

Edison



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

January 9, 2013

From the Principal

Dear Edison Community,

Happy Holidays! We are all excited to be back at school and are thrilled about the engaging and challenging lessons we have planned for our children this semester. Though we still have half of a school year to go, we are also beginning to look forward to the 2014-15 school year. We do not yet have specific budget information, but we do know that due to classroom space and budget limitations, we will have to prioritize again. The School Leadership Team and Collaborative School Committee will meet in January and February to make budget and staffing decisions. As decisions are made, we will keep in mind the following:

- Edison is currently at 105% capacity and we are projecting wait lists again next year.
- Currently, about 50% of Edison's students choice in and 50% come from our neighborhood.
- Our goal is to reach 90% Proficient/Advanced in all content areas.
- Edison teachers strongly believe in our curricular focus, use of technology, and focus on differentiation for all students and interventions for struggling learners.
- Professional development and collaboration are a priority in order to ensure quality instruction for all students.

As we plan for next year, we need to keep in mind that accurate projections help us manage our student population and budget effectively. A **"Parent Projection Survey"** is being sent home with your child. Please complete this and send it back to the school as soon as possible. Also, please be aware that **choice applications** are due January 31 by 4:00 PM. Please make sure you get these returned to a DPS school if you are choosing a school other than your neighborhood school.

Sincerely,

Sally Whitelock

Sally Whitelock, Principal

Leadership:

Sally Whitelock, Principal

Sally_Whitelock@dpsk12.org

Eric Hamilton, Assistant Principal

Eric_Hamilton@dpsk12.org

Suzy O'Dorisio, AP intern

Suzanne_Odorisio@dpsk12.org

Secretaries:

Michelle Miller and Barbara Schrant

School day:

8:40 AM - 3:30 PM

Upcoming Events:

- Jan 9** Luau party for FUN Services participants
ECE-2nd: 3:30-4:15
3rd-5th: 4:15-5:00
- Jan 9** CSC meeting at 4:30 in the conference room downstairs
- Jan 10** School Tour at 9:30 AM
- Jan 15** PTA meeting at Zooks Coffee and Ice Cream at 6 PM
- Jan 17** Stock Show Spirit Day – Dress like a cowboy/cowgirl and bring \$1 to donate to Edison's community garden
- Jan 20** No School – Martin Luther King Day
- Jan 22** Build-it Night at 6:30 PM in the cafeteria
- Jan 24** School Tour at 9:30 AM
- Jan 30** Big Time Jump Fundraiser at 6 PM
- Feb 6** CSC Meeting at 4:30 PM in the conference room downstairs
- Feb 7** ELA Parent Meeting at 5:30 PM
- Feb 7** Rock the Night Away Family Dance at 6 PM in the gym
- Feb 19** PTA Meeting at 6pm; location TBD

It's School Choice Time For DPS!

It's that time of year – all DPS families must decide what school they want their children to attend next year. Most students will be automatically projected to the same school they're currently attending, but some students will need to submit an application to secure a place at the school of their choice.

The following Edison students must submit a choice application by January 31:

- All ECE students
- All advanced kindergarten students
- All 5th graders
- Anyone who came to Edison this school year on an administrative transfer
- Anyone who moved to an address outside of Edison's attendance area this year, whether or not they resided within Edison's boundaries prior to the move
- Anyone transferring to a different school, whether or not it's your boundary school
- Anyone new to Edison for the 2014-2015 school year

Applications can be accessed on the DPS website or you can pick one up in the office. Please call the office at 720-424-7780 if you have any questions about this process or if you're uncertain whether your student needs to submit an application.

A Message from the Student Engagement Committee

Happy New Year

January is a great time to reflect on the areas in our lives where we felt successful during the past year. It is also a time to consider how to make changes in areas we would like to improve. Here are some tips to help students start the New Year off on a positive note.

- **Get Plenty of Rest.** Scientists have found that students who do not get enough sleep have difficulty paying attention in class and do not exhibit their full potential in school. Students should get at least 8 hours of sleep each night.
- **Eat Healthy.** Eat more fruits and vegetables. Drink at least 8 (8 oz) glasses of water every day. Decrease the amount of sodas and unhealthy snack foods consumed.
- **Exercise Daily.** Being active is good for the mind, body, and soul.
- **Time + Effort = Achievement.** Take the time to carefully complete all assignments at school. Additionally, complete all homework assignments. Make it a goal to do your personal best at school every day.
- **Read, Read, Read.** Success in school depends, in large part, on a student's ability to read and understand what they have read. Students should read a variety of books including folktales, poetry, biographies, fiction and more. Read to get information, read for fun, read to someone in your family...just read!
- **Attend School Regularly and on Time.** Coming to school each day and on time supports learning development.

At Edison Every Child Succeeds!!!



PTA Corner

Why would anyone sign up for a PTA leadership position? Is it the adulation, the prestige, the first dibs on the cookies on Literacy Night? Am I living out my rock and roll dreams and seeking out fame? Most of us on this year's team would say they did it for the growth opportunity, to find out a little more about ourselves. Being a PTA officer challenges you to step out of your comfort zone, it's humbling and hard to always have to ask for help, money, and time but in the end it's all worth it. Personally, I have had to learn to always say thank you and say it again, just like the rocker screaming "Thank you Mile High CITY!" I've had to let go of the idea that I can do everything myself, I can't play all the instruments on stage. Thankfully, I have a great team, of dependable fellow officers and a vibrant school community, and you all can put on a top notch show. Since the beginning, I've promised to do this job for one year. Even though most PTA officers stay on for two years, our treasurer and I have decided that we would do a single impactful year. With a lot of help, the officers and special committees have gotten our finances back in order, are continuing to add to our step by step officer guidebook, are updating our bylaws, and are building on many successes of the past PTA teams while creating sustainable systems to pass on. Guess what, our year is half over. It's time for one of you to consider stepping onto center stage. Edison will need a new president and treasurer for 2014/2015. Sleep on it, talk it over with your spouse, ask us questions and we'll give you frank answers. The work we've done to document the steps, tasks, and costs involved with every event is so that the next person can avoid reinventing the wheel, unless they want to. You don't want to just be the leader of a cover band, do you? Imagine the new harmonies you want to create with your team, the power chords you will jam out as you head in a fresh direction. As David Bowie once said "I don't know where I'm going, but I promise it won't be boring."

You Know You Make Me Want To Shout:

Part of being in a band is taking some time to recognize some of the individual members. Gladys Knight may have her Pips; well at Edison we have The Sarahs. So give it up for all the Sarahs and Saras at Edison! Is it coincidence because our principal is a Sarah that we have so many reliable Sarahs and Saras who come to our rescue time and time again? We all know that Kristi Mackenzie is the auction queen, putting on THREE auctions - Fall Festival, Rock the Night Away, and EdFest. She's playing lead guitar. However, playing a mean bass guitar is Sarah Knapp. She runs the back end of all that makes these auctions work, managing the Greater Giving software which categorizes all the items, tracks them, makes sure they get to the proper donor, and ensures that donors get thanked. Sarah Knapp helps with the technical aspects of all of our fundraisers and is on our audit committee, steadily keeping that baseline rolling. As the energy was fading, who took up the drum beat for Green Team? Let's put our sticks together for Sara Nepomuceno! Sara was the one who spearheaded our last clean-up day and brings some much needed revitalization to Green Team. Green Team will need more help for April events, stay tuned! We've all seen

the Sign Up Genius links on Facebook, here in the newsletter, on flyers, asking for volunteers for our many exciting events. We all sign up when we can, and PTA thanks you all. There is one name we are almost always sure to see, Sara Mackie, another fine credit to the name. In addition to being our dependable helper, she's one of the concession gurus with Brandi Baldschun and she's one of the teacher appreciation chairs with Casey Hall. Sara Mackie is like a keyboard player, able to shift the tone to suit the needs of the melody. Last but not least, shaking a mean tambourine is Sarah White, classroom parent, also on the Donors Choose committee. She's just one of those people you call on when you need more sass. Here's to all of the Sarahs and Saras at Edison, we salute you!

Merch Booth & Family Dance & Family Forum

Every great band has a killer t-shirt, and we thought Edison adults needed some great fan shirts of our own. These debuted at Literacy Night and we sold out of a bunch of sizes and have ordered more! They should arrive in time for the Family Dance on Feb 7th, which is just around the corner. Stay tuned for more info about shirts, volunteer needs, and details about the Dance mid-month via the Edison Family Forum, which you can join here: <http://www.bigtent.com/groups/edfamdenver>. This forum is for ALL Edison families to communicate and share info in a respectful way.

Never Miss A Gig!

Did you know you can sync the Edison Calendar to your smartphone? It's the best user hack I've found to stay on top of what's going on at school! If your phone supports iCal, use this link: <https://www.google.com/calendar/ical/edisonofficecalendar%40gmail.com/public/basic.ics>



January PTA Meeting Update:

Date and time are the same: 6:00pm on Jan 15th, but we're moving the location to Zook's Coffee Shop, 3156 W 38th Ave. We'll be voting on some important proposed amendments to our bylaws concerning dues for the 2014-15 school year, plus determining participation in community-wide fundraisers, Totally Tennyson 4 and the Mile High 5 race, and more!. See you there!

February PTA Meeting

Weds Feb 19th 6:00pm Location TBD

PTA Membership

I'd make a light-hearted riff here about joining the fan club, but really, our members are no groupies. PTA members are the hard-working roadies that fine-tune the guitars, stock the green room, and drive the bus, the needed tasks to make our kids' orchestral performances come off without a sour note. You can still impact our school by joining the PTA this year. We welcome and encourage input, feedback, and ideas from ALL of our Edison community, regardless of PTA membership status, but if you would like to vote on any issues or spending, you must be a member. Dues are \$10 and are good through Sept 30, 2014. Please email Anne Spires DeLong, PTA secretary and acting Membership Chair, at edisonptasecretary@gmail.com, if you'd like to arrange payment or with any questions. You may also stop in at the office to fill out a membership form and pay dues. Mark that resolution as complete!

Saving The Best For Last: 2013 Holiday Giving Season

Like a great Bob Geldof supergroup, our Edison community rallied in December and raised over \$2000. We have an Anonymous Benefactor who said he would match donations and has agreed to fund our school through the PTA to the tune of \$20,000. The first half of the money has been earmarked for technology to benefit the primary grades, and the second half will address other areas of need. In all seriousness, those of us working backstage on this have been moved by the generosity of all of our donors.

Check Your Student's AR Progress On-line

All 1st-5th grade students at Edison are working hard to achieve their AR (Accelerated Reader) goals. Parents can check their progress online at:

<https://hosted252.renlearn.com/245193/homeconnect/>

The user name is your child's student ID number preceded by "DPS"; for example: DPS123456

The password is your child's date of birth formatted as: mmddyyyy. For example, if your child's birthday is January 9, 2004, the password is 01092004

Contact your child's teacher if you need assistance with the user name and password.

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