

## **DAC Schedule Posted**

The District Accountability Committee (DAC) is comprised of members with diverse perspectives who work together to advise the administration and Board of Education on key issues facing the district. Each summer, the district advertises for new members to join DAC for the following school year. DAC members include parents, business owners, and district employees. The DAC performs statutory requirements such as providing input on the budget and reviewing improvement plans for accreditation purposes. Two meetings have taken place so far this school year, and remaining DAC meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the District Office on the following dates: November 10, January 26, March 2, April 6.

## **District Communication Tools**

As a district, one of our continued priorities is engaging our community and improving communication. Last year, the District introduced ***Let's Talk!*** as an on-line communication tool, and its use to all schools has been expanded this year. This can be found on any page of our website. It offers the ability to have a comment, question, or concern documented and routed to the best person to provide a response in a timely manner. This doesn't replace in-person, phone call, or email communications but offers another avenue for effective communication.

Weld Re-3J is continuing to use SchoolMessenger for event notifications and as an emergency messaging system. SchoolMessenger is a school notification system that helps educational leaders send notices, weather advisories, emergency alerts, and other important parent communications via voice, text, or e-mail. Weld Re-3J intends to communicate essential information in the most informative and efficient ways. Emails and phone calls with valuable information will be sent to parents, and all emergency notifications will be sent via phone. Parents are advised to provide the accurate primary and secondary phone number information to the appropriate school office personnel.

## **District Transportation Services**

HELP WANTED!

School Bus Drivers still needed for the current school year. Please contact the Weld Re-3J Transportation Department at 303-536-2900 to inquire.

## **District Notifications**

### **Weld Re-3J Nondiscrimination Statement**

The Weld County School District Re-3J does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services in the educational programs or activities in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated your groups. A lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to participation and admission in any Weld County School District Re-3J program. Individuals in the following positions have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Director of Support Programs  
Weld County School District Re-3J  
99 West Broadway, Keenesburg, CO 80643  
Phone: 303-536-2000

Section 504 is part of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that guarantees specific rights in federally funded programs and activities to people who qualify as disabled. The Act defines a person with a disability as anyone who:

***Has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning or working.***

In order to fulfill its obligations under Section 504/ADA, the Weld County RE3J School District recognizes a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and children. No discrimination against any person with a disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices of the school district.

The school has specific responsibilities under the Act, which include the responsibility to identify, evaluate and, if the child is determined to be eligible under Section 504/ADA, to afford access to appropriate educational services.

For more information, or if you have questions or concerns about a current 504 plan contact Jenny Wakeman, the Section 504/ADA Coordinator for Weld County RE3J School District. Jenny can be reached at (303) 536-2002 or jennywakeman@re3j.com.

If a parent or guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school, they have the right to a hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

Under Section 504, a grievance may be filed with the School District or a complaint may be filed with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (OCR). OCR can be contacted by calling 303-844-5695.

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NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-1-124, C.R.S.  
(Information Concerning Sex Offenders)

You have the right (a) to be informed whether a specific named individual is listed in the central sex offender registry maintained by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI), and (b) to obtain the name, address, known aliases, photograph, history of sex offense convictions and other criminal convictions of all registered sex offenders who reside within the law enforcement jurisdiction of your residence. To obtain this information you may contact CBI at: **Colorado Bureau of Investigations**

**Program Support Unit/Sex Offender Unit 690 Kipling Street, Suite 4000  
Denver, CO 80215**

**Phone: 303-239-4222 Fax: 303-233-8336**

Some information is posted on the CBI website: <http://sor.state.co.us/>. This includes names, addresses, physical descriptions, and descriptions of offenses committed by "sexually violent predators," repeat sexual offenders, and persons required to register as sex offenders who have not registered.

Additionally, information may also be obtained from the Weld County Sheriff's Department, located at:

**Weld County Sheriff's Department**

**Weld County Law Enforcement Building**

**1950 O Street**

**Greeley, CO 80632**

The Weld County list of registered sex offenders is maintained by the Records Department. The telephone number is 970-350-9627(<http://maps.co.weld.co.us/>).

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### **22-33-104. Compulsory school attendance.**

Every child who has attained the age of six years on or before August 1 of each year and is under the age of seventeen years, except as provided by this section, shall attend public school for at least the following number of hours during each school year:

- (I) 1,056 hours if a secondary school pupil;
- (II) 968 if an elementary school pupil in a grade other than kindergarten;
- (III) 900 hours if a full-day kindergarten pupil; or
- (IV) 450 hours if a half-day kindergarten pupil.

The major responsibility for regular attendance of students shall remain with the students and parents/guardians, and the school shall work cooperatively with the parent/guardians in achieving proper attendance.

If you have questions or concerns regarding attendance or truancy for your child, please contact your building principal or Director of Support Programs, Jenny Wakeman, at (303) 536-2002.

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### **Preschool**

We have preschool spots available for the 2016-2017 school year. Due to high enrollment numbers we have opened another round of preschool starting the week of October 25th at Hudson Academy. The class will take place Tuesday through Friday from 8:20a.m. to 11:20 a.m.

For families who have been placed on the waitlist, you can expect to hear from us soon with more detailed information.

If you have a child who turned four years old, on or before September 15, 2016, you may be eligible. All in-district and out-of-district preschoolers pay \$125 monthly for tuition. Tuition spots are filled on a first come, first served basis. Some children may qualify for free preschool through Colorado Preschool Program (CPP). However, those spots are limited and families must meet CPP qualifications.

Enrollment packets can be obtained at any of the elementary school locations. Completed enrollment packets should be sent to:

Jenny Wakeman  
Director of Support Programs  
99 W. Broadway Ave.  
Keenesburg, CO 80643

For more information, you can contact Jenny Wakeman at (303) 536-2002 or [jennywakeman@re3j.com](mailto:jennywakeman@re3j.com).

### **Lochbuie Lions: Creating Leaders and Learners for Life**

by Jennifer Forbes, Principal

Lochbuie Elementary School's mission statement is "Creating Leaders and Learners for Life". The staff and students take our mission statement very seriously. Our staff is always looking for ways to find the leader in all students. Staff also works daily to help students find the love of learning.

Every month, students (and a few adults) plan and lead an assembly to celebrate leadership and quarterly award assemblies acknowledge the hard work of our students. Our September assemblies highlighted the leadership skill of "Being Proactive." The students shared a video that highlighted the habit, one student gave a speech about being proactive and a group of students taught the rest of the students hand motions for the 7 Habits. During our October assembly, awards will be given for perfect attendance, Leader of the Quarter, and recognize all students who met their personal academic and behavior goals. These assemblies are a great way for all students to demonstrate and celebrate their leadership skills.

As we work on fostering the love of learning, each student has set personal academic and behavior goals. These goals are created at the beginning of each quarter and students track their progress in data notebooks. During goal setting meetings students learn how to set achievable goals and track their progress towards their goals. At the end of the quarter students celebrate the goals they met, reflect on ways to meet their goals next time and set new goals. This process helps all students own their learning.

The staff at Lochbuie Elementary School also knows how important it is to set and achieve goals. Each staff member has created an informational page to share their education and goals with other staff members and students. Our hope is to spark conversations with students about setting and achieving goals, college and outside school interests. These informational sheets are fun and informative!

Another way we "Create Leaders and Learners for Life" is with our mentor buddy program. Each primary class is paired with an intermediate classroom. The older students become the mentors for the younger students. The classes get together monthly to read, learn about the habits and they even talk about their academic and behavior goals together. The mentors look forward to helping the younger students and the mentees love knowing that their older friend will be coming to visit! This program helps create a sense of community and a love for our school.

Lochbuie Elementary School is also focusing on good attendance in school. Every day attendance leaders collect daily attendance. These leaders then calculate the percentage for the grade level. Each month the grade level that has the best attendance is treated to 10 extra minutes of recess. Good attendance will help to create students who value and love learning!



The Staff at Lochbuie Elementary School values the unique contribution of each and every student. We hope that by helping them to find their own leadership skills and their own love of learning we are helping them to become successful and happy adults!

Our Weekly  
Leading the



Attendance  
Students  
assembly

## **Hudson Academy**

by Greg Dent

Hudson Academy has started the 2016/17 year with many activities for students to participate during school and after school. At Hudson we believe that students who participate in activities during school, before school and after school develop time management skills, academic achievement, goal setting, self-esteem and civic responsibility.

## **Fuel Up to Play 60**

Hudson Academy of Arts and Sciences started participating in Fuel Up to Play 60 last year. Fuel Up to Play 60 is an in-school nutrition and physical activity program launched by the National Dairy Council and the NFL in collaboration with the USDA. This program encourages youth to eat healthy and be active for at least 60 minutes per day. Last year Hudson Academy received a grant that paid for new playground equipment, a field trip to a local dairy farm and smoothies using ingredients from dairy farms. This year Hudson Academy received two grants. One grant will purchase equipment for in-class movement brain breaks and healthy eating materials while the other grant will provide footballs and flags for Physical Education classes and recess. Two students, Arieana Todd and Dayrin Estrella, from Hudson Academy were accepted to attend the National Youth Summit at the Indianapolis Colts training facility. As Colorado youth leaders they were able to be on the field when the Denver Broncos played the Colts. As a touchdown school, Hudson ambassadors and advisors will be attending a conference at Sport Authority Field at Mile High Stadium in November.



### **Rebel Runners**

Rebel Runners is an RE3-J student and community walk/run program. Students participate in Rebel Runners before school and then join in community walk/run events where anyone is welcome to participate. We have about 75 students at Lochbuie Elementary and about 75 at Hudson Academy of Arts and Sciences who participate in the program before school. The students receive tokens to place on a key chain when they reach milestones. Students at Hudson Academy participate before school on Mondays and Fridays and Lochbuie Elementary students participate before school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's a great way to stay in shape while enjoying family, friends and co-workers. You can check us out on the Rebel Runner Facebook page for more information and updates. Anyone is welcome to participate with us!





### Art at Hudson

Hudson Academy students have been reaching out into the community to make a difference. Students had the opportunity to paint the town of Hudson's snowplows. All classes were invited out to create beautiful works of art that can be seen this year on the Hudson town trucks. The students enjoyed this project, however collaborating with one another forced many outside their comfort zones.

Our next community event is decorating the new town hall. This is an exciting project because many students will have the opportunity to decorate a tile to celebrate Hudson. These tiles will be put on permanent display. Hudson student's look forward to continuing their relationship and outreach projects with the town of Hudson.



## Hoff Elementary

by Ronda Soliz

We are excited to report that Hoff Elementary has had a successful start to the 2016-17 school year. Students and teachers have done an amazing job settling in and establishing strong relationships that focus on learning. We have a newly elected P.T.O that has been working hard to support the students and teachers and they've done an outstanding job. Our annual Fun-a-thon Fundraiser again exceeded expectations and a huge thank you goes out to the families and businesses that continue to support us.

Our academic performance continues to improve, with positive growth in our PARCC reading and math scores from 2015 to 2016. While we know there is more to be done, we are happy to see that we exceeded the district and state averages in almost all areas. The teachers continue to be committed to providing students with the tools they need to be successful in school and beyond. We have adopted new reading and math intervention programs that will target specific areas of need, while implementing a schedule that allows for instructional time to reteach or enrich.

The integration of technology is still a focus and we are excited to add the implementation of Ipads to our kindergarten and first graders for the purpose of enhancing their learning through various academic applications. Even our youngest students are developing those important 21<sup>st</sup> century skills they need for success.

The students at Hoff continue to be our biggest asset and we couldn't be happier with their leadership qualities. We recently held student council elections and were utterly impressed with all the commitment these students displayed. Their speeches and presentations were skilled, practiced and some of their best work. While the voting was tough, the results led to a very strong, passionate group of individuals to lead us in another successful school year. We are truly lucky to have such a special group of students and as a staff we are dedicated to their future.



2016-2017 Hoff Student Council Officers

Sydnee Klausner (President), Holly Cook (Vice President),  
Aubree Klausner (Secretary), Kierstin Wright (Treasurer),  
Alan Santana (Reporter)

## Weld Central Middle School

By Brian Mangold (Dean of Students)

# RISE

**Rise is our theme for Weld Central Middle School for the 2016-2017 school year!**

*(Recognize Individual Student Excellence)*

### Play 60

Fuel up to play 60 is an in school nutrition and physical activity program launched by the National Dairy Council and the National Football League. The Western Dairy Association and the Denver Broncos provide the program to us locally. Miles the Denver Broncos mascot came to visit our students at Weld Central Middle School to kick off this year's fuel up to play 60 program. The students had a great time playing games based on physical fitness and nutrition. We want to thank the dairy farm families of Colorado and the Western Dairy Association for bringing Miles out to us! Our student leaders lead many parts of the assembly and are gearing up to lead the physical activity "plays" as well as deliver breakfast and messages about healthy eating to classmates the rest of the school year.

Through the program, student leaders and the student body are encouraged to consume nutrient rich foods, achieve at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day, participate in a series of fuel up to play 60 challenges that motivate them to take action of their own health and provide an opportunity to implement long-term positive changes for themselves and their schools. Implementing healthy eating and physical activity initiatives have already started to spark a positive change in the school environment. At Weld Central Middle School fuel up to play 60 has helped us introduce breakfast in the classroom as well as physical activity in the classroom, and "walk to Mile High" as a school we walk on Thursday mornings in the gym, trying to get at least 50 miles (The distance from our school to Mile High) by the end of the school year. The idea is to give the opportunity of physical activity during the week and school day to all students, no matter if they have physical education class during the semester or not. Fuel up to play 60 is a fun program that makes school a healthier place.



## Science Fair

This year, WCMS will continue our participation in the Longs Peak Science and Engineering Fair! This wonderful science fair is hosted by UNC in Greeley and displays experiments created by over 300 students from the Weld, Larimer, and Jackson Counties. Students currently in grades 5 – 12 are welcome to participate. Students work with Ms. Swinden, the science fair sponsor at the middle school, to create an experiment plan and fill out the necessary paperwork. Then, the participant actually completes the experiment and records the results. The student creates a display explaining the experiment, results, and any other pertinent information. The entry fee is \$25 and the registration forms are due before Winter break starts on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. Please email or contact Ms. Swinden for more information!

## WEB

Weld Central Middle School is in its second year of WEB. WEB stands for *Where Everybody Belongs* and it's a program designed to support elementary students through the transition to middle school. Studies have found that 6<sup>th</sup> graders experience lower academic achievement and higher levels of social issues because the transition to middle school can be so scary and stressful. By implementing the WEB program, we aim to provide our 6<sup>th</sup> graders with an 8<sup>th</sup> grade WEB leader they can depend on for peer support throughout their first year of middle school. We use different check-ins throughout the year to strengthen the bond between the incoming students and their respective 8<sup>th</sup> grade leaders. These check-ins include social, academic, and friendly competitions. We completed our first social check-in during the first week of October. The WEB leaders joined their WEB groups at 6<sup>th</sup> grade lunch and were able to socialize together. The leaders created a list of questions to start conversations with their 6<sup>th</sup> grade partners and even came up with some great team names! We look forward to the coming weeks when we will plan our next event for WEB. The eighth graders are really enjoying the leadership role and helping fellow students navigate the tricky world of middle school.

## STARS

Valeria Ojeda and Coleten Forte, Weld Central Middle School sixth grade students, were selected by their sixth grade teachers for being outstanding STARS students to be the 2016 Weld Central High School Homecoming crown bearers.



## Spirit Week!!!

Student Council came up with SPIRIT WEEK to help promote unity with the high school as they celebrated homecoming week. Student Council came up with a theme for each day, where students were able to dress up and show their school spirit. On Friday there was an assembly and the students played some games where

they competed against other grade levels, and against their teachers. At the assembly Student Council recognized the most spirited Boy and Girl in EACH grade level.

Congrats to Student Council members for hosting a great week of school.



### **Weld Central High School Homecoming 2016**

by Scott Richardson, Athletic Director/Assistant Principal

Weld Central High School had a blast at our 2016 Homecoming. We had events all throughout the week and opportunities for students at all of our RE-3J campuses and community members to get involved. All of our fall sports were able to have a home game and you could feel the Rebel Spirit at all of them!

The Lady Rebels Softball Team hosted an alumni reunion on Tuesday, September 27 as they squared off in a double header against Alameda International High School. Past players and coaches were in attendance as the Lady Rebels marched on to victory!

The Lady Rebels Volleyball Team also had a home game on Tuesday, where they squared off against The Academy from Westminster. The Lady Rebels did not hold anything back and beat the Lady Wildcats in 3 sets. On Thursday, September 29, The Boys Soccer team squared off against Skyview for a league match-up. The boys played great despite losing to a ranked and league-leading Skyview team. We also saw the return of the WCHS bonfire! A big thank you to the FFA for hosting this event and setting it up for all of our student body and community to enjoy. The bonfire was held at the SEWC Fairgrounds in Keenesburg. We will be looking to continue this tradition in the years to come!

WCHS amped up the excitement on Friday, September 30 by having one of the best carnivals in recent memory, including having an obstacle course, water balloon launchers, volleyball, potato sack races, football toss with the US Army, picture booths, bean bag toss, and a ton of delicious food and beverages. We also opened up the carnival to the community before the football game for the first time in school history. The WCHS Booster Club hosted the third annual tailgate party where fans were able to fuel up with burgers and hot dogs and start the cheering on of the Rebel Football Team.

If you missed the homecoming game, you missed the event of the year! The Rebels charged to victory with a 28 – 21 win over the Valley Vikings in front of a crowd that had standing room only. We easily had the largest attendance of a school event in recent history and had to have many of the spectators line the curves of the track in order to view the game as the stands were at max capacity. As the American Legion Post 180 marched the flags out to the 50 yard line and members of the WCHS Choir sang the National Anthem, you could feel the excitement in the air and everyone could tell that this was going to be a special night! All throughout the night, the Southeast Weld Fire Protection District lit up the sky with fireworks to celebrate each of the touchdowns and festivities of the night. The homecoming court was escorted around the track and in front of the crowd on the back of Harley Davidson Motorcycles. Ian Defee and Lesli Calderon were selected as the 2016 Homecoming King and Queen as the crowd went nuts! Shortly after, the band played and closed out the halftime ceremonies. To conclude the game, an array of fireworks was released to cap off the excitement of a phenomenal homecoming week!



### **A Great Start at CCA with Unique Learning Opportunities**

by April Dowdy

The 2016-2017 school year marks the 17<sup>th</sup> year that Cardinal Community Academy (CCA) has been educating students. Located on the east side of the Re-3J District, the community is a small, yet dedicated group of families and educators who have been committed to providing a quality education to students in grades K-8. Despite changes in education standards and policies, CCA continues to provide a well-rounded education by using the Core Knowledge Sequence to ensure students are exposed to rich and interesting content in science, social studies, literature, math, music and art.

The PTO at Cardinal Community Academy has been invaluable in supporting the education of students by providing a variety of educational experiences through guest speakers and field trips. At the end of August, students were not just entertained, but motivated and challenged by author and world-traveler, Dean Jacobs. Dean not only captivated the students with his amazing photographs of traveling adventures, but challenged the students to set their own goals high and reiterated the importance of education in order to achieve those goals. Dean also met with groups of students to conduct writing workshops, and by sharing much of his own writing, emphasized the power of writing to communicate and help achieve their goals.



Classes at CCA have already had the opportunity to continue their learning outside of the classroom, too. In September, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes traveled to Centennial Village in Greeley to learn about Colorado history through hands-on experiences. The kindergarten continued their learning of agriculture and food by visiting a local company, Air Dusters, and then Miller Farms to pick their own crops.



3<sup>rd</sup> Grade students learn what it's like to be a student during the early 1900's.



Kindergarten students at Air Dusters in Roggen.

The middle school students look forward to extended trips in each of their years at CCA. At the beginning of each September, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade class takes a 3-day tent camping trip to the Great Sand Dunes in Mosca, Colorado. In addition to the amazing sites at the Dunes, the students further explore examples of erosion and deposition from their science studies at Dinosaur Ridge and take an amazing hike to Zapata Falls, a fantastic hidden waterfall near the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Although unrelated to their study of earth formations, there is still much to learn at the Colorado Gators Reptile Park in Alamosa. Despite three days without showers and full of sand, the students this year were still excited to continue their trip and ended the adventure with a tour of Cave of the Winds in Manitou Springs.



7<sup>th</sup> Grade students set up camp and explore the dunes at the Great Sand Dunes.



Obviously, learning cannot always take place outside of the classroom, and fortunately educators can now use technology to engage and help students learn content in various ways. New to CCA this year is the use of the Discovery Education platform for science education within the middle school classes. Students and teachers have access to resources on a myriad of topics, ranging from science techbooks, video demonstrations, assessments and even professional development for teachers. Though not intended to replace the hands-on opportunities for learning

through labs and other demonstrations, Discovery Education has certainly increased the opportunities and depth of learning in each classroom.

We look forward to seeing our students' grow this year with a balance of class time, hands-on experiences through field trips and technology.