

Parker Core Knowledge Charter School

February 18, 2010



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Schools and rumors just seem to go hand in hand, don't they? In an effort to keep everyone focused on the 'facts', here are few of the recent rumors we've heard...and the 'facts' associated with these rumors:

Rumor #1 *The middle school is closing.*

FACT: No! Our middle school is alive and well and we have no plans whatsoever to close it. In fact, just the opposite, the OC is engaged in very preliminary discussions about ways to improve and, possibly, expand our current middle school program.

Rumor #2 *Droves of students are leaving our MS.*

FACT: With the opening of Cimarron and Legend two years ago, we did experience a higher than usual loss of students. However, we anticipated this loss to be a two-year trend (until Cimarron opened as a separate middle school), and early open enrollment numbers show a significant decline in the number of students leaving Core next year. This is exactly what we expected.

Rumor #3 *Students are allowed to bring cell phones and iPods to school.*

FACT: Neither cell phones or iPods/Touches, etc. are allowed at school. If a student must have one of these items for after school use, it **must remain in their backpack or locker out of sight** (and use) during school hours, including carpool. We have a phone at the front office that is available for student use throughout the day.

Rumor #4 *The school is facing budget cuts, but they're spending money to build a gazebo out on the playground.*

FACT: While PCKCS is facing budget issues just like all other schools in Colorado, the gazebo project did not impact our school budget. One of our former students, and an Eagle Scout candidate, chose this as his Eagle Scout project. He solicited some donations, and organized a volunteer work crew to complete the project. He will wrap up the project by installing three benches in the gazebo. All students and staff will enjoy the new 'shade' created by the gazebo. Thank you to Nate Higgins!

Rumor #5 *PCKCS is opening a preschool.*

FACT: The OC has approved a Core Knowledge preschool to open in August of 2010. The preschool will not be located in our current facility. We are in process of finding a suitable location and seeking a preschool director.

I'll try to stay ahead of the rumors in the coming weeks by dispelling the rumors I hear floating around the school. Additionally, I encourage any parent who hear 'things' that cause them concern to please bring their concern to my attention ASAP so that I can provide the facts. Let's continue our commitment to keep rumors to a minimum.

FEBRUARY

18 th	OC Budget Work Session	6:30 P.M.
25 th	5 th Grade Ski Trip	
25 th	Anti-Bullying Parent Education	2:15 P.M./school
26 th	All School Dress Down	

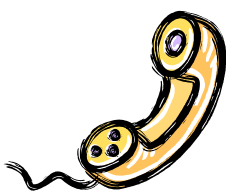
MARCH

2 nd - 4 th	3 rd - 6 th CSAP Testing
8 th - 11 th	3 rd - 8 th CSAP Testing
19 th	All School Dress Down

GENERAL SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

🍏 **Last call for Surveys!!** – Surveys are due tomorrow!! All surveys are handled confidentially with labels being removed before the envelopes are opened up by the SAC committee. Thank you for your input!

🍏 **OC Policy Change Notice:** Last Thursday night the OC voted to amend the current dress code policy prohibiting leggings. To review the new policy related to leggings, please click on the link below. In short, only ankle length leggings in school colors, navy, dark green or white, will be allowed.



🍏 **Are you good on the phone? Want to earn volunteer hours from home?** We are in need of volunteers to assist with updating information on the PCKCS waitlist. The project would be simple – call families on our waiting list to verify information. Training/scripting and worksheets would be provided. Please e-mail Mrs. Heintz at jheintz@ckcs.net if you can help.

🍏 **Save the Date - Spirit Night March 2nd at the Parker Chili's.** 10% of the proceeds will go to the PCKCS PTO. Look for your flyer in next week's Thursday folders. Hope to see you all there!

🍏 **Haiti Fundraisers Final \$\$** - All three fundraisers have been tallied - our school raised \$1750.00! Wow! Thanks for all of your support and thank you to Mrs. Randazzo and the 6th grade S.O. C. (Serving Our Community) club for the hard work that went into coordinating and promoting the fundraisers.



🍏 **Need Candid Photos For The Yearbook!!** We are looking for your best group photos to include in the yearbook. Please indicate the grade/class and submit them on a CD at the front desk. The deadline is March 1st, 2010. We will not be able to accept any photos after that date. THANKS for your help!

🍏 **BoxTop and Soup Label Contest!** – Tomorrow is the last day for the contest – send in those boxtops and labels! The overall winner will get a dress down day and cookies!

🍏 **Art Volunteers Needed** – Next week for clay projects.

- 4th grade on 23rd and 24th from 1:15 - 2:00 P.M.
- 5th grade on 24th 1:15 - 2:00 P.M.

Please leave a voicemail for Mrs. Barker if you are interested in helping next week.

We also need volunteers to help with the art classes on an ongoing basis. Please contact Jennifer Sparks at 303-841-7455 if you would like to be put on the volunteer schedule.

🍏 **6th – 8th Calendar Contest** - The 6th grade art classes have been working on their entries for the annual calendar contest put on by the Douglas County District Attorney. All 6th – 8th grade students are invited to participate. Prizes include a laptop, an ipod touch, \$100 gift certificates and more! Entries are due by March 12th to Mrs. Ackerman.



🍏 **Free Parent Day at the Colorado Charter Schools Conference** - The Colorado League of Charter Schools is excited to offer parents a FREE, full-day admission to the 16th Annual Colorado Charter School Conference! **Thursday, February 25, 2010** Sheraton Denver Hotel, Downtown Denver 1550 Court Place, Denver, CO 80202 ([map](#)) [Click here](#) to register (be sure to select Parent Involvement Workshop) More Info: www.coloradoleague.org/charterconference Speakers include Karin Piper, Author of *Charter Schools: The Ultimate Handbook for Parents (our own Core parent)*.

Thank You

Thank you to Pamela Pearson for donating a class set of Sharpie markers to the art room.



April 23rd & 24th

Dinner shows will be on Friday, April 23rd and Saturday, April 24th at 5 P.M.; the matinee performance will be at 12:00 P.M. on Saturday, April 24th.

Ticket prices are \$18 for adults and \$12 for children for the dinner shows. Dinner shows include a pasta meal, dessert and coffee. Matinee prices are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children and includes dessert and coffee only.

Tickets will be available for purchase beginning 6:00 A.M. on Monday, March 1st. Details to follow.

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

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