Willy Wonka is coming to Ricks!

Mr. Kevin Walton and many of our students have a passion for musical theater, and we all can enjoy their production. On Wednesday, May 10 at 7:00 pm, come to Davis Auditorium in Sturm Hall to see our own perform in Willy Wonka! It will be a great show and fun for all. Free admission!

Grade 8 Dinner/Graduation

We are hard at work preparing for the annual Grade 8 Graduation events, and are looking forward to celebrating this accomplishment with the Grade 8 students and families. As is traditional, there will be four main events.

May 24-26, students will lead their Portfolio Celebrations. Parents have received a Sign-Up Genius where they can select a time for their child's celebration. Parents and students are welcome to invite other family, friends, teachers, etc. to attend.

On May 31 at 5:00 pm, the Graduation Dinner will take place at Driscoll Hall. This dinner if for Grade 8 students and their guests. Invitations were sent out outlining the details.

Graduation takes place June 1, 2017 at 9:00 am at the Frederic C Hamilton Family Recital Hall. This is a community-wide event and we welcome and encourage you to join! Students in Grade 3 and up will attend the Graduation, as well. Younger students will greet our graduates with cheers as they return to Ricks following the ceremony. Grade 8 students and guest are invited to attend the Graduation Luncheon at Ricks directly after the ceremony.

Incoming 5th Grade Middle School Information Session

Incoming 5th grade students (current 4th grade students) and parents are invited to attend an information session on Wednesday, May 10th from 8:00 – 9:00 am. Information will be provided to students and parents pertaining to middle school. Please meet in the upper school commons area at 8:00 am.

Lost and Found

Our lost and found is growing! We will donate all of the items in the lost and found on May 19th. So please come and check to make sure your child doesn't have anything in there.

Congratulations Victor Wall!!
Victor Wall, 8th grade, has won a 1st place medal in the National Junior Classical League Creative Writing Contest. He competed against 25 other entries from across the United States. The topic this year was to write a story in a popular genre using characters from classical history or mythology. Victor’s entry, “The Journeys of an Ithacan Sailor,” featured the story of Odysseus’ journey through the eyes of one of his fellow sailors. His full entry will be featured on the National Junior Classical League website. Congratulations, Victor!

**Scratch Day at DU**

There is an opening for up to 20 Ricks Center students, with parents, to participate in Scratch Day here in the brand new Engineering and Computer Science Building.

Scratch Day at the University of Denver is open to 4th through 8th grade students and their parents/or adult chaperones. This event will use the Scratch programming language to introduce programming to students and their parents/guardians. All participants will receive instruction at the same time but will work in peer groups of two. The intent of this event is to teach the basics of programming and to inspire students and adults to explore and learn more on their own.

If you are interested, let Anne Wolf anne.wolf@du.edu know as soon as possible – first come, first in!

**When:** Saturday, May 13  
**Time:** 9:00 – 12noon  
**Where:** University of Denver - Engineering & Computer Science Building  
2155 E Wesley Ave  
Denver, CO 80208

**Spring MAP Testing, Grades 3-8**

We will be administering the end-of-year MAP tests in May. Eighth graders will test on Thursday, May 11 and Friday, May 12; 3rd - 7th graders will test on Thursday, May 25 and Friday, May 26. As always, please be sure your child is well rested and has a good breakfast.

**This Week in the Classrooms**

---

**Ricks Center Website**

**Ricks Center Facebook Page**

Phone: 303-871-2982
As part of their Color and Light unit, students in first and second grade learned about the anatomy of an eyeball while dissecting cattle eyes. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers who helped with the dissection and helped the students to identify the different parts and pieces!

Sports Update

The Ricks Soccer team lost against Front Range Christian School on Tuesday by a score of 3-1. They also played Legacy Academy on Thursday and lost 4-2. The team played extremely well in both games and has shown great improvement throughout the year! The Ricks Baseball games were cancelled this week due to rain. Congratulations to both teams for all of their hard work this season!

First Tee Golf Program at Ricks

The 3rd and 4th graders are learning how to play golf through the First Tee golf program during PE. In the program, Coach Jason works with the golf pros from the DU golf team and the PGA to teach the students how to play. At the end of the unit, the students will go on a field trip to Highlands Ranch Golf Course on May 24th.

- We need parent drivers for the field trip may 24th 11:30 – 3:00. Please contact coach Jason if you are able to take your child. Jason.mondragon@du.edu

Fencing in PE

Fencing was a huge hit with the students this week in PE. The Cheyenne fencing society came in and was able to teach the students the rules, safety and strategy of fencing. If you are interested in signing up your child for fencing through the Cheyenne fencing society please visit www.coloradofencing.com. Or call 720.838.4225

There will be a school tournament on Saturday May 27th at the Cheyenne fencing center for 1st – 5th grade. Ricks was the tournament champion last year against other schools in the area. 3 person teams will play together to represent the school.
EC Updates
Since the weather has warmed up, we are spending more time outside. Please make sure your child comes to school wearing sunscreen, or that you stay long enough in the morning to apply it here. Feel free to send along hats and sunglasses for extra protection if you'd like.

Summer Fun at Ricks
Summer at Ricks blends fun summer activities with rich learning experiences for children ages 3-6. Click here for more information or to register.

RCA Happenings
The New Parent Welcome was a big success! THANK YOU to all parents, teachers and staff that made it to the event and helped kick off the 2017-2018 academic year. Our new families are excited about joining our community!

Many ways to show your appreciation on or before National Teacher Appreciation Day, Tuesday, May 9th:
1. Please remember to encourage your child/children to write a note or draw a picture on the cutouts provided or on something from home. We will be collecting all notes, cutouts, drawings, etc. in a basket on the front desk until Monday evening. Please put your teacher’s name ON the cutout.
2. A coffee bar (morning), box lunches and massages (THANK YOU Sarah Anderson for the generous donation!) will be provided to all Ricks' staff on May 9th. We will use the conference room behind the front desk as our primary location. Here is a sign-up genius if you are willing to help with set-up and clean-up for either of those events: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090A4BA9AD2CA0FD0-teacher
3. Publicly recognize your child's Ricks Center teacher(s) for all the great things they do including teaching our children to collaborate, create and innovate. Use #WhyILoveRicks or #ILoveRicks on social media (Facebook, Twitter, Great Schools) or share a personal note of appreciation and share a copy with your teacher(s). We will gather posts on social media and display for teachers on the 9th.
4. Some classrooms have room parent coordinators who are organizing an extra something from parents/students. You

Collaboration, Compassion, and Curiosity

Ricks Center Website
Ricks Center Facebook Page
Phone: 303-871-2982

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

RenWeb
District Code: RC~CO (parent access only)
are welcome to help coordinate and/or contribute to that effort.

Thank you to all who attended the RCA meeting on Friday, April 21st. We appreciate your participation! The next meeting will be Friday, May 19th at 8:45 AM in the conference room behind the front desk. All are welcome!

**RCA Meetings:** Thank you to all who attended the RCA meeting on Friday, April 21st. We appreciate your participation! The next meeting will be Friday, May 19 at 8:45 AM in the conference room behind the front desk. All are welcome!
Save the Date

May 9
8:00–9:00 am Teacher Appreciation Day

May 10
7:00–9:00 pm Willy Wonka, School musical performance, at Davis Auditorium, Sturm Hall

May 15–19
MS Field Trips: Washington, DC; Yellowstone, WY; Keystone Science School - Walden, CO

May 23
Field day (Volunteers needed!!!) contact janet.london@gmail.com

May 24
3rd and 4th grade Golf field trip

May 24
5:30 - 7:30 pm Sports Banquet, Multipurpose Room at Ricks

May 26
6:30-8:30 pm Upper School Social, 5th-8th grade

May 31
5:00-9:00 pm Grade 8 Graduation Dinner – Driscoll Hall (invitations to be sent soon)

June 1
9:00-12:00 am Grade 8 Graduation - open to the entire community - Frederic C Hamilton Family Recital Hall, Lamott School of Music

June 1
12:00-1:30 pm Grade 8 Graduation lunch for Grade 8 families and students

June 2
Last Day of School, half day dismissal (Preschool – 4th dismisses at 11:45 and 5th – 8th dismisses at 12:00)

Around DU and Beyond...

DU Pow Wow
7th Annual New Beginnings Pow Wow Sunday, May 7, 2017
Free to attend on the DU Driscoll Green - Rain location: Hamilton Gym in the Ritchie Center

Random Acts of Kindness Foundation
Social Emotional Learning: Success for Life 2017 • Thursday June 8, 2017 • FREE
https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/for-educators/sel-forumREGISTRATION • McNichols Building, Denver

Collaboration, Compassion, and Curiosity

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

Ricks Center Facebook Page

Phone: 303–871–2982

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