

# FIRESIDE CHAT

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May 10, 2024

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## Message from Mrs. Keppler

I am incredibly proud of our 5th graders, teachers, and parent volunteers who made the Calwood experience possible for our students and braved the inclement weather. I drove up to check on our crew and join them for dinner Monday evening. Their laughter, energy and excitement filled the dining hall and was palpable even amidst the blowing snow and wind. Outdoor ed teaches our kids so much, especially when it comes to being anti-fragile, a term I've been giving more thought to lately as we equip our kids for their future. To learn more, watch this [Ted Talk Video by Tal Ben Shahar](#).

It's been a celebratory week on many fronts, including my retirement farewell. It was wonderful seeing our Falcons who attended including students, families, staff, retirees, as well as surprise guests from my 30 years in education, including my mentor who I student taught with and colleagues from different phases of my career. It was also a highlight having my family attend (minus Aleah as she's still overseas) as they've been such

attend (minus Alan as she's still overseas) as they've been such a source of unwavering strength and support over the years. I am so grateful for it all, and as I told a 4th grade class this week when asked why I'm leaving, I shared that change is how we continue to learn and grow. I have no doubt that same spirit of learning and growth will continue for years to come at Fireside.

Another celebration this week was our Art Show. A shout to Ms. Sehnert for how she pours her whole self into the show every year as our kids are inspired by different artists and discover their artistic strengths. Our hallways are an expression of love, color and creativity.

Falcons, enjoy the remaining days. I look forward to seeing you at the carnival and our other culminating events.

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## PTO News

### Spring Carnival Volunteers Needed

As one of the most popular events on the Fireside calendar each year, we need a lot of volunteers to pull this off! Please [check out the available slots here](#) and sign up for one or more.

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### School Supply Order

Ordering school supplies is fast, easy, and it supports Fireside's programming when you [order through this link](#) by June 2. Simply enter our school ID (FIR178) and choose your student's grade. Supplies will be delivered to school in August.

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### Upcoming Events

- Nicky/Niki Run: **Mon. 13th: 2:45–3:30pm**
- Lulu's BBQ: **Wed. 15th, evening hours**
- PTO/Volunteer Reception at Rocky Mountain Tap & Garden
  - **Wed. 15th: 3:00–4:30pm**
- Carnival: **Fri. 17th: 5:00pm-7:30pm \*\* HELP NEEDED FROM EVERY FAMILY\*\***

- [Please volunteer to help run games!](#)
- **Last Day of School: Thurs. 23rd**

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### **Ambassador Program '24-'25: Falcon Friend Families Needed**

Join our community building efforts to help welcome new 1st–5th grade families to Fireside during the upcoming 2024–2025 school year. [Learn more about this incredible program and become a Falcon Friend!](#)

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### **2024–2025 PTO Budget**

At our PTO meeting on May 15th we will be voting on the budget for next school year. [Please take a look here](#) -- and we hope to see you next week!

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-----New to 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.

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

**First and Second Grade** parents, mark your calendars for these spring performances in the amphitheatre during your students' regular music time:

- Monday, May 13 1:15-1:45 Johnston; 2:10-2:40 Spruce/Eccles
  - Tuesday, May 14 1:15-1:45 Scott; 2:10-2:40 Herfert
  - Wednesday, May 15 1:30-2:00 Roth; 2:15-2:45 Landoll
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## **25th Annual Nicky/Nicki Run - May 13**

Fireside's Annual Nicky/Nicki Run is Monday! Join us from 3:00

to 4:00, to walk or run and raise money for Children's Hospital! The run takes place each spring, in the field behind Fireside. The run is in memory of Nicky Lizakowski, a Fireside student who lost his battle with cancer, and Nicole (Nicki) Haley, a Fireside student who passed away in 2013. If you haven't yet registered, you can [register online](#) or register at the event. (Registering ahead is helpful to us!) If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Burgert, [shannon.burgert@bvsd.org](mailto:shannon.burgert@bvsd.org).

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## **FET (Families and Educators Together) - May 13**

Our next FET meeting is on **Monday, May 13th, 4:45-6:30**. At our meeting this month, we will be adding the fruits of our labor to our tree roots from the beginning of the year. We will also be talking about ideas for how to improve FET next year and when to hold our meetings. Finally, we will be sharing about what FET means to us and what makes FET at Fireside special. For more information or to RSVP to this event, please contact Shelby at [shelby.warshaw@bvsd.org](mailto:shelby.warshaw@bvsd.org).

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 \(4/15 FET Community Notes\)](#). We greatly appreciate your interest and support!

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## **Volunteer Reception - May 15**

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## **Fireside Carnival - May 17th at 5-7:30pm!**

**\*\*\*Pre-purchase Wristbands May 15th or 16th after  
school!**

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We NEED everyone's help to make our carnival happen. We're halfway there! **Sign up now** for a short time slot to run one of our game stations. They are super easy and fun to run!

Come one and all to celebrate another year at Fireside! We'll have carnival games, dunk tank, face painting, balloon artists, prize drawings (Tilt, hoverboard, gift cards, Zeal sunglasses, Fjallraven gifts, etc.), food trucks, and more. Wristbands are \$10 for unlimited game play and will be available to pre-purchase May 15th or 16th after school! **Please see this flier for more detailed information.** **BRING SMALL BILLS PLEASE!**

**NEW...Free Attraction! Mobile Obstacle Course** (weather permitting) in the fields! If you'd like to participate, save time and sign this waiver ahead of time!

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## Fireside Garden to Table - Help Needed!

The Fireside Garden to Table garden is a hands-on learning garden where all of our students participate in standards-based education aligned with BVSD curriculum. In order to keep our garden growing for next fall's lessons, **we need families to take turns helping to care for the garden space.**

Please sign up on Help @ Schools here: <https://bvsd.helpatschools.com/schools/35/events/13451>

- No green thumb is needed - Our partner non-profit, Garden to Table, will provide weekly guidance on their Summer Stewardship Hub, and can answer questions as needed!
  - This is a great opportunity to contribute to the Fireside community, spend time outdoors, and learn more about gardening. It's also a great activity to do with your kids!
    - Families will have access to a Virtual Garden Log, so we can all easily communicate what's been done and what needs attention.
    - Stewards should plan to visit and work in the garden 2-3 times, for a total of 2-5 hours. Tasks will mostly include weeding,

checking for irrigation or other problems, and harvesting when produce is available.

- As the summer progresses, there will be opportunities to harvest for your family table, and/or to facilitate donation to local food banks and rescues. Steward harvesting will stop before school returns so that students can take over!

- Signups are Monday-Sunday, and families are welcome to sign up for more than one week.

Questions about Summer Stewardship? Please

email [firesidegardentotable@gmail.com](mailto:firesidegardentotable@gmail.com), 406-425-0775

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## **P.R.I.D.E Awards**

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

Lennon Humphrey-McGehan, Marlowe Smith, Harrison Larter, Milan Fuentes Arevalo, Bodhi Gingo, Ari Gardner, Ryan Ossowski, Max McNichol, Sam Bradley, Nora Geiger, Waylon McSmith, Naomi Hirbec, Odin Pemberton, Heidi Borsholm, Tamar Naveh, Madelyn Newhouse, Leia Hurt, Miles McLeaish, Genie Pond, Ellie Teater, Temper Levy, Tali Ruben, Alistair Qureshi, Or Bar-On, Mac Marlow, Graham Lehmann, Rose Triesch, Valentina Foppen Ganoza, & Leah Skalican.

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