008-2009 school year. For the 2010-11 budget, the district is pulling out \$30 million in reserves – reserves that have been strategically built up since 2004. In addition to the spending down of reserves, the district is cutting \$18-\$20 million per year for the next two years. If the district didn't have the reserves on which to draw, the cuts would be in the \$50 million range for the 2010-2011 school year alone.

The district's budget workgroups will hand off to the District's Budget Advisory Committee to continue the work started in December. Updates to follow soon.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION & CHOICE ENROLLMENT

The kindergarten registration window has been extended through Friday, Feb. 26 in order to provide time to accommodate possible Board of Education decisions regarding facility usage and to align with the revised choice enrollment window for K-8. The following dates will apply for both Kindergarten registration and Choice Enrollment:

- K-8 First Round Choice Enrollment is open Wed., Jan. 6 through Mon., March 1.
- K-8 Parent Notification of First Round Choice Enrollment Status is Mon., Mar. 15.

Children must be 5 years of age before 10/1/10 to attend Kindergarten in the upcoming year.

Bring their birth certificate and immunization record or provide copies of these documents and proof of residence. Children can not be registered without this information!

Jeffco Board Decides Fate of Schools



- Members of the Jefferson County Board of Education have decided to close Russell Elementary in Arvada after listening to hours of comment from the community Thursday night. Three other schools that were on the proposed closure list — Pleasant View Elementary, O’Connell and Wheat Ridge middle schools — will remain open. Students from Russell Elementary will be going to a newly created K-8 school located in the Arvada Middle School.
- “This has been an incredibly difficult process for our community. There just weren’t any good choices. We still have to face the hard task of dealing with our capacity issues,” said board president, Dave Thomas.
- Hundreds of people filled the board room and more than 60 community members, including students, went before the board to express opinions.
- “We saw how much our community cares about their schools and that is a wonderful outcome from this long and very emotional dialogue,” said Thomas.
- Along with voting to close Russell Elementary, the board also approved a motion to close, sell, (when appropriate) or demolish all temporary buildings at school sites that are at 92 percent enrollment capacity or less. In addition, board members approved moving the Arvada West preschool to Fitzmorris Elementary and moving Swanson preschool to Secrest Elementary. Those changes help eliminate cottages and temporary buildings. By implementing all of the changes, the district is saving approximately \$1.27 million a year. The cost to implement all of the options will be up to \$2.1 million in one-time capital investment costs. The district plans to sell Russell Elementary, which carries a substantial real estate value that has yet to be determined.
- The facilities review process began in March 2009 with the convening of the Facilities Usage Committee; a 30-member group made up of community members and district staff. They worked for eight months and produced a list of recommended options to the board. A series of public hearings were held in the fall to gather community input on the proposed options.
- Board members say this isn’t the end of the facilities usage work.

“We are committed to continuing this process that not only addresses the number of empty seats in the district, but also helps us in our ongoing budget crisis,” Thomas said.
- Jeffco will be making \$40 million in cuts over the next two years. If the district had not built financial reserves, which will be spent down over the next two years, Jeffco would be facing \$100 million in reductions over the next two years.



This Month's "Little Night Out" is
at Chuck E' Cheese

Thursday, February 25th.

A portion of the purchase price of your meal
will go to benefit Little Elementary.

3005 Marshall Road
Superior, CO 80027

CHANGE FOR HAITI

The Kindergarteners are raising money to help the children in Haiti. They launched project **CHANGE FOR HAITI'S CHILDREN** last Monday and their efforts will end on Monday February 8th. Containers have been supplied to each classroom to collect change and the Kindergarteners (along with an adult) will go to each classroom to collect the change every 2 days. You will see students outside around 3:20 to get contributions from parent who come to the school to pick up their children.



All money collected will be donated to **SAVE THE CHILDREN**. Save the Children has been working in Haiti for the past 45 years. For more information about their work, please visit www.savethechildren.org.

The Kindergarten will give the first financial report of their efforts at the January 29th pride assembly and their final report at the PTSA meeting on February 17th.

Won't you check your pockets and under the couch cushions to help out the children of Haiti?

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Kelley Anderson
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Little Elementary – February 2010


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
	1	2	3	4	5	
7	8 Money due for read-a-thon	9	10	11 US Wheels – 5 th and 6 th grades	12 No School	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 No School	16 NCAR field trip – 5 th grade	17 CSAP-3 rd grade PTSA Meeting	18 CSAP – 3 rd grade	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Chuck-E Cheese Night	26 Pride assembly Trimester Ends	27
28						

Employment Opportunity
 Looking for the perfect
 PT/job?
 2 -6 hours/day
 \$9.05/hour
 Advancement Opportunity
 Call 303.982.6747

Jeffco Schools
Food & Nutrition Services
Elementary Lunch Menu Condensed Menu Version
February 2010



Prices:
 Breakfast: Full Price \$1.00
 Breakfast: Reduced Price K-6 at No Charge
 Lunch: Full Price \$1.85
 Reduced Price K - 2 at
 No Charge
 Reduced Price 3 - 6 at
 \$0.40
 Adult Meals: \$2.75 w/o beverage

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
February 1 Chicken Teriyaki w/Brown Rice or Hamburger or Taco Salad w/ Tortilla Chips Yogurt & Muffin or Grahams Breakfast Pizza	2 Mini Corn Dog w/ Macaroni & Cheese or Variety Burrito or "Snack Lunch" (Seeds, Cheese, Muffin) Bagel Stick Egg Omelet	3 Baked Pasta w/Meat Sauce or BBQ Beef Sandwich or Chef Salad w/ Bread Stick or Saltines Pop Tart Or Ginger Kidz w/String Cheese Breakfast Burrito	4 Oven Roasted Chicken or Soft Tacos or Mandarin Chicken Salad w/ Biscuit or Saltines Super Bun Breakfast Sandwich	5 Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza or Tuna Salad Sandwich or Chicken Caesar Salad w/ Roll or Saltines Bagel Stick or French Tst or Waffles or Pancakes w/Sausage 
8 Chicken Sandwich or Egg Roll  w/Brown Rice or Taco Salad w/ Tortilla Chips Yogurt & Muffin or Grahams Breakfast Pizza	9 Chicken Quesadilla or Deli Ham & Cheese Sandwich or "Snack Lunch" (Yogurt, Cheese, Muffin) Bagel Stick Egg Omelet	10 Cheese Enchiladas or Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Brown Rice or Chef Salad w/ Bread Stick or Saltines Pop Tart Or Ginger Kidz w/String Cheese Breakfast Burrito	11 Turkey & Gravy or Hot Dog on a Bun or Mandarin Chicken Salad w/ Biscuit or Saltines Super Bun Breakfast Sandwich	12 <p style="text-align: center;">No School</p>
15 <p style="text-align: center;">No School</p> <p style="text-align: center;">President's Day</p> Yogurt & Muffin or Grahams Breakfast Pizza	16 Grilled Cheese w/Tomato Soup or Cheeseburger/ Hamburger or "Snack Lunch" (Egg Salad Sandwich) Bagel Stick Egg Omelet	17 Country Style Steak Strips or Deli Turkey Wrap or Chef Salad w/ Roll or Saltines Pop Tart Or Ginger Kidz w/String Cheese Breakfast Burrito	18 Chicken Nuggets or Cuban Pork Potatoes  or Mandarin Chicken Salad w/ Muffin or Saltines Super Bun Breakfast Sandwich	19 Turkey Noodle Soup w/ Cheese Stuffed Bread Stick or Fish Sandwich or Chicken Caesar Salad w/ Roll or Saltines Bagel Stick or French Tst or Waffles or Pancakes w/Sausage 
22 Chicken Teriyaki w/ Brown Rice or Hamburger or Taco Salad w/ Tortilla Chips Yogurt & Muffin or Grahams Breakfast Pizza	23 Corn Dog or Variety Burrito or "Snack Lunch" (Seeds, Cheese, Muffin) Bagel Stick Egg Omelet	24 Baked Pasta w/Meat Sauce or BBQ Beef Sandwich or Chef Salad w/ Bread Stick or Saltines Pop Tart Or Ginger Kidz w/String Cheese Breakfast Burrito	25 Oven Roasted Chicken or Soft Tacos or Mandarin Chicken Salad w/ Biscuit or Saltines Super Bun Breakfast Sandwich	26 Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza or Tuna Salad Sandwich or Chicken Caesar Salad w/ Roll or Saltines Bagel Stick or French Tst or Waffles or Pancakes w/Sausage 

Lunch includes an entrée and a choice of sides. Milk is offered daily at Breakfast & Lunch. Menus are nutritionally balanced with a wide variety of healthy selections including fruits and vegetables. Menu is subject to change without notice due to price and product availability.

Breakfast Entrée, check with your school for availability. Cereal & Toast are offered daily at Breakfast

Full menu selection is available at the school site or on line @jeffcopublicschools.org

Look for the menus on the left side and click on Lunch Menus & Food Services .