



**The Legacy. The Passion. The Opportunity.**  
EDUCATING AND MOTIVATING LIFE-LONG LEARNERS  
WHO EXPLORE, CREATE AND ACHIEVE

## November Newsletter

### November Important Dates:

<b>November 1</b>	DPS Dress Code Day for students with at least 95% attendance
<b>November 1</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent & Student Meeting 6-7:30pm in Auditorium
<b>November 2</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Career Fair – off campus from 12 – 2pm
<b>November 3</b>	October Good Standing Celebration Parenting Partners Session V 6-8pm in Library (childcare available)
<b>November 4</b>	<b>NO SCHOOL</b>
<b>November 7</b>	CSC – 5:00pm
<b>November 9</b>	Washington D.C. Trip Info meeting 7pm Skinner Library
<b>November 10</b>	Book Fair OPENS in Skinner’s Library
<b>November 11</b>	Parenting Partners Session VI 6-8pm in Library (childcare available)
<b>November 12</b>	Saturday School 8:30am – 11:30am Volleyball Breakfast Fundraiser 8 am – 10:30 am
<b>November 14-18</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mid-Year Conferences
<b>November 16</b>	Pizzeria Locale Fundraiser – 11 am – 10 pm, 32 <sup>nd</sup> and Lowell
<b>November 17</b>	Parenting Partners Session VII- 6-8pm in Library (childcare available)
<b>November 21-25</b>	Thanksgiving Break

### Principal Updates

Skinner Families,

This past Tuesday I had the opportunity to meet with 18 of our families during our PTO meeting. We celebrated the fundraising efforts that recently brought in over \$17,000 for our school, as well as talked about future fundraising efforts. I open this newsletter with talking about fundraising because this past October Count resulted in a reduction of families who meet the Federal guideline qualifying for free or reduced lunch, which impacts Skinner qualifying as a Title I school. The new status and impact on our school budget will start next school year. PTO fundraising is looking to support some of the impact we will see to our school budget next school year.

Additionally, during the PTO meeting we discussed the change to our School Performance Rating (the state and district report card for Skinner) from Green to Yellow. We maintained our green rating for five years after being a yellow and an orange rated school. At close inspection families will see that we missed the Green rating by only .13%! Nonetheless, we are already planning and looking forward to regaining our Green status which more accurately reflects the hard work and tireless efforts of our Skinner staff, students, and families.

Please join us at the next CSC meeting on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 5pm in the Skinner Library to hear more about the Skinner SPF and the areas we can celebrate, and areas we will work to grow to ensure that all of our students achieve at high levels and are college and career ready.

Sincerely,  
~Michelle Koyama

## Athletics Information

Currently, we are in our Late Fall season, hosting co-ed Flag Football and Girls Volleyball.

Sports coming up: Boys Basketball (winter) Girls Basketball (winter) Co-ed Floor Hockey (early spring) Girls Soccer (spring) Boys Baseball (spring)

### As a reminder, here is what students need to participate in athletics:

1. An up-to-date sports physical (are valid for one calendar year)
2. Completed Parent Permission/Emergency Contact Information form (can be picked up and handed in to the main office at Skinner)
3. \$25 pay-to-play participation fee (per sport)

### Athletics Eligibility:

Eligibility is based on classwork and homework completion and is determined week to week. If students are missing classwork and/or homework, they are required to complete it in order to participate in athletic games (eligibility does not affect ability to practice with the team). In addition, if a student receives a behavior referral, they will be deemed ineligible for the following week's game, and may face termination for a spot on the team.

**Questions: Please contact Jessica Piwko, Athletic Director, @ [Jessica\\_piwko@dpsk12.org](mailto:Jessica_piwko@dpsk12.org)**

## Huevos Rancheros Breakfast Skinner Middle School Volleyball Fundraiser

Saturday, Nov. 12th

8:00 am - 10:30 am

Skinner Middle School  
Cafeteria

\$5.00 per person

\$3.00 - children 6 and under.

Tickets available at the door.

*All proceeds go to the  
2016/2017 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
volleyball team*



## Winter is Right Around the Corner

DPS is committed to informing families about school closures or delays as early as possible – with the goal to make the call by 5 a.m. The following are school closure or delay procedures due to inclement weather:

### School Closings:

The decision to keep schools open or to close them during winter weather is made with one overriding factor in mind: the well-being of DPS students and employees. Schools are not only vital places of learning for students, but they also provide nutrition, health care, counseling and essential support services. Whenever possible, DPS strives to keep schools open. If schools are closed, all school-related activities that day – athletics, performances – are also canceled unless otherwise noted.

### Weather Delay Schedule

The purpose of the Weather Delay Schedule is to provide school buses additional time to pick up students and to reduce student's wait time at bus stops. **Skinner will start school on time, and is not affected by this schedule.**

DPS encourages families to stay informed during inclement weather via the following channels:

**DPS social media** - Announcements to close or delay school will quickly be posted to [Facebook @DenverPublicSchools](#) and [Twitter @DPSNewsNow](#).

**District closure/delay hotline** - A message announcing the closure or delay will be left on the school district's closure hotline at 720-423-3200, as well on the DPS Transportation Services hotline at 720-423-4600.

**Automated calls and emails** - Families who provide phone numbers or email addresses to schools will receive a phone call and/or an email announcing any closure or delay due to inclement weather. Please ensure your information is updated by logging into your DPS Parent Portal account at [myportal.dpsk12.org](http://myportal.dpsk12.org), or by contacting your school's main office.

**Bus Bulletin** - Unveiled last year, Bus Bulletin is DPS Transportation Services' real-time notification system that alerts parents of students riding the school bus of any emergency or delay of more than 15 minutes. Notifications are sent via text message, voice notification and/or email. Parents log in to Bus Bulletin via the DPS Parent Portal to verify or update their information. Parents with questions about this service should contact their school or Transportation at [transportation@dpsk12.org](mailto:transportation@dpsk12.org) or 720-423-4600.



One of the best ways to ensure academic success for your child is to ensure they get extra academic support when needed and get involved in after-school activities. To register your student for tutoring or other extra-curricular activities, please call the Neighborhood Center at Skinner Middle School at 720-424-1435, or stop by between the hours of 10am to 6pm. Don't miss out! Tuition based after school care is available starting the first day of school.

**Register your student with the Neighborhood Center today!**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
Aced It! Tutoring (3:00-5:00)	Aced It! Tutoring (3:00-5:00)	Aced It! Tutoring (3:00-5:00)	Aced It! Tutoring (3:00-5:00)	Aced It! Tutoring
NC Productions	STEM Scouts	Silk Screening	Yarn Art	Community
BEST Robotics	Printing	Cooking	Color Guard	Connects (3:00-5:00)
Color Guard (3:30-5:00)	Rec. Sports (3:30-5:00)	Rec. Sports (3:30-5:00)	Science Magic (3:30-5:00)	Rec Zone (3:30-5:00)
After Hours (5:00-6:00)	After Hours (5:00-6:00)	After Hours (5:00-6:00)	After Hours (5:00-6:00)	

If you have any more questions please contact us at 720-424-1435 or 720-424-1472.

## Parenting Partners

Elvia Lubin, Parent Liaison & Joe Waldon, School Social Worker are pleased to present this 7-week education program to help our parents navigate the journey of raising their children and increase their child's social emotional well-being. It is ideal to attend every session as the information and discussions build on one another. If you haven't been able to attend yet, you are still welcome. All meetings are held in the library at Skinner Middle School.

Childcare and light snacks are provided. Please Join us!

**Sessions begin at 6:00 p.m. and go to 8:00 p.m.**

### Future Sessions:

**Session #5:** Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 6:00pm-8:00pm

**Session #6:** Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-8:00pm

**Session # 7:** Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00 pm

Contact Elvia Lubin for more information and topic listings (720.424.1473) or [elvia\\_lubin@dpsk12.org](mailto:elvia_lubin@dpsk12.org).

## 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Families

Our next trip to Washington D.C., Gettysburg, and Philadelphia will occur in June of 2018!

In order to prepare for this every-other-year trip for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, we will hold an **informational meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Skinner LMC.**

We look forward to seeing you on the 9<sup>th</sup> of November where you'll learn more about this amazing and valuable opportunity where we visit the nation's capital city; the historic battlefield in Gettysburg; and the birthplace of our nation in Philadelphia.

Sincerely,  
Craig Dehning  
Washington D.C. trip sponsor

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Families

**Meeting - Tuesday, November 1 at 6:00 pm**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Scholars will be engaging in a one-on-one conference with administration in the upcoming weeks to conference about being on track for Continuation to High School. Come learn more about these conferences, what we are doing to prepare our scholars to be college ready, and come hear from high schools. The Skinner portion of the meeting will take place from 6:00 – 6:45 and then high schools will present for 5 minutes each until 7:15. At 7:15 representatives from the high schools will be available at designated tables to answer questions for families until 8pm.

**DPS Middle & High School Expo on Nov. 9th**

Taking place from 6pm-8pm at Sports Authority Field, the Expo is a great opportunity to learn more about your high school options and speak with representatives from all of the Denver Public high schools.

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

If your student has not already had the Tdap immunization, please make sure to schedule an appointment. Should you need financial assistance in getting this done, you can contact the School Based Health Center at Lake. The address is 1820 Lowell and their phone number is 720-424-0281. This clinic is available to ALL DPS students free of charge, so don't be afraid to utilize this great resource! Please leave updated immunizations in the office.

**Thank you for  
Supporting  
Skinner!**



**Don't forget to  
submit your  
BoxTops to the  
main office**

**Skinner Fundraiser**

Wednesday, Nov. 16 from  
11 am – 10 pm is Skinner  
Day at Pizzeria Locale -  
3484 W 32nd Ave at  
Lowell Blvd. Stop in for a  
delicious pizza, mention  
"Skinner" at check-out  
and 50% of your bill will  
be donated to our school!  
Thank you!!!

## Crossing Guards Needed

If you can support our safety efforts by volunteering from 7:10 – 7:40am or 2:40 – 3:10pm as a crossing guard, please contact Esmeralda Chavira at 720-424-140. Thank you for considering!  
**THANK YOU** to our current volunteers for helping to keep our students safe!