

Edison



3350 Quitman St. • 720-424-7780 • <http://edison.dpsk12.org>

November 1, 2012

From the Principal

Dear Edison Community,

Have you heard about our Science and Social Studies Integrated Units? Over the last two years, the teachers at Edison have been hard at work aligning Edison's science and social studies units with the new Common Core Standards while also integrating non-fiction reading and writing, 21st century skills and project-based assessments. Students in each grade level will do an in-depth study of earth science, life science and physical science, in addition to a civics unit and two social studies units in which they develop an understanding of geography, history, and economics. Additionally, our specials team is supporting the students in their learning with a performance at each grade level that connects to their studies in the classroom. We are so excited to share these performances and our learning with parents throughout the year. Please be on the watch for the following performances:

- * October 5 – ECE presented their learning of “All About Me and Coming to School”
- * October 31 – 2nd grade students performed their rendition of “Motion and Sound”
- * November 29 – 1st grade students will present “Democracy”
- * December 6th – 5th grade students will celebrate the holidays through “Earth Systems”
- * February 14th – Kindergarteners will perform “Making Friends”
- * April 11th – 3rd graders will act out “Colorado History”
- * May 10th – 4th grade students will perform “Regions in the US”

As always, we appreciate parent participation and involvement in our learning at Edison. If we have parents or community members who are experts in any of the above areas, please let us know and get involved.

I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Sally Whitelock

Sally Whitelock, Principal

Leadership:

Sally Whitelock, Principal

Sally_Whitelock@dpsk12.org

Nadine Ritchotte, Assistant Principal

Nadine_Ritchotte@dpsk12.org

Kali Garofoli, AP intern

Kali_Garofoli@dpsk12.org

Secretaries:

Michelle Miller and Barbara Schrant

School day:

8:45 AM - 3:30 PM

Upcoming Events:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Nov 1 | 4:30-5:30 PM – CSC meeting in auditorium |
| Nov 8 | 6:00 PM – Middle School night in auditorium |
| Nov 12 | No School – Veteran's Day |
| Nov 16 | Science Fair |
| Nov 16 | Thanksgiving Lunch in the Cafeteria at Edison |
| Nov 19 | Student Award Celebrations |
| Nov 20 | Student Enrichment Day |
| Nov 21-23 | No School – Thanksgiving Holiday |
| Nov 30 | RIF book distribution |
| Dec 6 | 4:30-5:30 PM – CSC meeting in auditorium |

Facts with Fluency...

On a bright early morning, Edison teachers sat together to develop a plan. As the staff dove deeper into the 2012 TCAP Math scores, teachers discussed the need for students to understand their math facts with automaticity. "I see students counting on their fingers when trying to complete rigorous math problems...not knowing math facts only gets in their way to understanding more complex math skills," stated fifth grade teacher Jenn Archibald.

To help support teachers and students, the staff was recently trained with MathFacts in a Flash. This program provides opportunities for students to become fluent in math facts at different levels. Students can log on from home, using their Accelerated Reader password, and practice math facts on the computer. After students are able to complete 20 math problems in 2 minutes, they can take the test. The test is 40 problems in 2 minutes. Once students are able to pass the test, they move on to the next level. The program starts with addition and moves up 56 levels.

Edison Staff decided to commit to students being fluent in multiplication facts and understanding division in 3rd grade and being fluent in division by the end of 4th grade. In order to do this, second grade must become fluent in addition and subtraction facts. See the trajectory below:

- Kindergarten - Introduce numbers 1-10
- First Grade - add numbers to 10
- Second grade - fluent in addition & subtraction numbers to 10
- Third Grade - fluent in multiplication facts 1-10
- Fourth Grade - fluent in division facts 1-10

What can parents/guardians do at home? Help all students obtain their goal, by practicing on the computer with **MathFacts in a Flash** or practice with flash cards. The more support at home, the better the success seen in school.

For more information on MathFacts in a Flash visit <http://www.renlearn.com/parentspage/mff.aspx>

To have your child log on and practice MathFacts in a Flash visit <https://hosted252.renlearn.com/245193/homeconnect/> Your child will know his or her user name and password. If you need assistance contact your child's teacher.

Edison's Middle School Night!!!

Come join us on November 8th at 6pm in Edison's cafeteria. Representatives from:

- Skinner Middle School;
- Denver Center for International Studies (DCIS);
- Morey Middle School-HGT and High Strides;
- Kunsmiller Arts Academy;

will be here to present information about the programs that they offer and their application processes. Middle school applications are due in December and January for the 2013-2014 school year.

Don't miss out! Your student deserves the best!

Edison Enrichment Day. CRAZY FUN LEARNING!

It's here again...the day where teachers share their interests, hobbies or passions with students so that students can learn something new and wildly interesting!

Tuesday, November 20th is Enrichment Day this fall. Students will be signing up for the learning experience of their choice in the upcoming weeks. Some of last semester's choices included:

- **Digital photography** • **Game Creation** • **Mongolia**
- **Ice skating at the Apex Center** • **Jewelry Making**
- **Heath - A Visit to DMNS** • **Colorado History & Mining**
- **Aviation and Wings Across the Rockies**

The experience will last a full day and may include field trips, guest speakers or inquiry projects and learning.

To that end, **WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!** Transportation, entry fees and materials will cost a lot! To make sure that all of our students get the crazy fun learning experience of their choice, we are asking for a **\$10 participation fee** for Enrichment Day. Look in this week's Thursday folder for the form.

If you can't afford the fee right now, just send a note to your child's homeroom teacher-we have a limited number of scholarships available.

Teacher Awards:

10-10-2012 Eddie-the-Eagle Staff Award: Christina McLaughlin

This award was given by Karen Burkenheim to Christina for her dedication to her students. Christina has been working tirelessly to apply best teaching practices while also "learning the ropes" as a new teacher.

10-10-2012 Golden Eagle Award: Kelsey Wales

Kelsey has worked very hard organizing a fundraiser to benefit students with autism. Her fundraiser, *Touch the World*, was a collaboration with other DPS teachers to help bring teachers and families together to develop a collective space to celebrate how technology is being used in schools, help students build relationships, and raise funds to bring technology to her classroom.

10-15-2012 Eddie-the-Eagle Staff Award: Joan Weiser

This award was given by Christina McLaughlin to Joan Wieser, our instructional coach. This year, she has supported the entire staff by helping our new teachers. She has modeled and planned Reading and Writing lessons for all grade levels to ensure best practices for all students at Edison.

10-15-2012 Golden Eagle Award: Cindy Stroschein

Cindy has worked overtime to ensure a successful Science Fair at Edison this year. She is also seen as a silent leader who helps mentor Edison staff to ensure quality and effective learning. Cindy has been here for many years and does an excellent job of reminding us of the traditions and ceremonies Edison has created through the years.

PTA Corner

Volunteering:

Thank you to all of the volunteers so far this year that have given their time by taking shifts at registration and the Fall Festival, as well as cooking meals for the parent/teacher conferences. Also, thank you to the behind the scenes individuals who have taken on specific jobs for the school year. We are just getting started and there are many volunteer opportunities available throughout the year.

The volunteer needs for November/December are:

Build-it-Night, November 15th -

Volunteers are needed to clean up at 7:00 pm. If you are planning on attending, consider staying for about 15 minutes afterwards to assist with clean up.

Science Fair, November 16th -

Volunteers are needed to assist with set up for the Science Fair before school. Table monitors are also needed throughout the day. Please sign up for a shift at:

<http://www.mysignup.com/sciencefair>

RIF, November 30th - Volunteers are needed to assist the RIF team in giving every student a FREE book at the first RIF distribution of the year! This is a very rewarding experience. Volunteers will be keeping the books tidy on the tables, assisting students in choosing books and stamping books for students to write their names in. To sign up for a shift, please visit: <http://www.mysignup.com/rif>



Literacy Night, December 13th -

Prior to December 13th, Literacy Night, volunteers are needed to string bells on yarn at home. Please contact ptaedisondenver@gmail.com if you would like to help.

Volunteers on the night of December 13th are needed to set up and clean up cookies and juice in the cafeteria. To volunteer, please follow this link: <http://www.mysignup.com/literacynight>

Book Fair, December 13th - Volunteers are needed to assist with the Book Fair. There are shifts for set-up/clean-up and assistance during the Book Fair by running the cash register and tidying up the books. An electronic sign up will be available soon. All volunteers will receive a \$5.00 voucher to use at the Book Fair.

Choir with Ms. Ditta - Volunteers are needed to assist Ms. Ditta during Choir from 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm every Thursday. Ms. Ditta is seeking someone to handle the snacks that she provides for the students, an extra helping hand in the classroom to keep students on task and a pianist if there are any amongst the Edison community. Please contact Kari Ditta at kari_ditta@dpsk12.org if you would like to volunteer.

If you have not signed up for the monthly volunteer/teacher needs email and would like to do so, please email ptaedisondenver@gmail.com.

Fundraising:

Thank you for everyone who attended the Fall Festival. It is a wonderful Edison tradition that the teachers and students look forward to every year. Our Silent Auction was a success with over \$3500 earned!

We look forward to seeing you at the Family Dance in February, where you will be able to bid on Teacher Treasures, and in May at the EdFest Party and Live Auction.

The November/December fundraisers are:

FunServices Sales catalogs - Sales brochures earn 50% of all sales for Edison. Share with family and friends and return your orders by Monday, November 5th. Orders will be delivered the week of December 10th, just in time for the holidays.

NY Pizza Pub Family Night - Join us Tuesday, December 4th from 4:00 to 10:00pm at the new neighborhood pizza pub (35th & Tennyson). Dine-in and carry-out only. 25% will go back to Edison.

Ongoing Fundraisers:

Contact edisonfundraising@gmail.com with questions.

- BoxTops/Labels for Education
- King Soopers Cards: purchase from Edison PTA
- Edison Online Store: <http://www.zazzle.com/edison elementary>
- Direct Donation: Click the donate button on Edison's home page to donate.
- Donors Choose: Watch for project posted by Edison teachers.
- SchoolStore.com: Shop online with merchants that donate a percentage of sales back to Edison. Magazine subscriptions give 50% back! \$180 earned and over \$950 in teacher gift cards donated to date.

Connect with Us

 edison.dpsk12.org

 twitter.com/edisondenver

 facebook.com/EdisonElementary

 <http://edison.dpsk12.org/?feed=rss2>