

Buena Vista Elementary School

Tiger Times

Vision: We will create a community where each child is safe to explore and learn.

Mark the Dates!

October

- 1 Official Count Day – Arts A Palooza
- 2 Skate City Night – 6:00 pm; Bus at 5:30 pm
- 2 PTA Meeting, 6pm in Gym
- 2 Picture Day
- 12 No Students – Teacher Work Day
- 13 Garage Sale – 8am – 2pm in Gym
- 19 Movie Night – 6:30 pm in Gym
- 22-26 Tabletop Bookfair – Stage in Gym
- 25-26 No Students – Parent Teacher Conferences

November

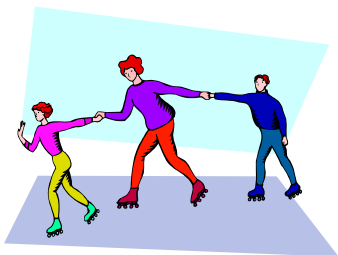
- 2 Fall Carnival
- 6 PTA Meeting, 6pm in Gym
- 12 No School – Veterans Day
- 14 Picture Retakes
- 16 Movie Night – 6:30 pm in Gym
- 21-23 No School – Thanksgiving Break

Family Skate Night... Tuesday, October 2

Join us at 6pm on Tuesday, October 2nd from 6-8 pm at Skate City at 1920 N. Academy Blvd. Cost is \$4 per person with BV getting \$1.50 per skater with 50 paid attendees. Skates are available for \$1 or \$3.50 for in-line. A free Skate City Fun Bus leaves BV at 5:30 pm or you can drive on your own. This evening is intended to be a **family** skate night to spend quality time together. Adult

supervision is not provided by Skate City or Buena Vista.

The money raised from this event is used for Field Day and recess equipment purchase and repairs. Join us for a great time!!



Lost and Found






Please check the Lost and Found box located on the stage in the gym for any misplaced clothing or personal items. Any items not claimed before the garage sale on Saturday will be sold to help raise money for PTA and our BackYard project.

From Dr. Rasmussen's Desk

Beginning in the fall of 2006, a group of Buena Vista Elementary School staff began studying our school discipline program. The group chose to focus on a positive and proactive systemic change and chose to have one universal rule under which all behavior could be classified. They chose the acronym ROSES which stands for RESPECT OTHERS, SELF, ENVIRONMENT, AND BE SAFE.

The purpose of the ROSES initiative is to improve and maintain effective school environments that maximize academic achievement & social/behavior competence of all learners. Traditional forms of discipline seemed to focus primarily on negative consequences and being reactive to student misbehavior. The ROSES philosophy shifts that focus on being positive, teaching behavioral skills as academic skills, modeling, and supporting appropriate behavior.

The initial beliefs that the group used during the development process were:

-  99.9% of student behavior is purposeful; Children are trying to get what they need.
-  When children misbehave they are trying to avoid something.
-  Relationships are essential in creating positive community and are based on trust.
-  Fair and equal are not synonymous.
-  All children misbehave sometimes.

Behaviors will be classified into two categories -- minor and major. Minor behaviors can be corrected within the classroom with little disruption of instruction. Intermediate level interventions are those behaviors that might warrant some time outside of the classroom during lunch, recess, or before or after school to work through possible solutions. Major behaviors are those referred to the administration. All major referrals require administrative involvement, parent & teacher contact. Three minor repetitive behaviors MAY warrant a major behavioral referral because we do not want inappropriate behavior to become repetitive. A form was developed to document the incidents and inform parents. If your child receives a referral from a staff member please take it seriously and discuss the incident with your child. Help them to problem solve good solutions that are respectful to themselves, others, the environment and be safe. When we all work together we can teach our children the intrinsic value of monitoring one's own behavior.

Program News

News from the Gym – Mrs. D....

Physical Education classes are off to a great start! We've already learned how to "warm-up" our bodies and get them ready to do physical activity. Our beginning focus has been on "Team Challenges". Students from Kindergarten through 5th grade are working together to successfully complete challenges like "Frogs On Lily Pads", "Titanic", "Bricks and Mortar", and "Minefield". All these challenges require students to use a variety of teamwork skills to complete the challenge!

We've also been talking about appropriate clothing for physical activity. Please help your child choose the kind of clothing that allows full, and safe, participation. Flip-flops, clogs (including Crocs), fancy dress shoes, and cowboy boots are all examples of footwear that keep children from running and moving freely... and sometimes safely! (Twisted ankles and falls happen, as well as flip-flops slipping off easily and becoming dangerous flying objects.). For some of our "fashion conscious" students, loosely laced sneakers that slip off the heels are an important fashion statement. In PE classes, shoes worn this way become a safety issue for the person wearing them, as well as for those who may be hit by a flying shoe. Students are encouraged to be responsible for tying shoelaces in a way that keep these shoes tightly on their feet during PE. Just like children begin learning there are appropriate times and places for both "play clothes" and "fancy, dress outfits", school-age students begin to learn the importance of wearing clothing that allows freedom of movement for Physical Education classes. For example, dresses and skirts worn without shorts underneath can inhibit participation. Thanks for your support.

We are looking forward to Buena Vista Skate Nights at Skate City. Our first one is scheduled for Tuesday, October 2nd. These evenings offer an opportunity for families to spend quality time together doing something active. Buena Vista Elementary receives a portion of the proceeds that will go toward funding Field Day and recess equipment purchases and repairs. More details will come home in your child's "Friday folder".

Many thanks go out to all the folks who helped with our Tiger Island Field Day last May. Your support and participation were an integral part of its success! What a fun day! I feel so fortunate to be working with such a wonderful community school... I can't imagine a better group of students, families, and staff members!

Music Matters – Mrs. Darpino...

The start of the new school year has been an exciting one in Vocal Music at BV. Students are working hard on our Patriotic Song Unit, learning the words to the "Star Spangled Banner," "America" and "This Land is Your Land." We joined the "Star Spangled Banner Project" along with many other schools across the nation, in our effort to have all American Citizens know the words to our National Anthem. Currently, only one in 4 adults know the



words! A National Broadcast had many schools sing along together, on Sept. 14th. Since our school was not in session at that time, we decided to sing our songs for the Open House on, Thursday, Sept. 20th. We hope you were able to join us for this fun event. The students did a great job!

We continue to study steady beat, Levels I and II, we're covering Music Standards 1 and V, and we're getting into good habits with singing and listening to a wide selection of musical styles. We hope to see you at our "Artsapalooza" on Monday, Oct. 1st, where different clinics will be offered all afternoon beginning at 1:00 p.m. Also due on Oct. 1st are our permission slips and money, (cost \$5.00), for all 4th and 5th grade students to attend the Colorado Springs Philharmonic on Nov. 7th. Please look for these slips coming home in your child's backpacks and return them with their ticket money promptly.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the teacher/parent/student conferences on Oct. 25th and 26. Keep posted for upcoming concerts in December. What a great bunch of kids we have!

Gifted and Talented

Parents, Teachers, and/or students who wish to be nominate a student to be considered for Gifted and Talented Services may complete a nomination form and an attached rating form. The nomination forms at Buena Vista are located on the table in the hall in the front of the office. Upon receiving the completed nomination and rating form, the building Gifted Resource Teacher will examine and share past test results with the nominator and determine the next steps.



Program News - continued

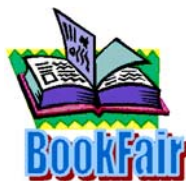
Library News – Laura Dohrmann

We are off to a great start this year in the Buena Vista library with several new changes! One of the first changes is me! I am the newest addition to the B.V. faculty. My name is Laura Dohrmann. I am the Library Technology Educator (LTE) at the school this year, and I hope to be here for many years to come. I have 17 years of experience in elementary schools; the last ten years as a librarian and seven years before that as a classroom teacher. I have spent most of my life in Louisiana and the last two years in Texas. Now I am getting settled in Colorado, and look forward to the four beautiful seasons here, and working with your beautiful children.

Our library is lovely and charming in style, but needs a lot of help becoming welcoming, colorful and updated (book collection). I have added some window treatments, pictures, and plants, etc. but hope to continue to decorate the room so that it is an inviting place for students and teachers to come in their spare time for study and relaxation. Our funding for this project is low, so if you have any ideas or extra funds to contribute, I would

welcome both! Thank you to the anonymous donator of \$100 for the library last week. We really did need it.

To boost the library, we will have a few fund raisers as well as special events that are library sponsored this year for the students to enjoy. Our first event will be a “Table Top” Scholastic Book Fair during conference week (Oct. 22-26). We will hold it on the stage in the “cafetorium”, but it will be put on by and for the library. If you have any time to volunteer to help out during that week, we certainly can use extra hands and eyes to help out all that week. Please call me at 328-4124 to volunteer or email our volunteer coordinator at: bleanunez@comcast.net.



Look in coming newsletters for other events to come this year, like a Book Barn (used books for low prices), guest speakers, Read Across America celebrations, Public library connections, reading incentive projects etc.

Parent Activities and Committees

Volunteer Corner; Grace Blea-Nunez, Coordinator

Thanks to the parents who helped both with the principal interviews and the Health Fair. We appreciate your time and effort. New parents, please make sure you have filled out the District Volunteer Form in addition to the School's Volunteer Form. Staff will be provided with a list of those parents willing to volunteer in their room or at specified events after the Open House. Our big need for the upcoming month will be the Fall Carnival so if you haven't volunteered yet, please leave a note in the PTA box with your contact information. Remember to ask your child's teacher what volunteer needs they may have. We hope to have at least 1 Room Parent for each classroom which streamlines communication with the school and parents in the classroom. Please consider volunteering in this capacity.

PTA Message; Lynne Casebeer, President

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the Bulb Selling Fundraiser last month!! This was a wonderfully successful event for the PTA with an unofficial total of about \$2,600 raised for PTA programs and the BackYard Project. The Pizza Party winners were Ms. Natalie's class with the most money raised and Mrs. Garsoe's class for the most participation. Congratulations to those classes and all the other students that helped make this fundraiser such a success.

Please support our next event to support BV - the October Garage Sale to be held on the school playground on October 13. Please save up your good, reusable items and deliver them to school on Friday, October 12, and volunteer to help sort & price the items that afternoon or work the sale on Saturday. Remember - "The more the merrier" and "Many hands make light work" - and any other old adage that might apply here! Hope to see you at Movie Night! There are lots of great things going on at Buena Vista - Please, get involved!!

Classroom News

Ms. Garsoe's 5th grade

Once again, I get to welcome a wonderful new group of fifth graders, who are in their last year at Buena Vista. We started the year sitting outside, listening to the sounds and taking in the sights of BV's back yard. These observations went into the first poem of our Poetry Books. The Science Kit is Levers and Pulleys, and we are becoming expert at moving loads easily. Walt Whitman inspired a class poem that hangs in the hallway outside our classroom door. Finally, we are looking forward to a walk to Blunt Park where we will sharpen our observation skills, and have a picnic. Many thanks to the parents who support all of us in our hard work here.



*Mrs. D.'s running club
at the Penrose
Invitational on Sept. 18.*



We will have a Garage Sale benefiting our BackYard and the PTA on Saturday, October 13. Please help us make this a success by donating your items on Friday, October 12 from 2pm – 6pm. We may also be able to help with picking up your items if you are unable to bring them in.

The garage sale will start Saturday morning at 8am and will end around 2pm. Volunteers will be needed in 2 – 3 hour shifts on Friday and Saturday. Please contact Kathy New at 634-7342 or email at Hnewkl@d11.orgH if you are able to help or have any questions. We can also use help spreading the word to friends and neighbors.



*Buena Vista Students, Parents and Staff walked in the
Coronado Homecoming Parade on Saturday, September 22.*