



## Edison Elementary Newsletter

**December 2015**

Sally Whitelock, Principal

Joan Wieser, Assistant Principal

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### From the Principal.....

Dear Edison Community,

I hope everyone had a restful and entertaining Thanksgiving break. At this time of year, I would like to express how thankful I am to lead our exceptional school. Edison's teachers and staff are true professionals with students at the center of everything they do. The community I serve is caring, giving and committed to a strong school. So, thank you for everything you do to encourage your children and support our school! I am blessed to have the opportunity to lead your school, educate your students and be a part of your children growing up.

With only three weeks of school before the winter break, I know that many parents and families are thinking about things to do during the vacation. I would like to challenge you to create wonderful family memories while also providing your children with encouragement to continue their learning. Over the break, please consider participating in our... **Read-A-Thon!**

This week, students received a booklet to take home and fill out with possible sponsors. Students should fill out the booklet and return it to school **by Friday, December 4**. Students will receive a **prize on Friday** for returning the booklet. Then, volunteers will mail out the sponsor cards the student filled out. **We strongly encourage students to use email contacts** for speed and ease of contact, and reducing our postage expenses. The students will get a **reading log the Thursday before winter break** in order to track the number of minutes they read for 2 weeks over break. The logs are due back on the first day of school after the New Year. Students have the opportunity to **win prizes** for most minutes read per grade; additionally, the primary and secondary classes with the highest percentage of students participating will **win a class party/prize**. 100% of the money raised will be used to purchase new books for classrooms and guided reading.

Have a Happy Holidays and READ a lot!

Sally Whitelock, Principal  
Sally Whitelock, Principal

### Upcoming events:

November 30	Read-A-Thon booklets sent home with students
December 1	Book distribution for students thanks to our PTA
December 3	CSC meeting at 4:30 in the conference room at Edison
December 3	PTA Social at El Camino
December 4	Read-A-Thon sponsor booklets due back to school

December 11	Kindergarten performance at 2:05 – “Winter Traditions”
December 11	School Tour at 9:30 AM
December 15-17	Book Fair
December 17	Literacy Night
December 17	Read-A-Thon reading logs will be sent home with students
December 18	School Tour at 9:30 AM
December 21- January 5	No School for students
December 21-January 5	Students READ and track it in their reading log for Read-A-Thon
January 6	Read-A-Thon reading logs due back to school
January 7	CSC meeting at 4:30 in the conference room at Edison
January 8	School Tour at 9:30 AM
January 14	PTA meeting at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
January 15	Stock Show Spirit Day – Students dress like cowboys & cowgirls
January 18	No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 21	ECE performance at 10:20 – “Clothing”
January 22	School Tour at 9:30 AM
February 10	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade performance at 11:00 – “Solar System”
February 25	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade performance at 2:45 -- “Sound”
March 16	1 <sup>st</sup> grade performance at 1:25 – “Pioneers”
April 20	4 <sup>th</sup> grade performance at 6:00 PM – “Colorado”
May 18	5 <sup>th</sup> grade performance at 3:00 -- “Revolutionary War”

## Donation Challenge

Edison’s community continues to surprise me. In November, an anonymous donor gave \$10,000 to Edison to purchase new chairs for our auditorium and books for our library. The donor also challenged our community with a matching grant opportunity. The anonymous donor is challenging our community to donate to Edison’s PTA between now and January 15, 2016. For every dollar donated, the donor will match it dollar for dollar, up to \$10,000. You can donate to Edison’s PTA by writing a check or giving cash at Edison’s office or using PayPal by clicking the “Donate” button on Edison’s webpage or the “Donate Now” button on Edison’s Facebook page. We are so grateful and amazed by this wonderful gift to our school.

## Literacy Night and Book Fair

Join us for an evening filled with literacy and fun! Wear your pajamas, bring a blanket and snuggle up for a reading of **The Polar Express** and a sing-along in the gym. Enjoy fun classroom activities, delicious cookies, and shopping at the Scholastic Book Fair! Help us support our North Denver

Community by bringing a can of food for Bienvenidos Food Bank drive. It is sure to be a fantastic evening!

5:30-6:10 K-2nd read aloud: gym

5:30-6:10 3rd—5<sup>th</sup> classroom activities

6:10-6:15 passing time/cookie time: cafeteria

6:15-7:00 K-2nd classroom activities

6:15-7:00 3rd—5<sup>th</sup> read aloud: gym

5:00-7:00 shop the Scholastic Book Fair in the auditorium

The **Book Fair** will be set up in the auditorium from Tuesday, December 15-Thursday, December 17. Students are welcome to bring money to purchase books during lunch or before/after school. Additionally, the book fair will be open on Thursday evening during the literacy night. Look for the exact book fair schedule with times in a flyer in Thursday folders.

## El Camino Celebrates Edison's 125th Anniversary

Please join us at El Camino on Thursday, December 3 between 5:00 and 9:00 PM and help us celebrate Edison's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. El Camino and Ratio Beerworks have created an Anniversary Beer that will be on sale at El Camino for the month of December. Each beer will cost \$5 and all proceeds will come back to Edison PTA.

## Novo Coffee

Novo Coffee is supporting Edison in celebrating our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a special "Edison Edition". Please order our special edition coffee and help us celebrate our anniversary. Order forms went home in Thursday folders or you can buy them off the shelf in the store. A percent of each bag sold will come back to Edison PTA.

## Read-A-Thon

The Parent Engagement Committee is blasting off with a revival of **Edison's Read-A-Thon!** Students will be reading over the two weeks of Winter break, tracking their minutes on a Reading Log. Emerging readers accrue minutes by having parents, siblings, and others read to them. **Pledge booklets went home the last week of November**, so start gathering names and addresses of 1-4 (or more!) people who will sponsor your students. Volunteers will be contacting your sponsors via mail or email with the page you and your child filled out, sending potential sponsors information about the Read-A-Thon, and asking them to pledge either a flat amount, or an amount per minute, and we'll include a SASE envelope for easy delivery. Email is ideal for rapid and easy communication. We'll provide small incentives for students returning their pledge books and reading logs by the deadlines, as well as prizes awarded for a variety of achievements! Questions, or want to volunteer for some database management with Mission Control? Email Anne SD at [edisonreadathon@gmail.com](mailto:edisonreadathon@gmail.com).

### Important Dates:

- ▶ **Monday, Nov. 20** – Read-A-Thon booklets and instructions go home with the students to be filled out at home with names and addresses of possible sponsors
- ▶ **Friday, Dec. 4** – Read-A-Thon sponsor booklets are due back to school (volunteers will use these to send information to the students' sponsors) \*Students will receive a small prize for returning booklets this day
- ▶ **Thursday, Dec. 17** – Reading Logs will be sent home with students
- ▶ **Sunday, Dec. 20 – Saturday, Jan. 2** – Official Read-A-Thon Mission: Let Reading Take You Places!
- ▶ **Wednesday, Jan. 6** – Reading Logs are due back to school \*Students will receive a small prize for returning their Reading Logs on this date.

## Kindergarten Student Performance - Winter Traditions

On December 11 at 2:05 PM, our fantastic kindergarteners will be performing "Winter Traditions" in our auditorium. At Edison, we are proud that every student in the school gets an opportunity to perform on stage, which is an important skill as students grow up. Additionally, they are just so cute. Please join us!

## ECE Student Performance - Clothing

On January 21 at 10:20 PM, our adorable ECE students will be performing "Clothing" in our auditorium. Please come to celebrate the hard work, singing and dancing of our youngest students. Please join us!

## DPS School Choice Starts in January

First Round School Choice is from January 5-January 29. Any student who wants to go to a different school next year than the one they currently attend must submit a Choice application. In addition, all ECE and Advanced Kindergarten students must submit an application. Please look for detailed information about the process as well as FAQs in this week's Thursday folder.

## First Trimester Awards Celebration

Yay! It is time to celebrate student success. We are really excited to celebrate the amazing student growth this trimester. On Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Whitelock and Ms. Wieser will be handing out awards to all grade levels throughout the day. The awards this year will focus on Accelerated Reader, Math Facts in a Flash, Good Citizen, Most Improved in Art, Music and PE, and Perfect Attendance. We are so proud of our Edison students' hard work, determination and dedication to their education!!

## Help Us With Traffic and Parking

In order to make sure that all students are safe and accounted for at all times, especially during drop-off and pick-up times, kindergarten students are dropped off/picked up on the southwest side of the building on Quitman Street and 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students are dropped off/picked up on the playground on the east side of the building.

We are requesting that ALL parents please follow traffic laws. Please support us by:

- Dropping your students off at school between 8:30 and 8:40. Supervision begins at 8:30 and the students line up ON THE PLAYGROUND to enter the building at 8:40 AM;
- Not parking in front of driveways;
- Not stopping in the middle of the street;
- Not parking in the school bus zone - on the south-east side of the school on Perry Street;
- Not parking on the north-west side of the street on Perry Street – this is loading/unloading or passenger pick up only;
- Not parking in the Edison parking lot (there is only enough space for staff);
- Not parking in the Kiss and Go/Greet and Get lane in the parking lot;
- Dropping your students off on Edison's side of the street so they do not have to cross the street.

We encourage parents to drop off their 1st-5th grader at the **Kiss and Go** lane in the parking lot between 8:30 and 8:40. Also, if parents would like to sign up to participate in the **Greet and Get** lane to pick up their students in the parking lot at 3:35, please sign up in the office.

**Due to continued complaints, the Denver Police/DPS security will be giving tickets.** Please respect our neighbors and keep our kids safe around the school.

## Inside Days

With the weather getting cold and snow on its way, please be aware of the inside day policies at Edison. We really believe that students need to get outside and run around at the lunch hour. Unless it is below 20 degrees, very windy or very wet, students will go outside for recess. Please make sure your children dress accordingly every day. If students are inside for recess, they will have an opportunity to watch a movie, play board games or play calm games in the gym.

## Weather Delays and Closures

Since winter is now upon us, we want to make sure that parents understand the DPS/Edison Weather Delay and Closure policies.

**Weather Delay Schedule for Identified Schools:** In the event of adverse weather conditions that would impede the Transportation Department's ability to safely access students, a "***Weather Delay Schedule for Identified Schools***" will be implemented beginning this school year. The goal for this delay schedule is to provide buses/students an additional 60 minutes to access schools that start at 8:30 a.m. or later. If DPS has a **Weather Delay, school will begin at Edison for ALL students at 9:40 AM**. Morning buses will begin pickups at bus stops 1 hour later than the normal pick up time. Kaleidoscope will provide day care for students from 6:30 AM until 9:40 AM when school starts. Breakfast will still be served to students as they arrive to school.

**School Closing:** If schools are to be closed due to weather conditions, the district is committed to making a decision as early as possible. The decision to close is made by the Superintendent based on information provided by representatives from transportation agencies, the weather bureau, city and county law enforcement and DPS Transportation. If school is cancelled, this information will be communicated in the following ways: local television and radio stations, [dpsk12.org](http://dpsk12.org), the district's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

**Severe Weather During School Day:** DPS will closely monitor severe weather conditions and forecasts throughout the day to ensure student safety. Should severe weather begin during the school day, bus routes will run in the same order as normally followed in the afternoon. Depending on conditions, arrival times at home may be delayed. You can reach the district transportation department at 720.423.4624 for your student's bus arrival time any time it's late. After-school activities (athletic events, enrichment programs, Kaleidoscope, etc.) may be modified or cancelled as a result of the weather conditions. Edison will send IC messages to communicate school closures during the school day.

## Parent Portal

DPS has an online Parent/Student Portal to make it easier to track a student's progress and plan for their future. Students can log into the Parent/Student Portal to see if they have all their assignments handed in. Parents can log into the Parent/Student Portal to check on their child's grades, attendance and test results. If you do not have a Parent Portal account, look for the flyer in this week's Thursday folder with details of how to sign up.

## PTA CORNER

'Tis the season to be jolly and there is so much to celebrate and be thankful for, so join us for our end of year **PTA Social**, this Thursday, Dec 3 at El Camino. Everyone is welcome! PTA goings on for the months of December and January are as follows:



**Thur Dec 3:** 5pm – 8pm **PTA Social** at El Camino – Edison Anniversary Beer Kickoff!

**Fri Dec 11:** 6pm – 8pm **Big Time Jump**

**Dec 15 – 17: Scholastic Book Fair**

Volunteer Signup for Set up & Sales

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4baaac22a3fc1-december2>

**Dec 17:** 5.30pm **Literacy Night**

Volunteer Signup for decorating & handing out Polar Express 'bells'

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4baaac22a3fc1-literacy2>

**Mon Jan 11:** 6pm – 7pm 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Group Meeting in Auditorium.

**Thur Jan 14:** 6pm – 7pm PTA General Membership Meeting in Auditorium. Free child care.

Interested in helping plan next year's Edison Fun Run? Get in touch with Kristi Guinn [edisonvpdenver@gmail.com](mailto:edisonvpdenver@gmail.com) before Winter Break begins.

**Wishing you and your family a very happy holiday, Your PTA Team**

--Edison PTA Board

## 2015-16 PTA Officers and Contact Information

**President:** Alex Cisney - [ptaedisondenver@gmail.com](mailto:ptaedisondenver@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Kristi Guinn - [edisonvpdenver@gmail.com](mailto:edisonvpdenver@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Kim Adams - [edisonptatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:edisonptatreasurer@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Michelle Kettleborough - [edisonptasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:edisonptasecretary@gmail.com)

