

HILLCREST HIGHLIGHTS



HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2009

Dear Hillcrest Parents and Students,

It's hard to believe we've already been in school for over a month! We hope your child has had a successful beginning to the school year. Please remember, if you have questions about your child's progress you can always contact the appropriate person at our school. Our staff e-mail addresses are posted on the Hillcrest website at www.hillcrest.adams12.org.

Our School Improvement Team met on Tuesday, September 29th from 6:00 - 7:00pm. The School Improvement Team is a formal group that meets to look at school data and instructional strategies. Parents are always welcome to join our School Improvement Team meetings. Since this is a formal meeting, we ask that children do not attend with their parents. The remaining meetings for the school year are: November 24th, January 21st, February 25th and April 29th. We always meet from 6-7pm in the school library.

We are thrilled to announce our second Fall Carnival at Hillcrest Elementary on Friday, October 30th from 4:30 -6:30pm! Our teaching staff will of course be there joining in this family fun activity and hope to see everyone there. We'll have several games, activities, food, and fun for everyone. We will begin ticket presales later during the month of October. If you pre-purchase your tickets, they are five for \$1. Most games cost 2 tickets, however there are some that are a bit more. If you decided to purchase tickets at the door, we will be selling them four for \$1. In addition to the cost of tickets, there will be a \$3 per person entry fee. The fee will be charged whether you are participating in the

games or not. Children under 2 years old will be free. We will be serving one slice of pizza and a soda at no charge that evening. If you wish to purchase additional slices of pizza or soda, you can purchase them for \$1 each. Students and parents are welcome to wear costumes that evening but must follow the Safe Schools Policy. **Please do not wear costumes to school that day, we will not have classroom parties or Halloween Parade.** Look for further details soon.

On another note, if you are currently using an outside childcare program, I encourage you to contact Crystal Wieland our Hillcrest BASE director at (720)972-8251 to inquire about our in-building program. The BASE program is a fun and safe alternative to traditional childcare outside of the school. Students participate in fun activities before and after school. The program is also open on days that our students are out of school (except holidays). CCAP is accepted at our BASE program if you qualify under the state guidelines as well.

Thank you again for such a wonderful beginning to the school year!

Sincerely,

Tanya Garcia
Principal

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 1 Individual Pictures
- 2 Progress reports sent home
- 8 4th Grade Music Program 7:00 pm
- 9 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Work Day
BASE Registration 5 - 6:30 pm
- 30 Halloween Carnival 4:30 - 6:30 pm
NO COSTUMES DURING THE SCHOOL
DAY

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

For the safety of all of our students, we have a "Hug and Go" zone on the school side of 103rd Ave. Parents are encouraged to drop their child(ren) off, say a quick good-bye and then guided out of the zone. The zone is monitored and parents and children are discouraged from crossing the street in the "Hug and Go" zone. The Northglenn Police Department helps us monitor the drop off zone and may issue tickets for violations. If you would like to walk your child to his/her classroom, please park across the street in the shopping center parking lot.

OFFICE SIGN-IN

In order to maximize student safety, we are asking that parents/guardians sign in at the office and receive a visitor's sticker to wear before entering classrooms or meeting students at the playground area. In order for students to be dismissed early, parents must check them out through the main office.

LUNCH AT SCHOOL

We always welcome parents in our school. If you would like to join your child for lunch, please remember to sign in at the office before going to the classroom or cafeteria. We do not allow visitors on our school playground during lunch recess time. It is difficult for children and our recess paraprofessionals to determine who the

"safe" adults are if they need help. Our recess paraprofessionals wear safety vests to help students identify them quickly. If visitors do enter the playground area, please understand our staff has been trained to ask adults to leave the area. Thank you for your understanding and for helping us keep our school grounds safe.

STUDENT SAFETY

Hillcrest has a "gentle start" procedure in the morning. Students should arrive between 7:35 - 7:45 a.m. and should go directly to their classrooms. Students are not permitted on the school grounds prior to 7:35 a.m. unless they are part of a teacher-sponsored activity, BASE, or the breakfast program. The 7:45 a.m. bell is the tardy bell and all students should be in their classrooms at this time.

Dismissal time can be a dangerous time for students as they are rushing to catch the bus, meeting their parents, or walking home. If you are in your car, please drive slowly and be careful of students crossing streets and walking along sidewalks.

A reminder that the street parking directly in front of the school is reserved for daycare vans who are picking up students after school.

DISTRICT ATTENDANCE POLICY

On June 4, 2008, the District 12 Board of Education revised the student attendance policy, 5113. There were a couple of significant changes that may impact your family.

Code 5113 > 8.0 > 8.1: A tardy is defined as the student entering class after the

scheduled start time (7:45 am) and is considered a disruption to the learning environment. Excessive tardies may result in consequences at the discretion of school officials.

Code 5113 > 8.0 > 8.2: A partial absence is defined as a student entering or departing class ten (10) or more minutes from the scheduled start or end time of the class. Partial absences will be determined to be excused or unexcused according to the same criteria as all other absences.

Therefore, any Hillcrest student entering or departing class ten (10) or more minutes from the scheduled start or end time of the class will be charged with a half-day unexcused absence if he/she does not have a doctor or dentist note.

VOICE MAIL # 720-972-5380

Please remember to use our voice mail number. When you dial 720-972-5380, you will be given a choice of entering:

- 0 - Assistance
- 1 - Attendance
- 2 - New Student Registration
- 3 - Cafeteria
- 4 - Clinic
- 5 - School Information
- 6 - Library
- 7 - BASE

RECESS

A recess break is provided for all children during their lunch period. Additional recess breaks are scheduled at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Recess breaks are generally held outside. Children should dress appropriately for the season and be prepared for possible changing weather conditions. Recess is considered part of the elementary school curriculum and we expect participation

by all students. Exceptions to this policy are children who have either temporary or chronic conditions that would be adversely affected by exercise or climatic conditions. To excuse your child from recess, please provide the classroom teacher with a written note from the child's physician.

GRADES 2-5 G/T REFERRAL PROCESS

The Adams 12 Five Star School's definition of giftedness states that high ability/gifted and talented students are those who require differentiated services beyond those normally provided by regular school programs. Generally, these students exhibit potential for exceptional ability, creativity, and task commitment. A screening procedure has been developed to help teachers, principals, and parents make responsible decisions about the learning needs of such students. It is a method for collecting data in order to determine programming that is in the best interest of the individual student. Gifted and Talented testing will be early in December. If you would like your 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade student tested, please notify his or her teacher as soon as possible.

CLINIC NEWS

Our school clinic is staffed with a Health Aide during the school day should your child become ill or injured while at school. It is extremely important that we have accurate phone numbers for you and your emergency contacts should we need to contact you during the school day. Please make sure to update the office with any new information.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following "Citizens of the Month" for Aug/Sept.

- K - Anderson (A.M.) - Jazmyn Strong
- K- Anderson(P.M.)- Autumn Mesa
- K - Zimmerman (A.M.) - Bianca Cano
- K - Zimmerman (A.M.) - Jimena Gonzalez-Marquez
- K-Mestas (A.M.)- Valeria Gonzalez-Michel
- K-Mestas (P.M.)- Alex Nguyen
- 1 - Borland - Viktor Savchenko
- 1 - Craver- Alex Vigil
- 1 - Keefe - Chloe Pelshaw
- 1 - Warrick- Ainsley Juarez
- 2 - Clouse- Giselle Diaz
- 2 - Ketchel- Demili Pichay
- 2 - Kruzel- Alexia Salazar
- 2 - White- Elimmer Martinez
- 3 - Bishop -Mario Pacheco
- 3 - Bogucki - Hannah Harris
- 3 - Hayden - Aubree Stone
- 4 - Chamberlain - Haileigh Johnson
- 4 - Gwinn - Ian Juarez
- 4 - Routes - Antonio Hosendove
- 5 - Dias - Skyla Knutson
- 5 - Wagner - Jazmin Ramirez
- 5 - Wrzos - Connie Moreno

HILLCREST VOLUNTEERS FOR AUG/SEPT

Don Burback, Mary Lou Burback, Jack Griffin, Lourdes Hernandez, Lynn Riley, Rose Sheffield, Carol Salter, Pat Warrick, Quinn Warrick.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Spirit Days:

- Oct. 1 - Dress up day - Look your best for Picture day!
- Oct. 14 - Skate City Skate Party
- Oct. 30 - Scary T-Shirt Day

Help Us Save Paper!

If you have e-mail access and would like to have the monthly newsletter sent to your e-mail address, please send back the bottom portion of this flyer with all the information filled in completely to your child's teacher. We will begin building a data base with e-mail addresses and hopefully begin sending the e- newsletter in November. You can also access the newsletter on our school website at www.hillcrest.adams12.org

Parent's first name _____ Last name _____

Child(ren)'s name(s) _____

E-mail address _____

*If your e-mail address changes during the school year, please let us know so we can update our database.

FREE Admission to the Denver Art Museum (DAM) on the first Saturday of each month!

Saturday Hours: 10 am - 5 pm

Location: Civic Center Cultural Complex, located on 13th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock in downtown Denver. The street address is 100 W 14th Ave Pkwy, Denver, CO 80204.

Driving directions:

From the South

Drive north on I-25 to the Lincoln-Broadway exit (207). Go north on Lincoln and turn left at 12th Avenue. The Civic Center parking garage is two blocks ahead, just past Broadway.

From the North

Drive south on I-25 to the Speer Boulevard South exit (212). Continue on Speer Boulevard past Colfax Avenue, then turn left onto 14th Avenue. The museum is six blocks ahead. To park in the garage, continue for one block and turn right onto Broadway, then right onto 12th Avenue.

From the West

Driving east on I-70, take the US-6 East/West 6th Avenue exit (261). After several miles, US-6 freeway becomes a one-way street. Turn left onto Lincoln Street. You are now approaching from the south. Proceed to 12th Avenue and turn left to reach the parking garage, which is just past Broadway.

From the East

Head south on I-25 to the Speer Boulevard South exit (212). Continue on Speer Boulevard past Colfax Avenue, then turn left onto 14th Avenue. The museum is six blocks ahead. To park in the garage, continue for one block and turn right onto Broadway, then right onto 12th Avenue.

Public Transportation:

You can reach the museum from anywhere in the metro area via RTD, the Regional Transportation District. For bus and light rail information, visit www.rtd-denver.com.

For more information, call 720-865-5000 or visit the website at, denverartmuseum.org.

Hillcrest Art Show

Currently on display in the school . . .

Tube Art Sculptures, located in the glass display cases.

Self-Portraits, located on the cork strips in the north/south hallway. (More pieces will be added as students complete their paintings.)

Leaf Rubbings, located on the cork strips in the north/south hallway. (More pieces will be added as students complete their paintings.)

Picturing America Prints, located in the main hallway. These prints of American art were awarded to Hillcrest through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

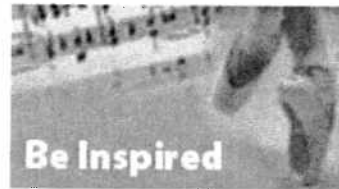
Enjoy the beautiful art!! Mrs. Morales, Art Teacher

Art Show at the ESC Building

Hillcrest student artwork will be on display at the Educational Support Center (ESC) Building beginning **Tuesday, October 20, 2009, and ending on Friday, November 13th, 2009.** The ESC Building is located at 1500 E. 128th, Ave., Thornton, CO 80241.

Enjoy the beautiful art!! Mrs. Morales, Art Teacher

National Arts and Humanities Month is a time to:



October is National Arts and Humanities Month (NAHM). Celebrate National Arts and Humanities Month by attending the theater, an art museum, taking a ceramics or dance class, or singing songs with your kids.

Join us in recognizing the many ways the arts and culture enhance our lives.

Visit the NAHM website for more information: <http://www.americansforhearts.org>