



ROCK RIDGE ELEMENTARY

ROCK RIDGE REVIEW

400 Heritage Avenue, Castle Rock, CO 80104

SEPTEMBER 2021

Note from the Principal, Mr. Mosby

Dear Rock Ridge Families,

Happy September! In case you missed it, we had an amazing back to school BBQ last August with a huge turnout. Thank you, PTO, staff, and the community, for helping us kick off the year with a great social event.



We have a huge need for volunteers and full-time positions as Educational Assistants. If you are interested, please reach out to [Brittany Shiner](#) for volunteer opportunities and for full time positions check out the [district website for job postings](#).

Don't forget that we will be having parent-teacher conferences September 20th-23rd.

Check with your student's teacher for details and signup times.

Some friendly reminders:

- Supervision at school starts at 8:20am. Do not drop your child off early due to safety concerns. In addition, students are not to be playing on the playground before or after school unless they are part of the BASE program where there is direct supervision. Thank you for your understanding.
- Messages for students need to be in the office by 3:00pm each day.
- Leave messages on the attendance line for all- tardies and absences.
- Stay in your vehicle when in the kiss-and-go in order to keep the line moving quickly.
- Don't forget to say hello to Mr. Mosby with fist bumps, air high fives and thumbs up! ☺

Thank you everyone again for all of your support. Our staff and I greatly appreciate you, our community.

Sincerely,

Peter Mosby, Principal

Peter Mosby
Principal

Julie Roach
Assistant Principal

Attendance Line
303-387-5152

Office
303-387-5150

Weather Closure
303-387-SNOW

Hours
First Bell 8:30am
School Begins 8:35am
All Dismiss 3:30pm
AM Kinder 8:30-11:15
PM Kinder 12:45-3:30

School Website



*Advertising in this newsletter does
not imply endorsement by the
school or district.*

Mark Your Calendar, Important Dates to Remember

September

17th – Rock Ridge Run Day

20th-23rd – RRE Parent Teacher Conferences

21st – Smart Cow Spirit Day!

22nd – Rock Ridge Run donations due

24th – Teacher Workday/ No school for students

October

1st – Rock Ridge Run Prize Day

12th – PTO Meeting

18th-22nd – Fall Break

25th-29th – PTO Contests

November

1st – Teacher workday/ No school for students



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Celebrating our Students!

Mrs. Hocking's 5th grade class started their AeroGarden with Miss Kia! They will be growing Genovese Basil, Curly Parsley, Dill, Mint, Thyme, and Thai Basil.

They will be using indoor gardening to follow the growth of plants from seed to maturity, observe how leaves and roots grow and make connections between people and plants, and explore our food chain. Students will keep a diary of plant growth and make notes on their observations as the plants mature. The students will be learning about what plants need to survive, how the plant gets what it needs, and the different parts of a plant. They will work together to measure growth, such as plant height, root length and leaf size. They will learn about the water used by plants for growth, will keep a log of how much water (in weight) is being added to the AeroGarden, and compare that to the weight of the plant when you harvest. They will also explore the root systems of plants and collect qualitative and quantitative data.

AeroGarden with Miss Kia!



Continued on next page...

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*Limited time offers. Must mention school name to receive promotions.
Not valid in combination with any other offers.*

Celebrating our Students, continued...

RRE's 5th grade students have the honor and responsibility of flag duty this year, and on August 27th, Veteran parents of some of our 5th graders came to Rock Ridge to convey their passion for our flag, share information with them about their service, and show them how to properly fold the American flag. Thank you to all of our Veterans!!



Flag etiquette with 5th grade



Door GuardianTM MC MF

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Door Guardian



Door Guardian Inswing



Door Guardian Outswing



Patio Door Guardian

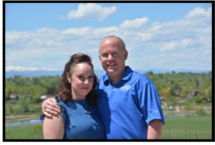
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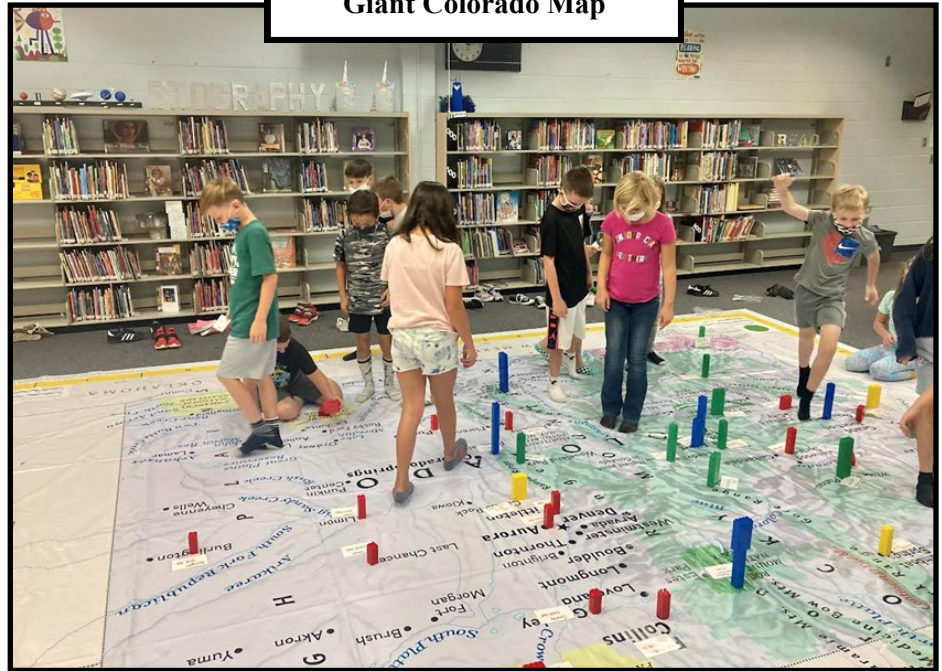
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Celebrating our Students, continued...

Students had the opportunity to explore Colorado in the comfort of the Learning Commons by working with grid coordinates, elevation, and a scavenger hunt.

Giant Colorado Map



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Rob Mangelson
(720) 878-4107

Rob@tscacolorado.com

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Reach parents in your local
community & a significant
portion of your investment goes
back to the school!

Want to sponsor this school?
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Rob@tscacolorado.com or
(720) 878-4107.

Important Notices

Breakfast

A gentle reminder that breakfast runs from 8:20 am till 8:35 am. Students may enter through the cafeteria doors at first bell. Please let Mrs. Mary Keefe (mckeefe@dcsdk12.org) know if you do NOT want your child(ren) to participate.

Car Loop (Kiss N'Go)

For the safety of our students, please do not have students exit vehicles before the Drop-Off Zone and only to the right (towards the sidewalk). Please stay in the single file lane until the vehicle in front of you proceeds forward. Moving out of the single file lane to go around vehicles creates a dangerous situation when children are crossing between cars. Our Kiss N'Go lane is also a fire lane so please do not park and leave your vehicles unattended at any time during the day for they may be ticketed. This applies to Preschool and Kinder pick up and drop off as well. Please use the church or our parking lot if you need to leave your vehicle. Per Douglas County Fire Code, we need to make sure the Fire Lane is clear in case of an emergency. We appreciate your understanding.

Dismissal

Students will be released at 3:30pm when the bell rings. We ask that if your child(ren) need to leave early, you have them picked up by 3:00 pm as the office gets very busy at the end of the day and classes are packing up. Please contact the school before 3pm if there is a change in pick up routine as we deliver notes to students at 3pm.

Texting in car loop

I probably do not need to really point out the obvious. However, if you are texting while driving through the car loop, it is possible to receive a wreckless driving charge from a police officer. We will be having a police officer on duty during car loop randomly during the school year to help remind parents of this safety issue.

Picking up your child early?

Please remember that the procedures that we have in place at RRE are designed to keep your children safe. We cannot call your children down to the office until you are physically present at the office to sign them out. This safeguard ensures that someone authorized is picking up your child and we have documentation of who and when he or she was picked up. **We ask that if your child(ren) need to leave early, you have them picked up by 3:00 pm as the office gets very busy at the end of the day and classes are packing up.** Thank you for your understanding of the safety procedures we have in place.

Checking into the Office

As a reminder, for the safety of our faculty and students, every parent or visitor must check into the office when entering the building. Parents are not allowed to go to classrooms unless they are volunteering or have been invited for a special event. Please do not enter through the side doors when school is in session. *Please make sure to bring your driver's license so you can be processed through our District Safety System. This process is repeated every year for every visitor.*

To enter, please press the buzzer on the right side of the front door and wait for the click. Open the door after you hear it. Then proceed to the front office prepared to show your driver's license. Everyone entering the building needs to have his or her license scanned into the Raptor system once every six months. On subsequent visits, we will enter your last name and print off a sticker badge. This is a district policy for the safety of our students and staff.

Bike to Work Day

DRCOG is sponsoring their annual Bike to Work Day event and the Town is participating! In recent years, Bike to Work Day fell on June 22nd. Due to Covid, it was postponed to Sept 22nd, 2021. We would like to invite all the schools to participate. We will have a bike station in downtown Castle Rock at Festival Park from 7 am to 9 am with free food, swag, and giveaways! I understand that probably only a few of the schools can actually participate since this station isn't convenient for many students. Let me know if you would like more information and please spread the word to your parent/student population.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,

Libby Nordeen, RSP1 I Traffic Engineering Analyst
Town of Castle Rock I Public Works Department
4175 N. Castleton Ct. I Castle Rock, CO 80109
Direct 720.733.2479 I Cell 720.793.1517



Specials Spotlight

Gym: 3rd-6th We are finishing up a disc golf unit and will begin fitness testing over the next couple of weeks.

K-2nd Will begin a tagging unit and learn about how to safely move in the gym in their own personal space.

*Climbing Club will begin on September 16th. Students must have a permission slip on file with Mr. Rasavage or Mr. Lentz prior to our first meeting. Information about the climbing club is on the table across from the office.

Spanish: Grades 3-6: Last cycle in Spanish we did a Spanish scavenger hunt to help students become familiar with and accustomed to using the many resources in the room that are an integral part of the curriculum. This cycle we're playing Spanish Math Bingo (or "Ognib," as I call it, just to keep it fresh), which is a great way to build number fluency in a fun and engaging way (and reinforce math skills while we're at it). Next cycle, we'll be talking about hobbies (what we like and don't like to do) using "gustar," which is a verb that provides lots of opportunity to build vocabulary. I will also include a song, "Corre, Corre Corazon" ("Run, Run Heart"), a popular cumbia (a Colombian music genre) that I use to introduce the verb *correr*, "to run," which seems appropriate in anticipation of the RRE Run immediately following the end of that cycle. Grades K-2: We will continue with our Rockalingua video selection, focusing on numbers, colors, and family members, along with "Los Pollitos Dicen," which I use to introduce the verb *decir* ("to say"). We are also playing a simplified form of Spanish Math Bingo.

Art: We have already begun making art for Original Works in class. For those of you not familiar with Original Works it is a fundraising program where students make artwork in class that can be put on a variety of different items. For example, your student's artwork can be put on a mug, magnet, calendar, and many more items! A portion of the proceeds goes towards the art department to buy more supplies.

In the past I have had students turn in their order form with artwork that was not sent home with the order form or made in class. I will ONLY be accepting orders for the art that was sent home in the Original Works packet. Your students' art and order form will be coming home in the next couple of weeks!

New Staff Member Spotlight

Hi! My name is Katie McChesney, and I'm very excited to be the new first grade teacher at Rock Ridge! I received my Early Childhood Education degree from the University of Colorado Colorado Springs in December 2020 after completing my student teaching at Rock Ridge. When I'm not teaching, I like to spend time with my family, go camping, surfing, and working on my '86 Chevy Silverado.

Welcome



Counselor's Corner

On Friday, Sept. 3 Rock Ridge Elementary participated in National College Colors Day.

This is a national event that schools use to raise awareness about post secondary school options. Staff and students were encouraged to wear a shirt/ colors from where they went to school, where they wish they went to school, where their child goes to school, etc. It is a fun day to raise awareness about all of the options near and far.

I encourage you to have some conversations at home with your child(ren) about what kind of careers they are interested in and start exploring what kinds of education and training different careers require. **Highlights for Kids- Jobs I can have when I grow up**

Important PTO Information

Our biggest fundraiser, the Rock Ridge Run, is coming up soon! This is our biggest fundraiser, with funds split between the school and the PTO operating budget. The Rock Ridge Run fundraiser will kick off on September 8. The Run will take place on September 17. Mark your calendars!

We currently have two open positions on our PTO Board: Vice President and Treasurer. Both positions would require 2-6 hours of your time a month, depending on the position and the month (and what events we are able to have). Please email rockridgepto@gmail.com for more information.

We are excited to continue our Spirit Rock program! Parents, students, and staff are invited to rent the rock to celebrate birthdays, acknowledge special occasions and accomplishments, or show school spirit. Please see our website for more information!

One of the easiest ways to help support the PTO is by signing up for the King Soopers Community Rewards Program. All you have to do is register your King Soopers card online at www.kingsoopers.com. Every time you shop, you support the PTO.



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B.A.S.E

Rock Ridge is proud to present the Rock Ridge Rockets Before and After School program (rocket B.A.S.E. for short). This program provides a fun and relaxing way for your students to start or end their day on site here at Rock Ridge Elementary. Your kids have the opportunity to play gym games, participate in crafts and learn in a safe, professional environment right here in their own elementary school. Hours of operation daily are 6:30-8:30am and 3:30-6:00pm. B.A.S.E. also provides full day care during breaks and school closures from 6:30am-6:00pm.

If you think you may need care for your children or have general questions please visit them at the Rock Ridge B.A.S.E. website or feel free to reach out to the program manager, Amanda Pierce.

Also... Our B.A.S.E. program is growing!! We are looking for enthusiastic, energetic people to join our team. This is a great position for a high school student, or someone just looking for a few hours per week (10-15). If you or someone you know is interested please reach out to:

Amanda Pierce
Rock Ridge BASE Manager
303-549-7283



Box Tops

We will not be conducting the Box Tops competition between classes this year, but WILL continue collecting Box Tops. Please remember to scan all of your receipts!

For more information about Box Tops for Education as well as instructions for downloading the app, go to:
<https://www.boxtops4education.com/>.

International Baccalaureate

Each month we focus on an IB Learner Profile and **Balanced** is our focus for the month of **September**.

Students who are balanced are healthy and are aware that eating properly and exercising is important in their lives. They understand that it is important to have a balance between the physical and mental aspects of their bodies. They spend time doing many different things.



How can parents help to develop students who are balanced at home?

- Encourage your child to participate in a wide variety of structured activities.
- During less structured time, also be aware of the activities that your child is participating in. Too much time in front of the computer or television is obviously not desirable, but all kids need to do a variety of things. Generally active kids should take time for quiet reading or reflection; students who spend a lot of time drawing or reading, should be encouraged to also exercise and play.
- Discuss the food groups with your child. Spend a few minutes during a mealtime deciding if what your family is eating is balanced.
- Model this attribute. Spend time as a parent or family doing many different activities.