



**Platte River Academy
Mission Statement:
Provide a content-rich,
academically rigorous education
with a well-defined, sequential
curriculum in a safe, orderly and
caring environment**

August 25, 2011



**Platte River Academy's PTO
Would like to welcome all Families to PRA!**

What does it mean to be a member?

That depends on you. You can be a member in name only or you can become an active member. We invite you to become an active participant in your student's education by being an active participant in the Platte River Academy PTO. Parents, we need your help! Being an active participant, being involved, is not synonymous with being "sucked in". The level of involvement is up to you!

Why should I be a participating member?

Participation through volunteering allows you to be "hands on" with your child's education. All research indicates that when families are involved, a child is more apt to get higher grades, more likely to graduate, and go on to college. Our children love to see us in this environment where they spend seven hours a day. You get to know your children's teachers and your children's friends.

Participation through attendance at PTO meetings gives you a voice. You help decide what we do as a group. You help decide where the money should go. If you are new to Platte River Academy, the established families are available to answer questions and ease your transition into becoming a part of the school family. If you are new to our community, we're always happy to help wherever possible. An added bonus is that you have the opportunity to meet wonderful people who can become great friends.

What are the benefits of membership?

The benefits of membership are very rewarding. You have the knowledge that, with your participation and involvement, the educational and social experiences of all students at Platte River Academy have been greatly enhanced. That is in addition to the benefits listed above.

Isn't the PTO only about fundraising?

The Platte River Academy PTO is more than just fundraising. Fundraising is really just a necessary evil as school budgets are requiring more and more cuts. It is our privilege that we are able to provide the supplies, equipment and activities that our school budgets can no longer cover. We are only able to do that through our Platte River Academy families' willingness to participate in our fundraisers. Peach Sales, Spirit Wear, Scrips, King Sooper's Cards, School Directories and Hot Lunch are some of the ways we raise money for items such as teacher fund requests, teacher appreciation events, playground improvements and new technology equipment. It also helps in funding the teacher grants, as well as PTO programs such as Veteran's

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**Attendance Line
(303) 243-5210**

**Core Knowledge
Seminar**

August 31, 2011

Time: 6pm

Location: PRA Library

Please join other parents and SAC (School Advisory Committee) members for an evening dedicated to Core Knowledge. Come learn what Core Knowledge is and how the Core Knowledge philosophy is applied at Platte River Academy

We hope to see you there!



If you have any outgrown belts that you would like to donate, we sure could use them in the office for when students forget theirs. Thank you

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Day, Donuts with Dads, Muffins with Moms and many other events throughout the year.

We are about men and women working together toward a common goal. That goal, simply stated is creating a better school and a better educational experience for our children. We strive to create an atmosphere where teachers, administrators, and support staff can do their best work - and so can our children. There's so much more that can be done, but we need your help. We look forward to seeing all that can be and will be accomplished this school year when we come together, as a group and as a community to enhance and maximize the education of every child within our school.

Have a great year,

Pam Carter

President-2011/2012
Platte River Parent, Teacher Organization

Should the District's Board of Education approve a Mill Levy Override and Bond Issue Election in November?

The Board of Education will be making this important decision this coming Tuesday, August 30.

Every parent in Douglas County has a vested interest in this question. The financial picture for PRA needs to change or there will be significant budget reductions in the future. Let the Board of Education know of your support to move forward with an election despite the current economic situation. PRA, and all other DCSD schools, cannot afford to lose financial ground with the cost of your child's education. Please offer you support/comment by emailing the Board of Education through the Secretary to the Board at nona.eichelberger@dcsdk12.org.



Some Hints to Make Carpool a Little Easier and Safer on Colorado Blvd.

- Pay attention to the cross walks – Both the one crossing Colorado Blvd and the one crossing the school driveway entrance. Wave to Mr. Pearson (Spanish teacher) in the morning.
- When turning into the school driveway from Colorado Blvd stay in the lane. Do not move into the bike lane.
- Use right turn signal. This helps cars returning to Colorado Blvd to proceed into the right lane heading north.
- Go into the right lane. Please don't wait to turn until you can immediately cross over into the left lane. This holds up the cars behind you.

Volunteers Opportunities

Library Help

The library hours: Monday through Friday 8:15AM – 3:15PM.

Volunteers will assist librarian with:

- Monitoring student behavior,
- Helping students in using library look up stations and finding books on shelves,
- Shelving books,
- Special projects,
- Reading to primary grade students,
- Helping students with library skill activities

Vision and Hearing Screening

- 3 Volunteers still needed for 8:15am shift on Sept. 1st
- 3 Volunteers still needed for 11:55am shift on Sept. 1st
- 1 Volunteer still needed for 8:15am shift on Sept. 2nd

Volunteers will be helping with actual hearing or visions screenings, but do not need prior experience. They will undergo 20-30 min. training and practice session prior to working with the students.

Because of the technical nature of some of our screening procedures, we request that volunteers not bring children with them, Please contact Rochelle at 303-221-1070 ext. 2045 or at rmonahan@platteriveracademy.com



Spirit Wear

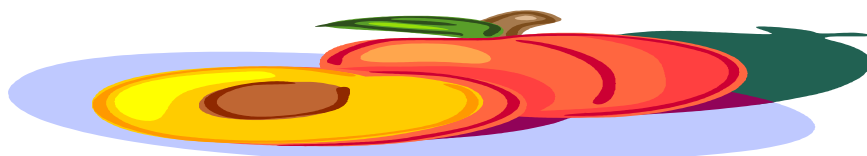
This Friday, August 26th will be the last day to place your order for spirit wear. The samples will be taken down promptly after school on Friday and all orders will be collected no later than 4:00 from the front office. All orders must be paid for in advance.

Don't miss out on ordering those cool hoodies, tee shirts and fleece wear.

There is only one ordering opportunity this year, so now is the time to do it.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Susan Robinson
303-789-5237 home



PRA Peach Orders

We still have a little time left to order peaches. **All orders are due no later than Sept. 2nd.** All orders that have not been paid for in advance cannot be guaranteed, they will be considered "extra boxes" and can be sold on request, so please pay for your order in advance to guarantee you receive a box.

Peaches will be delivered on the 9th of September and can be picked up between 3:30 and 6:00 pm (only!). If you cannot pick up your peaches during those hours, please make arrangements to have them picked up for you. We would hate for your peaches to be left at the school over the weekend.

Order forms are available at the front office.

If you have any questions, please contact: Susan Robinson
303-789-5237 home/303-921-6425 cell



Platte River Academy PTO will be hosting an Ice Cream Social/Fundraiser at

Please join us for some delicious ice cream creations scooped and mixed by our very own Platte River Academy staff as they create a custom ice cream "creation" just for you!!!

Date: Tuesday, August 30th

Time: 5:00-8:00 pm

**Location: 9338 Dorchester, #101, Highlands Ranch
(303)683-3222**

(Located in the Highlands Ranch Town Center, near Tattered Cover)

Volunteer Opportunities (cont'd)

Technology Lab Help

The First Grade teaching team is in need of one to four volunteers to help out in the computer lab during their first grade classes Tech time. Time needed is 9:10am-9:50am Monday-Thursday beginning as early as next week, if possible, and continuing until the end of the school year. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please email rmonahan@platteriveracademy.com



Fall Pictures Tuesday, August 30

Fall Picture Day is coming to Platte River Academy on Tuesday, August 30, 2011

These photos are taken in your school uniform.



Game Date:

Saturday, September 24, 2011
Colorado Rapids v. San Jose Earthquakes at 7:00PM

Ticket Price - \$15!

\$15 Coca-Cola Family Pack Tickets – package includes: premium ticket (regularly \$32 per person), meal, and a Coca-Cola beverage. Parking is included. No additional taxes or fees. Prices include a \$3 donation to your school to help Fill the Gap!

(See K-5 folders)

Hot Lunch News

Here is the 2011/2012 PRA hot lunch calendar with session order dates, check due dates, and menu served dates

<u>Session</u>	<u>Order Dates</u>	<u>Checks due</u> (No Later than 9:00a)	<u>Menu Served</u>
1	Aug.1 – Aug. 8	August 8	August 15 - September 9
2	Aug.25 – Aug. 30	August 30	September 12 - October 7
3	Sept. 22 – Sept. 27	September 27	October 10 - November 11
4	Oct. 27 – Nov. 1	November 1	November 14 - December 16
5	Dec. 1 – Dec. 6	December 6	January 3 - January 27
6	Jan. 12 – Jan. 18	January 18	January 30 - February 24
7	Feb. 9 – Feb.14	February 14	February 27 - March 23
8	Mar. 15 – Mar. 20	March 20	April 2 - April 27
9	April 12 - April 17	April 17	April 30 – May 23

Milk cost is 40 cents

We Have A New Caterer!

Gourmet to Go Catering will be serving the following menu on September 29 & October 6:

1/2 Baked Potato - served with 4oz side of homemade chili

1 Whole Baked Potato - served with cheese and butter on the side

Grilled Chicken Teriyaki Bowl - grilled chicken, white rice, and fresh steamed vegetables

Burrito (seasoned pork, rice, fresh homemade salsa) - served with a side of tortilla chips.

Veggie Burrito (refried beans, rice, fresh homemade salsa, cheese) - served with tortilla chips

ALL items are \$3.50



PRA Fall Book Fair – Mon. 9/26 thru Thurs. 9/29

A great Book Fair can never have too many volunteers! Our school is conducting a fantastic Fair to encourage students to read. Join our volunteer group to host a fun and creative Book Fair event if you:

- *Like to organize and put things in place
- *Bring creative flair to signs and decorations
- *Enjoy offering a helping hand, setting up, or packing up
- *Like to donate food and refreshments
- *Want to help shoppers of all ages find the perfect book

We appreciate your support in whatever form it takes.

Please use the following link to sign up.

<http://tinyurl.com/prabookfair2011>

You may contact Ute Meyer at umeyer@platteriveracademy.com with any questions.

Public Notice

This is to provide formal notification regarding the posting of the Governing Board meetings and agendas. By state statute the meeting time and agenda is to be publicly posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. As a school, our effort will be to post 48-hours in advance of the Governing Board meeting.

Posting will be done in three places for public viewing:

Behind the east windows of the school entryway

On the front of the lobby reception desk;
and

On the PRA website on the Governing board page

This should be done annually as the each school year begins.

August 2011

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



September 2011

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	

August Birthdays

8/02 - Ellen Cain (Aide 3rd)

8/13 - Kathy Kaze (1st)

8/11 - Jim Barstad (4th)

8/15 - Brandy Broeka (Kindies)

8/31 - Becky Erickson (5th)

8/12 - Gary Stueven (Principal)

8/30 - Chris Hecker (Art)

August/September 2011 Calendar of PRA Events

Friday, Aug. 26

- DRESS OF CHOICE

Tuesday, Aug. 30

- Hot Lunch Ordering Period Ends
- Picture Day
- 6:30-9pm PTO Fundraiser/ColdStone Creamery

Thursday, Sept. 1 and 2

- Vision and Hearing Screenings

Monday, September 5

- LABOR DAY/ NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, September, 6

- 6:30p Platte River Educational Alliance (PREA)

Thursday, September 8

- 6:30p Governing Board

Friday, September 9

- 2-7p Cross Country/ Panther Invitational

Saturday, September 10

- 8a-12 noon/ Family Work Day

Monday, September 12

- 6:30p PTO Meeting

Tuesday, September 13

- 8:30a Prospective Parent Meeting
- 11a-10p PTO Fundraiser/CiCi's Pizza

Thursday, September 15

- 8:30-11:30a Westward Expansion/ 2nd grade
- 6p SAC Meeting

Friday, September 16

- 6:30p-9p 8th grade Movie Night
- Midterm Reports



Have a great Weekend