



DOLPHIN CHRONICLE

Cherry Hills Village Elementary

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May 3, 2013

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, May 8	2013-2014 Kindergarten Parent Meeting – 4:00PM
Friday, May 10	“Muffins with Mom”- 8:00AM
Tuesday, May 14	5 th Grade Field Trip – Aurora Civic Center
Thursday, May 16	Accountability Meeting – 7:45AM CLAW – 7:50AM PTCO Meeting – 9:15AM Art Show Open House – 5:00PM 4 th & 5 th Grade Choir Program – 7:00PM
Friday, May 17	All Pro Dad’s Breakfast – 8:00AM Field Day Grades K-1-2
Monday, May 20	4 th Grade Field Trip - Planetarium
Tuesday, May 21	Hawk Quest Assembly
Thursday, May 23	5 th Grade Field Trip – Museum
Friday, May 24	Field Day Grades 3-4-5 Kindergarten Field Trip – Museum
Monday, May 27	NO SCHOOL – MEMORIAL DAY
Wednesday, May 29	5 th Grade Field Trip – Ameritown
Friday, May 31	Kindergarten Continuation - AM – 10:30AM PM – 2:00PM 3 rd Grade Field Trip - Civic Center Park 4 th Grade Field Trip - Gold Mine
Monday, June 3	5 th Grade Continuation – 9:00AM
Tuesday, June 4	Last Day of School – Noon Dismissal - Busses will run

Dear CHVE Families,

HOW ABOUT THAT AUCTION MADNESS! I am proud and amazed at the incredible support our community provides for students and staff at CHVE. The auction raised well over \$200,000! 100% of the proceeds will have immediate impact on the lives of your children. Here are a few of the great things your fundraising efforts provide annually:

- \$90,000 to pay for all classified support staff
- \$10,000 math resources and student workbooks
- \$2,500 Accelerated Reader program

- \$4,500 police department crossing guard
- \$5,000 staff development
- \$20,000 technology maintenance and upgrades

These new item requests are possible ONLY because of the awesome success of “LIGHTS, CAMERA, AUCTION”:

- A rock climbing wall for our gymnasium
- Runners club funding
- Cafeteria makeover including new tables with built in bench seating
- Performance risers
- Legos robotics and simple machines technology for a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) focused technology special
- Reading support for kindergarten
- Sensory diet resources for classrooms, (i.e. weighted lap pads, wiggle chairs, stress bands)
- Music therapy for children with special needs
- Another bank of 30 iPads and mobile cart

Every principal has their own way of doing things and I want to be sure that you are “in the know” about my process for implementing positive change at CHVE.

Each year we have the opportunity to tweak programs, schedules, procedures and practices to better meet the needs our students. Our boat is certainly not broken, but we can definitely spruce up some areas. I gathered 16 members of our staff for an off-site retreat and planning day. The month prior to our retreat, I asked all staff to submit ideas for us to consider. We received a plethora of great ideas! I categorized and shared the ideas anonymously and we got to work. We reached consensus on a myriad of topics because we used “what is best for kids” as our guiding principle. I asked representatives from every grade level and department to provide their unique perspective, so we could make informed decisions. Each member was not there to advocate for his/her team, but rather to advocate for all CHVE students. The PTCO funding requests are listed above. I would like to share some of the other exciting changes we will implement in the 2013-14 school year as a result of our planning day.

Note: Each year we will use this same process to make adjustments and enhance our program. You will see the phrase “one-year-only” in some cases because enrollment will dictate staffing changes for next year. We examined so many possibilities and I am confident we are steering our ship in the right direction!

We are projected to have 584 students enrolled at CHVE for the 2013-14 school year. Because this is a much lower number than recent years, we needed to cut some staffing. Here is the plan:
 CUT ODD GRADE BUBBLE CLASSES (1st, 3rd, 5th)
 CUT MEDIA BY .23
 ADD 1 ADDITIONAL CLASS TO 2nd GRADE

As a result, projected class size will be:
KINDERGARTEN: 21 PER CLASS
FIRST GRADE: 22.75 PER CLASS
SECOND GRADE: 21.4 PER CLASS
THIRD GRADE: 24.24 PER CLASS
FOURTH GRADE: 26.75 PER CLASS
FIFTH GRADE: 25.25 PER CLASS

We have a plan B in case our enrollment does not match projections.
PLAN B: ELEVATE CLASS SIZE WITH MATH SUPPORT AND/OR INTERVENTION

Changes in space:

Mobile next to La Tronico: 2nd grade classroom/K intervention
Small classroom off La Tronico: Mental Health
Large classroom off La Tronico: Technology
Mental Health office: Open space for small groups and volunteers

After surveying staff and students: RECESS/LUNCH SAME

We are implementing COMMON CORE STANDARDS across the curriculum. There are exciting and rigorous changes in the common core instructional approach and resources. For more information, reference previous chronicles, attend accountability meetings, and/or look in the purple box at the bottom of our staff page on learning links.

http://www.protopage.com/cherryhills#Cherry_Hills_Village_Links/Staff

STEM is coming to the specials rotation! Nate Krulish will teach from the STEM pod off La Tronico and expose our children to a whole new program including technology simple machines, robotics and engineering. We applaud Nate's vision and enthusiasm. Our students are going to love it!!!

We have a few random immediate changes, too!

* No microwave or hot water access for kids

We are one of the few CCSD schools that allow student access. We have had several students burned and it's a huge liability. I am sure it will inconvenience some, but our kids can handle it.

* Teachers will escort students to the exterior doors at dismissal to avoid the dangerous hall stampede.

* Students will not roll computer carts anymore. They are heavy and dangerous.

* STARTING NEXT YEAR...Bus boundaries will change slightly. Everyone will be pleased. CCSD has added a bus and the routes make much more sense.

* We will host a hand-made fresh pizza program on Wednesdays next year. No more stale Dominos, our awesome kitchen manager Erika Giffing, will put her cooking talent to good use for our kids!

*A NEW FAMILY MEET AND GREET for new families with students in grades 1-5 to meet their teachers on the Friday before school starts. PTCO does a wonderful job of hosting new families for tours and registration; we just want to add teacher introductions.

Back to school nights:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2013 – KINDERGARTEN, THIRD & FIFTH

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2013 – FIRST, SECOND & FOURTH

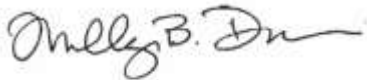
We added a second grade class and Kelli Feltz will take a year off for parenting leave to be with her new baby and family. I am THRILLED to announce Norah Breen and Alison Berner accepted the positions of second grade teachers for the 2013-14 school year. Norah and Alison are currently teaching 3rd and 5th grades at CHVE. We are blessed to keep them on staff!

“Yippee-yahoo-you rock” sentiments go to:

- THE AUCTION CREW! That included everyone that organized, promoted, and supported “Lights, Camera, Auction!”
- The auction queens: Erika Fisher, Rosalina Diecidue, Debbie Lathram and Debbie Larkin... you have my deepest gratitude and admiration!
- Tara Roberts and all of her super star student artists featured at the West Area Art Show. You are amazing!
- Michele Ienna and her super talented 3rd grade choir and 5th grade handbell choir. Your spring performance was superior!
- The staff leadership team for their hard work and dedication to implement change based on what is best for our students! Thanks for helping me steer the ship!

Thanks to everyone for being on the boat and promoting positive change at CHVE!

Together in education,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Molly B. Drvenkar".

Molly Drvenkar, Principal

Field Day Field Day Field Day

Field days are right around the corner! Field day for kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades will be Friday, May 17, (rain date Monday May 20). Field day for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades will be Friday, May 24, (rain date Tuesday, May 28). Thanks to all of you who signed up to volunteer. Thanks for all you do,



Luke Reynolds
Cherry Hills Village Elementary
P.E. Teacher

Cafeteria News

Student Refund Procedures

Seniors and Students leaving Cherry Creek School District

Refunds **up to** \$5.00 may be given at elementary schools and refunds up to \$10.00 may be given at secondary schools. Students should request to speak with the kitchen manager to process their refund.

Refunds **over** \$5.00 at elementary schools and refunds **over** \$10.00 at secondary schools must be forwarded to the student nutrition center for payment via check. To request a refund of this type please contact the Food and Nutrition Services Accountant at 720-886-7186 or email the accountant at abilozub@cherrycreekschools.org.

Students transferring within the Cherry Creek School District

If students are planning to transfer to another school within the Cherry Creek School District, their meal account balance will be automatically transferred to the Cherry Creek School that they will attend next school year.

Returning Students

At the end of the school year, all remaining student meal account balances will be carried over to the start of the next school year.

Information for Elementary and Middle Schools ONLY

In an effort to collect school meal loans, as of May 17, 2013, no further school meal loans will be offered for 2012-2013 school year. Prompt payment of all outstanding loans is appreciated. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, please call Erika Giffing, the CHVE Kitchen Manager at 720-747-2753.