

FIRESIDE CHAT

October 13, 2023

Message from Mrs. Keppler

Our hearts go out to our families who have been impacted by the conflicts in Israel and Gaza, we recognize it's an unsettling time. We also understand that some families have expressed concern about the safety and welfare of their children, which is why we've been in communication with our Louisville PD and there was an increased police presence at Fireside today. In case you haven't received it, [here is the latest blog](#) from our Superintendent, Dr. Rob Anderson.

As has been our past practice at Fireside, for any families undergoing trauma or challenge, we will continue to come from a place of inclusion, respect, and compassion in supporting one another through difficult times. Our staff is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all of our children.

Following are resources to support conversations with your child/ren and other sources of outreach within the community:

The following are a few of the ways all of us can support children

The following are a few of the ways all of us can support children during these difficult times:

[Supporting Youth Affected by the Violence in Israel and Gaza: Tips for Families and Educators](#) (National Association of School Psychologists)

[Talking to Children About War](#) (National Child Traumatic Stress Network)

[Helping Students in Troubling Times](#) (American School Counselor Association)

[Handle with Care: Supporting Young People During Crises](#) (Learning for Justice)

If your child/ren may need any additional support, please don't hesitate to reach out to our counseling team: Molly Kobus

(Molly.Kobus@bvsd.org) or Suzy Kennedy

(Suzy.Kennedy@bvsd.org).

In other news, we want to thank all the families who had their fall conferences this week! The halls were filled with energy and enthusiasm as families spent time visiting with their teachers, learning about their students' progress and setting goals for the coming months.

Speaking of enthusiasm, our classrooms are full of learning opportunities! Our 4th graders are finishing personal narrative writing, 2nd grade reading groups focused on author's purpose, and 3rd graders are writing paragraphs with supporting details about characters. So fun to see the engagement of our students in all our classrooms.

Enjoy this weekend with your family - it feels like fall out there! Embrace those small moments that turn into lifelong memories.

PTO News

Thank You 23/24 Sponsors

Without the support from our local community, our fundraising goals would not be possible. Fireside is so very thankful for the **fabulous 22 sponsors** who have signed on as our partners this year. Visit our [sponsorship page](#) for links to these generous businesses. If you have a business interested in supporting our school, please email fundraisefiresidept@gmail.com.

STEM Fair

Get out your goggles! Help the inquisitive minds of Fireside Elementary explore the world of science or engineering by organizing the STEM Fair this year! [We need volunteers](#) to help make this a great event for our young scientists. Day of event volunteers and judge volunteer requests will be determined at a later date. If you have any questions please contact [Ashley Joslin](#).

Dining for Dollars: a percentage of the proceeds go directly toward Fireside

- Thursday October 19th: Rocky Mountain Tap & Garden, 6-9pm
 - Eat in or takeout
 - Bonus: Participate in family bingo as you dine
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PTO Classroom Liaison

[Help](#) your student's teacher create a meaningful connection to the PTO. You will be a representative from your student's class at monthly PTO meetings.

Upcoming PTO Meeting

- Wednesday, October 25th: 5:30pm - 6:45pm in the library
 - **Free pizza and free babysitting**
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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: Music (by Tina Dozauer-

Ray)

3rd, 4th, and 5th grade parents and loved ones, we can't wait to see you at our upcoming October "informances" (informal, informative performances.) 4th and 5th grade are honing their guitar skills, and 5th grade has been working with guest bluegrass instructor, Kevin Slick from Orchard Creek Band. 3rd grade has been working on playing ukulele, and all sound amazing!

All informances will be held in the Fireside amphitheatre during their regular music class times.

Monday Oct. 23:

Kinder 10:00-10:30

Haxton 10:55-11:25

Tuesday Oct. 24:

Cook 9:00-9:35

Miller 10:00-10:30

Kaufman 10:55-11:25

Wednesday Oct. 25:

Burgert 9:40-10:15

Stobaugh 10:30-11:00

Henkhaus 11:15-11:45

FET (Families and Educators Together)

Thanks to all the families that joined us at our first FET meeting in September! We are thrilled that our FET Team is growing! We had 5 staff members and 25 parents, with 16 countries represented! We hope that the entire Fireside community will be involved with FET by reading the notes from our monthly meetings, posted on the [FET website \(9/18 Community Notes\)](#). We greatly appreciate your interest and support!

Our next FET meeting is on Monday, October 23rd, 5:00-6:30. We will be discussing learning topics and action projects for future meetings, collecting feedback about conferences, and can look forward to a special presentation about SEL (Social Emotional Learning) at Fireside, as well as information about other community resources to support mental health and stress management. For more information or to RSVP to this event, please contact Shelby at shelby.warshaw@hved.org

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Fireside Gazette - October 17

It's time to roll up our sleeves for the fall issue of the Fireside Gazette! The newspaper is open to all 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. Our first meeting will be held at 7:15 a.m. on Tuesday, October 17.

When: Tuesdays at 7:15 a.m (with one Thursday exception due to Halloween). We will meet seven times for the fall issue: 10/17, 10/24, 11/2 (Thursday), 11/7, 11/14, 12/12, and 12/19. (Final articles are due Thursday, 11/16—NO MEETING that day.)

Where: Ms. Burgert's 5th grade classroom

Call for Volunteers: We are looking for parent volunteers to help students at school during the school day and to help edit articles from home.


Look for a sign-up sheet in this week's Friday Folder, or at the following web page: <https://sites.google.com/bvsd.org/msburgert-5thgrade/fireside-gazette>

Shannon Burgert & Jason Henkhaus, facilitators

P.R.I.D.E Awards

Congratulations to this week's P.R.I.D.E. award winners:

Evelynn Joslin, Danu Stanislaus, Ellie Degenhardt, Hannah Hyllested, Neil Sadikovic, Brianna Shives, Miles Ringwood, Gwendolen Kramer, Evan Music, Claire Hosmer, Camden Davis, Lia Davis, & Liam Mitchell



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