

# Foothill Flyer

Foothill Elementary 1001 Hawthorn Ave. Boulder, CO 80304 Tel. 303.443.1847 Fax 303.443.1848  
Website: <http://www.bvsd.org/schools/foothill/foothill.shtml>

November 04, 2005

## DATES TO REMEMBER

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 11/7-10  | Book Fair Begins<br>Library (hours on<br>pg. 3)   |
| 11/8     | 5:45-6:15pm, Literacy<br>Night, Library<br><br>6:30-8:00pm, PTO<br>Meeting 5C<br>Classroom  |
| 11/10    | Bring a Bike to<br>School<br><br>Kids Pre First Order<br>Delivery<br><br>9am-7pm Author<br>Kerry MacLean,<br>Library<br><br>6:30pm, 5th Grade<br>Music Program<br>Big Gym |
| 11/11    | NO SCHOOL<br>VETERANS' DAY  |
| 11/14    | Vision and Hearing<br>Screening   |
| 11/14-18 | School Spirit Week &<br><br>Lost & Found out  |
| 11/15    | 11:00am-1:00pm<br>Grandparent<br>Luncheon, Small<br>Gym   |
| 11/16    | Picture Re-Take Day<br>return pictures then<br><br>6:00-7:30pm SIT Meet-<br>ing, Library  |
| 11/18    | 8:00am Student<br>Government Meeting<br>Small Gym<br><br>Report Cards Home<br><br>5:30-8:00pm, Bingo<br>Sponsored by the<br>Student Government<br>Small Gym               |
| 11/21-25 | NO SCHOOL<br>THANKSGIVING<br>BREAK  |

## A Note from the Principal...

Dear Foothill Families,

Good News! Our End of the Year Report and School Improvement Plan was approved by the District Accountability Committee. Our School Improvement Goals for the 2005-06 are:

- Students in grades 3-5 at Foothill Elementary will increase their CSAP scores by at least 5 weighted index points in Writing. CSAP scores will improve from 101 to 106.
- Students receiving special education services in grades 3-5 at Foothill Elementary will increase their CSAP scores by at least 7 weighted index points in Writing. CSAP scores will improve from 79 to 86.
- We will create a school environment in which diversity is valued and in which everyone feels safe and respected. This will be evidenced by an overall average increase of 7% on the student survey, 11% the staff survey and 3% on the parent survey.
  - In addition, we will increase the completion rate of the surveys to reflect the majority of each group (student, staff and parent) so that we may accurately assess the progress we are making towards this goal.
  - Student from 90.5% to 95%.
  - Staff from 49.2% to 75%.
  - Parent from 44% to 51%.

You are invited to attend the SIT meetings in the coming months as we review our progress on these goals throughout the school year.

It is hard to believe that it is November and the school year is nearly one-third over. With the holidays coming soon, it reminds me of what a busy time of year it will be. During these busy times it is important to take time to spend with families. Thanks to all who attended the Foothill Feast at the Rio and Donuts with Dads. These type of Fund Raising activities are great opportunities for families to spend time with each other and other families as well as contribute to the PTO.

Warm Regards,

Melisa Zahn

## Recess Before Lunch

We have successfully changed our lunch schedule so that students have recess before lunch. The goals for this change are:

- Students will not feel so rushed to get out and play, it is healthier for their bodies to eat slower.
- Students will have better appetites and eat more.
- Students will have a better atmosphere in the cafeteria due to less noise and excitement about going outside.
- Students are more focused and ready to learn after lunch when they go back to class.

Please know that we are striving to make this a comfortable and enjoyable transition for our students. Please see the new lunch schedule below.

## New Lunch Schedule

11:25-11:45 Lunch 3rd  
 11:35-12:00 Lunch K  
 11:55-12:15 Lunch 2nd  
 12:10-12:30 Lunch 1st  
 12:25-12:45 Lunch 4th  
 12:40-1:00 Lunch 5th

## Dressing for Recess

Cold weather is approaching. Please dress your child(ren) appropriately for outside weather. Students will have outside recess daily except in the case of extreme inclement weather.

## Extra Eyes

Foothill is looking for parent volunteers to be "Extra Eyes" on the playground at lunch. Our student climate survey last spring revealed that we still have a concern about safety on the playground. One of our strategies to address this is to increase our supervision. Our goal is to add at least one more set of eyes during recess who

is willing to help students and address inappropriate behavior. Once a list of volunteers has accumulated we will hold supervision training so that volunteers will have specific knowledge of playground rules and expected behaviors. In addition, there will be a Bully Proofing Parent Night coming soon to familiarize all parents with the Bully Proofing curriculum. If you can volunteer at least once a week, or every other week, for 45 – 50 minutes for outside recess duty, please call Regina Bock 303.442.8018.

## Foothill Penny Drop

What can you do with your loose change? Not much alone, but together we can make a difference. The Penny Drop traditionally offers Foothill kids an opportunity to say thanks to the people whom we rely on in an emergency. In recognition of the tremendous effort required this year for our nation's hurricane response, the Foothill Student Government and the Friends of Boulder Fire Rescue are donating this year's proceeds to the American Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund. From November 14th through the 18th, collection cans will be in each classroom to gather our loose change (paper money is welcome too). The proceeds will provide essential aid to Hurricane victims and relief efforts.



## Classroom Mini-Grants

Impact on Education, formerly the Foundation for Boulder Valley Schools, received 309 Classroom Mini-Grant applications this year—a 90 percent increase over last year! The Classroom Mini-Grants program funds creative, hands-on classroom projects that inspire and reinforce a love of learning. Last year, we were able to fund all approved projects—a total of 140. However, this year we must drastically increase our fundraising efforts in order to fund as many approved projects as possible. A donation of \$750 underwrites an entire Classroom Mini-Grant, including the cost of program support provided by Impact on Education. Donors at this level are matched with a project, listed in Impact on Education materials and receive acknowledgment from the teacher and students. Because we received applications from virtually every school, in most cases Impact on Education can match a donor with a Classroom Mini-Grant project in the school of his or her choice. To sponsor a Classroom Mini-Grant, contact Impact on Education at (303) 447-5132. We will be deciding which grants to support based on funding availability on October 26. Award announcements will be October 28th. For more information about Classroom Mini-Grants, log on to [www.impactoneducation.org](http://www.impactoneducation.org).

## Share-A-Gift Program Bring a Bike

November 10 is Bring-A-Bike-To-School Day. Please bring in any outgrown or unused children's bikes or helmets to our school. Everything will be picked up 30 minutes before the bell in the morning. Deliver in front of school

## Kitchen Help Needed

BVSD is looking for Kitchen help substitutes. For information please contact food services at (303) 447-5042.

## Pre-Arranged Absences

BVSD attendance policy requires that parents notify the office in writing of all pre-arranged absences at least one week before the scheduled absence to receive administrative authorization. This allows our teachers to prepare make-up work and/or class projects, so students do not fall behind. Forms are available in the office and can be submitted by email to:

christina.colucci@bvsd.org.

## Open Enrollment

The annual Open Enrollment period for the 2006-2007 school year starts November 28, 2005 and concludes on January 20, 2006. During this period, families may apply for enrollment to schools where they would like their children to attend. Applications will be available at all BVSD schools and at the Education Center, 6500 E. Arapahoe. Applications must be received by 4:00pm on January 20, 2006 at: Open Enrollment Office BVSD Education Center 6500 E. Arapahoe Boulder, CO 80301 You may call Christina or Linda at (303) 443-1847 to schedule a tour of Foothill Elementary in December or January for additional information.

## Library Fundraiser

Once again the Library will be participating in the Grand Rabbits Bunny Bucks and Play Fair Toys School Donation Programs.

As the holidays approach, please keep Foothill in mind when purchasing items at Grand Rabbits and Play Fair Toys. Just mention Foothill when you check out and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to our school.

## Book Fair Dates

The Foothill Book Fair is coming! The book fair will be held from November 7th-10th. The scheduled times are November 7&9 from 8am-4pm, and November 8&10 from 8am-7pm. Special events include Literacy Night on Tuesday November 8th featuring a presentation by the Foothill Literacy team from 5:45-6:15pm. Also, author Kerry MacLean will be here on the 10th, 9am-7pm to talk about her new book, "Pigs Ski Over Colorado."

## Literacy Night

The Literacy team and media specialist, Jonathan Warshaw will be presenting information about the Guided Reading Process, book selection, reading strategies and tips for parents, on Tuesday, November 8th, from 5:45-6:16pm in the library. Writing tips will also be presented by Tiffany Boyd, a writing support teacher who works with third and fourth grade classes this year. Children are welcome to come look at the book fair during the presentation. We hope you can make it!

## Imagination Makers Theatre Company

On Friday November 18th, Imagination Makers Theatre Company will visit our school to perform a musical play, "Our Best Stories." It is based on stories written by Colorado students and include many amusing and exciting tales. These performances have been made possible at our school by a grant from the Boulder County

Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD).

## Talent Show

The Talent show had been scheduled for April 28th. The scheduled show times are 9:00am for grades 3-5 and 1:00pm for grades K-2. Look for more information in upcoming flyers.

## Spirit Week

Student Spirit Week, sponsored by the Student Government, will be from November 14 to the 18th.

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | Pajama Day                             |
| Tuesday   | Crazy Hat Day                          |
| Wednesday | School Colors Day<br>(blue and Silver) |
| Thursday  | Backwards/Inside-Out Day               |
| Friday    | Crazy Hair Day                         |

## Grandparent's Luncheon

This years Grandparent's Luncheon is on Thursday, November 17, from 11:00-1:00 in the small gym. All adults are invited, but grandparent's are especially encouraged to attend. The price for an adult lunch is \$3.00, which includes milk and juice is an extra \$0.50. Come join your child/grandchild at his/her lunch time! Look for an invitation in your Friday Folder. Please RSVP by November 14.

## Foothill Flyer Deadlines

The deadline for articles for the Foothill Flyer is usually the Friday prior to its deliver. However, the deadline for the next Flyer will be on Thursday Nov. 10, since Friday Nov. 11, is a holiday. Please email all articles to:

lucia.catalano@bvsd.Org.

### Foothill Mission and Vision

To promote, support and reinforce healthy development, quality education, social competence and responsible world citizenship in lifelong learners through a true partnership among students, parents, staff and community.

### Kids Are First Order Delivery

The Kids Are First Orders will be delivered to your child's classroom on Thursday November 10th. Please make arrangements to help them carry their orders home. There will be a limited number of parent volunteers to assist with distribution of the orders.

### PTO Fundraising

The PTO offers several ways for Foothill families to contribute to our fundraising efforts. Last year we spent over \$59,000 which is more than the District School Resource Allocations. We provide a variety of programs and services for you to choose from but we do not ask that you participate in all of them. Feel free to pick and chose one or several of our fundraising programs and services that work for your family. Bringing in Box Tops or shopping at Target does not cost your family any more money than you already spend. Additionally, we hold a wrapping paper fundraiser, T-shirts sales and Parent Impact Week. If you have not had a chance to contribute during Parent Impact Week, please feel free to send in your contribution. Our upcoming and ongoing fundraising programs include: Kidz Art, Book Fair, Box Tops, Ink Cartridges, Target – Take Charge of Education, Grand Rabbit's and Play Fair Toys donations. The majority of our fundraising takes place between September and January. The PTO sponsors and contributes to many wonderful aspects of your child's education: teacher supplies, school equipment, busses for field trips, playground equipment. Please help us by supporting our events and programs. Whether it is in the classroom or contributing financially, all students benefit.

### PARENT ENGAGEMENT NETWORK (PEN)

Parenting these days can be very rewarding but can bring some of life's greatest challenges. The Parent Engagement Network (PEN) is a Boulder Valley School District parent-based organization, created to bring together the community via interactive gatherings that address a variety of parenting issues. The purpose of these gatherings is to help educate parents on topics involving youth and to encourage relationship building, to create a caring and safe community for youth inside and outside of the school environment. More information about PEN can be found on their website: [www.parentengagementnetwork.com](http://www.parentengagementnetwork.com).

Wednesday, October 26, the PEN will offer an important training

opportunity: "Parents are the Power—Parent Engagement and Prevention." Make the connection between intentional parenting and prevention at PEN's annual orientation training, sponsored by BVSD and the Boulder County Prevention Connection. Learn how to build assets and reduce risks, increase communication with youth and other parents, recognize warning signs of substance use, understand the stages of substance use and access local resources. The training starts with networking at 8:30 AM and ends at 2:30 PM. The training is free; a continental breakfast and box lunch will be provided. The location is the Boulder County Recycle Center, 1901 63rd Street. Continuing education credits are

available. Space is limited, so please RSVP to Betsy Fox at [bfox@co.boulder.co.us](mailto:bfox@co.boulder.co.us) or call her at 303-441-3981. Additional PEN offerings through May 2006 can be found.

