



The mission of  
**Platte River Academy**  
 is to provide a content-rich,  
 academically rigorous education  
 with a well-defined, sequential curriculum  
 in a safe, orderly and caring environment

**April 30, 2009**

## Information about Swine Flu \*

In the past week, a lot of information has been shared in the media regarding swine flu – its impact internationally and its spread within the United States and Canada. As of Wednesday afternoon, April 29, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has not confirmed cases of swine flu in Colorado. However, Douglas County School District would like to share recommendations provided by the state health department regarding personal precautions to decrease their chances of getting the flu:

- Wash hands frequently
- Cover your sneezes and coughs
- Avoid others with respiratory illnesses
- Stay home if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) notes that the virus is being passed from person-to-person but there is not enough information to fully assess the disease patterns. Epidemiologists are gathering information in Mexico to determine why the disease has been so severe in that country, while in the U.S., most of the cases have been similar to seasonal influenza. Swine flu is an A-type flu virus that infects pigs and, in this case, has been transmitted to humans. The symptoms are the same as for seasonal flu.

DCSD (and PRA) will send out information to families if parent action is required due to a public health concern. Information related to DCSD will be posted on its website at [www.dcsdk12.org](http://www.dcsdk12.org). For official information, please refer to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment at [www.cdphe.state.co.us](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us). A Colorado information hotline called Colorado HELP (COHELP), 1.877.462.2911, is open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week.

At PRA teachers have stepped up the reminders to their students to cover coughs and sneezes in one's arm and keep washing hands or using hand sanitizer. Some health posters are also in the process of being posted in the classroom and washrooms.

\* This article has been reprinted from the April 30 online edition of DCSD's *Newsline*

## Latest News:

We want to keep you informed about the topic of H1N1/Swine Flu that is causing concern throughout our State and country. During a news conference held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 30, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment confirmed two cases of H1N1/Swine Flu in Colorado. We're told one case is a woman in Arapahoe County and one is a man in Douglas County. Health officials stressed that **neither case is connected to the schools.**

For more information on the Swine Flu please go to:  
[http://www.platteriveracademy.com/pdf%20files/NL%200809/SwineFAQ\[1\].pdf](http://www.platteriveracademy.com/pdf%20files/NL%200809/SwineFAQ[1].pdf)

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**Attendance Line:**  
**303-243-5210**



Dear PRA Moms, Dads and  
 Volunteers

Thank you so very much for making the "Muffins for Moms" the great success that it was. We had over 300 people attend and it was great seeing everyone come out and participate.

I would also like to take this opportunity to apologize to the moms who did RSVP but did not receive a muffin. It is always the intent of the PTO to have enough for everyone. Often we find that people just don't get around to responding, and then show up at these events. As a friendly reminder to the PRA family, we want everyone to attend all events, however we must all try to be good citizens and neighbors and RSVP when asked so no one is ever turned away from an event.

Again, my many thanks to all who attended and we hope to see you all next year.

A Special thanks to the 'Fantastic Fathers' who made this all possible: Greg Klein, Ed Brenneman, Eric Bookman, Paul Veres, Larry Harris, Marc Shupe, Rob Tartre, and Chris Lytle. The moms are lucky to have been served by you!!!

Crystal Lytle and the PTO



**APRIL 27-MAY 1**

Platte River Academy succeeds because of so many dedicated and faithful volunteers. Each one of you putting in 40 hours yearly is what paves the way for our school to run. Whether it is a parent who shows up each week to fill an important role or the one who volunteers in an emergency for those last minute requests, these jobs, done by a willing parent, all contribute to the special educational environment known as P.R.A. -*Parents Responding Always*.

The staff and students appreciate all of you. During this week, I want to **thank you** all and especially a few who have gone 'above and beyond' the required hours

Our top four volunteers are:

- Deb Montelli with 358 recorded hours
- Jenny Nicholson with 204.5 hours
- Laura Ghia with 145.5 recorded hours
- Jennifer Bookman and family with 124 recorded hours

Thank you to all who participated in my gift card drawing. The winners are

- Crystal Lytle
- Karen O'Keeffe
- Kristin Wossilek
- Stephanie Veres



**Spring Reading Program Recognition**

Congratulations to the following students from Platte River Academy who completed the spring reading program at the Highlands Ranch Library. In order to complete this program they were asked to read for twelve hours over eight weeks and keep track of the hours on their reading logs. We are very proud of these students and want to acknowledge their success. Our next reading program will begin June 1, 2009.

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Annie Rourke      | Kate Rourke       |
| Mitchell Galligan | Anna Vander Leest |
| Dane Vander Leest | Taylor Brandt     |
| Jordan Alexander  | Matthew Klein     |
| Mckenna Klein     | Brandon Sullivan  |

Alex Sullivan



~~~Coming soon ~~~

Take the stress out of school supply shopping by ordering a supply kit!

Look for order forms to come home in May!

**Volunteer Opportunities**

We are looking for someone to periodically change the information on the Reader Board out in front of the school on Colorado Blvd. This is an opportunity to get some volunteer hours without even coming into the school and you can even bring your younger children with you! For more information please contact Heidi at [htomic@platteriveracademy.com](mailto:htomic@platteriveracademy.com) or 303-221-1070

**May Crossing Guard Duty Needs**

Two (2) for PM shift for 5/01; four (4) additional for AM shift for the week of 5/04; fourteen (14) additional for PM shift for the week of 5/04; six (6) additional for AM shift for the week of 5/11; nineteen (19) additional for PM shift for the week of 5/11; seventeen (17) additional for the AM shift for the week of 5/18; twenty-one (21) additional for the PM shift for the week of 5/18; and finally for the last week we need twelve (12) additional for AM shift and eighteen (18) additional for the PM shift.

Please call or email Rochelle@[rmonahan@platteriveracademy.com](mailto:rmonahan@platteriveracademy.com) ASAP if you are able to help out and fill any of these vacancies.

For those of you who have a hard time volunteering in other areas, this would be a much needed way for you to increase your hours.

Your involvement at PRA is greatly needed and appreciated.



## May 2009

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### Staff Birthdays/May

- 5 - Austin Taylor (Tech)
- 11 - Kevin Sewell (PE)
- 14 - Laura Ghia (5<sup>th</sup> Aide)
- 17 - Yvette Arnold (1<sup>st</sup> Aide)
- 21 - Judy Poulliot (Office)
- 21 - Sue Foley (K Aide)
- 22 - Armando Duque (6<sup>th</sup>)
- 22 - Wendie Martin (EA)
- 23 - Ute Meuer (Librarian)

## April/May Calendar of Events

### Thursday, April 30

- Midterm grades go home

### Friday, May 1

- 6-9pm Hawaiian Luau

### Monday, May 4

- 3:30p Governing Board Election Ends

### Tuesday, May 5

- 1:30p-2:45p Spanish Program/grades K-5
- 7p-8p Informational Meeting Classic Charter HS

### Wednesday, May 6

- 10:45a-1p Pen Pal Picnic Cow Park/2<sup>nd</sup> gr.

### Thursday, May 7

- 8:30a-11:30a Medieval Fair
- 6pm SAC Meeting

### Friday, May 8

- Rain Day Medieval Fair Reschedule
- 9:15a-1:45p Denver Mint/3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- 9:15a-1:30p Hudson Gardens/5<sup>th</sup> grade

### Saturday, May 9

- 8-noon Family Work Day

### Monday, May 11

- 6:30p PTO Meeting
- 6:30p DRESS REHEARSAL 'Aladdin' @Cresthill Middle School

### Tuesday, May 12

- 2:30-3p 'Myth Plays'/Gambill
- 6:30p 'Aladdin' @ Cresthill Middle School

### Wednesday, May 13

- 2:30p-3p 'Myth Plays'/Young

### Thursday, May 14

- 7p Board Meeting

### Friday, May 15

- 9:30p-1:30p Wild West Ranch/Kindies
- 9:15a-12p Castle Tour/4<sup>th</sup> grade
- 6pm-9:30pm MS Dance/6-8<sup>th</sup> grade

### Monday, May 18

- 8:30a-11:30a Field Day/ K-2(rain date 5/19)

### Thursday, May 21

- 8:30a-11:30a Field Day/Grades 3-5 (rain date 5/22)

### Monday, May 25

- Memorial Day NO SCHOOL

### Tuesday, May 26

- 8:30a-2p MS Field Day (rain date 5/28)
- 10a-2p Pirates Cove/5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Wednesday, May 27

- 10:30a End-of-Year Program/AM Brocka
- 2p End-of-Year Program/Klee
- 2:30p End-of-Year Program/PM Brocka
- All Day Hexathalon/6<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Thursday, May 28

- LAST DAY FOR EIGHTH GRADERS
- 7p 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

### Friday, May 29

- DRESS OF CHOICE
- 11-12:30 Cow Park/ 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 1PM DISMISSAL
- Report Cards Go Home



**Bake Sale Tomorrow  
Remember your Quarters!**