

The Bacon Beacon



The #1 News Source of the Bacon Bulldogs

November 2011

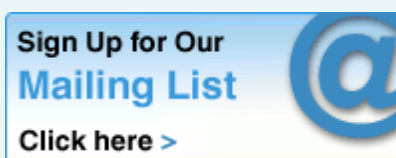
[Bacon Elementary School](#)
5844 S. Timberline Rd
Ft. Collins, CO 80528
970-488-5300

In This Issue

School News

Quick Links

[Bacon Elementary School](#)
[Bacon PTA](#)
[Poudre School District](#)



Upcoming Events

Nov. 3rd - Picture Retakes 8:45-9:30

Nov. 3rd - Final PTA General Meeting of 2011 @ 9:10 AM

Nov. 10th - Hearing & Vision K-3 & 5th Grades

Principal Perspective

Greetings!

Thanks for attending Bacon's Parent Teacher Conferences. At the time of writing this article - we have not completed our last set of evening conferences. I'm sure we will be very close to having a 100% parent turnout. This percentage is a huge tribute to you for making your child's education the utmost importance.

As I look back at the month of October - I must say it was quite busy!

- **CHARACTER ASSEMBLIES** - It was great having our first Character Assemblies of the year. It was a little different not doing both the primary and intermediate assemblies in the same day but it all seemed to work out. We are anxious to begin incorporating "Kelso Good Choice Awards" into our primary assemblies for the remainder of the year. We will also be focusing our intermediate assemblies on the 8 Keys to Excellence. I'll share more about the first two keys at the end of the article.
- **SAFETY WEEK** - Our second annual Safety Week was a success. We again were able to practice all of our drills for the year. Our Safety and Security Committee reflected on each and will be sharing these reflections with staff at an upcoming staff meeting. I would say a highlight of the week was the police car visit. Last year fire truck, this year police car, next year.....?
- **COACHING DAYS** - A highlight of mine each week is Coaching Days. I have set a goal of spending two days per week visiting classrooms throughout the building - these are what I call Coaching Days. I've been focusing my classroom visits on providing staff with feedback related to student engagement and maximizing instructional time. It's also "tons of fun" to see the students working hard in the classrooms.

Our counselor, Mrs. Mayfield, has started classroom visits. As mentioned earlier - she will be focusing her

Nov. 10th - 4th Grade Folkdance Night - 6:30

Nov. 18th - Storytellers

Dec. 8th - Choir Concert - 7:00p

Dec. 9th Choir Community Tour - 9:00a-2:00p

Dec. 15th - 2nd Grade Holiday Program - 6:00p

Did you know...

That 253 Trees were planted in Bacon's name for the amount of yearbooks that we sold last year!!!

PTA'S Reflections Program is coming soon. Be on the lookout in your child's Friday folder. Details to come.....

There are plenty of Bacon Bulldog water bottles still available for purchase what a great stocking stuffer!

Don't Forget...

Richies Carwash

Please don't forget to go to RICHIES CARWASH this fall and have your car looking new! This is a great way to support our school! Make sure they scan your card when you begin the wash, and \$3.00 goes back to Bacon. Double swipe days coming Nov. 7, 8, 9!

classroom instruction with the intermediate grades (grades 3,4, and 5) on the Eight Keys to Excellence. The first two keys she is focusing on are:

- **THIS IS IT!** - Make the most of every moment. Focus your attention on the present moment. Keep a positive attitude.

This Is It! is about focusing on NOW instead of later, or next week, or next month, or next year, or yesterday, etc., and making the most of it. A positive This Is It! attitude can make everything we do and every day productive, fulfilling, and fun! When we live in the NOW we have power! With a This Is It! attitude we make the present "it" and find joyful moments that we might otherwise have missed!

- **SPEAK WITH GOOD PURPOSE** - Speak honestly and kindly. Think before you speak. Make sure your intention is positive and your words are sincere.

Words are powerful! They have the power to uplift and enlighten or put down and depress. A few cutting words spoken in a moment of anger can affect us for a long time, perhaps even a lifetime. On the other hand, a few kind words can make a very positive difference in how we feel about ourselves ... sometimes for a lifetime. What we say to others-and to ourselves-can have a huge impact. Speaking with good purpose is about always considering the intention of our words. It's about communicating directly, clearly, honestly, and with a positive purpose. If we always think before we speak instead of just blurting out whatever comes to mind, we can learn to consider the reason for our words and make sure we are speaking with good purpose ... will our words build someone up or put them down?

Thanks for reading,

Educationally yours,
[Mr. Horky](#)

School News

Fourth Grade Service Learning Project

Mrs. Tomlinson's fourth graders have been working in small groups all quarter to develop ideas for a community service project.

After much research, thought, and discussion, each of the five groups has decided on a way to contribute to the Fort Collins community.

The Gryffindor team will be organizing a staff volleyball tournament here at Bacon and giving the proceeds (from ticket sales) to the Center for Diabetes at Poudre Valley

Old Chicago Pizza Pal Cards Still Available

We have a limited amount of the Old Chicago Pizza Pals cards left, hurry and get yours before they are sold out! Go to BaconPTA.org and buy yours now!

McTeacher's Night Results

Big thanks to those that made it to our McTeacher's Night and supporting our music department! We raised \$355.00!!

Get involved with the Bacon PTA!!!

Why not get involved with the Parent Teacher Association, and make a difference in your child's education and future.

Go to BaconPTA.org and sign up today!

*** Thank you to the staff for joining forces with the PTA and becoming members.

Please join us for our last PTA General Meeting of the 2011. It's coming up November 3rd at 9:10am. Bring your ideas and make a difference!

Hospital. They want to help children with diabetes. The Soul Savers have distributed cans around the school for everyone to donate loose change. Houska Automotive will match their dollar amount and the funds will go to support the PVH Cancer Center. The Money Raisers are going to sell warm apple cider in the cafeteria at lunchtime to raise money for the Overflow Homeless Shelter in town. The Cougars will be asking Bacon students to help them collect canned foods for the Fort Collins Food Bank. Finally, the Zoom Gum group (can you tell, they got to pick their own names?!) would like to collect items to donate to the Salvation Army. All of these fourth graders are very excited about their ideas and are eager to get the word out to fellow Bacon students. Some groups have chosen to do some "advertising" on the school news; others will be putting up posters in the halls and visiting classrooms to spread word of their goals. I just wanted to make you all aware of what is happening since this project does involve our whole Bacon community. Please do not feel like your child must participate in any or all of these events. You may wish to discuss the various opportunities available and together, find one or two you'd like to support. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Tomlinson via email at: atomlins@psdschools.org

Thank you,
Andrea Tomlinson
4th Grade Teacher

Bacon Media Center

By Jean Brodahl and Kim Sterkel

October was Read Aloud month! Continue to read to your kids AFTER October and EVERY month! Evidence shows that kids soar in all areas if they're read to every night!

Thank you for making the Book Fair a HUGE success. We had our biggest total sales EVER! Your generosity has made it possible for the Bacon Media Center to buy tons of new books! The Bacon Bulldogs will have gobs of reading enjoyment all because of the great Bacon community and friends! THANK YOU!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving! Don't forget about audio books if when you're traveling.

We in the media center and all of Bacon have many things to be thankful for: great students, great parents, great community, and a great staff!
THANK YOU AND HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Jean and Kim

Jean Brodahl 488-5304 jbrodahl@psdschools.org
Kim Sterkel 488-5365 ksterkel@psdschools.org

Volunteers Needed for Vision and Hearing Screening

By Jill Wood

Hello Bacon Volunteers, we need 14 helpers for Vision and Hearing Screening Day, Thursday, November 10. Trained staff from PSD will be at Bacon to oversee the screening and need 7 helpers for each of two sessions.

- The first starts at 8:45 am to about 11:30 am
- The second session runs from 11:15 am to about 2 pm

Each session includes a 15 min training period at the beginning, final times will be sent out a few days prior to screening. If you are able to help out, please e-mail Jill Wood at jjacwood@aol.com or call 266-8095 with your name, e-mail address, shift preference (1st or 2nd) and if you prefer being a vision or hearing helper.

Thank You!

MUSIC NOTES

by Holly Pippen

I would first like to welcome our Bacon Music student teacher, Ms. Brittany Worley! Ms. Worley will be observing, team-teaching, and solo-teaching in the music room through December. She comes to us from CSU (GO RAMS!!), where she was the drum major of the marching band for 3 years and was in the flute studio and choir as well. She is very excited to be here at Bacon and is looking forward to working with our awesome Bacon students! Please stop by and meet Ms. Worley next time you're in the building!

We are gearing up for our first Bacon music program this month! Our 4th grade students have been working very hard learning American folk dances and will be presenting 4 dances to parents and families on **Thursday, November 10th from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.** Families are encouraged to stay for the family dance portion, where the 4th graders will teach 2 of their dances to everyone!

Our next program will be "Twas the Night Before Christmas", presented by 2nd grade on **Thursday, December 8th at 6:00 and 7:00 p.m.** This year we will be dividing the grade level into groups of 2 classes at each performance time. This will allow more space for parking and seating in the gym, and will also provide more opportunities for students to have solo speaking parts! Look for more info to come!

Choir is doing a great job preparing for their winter concert and special CMEA Conference performance coming up in January! Combined rehearsals will begin on **November 29th and 30th** - ALL singers need to attend BOTH Tuesday and Wednesday rehearsals from this date until the winter concert on **Tuesday, December 13th** at 7:00 p.m.

Thank you to all Bacon families and staff for your continued support of all the exciting music programs happening at Bacon! If you are available to assist with various volunteer needs, please contact me at 488-5345 or hpipin@psdschools.org . Remember to have a musical experience every day!

Musically Yours,
Mrs. Pippin & Ms. Worley

Music Helper Needed

Mrs. Pippin would like some clerical help with the Music Memory program. This would involve making copies and setting up teacher notebooks. If you can help, please contact Mrs. Pippin at hpipin@psdschools.org.

Weather Reminder

Remember to help your kids dress appropriately for the weather. We will go outside for recess almost every day. The only exceptions are for heavy rain and very cold weather. If you are new to the area and from a warmer climate, be pre-pared for some 10°-15° days, or colder. One mistake kids make is to wear a light jacket or sweatshirt on a bright sunny 30° morning. In Colorado, the wind chill will often be 15° by noon. Our cutoff for inside recess is usually around 10° F (with wind chill). It's also a good idea to label coats, hats, boots, and gloves. Be sure to check out the LOST AND FOUND if your child has misplaced their items!

PTA Notes

From the PTA President

by Lindsay Radcliff-Coombes

Dear Bacon Families,

Thank you to every family that has supported Bacon by attending the 1st Fall Festival, the book fair, McTeachers Night, Bacon Friends and Family at Something from the Farm, or by participating in our school wide fundraiser, the Entertainment Book. Understandably, some families did not care to purchase or sell the entertainment. It was stressed that the selling of the book would be beneficial to our school and greatly appreciated, but no child or family members were obligated to sell the book, as the original flyer stated.

In years past we've had a fundraising event called Invest in Your Child, and sadly we only had 20% of the families participate in the previous year, the little funds that were trickling in were not enough to maintain the current or previous budgets with our growing classrooms and the number of new students.

This year we chose to try something new, and had over a 50% participation in the fundraiser, it was a great success! Thank you to all who participated and were able to contribute for your child, it has helped many of the classrooms and students here at Bacon already this year tremendously. If you have any questions, ideas, or concerns please contact president@baconpta.org.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving,
Bacon PTA President 2010-2012, Lindsay Radcliff-Coombes

November is PTA Healthy Lifestyles Month
With Thanksgiving approaching, I would like to share with you that November is PTA Healthy Lifestyles Month!
What a better time to get motivated and healthy.

Get up, get active, and celebrate National PTA Healthy Lifestyles Month!

It is important for children to come to school emotionally and physically healthy. Studies have shown that children's physical well-being has a significant effect on their learning and long-term success. When children are well-rested, well-nourished, and physically fit they are more ready to learn.

National PTA is committed to building healthy families and healthy communities, and believes we all have an important role to play in making sure parents, schools, and
Communities have the support and resources they need.

PTA has put together PTA Healthy Lifestyles: A Parent's Guide, which contains up-to-date, reliable information on nutrition, physical activity and more. Parents share the responsibility of ensuring their child's well-being with teachers, the community, its members, and all its services. Learning the facts about various health concerns is key to this common effort.

Visit PTA's Health and Wellness topics page for more information on child health, nutrition and wellness topics. Healthy habits are essential to living a long and healthy life, so start planning to host a Healthy Lifestyles Month program today! To learn more information about Healthy Lifestyles Month and for some creative and fun ways to implement, check out PTA.org/healthylifestyles.

Giving Thanks this Season~ Lindsay Radcliff-Coombes

King Soopers Tid-bit...

by Ericka Lake Help raise funds for Bacon Elementary PTA when you buy your groceries or fuel at the King Soopers fuel centers! Purchase a King Soopers gift card from us in the amount of \$5. Take your gift card to your King Soopers store and load more money on it before you start shopping or fueling. When your cashier finishes ringing up your order, just swipe your gift card like you

would a credit card. This is a "gift card" that you don't throw away; You can simply reload the card when the balance gets low. Once Bacon reaches \$5,000 or more in reloads, 5% of the total amount will go back to Bacon Elementary. Order forms will be sent home with kids in their weekly folders. If you have any questions, please email Ericka Lake at Treasurer@baconpta.org.

Budget Tid-bit...

by Ericka Lake Interested in better understanding how PTA generates funds and where funds are spent? The majority of PTA's funding comes from your contributions to fundraising efforts including sales of the Gold C/Entertainment books (\$5K), Invest in a Child donations (\$1K), Box Tops (\$1K), and Spirit Nights (\$1K). Based on successful sales of Gold C/Entertainment books, we are in great shape for funding the many Bacon programs and activities including: Field Trips (\$3K), Programs and Clubs (\$1K), and Special Events (\$4K) throughout the year. If you are interested in learning more about the PTA budget, please contact Ericka Lake at Treasurer@baconpta.org.

ATTENTION IF YOU WANT YOUR CAR LOOKING NICE AND CLEAN!!!

3 "***Double Swipe***" days have been scheduled Bacon by Richie's Carwash! On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, November 8, 9 and 10, anyone who buy a Works car wash will earn your organization \$6 just by having your Richie's card scanned before you wash.

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

Holiday Reflection *By Heather Blanco*

As the holiday season approaches, we are reminded of our blessings and good fortune. We are also reminded that there are people in our community who need a helping hand. With that in mind, we'd like to inform you of our continued giving traditions at Bacon. We will be providing Thanksgiving Food Baskets for members of our Bacon family in need. We are hoping for for donations to help stuff these baskets to overflowing as we have done in the past. Items that can be donated include turkeys and all the trimmings. If you would like to donate, please contact me, Heather Blanco at heatherblanco@comcast.net. I can provide you with a more detailed list of items that we need and when we will need them.

In December, Bacon will once again adopt families with Project Self Sufficiency (PSS) program. We will provide holiday gifts from their wish lists for these families. PSS is an organization that offers assistance to single parent families. Bacon has earned an amazing reputation for creating unbelievable holidays for these deserving families. Many thanks to those of you already signed up for The Giving Tree at the Fall Festival and the Book

Fair, but it's not too late to get involved! If you would like to participate in this great program, please contact me, Heather Blanco, at heatherblanco@comcast.net. I will be contacting everyone by email very soon.

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity. And thank you for helping to teach our children the joy of giving and the value of helping someone in need. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Happy Holidays!

Canned Food Drive

The annual classroom canned food drive will be kicking off November 1st...Help families in our own community by donating canned goods or non-perishable items. You can help fight hunger by sending items to school by November 14th. What an awesome way to give back to our Bacon families in need during the season of giving...

Thank You

by Lindsay Radcliff-Coombes

THANK YOU TO MICHELLE LEBERGER FOR ORGANIZING THE TEACHER APPRECIATION TACO BAR and the many others whom contributed to make it a memorable evening for the staff during Parent Teacher Conferences.

Thank you to all who showed up for our Bacon Friends and Family Day at Something from the Farm to show off your creative costumes and support Bacon!



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

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to treasurer@baconpta.org by webmaster@baconpta.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Bacon PTA | Bacon PTA Webmaster | 5844 S. Timberline Rd | Fort Collins | CO | 80528