

FIRESIDE CHAT

December 8, 2023

Message from Mrs. Keppler

The National Reading Panel identified five key concepts at the core of effective reading curricula which include: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary, and Comprehension. These are the key components that are woven into our new literacy HMH Into Reading Curriculum. To learn more, visit the HMH Into Reading website [HERE](#).

As I've been visiting classrooms, I'm seeing a deepened understanding and application of vocabulary, targeted small group instruction based on differentiated student needs, and heightened engagement among students with each of the texts within the module units. While learning a new curriculum is a steep learning curve, especially with a spiraling curriculum, I'm proud of how teachers are adjusting to the changes and for their continued commitment to growing our readers!

We also continue to value parents' participation in the learning process by reading to, with, or alongside their child nightly. While

the end of the day isn't easy for working families, carving out time for this ritual is still one of the best daily habits to support students in developing a joy and love for reading.

Falcons, enjoy your weekend and the joy of the holiday season. Happy Hanukkah to those who celebrate!

PTO News

The Fireside Giving Tree Wall

Thank you to everyone who has taken mittens off of the Giving Tree wall. There are still a few left, if you haven't had a chance to grab a pair. **If you have taken mittens home and forgot to leave the contact mitten with your info at school**, please fill it out, and return it to the Giving Tree box that is in front of the Wall. It helps us to reach out to you if needed during this process.

For many Fireside families the upcoming holidays are a time for reflection, festivities and gift-giving. For other families this can be a stressful time because they cannot afford to spend money on gifts for their children. At Fireside, these families are able to **anonymously request gifts** for their children. Other Fireside families will then have an opportunity to select a gift request, purchase and wrap a gift for a child in need.

If you are able to help Fireside families with needs this year, look for the "Giving Tree Wall" in the lobby. Gift requests are hanging on the wall, ready to be selected, feel free to take a look. Please be sure to fill in your info on the contact mitten and leave it in the box. After you purchase a gift, please wrap it, attach the mitten with the gift request on it, and return it to the counseling office as soon as possible (or by Friday, December 15th). Once all gifts for a family have been dropped off, Molly and Candace can make the delivery to the family.

If you have any questions please contact Nina at ninalv@gmail.com.

In addition, tax-deductible donations will be accepted to ensure that all gift requests are fulfilled, with any extra going towards

that all gift requests are fulfilled, with any extra going towards grocery cards for the families. Find the "[Community Gives Program](#)" on our PTO website: <https://www.firesidepto.org/donatenow>

Support Fireside While Holiday Shopping

There are several easy ways to support our school this season!

1. Grandrabbits: While shopping the best toy store in town, mention Fireside Elementary bunny bucks at checkout to give 5% back to our school. Grandrabbits will issue a gift card with all money earned at the end of the school year.

2. King Soopers: Simply log in to KingSoopers.com and select "Community Rewards" under "My Account." Add the code NE165. Every time you purchase through King Soopers using your telephone number, a small portion will support Fireside.

3. Safeway: Please stop by the Fireside office to pick up a new card to reload for your grocery needs. Supporters will help Fireside earn 5% back every time the card is reloaded. Find out more at: [Safeway Community Giving Program](#).

4. Box Tops: **Follow this link to set up your profile and begin scanning your grocery receipts. It's that simple!**

Dining for Dollars

Why shouldn't you trust tacos? Because they always spill the beans!

Chipotle is giving back 33% of your proceeds to the school!

- Chipotle - 375 S. McCaslin Blvd
 - Dec 13th from 4:00–8:00pm
 - Order online/App use code **HW3QA73** (see [here](#) for instructions) or mention the Fireside fundraiser if ordering in person
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Fireside Spiritwear

The Fireside Holiday Sale ends soon! This is the last week to save 20% on all spirit wear. Guaranteed delivery by Dec 23rd!

Find the perfect gift for everyone on your list - from parents to grandparents and beyond! Visit: <https://1stplace.sale/16776>

Upcoming PTO Meeting

- Wednesday, January 24th: 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 the [PTO website](#) to discover the many ways to support our school.

Spotlight on Specials: Music (by Tina Dozauer-Ray)

It's almost time for **Fire Choir**! Fire Choir will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays (with a couple of exceptions) after school between winter break and spring break. It is open to all fourth and fifth graders who love to sing! I gave out hard copy registration and info sheets in music class, but they can also be found [HERE](#). Please get your completed form and participation fee to me before Wednesday, **December 20**.

Canned Food Drive

Fireside Student Council is thrilled to sponsor our annual **Food Drive** to benefit the Louisville Community Food Bank. Classes have already started to collect packaged food items and will continue to collect **until next Thursday, December 14**. Make sure you check out our [fun promotional video](#) too!

In addition to the Food Drive, Student Council is busy promoting our annual Holiday Sweater and Hat spirit day. This will take place this **Friday, December 22**. Students who would like to participate can come to school in their favorite holiday sweater or hat. No pajamas, please!

P.R.I.D.E Awards

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

River Ramos, Marley McNichol, Vincent Kadlec, Madeline Ochsankehl, Ryder Saenz, Morgan Revnen, Roland Gorman

Concannon, Nyder Cacho, Morgan Reynon, Melana German,
Roxana Dietzel, Daniel Sharp, Marina Yeretsian, Lane Macri,
Kaveri Sathe, Paige Shanta, Zoe Greller, & Lainey Shields.



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