



**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

December 08, 2011



To You, Let There Be Good Tidings

Dr. Gary Stueven, Principal

I will take time most every day from Thanksgiving Day through New Year's Day to reflect on family, various personal and professional events, and the many people that have become a part of my life at PRA. Often these thoughts center on the "life and times" of PRA – thoughts of good tidings!

I will say that PRA has presented me with some memorable challenges, leadership experiences, and professional growth opportunities that have already added a few chapters to my "memoirs". I am now on Chapter Eight! No doubt your child or children have done the same with providing you additions to your *Book on Parenting* about their experiences at PRA that needed your involvement. Is your book filling up with good tidings?

So, in the spirit of the holidays and as this first semester for 2011-12 rapidly comes to a close, here are some "good tidings" I would like to share:

- Finishing up the lottery for the 2012-13 kindergarten class. There were 360 families hoping to be drawn for the 20 seats available. What does that say about "good tidings" at PRA?
- Knowing the value and quality that eight new teachers have brought to the teacher corps at PRA, as well as, Mrs. Bonner as an experienced Assistant Principal.
- A Veterans Day Program like none before and where I had the student audience listen in on a phone call from my son who is currently serving in Afghanistan.
- Listening to a teacher share the success story of one of her student's who has "turned the corner" in reading.
- Babies! We have enjoyed visits by a least five infants of former or current staff members. And, I have two more grandchildren on the way!
- Seeing the number of trophies in our lobby case from this past Cross Country season.
- Being invited to again have teams compete in the "Battle of the Books" sponsored by Highlands Ranch Library.
- Seeing the dedication of our parent volunteers every day with carpool, hot lunch, bulletin boards, field trips, 8th Grade Washington DC Trip, and a number of other activities and tasks so important to our school.
- Observing the dedication of parent leadership on the Governing Board, PTO, School Accountability Committee, and

As you take time for personal reflection during the holidays, are there glad tidings that you share with your family or others? I hope so, and I hope that there are many.

Inside this Issue:	Page
Not e from Mrs. Bonner	1
Volunteer Opportunities	2
Yearbook Information	2
Breakfast w/Santa Info	3
Hot Lunch Order Schedule	3
Calendar of Events	4

Inside The E-Folder	Page
Butter Braid Order Form	1-2
Breakfast with Santa Flyer	3-4
Student Council SS Drive	4
Yearbook Order form	5
YB Dedication Order Form	54

King Soopers Gift Card Info	6
Chick-fil-a Flyer	7

Attendance Line (303) 243-5210



Please check the Lost & Found rack in the front foyer of the school for any items your child may be missing.

The items are really piling up; we have hoodies, winter coats, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc.

All items that have not been picked up by the end of the school day on Friday, December 16, will be donated to charity. Thank you.



'Tis the Season for Generosity and Tax Breaks

For many people, this is a time of year to display your gratitude for a prosperous year. A time to give back to your community and a time for last minute tax deductions. If you are one of those people, we hope you will remember PRA's non-profit foundation, the PREA (Platte River Education Alliance, a chapter of DCEF). By contributing to the PREA you will be supporting the educational and enhancement programs that will directly benefit your children. For information about the PREA or if you are interested in contributing to the PREA, you may contact Mike Rourke (mrourke@platteriveracademy.com) or simply drop a check (payable to "PREA") by the front office. Best wishes for a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year!!



Order a 2011-12 yearbook for \$25! Order forms are available online in the Thursday E- Folder. After 12/30, the price is \$30. You may also order online at: <http://jostensyearbooks.com?REF=A01095757>

If you have any questions, contact: Desiree Dizon
ddizon@platteriveracademy.com

8th grade Dedication Ad

Show your 8th grade student how proud you are! Purchase an ad in the yearbook. Include a photo, current or baby picture, a poem, or just a note from you and your family.

- 1/8 page ad - \$20
- 1/4 page ad - \$35
- 1/2 page ad - \$60
- Full page ad - \$110

Due date is January 31, 2012. The order form is included in the PRA e-folder. Pictures may be emailed or attached to be scanned. (Please indicate if you'd like the picture returned.) Turn in a CHECK issued to PRA, PICTURE, and ORDER FORM to the front office or Desiree Dizon ddizon@platteriveracademy.com



PLATTE RIVER ACADEMY STUDENT COUNCIL STOCKING STUFFER DRIVE BENEFITTING THE ARAPAHOE HOUSE DECEMBER 2 - 12, 2011

The PRA student council is sponsoring a stocking stuffer drive to benefit the Arapahoe House. Each grade will be responsible for bringing in specific items. Please send the items for your students' grade to your homeroom teacher. We would like to have enough items to provide 50 - 75 stockings for the Arapahoe House. Please send new or gently used items.

Thank you,
PRA Student Council

Volunteer Opportunities



December Crossing Guard Needs

The following is a list of spots that STILL need to be filled:

PM Shifts

Thurs. 12/15 (3 needed)

Fri. 12/16 (1 needed)

If you are available to work any of these shifts please contact Rochelle at

rmonahan@platteriveracademy.com

Any shifts worked over your original required 4 per student can be added to your required 40 hours. Thank you.

Tech Lab Assistance

The First Grade teaching team is in need of one or two additional volunteers to help out in the computer lab during the first grade class Tech time.

Time needed is 9:10am-9:50am Monday-Thursday.

This is an ongoing position and will continue until the end of the school year. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please email rmonahan@platteriveracademy.com
Thank You.

SALE

School Calendars are now only FIVE Dollars! Pick one up today. You'll never miss a Hot Lunch Ordering date again!



DECEMBER 10, 2011
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Platte River Academies
Breakfast with Santa!



Check today's e-folder for information on PRA's 2nd Annual Breakfast with Santa! Order your tickets now - your child will be entered into a drawing for the Christmas Duck (view him in the school foyer) AND the class with the most pre-paid tickets will receive a Santa Buck for each student (good for shopping at the Secret Santa Shop). The teacher of the winning class will also receive a gift basket! Don't miss out on the chance to take a photo with Santa, enjoy breakfast, and participate in awesome Christmas activities. All this is happening on Saturday, December 10th from 9:00 - 11:00 am at PRA.

Questions? Email Stacy Stephens at stacystep@hotmail.com

Hot Lunch Ordering

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

(No Later than 10:00a)

<u>Session</u>	<u>Order Dates</u>	<u>Checks due</u>	<u>Menu Served</u>
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



King Soopers Gift Card Fundraiser.

King Sooper gift card fundraiser is a great way for you to give back to our school. Each time you shop King Soopers, fill up your re-loadable card and a total of 5% of your entire purchase is donated to PRA. You can use the gift card for gas and prescription purchases as well. You will use your gift card, along with your King Soopers 'Valued Customer' card, so you can still earn your gas points. In addition, when you re-load the gift card, you can use your credit card to make the purchase, so you are earning your points for miles as well.
 (Please see e-folder for more information)



Butterbraids has allowed us to offer you a LAST MINUTE DEAL! For the holidays they have brought back 3 flavors that they do not have on the order form. The butterbraid flavors are RASPBERRY, DUTCH ALMOND, and,BAVARIAN CREAM!!! YUM, YUM, YUM!!!!!!! If you are interested in taking them up on these flavors in in addition to the ones on the order form,just add them on and hand in your form NO LATER!!!! than MONDAY DEC. 12 at 9 AM. Forms will be available online in Thursday folder and at front desk. LAST CHANCE FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!!

DELIVERY for ALL BUTTERBRAIDS including the last minute orders will be MONDAY DECEMBER 12 at @ 2 PM in the PRA GYM!!!!!!

Any questions or concerns please contact Liz Leonard at 303 -683 3367!

Thank you for all your support to 8th grade DC Students!!!!!!

Happy Holidays to All!

December 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	31

December Staff Birthdays

- 12/08 - Neeta Khatri (recess)
- 12/12 - Sharon Groeling (OT)
- 12/12 - Laurie Knapp (3rd)
- 12/16 - Kirstin Halpert (3rd)
- 12/18 - Kelli Boyd (4th)
- 12/19 - Paige Stecker (SPED)
- 12/19 - Nava Far (math aide)
- 12/22 - Kim Young (2nd)
- 12/25 - Hilary Price (Kindie)



Did you forget to order your school directory at registration? Would you like to have two? If so, we will have directories available for sale at the lobby desk for \$10. Get yours today!

December 2011 Calendar of PRA Events

Thursday, December 08

- 6:30p Governing Board Meeting

Friday, December 09

- Scrip Order Pick-Up

Saturday, December 10

- 9a-11a Breakfast w/Santa 8th gr. Fundraiser

Monday, December 12

- Butter Braids Delivered
- 6:30p PTO Meeting

Tuesday, December 13

- 5p-9p PTO Restaurant/ Chick-Fil-A

Thursday, December 15

- 6p SAC Meeting

Friday, December 16

- DRESS OF CHOICE

Monday, December 17-January 2

- No School/ Winter Break



Have a Great Weekend!