



The mission of
Platte River Academy
 is to provide a content-rich,
 academically rigorous education
 with a well-defined, sequential curriculum
 in a safe, orderly and caring environment

May 14, 2009

May: A Month Doing Double Duty

By Dr Gary Stueven, Principal

The month of May always presents a level of busyness like no other month of the school year. While making every effort to finish out the current school year successfully, we cannot forget to think about or begin planning for the next school year. A word picture would be like seeing some facing Father Time with one foot planted in the past, yet leaning the other into the future. And, this is done while standing over the present. If one's vision isn't panoramic, an opportunity might be missed.

As the school year comes to a close one item of business that some parents pursue is an opportunity to talk with this year's teacher about next year's assignment. The conversation will, in so many words or ways, basically ask: "Can you tell me which teacher would be best for my child?" or "Can I tell you which teacher my child should (or shouldn't) have next year?" Would you believe that it is the latter question that parents ask about 99 out of 100 times? What teachers share with me later is that parents put them in a very difficult position by asking these questions and wanting a recommendation from them to use as a basis for a request.

So, what are parents to do? What most do is trust that as student placements/assignments are made that we take into professional consideration the individual child, the grade-level groupings, and the teachers. Teachers work with these placement/group decisions and then Mr. Barber and I will finalize the assignment of these groupings to a specific homeroom. Parents need to remember that at almost every grade-level students will have both teachers for something during the school day.

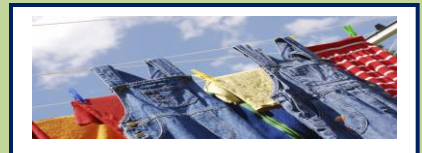
There are times when a parent believes that he/she has some information or a position that must be shared with the school in the form of a teacher request. I understand that, but only if the reason for a request is directly based on what the child or parent has experienced. Too often the basis for a request is only supported by rumor, or what someone else said, or what the child wants. None of these latter reasons are supportable.

However, if you believe that a strong, legitimate rationale exists for making a request then you can email either Mr. Barber or me. Please know that despite your request no guarantee to honor it can be made. My request is that you do not put the current teacher in an uncomfortable position by talking about or asking about other teachers. That conversation should be with a school administrator.

Isn't May fun! I hope you are enjoying it. Summer is right around the corner.

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Attendance Line:
303-243-5210



ATTENTION PRA PARENTS

PLEASE CHECK THE **LOST AND FOUND** ITEMS IN THE FOYER FOR THINGS YOUR CHILDREN MAY HAVE MISPLACED. ANY LEFTOVER ITEMS WILL BE GIVEN TO CHARITY AT THE END OF THE YEAR.



Please note that on the last day of school, Friday May 29th, your student **WILL** need a **SACK** lunch brought from home that day. There will be **NO** hot lunch that day, but each class will have a lunchtime before their 1:00pm dismissal.

Please also send in a drink with your student(s) on 5/28 and 5/29. We will be letting our milk and juice supply diminish that week so there will be a possibility of us running out of milk and juice those last 2 days.

If you have any questions, please contact Tina Dorsch at: mikentina3@comcast.net Thank you



IMPORTANT LIBRARY DATES

Tuesday, May 19 will be the last day for students to check out books from the library.

All books are due to the library Friday, May 22.

We need to make sure all books are returned before the end of the school year. Please contact Cathy Schmidt or Ute Meyer at (303) 221-1071 x 2027, if your students have any damaged or lost library books.



Congratulations on two WONDERFUL shows!!! Thanks to the staff, families, and friends for such a great turn-out. The cast and I thank you all for your support. We would also like to thank the following people for their special roles in this production:

Holly Smits, Karyn Jones, Arlene Wearsh, Ken Whatmore, Meaghan Burke, Megan Galgano, A.J. and Stacy Simpson, Julie McCloskey, Alex Schellhase, Eileen Desch, Leslie Rogers-Peckham, Kathy Johnson, Jody Hansard, Susan Kelly, Annie Byrd, Janelle Jones, Tony Kroneberger, Susan Kelly, Dr. Gary Stueven, Bob Barber, Kristen Tompkins, Marika Miller, Debbie Goodiel, Ron Foote and the staff, crew, and students of Cresthill Middle School, Mardie Koneval, Jim Barstad, and Tami Sauter.



Volunteer Opportunities

May Crossing Guard Duty Needs

Three (3) additional for the PM shift for the week of 5/18; and finally for the last week of May we need one (1) additional for AM shift and ten (10) additional for the PM shift. *Note: Friday, May 29 is a 1pm dismissal*

Please call or email Rochelle@rmonahan@platteriveracademy.com ASAP if you are able to help out and fill any of these vacancies.

For those of you who have a hard time volunteering in other areas, this would be a much needed way for you to increase your hours.

Your involvement at PRA is greatly needed and appreciated.



We will have gift cards in \$10 denominations, from these vendors, for immediate purchase beginning next week:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Borders | Jamba Juice |
| Panera Bread | Starbucks |

Please see Teresa Schuy at the Lobby desk. Thank you



May 2009

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Staff Birthdays/May
 5 - Austin Taylor (Tech)
 11 - Kevin Sewell (PE)
 14 - Laura Ghia (5th Aide)
 17 - Yvette Arnold (1st Aide)
 21 - Judy Poulliot (Office)
 21 - Sue Foley (K Aide)
 22 - Armando Duque (6th)
 22 - Wendie Martin (EA)
 23 - Ute Meuer (Librarian)

May Calendar of Events

Friday, May 15

- 9:30p-1:30p Wild West Ranch/Kindies
- 9:15a-12p Castle Tour/4th grade
- 6p-9:30p MS Dance/6-8th grade

Monday, May 18

- 8:30a-11:30a Field Day/ K-2(rain date 5/19)

Thursday, May 21

- 8:30a-11:30a Field Day/Grades 3-5 (rain date 5/22)

Friday, May 22

- Hat Day (\$1 donation required)

Monday, May 25

- Memorial Day NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, May 26

- 8:30a-2p MS Field Day (rain date 5/28)
- 10a-2p Pirates Cove/5th Grade

Wednesday, May 27

- 10:30a End-of-Year Program/AM Brocka
- 2p End-of-Year Program/Klee
- 2:30p End-of-Year Program/PM Brocka
- All Day Hexathlon/6th Grade

Thursday, May 28

- LAST DAY FOR EIGHTH GRADERS
- 7p 8th Grade Graduation

Friday, May 29

- DRESS OF CHOICE
- 10:30a-11:30a Cow Park/3rd grade
- 11a-12:30 Cow Park/ 2nd grade
- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 1PM DISMISSAL
- Report Cards Go Home



Bake Sale Tomorrow
Remember your Quarters!