

Edison



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

October 6, 2011

From the Principal

Dear Edison Community:

Though I and the teachers at Edison understand the importance of high stakes tests like the CSAP in ensuring quality schools and in supporting schools in making data driven decisions, this data is a small piece of the information we need to evaluate our success as a school. In addition to the achievement data provided by the state, teachers collect student achievement data on an on-going basis throughout the school year. We give assessments like the Benchmark exam, the DRA2 (Developmental Reading Assessment), Aimsweb, STAR reading, STAR early literacy, Accelerated Reader, STAR math, and Everyday Math assessments which we use to make informed decisions. We also rely on the professional knowledge of our teachers to assess the needs of our students and ensure quality instruction for all students.

Every fall, schools in DPS are “graded” in a report called the School Performance Framework (SPF), which takes into account a broad range of measures and considers a school’s data over two years. The SPF is presented in the form of a scorecard that measures multiple performance criteria including achievement growth, achievement status, student engagement, student enrollment and parent satisfaction. Based on the school’s total number of points achieved across all of the indicators, the school is assigned an overall SPF rating of Exceeds Expectations, Meets Expectations, Approaching Expectations or Does Not Meet Expectations. The 2011 SPF was recently released and rated Edison as Meets Expectations. In addition, we were rated the following:

Student Progress Over Time – Growth:	Approaching
Student Achievement Level – Status:	Meets
Student Engagement:	Meets
Student Enrollment:	Meets
Parent Satisfaction:	Does not Meet

** The Parent Satisfaction rating is based on the number of parent surveys turned in and on the percent of positive responses on the surveys over 2 years.*

In addition, student engagement and parent engagement are keys to our success at Edison. We value all of our families and recognize that “it takes a village to raise a child.” We hope that all parents take the opportunity to attend parent-teacher conferences this month. We also value collaborative decision making between the school and the parent community and want to formally invite parents to attend our Community Gatherings, CSC meetings and PTA meetings. We encourage parents to volunteer in classrooms, participate in community events and join us for student celebrations of projects. Lastly, please check the Edison website for updated information, read the Edison and classroom newsletters, and share ideas with us through email or face-to-face visits. Thank you for partnering with us.

Sincerely,

Sally Whitelock

Sally Whitelock, Principal

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:

October 5 — Walk to School Day

October 6 — Community Gathering at 3:30 in the Library

October 6 — 4:30 CSC meeting in Library

October 13 — 6:00 PTA meeting:

Update on PTA events and fundraising

Community Forum: Presentation on current Edison data and Different school models for serving Gifted/Talented students

October 14 — Box Top Collection & Picture Day!

October 16 — **9-12:00** Edison Yard Cleanup

October 21 — **3:45-6:00** Fall Festival

October 25, 26

Parent-Teacher Conferences from 3:45-7:45 (Teachers will send out sign-up information)

October 27 — RIF distribution

October 28 & 31 — No School

November 3 — Community Gathering at 7:30 AM in the Library

November 3 — 4:30 CSC meeting in Library

November 3 — 6:00 Middle School Night

November 4 — 5:30-7:30 Build-it Night

Community Forum

On Saturday, September 24, seventeen parents and teachers participated in action planning at the Edison Community Summit. The dialogue was rich, honest, and in many ways groundbreaking. The idea for the summit came from our previous forums, where people emphasized the need to make sure that the school truly shares a common vision among staff, parents, and students before taking on some of the other issues identified through the forums. While the participants by and large validated the good work that the teachers had put into the mission/vision statement last year, they made 3 important suggested revisions:

- Greater emphasis on “collaborative learning community” to include all community members, not just teachers
- Clarifying the role of relationship of rigorous academics and character education to 21st Century learning skills
- Ensuring that the unique learning needs of all students are met at Edison
- You can see the notes of the full discussion on the forum website at <http://edisoncommunityforum.wordpress.com/documents-to-download/>

The Summit also generated a powerful list of values that will help guide the school as it makes future decisions. I hope you will mark your calendar for **the PTA meeting at 6:00 pm on Thursday, October 13.** The meeting will connect the work of the Summit to the Solution Team discussion of “meeting the needs of all students under one roof at Edison.” A big piece of that Team’s work is recommending the best HGT model for Edison. Sally will provide an overview of school wide data that everyone at the Summit found very grounding. We will then summarize and discuss some of the outcomes of Saturday’s Summit before introducing the process of evaluating different HGT models that the community believes would best help it live up to its mission, vision, and values. The CSC will make the final decision on the best model in the spring, but we hope everyone will have a chance to weigh in on the process throughout the year.

Best regards,
Bill Fulton
The Civic Canopy
bill@civicanopy.org

The CSC will meet on October 6 to discuss the 2011-12 Unified Improvement Plan and look at current school data, including the SPF and 2011 CSAP data. Please visit the Edison website at <http://edison.dpsk12.org/> for CSC minutes.

Did you know?



Members of the Edison Green Team persuaded Denver Public Schools officials to stop using 2,4-D (a pesticide/herbicide that causes childhood leukemia, asthma and other health issues) on ALL school district properties. Edison is one of three schools selected to participate in a pilot project to explore more organic options for lawn care.

The pilot project starts this spring. For now, you may notice a few extra weeds popping up on our school grounds. To help our staff stay on top of it during this key transition time, 20 hard-working Edison kids and their families came out and cleaned the school grounds on Sept. 16th. They pulled weeds, picked up trash and spread around a huge pile of mulch. The Green Team appreciated their help so much! And Ms. Whitelock even gave them Edison Bucks. Well done, guys!!

The Green Team invites more families to come share their gardening skills and elbow grease.

Mark your calendars for the next work day: Sunday, Oct. 16 at 9 a.m. Please be sure to bring garden gloves, tools, sunscreen and plenty of water.

Let’s take pride in Edison and make it one of the greenest schools in DPS!



Being Proactive ... stopping bullying at Edison.

In an effort to continue to build strong classroom and school-wide community at Edison, the Student Engagement Team, in conjunction with all teachers at each grade level, have implemented some new strategies this year. During the first week of school, every child visited our "hotspots" or areas where problems for students are most likely to occur, and learned or re-learned the expectations for that area. Teachers continue to reinforce those expectations on a daily basis. Every classroom at Edison is holding morning meetings and spent the first two weeks of school learning about and reviewing Edison CARES. The Student Engagement Team created a bank of lesson plans for teaching CARES for teachers to access

and use in their morning meetings. Teachers will continue to reinforce CARES throughout the school year in classroom celebrations and through the use of Edison Earnings, which can be spent at the school store. We have noticed a dramatic change already!

Our next step in creating the culture that we all want is to make sure that we address bullying. We decided to do this as a whole school by continuing to use our morning meetings as a proactive forum to teach and enforce the behaviors that we would like to see throughout our school. DPS, in accordance with state law, has bought and adopted the rights to the Olweus Bullying Program for all teachers in classrooms in grades K-12. The curriculum

is available online for all of our teachers. We have done one training with teachers and will continue to learn as adults. It is our expectation that all students here at Edison will learn bully-proofing using Olweus in morning meeting. It is our hope that through this process we continue to improve peer relations and make sure that Edison is a safe and positive place for all students.

The Student Engagement Team is still looking for some parent members. We meet on the first Wednesday of every month from 7:45-8:30. If you are interested, please contact Nadine at 720.424.7786 or nadine_ritchotte@dpsk12.org.

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

[Count Day is Tomorrow! Wear your PJs to school!](#)

September 29, 2011

[HGT Applications due October 3](#)

September 28, 2011

[NASA International Space Station Presentation at Edison](#)

September 27, 2011

[Is your 5th grader thinking about Middle School?](#)

September 27, 2011

[Green Team's Chipotle Fundraiser!](#)

September 26, 2011

[Budget and Grant Celebration!](#)

September 25, 2011

[National Walk to School Day](#)

September 23, 2011

[From DPS: Operation Mountain Guardian](#)

September 20, 2011

[Edison Community Forum Summit – September 24](#)

September 18, 2011

[Edison Earnings Store: Time to Get Your New T-Shirt](#)

September 16, 2011

[Mr. Baltz – Educator of the Year for Colorado Association Gifted and Talented](#)

September 15, 2011

[Edison is in the North High School Homecoming Parade!](#)

September 14, 2011

[Here's the deal...what's up with budget and staffing:](#)

September 14, 2011

[Parenting for Student Success – Sept. 24 DPS Parent Leadership Institute](#)

September 13, 2011

[First "Edison Earnings" School Store a Success!!!](#)

September 11, 2011

[Box Tops for Education](#)

September 11, 2011

[Pinwheels for Peace Comes to Edison!!!](#)

September 8, 2011

[FREE After School Program – Enroll in Edison Eagle Book Club Today!](#)

September 8, 2011

[New Technology in Kindergarten](#)

September 8, 2011

[PTA Meeting 9/08/11](#)

September 7, 2011

[Edison Student Makes America's Got Talent Finals...](#)

September 6, 2011

[Edison Eagles Book Club – Still Accepting Students](#)

September 6, 2011

Many events that your children enjoy at school would not be possible without volunteers. Volunteers are needed for the following events:

October 16

Edison School Yard Clean Up with the Green Team

Pull weeds, pick up trash, sweep and distribute mulch.

Edison Playground

9:00 am

October 21

Fall Festival

Ticket sales, concessions and chili cook-off helpers

Edison Playground

3:45 – 6:00 pm

October 27th

RIF

Help students select books, stamp books and help students write their names in them

Auditorium

November 4th

Build It Night

Help students assemble fun projects provided by Home Depot

Auditorium

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

November 18th

Science Fair

Monitor projects

Gym

8:00 am

The Edison Eagles Book Club is seeking one more 2nd grade parent volunteer to co-run the second grade book club. Please contact ptaedisondenver@gmail.com to volunteer or for further information.

If you would like to be added to the volunteer email list, please contact the PTA.

The Edison Elementary PTA will be hosting its First Annual Chili Cook-Off during the Fall Festival. Make a pot of chili and help raise money for Edison! The cost to enter your chili is \$10.00, which includes your ticket to sample the competition. Tickets to sample and judge are \$5.00. Drop off your crock pots of chili by 3:00 on October 21st in the cafeteria and include a descriptive, anonymous label for it. (i.e. "Grandma's secret vegetarian chili").

Adult sized Edison t-shirts, as well as, child-sized shirts, are now available for purchase for \$10.00. All proceeds go towards purchasing items for the Edison Earnings School Store. There will be an online school store with hoodies, hats, and other Edison wear coming soon. If you would like to donate to the school store monetarily or if you have items that you would like to donate, please contact ptaedisondenver@gmail.com.

The Big Zukes Weigh In was a success! Edison earned \$245.00! Thank you Parks and Gardens, LLC!

Scrip Orders are due on October 15th at 9 p.m. The website is: www.shopwithscrip.com and the enrollment code for new members is: 9613C34626883.

Please join your fellow Edison families at El Camino on November 5th for brunch. El Camino will be donating 25% of food sales to Edison Elementary from this community event. PTA will be utilizing all of the earnings to purchase items for the Edison Eagles Store.

Please utilize the amazing website at <http://edison.dpsk12.org/> and the Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/EdisonElementary>

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