



OCTOBER 2008
ISSUE 2: 2008-2009

What can you do to help at Little Elementary?

Oct 3 Limo Parents - We had a wonderful response to our volunteer request last month. Thank you all so much. We still need a few more parents for the upper grades Limousine ride. If you are able to celebrate with your child, please contact Kim Judson-kimjudson@msn.com or Susan Sterns-sallymncally4@hotmail.com

Oct 3 through 9 Book Fair- The Book Fair needs your help! We need parents to set up the fair (Friday, Oct.3rd), helping children write their book titles on preview lists (Oct. 6th in the morning), or during the evening help sell books (Oct.8th and 9th) any time from 3:20-8:00. If you are willing to donate an hour or two of your time we would be so grateful. Contact Lisa Polacsek lpolacse@jeffco.k12.co.us

Oct 8 and 9 Teacher Dinner- During Conferences, we will be giving a hot meal to our dedicated teachers. The staff has to be at school all day to meet with you and your students. If you are able to help with the meal, please contact Julie Jaeke juliajaeke@hotmail.com

Ongoing - Crossing Guards
Do you have some time in the morning or in the afternoon to ensure that the Little students stay safe? Have you always wanted to wear an orange vest or hold a stop sign? Well, does the school have a job for you! Seriously though, Little is in desperate need of help right in this area. Please call the school office and say you can help.



The Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

You are your child's first and most important teacher. You've probably heard this comment several times before. I emphasize this now because of the critical times we find ourselves in. Every child's voice deserves to be heard as we examine public school issues. I ask each parent to look to Little and beyond to examine the issues that face public education in Jefferson County, Colorado and the Nation. Every parent has a dream for their child and it takes ALL of us advocating for kids to achieve each and every dream. Our school district's mission is: To provide a quality education that prepares all children for a successful future. To achieve this mission we need a unified voice (parents, teachers, administrators, neighbors, grandparents, businesses, senior citizens, and community members) that says quality schools and teachers do matter and that every student counts. We can make a difference at Little and in Jeffco by facing the challenges ahead of us and working as a team. The Little Elementary staff believes that if we hold high expectations for our students, they will reach high standards. Every child's voice counts—speak out for your child and stay informed about upcoming election issues.

Our fall conferences will be held October 8, & 9th. I would like to encourage all parents to take advantage of this conference opportunity. The partnership between teachers and parents is vital for students to be successful. You can be certain that students and teachers are doing plenty to prepare for that important meeting to update you on your child's progress. The National Education Association (NEA) offers several questions you might ask of the teacher in order to get a better idea of how your child is progressing:

- Is my child in different groups for different subjects?
- How well does my child get along with other? How does he/she handle conflict?
- What are my child's strengths and weaknesses?
- Does my child participate in class discussions and activities?
- What kinds of assessments/tests is my child taking? How does he/she handle taking tests?
- How can I help my child at home?

After the conference, talk to your child. Give him/her praise and encouragement for areas your child is doing well in and discuss the areas where your child needs to make improvement. Finally, and probably most important, stay in regular contact with the teacher to discuss your child's progress.

You are your child's first and most important teacher. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Esther G. Valdez
Principal

Letter from the PTSA President

Dear Parents,

Our thanks goes out to all of our families who participated in the fundraiser. We know you worked hard. The money raised will go for reading level books for the bookroom, PBS, and Classroom Technology. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

There was a presentation done by 6th grade students on September 17th at the CAT/PTSA meeting in the Library. Thank you, for those of you who could share it with us. Another thank you to our 6th grade families, the CAT members, and PTSA members. We couldn't do it without you.

I would like to give some numbers for your consideration. There are a minimum of 84,500 students going to a Jeffco school right now. In our articulation area (feeder schools) there are a minimum of 3,940 students. Elementary Schools in our area have a minimum of 1,740 students. Little has a minimum of 373 students. Our first Parent Teacher Student Association meeting had 17 people. Please, come to a meeting. Or check out our new web site <http://www.littleptsa.com/>.

Thank You for Your Support,

Tiffany Jones, PTSA President

CARTRIDGES FOR KIDS



Little Elementary is recycling and would like your help. We are recycling used cell phones, empty laser, fax, copier, and inkjet cartridges as well as, laptops, Palm Pilots, iPods, video games, GPS Systems, DVD's and digital cameras for two reasons. First, we are trying to preserve our environment by keeping these harmful items out of landfills, and secondly, to raise funds for our school.

The recyclable items that are collected are returned to Cartridges for Kids® (CFK). Little is among more than 12,500 non-profit organizations nationwide that are helping the environment by recycling.

How can you help? You can turn your "trash into our treasure" and feel good about helping the environment all at the same time. Most people have used cell phones to dispose of and almost everyone uses cartridges, either at home or at work. They come from fax machines, copiers and printers. By donating these used items you can assist us with Little Elementary Technology Budget.

2008-2009 Yearbooks
Discount, Discount!!

There will be a yearbook table by the front door during conferences. This will allow parents to preorder their 2008-2009 yearbooks at a discounted rate! Order early to ensure that you don't miss out on this exciting book of memories.



The Book Fair is Coming!

We will be holding a book fair in the library during conferences Oct. 8th and 9th. Students will preview books Oct. 6th and 7th. They will be able to purchase books in the library during the school day (Oct. 8th or 9th) or either conference night!

The Book Fair provides a great opportunity for you to help your children find the books they want to read. To keep the momentum going, we've created a Top 5 list of reasons you don't want to miss the Book Fair when it starts:

- 1 You can shop from hundreds of quality books in every price range, interest, and reading level.
- 2 You'll help your child's school earn books and funds for classrooms and libraries.
- 3 You'll connect with your child's school reading and literacy initiatives.
- 4 You'll find exclusive, more affordable editions of many of the most popular books sold in retail stores.
- 5 **And best of all, you and your child will have fun choosing books together.**



Reflections 2008-2009

What is the Reflections Program? So glad you asked!

Reflections is an arts recognition and achievement program for students based on the belief that all children deserve a quality arts education. When children express themselves through words, pictures, music, and other art forms, they grow intellectually and increase their self-confidence. They learn to analyze their thoughts, feelings, and ideas. They learn to look at things, people, and experiences in a fresh and exciting way, and they become more interested in the ideas and works of others.

Students enter the *Reflections Program* through their local PTA/PTSA. Awards are given at the local, council, state, and national levels. Gold medal winners at the state level are sent onto National PTA in every category.

Participation is organized by school grade. Student works are critiqued against others in the same grade division. This allows recognition and judging of artworks by appropriate developmental age and skill levels.

Participating in the *Reflections Program* is an opportunity for students to explore and learn about various art forms. It does not matter whether an entry created for the *Reflections Program* has been created as a classroom assignment or independently at home. Each student may enter in any of the six arts areas: literature, visual arts, photography, music, dance, and film/video production. Students may submit more than one entry in any or all of the six arts areas.

Whew! That was a lot of information. The program is a basically a great way for students to express themselves artistically alongside their co-students in a rewarding and encouraging environment.

This year's theme for artistic entries is "WOW!"

On October 2 (Thursday), Julie Jaeke and Gabrielle Sherry will be hosting a workshop after school in the art room. All students participating in the reflections program are encouraged to attend. They will go over rules and explore ideas for the "WOW" theme. Check out the Reflections display across from the school office (Thanks Gabrielle!)

Completed projects are due on **November 7th (Friday)**. More details will follow. Keep your eyes peeled.

-----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

Teacher Conferences Are Approaching



Teacher conferences are scheduled on October 8th and October 9th. If you haven't already signed up, sign up sheets are located in the hallway across from the library. If you are unable to come into school to sign up, please contact your child's teacher to schedule a time.

If you would like to provide a dish for the teacher conferences dinner, contact Julie Jaeke @ juliajaeke@hotmail.com



As many of you know our Curriculum Night was a huge success!

We want to thank Papa John's located at 1042 8025 Sheridan Blvd. They gave us a **BIG** Discount on the pizza and have always supported our school in all of our events.

Next time you're looking for a quick dinner to come to the door, please call this Papa John's.

Thank You PTSA and Julie Jaeke, for making our night a little more enjoyable.

Thank you, teachers! Without your dedication none of this would be possible.



The Little PTSA Website is Growing by Leaps and Bounds!

Have you checked out the PTSA website lately? It's located at www.LittlePTSA.com. If you haven't been there in awhile, check it out! The teachers are diligently working on their own classroom web pages. The Specials teachers already have their pages up and filled with important and valuable information. There is a section for the Little Elementary Library which will help the students search for books and other information. The Little Elementary Office will have a page as well. Do you have questions about anything? Take a look at the website. It is full of information on a variety of topics.

If you would like to receive electronic notices from the school, fill out and return the electronic information form located earlier in this newsletter.



In compliance with federal regulations, Jeffco Public Schools provide asbestos management plans for schools and other district facilities for public inspection. Parents, employees or interested citizens may review the management plan for any school facility and have copies made at their own expense. Each school's management plan is available at the school and plans for all district buildings are also on file at the Jeffco Public Schools' Environmental Services Office, 809 Quail Street, Building 4, Lakewood, Colorado 80215, (303-982-2349). For additional information about asbestos management at Jeffco Public Schools visit: <http://jeffcoweb.jeffco.k12.co.us/environsvs/Asbestos0.htm>

Double Points! Double Points!



Jennifer Strong runs the Little Elementary School's Box Top for Education drive and has done a bang up job! Little has earned over \$700 from all of your hard work that can be applied to various school programs. Currently we can earn double points on the box tops collected! You should have received your bonus points collection sheet (if not, there will be additional sheets on the front handout table.) This is limited to 2 collection sheets per household. Bonus sheets need to be handed in by October 15th. Ask your child for details or contact us at littleptsa.com.



Jennifer Strong has procured student identification kits for each of the students at Little. Each kit will help you gather important information to help authorities in a search in the event your child is lost or abducted. Look for these kits to arrive home with your child in the near future. Thanks Jennifer!

The Lynx Letter is published monthly by the PTSA. Please send submissions to littleptsa@comcast.net by Monday of the third week of the month. The newsletter is distributed on the final Friday of each month. This is the second issue of the 2008-2009 school year.

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
October 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
		1 Baked Penne w/Meat Sauce or Corn Dog or Mandarin Chicken Salad	2 Chicken Sandwich or Egg Roll w/Fried Rice or Chef Salad	3 Classic Wedge Pizza or Deli Ham Wrap or Chicken Caesar Salad
		Bagel Stick	Egg Omelet	French Toast
6 Chicken Nuggets or Beef Soft Taco or Taco Salad	7 Macaroni & Cheese or BBQ Pork Sandwich or "Snack Lunch" (Yogurt, Cheese & Muffin)	8 Seasoned Bread Sticks or Oven Fried Chicken or Mandarin Chicken Salad	9 Hamburger or Cheeseburger or Green Chili Cheese Potatoes or Chef Salad	10 Deli Roll Up or Fish Sandwich or Chicken Caesar Salad
PBJ Uncrustable	Breakfast Burrito	Breakfast Sandwich	Wh.Grain Pop Tart w/ Sausage	Waffles
13 Teriyaki Chicken w/Steamed Rice or Chicken Alfredo or Taco Salad	14 Chili w/Corn Bread or Deli Turkey Wrap or "Snack Lunch" (Seeds, Cheese, & Muffin)	15 Country Style Steak Strips or Cheese Enchiladas or Mandarin Chicken Salad	16 Italian Dunkers w/Stromboli Sauce or Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich or Chef Salad	17 Galaxy Pizza or Tuna Sandwich or Chicken Caesar Salad
Yogurt & Muffin	Scrambled Egg & Toast	Bagel Stick	Egg Omelet	French Toast
20 Hot Dog on a Bun or Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Steamed Rice or Taco Salad	21 Ravioli or Pork Rib Dippers or "Snack Lunch" (Yogurt, Cheese & Muffin)	22 Chicken Quesadilla or Sloppy Joe on a Bun or Mandarin Chicken Salad	23 No School Mini Break	24 No School Mini Break
PBJ Uncrustable	Breakfast Burrito	Breakfast Sandwich		
27 No School Comp Day for Conferences	28 Burrito or Grilled Cheese Sandwich or "Snack Lunch" Egg Salad Sandwich	29 Baked Penne w/Meat Sauce or Corn Dog or Mandarin Chicken Salad	30 Chicken Sandwich or Egg Roll w/Fried Rice or Chef Salad	31 Classic Wedge Pizza or Deli Ham Wrap or Chicken Caesar Salad
Yogurt & Muffin	Scrambled Egg & Toast	Bagel Stick	Egg Omelet	French Toast

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 .

October - 2008

October - 2008						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 School Event Limo To Lunch Cookie Dough Pick Up !!!	4
5	6	7 School Event Picture day!	8 School Event (Oct 8-9) Fall conferences Early Release Day 1:15 p.m. Kindergarten Field Trip - Miller Farms	9 (Oct 8-9) Fall conferences	10	11
12	13	14	15 School Event Turn in double point sheets for Box Tops for Educ	16 School Event Visit by Chuck "E" Cheese Chuck "E" Cheese night	17	18
19	20	21	22 PTSA Event PTSA Meeting 6:30 p.m. CAT Event CAT meeting 5:30 p.m.	23 School Event (Oct 23-24) NO SCHOOL - Fall break	24 (Oct 23-24) NO SCHOOL - Fall break	25
26	27 School Event NO SCHOOL - Comp day for conferences	28	29	30 School Event Vision and Hearing Screening	31 School Event Halloween 1st, 2nd grades - Arvada Center	
October - 2008						