

# Edison



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

January 12, 2012

## From the Principal

Dear Edison Community,

I hope everyone had a fun and relaxing holiday. The Edison staff is back to school, excited and rejuvenated for the second semester! Even though it is only January, we are beginning to plan for the 2012-13 school year. We do not have specific information regarding Edison's budget, however, we do know that due to classroom space limitations and budget limitations we will have to prioritize and make some difficult decisions. In order to make these decisions, the school leadership team and CSC are beginning to discuss possible staffing and budget options. Final budget and staffing decisions will be made in February. Some important information that will impact decisions made include:

- Edison Elementary is currently at 95% capacity.
- We are projecting an increase of 20-30 students for next year.
- Currently, about 50% of the students who come to Edison choice into our school and about 50% live in our neighborhood.
- Last year, we had a waiting list for both Kindergarten and ECE.

In order to make quality decisions about how many ECE, Kindergarten and choice students we will accept for the 2012-13 school year, we need to have accurate projections for the students who currently attend Edison. Last week, a "Parent Projection Survey" went home in Thursday folders. I am hoping for a 100% return rate on these. Please complete the simple survey and send it back to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

*Sally Whitelock*

Sally Whitelock, Principal



## Leadership:

Sally Whitelock, Principal

[Sally\\_Whitelock@dpsk12.org](mailto:Sally_Whitelock@dpsk12.org)

Nadine Ritchotte, Assistant Principal

[Nadine\\_Ritchotte@dpsk12.org](mailto:Nadine_Ritchotte@dpsk12.org)

## Secretaries:

Esther Martinez & Michelle Miller

## School day:

8:45 AM - 3:30 PM

## Upcoming Events:

### January 12

PTA meeting, Auditorium 6:00 PM

### January 16

No School - MLK Day

### February 2

Community Gathering, Library 3:30-4:30 PM

### February 2

Community Forum at 6:00 PM in auditorium

### February 9

CSC meeting at 4:30 in the Library

### February 9

PJ day (bring \$1 donation to the homeless in Denver and wear PJs to school)

### February 10

Valentine's Day Dance, Gym 6:00-8:00 PM

### February 25

EdFest Annual Auction, 6:00 PM



## EdFest is Edison's largest fundraiser of the year!

Come enjoy an evening of Mardi Gras style fun with appetizers, drinks, blackjack, silent and live auctions, and dancing.

Details: Saturday, February 25th, 2012, 6pm-11pm

Highlands Masonic Temple Center  
3550 Federal Blvd

Silent auction: 6-8pm

Live auction: 8:30pm

Dancing to follow

Admission is \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. Each admission includes two drink vouchers.

For more information and to find a link to purchase admission tickets online, visit <http://edison.dpsk12.org/edfest/>

Bring your friends and family!

### We have some fantastic items coming in!

Rockies game with Mr. Auday

Bowling with Mr. Baltz

Reserved parking spot in teacher's lot

YMCA of the Rockies

Movie nights, restaurants and more

We are still in need of donations and volunteers for the night of the event. Please email [edisonfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:edisonfundraising@gmail.com) for more information on how you can help. Money raised from this event will help bring even more technology into our classrooms.

## Community Forum Update

On Wednesday, December 7, we held our most recent community forum. At the forum the Edison teachers presented a proposal, which we believe addresses many of the issues raised at community forum meetings. Additionally, Bill Fulton facilitated a discussion regarding best ways to provide a quality education to all students who attend Edison. Over the next few months, we plan to continue the discussion of providing a quality educational program for all students at Edison with a final discussion and approval by the School Leadership Team and CSC this Spring. You can see the notes from all community forum discussion on the forum website at <http://edisoncommunityforum.wordpress.com/documents-to-download/>. We will meet again on February 2.

## Scholastic Book Fair Update

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Scholastic Book Fair by shopping and/or volunteering. The December fair was extremely successful and generated \$3,100 in Scholastic Book Dollars. These "Book Dollars" are directly spent within Scholastic and will be used to support classrooms, students and our school library. Here is the break down of "Book Dollar" allotments:

\$1,500 split among teachers

\$ 800 to support the library

\$ 800 to support Edison Eagles Book Club

Karin Ahern,  
Book Fair Chairperson

### 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.

# Here's What You Might Have Missed In The Eagles Roost Blog!

[Digital Project about CARES at Edison!](#)

December 15, 2011

[Sign up for Enrichment classes for next Semester!](#)

December 15, 2011

[Get Your Highland's Local Deals Book & Chinook Book After School](#)

December 13, 2011

[Community Forum Update from Bill](#)

December 12, 2011

[Community Forum Update](#)

December 9, 2011

[Literacy Night and Book Fair – A Great Success!](#)

December 9, 2011

[So Many Ways To Support Edison This Week!](#)

December 7, 2011

[Winter/Spring Enrichment Enrollment Starts Monday 12/12 – Go Online to Review Today](#)

December 7, 2011

[Literacy Night and Book Fair](#)

December 6, 2011

[Community Forum – Wednesday, December 7, 6:00-8:00 PM](#)

December 6, 2011

## Attendance

Hi Edison families,

I'm sure that some of your children have mentioned that part of my job as a School Psychologist/Social Worker is to make sure that all the students are at school **every day** and that they are **on time**. When I visit their classrooms and ask them "Why is it important to be in school every day and to be on time?" their answer is correct: to LEARN. Unfortunately most of the students during the elementary years have to rely on adults to get to school and to be on time.

I want to share with all of you the following article that addresses the importance of attendance, as well as a Chart Table showing the percentage of attendance per school year and what it means by the time a student graduates from High School. As you can see, even with a 93% attendance rate per year, a student will have missed a full year by High School graduation.

Thank you for getting your children to school every day and on time. Please remember to call the Edison Attendance line at (720) 424-7784 early in the morning when your children are sick so that their absences are marked correctly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Margarita Cordero

School Psychologist

M/T/Th. 720 424-7815



## Present, Engaged, and Accounted For *The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades*

*Authors:* Hedy N. Chang and Mariajosé Romero

*Publication Date:* September 2008

At the core of school improvement and education reform is an assumption so widely understood that it is rarely invoked: students have to be present and engaged in order to learn. That is why the discovery that thousands of our youngest students are academically at-risk because of extended absences when they first embark upon their school careers, is as remarkable as it is consequential. Schools and communities have a choice: we can work together early on to ensure families get their children to class consistently or we can pay later for failing to intervene before problems are more difficult and costly to correct.

Common sense and research suggest that attending school regularly is important to ensuring children develop a strong foundation for subsequent learning. During the early elementary years, children are gaining basic social and academic skills critical to ongoing academic success. Unless students attain these essential skills by third grade, they often require extra help to catch up and are at grave risk of eventually dropping out of school. Moreover, when chronic absence occurs (missing 10% – nearly a month – or more of school over the course of a year, counting both excused and unexcused absences), everyone pays. The educational experiences of children who attend school regularly can be diminished when teachers must divert their attention to meet the learning and social needs of children who miss substantial amounts of school.

Student Report Days: 172 per year			
% Attendance	# of Days Absent Per Year	Absent One Full Year By Grade	# Years Absent By High School Graduation
93.0%	12	12	1
90.0%	17	8	1.4
80.0%	34	3	2.8
70.0%	52	1	4.2
60.0%	69	1	5.6

## PTA Corner

Many events that your children enjoy at school would not be possible without volunteers.

Volunteers are needed for the following upcoming events:

### Valentine's Dance

**February 10th**

Gym

- 3:30 pm Decorate
- 8:00 pm Clean Up

### EdFest

**February 25th**

Highlands Masonic Temple Center

- Join the Auction Committee
- Set up in the afternoon before this event
- Work a shift during the event (more details to come)

The following are upcoming fundraisers for Edison. Funds that are raised by the PTA are used to purchase t-shirts, Thursday Folders, field trip transportation, RIF books, teacher needs, school needs, Enrichment Scholarships and so much more!

### Skin by Demi

During the month of January 50% of services purchased during the month of January will be donated back to the Edison Earnings store. Please visit

<http://edison.dpsk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Skin-by-Demi-salon-specials.pdf> for more information.

### Kyle's Kitchen

Head on over to Kyle's Kitchen located at 4018 Tennyson Street for breakfast or lunch and mention that you are from Edison. Kyle will donate 10% of your sale to the Edison Eagles Book Club.

### Chinook Books and the Greater Highlands Local Deal Books

To place your order, send an email to [edisonfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:edisonfundraising@gmail.com).

### Scrip Order Deadline

**February 12th**

Scrip orders can be made online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) using the enrollment code **9613C34626883**. Checks, made payable to Edison PTA, can be left in the office or online payments made with Presto Pay.

### 2nd Box Tops Deadline

**February 17th**

Keep clipping those BoxTops!

### EdFest

**February 25th**

Highlands Masonic Temple Center

3550 Federal Boulevard, Denver, CO 80211

- This is an event that you will not want to miss! Line up your babysitters, as this is an adult only event. If you, or anyone you know, can help provide a discounted or free service from the following wish list, please contact: [edisonfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:edisonfundraising@gmail.com).
- Printing company connection
- Restaurant connections to donate food the night of the event
- Wine distributors or breweries to donate alcohol for the night of the event
- Donations of big ticket items such as condos, hotel stays, spa packages, sporting events

### Door to Door Organics

- 10% of sales go to Edison

Please visit the following link to set up your account:

[https://colorado.doortodoorganics.com/signup.php?invite\\_id=1690](https://colorado.doortodoorganics.com/signup.php?invite_id=1690)

Please contact [ptaedisondenver@gmail.com](mailto:ptaedisondenver@gmail.com) to volunteer, for further information or to be added to the volunteer/teacher request email list.

## The Edison School Store Rocks, but Needs Your Help!

Students, teachers and parents agree... the Edison School Store has been a great success! Students and teachers find the store motivating and we've seen a great decrease in adverse behaviors over this school year! We chalk part of that up to the incentives offered by teachers for students to use at the school store. The store has been so successful, in fact, that the PTA is having a hard time keeping up with our demands to fund it. The kids are buying the store out quicker than we can stock it. To that end, we need your help! We are currently looking for donations of bigger ticket items to offer our students. For example, just last week someone donated some modeling clay and a pottery wheel (that we are offering at 40 Edison bucks.) Another parent donated an art kit (which we actually sold at 25 Edison bucks.) We'd like to begin to offer these bigger items so that kids can learn the value of saving to buy the things they want. Please email [nadine\\_ritchotte@dpsk12.org](mailto:nadine_ritchotte@dpsk12.org) or phone Nadine at 720.424.7786 if you can help out. We will take and be extremely appreciative of either items or services for kids to sign up for.

The CSC last met on January 5 to discuss progress on the 2011-12 Unified Improvement Plan and to begin to prioritize budget and staffing decisions for the 2012-13 school year. The CSC is scheduled to meet next on February 9 at 4:30 in the library. Please visit the Edison website at <http://edison.dpsk12.org/> for CSC agenda and minutes as well as the 2011-12 UIP.

## Connect with Us

 [edison.dpsk12.org](http://edison.dpsk12.org)

 [twitter.com/edisondenver](https://twitter.com/edisondenver)

 [facebook.com/EdisonElementary](https://facebook.com/EdisonElementary)

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