



March

Zach Core Knowledge Elementary Parent Newsletter February 20, 2009

Zach Elementary Spelling Bee

Congratulations to the 4th and 5th grade students who qualified to participate in the school Spelling Bee on January 16, 2009!

David Choi
Alex Yu
Mykaila Blumhardt
Reagan Kissel
Emma Keever
Josh Yekel
Alex Riesenhuber
Paul O'Toole
Sergio Nogueira
Mary-Claire Spurgin
Kadin Breeze
Kyle Gorges
Jonathan Mullins
XuSong Ho
Madison Northern

Jared Brannen
Megan Richardson
Alex Silva
Ian O'Toole
Colin Tweedy
Mariah Baechle
Andrew Allen
Max Heavner
Chandler McPheters
Tristan Valade
Maria Ostapovich
Rylie Lang
Julia Galbate
Rachel Salucci
Cole Schilling

A special congratulations to our 1st and 2nd place winners Mykaila Blumhardt and Mariah Baechle!

Both students took the District Spelling Bee qualifying test and we are proud to announce that Mykaila Blumhardt represented Zach Elementary in the District Spelling Bee on February 18, 2009.



Calendar of Events



February 27	Lunch/Recess 3 rd Grade Book Bowl Pizza Party – Gym
March 3	Site Based Decision Making Meeting – Media – 7:00 p.m.
March 6	Spanish Enrichment – Last Day
March 10	PTO Meeting – Media Center
March 12	Talent & Variety Show – Gym 9:15 a.m. – 1 st & 2 nd Grade Show 1:15 p.m. – 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Grade Show
March 12	End of 3 rd Quarter
March 13	No School – Teacher Workday
March 16-20	No School – Spring Break
March 25	Green Choir Rehearsals End (2 nd & 3 rd grades)
March 26	Green Choir Concert – 6:30 p.m. – Gym
March 27	Reports of Progress Go Out

Site Team Agenda for March 3, 2009

7:00-7:30 Cultural Resource Group Presentation (CRG Team)

7:30-8:00 Partnership Center Presentation (Cyndi Gile)

8:00-8:30 Update on: What's happening at Zach? (Don Rangel)



ENCORE NEWS!

ART

2009 Poudre School District Exhibition

The 2009 Poudre School District Exhibition will be on display in the Lincoln Center Galleries from February 27- March 26, 2009. Representing Zach Elementary this year are: Kate Lammons- Second Grade, Kyra Lee- Second Grade, Jonathan Souverein- Third Grade, Tim Sunset- Fourth Grade, & Lauren Takahashi- First Grade.

Congratulations to these hard working artists! A reception will be held March 5, 2009 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. in the Lobby Gallery- all are invited to attend.

Zach Elementary Second Grade Art Show

The Zach Elementary Second Grade Art Show will be held Thursday, April 30th in the Zach Elementary Gym. Mark your calendars! Additional Information will be coming home as the event approaches.

P. E.

Schools on the Move!!!

Students have received their activity logs for Schools on the Move from Mr. U during P.E. Kids need to log their daily activity minutes, not including P.E. or recess. The purpose of the Schools on the Move Challenge is to encourage kids to get additional physical activity outside of their school day, so logs should be kept at home for them to record their activities. The parent signature is required on all logs as validation. Logs are due by March 4th. All kids turning in their log will get a Schools on the Move t-shirt and schools with the highest percentage of kids participating and/or getting 30 minutes or more of physical activity daily will receive prizes.

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TALENT & VARIETY SHOW!

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Important Dates:

Tuesday, February 24- Song Lyrics must be approved by the Talent & Variety Show Committee (lyrics must be printed out and signed by a parent)

Friday, February 27- Audition Forms due to the office

Tuesday, March 3- Auditions in the Zach Elementary Gym during regularly scheduled Specials times

Thursday, March 12- Talent & Variety Show! The Show for 1st and 2nd graders will begin at 9:15 a.m. and the Show for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will begin at 1:15 p.m.

Congratulations Grace Zach!

Excellence in Education Banquet

Grace Zach is the 2009 recipient of the Outstanding Community Education Advocate Award.

Join us in recognizing the recipients and nominees of the Excellence in Education, Promising Teacher, Mary Hull Awards and the Community Advocate at the Excellence in Education Event, **March 9th, Fort Collins Hilton, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.** - Social Hour - 5:00 p.m. with dinner served at 5:30 p.m. Reservations can be made at your school with your Office Manager or call the Foundation Office at 490-3206. Cost is \$25.00 per person

Zach Pledge Update

Once again, I would like to thank everyone that has contributed to the pledge drive thus far. This school year, the monies donated through the pledge have been used to purchase several items to support student learning. A list of purchases includes but is not limited to items such as: Posters, Poetry Books, Classroom Management Pocket Charts, Ear Muffs, Math Manipulatives, etc.... In addition, each teacher received **\$500.00** for use in purchasing individual class materials and supplies. The monies have also been used to support such activities as the Vision & Hearing Screening, Fall Assembly, Book Bowl, Fall Family Night at the Ranch as well as printing of the student directory and access to the Enterprise Accelerated Reader program.

Just a reminder, the pledge drive is conducted throughout the entire school year so if you haven't had the opportunity to donate but would like to, please send a check in an envelope marked 'PLEDGE' to school with your student. Your donation to the Pledge will allow Zach to continuously improve through purchase of curriculum materials, equipment, supplies and sponsorship of Zach community enrichment events.

Also, as an added incentive, there will be a grade level pizza party in May for the grade that has the highest percentage participation. Currently there is a very close race among the grades so just a few donations could make the difference.

Here are the current stats:

K	44.3%
1 st	45.1%
2 nd	37.6%
3 rd	44.2%
4 th	30.5%
5 th	31.4%

Donations must be received by **May 1st** to be included for the pizza party.

Thank you again for supporting our great school!

Hello, Zach Parents!!

We are so fortunate at Zach to have such an amazing staff. In the past, usually in early May, we have thanked the staff during Staff Appreciation Week by bringing lunch for them almost every day of this week. This year, instead of waiting until May to thank the staff, we would like to ask the parents in each grade to host a luncheon on the last Friday of each month for the staff. After reviewing the calendar, I have put together the following schedule:

- **Kindergarten**, Friday, February 27th - Sub, salads, & soup*
- **1st grade**, Friday, March 27th - Italian*
- **2nd grade**, Friday, April 24th - Mexican*
- **3rd grade**, Friday, May 22nd - Asian* (*Please note date change from previous e-mail.*)

In addition, during *Staff Appreciation Week, May 3-9*, we will plan the following on each day:

- Monday: Coffee and breakfast baked goods (scones, coffee cake, breads, muffins) from volunteers
- Tuesday: Snack day - veggie and fruit trays, pretzels, popcorn, other munchies, juice, tea, lemon/orange water
- Wednesday: **4th grade** - Meal*: chicken, rice, veggies, salad, dessert, iced tea, lemonade
- Thursday: Dessert Day - cookies, cakes, pies
- Friday: **5th grade** - Meal*: Grill hamburgers & hot dogs, chips, fruit salad, soft drinks, cookies

I am serving as this year's Chair for Staff Appreciation and have a list of those who signed up to help with Staff Appreciation at the beginning of the year, so I will be contacting those volunteers soon. If you did not sign-up for Staff Appreciation, but would like to be involved, then please contact me at fos2day@hotmail.com or 204-0488. We will need several volunteers from each class to host each luncheon. A more specific letter requesting volunteers from each class will be sent out the first week of the month before that class provides lunch.

*To ensure the staff enjoys a variety of meals, I have suggested themes for each meal; however, if each grade has alternative ideas, please let me know.

Thank you for your support in celebrating Zach's staff!!

Sincerely,

Karlina Popwell
Chair
Staff Appreciation

Zach Elementary PTO Minutes – 2/17/2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 by President, Ron Burke. Attendees included: Sara Mazanec, Greg Schilling, Michell Pett-Thomas, Terra Moore, Don Rangel, Jennifer Trumper, Ann Henning, Tammi Wright, Stephanie Goetz, Nora Smith, Janet Werst, Jill Keogh, Heather Roys, Jenny Oster, Dani Feola and Wendy Ostojic.

Janet Werst motioned to approve the January 20, 2009 minutes and Terra Moore seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

President's Report – Ron Burke: Ron stated that The Black Eyed Pea fundraiser brought in approximately \$300 and it appears the Rubio's will bring in close to \$400. The next dinner night out is at Noodles on Thursday, February 26.

Treasurer's Report – Jennifer Trumper: We have no expenses this month! Deposits for this month include \$540 for the pledge, \$300 for an Intel matching pledge, \$605 for affinity programs and \$400 for book bowl t-shirts.

Secretary's Report – Sara Mazanec: After the last meeting, Ann Henning suggested that the minutes from each PTO meeting be sent out to all meeting attendees as well as past attendees. Everyone agreed that this was a good idea and we will start that from this meeting forward.

Pledge Report – Ann Henning: The pledge has received \$23,105 through the last deposit. This month we received \$540 and we will also start applying matching pledges from Intel (\$300) towards the school pledge. We are approximately \$5000 behind from last year's pledge but with the affinity programs, it helps fill in that gap. The pizza party will be the first Friday in May for the grade with the largest percent of their grade pledging.

Tax receipts for 2008 have been sent out. Please contact Ann Henning if you have not received your receipt.

We are looking for creative help with the new pledge video we would like to have ready for the fall.

School Events:

- There is a new format for Staff Appreciation this year. There will be a monthly luncheon for each grade: Kindergarten/February 27, 1st Grade/March 27, 2nd Grade/April 24, 3rd Grade/May 29 and during the week of May 3-9 there will be days with various treats and snacks as well as the 4th and 5th grade luncheons.
- The 3rd grade Book Bowl competition will be on February 25 and 26 from 12:35 – 1:35 in Mrs. Moore's and Mrs. Bernard's rooms. The pizza party will be on February 27. Team lists will be posted outside of each room. The coordinators for next year are Samantha Burke and Jennifer Johnston.
- Ann Henning and Karen Langreck are the coordinators for the Kindergarten breakfast in the Fall.

Unfinished Business:

- Don Rangel stated that PSD does not pay for the busses for any field trips. The monies typically come from the classroom budget or we ask parents to pay for their child(ren). The cost of a bus is approximately \$235-\$260 depending on the distance of the trip. The PTO decided to talk about possibly budgeting for one trip per grade for the upcoming school year.

- The teachers need to provide dollar amounts for the items on their wish list. Don will handle the upcoming requests – approximately \$5000 remains to be paid from the approved \$7000 from the PTO. Next year we will implement an inventory system for items purchased from funds such as PTO to ensure that they are replaced if defective and also to ensure that they remain on school property.

New Business – Don Rangel:

- A cultural resource group has been formed and is made up of parents to help begin infusing multicultural information into schools. This group would help us to enrich learning with cultural resources that our found in our community and can be incorporated into the subjects we cover during the year.
- The homework meetings with each grade level are finished. Don does not want the parents to think that we are lowering our standards at Zach. After interviewing the teachers and reading research, we need to find a balance. Homework is designed to improve achievement, increase responsibility and reinforce what is learned in class. However, children need to be able to participate in life’s curriculum. Don is working with teachers to put together grade level expectations that can be easily communicated and give parents an idea of what to expect.
- The volunteer and visitor check-in/out procedure at Bacon Elementary is outstanding. Don will be meeting with the creator of that system and we will receive their system at no charge so we can implement it at Zach. This is a great system (barcodes) and we are looking forward to using it soon!
- PETA (People for Ethical Treatment of Animals) wrote a letter to Don regarding the 4th grade lamb heart dissection. PSD is going to respond to this letter.
- There will be summer school again this year with Don as the principal.

The meeting was concluded and adjourned at 7:17 by Ron Burke. The next meeting is March 10.

Meeting minutes submitted by Sara Mazanec, Secretary.



Zach is starting something NEW...and would like you to participate. Zach’s **Cultural Resource Group** invites you to support the Zach staff in enriching the Core Knowledge curriculum even more by bringing culture to life for all of our students. Through real-life, interactive opportunities, such as story tellers, dancers, musicians, artists and presentations, we hope students will gain a better understanding and acceptance of people with cultural differences.

Please help us by sharing your culture or cultural knowledge in Zach’s classrooms or in future cultural events! You can also help with planning and bringing new, exciting cultural events to Zach, or by identifying other parents or community members who are willing to share their culture with our school. Please call or e-mail: Susan Coyne at 266-8785 or coyne@mesanetworks.net
 Steve Henning at 223-0397 or ann.steve.henning@mesanetworks.net
 Karen Langreck at 266-0392 or jklangreck@comcast.net
 Karlina Popwell at 204-0488 or fos2day@hotmail.com



PRICES & DAILY MENU

Student \$1.75
 Reduced \$.40
 Adult \$2.85
 Milk/juice \$.35

Meal price includes: Entree, fruit and vegetable bar, milk

Parents Wanted!
 Child Nutrition is looking for paid servers to work in various kitchens.
 Contact 490-3557 for more information.

MARCH 2009

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Chicken Nuggets Hot Dog Fruit & Yogurt Box Whole Kernel Corn Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety	3 Macaroni & Cheese Hamburger on Wheat Bun ½ PB & Jelly with Yogurt Steamed Broccoli Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk - Variety	4 Cheese Pizza Ham & Cheese Deli Sandwich Smuckers Uncrustable PB & J Green Beans Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety Goldfish Crackers	5 Teriyaki Chicken Dippers White Rice Grilled Cheese Sandwich Chef Salad Broccoli & Carrots Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety	6 Corndog Chicken Patty Sandwich Smuckers Uncrustable PB & J French Fries Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety
9 Chalupa Cheeseburger Fajita Chicken Salad Whole Kernel Corn Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk - Variety Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie	10 Los Cabos Burrito Spaghetti Turkey & Cheese Deli Sandwich California Blend Vegetables Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety	11 Chili w/ Cinnamon Roll Baked Potato Bar Smuckers Uncrustable PB & J Steamed Broccoli Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety	12 Soft or Hard Shell Beef Tacos Chicken Patty Sandwich Smuckers Uncrustable PB & J Refried Beans Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety	13 <p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL!!</p>
16 SPRING BREAK	17 SPRING BREAK	18 SPRING BREAK	19 SPRING BREAK	20 SPRING BREAK
23 Los Cabos Burrito Chicken Nuggets Chef Salad Potato Wedges Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk - Variety	24 Chalupa Chicken Patty Sandwich Cheese Sandwich Whole Kernel Corn Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety	25 Breakfast Sandwich Corn Dog Smuckers Uncrustable PB & J Green Beans Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk - Variety Muffins	26 Nachos Cheeseburger ½ PB & Jelly with Yogurt Whole Kernel Corn Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety	27 Pepperoni Pizza Turkey & Cheese Deli Sandwich Smuckers Uncrustable PB & J Green Beans Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety Animal Crackers
30 Chicken Nuggets Hot Dog Fruit & Yogurt Box Whole Kernel Corn Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruits Milk - Variety	31 Macaroni & Cheese Hamburger on Wheat Bun ½ PB & Jelly with Yogurt Steamed Broccoli Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Milk - Variety			

MENU ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FEEL FREE TO CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL'S KITCHEN MANAGER WITH QUESTIONS.
 MENU NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE PSD CHILD NUTRITION WEB SITE.