



# ROCK RIDGE ELEMENTARY

# ROCK RIDGE REVIEW

400 Heritage Avenue, Castle Rock, CO 80104

MAY 2022

## Note from the Principal, Mr. Mosby

**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.*

Dear Rock Ridge Families,

Hello to nice weather! Finally, we have warmer spring weather with less wind and just in time for all of our outdoor activities that we have planned for the end of the year. If the weather holds, we will be having our field day on Friday, 20th and all parents are welcome to attend. If the weather looks poor, we have back up dates already in the Rock Ridge calendar and communications will be sent out as well if a change needs to occur.

I want to give a special shout out and recognition to one of our students, Tara English. One day, Tara observed that some of our special need students did not have the opportunity to enjoy the swings due to their physical limitations. Tara wrote me a letter sharing her observation as well as her concerns. In addition, she also shared a solution. Pictured here to the right is Tara and one of our students, Blake, enjoying the adaptive swing that Tara recommended we purchase so Blake and other students could enjoy the fun of a swing. THANK YOU, Tara, for bringing this need to my attention, and also including a solution, clearly demonstrating Action, an integral part of the PYP.



One more note. We have received a grant from the Playground Project to install even more adaptive playground equipment. The new adaptive equipment should be installed prior to the 2022-2023 school year.

We plan on hosting Kindergarten continuation and 6th grade continuation outside on the playground, similar to how we hosted them last year. Parents, friends, and extended family members are welcome to attend. Please bring your personal chairs and set up on the grass field for the ceremony.

Rock Ridge PTO hosted our annual chili cook off a few weeks ago and I was blessed to be one of the judges. There were some incredible chili recipes submitted with some fierce competition and after the dust settled the winner was Fanny Bugg. Congratulations to a well-earned title and thank you as well for donating your winning gift card from the PTO back to the school. We were able to give away your donation to a staff member during our teacher appreciation week along with approximately twenty more gift cards that were donated by the Rock Ridge PTO. Thank you everyone for your generosity towards our Rock Ridge staff. We are blessed to have such a wonderful and supportive community.

Continued on next page...

### Note from the Principal, Mr. Mosby, continued...

On Monday, May 23rd, we will be inviting Rock Ridge elementary alumni students who are graduating this year to return to Rock Ridge at 1:30pm for a flashback clap out. This will be a wonderful celebration to recognize our historical students who are moving on to their post-secondary adventures.

Thank you everyone again for all your support this year. It truly has been the most challenging year for many of our staff, including myself with twenty-five years in education. I am looking forward to a fresh start for 2022-2023 school year and look forward to seeing you all on our last day on May 25th and the first day of school next year.

Have a great day!

Sincerely,  
Peter Mosby, Principal

### Mark Your Calendar, Important Dates to Remember

#### May

17 – Donuts & Coffee with Mr. Mosby

19 – PTO Book Swap

25 (10:45am) – 6<sup>th</sup> grade Continuation

25 – Last Day of School



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## Celebrating our Students!

### RRE's community garden is back!

Thanks to Mr. Rasavage (5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and Green Team advisor) and the help of many, RRE's Garden is back!

Mr. Rasavage and Ms. Kai will be using the garden to teach their 5<sup>th</sup> graders in their "Sharing the Planet" unit. They hope to create an outdoor classroom and a community space for all to share as well as have an outstanding harvest!

Thank you to all those who are making this happen!



Continued on next page...

HELLO  
SUMMER

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## Celebrating our Students, continued...

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Exhibition

A big part of 6<sup>th</sup> grade's IB Planner "Who We Are" was Exhibition. Students watched several TED Talk videos and read articles on how young people can and have made a difference in their local community, nationally or globally. Then students thought about how *they* could do the same to make a positive change in the world. They brainstormed issues that are of interest or importance to them and then were placed into groups by similar topics of choice. They spent a few weeks working together to create a Central Idea and Lines of Inquiry, doing research and putting a plan into action. Students presented their Exhibition projects to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents. They did a wonderful job!



### R.E.A.D.

#### (Reading Education Assistance Dogs)

On Tuesdays our school has special visitors, Janice Perry and her labradoodle Ziva. Students have the opportunity to read books to Ziva for 15 minutes. The purpose of this program is to build students' confidence in reading.

RRE PTO PRESENTS



# BOOK SWAP

**Book Dropoff: M-W May 16-18**

**Book Swap: Thurs. May 19**

**WE ARE SO EXCITED TO BRING BACK  
OUR BOOK SWAP!**

## HOW IT WORKS:

1. DROP OFF YOUR GOOD-CONDITION USED BOOKS BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL MON-WED (8:20-8:30 AM/3:30-3:45 PM). ALL LEVELS OF BOOKS ARE ACCEPTED: CHILDREN'S, YA, ADULT, FICTION, NONFICTION.
2. FOR EACH BOOK YOU DROP OFF, YOU RECEIVE TWO TICKETS.
3. ON THURSDAY, JOIN US AFTER SCHOOL FROM 4-5:30 PM. EACH TICKET YOU RECEIVED FROM DONATING YOUR USED BOOKS GETS YOU A BOOK! WE WILL HAVE BOOKS ORGANIZED BY AGE TO MAKE IT EASY TO "SHOP".

## Coffee and Donuts with the Principal!

Our last "Coffee and Donuts with the Principal" for this school year is coming up on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:45-9:15am in the cafeteria.



Parents are welcome to join Mr. Mosby for coffee, donuts and socializing.

## Specials Spotlight

**Gym:** K-6th: Next week all grade levels will be practicing field day activities in PE, in preparation for our scheduled field day of May 20th. If parents have any questions, please refer to the email sent a few weeks ago from Coach Lentz.

**Music:** In Music Class, as the end of the school year approaches: 6th graders are working on a final Music research project of their choice, 5th grade is writing a composition on the guitar, 3rd and 4th are racing towards their class popsicle party by earning more last minute Recorder Karate belts. 2nd grade is getting an introduction to the ukulele, and Kindergarten - 1st grade are learning about the Carnival of The Animals.

I wish you all a fabulous summer filled with music and dancing!

## Counselor's Corner

As we start to think about our summer break, I want to provide you with some resources that may come in handy.

[The Child Mind Institute](#) has some great resources for both kids and parents. There are lessons, videos, and articles that are great for practicing skills and learning new ones.

[Local Mental Health Resources](#)- May is Mental Health Awareness Month. You never know when someone in your household may need additional support with a mental health issue. School Counselors are not available during the summer.

[Children's Health](#) has great summer safety reminders.

[Back to School Anxiety](#) information to keep in mind for August.

Have a wonderful and safe summer.  
See you in August!

Dawna McKnight  
RRE School Counselor

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

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

Want to sponsor this school? Please contact Rob Mangelson at [Rob@tscacolorado.com](mailto:Rob@tscacolorado.com) or (720) 878-4107.

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Rob Mangelson  
(720) 878-4107

[Rob@tscacolorado.com](mailto:Rob@tscacolorado.com)

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## Important Letter for Families with incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders



### COLORADO

Department of Public  
Health & Environment

To: Parents/Guardians of students enrolled in Colorado schools  
From: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Immunization Branch  
RE: Tdap vaccine required at 6-grade entry

January 20, 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In Colorado, students entering 6-grade are required to get the tetanus-diphtheria-pertussis (Tdap) vaccine before they start school. See [www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/schoolrequiredvaccines](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/schoolrequiredvaccines).

Tetanus is a rare, non-contagious disease that can cause painful muscle tightening and stiffness; people can get tetanus through a cut or wound. Diphtheria is a rare, contagious disease that can cause breathing problems, heart failure, and other serious issues. Pertussis, or whooping cough, is a very contagious disease that can cause severe coughing spells, difficulty breathing, and other serious issues, especially in infants, toddlers, and other people who have weakened immune systems. Adolescents who get pertussis can be sick for up to three months.

A Tdap dose administered at 10 years of age counts as the adolescent Tdap dose and meets Colorado's 6th grade Tdap requirement: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/dtap.html>

If your student does not receive Tdap vaccine and does not meet Colorado's 6<sup>th</sup> grade Tdap requirement, a Certificate of Medical Exemption or an annual Certificate of Nonmedical Exemption must be submitted to the school: [www.colorado.gov/vaccineexemption](http://www.colorado.gov/vaccineexemption). This will assure that your student is in compliance with the Colorado school immunization law and be allowed to attend school.

For questions or more information, contact [cdphe.dcdimmunization@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe.dcdimmunization@state.co.us).



## PTO Information

### Rock Ridge Run Sponsorship Program

We are looking for companies who would like to sponsor our upcoming September fundraiser, the Rock Ridge Run. This is our largest fundraiser of the year with the profits going toward technology for our school, the school library, as well as the operating budget for the PTO. The Rock Ridge PTO sponsors several Rock Ridge community events throughout the year as well as funds the Classroom Teacher fund, grant requests from the entire school, and community projects in the school. If your company would be interested in sponsoring our Run, please let us know by emailing [rockridgepto@gmail.com](mailto:rockridgepto@gmail.com)!

### School Supply Packs

Once again, Rock Ridge is partnering with a company to offer families the option to purchase school supply packs! It is extremely easy to order AND once you have ordered YOU ARE DONE -- no searching for items at all the stores in town. The school supply packs will be delivered to your child's classroom before school starts. The LAST DAY to order is May 30. Please watch your email for more information!

## 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 **Thinker** is our focus for the month of **May**.

- These students exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to make sound decisions and solve complex problems.
- Students who are thinkers work to solve problems. They can imagine many solutions to a question or challenge. Thinkers make good decisions and can predict the outcomes of their actions. They think creatively and critically.



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

- Encourage your child to try to think of solutions to problems independently.
- Pose different real-life problems and questions to your child:
  - "I'm not sure how to arrange the glasses so they can all fit in the cupboard."
  - "I wonder how much the groceries in the cart will cost... how can we make an estimate?"
  - "We need enough cookies for the 20 people in your class. What kind of changes should we make to our recipe?"
- Ask your children questions when they are working on a problem:
  - "Do you have any ideas about how we might begin?"
  - "How can we do this differently?"
  - "I had never thought of that. Tell me more about it."
  - "What other ways can we show that?"
  - "Why do you think that?"
  - "How did you figure that out?"

### [Thinker - Book List](#)

#### Thinker IB Resources and Books

"We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex [problems](#). We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions."

### [Thinkers Picture Books](#)

### [Thinkers Graphic Organizer](#)

enjoy  
**SUMMER**  
break