

Principal Message

From the Desk of Mr. Horky



Dear Bacon families,

Happy New Year! We hope you and your family enjoyed a restful and joyful Winter Break. As we kick off the new year, we are excited for the opportunities and growth that 2025 will bring to our school community.

The beginning of the year is always a great time to reflect on the progress made in the first semester and to set new goals. We look forward to welcoming our students back on January 7th with enthusiasm, and we look forward to watching them continue to grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

Here are a few important updates and reminders as we start the second half of the school year:

1. Upcoming Events:

We have several exciting events and activities planned for the new year. Be on the lookout for details about upcoming field trips, school-wide celebrations, and parent involvement opportunities. We encourage you to stay connected with us to participate in these events and continue supporting your child's learning journey.

2. Academic Focus:

As we continue to strive to make it count for all learners, please encourage your child to ask questions, seek help when needed, and embrace the challenges ahead.

3. Attendance:

Let's all make attendance a priority in 2025. Students who come to school regularly build bonds with peers and trusted adults and have access to help with schoolwork, free breakfast and lunch, school nurses and counselors, and activities that keep them be engaged with school, leading to better academic outcomes.

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Caring for Future Generations Since 1964



Join The Youth Clinic, your child's ultimate partner in health and wellness.



Principal Message

continued

4. New Year, New Goals:

The start of the year is a great time to set new goals! Talk with your child about what they hope to achieve in school this semester—whether it's improving a specific skill, reading a certain number of books, or being more organized. We hope that together we can inspire all students to take ownership of their learning.

5. School Reminders:

As we kick-off 2025, we ask that you continue to follow our school policies for drop-off and pick-up, and keep us informed about any changes to your contact information.

6. Winter Weather:

With winter in full swing, please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the cold weather. Warm coats, hats, gloves, and sturdy shoes are important for outdoor recess and activities. If your child needs assistance with winter clothing, please let us know, and we will do our best to help. As a reminder, we will go outside if the "Feels Like" temperature is 10 degrees or above.

We are so grateful for the continued support from our families. Together, we are creating a positive and successful learning environment for all our students. Here's to an exciting and productive 2025!

Educationally yours,

Mr. Horky



Treat your family to a delightful one-hour family-friendly concert. Composer Gregory Smith joins Canyon Concert Ballet and your Fort Collins Symphony to bring Sergei Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* to life.

The Lincoln Center | January 19, 2025 | 3:00 PM Purchase tickets at LCTix.com or by calling 970.221.6730





January <u>20</u>25

Is it just a phase?



CAYAC Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult Connections

Helping youth and families find answers, options and support.

CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND YOUNG ADULT CONNECTIONS 970-221-3308 Page

Primary News - Kindergarten

Our DIBELS testing for the middle of the year is complete, and we are so proud of the tremendous growth everyone has had! Students have been learning phonemic awareness through listening games. They are also decoding and encoding (breaking apart and putting together the sounds in words) like champs! Word reading was also assessed. Parent reports will be sent home before the holiday break.

We are exploring a new math program called Illustrative Math. Our students are learning to explain their thinking, explore hands-on learning as well as play new math games with partners. We will continue to learn this program and add new ways of learning during math centers.

Kindergarteners are loving learning about how other countries and cultures celebrate winter holidays. We have been creating globes, passports, suitcases and souvenirs. Your child will be bringing all of this home next week. Make sure to look at their passports to see what countries we have visited!



Enjoy your holiday break with your sweet children! We will see students back at school on Tuesday, January 7th, 2025.

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school!

Want to sponsor this school?

Please contact Rob Mangelson at <u>Rob@tscacolorado.com</u> or (720) 878-4107.

IF SCHOOL IS OUT, CAMP IS IN AT WHETSTONE!



Rock climb
Meet new friends
Build confidence
Reach new heights
CLICK TO LEARN MORE & BOOK
970-795-8356



Intermediate News – 3rd Grade

This month, Bacon **Third Graders** will be hard at work. They will continue to challenge themselves with reading that is infused with science, math that is building on strong number sense concepts, and writing that is reflective, yet supported with reasons, facts, details and evidence. Here is what they will be working on:

Literacy- The third module this month is focused on Exploring Literary

Classics. Students will be analyzing the historical context of *Peter Pan* by making connections, assessing character traits, familiarizing themselves with figurative language, revising scenes, and finally developing an opinion piece regarding how literary pieces are told in different ways over time.



Communications

Agency

Math- During math this January, our students will continue to build on strategies to find areas, strengthen their multiplication and division skills, become fluent with multiples of ten, and start to work with fractions, equivalents and comparisons. By this point in the year, students should have strategies for math facts or have most of their math facts memorized. It is important that they keep working on it to master those basic facts if they haven't already!

Science- With much of science being integrated into literacy throughout different module units, we hope to deepen our research skills this month by continuing animal research. The kids always love learning new facts and details about animals and it's a great way to stay connected to our recent animal adaptations unit.

Social Studies- Finally, in social studies, the kids will be focusing on mindful actions and social/emotional growth. This Second Step unit focuses on respectful listening and what it means to be a good friend. In addition, they will continue working through the 5 regions of the United States which is always interesting!



The School Communications Agency Supporting Schools & Local Businesses

Specials News — Art

This fall/winter, Bacon artists represented our school at the Ft. Collins Mall! The Poudre School District Creative Endeavors Art Show will be at the Fort Collins Foothills Mall until January 15th, 2025. I hope you have a chance to check out the amazing art being created by our own Bacon artists, but also other elementary, middle, and high school artists in Poudre School District. The depth of artwork is so inspiring and fun to see!



As a reminder from the September art section of the Bacon Newsletter, we have a couple of special traditions in the Bacon Art Room.

The first is the beginning-of-the-year self-portrait that every student creates. These portraits are kept in a file cabinet in the art room and won't be sent home until your student reaches 5th grade or if your family moves to another school. If you know you'll be moving, please let me know so I can gather all your student's artwork. It's always a joy to see the growth and progress in their portraits over the years!

The second tradition is the "Loved One's Wrap-Up". During the year, I store all student's artwork in boxes that live on top of my cabinets until a few weeks before Mother's Day. This serves a couple purposes:

1. It allows me to select from a larger collection for art shows.

2. It ensures that all the artwork comes home together in one safe, special package.

Your student should be able to tell or show you what they've been working on in the art room. The most important thing is to ask them about their projects or come and look at the displays in the main floor halls.

I hope students had a chance to be creative this winter break and here are some great ways to talk with your student about their artwork/creativity:

What to say . . .

Focus praise on the effort, not the product. For example:

- "How did you do this?"
- "You seemed to be having fun."
- "You were really concentrating."
- "What an interesting way to use the brush."

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Specials News — Art

Talk about the Expressive features (or elements) of art: line, shape, color, texture, value, form, space. For example:

- "What I notice first about your drawing is . . ."
- "What I like most about this is . . ."
- "Isn't it interesting how you've used lots of . . . "

Promote self-evaluation. For example:

- "Have you put in everything you want to show about the subject?"
- "Do all the parts of the picture look like they belong together?"
- "Which of your paintings from today do you like best, and why?"

Encourage effort, enjoyment, & risk-taking. For example:

- "It's fun to try it different ways."
- "We learn a lot from our mistakes."
- "Can you think of other ways to use this tool/supply?"
- "Let's try anyway."
- "It's okay to get dirty."
- "I'm proud of you when you try hard things."

There will hopefully be another art show happening in the spring at the Ft. Collins Mall.

Thank you for sharing your amazing artists with me!

Jen Dixon

English Language Development (ELD) News

It's been an amazing school year thus far, and I am excited to begin the 2nd half of our year rested and renewed. Although I'm not a new teacher, I am a new to Bacon Elementary this year. The transition to a new school and new district has been such a positive experience. Bacon is truly a wonderful place to be!



Our multilingual students have been hard at work learning vocabulary, expressing ideas, and practicing discussion. We began the year with a unit called The Art of Getting Along where we focused on using language for introductions, invitations, expressing preferences, and finding solutions to problems. In December, we completed the unit called How's the Weather which focused on language patterns to describe cause and effect, retell events using past tense, and predict outcomes using future tense. We've come a long way already!

We will begin this semester by preparing for and taking a state standardized language proficiency test. Colorado's multilingual students take an EXTRA test (in addition to CMAS) each year that measures English skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. This is a good reminder of the additional capabilities required to learn subject-matter and another language at the same time. We are so proud of our students who have the unique ability to process information in more than one language!

I am excited for our upcoming units called Visual and Performing Arts, Ecology: Our Environment, and Healthy Living. Students will continue to learn language patterns and vocabulary to express understanding of the different ways English is used including to compare / contrast, list main idea / key details, sequence events, and storytelling.

Please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, or comments about our English Language Development (ELD) Program.

Happy New Year!

Catie Ruch English Language Development Teacher Bacon Elementary School <u>cruch@psdschools.org</u>

BACON ELEMENTARY PTO NEWS

January 2025

JOIN THE PTO BOARD!

Applications to be on the 25-26 Bacon PTO Board will be open in February. Officers are elected for one year and may serve no more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Here are the descriptions of the 6 board positions: President- The president shall preside over meetings of the organization and executive board, prepare the agenda, serve as the primary contact for the principal/office staff, represent the organization at meetings outside the organization, serve as a support member of all committees except the nominating committee, and coordinate the work of all the officers and committees so that the purpose of the organization is served.

Vice President- The VP assists president with any projects/tasks, runs meetings if president is unable to attend, and takes over president's duties if president is unable.

Treasurer - The treasurer takes care of the organization's money, keeping track of income and spending, and making payments approved by the board. They're responsible for drafting and maintaining the budget, giving financial updates at each meeting or whenever the board asks, and providing a full report at the end of the year. Other responsibilities include filing annual tax returns, maintaining necessary filings with the Colorado Secretary of State, and bank account management.

Fundraising Chair - The fundraising coordinator is responsible for creating a plan to ensure the organization is funded for the services it provides. They will oversee the process of seeking and gathering voluntary financial contributions by engaging individuals and committees, businesses, charitable foundations and government agencies.

Secretary - The secretary is essentially responsible for communicating. They take notes/minutes at all of our meetings, write emails to the general PTO, update the website, and do all of the social media. In this role, it's important to be organized and proficient at communicating in various forms.

Volunteer Coordinator - The volunteer coordinator works with the PTO board and the school community to fill volunteer needs. These needs may come from teachers, the school, or through PTO events. The volunteer coordinator helps teachers and room parents organize classroom parties, assists with board and PTO events, attends board and PTO meetings, and assists with coordinating grade-level dinners/luncheons and the back-to-school luncheon each year.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are in search of people who would like to serve on the Nominating Committee. The nominating committee's purpose is to recruit the best-qualified, available person for each office. To meet this purpose, the committee will accept nominations, reach out to potential candidates, explain the requirements for



the elected positions, and present a slate to the PTO membership. The nominating committee must be unbiased throughout its work; therefore members of the nominating committee must not be applying for a Board of Director position. Please email <u>ptobacon@gmail.com</u> if you are interested or need more information.

ENRICHMENT

We are so excited to offer after school enrichment classes for the Spring Semester! The "menu" will be sent home in Friday folders on Jan 24th. A link to sign up will be emailed from Mr. Horky on Jan 27th (time to be specified in his Friday update email on 1/24). Classes will run from the week of February 24th through the week of April 28th. We have several new classes being offered this semester so make sure you look over the menu!!

GALA 2025 - WALK THE RED CARPET (FEB 21ST)

Ticket sales are LIVE for our Community and Fundraising Gala, Walk the Red Carpet, coming up on February 2lst from 6:30-9:30pm at the Agave Room in Old Town! Act now! Scan the QR code or <u>click here</u> to buy tickets to this fun-filled event. Tickets are \$50 and include dinner, a drink, and entertainment – including the chance to participate in our spectacular silent auction. Only attendees will have the chance for their child to win countme-in experiences with our staff (like a Nuggets game with Mr. Horky, a CSU basketball game with Ms. Harbison, or an activity with your favorite teacher) and bid on fabulous baskets (including vacation getaways, gift cards for local restaurants, and much more). The best part – all proceeds go back to Bacon!

If you need an affordable childcare option, Krav Maga is once again partnering with us to provide it from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm for children 5-12! If you are interested in childcare while you attend the Gala click here: <u>Gala</u> <u>Childcare SignUp</u>. The cost is only \$10 per child for the entire evening.

Finally, we're still collecting silent auction item donations! Local businesses have donated some fantastic experiences for our silent auction baskets, but we could use more items from the Bacon community to round them

out! Check out the Sign-Up Genuis for your child's class basket that was sent out by your teacher and shop those after holiday sales OR regift a present you do not need! Please bring all items to your child's class by January 10th at the latest. We can't wait to Walk the Red Carpet with you!

TEACHER APPRECIATION

The PTO had fun appreciating our staff in December with a popcorn and treat bar! Each staff member also entered their "Dog Bones" in for a chance at a great gift basket.





STAY CONNECTED

Website- www.baconpto.org Facebook- Bacon Elementary Instagram- @ptobacon 🌉 PTO Email- ptobacon@gmail.com



BACON ELEMENTARY PTO PRESENTS

FEB 21ST, 2025 6-30-9-30DM

THE RED (RRDF

Our next grade level sponsored staff luncheon of the year is on January 30th, "hosted" by 1st grade and 4th grade families! If you have a 1st or 4th grader, click <u>here</u> to see how to help with this delicious tailgatingstyle lunch!

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 14th - PTO meeting @ 6:30pm (Bacon media center)

January 27th - Enrichment Signup Opens

January 28th – Bacon Night Out at Urban Air (4–8pm – see flyer on next page!)

January 30th - 1st and 4th grade sponsored staff luncheon



urban

NTURE

4250 Corbett Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525 (970) 682-3374



Bacon Elementary

Breakfast

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| | | 1 Happy New Year! | 2 No School Today | 3 • No School Today |
| 6 No School | 7 Egg, Cheese & Bacon Breakfast Burrito Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | 8 Mini Cinnamon Rolls Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | 9 • WG Seasonal Loaf Bread • Assorted Muffins • Assorted Cereal • Assortment of Fruit • Milk Variety • Assorted Juice | Mini Pancakes Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice |
| Breakfast Sausage Pizza Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | 14 Whole Grain Waffle, Maple Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | French toast sticks Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | Pancake & Sausage Wrap Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | 17 WW Bagel & cream cheese Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice |
| HAPPY * * MARTIN Luther King DAY ** | 21 Mini Cinnamon Rolls Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | Breakfast Sausage Pizza Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | 23 WW Bagel & cream cheese Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | 24 WG Seasonal Loaf Bread Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice |
| 27 • Whole Grain Waffle, Maple • Assorted Muffins • Assorted Cereal • Assortment of Fruit • Milk Variety • Assorted Juice | 28 French toast sticks Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | 29 Breakfast Round Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice | 30 • WG Seasonal Loaf Bread • Assorted Muffins • Assorted Cereal • Assortment of Fruit • Milk Variety • Assorted Juice | 9 Pancake & Sausage Wrap Assorted Muffins Assorted Cereal Assortment of Fruit Milk Variety Assorted Juice |

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Bacon Elementary

Lunch

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY 2 | FRIDAY |
|--|--|---|--|---|
| | Food Offered Daily: • Salad Bar • Fruit Salad • Assorted Salad Dressings • Whole Wheat Dinner Roll • Chocolate Milk • Milk fat free • Milk low fat 1% • Assorted Condiments | hápy new Segre | Season's Sea | WISHE |
| 6 Welcome back to SCHOOL | 7 Chicken Alfredo Cheese Calzone & Marinara Deli Sandwich ColdDeli Yogurt & Goldfish or Pretzels Pb&J Sandwich Green Beans Assorted Italian Condiments | Deli Sandwich ColdDeli Yogurt & Goldfish or Pretzels Pb&J Sandwich Tomato Basil Soup | 9 Beef Taco & Rice Chicken Nuggets Deli Sandwich ColdDeli Yogurt & Goldfish or Pretzels Pb&J Sandwich Black Beans Mexican Condiments- ELEM Nugget Dipping Sauces | Pretzels Pb&J Sandwich Corn |
| 13 Chicken Patty Sandwich Pancake & Sausage Wrap Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Mashed Potatoes Chicken Gravy Assorted Condiments | Penne & Meat Sauce Pizza Bites Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Green Beans Assorted Italian Condiments | 15 Teriyaki Chicken & Rice Hot Dog Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Steamed Veggies Assorted Condiments | 16 Chicken Burrito Mac & Cheese Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Refried Beans Mexican Condiments- ELEM | 17 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Steamed Carrots Assorted Italian Condiments |
| 20 HAPPY * MARTIN Luther King DAY * * | 21 Cheese Ravioli & Roll Cheese Calzone & Marinara Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Pretzel or Goldfish Pb&J Sandwich Green Beans Assorted Italian Condiments | Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Pretzel or Goldfish Pb&J Sandwich Steamed Veggies | Homemade Chili & Dinner Roll Chicken Patty Sandwich Hummus & Veggie Box Cold Deli Yogurt & Pretzel or Goldfish Pb&J Sandwich Black Beans Assorted Condiments | 24 Cheese Pizza Hawaiian Pizza Chicken Caesar Wrap Cold Deli Yogurt & Pretzel or Goldfish Pb&J Sandwich Corn Assorted Italian Condiments |
| 27 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Fish Sticks Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Tomato Basil Soup Assorted Condiments | 28 Pizza Bites Lasagna with Beef Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Green Beans Assorted Italian Condiments | 29 Chicken & Waffles Sweet & Sour Meatballs Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Steamed Broccoli Assorted Condiments | Beef/Bean Burrito Chicken Nuggets Deli Sandwich Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Refried Beans Mexican Condiments- ELEM Nugget Dipping Sauces | 31 Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Chef Salad & Roll Cold Deli Yogurt & Roll Pb&J Sandwich Peas Assorted Italian Condiments |

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