



*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*

February 18, 2010

A Gold Medal Education

By Mike Rourke, President, PRA Governing Board



What do the Olympics and Charter Schools have in common? If you said “nothing”, you’d be wrong. Case in point, the “National Sport School” in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The grade 9-12 charter school was founded as a means of giving Canada’s Olympic caliber athletes a means of receiving a top quality education, while maintaining the flexibility necessary to train and compete on an international level.

The school, located near Olympic Training facilities in Calgary, is home to roughly 150 student athletes. They have a much lower student to teacher ratio, which gives the students and teachers more leeway in crafting individualized learning plans enabling the athletes to travel and compete internationally throughout the school year. The school boasts of four current students and many more alumni who are competing right now in the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver. Their sports vary from speed skating to ski jumping to the luge.

Charter schools are an excellent means of catering to a specific mission statement. Much like the National Sport School, Platte River Academy seeks to fulfill a special mission statement: “To provide a content rich, academically rigorous education with a well-defined, sequential curriculum in a safe, orderly and caring environment.” The charter school system is a means by which we parents are able to have direct input and control over the education of our children. It allows us the autonomy and independence to set curriculum, determine class size, set standards and hire the people that we see as best suited to the task. Independence and responsibility are quintessentially American characteristics and we should take great pride that we live in a country that allows us the opportunity to do for ourselves.

With the National Sport School as a Northern cousin, we should give a little wink to our neighbors and hosts of the 2010 Games, but in the end I know I will be finding myself chanting “USA, USA, USA, USA!” Go for the gold, whether in sports or in school.

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Attendance Line: 303-243-5210



Girls on the Run registration is due on Feb. 22nd. Scholarships are available. Look for registration form in today’s ‘e-folder’

Please contact Leslie Rogers-Peckham, Girls on the Run Coordinator with any questions at 720-273-5819. Thank you



Please check the Lost & Found rack in the front foyer of the school for any items your child may be missing.

Four times a year, just before each break, we donate any items that have not been picked up to charity.

Order your 2009-2010 Yearbook NOW DEADLINE FAST APPROACHING



Look for your yearbook order form in today's 'e-folder'. Please return your **order form with cash or check** made payable to PRA by **MARCH 1st**. We are sorry but **no late orders can be accepted!**



We will also be selling ADS for the yearbook, at the following prices:

Full Page...\$110 ½ Page...\$60
1/4 Page...\$35 1/8 Page...\$20

Dedications:

1/8 page...\$20

Contact: lhouston@platteriveracademy.com

MCDONALD'S HOT APPLE PIE

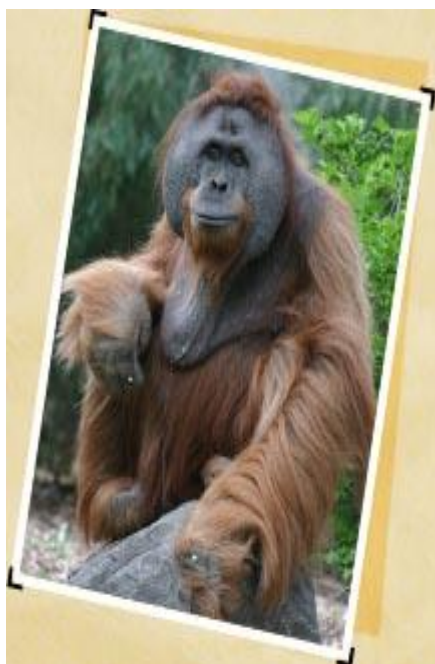


You and/or your child can enjoy a warm McDonald's Hot Apple Pie during this cold weather on Tuesday, March 2 during lunch recess.

Cost: \$1.00 (cash only please)

All money is due by Wednesday, February 24.

Look for your order form in the "E-folder" or your child's Thursday Folder (K-5)



Save our animals is the theme for third grade's community service project!

This year we will be saving used ink jet cartridges to recycle and take to the Denver Zoo. The zoo will use the proceeds to protect Orangutans, which are the most endangered species of all the great apes. **So drop off your cartridges in the box at the front office area from NOW until April 23rd and third grade will take care of the rest!**

Volunteer Opportunities

HELP WANTED



Work from Home

The PRA PTO is currently in need of an auditor. If you have experience in this area and would like to volunteer please contact Nicole at mcimbura@comcast.net for more information.

The PRA PTO is also looking for a computer savvy, detail orientated parent who would like to earn volunteer hours by compiling the 2010-2011 school directory. Please contact Nicole at mcimbura@comcast.net



Volunteers and Ideas... A Recipe for a Great Book Fair!

We need help! Join us February 24th at 3:15 pm in the library for a decorating committee meeting for the book fair. Please let me know if you can make it!

**Cathy Schmidt
303-221-1070 ex.2027**

cschmidt@platteriveracademy.com



February 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March Birthdays

- 3/2 Marilyn Nelson (3rd)
- 3/4 Cindy Stubbs (2nd Aide)
- 3/10 Scharlotte Bowles (M.S.)
- 3/12 Michelle Enos (K-Aide)
- 3/13 Diane DePinto (Spanish)
- 3/15 Mike Willsea (M.S.)

February 2010
13th - Jessica Martinez (1st)

March 2010

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			

February/March Calendar of PRA Events

Thursday, February 18

- 3:45 Staff vs. Boys Basketball Game
- 7pm Board Meeting

Friday, February 19

- 9:30-2pm Denver Aquarium 6th grade

Saturday, February 20

- 8-12noon Family Workday

Wednesday, February 24

- 9:30a -1:30p Denver Puppet Theatre (2nd gr.)

Thursday, February 25

- 8:45am-12p Wildlife Experience (3 gr.)

Friday, February 26

- 2pm-2:50 Morris Dancers (2-4 grade)

Thursday, March 4

- 6pm SAC Meeting

Monday, March 8

- 6:30pm PTO Meeting

Wednesday, March 10

- 2:30-3:15pm Poetry Performance (2nd grade-Young)

Thursday, March 11-Monday, March 15

- Hot Lunch Order Period

Thursday, March 11

- 7pm Board Meeting

Friday, March 12

- 9:30am-1pm Wild Life Experience (Kindies)

Sunday, March 14

- Daylight savings time begins, turn clocks AHEAD one hour

Monday, March 15

- 9am-1:30pm Teikyo Lorreto Heights (1st gr.)

Tuesday, March 16

- HOT LUNCH PAYMENT DUE

Thursday, March 18

- DRESS OF CHOICE

Friday, March 19

- NO SCHOOL TEACHER COMP DAY

Monday, March 22- Friday, March 26

- SPRING BREAK



Bake Sale Tomorrow
Don't Forget Your Quarters!