

A
21st Century
Neighborhood
School!

EDISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

November 4, 2010

Leadership:

Sally Whitelock
Principal

Sally_Whitelock@DPSK12.org

Nadine Ritchotte
Assistant Principal

Nadine_Ritchotte@DPSK12.org

Secretaries:

Esther Martinez
Michelle Miller

School day:

8:45 AM - 3:30 PM

Upcoming Events:

November 4

Science Fair in Gym

Art Show in Library

CSC Meeting in the
Conference room (4:30)

Middle School Night in
the cafeteria at 6 PM

November 5

9Health Fair (9-1:30)

November 11

No School-Veterans Day

November 18

MENTors Build-it-Night

November 19

Coffee Conversation
with the Principal &
AP in Library (8 AM)

Thanksgiving Lunch at
Edison

3350 Quitman St.

720-424-7780

Please visit our website at:
<http://edison.dpsk12.org/>



What is the Coffee Conversation?

Dear Edison Community,

We are very excited about the changes occurring in our 21st century neighborhood school. However, we also acknowledge that change is often hard and sometimes scary. With two new leaders, several new teachers, and discussion throughout the community about "project based learning," 21st century skills, "Writing Alive," "backward design," "Mimio boards," "challenging learning opportunities for all students," "PBIS," and more, it is often confusing. Therefore, we are holding informal discussions with parents one morning each month. During these coffee conversations, we will be available to answer questions, respond to concerns, and listen to ideas and suggestions.

- We greatly value parent input in decision making at Edison, as well as, parent involvement in the education of our students. Please join us at our next coffee conversation on November 19 at 8:00 AM in the library for some coffee and bring your wonderful suggestions and ideas.

• Sincerely,

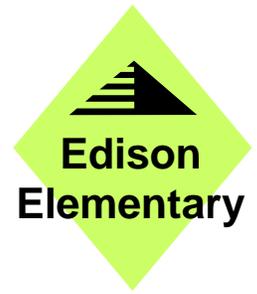
• *Sally Whitelock, Principal*

• *Nadine Ritchotte, Assistant Principal*



Please welcome our new music teacher

• Mrs. Rosemary Cano, our new music teacher, will be joining the Edison team on November 4. Mrs. Cano brings with her a passion for music and is a musician who plays the clarinet. She has taught music and band for four years in Texas, prior to moving to Denver with her husband. Mrs. Cano is excited to provide our students with musical opportunities which will hopefully build a love of music within our students. Mrs. Cano plans to teach our students rhythm and beat, songs, how to play instruments, how to read music, and how to work as a team to perform. We are very excited for Mrs. Cano to join our teaching staff. Please welcome her to our school and our community.



**Edison
Elementary**



21st Century Skills at Edison

Did you know that when your children grow up and enter the workforce, they will very likely enter a job that does not currently exist? It's true. Therefore, the teachers at Edison have been discussing the need to teach children 21st century skills. The 21st century skills are now a part of the Colorado State Standards in every content area. 21st Century skills include:

- Critical thinking and reasoning
- Information literacy
- Self-direction
- Collaboration
- Invention and innovation.

The teachers at Edison are, therefore, collaboratively analyzing how we teach writing, science and social studies and developing units of study that teach content while also supporting students in developing these 21st century skills. Project based learning, use of technology, and collaborative lessons will all be a part of how we provide a quality, challenging learning experience for all of our students.

Bully Prevention...a component of PBIS and CARES at Edison

As I'm sure that you are all aware, bullying has reached epidemic proportions in 2010 all across the U.S. Recent research shows that bullying may seriously affect the psychosocial functioning, academic work, and the health of children who are targeted. Bully victimization has been found to be related to lower self-esteem, higher rates of depression, loneliness, and anxiety. Studies also indicate that children who are frequently bullied report a variety health problems. They report more headaches, problems sleeping, abdominal pain, listlessness, skin problems and bed-wetting. (Fekkes, Pijpers, & Verloove-Vanhorick, 2003.) Victims are more likely to report wanting to avoid attending school and have higher school absenteeism rates. (Rigby, 1996). Although we at Edison are working to eliminate bullying in our community, we are realistic in our awareness that bullying is still an issue. That is why our teachers are training in Olweus bullying prevention. We believe that building a school-wide bullying prevention understanding and a vocabulary that teachers and parents can use and students can understand and use

themselves will help us to begin those difficult conversations with our students.

Here are some talking points to discuss with your children at home:

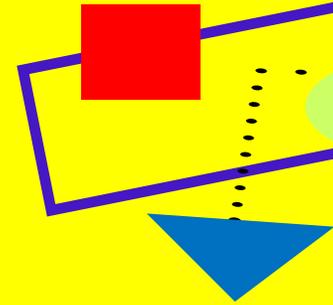
Bullying is not a conflict. There are four criteria for bullying:

- An intent to do harm
- An imbalance of power and strength
- The affect is negative and aggressive and differs for the victim and the bully
- Bullying is typically not seen between friends and is generally repeated behavior

Knowing this, we can teach our children to take some steps to decrease bullying. This is the Bullying Continuum of Courage:

- Walk away-decrease the bully's power
- Never laugh at a victim. This encourages the bully.
- Tell an adult in the building confidentially.
- If you feel safe, stand up to the victim
- Make friends with or support isolated students

Together, the Edison community can severely reduce bullying. Please talk about this issue often with your student. The conversation



Our mission at Edison Elementary is:

Edison Elementary is a collaborative learning community where 21st century skills, rigorous academics and character education ensure the development of the whole child. Every classroom promotes growth in critical thinking and reasoning, information literacy, self-direction, collaboration and invention/innovation. We celebrate curiosity and creativity in the development of life-long learners.

Our next "Gotcha Party" is this Friday after school. Bring your gotcha to receive a free otter pop. \$.25 without a gotcha.

Volunteer Opportunities...

Please support our school in providing engaging learning opportunities for students and families by volunteering at:

9Health Fair

MENtors Buid-it-Night

Literacy Night

FALL FESTIVAL...

was a great success. Thank you PTA, parents and teachers for helping make this a wonderful community celebration.