Ricks Student Services Team

Ricks Center Student Services Team consists of Faryn Scarlett, School Psychologist intern, Betsy Cabell, Ph.D., School Psychologist, Peggy Jurgs, Literacy Specialist, and Cheryann Pleasants-Beruldsen, Occupational Therapist. We will support your student as our resources allow, and are happy to provide you with referrals as needed. We also have some exciting news to share; Denver Public Schools is now a free resource for assessments (cognitive, academic, social-emotional, speech, occupational therapy) for students who live within DPS boundaries. Please contact Faryn Scarlett if you have questions at 303-871-7905 or faryn.yovich@du.edu.

MAP testing

One of our strategic plan outcomes is to use data as part of the decision-making process. Using nationally normed assessments is an educational best practice; they give us external markers of student achievement as well as reflecting our school success. We have adopted the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments from NWEA because they are adaptive assessments which will allow our gifted students to work well beyond grade level. Our teachers will use the results to reflect upon student strengths and needs, providing another data point to guide instruction. For more information about the assessments, please look at the Parent Guide to MAP.

The fall baseline MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing will be next week, October 2 – 7, for all students in grades 1 – 8. Each student will take a reading and a mathematics assessment, each lasting about 30 – 45 minutes in grades 1 - 2 and approximately one hour for students in grades 3 – 8. MAP is a computer-based, responsive platform, allowing us to find areas of relative strength and areas of relative need. It is untimed, and students who are sensitive to noise are welcome to wear headphones to reduce ambient sound.

Extended Day Program

Ricks Extended Day will be hosting Medieval Adventure Camp on October 26th and 27th. Students will join guilds as they "live" during the European Middle Ages. To sign up for October 26th click here and October 27th click here.

Fencing is clearly a popular after school choice!

This Week in the Classrooms

EC

Preschool had a wonderful week exploring dirt and mud. The highlights of the week included making dirt dough and mud pies with sprinkles.

The Preschool/Prekindergarten class had fun exploring the shapes inside apples and then creating a rainbow apple stamp collage as they study the season of fall.
The Prekindergarten class enjoyed creating art from the special recycled treasures from home. These beautiful works will be on display soon.

Kindergarten went to DeBoer Park and chose a tree to document and watch as it changes throughout the year. They also had fun creating their own classroom book of animal metaphors.

All of the early childhood classrooms have noticed the annual migration of the painted lady butterflies and have been trying to catch them and study them on the playground.

1st / 2nd
The first and second grade classrooms went on a trip to learn about the DU well and filtration system. The students learned that DU draws its water supply from an aquifer, and they were able look down some of the manholes on campus to discover what is underground.

3rd / 4th
The third and fourth grade students took a trip to the History Colorado museum this week. They enjoyed learning about Ute history as well as mining in Colorado.

Middle School
Diana Khoi Nguyen, second-year PhD student at DU, visited the Creative Writing elective to talk about the writing process. She also shared tips to spark creativity in for young writers, and challenged the group to start sharing their work with others (even if they start with their pets). The Fuel Up to Play 60 elective worked on a green screen presentation, and the hand-drummers are practicing original rhythms.
Black Violin
The first Newman Center Student Performance was today, and our 3rd - 8th graders enjoyed a rousing performance by world renowned group Black Violin. Our students were active participants in the classical/hip hop/pop rock fusion concert, and should sleep well tonight! Over 900 students from around the city attended, 3rd through high school.

Sports Update
The boys’ soccer team lost a thriller to an older Front Range Christian squad on Monday 2-1. The team continued to improve and work together. The defense is playing well and learning to communicate. The Ricks goal was the direct result of linking together about four passes to earn a free kick and then having everyone in the right position as Blaine Anderson was on the spot to send home the rebound.

The girls’ volleyball team had another successful week as the white team girls lost a heartbreaker in the third game 15-13 to Englewood Middle School. Again our 5th/6th combo of girls took the 7th grade Englewood squad to the third game. The red team, due to injuries, had to play with only four girls against Englewood, but the quartet put together a very impressive performance beating Englewood in straight sets, 25-19 and 25-13. Going up against a very talented Bear Creek squad on Thursday, the girls fell in straight sets, but rallied in the final game to lose a close one, 25-21.

Each team has two matches next week. Please check the Ricks calendar for times and locations.
Staffing Updates
Jessica Wall has been hired as Front Desk Secretary. She started this week and will be here from 2:00-6:00 on weekdays. Jessica writes, "I come to the Ricks Center with ten years of experience working in the office and classrooms of a Denver elementary school. I also have years of experience working in after-school and summer programs. I love the opportunity to be around the energy, enthusiasm, and curiosity of kids! It has been a pleasure for my husband and I to raise our two boys in Colorado, where I grew up. I take every chance I get to be outside: from skiing to gardening, to walking the dog."

Sarah Clark has important family obligations that will not allow her to continue in her part-time teaching role in the 3/4G classroom. We are pleased that we will be able to continue to see Sarah as a substitute teacher when time allows her to be at Ricks. Sarah Clark’s last day will be Friday, September 29. We have begun the hiring process to fill this role.

RCA Happenings...

RCA Events

- **Ricks Gala – November 4th @6pm** - Tickets are on sale!!! Early bird pricing through October 10th - only $75 - after the 10th tickets are $100. Buy them here: [www.du.edu/ricks/support-ricks/2017gala.html](http://www.du.edu/ricks/support-ricks/2017gala.html)
  - We are fundraising for robotics kits, content for the library and scholarships for students on financial aid to attend field trips.
  - Want to sit with your friends? Please email the RCA at [communicationsrca@gmail.com](mailto:communicationsrca@gmail.com) with the names of people in your group so we can accommodate! Groups can have up to 12 people at one table.

- **Ricks Night at DU Hockey Friday, Oct 20th @ 7pm** - they will hang the 2017 National Champions banner! Tickets can be purchased using promo code “RICKS” [here](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b49acae2b0-ricks3) ($10 discount upper section tickets).

- **DU Pio Palooza Saturday, Oct 21st @ 4pm** - Event will include, bouncy castles for kids and adults, games, face painting, balloon animals and food trucks. Click [here](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b49acae2b0-ricks3) to purchase tickets ($5/person)

Fundraising

- **Mini-Grants** - We approved 4 mini-grants enabling staff to increase materials available to students, support focused activities, as well as attend professional development.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Help with the Ricks Gala. We need both pre-event and help day-of setup. Please check out the needs via this link to see how you can help: [http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b49acae2b0-ricks3](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b49acae2b0-ricks3)
- We will hold a Scholastic Book Fair during Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences, November 7 – 10. If you are interested in helping, please reach out Stephanie Peacock – [peacockbrd@yahoo.com](mailto:peacockbrd@yahoo.com).

Shop with Scrip

- Scrip is now offering $25 gift cards from Chipotle!!
- If you place an order for $25 or more of Dave & Buster's® Scrip and receive a bonus $20 for $20 Dave & Buster's® electronic Gameplay Coupon. Offer valid on physical or ScripNow eCards on ShopWithScrip.com from September 30 - October 6.

Contact the RCA with questions, inquiries and interest! Thank you!

- Email: [communicationsrca@gmail.com](mailto:communicationsrca@gmail.com)
Spirit Wear
Ricks Center students and families, now is the time to show off your school spirit. Ricks Center now has its own section on the DU Shop Pioneers website. Check back often to look for new items. Let's see your Ricks school spirit!

Facebook
Have you "liked" our Facebook page? Please take a moment to visit, and "like," the Facebook page. It's another great way to see what is going on in the school and in the Ricks Center Community.

DU and Beyond
Parent Education Workshop - Star Institute
The Star Institute will be holding a parent workshop about relationships and sensory processing disorder on October 5, 2017. For more information, check out this flyer.

Save the Date

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 29</td>
<td>Gr 3 – 8 walking trip to the Newman Center to see &quot;Black Violin&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2</td>
<td>Boys Soccer away at St. Mary's Academy 4:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Girls Volleyball away at RMSEL GW 4:00 pm GR 5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Boys Soccer home vs. Legacy Academy 3:30 pm (time changed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 5</td>
<td>Girls Volleyball away at Englewood Middle School GW 4:00 pm GR 5:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 6</td>
<td>Assembly: 2:30-3:00 pm 7th Grade presenting: Tales of Aesop's Fables</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 13</td>
<td>RCA Meeting, 8:45am – Innovation Space</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parent Education Workshop – Executive Functioning Development</td>
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<td>October 20</td>
<td>Ricks Night at DU Hockey, 7:05pm</td>
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<td>October 21</td>
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