

FIRESIDE CHAT

September 1, 2023

Message from Mrs. Keppler & Mr. Lehman

This was an important week at Fireside. On Tuesday, we had an all-school assessment day. We had substitute teachers float through classrooms while teachers and support staff pushed into grade levels to complete assessments. This model is a crucial piece of data collection that helps teachers get to know your learners and drives their instruction. Along with classes spending time building community and creating a sense of belonging and safety, our staff spends precious minutes understanding how your children learn. With these strong pieces in place, classes are now jumping into the consistent learning routines shared at our Back-to-School presentations.

Speaking of Back-To-School Night on Wednesday, it was wonderful to see so many of you! We were inspired as we visited the grade level presentations. We listened to teachers sharing daily schedules, learning goals, curriculum information, and the social-emotional pieces they build into their classroom

environments. We couldn't be more proud of our staff; they care so deeply about your children both as learners and people. Everyone at Fireside is excited to partner with you this year as we learn and grow together.

PTO News

Thanks to those who attended our first PTO meeting! It was great to see so many parents excited to help. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 27th in the Fireside Garden from 9:10–10:30 a.m. If you have any questions or want to get involved, email chairfiresidepto@gmail.com.

New Volunteer Opportunities Now Available!

From Jog-A-Thon support to gardening, there is a role for you! [Please visit HelpAtSchools](#) to sign up and check frequently for added roles! Note: For our children's safety, most volunteer roles require a background check by the school district – please [see this BVSD Volunteer page](#) for details.

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

Jog-A-Thon – Our Biggest, and ONLY Fundraiser!

Jog-A-Thon will take place this year on Friday, Sept. 22 during school hours on the soccer field. This fun event helps pay for classroom paraeducators, teacher supplies, student experiences, school community events, and more. Our goal is for each family to raise \$150/student, but feel free to donate any amount. More information will be coming home in Friday Folders this week, but you can always start early! [Click here](#) to donate.

Volunteer Opportunities: Are you interested in volunteering at the Jog-A-Thon or the Celebration? Meet us Thursday, Sept. 7 in the Garden after drop-off to hear about both events and ask questions.

questions.

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

Labor Day Parade – September 4th at 10am

It's finally here! March along with your fellow Falcon families in the parade! Everyone at Fireside is invited. Please wear your Fireside colors (red and/or gold) and bring water and comfortable shoes. We will gather at Pirates Park next to Louisville Middle School at 9:45 a.m. Any children walking in the parade must be accompanied by an adult. The parade will run south down Main Street from E. Lafayette St. to Parkview St. (approx. 0.5 miles). Please feel free to bring or make your own signs, pom-poms, or other things to wave in the parade to show off your FIRESIDE PRIDE! Details from the city can be [found here](#). Please reach out to dow.paige@gmail.com for more information.

Last Week to order your Spirit Wear!

Gear up for the school year with Fireside spirit wear! Enjoy a 30% discount across our entire website during the back-to-school sale. This sale ends on Sept. 7 so check it out: <https://1stplace.sale/16776>

More About the Parent Teacher Organization

New to Fireside or ready to get involved? Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or visit www.FiresidePTO.org to discover the many ways to support our school.

Spotlight on Specials: Art & Library (by Abby Sehnert & Michelle Mattocks)

Art

My name is Abby Sehnert and I am the art teacher here at Fireside Elementary School. I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself. I've been with Fireside since the spring of 2005

introduce myself. I've been with Fireside since the spring of 2005. Fireside is a remarkable school; it's filled with laughter, joy and excitement. Our community and staff make Fireside feel like home, and I am so lucky to be part of such a truly wonderful school.

This year in art, your student will explore how to develop ideas, problem solve, and think creatively. Students will learn the elements of art and principles of design, art history, art critique and reflection, and explore different materials. Individual portfolios will house student artwork throughout the year, therefore all masterpieces will remain at school. Having a portfolio of work helps students select pieces for our school-wide art show at the end of the year.

Students are off to a fantastic start! They are becoming familiar with the art room layout, routines, and expectations. We started the year off with an introduction to "Finding Muchness" and how to add more life to our life. In preparation for International Dot Day, students used the idea of "Finding Muchness" to support their idea for a dot creation. Artwork will soon be on display.

Lastly, like previous years, Fireside artists will participate in Original Works. This is a program that prints student work on keepsakes. Please keep a lookout for more information about Original Works in the upcoming weeks. This program helps support our art program and replenish our daily consumable supplies.

Library

We are off and running in the library! Students started attending library lessons this week where rules, routines, and procedures were explained and practiced. In the coming weeks we will be discussing PRIDE in the library, using the Destiny management system to find books, and Digital Citizenship. We will be using [Common Sense Media](#) to guide our Digital Citizenship learning.

Current check-out limits are:

PK and kindergarten: 1 book

1st and 2nd grade: 2 books

3rd-5th grade: 3 books

In a few weeks we will be celebrating “[International Dot Day](#)” inspired by Peter Reynolds’ book, “The Dot.” Check out the link to learn more!

Check out the mission and vision for the redesigned library space [HERE](#). If you have any questions or suggestions, please email Mrs. Mattocks at michelle.mattocks@bvsd.org. Thank you for a great start to the school year!

Everything You Need to Know about BVSD Meals

Free Meals Facts

- At BVSD, we scratch-cook our meals using high-quality ingredients purchased locally when possible, and we limit added sugar and avoid chemicals and preservatives
 - Thanks to Colorado voters passing Healthy School Meals for All, each student may have one free breakfast and one free lunch per day
 - Both breakfast and lunch are FULL MEALS
 - Students MUST take a full reimbursable meal in order for it to be free - just taking fruit, for example, would not be free
 - Free lunch entrees come with unlimited salad bar
 - Even though meals are free, it is still very important to fill out the Free and Reduced Lunch Program Application, since it helps with your school’s funding and can waive other school fees
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School Age Care Adventure Camp Registration Is Open

For 16 of the non-school days on the 2023-24 calendar (including professional development days, Thanksgiving, Winter and Spring Breaks), School Age Care will provide full-day Adventure Camps at the following schools:

- Aspen Creek K-8
- Crest View
- Mesa
- Heatherwood
- Flatirons
- Monarch K-8
- Coal Creek
- Ryan

Registration is open to any enrolled elementary-age student in the district; students do not need to attend their home school on these days. Field trips to area attractions are planned on many of the days. CCAP financial assistance is available. Find more information and a registration link [HERE](#).



Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) would like to continue connecting with you via email. To set preferences for which types of messages are sent to your email address, activate your free [InfoCenter](#) account. If you prefer to stop receiving emails from BVSD, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#). Please note that if you unsubscribe, your email address will be placed on the "blocked list" for the remainder of the current school year and will no longer receive BVSD school or district emails that are distributed through our SchoolMessenger service.

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.