

FIRESIDE CHAT

September 8, 2023

Message from Mrs. Keppler

I wonder how many kindergartners in the U.S. can describe the spicy flavor of chives, identify chard, or tell the difference between parsley and cilantro? How fortunate that our kinders can! Thanks to our garden volunteers and the support of the GROWE Foundation, our students learn valuable lessons in Science through hands-on experiences in our garden and most importantly, gain a better understanding of the valuable soil that sources their food. What a beautiful week to kick off our student's garden experiences.

I also had the pleasure of attending our first social Families and Educators Together (F.E.T.) evening gathering on the Fireside field. Listening to the diversity of languages spoken and rich cultural backgrounds, I'm proud that we continue to attract families with diverse backgrounds to enrich our Fireside community.

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Another highlight for me this week was listening to students creative Jogathon fundraising projects - from hand-made cards that were sold at our F.E.T. gathering, to selling ripened tomatoes at self-made farmstands, there's no doubt we have budding entrepreneurs in our midst. With a limited number of days left for our Jogathon fundraiser, what are some ways your kiddos can join in on the fun by supporting our fundraiser for the year?

I look forward to seeing parents at our **Jogathon on Friday, Sept. 22nd**, followed by our community **JAT celebration on Friday, Sept. 29th**.

If you were unable to attend the parent presentation by me and Mr. Lehman at Back to School Night, please view slides [HERE](#).

Last, we are still seeking another member or two for our Fireside School Accountability Committee. If interested, please visit [HERE](#) to learn more about ways this team positively impacts our school and community and let me know.

Alright Falcons, let's make it a great weekend- and thanks for supporting this year's Jogathon!

PTO News

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

You can do it, Fireside! Another idea for fundraising is to hold a garage sale on Fireside's behalf...get rid of that old stuff while supporting our school. Similar to past years, our ask is for each family to raise \$150/student, but feel free to donate any amount.

Please remember to request employer matching on your donations – they really help us out.

[Click here](#) to donate or use the updated QR code above.

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

Volunteer Opportunities...

are plentiful! Support Fireside with volunteering at the Jog-A-Thon, the Celebration, or both. There are many different ways you can be involved, check them out at HelpAtSchools.com.

Labor Day Parade Success!

Thank you to all Fireside marchers! Our school was looking good in red and gold! It was great to see so much of the community cheering with us down the parade route. Go Falcons!

Crossing Guards Still Needed

Thank you to those who have already signed up! Sign up for one (or more) 15-minute shifts at one of our crosswalks in the AM or PM to help keep our kids safe. [Sign up here](#).

More About the Parent Teacher Organization

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: PE (by Suzanne Johnson)

We have started out the year in PE with fun team building activities. These are the foundation for each class as students begin to work in partnerships and teams, as they start to feel comfortable to take risks and try new things, and as they begin to feel comfortable with not always winning (we'll keep working on that one.) Here is a snapshot of our beginning of year learning targets as well as our class rules.

I scoured Arc yesterday and found some pretty nice soccer balls that can be used for our recess carts. If you have any unwanted (but in good condition) soccer balls, footballs, basketballs, or playground balls, we would love to have them to add to our recess carts as our current equipment will inevitably wear out or mysteriously disappear. ;)

Thank you for your continued support and partnership!

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BVSD Gifted & Talented

Boulder Valley School District and Boulder Valley Gifted & Talented are collaborating for a virtual presentation:

**"Unpacking the Gifted Gaps:
Confronting Disproportionality in Education"**

with Jo Correll

Wed., Sep. 13th

4:15 - 5:15pm

on [Google Meet](#)

This presentation delves into the critical issues of disproportionality in gifted education. With a focus on culturally sustaining education and equity, this session explores the impact of deficit framing and microaggressions, while offering practical strategies to dismantle barriers and foster belonging for all students. Participants will gain valuable insights, explore real-life case studies, and walk away with actionable resources to promote inclusive practices in classrooms and beyond.

RSVP: email your name and preferred email address to jlucchesi@bvgt.org

Anyone and everyone is welcome to join!
[Click here to access the Google Meet](#) when the presentation begins.

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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.