

FIRESIDE CHAT

August 25, 2023

Message from Mrs. Keppler

We came together as a community for our first **PRIDE** assembly of the school year today where we reinforced what it means to be a Falcon and reminded students about our school-wide character traits of Politeness, Responsibility, Integrity, Determination, Excellence and Empathy. We also pumped up our kids about our one and only annual fundraiser of the school year, our **Jogathon**, which will be held on **Friday, September 22nd**.

Of course, it wouldn't be a **PRIDE** assembly without our **PRIDE** songs, which new Falcons are welcome to practice prior to the **Louisville Labor Day parade on Sept. 4th**. View our [P.R.I.D.E.](#) and [Fireside Song](#) to ignite your Falcon spirit!

Mr. Lehman and I are currently visiting and reading to every classroom this year's book, *Finding Muchness*. This is a time for us to connect with our Falcons, and see the magic taking place in our classroom communities. As you enter the front entryway of our school next week for Back to School Night on **Wednesday**,

August 30th, you'll see some of the key messages from the book to inspire us all in the school-year ahead.

Last, please welcome our new Kindergarten teacher, Ryan Schafer, to Fireside. She's been a wonderful addition to our Fireside family!

Enjoy the weekend ahead and, hopefully, some cooler temperatures!

PTO News

Thank you for attending our first PTO meeting. It was great to see many parents excited to help our Fireside community. If you have any questions or want to get involved, email your PTO President, [Kelly Landen](#).

We Still Need Your Help

Specifically we are in need of office volunteers. The time slots are two hours, and it's a great way to help out the school and teachers. [Sign up](#) for all upcoming Fireside volunteer roles. Note, for our children's safety, most volunteer roles require a [background check](#) by the district.

Crossing Guards Needed

One of the areas that needs the most help at school is at the crosswalk! [Volunteer](#) for one (or more!) 15 minute shifts at one of our crosswalks in the AM or PM to keep the students safe.

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Meeting

Wednesday, September 27th at 9:10am-10:30am in the garden. All parents and caregivers are welcome. Babysitting and coffee provided; see you there!

Labor Day Parade - Monday, September 4th

Show your Fireside PRIDE at our Louisville Parade! We are currently looking for a [Labor Day Parade Leader](#). If you have questions, please reach out to your Programs coordinator, [Paige Dow](#).

Jog-A-Thon - Our Biggest Fundraiser!

Our wonderful Jog-A-Thon this year is on Friday, Sept. 22nd during school hours, planning is in full swing. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to help pay for paraeducator support, teacher supplies, unique student experiences, school community events, etc. Similar to past years our ask is \$150-\$175 per student (or more of course!). Thank you to those who have donated above the ask amount in previous years and please know this range is suggested and optional. More information will be coming home soon, but some kids like to start fundraising early. We can't be the amazing school we are without you, so thank you in advance!

Also, mark your calendars for our family Jog-A-Thon Celebration on Friday, Sept. 29th from 5-7pm.

***All events are subject to change to adhere to district recommendations.

Colorado Rapids Fireside Night:

Enjoy a Saturday night watching soccer while supporting Fireside! The school earns \$5 on each [ticket purchased](#). The game is held on Saturday, September 16th at 7:30pm. TQuestions? Please contact your Fundraiser Chair, [Alicia McCurdy](#).

Spotlight on Specials: PE (by Suzanne Johnson)

My name is Mrs. Johnson and I will be your child's PE teacher this year. Here is a little more information about me:

I am so lucky to be a part of the Fireside community and I ABSOLUTELY LOVE being a physical education teacher.

Born and raised in Arvada, Colorado, I grew up playing sports, and to this day, I love the challenge and excitement a good rally in pickleball brings or the bliss of watching a beautiful Colorado sunset while riding bikes with my family on the amazing trails around Louisville. I received my bachelor's degree in Germanic Studies from the University of Colorado at Boulder (GO BUFFS) and my master's degree in Sport Pedagogy from the University of Northern Colorado.

I am married to Andrew Johnson, who is a PE teacher at Platt Middle School, and we have two awesome boys, Duke and Callahan, and two adorable dogs, Frankie and Sarge.

Every year, I can't wait to work with the Fireside kids to inspire them to lead a kind and healthy life. In PE, we can not only focus on healthy food choices and skill development, but we look at being a part of a team and practice treating all of your teammates with RESPECT and KINDNESS.

Health Room News (by Julie Cheesbrough)

Welcome back families! Please remember to keep your child home when they are too sick to attend school. Please see the CDPHE document, [How Sick is Too Sick](#) for guidance if you are unsure. Here's to a happy, healthy school year!

Back to School Night - August 30

4:20-5:00 Teacher presentation: PK

5:00-5:15 Welcome from Mrs. Keppler (Grades PK, K, 1)
Amphitheater

5:15-5:55 Teacher presentations: Grades K-1

6:00-6:40 Teacher presentations: Grades 2-3

6:45-7:00 Welcome from Mrs. Keppler (Grades 2-5) Amphitheater

7:00-7:40 Teacher presentations: Grade 4-5

Gifted & Talented

Colorado Association for the Gifted and Talented (CAGT) announces 5th Annual Student Art Contest. More information can be found [HERE](#).

Composting at School

We are thrilled to announce that students will be able to compost their food scraps in Green Star School cafeterias this year! Read more about it in English [HERE](#).
In Spanish [HERE](#).

Free & Reduced Lunch Applications re: Other Waived Fees

Even though breakfast (7:30am) and lunch will be free this year, please complete the free and reduced meal application. It is important to do so, as it waives and reduces fees district-wide for families, can impact transportation, and impacts important funding for individual schools.

Completing the FRL application does qualify families for a 50% reduction in Lifelong Learning tuition, and waived tuition for BVSD Online classes (excluding the \$50 registration fee).

You can complete the application from your Infinite Campus Student/Parent Portal. Once you are logged into your portal account, please select More on the left side then Applications/Forms to begin the application process. Once you have entered the required information, you may click "Submit" and your application will be submitted pending approval. Check the Share box so that the school will know an application was approved.

Childcare for Late Start Wednesdays

We are offering free Childcare for Students on **Wednesday Late Starts, 7:50 - 8:50** again this year.

Please note that **drop off starts at 7:50 am**, by the cafeteria entrance, door #30.

A light breakfast will be offered free of charge this year, starting at 8 am.

A few different activities will be available during this time, including arts & craft, board games and catching up on homework. We will take the children out to the playground, weather permitting.

If you are planning on having your child(ren) attend, please click on this link to sign up:

<https://forms.gle/SrjmtNpChrHTHp6z9>.

We had a large turnout in our first Wednesday morning so please make sure to sign up in advance.

For questions, contact Christina Tomhave at christina.tomhave@bvsd.org.

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SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.