

# Wheeling Elementary School

## News and Views

### "A Community of Learners"

472 South Wheeling Street • Aurora, Colorado 80012

Phone: 303-344-8670 • Fax: 303-326-1246

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**December 2009**

*Inquirers Thinkers Communicators Risk Takers Knowledgeable Principled Caring Open-minded Well-balanced Reflective*

Dear Wheeling Families:

Wheeling Vision:

We envision Wheeling Elementary as a learning community where students use the inquiry process to become knowledgeable; develop intercultural understandings; and become active, caring and lifelong learners.

As we wrap up our first semester of the 2009-10 school year, our staff members will be reflecting on progress made so far this year. We will be reviewing our School Improvement Plan, and updating our progress as part of the IB Primary Years Program. We are committed to holding our students to high standards and holding them accountable for learning. In addition, we offer many after school programs to for students who need additional support.

Upcoming event: Our Accountability Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, December 9 at 7:45-8:45 a.m. We will be planning to conduct a Learning Walk for parents. This is where we will be visiting classrooms and giving parents the opportunity to give us feedback on what you see happening in our classes at Wheeling. If you are interested in participating in this event, please plan on attending the organizational meeting on December 9.

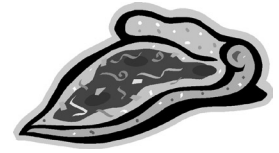
As we head into winter break, I wish all of you a safe and restful holiday season! Enjoy your time together, and remember a great family activity is to read a book together!

Jan Lotter  
Principal  
Wheeling Elementary  
303-344-8670 ext 24603  
jrlotter@aps.k12.co.us

**Jan Lotter, Principal**

## **Activities For The Month of December**

Tuesday, December 8	PTO Meeting 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 8	PTO Family Fun Craft Night at 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 9	School Accountability Meeting from 7:45 – 8:45 am
Wednesday, December 9	Cici's Pizza Fundraiser Night (Mississippi and Abilene)
Thursday, December 17	Second Quarter ends
Friday, December 18	Teacher Workday - NO SCHOOL for Students
Monday, December 21 thru Friday, January 01	WINTER RECESS - NO SCHOOL



## **IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES: 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR**

Wednesday, January 6	Academic Awards Assemblies (During specials)
Tuesday, January 12	PTO Meeting
Wednesday, January 13	Cici's Pizza Fundraiser Night (Mississippi and Abilene)
Tuesday, January 12	CPIRC Parent Workshop 8:00 – 9:30 am
Wednesday, January 13	Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:00 – 6:30 pm
Thursday, January 14	Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:00 – 6:30 pm
Monday, January 18	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY! NO SCHOOL K-12
Tuesday, January 26	PBS Assemblies

## **Tardiness**

In an effort to help you and your child get the most out of their time here at Wheeling Elementary School, it is important that your child get to school on time. We understand that on occasion a child may not arrive on time due to an appointment or a family emergency. However, students coming in late on a daily basis do pose a problem for the classroom teacher as well as for the other children in the classroom because of instructional interruptions. Often times teachers have to repeat information every time a child comes in late, making it impossible for class to start on time.

Currently, the policy for marking a student as tardy is: ALL students who enter the building after the bell rings at 7:45 am are to report to the clinic where a tardy pass is issued and the information is logged in the computer. **ALSO, YOUR CHILD MUST BE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL FOR A TARDY PASS BY THE PARENT OR PERSON DROPPING THE CHILD OFF.** If the child does not come in for a tardy pass, the classroom teacher is required to send them back for one.

School hours for students are from 7:45 am – 2:15 pm.

Help us make time spent here at Wheeling Elementary School a priority for ALL students.

## **School Nurse Notes:**

### **POISON PREVENTION**

December is a time when the holidays are in full swing with a wide range of decorations creating a festive mood in homes, schools and child-care settings. However, when plants are involved, the risk of poisonings can be increased for many reasons. First, there may be more plants than usual, and at the same time adults may be more distracted with activities and visitors, giving a child more opportunity to ingest an "attractive" plant.

Here is a list of plants that can cause problems. Most symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions or even a coma.

**MISTLETOE:** All parts are toxic, but the small white berries are particularly dangerous.

**HOLLY:** Berries and all parts of the plant are toxic.

**POINSETTIAS:** The American Poinsettia, which is the more common variety found in the U.S. is mildly toxic causing intestinal problems.

If there is any doubt and a poisoning is suspected, call your local poison control center (303) 739-1123 IMMEDIATELY.

Happy Holidays!  
Ms. Pacheco-Health Para  
Wheeling Elementary School

### **Action at Wheeling**

Second semester we will be focused on action in the PYP. Action is an essential element in the IB Primary Years Program. It is expected that successful inquiry will lead to responsible action, initiated by the student as a result of the learning process. Students will have the opportunity and the power to choose to act, to decide on their actions, and to reflect on these actions in order to make a difference in and to the world. Action as a result of learning may not be witnessed by the teacher and often happens beyond the classroom. We need the help of parents to notice and share student actions with classroom teachers.

Tricia Dutton Morato, PYP Coordinator  
[tduttonmorato@aps.k12.co.us](mailto:tduttonmorato@aps.k12.co.us)

## **A Right To Know!**

As a parent of a student at Wheeling Elementary School you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the classroom teachers who instruct your child. Federal law allows you to ask for certain information about your child's classroom teachers and requires us to give you this information in a timely manner if you ask for it. Specifically, you have the right to ask for the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers:

- Whether the Colorado Department of Education has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- Whether the Colorado Department of Education has decided that the teacher can teach in a classroom without being licensed or qualified under state regulations because of special circumstances.
- The teacher's college major; whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- Whether any teachers' aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please call Wheeling Elementary School at 303.344.8670.

### **APS Weather Emergencies**

When snow hits our city, APS staff members assess conditions beginning just after midnight to determine the impact on operations. Should we need to close school or delay the start of school, staff will make the decision as early as possible. Once a decision is made, district staff will initiate an automated call to all families informing them of the delay or closure. Information is also shared as soon as possible with all media, posted on the APS Web site and on the APS emergency line, 303-326-1080.

Should APS staff make the decision to delay school, the school day would begin one hour later than normal. Staff members are expected to get to school as close to their regular start time safely and students may arrive at 8:45 starting at 8:20. APS buses will pick up students one hour later than normal. Our top priority is to keep students and staff as safe as possible.

For more information about school closures or delays, visit <http://www.aps.k12.co.us/district-info/weather-closings.html>.



## **Vital Information About Student Drop Off!**

Wheeling Elementary is asking for your cooperation and patients when dropping off and picking up students at school. We understand that we do not have the best parking situation around our school and that there is no easy solution to this problem. Therefore, we are asking that you be patient while dropping off and/or picking up your child or children. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

## **School Lunches**

This is just a reminder that the costs of school lunches are \$1.60 a day. Milk is included in the price of a hot lunch. Milk can be purchased for \$.65 cents for sack lunches. Adult lunch is \$2.50 without milk, and \$3.15 with milk. Please feel free to join us anytime. Just let your child's teacher know you are coming or notify the office when school starts. Don't forget to keep money in your child's account, and please help your child learn his/her lunch number. Please make sure that when you send a check for your child's lunch, that the students name and room number are on the check. You may also pay on line at [paypams.com](http://paypams.com).

Nutrition Services strives to provide the best meals possible at a reasonable price to our students at all levels. Unfortunately, Nutrition Services has had a problem with the number of returned checks each school receives throughout the school year. The kitchen manager would notify the parents a minimum of three times when a check was returned. The success rate for repayment was extremely low even with these numerous attempts.

In an effort to continue to keep our reasonable meal prices, we have contracted with CheckRite/Global Payments to make collection attempts on all returned checks. This is effective immediately. They will add a fee to all returned checks equal to the maximum allowed by law. The returned check and the associated service charge may be presented to your bank either electronically or in the form of a paper draft.

Nutrition Services regrets that this has become necessary. If you have any questions, please call:

Mona Martinez-Brosh  
Director, Nutrition Services  
(303) 343-0295  
Ext. 28553

## **Ways to Make a Difference**

### **\*Wheeling Recycling Programs (to benefit Wheeling Elementary)**

Used Printer (ink & laser) cartridges and cell phones can be brought to school and dropped off with your student's teacher. Wheeling PTO will recycle the cartridges and cell phones through Funding-Factory to earn new equipment (technology/recreational) or cash. The program runs year-round, accumulating constant income for our efforts.

### **\*Box Tops for Education (to benefit Wheeling Elementary)**

Wheeling PTO is collecting Box Tops for Education. Please clip the coupons and bring them in to your teachers.

Please tell your friends and family about these programs that benefit Wheeling.

## **Christmas Outreach**

We will be giving away Christmas stockings and gifts for the children. Christmas food baskets and clothing will be given away. There will be games, music and much more. Christmas meals will be served until supplies last so come in early.

When?: December 19th 2009  
Where?: 488 S Chambers Road,  
Aurora, CO 80017  
(Chambers and Alameda in the City  
Center Market Place next to DMV)  
Time?: From 11:00 AM until supplies last  
(so come in early)



Please bring your children and an ID. For more information you may call 303-576-8497.

## **Wal-Mart Plastic Bag Recycle Program**

Due to program cuts at Wal-Mart they are no longer able to accept the plastic bags. At this time we are no longer accepting plastic bags at Wheeling. Thank you for all the bags up to this point that we were able to recycle.

## **H1N1 influenza**

APS is partnering with the Tri-County Health Department to offer immunizations to targeted groups who are considered at high risk for H1N1 influenza. The targeted groups are:

- children and young adults from 6 months to 24 years of age
- pregnant women
- adults who care for infants less than 6 months old
- health care workers
- adults from 25 to 64 years of age who have chronic health conditions like asthma or diabetes

APS will host eight clinics on the following dates and times:

### **Hinkley High School/East Commons**

Tuesday, Dec. 1      4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

### **Gateway High School/Commons**

Saturday, Dec. 12      8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### **Rangeview High School/Commons**

Monday, Dec. 7      4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

### **Aurora Central High School/Commons**

Tuesday, Dec. 8      4 p.m. - 8 p.m.



This vaccine will be available at no charge to those who are in the targeted groups attending a school sponsored clinic. Identification or proof of chronic disease will not be required. Written consent from a parent or legal guardian will be required for anyone under 18 years of age. Children who are 10 and under will need to have two injections at least 28 days apart. This vaccine protects against H1N1 influenza only, not seasonal flu.

If you are among the high risk groups, or have children or other family members who are considered to be at high risk for H1N1 influenza, I encourage you to participate in this public health event.

We will continue to monitor and track absence rates due to flu-like symptoms. Please continue to adhere to previously shared recommendations to prevent the spread of illness. For further information, including an FAQ, visit the APS Web site at [www.aurorak12.org/illness-injury-infection/influenza-info/](http://www.aurorak12.org/illness-injury-infection/influenza-info/)

Thank you for your continued support in keeping APS students and staff safe and healthy.

Anthony Sturges  
Chief Operating Officer  
Division of Support Services

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Show your talents, skills and interest by helping out as a volunteer at Wheeling Elementary School. Volunteers are an integral part of our classroom; you are important and significant to Wheeling Elementary. Your involvement improves your child's educational experience and success. Here are some ways you can help at school:

- o Classroom assistance
- o Crossing guards
- o Clerical
- o Playground supervision
- o Library assistance
- o Cafeteria supervision
- o Camp Wheeling (Field Day)
- o Administrative assistance

Talk to Mrs. Pimienta at 303-344-8670 about becoming a volunteer.

## **Map on Playground from Verizon**

Dear Parents and Neighbors;

A 20' by 40 feet map of the United States has recently been painted on our school playground by individuals from the Verizon and the Telecom Pioneers. The Pioneers are employees and retiree community service volunteers of Verizon Communications.

The map will be used by our staff to teach Geography and Social Studies through creative play. Parents and Grandparents are encouraged to visit our school grounds and use the huge map to trace the wanderings of family trips; and play other games with your children.

This map has been donated for our school and its neighbors. It is our hope that the map will benefit our children for many years to come. We ask you to help protect this wonderful gift.

Principal  
Wheeling Elementary



## **Centralized Admissions**

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS PROCEDURES**

Parents/guardians who have changed their address need to visit Centralized Admissions to verify their new address.

To verify your address please do one of the following:

IF YOU RENT, please bring ONE of the following:

- Signed Leased or Rental Agreement (current)
- Notarized letter from landlord if you don't have a rental agreement

IF YOU OWN YOUR HOME, please bring ONE of the following:

- Warranty Deed, Deed of Trust, or Bill of Sale
- Purchase contract with possession date (not closing date)
- Current Xcel Energy bill under your name (last or current month)
- Adams or Arapahoe County tax bill for current year

IF YOU ARE LIVING WITH ANOTHER FAMILY, all of the following are required:

- A notarized letter from the owner of the home with whom you live stating the length of time you will be staying.
- Proof of address from the OWNER OF THE HOUSE

(Proof is based on whether the person you live with owns or rents their home, see above requirements.)

The Somerset admissions site is open 7:30 to 11:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. The Somerset admissions office is closed for district holidays and will be closed during winter break, Dec 21, 2009, through Jan 1, 2010.

The admissions site at Hoffman Heights located at 6th and Peoria (Hoffman Heights shopping center) continues to operate 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Hoffman admissions office will be open during fall break. The office is closed for district holidays and the first week of winter break, Dec 21-Dec 25 and Dec 31 and Jan 1, but will be open Dec 28-30. Both offices continue to provide the same services to parents and district staff.

## **Adult Basic Education/GED/College Preparation**

### **Winter 2010 Class Schedule**

**For more information call 303-922-4683. Contributions are non-refundable (\$60.00)**

#### **Evening Classes**

##### **Community College of Aurora Lowry Campus**

9202 E Severn Pl. Bldg. 901  
Denver, CO 80230  
Tuesday and Thursday  
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.  
Registration January 19 & 21 at 6:30 pm  
Classes end May 13

##### **Belmar Learning Center**

455 S. Pierce St. Lakewood, CO 80226  
Monday and Wednesday  
9:00 to 11:30 a.m.  
Registration is January 20 at 9:00am  
Classes end May 19

##### **Community College of Aurora CentreTech Campus**

16000 E. Centre Tech Pkwy, A108  
Aurora, CO 80011  
Monday and Wednesday  
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.  
Registration is January 27 at 6:30 pm  
Classes end May 5

#### **Daytime Classes**

##### **Belmar Learning Center**

455 S. Pierce St. Lakewood, CO 80226  
Monday and Wednesday  
9:00 to 11:30 a.m.  
Registration is January 20 at 9:00am  
Classes end May 19

##### **Community College of Aurora Lowry Campus**

9202 E. Severn Pl. Bldg. 901 Denver, CO 80230  
Tuesday and Thursday  
9:00 to 11:30 a.m.  
Registration is January 19 & 21 at 9:00 am

## **Adult English Classes – Fall 2010 Class Schedule**

**For more information call 303-922-4683. Contributions are non-refundable**

##### **Community College of Aurora English Language Classes**

Lowry Campus  
9202 E. Severn Pl. Bldg. 901 Denver, CO 80230  
Mon. & Wed. or Tue & Thurs  
9:00 - 11:30am, 12:30-3:00pm or 6:30 – 9:00pm  
\$60.00 Contribution  
Academic Bridge (Levels 5 & 6) \$150.00  
Registration: January 5, 7, 11, 13 & 14  
at 10:00am or 6:00pm

##### **Family Literacy English Language Classes**

##### **Belmar Family Learning Center**

455 S. Pierce St. Lakewood, CO 80226  
Monday - Thursday  
8:45 – 11:30a.m. or 12:00 – 2:45 p.m.  
Enrollment priority is given to parents attending with their children  
Registration is January 7 at 11:00am  
\$60.00 Contribution for one person/\$80.00 per family  
Call 303-742-9923 for more details  
Classes end April 29

##### **South Middle School**

12310 E Parkview Dr. Aurora CO 80011  
Tues and Thurs 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Registration: January 26 & 28 at 6:30 p.m.  
\$60.00 Contribution  
Classes end April 29

#### **Evening Classes**

##### **East Middle School**

1275 Fraser Aurora, CO. 80011  
Mon. and Wed. from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Registration: January 11 & 13 at 6:30 p.m.  
\$60.00 Contribution  
Classes end April 28

##### **Belmar Family Learning Center**

455 S. Pierce St. Lakewood, CO 80226  
Monday and Wednesday 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Registration is January 20 at 6:30 pm  
\$60.00 Contribution for one person  
Classes end May 5

##### **American Language & Culture**

##### **For advanced ESL students and Au Pairs**

##### **Community College of Aurora**

ALC Office  
9202 E. Severn Pl. Bldg. 901 Denver, CO 80230  
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 – 11:30 am or 6:30 – 8:30 pm  
Contribution of \$200  
Register by January 28  
Classes from February 2 – April 29

## Junior Achievement at Wheeling

Business members from Kaiser Permanente and Jim and Nick's BBQ spent the day in the classrooms of Wheeling as teachers. This was an opportunity for business leaders to experience the wonderful world of teaching and an opportunity for students to learn more about community and business experiences.

The 5th graders learned lessons about globalization and how different countries are involved in just creating one item that we would normally take for granted. The example they learned about was building a car and how we would need the steel, oil, ethanol, etc... See picture below



Overall the experience was fun for the business leaders and for the students. Business leaders truly appreciated what teachers do on a day to day basis. Students understood that their community does care about them and is willing to teach us different concepts and ideas.










## IB Authorization

### Visit

On October 22-23, 2009 we hosted IB visiting team Kim Zemplack and Louise Hudon. They met with school administration and coordination, teachers, parents, district administration and board members to ascertain our preparedness and commitment in offering the IB program. Thanks to all who participated. The visiting team was very positive about our preparedness and commitment to offer the IB Primary Years Program. They will submit their report to the IB organization and we will learn in April if we have become an IB World School.

## AURORA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BREAKFAST DECEMBER 2009

\* may contain pork

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
30 <b>Breakfast Burrito &amp; Salsa</b>  Variety of Cereal Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk 	1 <b>Cinnamon Raisin Bread</b>  Variety of Cereal Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	2 <b>Omelet w/salsa</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits  Variety of Milk	3 <b>Waffles &amp; Syrup</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	4 <b>Sausage Patty</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk
7 <b>Cheesy Tots</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	8 <b>Banana Bread</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	9 <b>Scrambled Eggs, Ham &amp; Cheese, Green Chile, Salsa*</b>   Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	10 <b>Blueberry Mini Loaf</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	11 <b>Breakfast Wrap</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk
14 <b>Assorted Mini Loaf</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	15 <b>Assorted Bagels &amp; Cream Cheese</b>   Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	16 <b>Scrambled Eggs w/salsa</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	17 <b>Cinnamon Puff</b>  Variety of Cereals Variety of Fruits Variety of Milk	18 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
21 <b>WINTER BREAK</b>  	22 <b>WINTER BREAK</b>  	23 <b>WINTER BREAK</b>  	24 <b>WINTER BREAK</b>  	25 <b>WINTER BREAK</b>  

Note: 1/2 pint of milk is included with each lunch. Choices Include – 1% Chocolate Milk, 1% Lowfat Milk, & Skim Milk.

Looking for part-time work while your children are in school? If interested in working for Nutrition Services, apply at 1085 Peoria, Aurora or online <http://www.aps.k12.co.us> (\$10.00/hr).