



Bulldog News

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University Schools

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Dear University Schools Community,

The new school year is well underway and things are going well. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new students and families. We have several staff members new to University Schools that I would also like to welcome. They bring years of successful experience and expertise to University.

Ettie Arnold	Third/Fourth Grade
Valerie Bell	Special Education
Ruth Bersagel	Third/Fourth Grade
Kira Carroll	Third/Fourth Grade
Jarod Craig	Facilities Manager
Julie Fraser	Health Clerk
Justin Garcia	Social Studies
Carlie Hoskins	Language Arts
Ranelle Nortey	French
Leah Ortiz	Spanish
Sarah Rowland	Art
Craig Stalker	American Sign Language
Nancy Velazquez	Family and Consumer Studies

Parents, thank you for picking up your students immediately after school. With minimum supervision after school and the daylight hours getting shorter, it is important for students to have transportation as soon as school is dismissed.

I encourage you to attend our many extracurricular activities. Because we are a kindergarten through twelfth grade school, there are many athletic events and activities occurring weekly.

Please feel free to call me (506-7001) if you have any questions or concerns. I value your feedback.

Sincerely,

Sherry Gerner, Ed.D.
Director

No School

October 10th (Faculty Inservice)

October 13th (Fall Break, School Closed)

October 30th & 31st No School for **6th through 8th Grade**

****Remember October 1, 2008 is our count day and we need 100% attendance!**

From The Elementary Master Teacher, Carol Riggs

We have had a great beginning of school at the Elementary Level. There is a lot of good work and learning going on in all of the classrooms. The students have settled into the routines of the school days and seem to be focused and excited about many of the projects, skills development and goals that were set.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents for their cooperation in having the students remain outside before school starts. It is safer for the children as there is no supervision inside the school, as most of the teachers are in classrooms and not available for student supervision. Although we have had some beautiful fall days, we must remember we live in Colorado and inclement weather is never too far away! You can find the inclement weather policy on page 23 of the Elementary Student Handbook. Please take a minute to review the procedure for those days. It is important that your child come prepared to be outside, even it is cold, as students learn better when given an opportunity for some fresh air and physical activity.

Again, thank you for a great start of the school year and sharing your child with the Elementary staff. If you ever have a question or concerns, feel free to give me a call.

From The Middle School Principal, Paul Kirkpatrick

Spelling Bee Information

You never know when you will be asked to spell "schadenfreude," so you can begin practicing now! This is your first alert about the 2009 Spelling Bee.

This year, the format for participation in the State Spelling Bee has changed a bit, and I do not have all the details, but the intent is still the same. We want to allow students to have fun practicing spelling and ultimately taking a shot at going to the State Spelling Bee in Denver, on March 14th, 2009.

In early January of 2009, University will offer a written pre-qualifying test of 25 words to students in grades 4-8. The top 25 spellers on that test will automatically qualify for the University Schools Spelling Bee in late January of 2009. The winner of that event will qualify for State, regardless of how she/he does in the Northern Plains League Spelling Bee in February.

In the past, the top eight spellers in our Spelling Bee qualified for the League event, with the top eight from League going to State. I will provide additional information about process when the League readjusts its procedures.

Meanwhile, students can begin practicing by visiting "spellingbee.com," then going to "study zone." According to the site, a new version of "Spell It!" will be available soon as a free download. You can still print off a consolidated word list (also free downloads) and last year's 2008 Spell It! to begin practicing.

Sixth Grade Geography Students

Parents of Sixth graders, for the sixth year I will have the Geography students participate in the Read to Feed program. The program is part of the Heifer International program that sends animals to poor communities in the United States and undeveloped countries of the world. These animals are used to give milk to children and provide an income for entire communities so that they can become self-sufficient!! The kids get their parents and relatives to pledge money, say \$1.00 for each book that their child reads in the 6 week period. We will begin about the middle of September and end the 1st of November. In the past, we have always raised around \$1,500 and the kids get to vote on what animals to purchase and send to the people who need help so desperately!! Students are not required to participate and it does not affect their grade. If you have any questions you can email or call me (506-7031). Thank you for your support.

Colleen Callahan

From The High School Principal, Holly Sample

Autumn is in the air and the school year is in full swing. We have gotten off to a great start, with faculty and students returned from the summer break refreshed, energized, and ready to learn and grow.

University High School has many new faces this year with about 13% of our student body new to our school. The overwhelming majority of them report feeling welcome and getting off to a good start. Most new students say they come here to get a good education in a safe environment. They report "harder classes" but supportive and interesting teachers. Student leaders, faculty, and staff are working to communicate and continue the traditions that make this school great, while welcoming new ideas and innovation that will ensure we continue to improve.

Our knowledgeable and dedicated teachers are already involved in many committees focused on making sure we continue to provide our students with the best possible education. Last year, they led the way in reviewing and revising our graduation requirements. These new requirements go into effect for next year's freshman class. This year, faculty is updating the senior project requirement. In addition to challenging and rigorous expectations for all students, we have a wide array of supports and interventions to make sure students can meet those expectations. From after school programs to lunch time study and extra time with individual teachers, our school is committed to ensuring that every student willing to put forth the effort can be successful.

In addition to their studies, students are involved in a wide variety of co-curricular activities. Between sports, music, drama and clubs, well over half the student body is enthusiastically involved. Students have held talent show and welcomed our new students with a BBQ and a dance. An outstanding homecoming week is underway as we go to print with this newsletter. Athletic teams are doing well and our Booster Club has injected a new level of spirit with financial support, football barbecues, and a variety of other activities. I hope every parent who reads this newsletter will contact the Booster Club to find out how you can get involved.

Parent involvement is an important foundation of our school. Thank you for all you do to encourage your student's success. I invite you to stay in close contact with teachers, advisors, administrators and other school staff. Together we will make sure this is an outstanding year for all.

From the USPTO University School Parent Teacher Organization

Upcoming Fundraisers:

University Schools' PTO is sponsoring our annual fall fundraiser and your participation is greatly needed. This program funds teacher grants and classroom and student enrichment materials. Every student at University will benefit from this program!

Save your plastic shopping bags from any store, as well as newspaper and dry-cleaning bags. Put them in the collection bins in the hallway across from the office and Walmart pays us \$5.00 for every full bin! The bags are used to make new consumer products, shopping bags, deck and rail materials, park benches, garden and lawn edging and decorative tiles, among other things. This fundraiser runs from October through March.

Save your bottle caps from Morning Fresh Dairy's glass bottles. They will recycle them and pay us a nickel for each one through their Cash4Caps program! Just put your bottle caps in the collection bucket in the office.

These are great fundraisers for your friends, neighbors and extended families to help out with too! Just ask them to save their bags and bottle caps for you! The more we collect, the more money we raise!

Something New Just for You! Coffee with Your Counselors!

Please join us on Thursday, October 16th at 7:45 a.m. to enjoy coffee and treats with the elementary, middle and high school counselors and the school nurse! This is an opportunity for parents to learn about some of the experiences we are offering to University Schools' students. This month we will talk about Student Safety and ways we are

Celebrating Diversity at University. Future "Coffee with your Counselors" will include Bullying Prevention, Academic Success, Career and Transitions. We hope to see you at 7:45 a.m. in room 1213, the classroom attached to the cafeteria!

Donna Gonzales, Sandy Magnuson and Jennifer Roth

From the UH Theatre Company and Thespian Troupe

We will be presenting *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Kendall for the fall play production. Based upon Jane Austin's novel, this comedy depicts a family living in early 19th century England that has five daughters to marry off.

Elizabeth is attracted to Mr. Darcy, but he is a very proud young man and is shocked by Mrs. Bennett's vulgar matchmaking! This play is appropriate for middle school ages and up, but may be long for elementary ages.

Performances will be Oct. 16-18 at 7:00 p.m. in the UH Auditorium. Tickets are \$5.00 for students and \$6.00 for adults. See Mrs. Pamela Wilhelm for more information (506-7055).

Celebrating Diversity at University

Have you seen the flags in the hallways?

Have you looked at the world map?

The paw prints on the world map represent countries or regions where our students' ancestors originally lived. We have over 30 paw prints on the map and are adding new ones nearly every day. We have a concentration of paw prints on northern Europe and the Scandinavian countries. Other paw prints are scattered across the map.

A supportive and nurturing environment is a Pillar of University Schools. Celebrating Diversity at University was designed to increase awareness of the diversity among us and encourage respect for the various ancestral roots of our students and faculty.

Next time you are in the building, please stop and look at the map. If your family is not represented, please let a counselor know so we can celebrate your heritage with the others.

Yearbook Deadlines and Senior Pictures

If you are interested in a high school yearbook, you must submit your order by January 23, 2009. We will not be able to take orders after this date! Don't miss out!! Order your yearbook now by returning your order form to the office or by visiting JOSTENSYEARBOOKS.COM to pay with a credit card. Forms are available in the front office.

Senior pictures are due to the yearbook staff no later than Tuesday, October 14, 2008. It is best to ask your photographer for our photo in digital format with a 300dpi, jpeg or vertical wallet size print. Please do not include your name or graduation year on the photo itself or it will not be used for the yearbook. Photos need to be given to Mrs. Pierce in room 2016 or digital images can be e-mailed to lpierce@universitieschools.com by the deadline!

From the Library...

Working on research at home? Try out a reliable, reputable, researched source, World Book Online! Go to our library website <http://www.bulldogpages.wordpress.com> and on the right hand side of the page, find Online Subscriptions and click World Book Online. Use the World Book Online to find encyclopedia articles that have many great links to magazine articles, websites, pictures, videos and more! We have been introducing this valuable resource to all classes coming to the library to research and will continue to encourage students to start their research with World Book Online.

University Schools Library hosted our sixth annual K-8 Scholastic Book Fair during the week of September 8-12, 2008. All proceeds from the book fair will go directly onto library shelves as all our profit was taken in new books. Look for new books as we catalog them and get them ready for check-out. A special thank you to all our book fair volunteers!

If you have time to come in and label or cover books, stop by, email me at rbudzynski@universitieschools.com or call 506-7022.

Garrett Carver's Senior Project

Bulldogs help others, locally and globally. Garrett Carver's senior project will be collecting art supplies for Escuela Ivan Sequeira, an elementary school in Municipio El Rama, Nicaragua. Currently, this K-6 school does not have an art program because it is not able to afford supplies for art. New or gently used art supplies can be donated and dropped off to advisor's classrooms and the elementary art room #1406. Materials needed include: crayons, markers, watercolors, brushes, colored pencils, rulers, tempera paint (liquid or powder), brushes, tissue paper, decorative scissors, construction paper and sketchbooks. Also, money collected will be used for postage costs and additional art supplies. The project's goal is to provide enough art supplies for this school to share throughout their classrooms. Items will be collected until the end of October. If you have any questions, please contact Garrett Carver at 356-3434. Thank you in advance for your support!

Key Club News

Key Club would like to welcome the University Schools family to another year of service. The 2008-2009 Key Club officers are: President Joe Shoemaker, Vice president Jordan Kemme, Secretary Jason Lightfoot and Treasurer Danielle Meier. We are also proud to have club member Vinny Ybarra as the Division 2, Rocky Mountain District Lieutenant Governor. (This is an awesome leadership group!)

Key Club has several projects on the planning board that will involve the school community. Elementary students will have the opportunity to participate in Trick or Treat for UNICEF. Key club members will visit classrooms later this month to talk about the latest UNICEF project and to ask students if they would like to help.

We will again be recycling aluminum cans. Look for more information to come home with your child.

Red Ribbon Week activities are being planned for late October. This is a week devoted to the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse.

Key Club is an international youth led service organization for high school students. We are sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Greeley.

Bulldog Homework Help Club

When: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Time: 3:15pm to 4:15pm

Where: School Library

The Homework Help Club will be held in the school library on Tuesdays and Thursdays while school is in session. The library is reserved for these sessions and computers are for homework only. All students are welcome and there will be volunteers to assist. Students will receive a snack (provided by New Frontier Bank) at the beginning of each session. This is a great opportunity for students to get help and allow time to complete their assignments. Any questions, contact Theresa Bardos at: tbardos@universityschools.com

Attention

If any parent has a recording of the 2008 graduation ceremony, please contact the main office at 506-7000.

Have an article for the Bulldog News?
Drop it off at the main office or email it to
klauer@universityschools.com
Publishing deadline is the 15th of the month!