Ricks Newsletter
Friday, January 27, 2017

Circle Drive
Please remember that the circle drive in front of Ricks is a no-parking zone. If you are coming into the school, you are welcome to park in the L lot (with permit) or find street parking elsewhere. We need everyone's cooperation in order to make drop-off and pick-up run smoothly and safely. Thank you!

Strategic Plan
As part of Ricks’ strategic plan, we have created a multiyear curriculum review and implementation cycle. All of the teachers and administration at Ricks will be involved as we explicitly define what and how we teach at Ricks across all content areas. As we move through the cycle we will publish our work on the Ricks website. Look for new content in late spring and early summer.

Reenrollment Contract Update
Today we sent out 2017-2018 reenrollment contracts information via RenWeb. Individual contracts will be emailed to you on Monday. Contracts will be due on Friday, February 10th. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Jacobs.

This Week in the Classrooms
The Flying Butterflies, Ms. Jessica and Ms. Maddie’s classroom, are learning about recycling and the city of Denver. Each student in the classroom created their own blueprint for a building or house in the city, and then created the structure using recycled materials. They are working on putting “Recycled City” together and it will be on display during the month of February. This multi-step and multi-week project has sparked a lot of conversation and interest around recycling and architecture. On Monday, the class will venture to the top of the bell tower at the Ritchie Center and learn about architecture from an expert as well as have an amazing view of the campus.

Collaboration, Compassion, and Curiosity

Ricks Center Website
Ricks Center Facebook Page

Ricks Center for Gifted Children
University of Denver
2040 South York Street map
Denver, CO 80208

RenWeb
District Code: RC-CO (parent access only)

Phone: 303-871-2982
Jump Rope for Heart

Thank you, Ricks Community, for your support of the American Heart Association and Jump Rope for Heart. Signing up is quick and easy, either by signing the packet or by going online at heart.org/jump. In class, students are learning many new jump skills as well as healthy heart habits. This year students are encouraged to take the heart challenge by choosing to: get 60 minutes of exercise a day, eat a fruit or veggie with every meal, or choose water over sugary drinks like soda. While taking the challenge your child can create their own zoo crew character to share with family and friends. It’s easy to do – visit heart.org/jump, and click on the zoo crew challenge.

Thanks for speaking with your child about healthy heart habits and joining in on the battle against heart disease.

- Valentine’s Day, Feb. 14th, will be the last day to turn in donations.
- 91 out of 200 students have already signed up for Jump Rope for Heart.
- RICKS is # 1 in Colorado, already raising over $8,000.
- Extra incentives – Raise $200 and throw a pie at Mr. Jason
  Raise $250 and give Mr. Jason a chocolate mud bath

Parenting Safe Children Workshop Registration

The Parenting Safe Children Workshop offers valuable information, ideas, and tools to help you prevent child sexual abuse in your home and community. The workshop covers three prevention areas and empowers you to discuss body-safety with children and caregivers in a positive and effective manner. This 4-hour workshop is for parents, relatives, educators, therapists—anyone who cares about children. The objectives are to identify what makes children vulnerable to sexual abuse, so they are empowered with the facts, and to learn body-safety rules so you can teach your children about personal body safety, in an age-appropriate, positive, and non-threatening manner. If interested, please register using this link.
Practicum Placement Student – Introduction for Kindergarten

My name is Ann Collier and I will be working with the Kindergarten class as I complete my Master’s in Gifted and Talented Education. I just moved to the Denver area the first week of January. I am excited to observe the wonderful learning in this classroom, as well as teach two lessons of my own. I have three years of teaching experience in a general education classroom. I worked in a multi-age public school in the Chicago suburbs and taught grades 3-4 and 1-2. I am eager to meet you soon!

Why Ricks?

This year’s Open House for prospective parents focused on the question, “Why Ricks?” Teachers, administrators, and parents spoke about the factors that make us a unique choice for families. Anne Wolf, Associate Director for Curriculum, presented how Ricks teaches the gifted child. If you are interested in viewing the PowerPoint, you can click on the link here.

Found Flash Drive

We found a 128gb flash drive. If it is yours, please come to the front desk.

Save the Date

- No school for students: Professional Development Day, Feb 3
- No Kids Adventure Feb, 3
- Chipotle grade 8 fundraiser, Feb 8, 5:00-8:00 pm
- 2017-2018 contracts due, Friday Feb 10
- Valentine’s Day Social 5th-8th grade, Feb 10, 6:00pm-8:00pm
- Jump Rope for Heart final date, Feb 14
- No school: President’s day, Feb 20
- No school for students: Admissions Day, March 3
- Parenting Safe Children Workshop hosted by Fisher Early Learning Center, April 15, 2017