



November 2008
ISSUE 3: 2008-2009

What can you do to help at
Little Elementary?

Nov 17 through 21 Food drive
Volunteer-

We need one or two parents to give up some time in the morning hour to collect up our food donations, and tally items for our students. If you would be able to assist us please contact Lissa Heaviland lheavila@jeffco.k12.co.us

Nov 25 Turkey Trot Safeguards-

We will need about twenty people to help keep our students safe by volunteering to watch a street corner. Or you are invited to run with your student. This helps keep our kids going and protects them from unexpected problems. If you want to help support this event and your child please contact Lissa Heaviland lheavila@jeffco.k12.co.us

Nov 25 Pies and Turkeys-

We are asking family's to donate pies or turkeys to our Turkey Trot event. Our top runners in each grade (Boy & Girl) receive a "pie prize". As well as our food drive raffle winners. If you could help contribute please contact Lissa Heaviland. lheavila@jeffco.k12.co.us

Dec 2 Science Fair Help-

We are having the science fair for our little scientists in the gym as always. We are going to need one or two people to help our student's set-up their projects before they are viewed by the WHOLE school. One other parent could help out a lot by hosting the dinner given to the judges from Pomona High school. The gourmet dinner of pizza and drinks will be provided. If you are willing to help, please contact Ana Ortega anaamos@yahoo.com



The Principal's Corner

November 2008

Dear Families of Little Elementary,

Thank you for attending conferences this past month at the rate of 94%! We consider ourselves privileged as educators to work with children whose parents are consistently supportive of our efforts and who work in partnership with us in building healthy, resilient, successful children.

November is a wonderful month to celebrate gratitude!

I would like to share the following excerpt from a recent *Family Circle* magazine. It is a useful reminder to ourselves as parents and as educators who work with young people every day.

Ten Commitments for Parents

1. I will always love and respect my child for who he is and not for whom I want him to be.
2. I will give my child space—to grow, to dream, to succeed, and even sometimes to fail.
3. I will create a loving home environment and show my child that she is loved, whenever and however I can.
4. I will, when discipline is necessary, let my child know that I disapprove of what he has done not of who he is.
5. I will set limits for my child and help her find security in that knowledge of what is expected of her.
6. I will make time for my child and cherish our moments together, realizing how important—and fleeting—they are.
7. I will not burden my child with emotions and problems that he is not equipped to deal with, remembering that I am the parent and he is the child.
8. I will encourage my child to experience the world and all its possibilities, guiding her in its ways and taking pains to leave her careful, but not fearful.
9. I will take care of myself physically and emotionally, so that I can be there for my child when he needs me.
10. I will try to be the kind of person I want my child to grow up to be—loving, fair-minded, moral, giving, and hopeful.

Please feel free to share any questions or concerns you may have.....celebrations are also welcome.

Sincerely,

Esther G. Valdez
Principal

Letter from the PTSA President



Dear Families,

Of course, we need to thank all of our volunteers for cookie dough and the book Fair. The amount of people who helped would make your head spin. Thank you so much! Without your help we would have had a very hard go of it. If you're interested we have a few boxes left for sale. Please contact Kim Judson

This year National PTA and Colorado PTSA have united fronts on trying to get more male influence into our groups. I notice at the beginning of the school day there are lots of dads, grandpas, and brothers. After school is the same ratio. However at our PTSA meeting only one wonderful man has consistently been in attendance. Thank you so much for representing our male population. I notice one other member who is only able to attend sometimes, thank you to you as well. I guess my point is **WHERE ARE YOU GUYS?** If you are a gentleman who is a parent here or are related to one of our families, please come join us. If you can't make any of the meetings get to the message boards on www.littleptsa.com.

Please, help us diversify our thinking to represent a much bigger dynamic. We need everyone!

Thank You for Your Support,
Tiffany Jones, PTSA President

Parent Information Team



Esther Valdez and Doug Fletcher run this meeting in the Library on the third Wednesday at 5:30p.m. Formally known as Collaborative Accountability Team (CAT) which was not very descriptive in what this group offers.

Last month Esther was able to explain in detail what happens at Little if an emergency situation occurs. For example what policies and procedures are in place if there is a threat of Hazardous materials or a natural disaster? What are the differences between procedures when dealing with an external situation verses an internal situation? All of the different ways Little is able to keep our students and staff safe, and what can be done to prevent situations before they become a threat.

She was also able to show us the proposed calendar changes, up for approval, in the 2009/2010 school year. Many surveys of parents and teachers went into this calendar. If approved this month it will be beneficial to many people.

This month Esther and Doug plan to go over some important facts about accreditation at Little Elementary.

It is an informative group, which allows you to know inner workings of the school. I encourage all parents to attend. The discussions are needed to make sure all of us understand what Little Elementary expectations are, and how to achieve them.



The Food Drive is Back!

Monday, November 17th through Friday, November 21st.

We will be collecting all non-perishable food items for the less fortunate. As students donate their canned food items their name will be marked down for a raffle. A drawing will be held 11/25/08. If your name is drawn you will win a turkey or a pie. The more you give the better your chances!

Please send all food items to our cafeteria in the morning during the week. We hope everyone can help fight hunger with us.



Box Tops and Campbell labels

Our school sponsor for these contests is Jennifer Strong. She will be collecting Box Tops till 11/15/08. She is requesting for parents to check expiration dates, and tape any ripped Tops. With Campbell Labels she needs the whole label, please. These two programs provide cash and supplies to our school. We will have an update on totals soon. Thank you for helping Little.

You are Invited to: The Great Ghost Chase
A Moore Middle School Theatrical Presentation



When: December 10th and 11th
Cost: \$3:00 Students and seniors over 65 and \$5:00 Adults

What a great way to show our students what exciting things they will be able to participate in at Moore in the future! Let's support the drama club at our middle school!

Have you checked out the PTSA website lately?

It's located at www.LittlePTSA.com.



-----clip here-----

Electronic Information Form

I am interested in signing up for electronic information:

I would like to receive:

- Electronic newsletters
- Classroom, school, PTSA notices

Your name: _____

Your email address (please print VERY clearly) _____

Your children's names _____

Your children's teacher _____



Yearbook Presales - Between now and January 1st we will be pre-selling the 2008-09 Little Yearbook. The price will be \$15 now or \$17 after the first of the year. The yearbook is in FULL color and features your child's class as well as the many activities that take place throughout the year. Last year we sold out and couldn't fill orders that came in late. Preorder now to make sure you get a copy. Fill out the form below and

return it to Mrs. Polacsek in the library.

Student's name _____

Teacher's name _____

Signature of Parent _____

Please submit this form as well as a \$15.00 check made out to **Little PTSA** by Dec. 15th.

Reflections:
WOW

Time to finish your art master pieces! **Entries are due November 7th, 2008.** Turn in your work before school starts. A table will be set up in the cafeteria. November 21, 2008. We will have a reception for all participants in the Cafeteria. Winners will be announced and you'll enjoy cake and ice cream. If you need more info. Please call: Gabrielle Sherry at 303-456-1623 or Julie Jaeke 303-246-9071



Thanks for all the support everyone gave to the Little Bookfair!

Bookfairs are one of the main ways we get new books for the library. For every dollar that student's spend the library gets to keep books from the fair and earn a little cash to spend on other books. We keep many fiction titles from these fairs and buy nonfiction titles that match your student's curriculum. Without your patronage of these fairs our library would not be nearly as well stocked to meet your kid's needs!

Thanks again,
Lisa Polacsek
Marnie Roush
Little Elementary Teacher-Librarians



Enrichment Opportunities

- Did you hear we had a wonderful assembly presentation of Aztec Dancers on October 8th? Thanks to a grant provided by the Colorado Folk Arts Council and Renee Fajardo, we were able to have the Chimaltonalli Dance Troupe perform for Little Elementary students. We are committed to provide our students with many enrichment opportunities throughout the year.
- On Nov. 13th, our students will have the opportunity to see a play by the Imagination Makers Theater Company. The performance at our school is made possible by a grant from the Jefferson County Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

“Fables: Old and New” is an imaginative musical play that first dramatizes children’s retellings of Aesop’s traditional fables, then shows student-written modern versions of these tales. In addition to reusing old fables, the entire set for the play, all the props and the musical instruments have been created entirely from recycled materials. Students can see that with little more than “junk” and a good imagination, something incredible can be created. The fable writers were from diverse backgrounds including African-American and Latino (one girl wrote her fable in Spanish), as well as a boy who was blind and a girl who was homeless. This entertaining and meaningful play promotes recycling in a fun way, and teaches simple but valuable lessons for life.

Imagination Makers (www.imaginationmakers.org) is a professional theater company that has been performing for children throughout the Denver metro area for the past 28 years.



Jeffco Budget

For Jeffco Public Schools, the budget is looking bleak for the next three years. As you may know, the district could be forced to cut \$35 million from its budget over the next three years because the available revenue doesn’t match the rising cost of education. The district has been asking the community to help prioritize those cuts. Should the cuts come in the classroom? That would mean fewer teachers and larger class sizes. Should the reductions be in transportation? Athletics? Technology?

There aren’t any easy answers. As a part of the regular budget process, Jeffco Superintendent Cindy Stevenson has been meeting with parents and community members to get input on how to make the reductions.

At seven community meetings held since September, hundreds of suggestions have been given to the district about where to cut the budget. Because 85 percent of Jeffco’s budget is spent for and at schools, the impact of the reductions will be unfortunately felt in the classroom.

If you would like more information on the budget and the proposed list of preliminary reductions, please visit: <http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/finance/index.html>



CHUCK E. CHEESE'S

Thank you Chuck E Cheese Night participants!

I know we had a lot of fun. Ten free tokens were very nice. Of course a big thank you goes to Chuck E Cheese for inviting us as well as coming down to the school to meet our students. We are glad so many of you could joy us.



Thank you again for working so hard to make our cookie dough fundraiser a success.

The biggest surprise was that all of our families were able to pick-up their cookie dough. There was not one box left behind. Quite a feat. We had close to 25 different people helping out that day, Be it limo riders, or cookie dough organizers. The fundraiser went wonderfully

Last month we were also able to “steal” a very important someone. Ask your student how the reward assembly went with the kidnap victim. Ice cream was given to every student as well.

A big thank you to Kim Judson and Susan Sterns for all of their work!

Employment Opportunity
Looking for the perfect
PT/job?

2-6 hours/day
\$9.05/hour

Advancement Opportunity
Call 303.982.6747



**Jeffco Schools
Food & Nutrition Services**

Elementary Lunch Menu Condensed Menu Version

November 2008



Prices:
Lunch: Full Price \$1.85
Reduced Price K - 2 at
No Charge
Reduced Price 3 - 6 at
\$0.40
Adult Meals: \$2.75

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Chicken Nuggets or Beef Soft Taco or Taco Salad	4 Macaroni & Cheese or BBQ Pork Sandwich or "Snack Lunch" (Yogurt, Cheese & Muffin)	5 Seasoned Bread Sticks or Oven Fried Chicken or Mandarin Chicken Salad	6 Hamburger or Cheeseburger or SW Cuban Pork Potatoes or Chef Salad	7 Deli Roll Up or Fish Sandwich or Chicken Caesar Salad
10 PBJ Uncrustable	11 PBK Breakfast Burrito	12 Breakfast Sandwich	13 Wh. Grain Pop Tart w/ Sausage	14 Waffles
17 Toriyaki Chicken w/Steamed Rice or Chicken Alfredo or Taco Salad	18 Chili w/Corn Bread or Deli Turkey Wrap or "Snack Lunch" (Seeds, Cheese, & Muffin)	19 Country Style Steak Strips or Cheese Enchiladas or Mandarin Chicken Salad	20 Italian Dunkers w/Stromboli Sauce or Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich or Chef Salad	21 Galaxy Pizza or Tuna Sandwich or Chicken Caesar Salad
24 Yogurt & Muffin	25 Scrambled Egg & Toast	26 Bagel Stick	27 Egg Omelet	28 French Toast
31 Hot Dog on a Bun or Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Steamed Rice or Taco Salad	32 Ravioli or Pork Rib Dippers or "Snack Lunch" (Yogurt, Cheese & Muffin)	33 Chicken Quesadilla or Sloppy Joe on a Bun or Mandarin Chicken Salad	34 Holiday Meal Roast Turkey Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Garden Salad Kiwi Cranberry Sauce Dinner Roll Holiday Dessert	35 Baked Potato or PBJ w/Seeds or Cheese or Chicken Caesar Salad
42 PBJ Uncrustable	43 Breakfast Burrito	44 Breakfast Sandwich	45 Wh. Grain Pop Tart w/ Sausage	46 Waffles
49 Breakfast Sandwich or BBQ Chicken Sandwich or Taco Salad	50 Burrito or Grilled Cheese Sandwich w/Tomato Soup or "Snack Lunch" Egg Salad Sandwich	51 No School	52 Thanksgiving Holiday No School	53 No School 
56 Yogurt & Muffin	57 Scrambled Egg & Toast	58 No School	59 Thanksgiving Holiday No School	60 No School 

Lunch includes an entrée and a choice of sides. Milk is offered daily at lunch. Menus are nutritionally balanced with a wide variety of healthy selections including fruits and vegetables. Menu is subject to change without notice due to price and product availability.

Breakfast Entrée, check with your school for availability

Full menu selection is available at the school site or on line @ jeffcopublicschools.org

Look for the menus on the left side and click on Lunch Menus & Food Service .

