

The Bacon Beacon



The #1 News Source of the Bacon Bulldogs

October 2011

[Bacon Elementary School](#)
5844 S. Timberline Rd
Ft. Collins, CO 80528
970-488-5300

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Principal Perspective

Greetings!

I want to say a BIG "Thank You" to Debbi Wright and all the volunteers for their great work in organizing the Fall Festival that was held on Friday, September 16th. It was awesome to see so many families enjoying the games, music, and excellent food.

As we move into the month of October, teachers will begin having conferences with you and/or your child. Communication is one key to the success of individuals and organizations. We feel it is important to keep communication lines open and honest in order to help your child be successful. If you are unsure on how to best help your child, please ask. And, as always, keep "going to the source" to gain clarity on any uncertainty. With a strong line of communication between home and school we can help each other better in an effort to support your child. Parent Teacher Conferences will be held:

- Thursday, October 20th (8:00 - 3:00)
- Tuesday, October 25th (4:00 - 7:00)
- Thursday, October 27th (4:00 - 7:00)

If you did not sign-up for a conference time during the Ice Cream Social or Back to School Night, your teacher will be contacting you soon.

Halloween at Bacon

Our annual Halloween Parade will begin at 2:45 on Monday, October 31st. Parents are invited to view the parade out on the playground or in the gym. Most classroom parties will begin after the parade is over.

Please help your kids plan costumes that do not use pretend weapons of any kind. Guns, knives, bows and arrows, brooms, etc. will not be permitted. Adults often come in costumes as well. If you dress up, please do not wear a facemask of any kind. We must be able to recognize you - make-up is fine.

We also suggest watching the weather report before the kids leave to school that morning, as part of the parade will be

Bacon PTA Meeting

October 10-14
Safety Week

October 20, 25 and 27 Fall
Conferences

October 31 Halloween
Parade

outside.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for your efforts in helping to make the Kiss-and-Go lane run more smoothly in the mornings. This makes it much more safe for all students when they arrive as well as more efficient for parents. Please make every effort to have your child arrive at school between 8:50 and 9:00. Our morning duties, including crossing guard, begin ten minutes before the first bell rings at 9:00.

Educationally yours,
[Mr. Horky](#)

School News

Bacon Book Fair

By Roberta Menten

The Book Fair is almost here! Please make sure you and your family attend this fun event. Please know that a full 50% of all sales dollars from the fair go directly to the Bacon Media Center, so that they can purchase books and supplies that all the Bacon kids can share. This is a great chance to stock up on books, priced reasonably, for your child, for gifts, for the holidays, or for charitable giving.

Here are some of the activities going on:

- Clifford the Big Red Dog is coming! He'll be at our fair on Family Night - Tuesday, October 4th from 6-8 p.m. We'll be on hand to take photos of your children with Clifford, which can then be emailed to you after the fair. Remember, all family members are welcome on Family Night, and there are plenty of picture books available for even the youngest children!
- There will be a door prize available on Family Night, with a prize to the winner our guessing contest.
- Our "One for Books" donation box will be on hand at all times during the fair, for a donation to families with hardships, both locally at Bacon and nationally through Scholastic's sponsored children's charities. Please consider a donation, however small, to this cause.
- We'll be taking "Diary of a Wimpy Kid #6 - Cabin Fever" pre-orders at the fair - this is a chance to get a copy of this book on it's national release day, and at a discount to boot! Bring your form infrom last week's Friday folder, or we'll have others available at the fair for you.
- Scholastic has thousands of books available at the fair - but if you don't see what you want, we can easily

order it online and have it count towards our fair. Info will be available at the fair as to the correct process for this.

- Teacher wishlists for their classrooms will be available at the fair, so if you'd like to purchase one of these books for your child's teacher, please check out their "wishbags" and choose a book to buy them.

The fair is open M-T-W before school (8 a.m), during lunch hours, and after school until 4:30. Children or parents can browse and purchase books at any of these times. The fair is also open on Tuesday night from 6-8 p.m for all family members.

We hope to see you at the Book Fair!

Chess Club

by John Trone

Bacon Chess Club will be starting in November. We would like to welcome anyone from Bacon Elementary (1st to 5th grade) who is interested in playing chess to join. Players with any or no chess experience are welcome. If you are new to chess, we will teach you how to play. If you know the moves, come play and improve your skills. Sign up and have some fun!

Our club meets right after school and goes until 4:30, (1st and 2nd grade) or 4:45 pm (3rd to 5th)

We will supply the boards and chess pieces. All you need to provide is encouragement for your child and transportation home after chess club. Just come, learn and play!

If your child is interested in joining the Chess Club, please email me your:

- Child's name
- Grade
- Email address
- Phone number
- Emergency phone number or cell number

If your child will be attending the beginner sessions, this year, we will be doing three beginner sessions before the regular club meetings start. The beginner sessions will be Tuesday, November 1st, November 8th and November 15th from after school until 4:30. We will not meet on the 22nd

Our first regular meeting will be on Tuesday, November 29th. After that, we will meet each Tuesday through February 14th when school is in session in room 131.

Please email any questions and if you are willing to help out also. I need at least one volunteer per meeting. (If you can play, great, if not, that is ok too) John.trone@hotmail.com

PSD/Bacon Elementary Volunteer Registration

by Jill Wood

At Bacon, we have an active volunteer program that works in conjunction with the PSD Partnership Center and our own P.T.A. The volunteer program organizes the in-classroom volunteers, home room parents, and many other volunteer opportunities throughout the school, including PTA supported activities that include the media center, work room, after school programs, teacher appreciation activities, community service, and all-school events.

All volunteers at Bacon are required by PSD to register, whether you help at home, for example grading, or in the classroom. When you register, a background check will be conducted. For your convenience, online registration is available at www.psdschools.org. On the "Community" tab, select Volunteers and Partnerships. Click on the orange button that says Individual Parent on the middle right of the screen to get to the online registration form. You do not need to reregister every year, but please keep your profile updated, as you will receive e-mail communications about volunteer needs and opportunities available at Bacon throughout the year.

When you are approved, a nametag will be prepared for you to wear in the building. You should wear this nametag in the building and log in/out on the computer in the main office each time you volunteer at Bacon.

If you have questions about volunteering at Bacon, please contact the volunteer coordinator, Jill Wood at 266-8095 or jjacwood@aol.com.

Thank you for volunteering!!

Box Tops for Education

By Katie Zapp

Last year's Box Tops for Education program at Bacon had a fantastic year, and I'm hoping we can do the same - and better - this year. Our goal for this school year is \$1,500.

In order to save paper this year, I will not be sending out monthly collection sheets. Instead, simply clip your Box Tops and send them in each month in a plastic sandwich bag. It's that easy! For those of you that prefer the collection sheets, you can go online and print them directly from the Box Tops for Education website. You will find a variety of collection sheets at: boxtops4education.com/learn/flyers, just scroll down to the "collection sheets" pull-down. Just remember to send in your collection bags or sheets regularly, as Box Tops do have expiration dates.

Each Box Top is worth 10 cents, and they can be found on many items you probably already use every day. Some of the brands include: General Mills, Pillsbury, Juicy Juice, Go-Gurt, Betty Crocker, Old El Paso, Ziploc, Hefty, Land O'Lakes, Kleenex, Huggies, and Avery office supplies. A list of all items is available online. Ask family, friends and neighbors to clip and save Box Tops for Bacon, as well. It all adds up!

Do you shop online? Check out the Marketplace option on

the Box Tops website. There, you will find over 100 online retailers that give eBox Tops to our school when you shop online at the Marketplace.

Let's have another great Box Tops year. Remember, every Box Top counts!

MUSIC NOTES

by Holly Phippen

It has been a great start to the year in music! All classes have learned and begun singing their welcome songs A CAPELLA (without accompaniment), students have composed original verses to a song, reviewed RHYTHM NOTATION (notes and rests), and many have sung SOLOS (one person singing alone)! Kindergarteners are exploring their 4 VOICES (singing, talking, whispering, shouting), exploring space and moving to music, finding and keeping the BEAT (the steady pulse in all music), and learning new songs! 4th grade is busy learning new FOLK DANCES (traditional dances from a particular culture) for their upcoming program! Other classes are learning music vocabulary, composers and their works, dances and songs! The Bacon Treble Makers Choir has begun its fall season with 56 singers from 4th and 5th grades! They are preparing for a December concert and community tour, as well as a very special performance in January. The choir auditioned last May and was selected (!!!) to perform at the Colorado Music Educators Association (CMEA) annual state music conference at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, January 26 - 28, 2012 (actual performance date/time TBA). This is a tremendous honor and I am so proud of our singers! Please congratulate the choir members when you see them! Upcoming music schedule:

- 4th grade Family Folk Dance Night, Thursday Nov. 10, 6:30 p.m.
- 2nd grade Holiday Program, Thursday Dec. 8, 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. *2nd grade will be divided into 2 classes at a time to accommodate parking and seating for all families.
- Winter Choir Concert, Tuesday Dec. 13, 7:00 p.m.
- Choir Community Tour, Wednesday Dec. 14, 9:00 - 1:30 p.m. *Parent chaperones will be needed.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Please see Mrs. Pippin if you are available to help with some projects, copying, and other tasks in the music room. I promise I won't make you sing and dance (unless you want to)! Thank you for your support of the Bacon music program - we couldn't do it without you!
Musically Yours,

PTA Notes

Bacon PTA 2011-2012

Mission and Purpose

by *Lindsay Radcliff-Coombes*

Mission

The mission of the PTA is three-fold:

To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;

To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children; and

To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.

Purposes

To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship.

To raise the standards of home life.

To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.

To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.

To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education.

A PTA Code of Ethics

As a PTA volunteer, I realize that I am subject to a code of ethics similar to that which binds the professional in the field in which I work. Like them, I assume certain responsibilities and expect to account for what I do in terms of what I am expected to do: I will keep confidential matters confidential. I interpret "volunteer" to mean that I have agreed to work without compensation in money, but having been accepted as a worker, I expect to do my work according to standards, as the paid staff expect to do their work. I promise to take to my work an attitude of open-mindedness; to be willing to be trained for it; to bring to it interest and attention. I realize that I may have assets that my co-workers may not have and

that I shall use these to enrich the project at which we are working together. I realize also that I may lack assets that my co-workers have, but I will not let this make me feel inadequate but endeavor to assist in developing teamwork. I plan to find out how I can best serve the activity for which I have volunteered, and to offer as much as I am sure I can give, but no more. I realize that I must live up to my promise and therefore, will be careful that my agreement is so simple and clear that it cannot be misunderstood. I believe that my attitude toward volunteer work should be professional. I believe that I have an obligation to my work, to those who direct it, to my colleagues, to those whom it is done, and to the public.

- Author Unknown ~1993

[Don't forget to check out our amazing website.](#)

Bacon PTA

by *Lindsay Radcliff-Coombes*

Colorado PTA Member Benefits

It's not too late to sign up to be a member of Bacon PTA...You get a free school directory when you sign up!

Now, being a member of PTA is even more valuable -you can save money and receive special discounts for some of your favorite stores and products. Colorado PTA and National PTA are working hard to bring you and your PTA more member benefits than ever before. Now, through alliances and partnerships with corporations, we are able to offer tangible benefits to members like you, too.

Benefits for Every Member

There's always been a value to PTA membership. Whether it's getting the skills you need to be a better parent, to help your children succeed academically, to learn ways to improve communication with teachers, to speak out about public school needs in your own town, or to keep your neighborhood safe, you have benefited by being a member. These benefits have helped enrich the lives of our nation's children and adults for more than a century. Check out National PTA's listing of individual member benefits [requires logon & password from membership card]. The following apply to Colorado PTA members.

If your interested in learning more please contact Tanya Henry at rhenry1@comcast.net or go to our web site at baconpta.org!

Huge Thanks to the success of the 1st ever Fall Festival, and to Debbie Wright for making such a memorable night for the Bacon Community by organizing and rounding up volunteers, and putting such big smiles on all the children's faces.

The Entertainment books Fundraiser is wrapping up, and if you have not turned your book in, please do so at your earliest convenience. We still have a few books floating around, and would like to end the fundraiser. Thank You to those who have already turned your book in, and or sold

books this year. What a great effort many families made.

Please join us for our next PTA General Meeting October 6th, in the flex room at 9:10AM. Mr. Horky will be speaking, and you will be in the know for all of the wonderful events taking place here at Bacon.

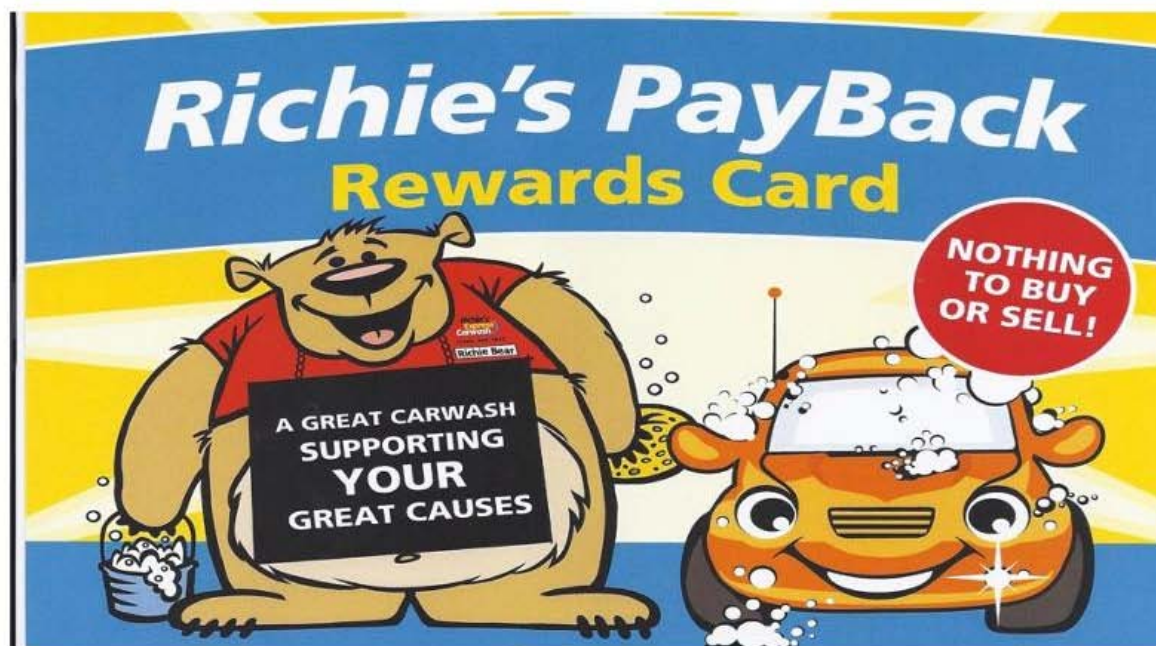
GO BULLDOGS!!!

Lindsay Radcliff-Coombes

President@baconpta.org

PTA President 2010-2012





With Richie's PayBack Rewards Card, participants do not have to buy anything or sell anything. And parents or staffers do not have to donate time or money. Just wash your vehicles at the best carwash in Fort Collins and enjoy perpetual funding each time the card is "swiped". Everyone wants to take care of their vehicles so this fundraising program could easily be your favorite fundraising source in only months.



HELP SUPPORT BACON

Get your car washed TODAY!! \$3.00 goes back to Bacon Elementary School every time you wash your car! You can keep this card with you and it never expires!! Look for our DOUBLE SWIPE DAYS also...where \$6.00 goes to back to Bacon for washing your car. IF you have friends or family that would use this, please contact president@baconPTA.org.

Works at both Colorado Locations

Richie's Express Carwash S College Ave.
3141 S College Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 223-4221

Richie's Express Carwash S Twenty Mile Rd.
9996 S. Twenty Mile Rd.
Parker, CO 80134
(303) 840-169



McTeacher's Night™

OCTOBER 13TH, 4-8 PM

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Please come and support Bacon Elementary

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Bacon PTA | Bacon PTA Webmaster | Fort Collins, Colorado 80528 |

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