

January / February Newsletter

January Important Dates:

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| January 8 | Students Return Back To School |
| January 8 - February 9 th | ACCESS Testing |
| January 9 | DPS Dress Code Day for students with at least 95% attendance |
| January 15 | No School - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday |
| January 19 | Bingo Night Fundraiser: 6:30 - 11:00 pm, Elks Lodge - 2475 W. 26 th Avenue |
| January 20 | District Science Fair |
| | Citywide Honor Band Performance @ Manual High School |
| January 22 | CSC: 4:30 - 5:30pm in Sinner's Library |
| January 27 | Saturday School: 8:30 - 11:30am |

February Important Dates:

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| February 2 | NO SCHOOL |
| February 6 | PTO: 6pm in Skinner's Library |
| February 10 | Citywide Honor Orchestra Performance @ South High School |
| February 19 & 20 | NO SCHOOL - President's Day & DPS No School Day |
| February 26 | CSC: 4:30 - 5:30pm in Sinner's Library |
| February 27 | Skinner Cares Day |

Collaborative School Committee (CSC) Update

You may or may not be aware that this year, Skinner Middle School is no longer a Title I school. Whereas all we love about Skinner doesn't change, the loss in Title I funding impacts the amount of Federal dollars Skinner receives, and we need to help minimize the impact to our school budget. If you are new to Skinner this year, you may be wondering, "How can I help, or what can I do?" There are three main ways you can help YOUR neighborhood middle school.

1. **Volunteer** at Skinner events and help out at the school- if you need to be added to the email list for volunteering contact--- Skinnervolunteers@gmail.com
2. **Attend Special Events** that benefit Skinner Middle School- dine out nights, and especially our Bingo Night coming up on January 19th
3. **Donate** to our Annual Giving Campaign - make a financial donation to Skinner directly, a one time, or monthly contribution, \$75 per year per student will help bridge this gap

Your CSC (Collaborative School Committee) and PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) are working hard for all Skinner students to keep Skinner the middle school we LOVE.

WHAT YOU CAN DO THIS MONTH

Watch the Skinner Fundraising video: <https://vimeo.com/247848519/92a75d62bf>

Share it on social media!

Bingo Night: come, bring a friend, buy a teacher a ticket for this fun night.

Donate directly: any gift helps

Email to find a **volunteer** assignment: skinnervolunteers@gmail.com



Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students and families for having strong grades for the first semester of school:

Gold Honor Roll

(4.0)

8th Graders: K. Adams; P. Ahern; B. Araujo; L. Ballinger; A. Berg; M. Berg; N. Besoushko; L. Caldwell; J. Crocker; E. Curtis-Revelle; Z. Daur; J. DeCamillis; L. Earley; Q. Fentress; E. Fisher; S. Girten; E. Gonzalez; N. Graves; J. Gregg; L. Lemme; S. Mast; T. McManus; E. Meeks; M. Menke; S. Messer; A. Miller; E. Phillips; J. Proctor; Z. Proctor; L. Reyland-Slawson; C. Ruderman-Pratt; S. Scholl; G. Shary; M. Sifuentes; O. Talle; C. Torrez; B. Wilson; A. Youngstrom; R. Zizmor

7th Graders: V. Arnold; C. Darlington; S. Dimaria; L. Dino; G. Earley; K. Foth; C. Goldman; L. Grasso-Rudawsky; S. Groner; M. Hensel; G. Isom; B. Kammerer; S. Kasnoff; W. Kazenske; Q. Kennedy; S. Klein; S. Leff; G. Lubbert; F. McCrary; M. McDermott; T. Nguyen; S. Probst; M. Ramirez; A. Richardson; F. Ripley; I. Rodriguez; P. Schmidt; R. Seagle; B. Shively; N. Smith; E. Wagner

6th Graders: R. Auvigne; O. Brunke; P. Bungum; M. Burkholder; H. Clark; T. Combs; A. Curtis-Revelle; E. Daur; T. Dewhurst; H. Dolegowski; L. Echevarria; D. Fitzgerald; P. Fowler; A. Gentry; Z. Gerbig; H. Goldberg; E. Hammermeister-Suger; D. Holtzinger; P. Jahn; Z. Kargas; H. Lane; F. Marshall; O. Ortiz; A. Pratt; M. Reidy; R. Ripley; R. Rodriguez; D. Seagle; F. Talle; R. Taylor; M. Williams; J. Wilson

Green Honor Roll

(3.0+)

8th Graders: N. Aden; Y. Aden; D. Alvarez; A. Avila; S. Ballez; M. Banuelos; E. Baxter; J. Baylon; E. Beaton; M. Bonilla; J. Brambila; R. Brask-Thrasher; A. Burlison; A. Bustamante; C. Cabazos; E. Cervantes; O. Ciel-Tilton; E. Clark; P. Davis; A. Dewhurst; J. Enriquez; R. Even; C. Fagan; L. Fleener; E. Gage; P. Gerbig; C. Guigon; E. Guyer; S. Hanks; C. Harding; S. Hernandez-Garcia; X. Hogeland-Ciccone; W. Holtzinger; C. Hunter-Crump; O. Jensen; J. Karsian; Z. Kerr; M. Kirk; B. Lane; R. Luna-Meraz; J. Martel; R. Martinez; S. Maziarz; D. McDaniel; D. McLeain; J. Medina; A. Mejia; E. Miller; I. Milnes; N. Mosley; K. Moya; C. North; J. Proctor; E. Quinones; A. Rivera; D. Rivera; A. Robinson; A. Rodriguez; J. Romero; K. Sanchez; A. Schrant; R. Stehle; A. Stone; G. Sturgis; S. Thomson; E. Trujillo; M. Valenzuela; A. Vega; D. Vialpando; C. Vigil; I. Vigil-Alvarez; M. Windyboy-Ortiz

7th Graders: K. Abeyta; J. Anderson; K. Apodaca; S. Archuleta; I. Arebalo; A. Barragan; A. Becerra; A. Bloise; H. Bossard; Z. Buck; M. Bungum; A. Burcham; J. Burt; A. Campo; E. Carrasco; W. Cornish; A. Delgado; G. DeSantiago; S. Diaz; S. Estrada; S. Fuentes; A. Gallardo; A. Garcia; A. Garcia; J. Gassen; C. Gomez; S. Gomez; C. Greening-Monihan; S. Groethe; A. Heine; J. Holtz; N. Howard; A. Huber-Ballou; E. Huerta-Amparan; R. Irizarry; I. Johnson; Z. Johnson; K. Konold; B. Kozlowski; E. LaBelle; G. Leafgreen; A. Lopez; A. Lopez-Saavedra; A. Luna; C. MacKenzie; A. Madrid; E. Martinez; J. Martinez; C. Martinez; N. Martinez; C. Mayhew; J. McCabe; G. Melone; A. Montoya; M. Murillo; A. Nguyen; J. Payne; E. Phelps; R. Ramirez; B. Rangel-Valdivia; L. Rice; A. Sandoval-Encinas; L. Scholl; R. Segovia; S. Seymour; L. Standlee; J. Stone; J. Torres; S. Vazquez; A. Veloz; E. Wartell; A. Waterman; J. Wentland; V. Wolf

6th Graders: A. Adams; F. Aden; A. Aguilar; B. Aubuchon; L. Bateman; M. Baxter; I. Baylon; M. Baylon; T. Bell; C. Blair; J. Blalock; K. Brambila; I. Bredice; C. Brown; X. Cardenas; C. Carter; D. Casias; C. Cervantes-Dunn; Z. Cisney; A. Conrado; T. Crosier; S. D'Agosta; F. Dardano; L. Fisher; M. Fitzsimmons; A. Fresquez; J. Gage; A. Garcia; M. Glazer; V. Gonzalez; J. Gordon; G. Gutierrez; A. Guzdar; E. Homer; M. Hopper; J. Juarez; B. Kammerer; V. Kham; L. Kimrey; I. Klute; L. Koehler; G. Koehler; E. Komhyr; G. Kuykendall; H. Lane; N. Lang; A. Larson; X. Lewis; M. Martinez; M. Martinez; F. McCrary; A. McIntyre; A. Medina; A. Messer; A. Miller; J. Mondragon-McCune; L. Montoya; M. Montoya; S. Mosley; O. Munoz-Dominguez; A. Nacht; X. Najar; A. Oliver; G. O'Rourke; M. Padilla; K. Patino; A. Payne; V. Perez; R. Perez; E. Perez-Aguilar; K. Pineda; L. Poast-Soler; M. Reyes; A. Rodriguez; K. Rodriguez; L. Rojas-Mora; E. Romero; I. Romero; D. Sanchez-Pantoja; D. Schrant; E. Schwartz; I. Schweitzer; J. Scott; S. Shelffo; A. Shiramizu; S. Smith; J. Stirling; V. Strickland; N. Thomas; G. Trujillo; J. Trujillo; K. Tucker; J. Valdez; T. Workcuff

Congratulations Science Fair Winners!

Our school science fair was a success! Students learned about the scientific inquiry process, learned about themselves as scholars and what to do under pressure of presenting to a judge. The following students were the top projects in each grade level. Thank you for your involvement and participation in Science Fair Family Night to help prepare the students for science fair day.

These top projects will now prepare for the District Science Fair taking place on **January 20th at The University of Denver.**

6th Grade Winners

1st: Kobe Brambilla
2nd: Polly Bungum
& Reese Ripley
3rd: Olivia Ortiz

7th Grade Winners

1st: Lia Dino
2nd: Kylie Abeyta
& Skyler Kasnoff
3rd: Coco Goldman

8th Grade Winners

1st: Juno Gregg
2nd: Sophie Scholl
3rd: Charlie Ruderman-Pratt

6th Grade Honorable Mentions:

Magdalena Burkholder, Reyna Sandoval/Ellary Hammermeister-Suger, Maeve Reidy, Phoebe Fowler, Thomas Combs, Elsa Homer, Helen Goldberg
GRIT Award: Valerie Perez, Gabriel Guttierrez, Ozmar Munoz, Liliana Echeverra
CREATIVITY Award: Magdalena Burkholder

7th Grade Honorable Mentions:

Lily Grasso Rudawsky, Wylie Cornish/Nate Howard, Sophie Seymour, Preston Schmidt/Veronica Wolf, Alex Richardson / Maxwell Bungum, Thu Nguyen
GRIT Award: Gabriella Isom
CREATIVITY Award: Justin Burt

8th Grade Honorable Mentions:

Madison Manke Rachel Zizmor Sophia Cirten Kate Adams Olivia Talle Egan Fisher Declan McDaniel

Best of Luck to our Mathletics Participants!

Mathletics is a DPS sponsored math competition for middle school students designed to expand knowledge in mathematical reasoning skills while engaging in friendly competition. Scholars compete in both individual and team rounds. Skinner will send one 6th grade team and two 7th/8th grade teams. They will compete on the following days:

DPS District Mathletics Competition

5th/6th Grade: Tuesday, January 16th, 2018

7th/8th Grade: Wednesday, January 17th, 2018

Lowry Conference Center

9:15 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Thank you to Mrs. Laura Curtis, who is the teacher sponsor for Mathletics, and thank you Valerie Davis, our GT Itinerant teacher for assisting with academic opportunities such as Mathletics for our scholars!

Congratulations to Skinner's Spelling Bee Participants!

Skinner hosted the DPS regional Bee on December 7. The competing scholars were Justin Burt, Skylar Kasnoff, Cassidy Mayhew, Joshua McCabe, Aaron Miller, and Emiliano Perez-Aguilar.

Congratulations to Josh McCabe for being the top Skinner speller finishing in 6th place overall. Justin Burt was our second place Skinner speller. It takes a lot of courage to stand in front of peers and adults and spell challenging words. Congratulations to all the Skinner students who participated.

Congratulations City Wide Honor Band & Orchestra Musicians!

Congratulations to the following students who auditioned and were selected to participate in the DPS Citywide Honor Band & Orchestra. The **Citywide Honor Band Performance** will be held at Manual High School on January 20th at 3:00 pm. The **Citywide Honor Orchestra Performance** will be held at South High School on February 10th at 3:00 pm.

Orchestra

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jasmine Brambila | Anya Nacht |
| Lucy Caldwell | Alex Stone |
| Tyler Cannon | Ellary Hammermeister -Suger |
| Charlotte Cervantes-Dunn | Olivia Talle |
| Melissa Charles | Ciriah Torrez |
| Sofia Estrada | Alana Waterman |

Intermediate Band

Coen North,
Cierra Cabazos
Ellen Clark
Jonathan Stone
Larken Ballinger
Hawke Phelps

Advanced Band

Luke Fleener
Ada Youngstrom

January & February Athletic Information

Boys/Girls Basketball Schedule

(Boys play at 4:00 pm and Girls play at 5:00 pm)

1/12 – Morrey @ Skinner
1/17 – Lake @ Skinner
1/22 – Skinner @ Moore
1/23 – B. Webster @ Skinner
1/30 – Skinner @ Lake
1/31 – Moore @ Skinner

Sports coming up:

- 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 from the team.

Questions: Please contact Robert Kelly, Athletic Director, @ robert_kelly@dpsk12.org

News from Skinner's Library



Skinner BEYOND Days are open to ALL Skinner Scholars! All one needs to do to participate is stop by the library and sign-up! Here are our upcoming events for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year:

- **January 30th – Harry Potter Day**
- **March 20th – Good Mythical Morning Day**
- **April 17th – Steampunk Day**
- **May 15th – Medieval Times Day**



Skinner VOICE is back again!!! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, February 27th to come and support our Skinner Scholars as they showcase their voices in the annual Skinner VOICE!



The **Scorpion Guild**, Skinner's parent/student book club, is scheduled to meet in the library from 4:30-5:15 on January 12th. We'll share our thoughts about Sharon Cameron's novel *The Forgetting* and choose our next book! We hope you and your student will join us on the 12th of January!



One of the best ways to ensure academic success for your child is to be sure they have access to engaging, interactive, and fun activities.

Register your student with the Neighborhood Center today!

<http://tinyurl.com/1NCregistration>

Current Neighborhood Center families please remember that second semester registration fee is due

January 19th.

Check us out on Facebook. Search: Neighborhood Center at Skinner.
Our weekly program schedule is always posted on the page.



Bingo Night

Mark your calendars for Friday, January 19, 2018!

Denver Elks Lodge #17, 2475 W. 26th Ave Denver 80211!

6:30pm-11pm (Adults only)

Come to the Elks Lodge for some old-school bingo, cocktails and fun!

Win big at \$1/sheet 50/50 bingo. All proceeds benefit SKINNER

We need YOU there! Tell your friends. Buy tickets through SkinnerBingo.com

Interested in helping your PTO? Call or email Nicole (720-273-4479 or nicole@cmbarch.com)

Attendance and Cold Weather Days

Thank you to each family who have stressed strong attendance habits with your Skinner Scholar. We appreciate your support of our attendance policies which includes TAP.

During these wintery days, and if it ever does snow this season, it is especially important that families plan ahead and wake up early to get to school on time. Excused absences are granted for serious medical reasons or legal obligations only (see policy signed during registration).

IF a LATE START Day is called by DPS, the late start applies to elementary schools only. We have a late start only to ensure the elementary students are not in the freezing cold waiting for delayed busses. The busses will arrive on time for our middle school students. Thank you.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE INFO

Here is our attendance data for the year. Thank you for supporting our 95% attendance rate goal. Students track their monthly attendance in their student agenda to monitor their personal goal. If your child's attendance is below 95% attendance, it is difficult for him/her to get the appropriate instruction necessary to be prepared for the next grade. Attending office hours is not the same as attending the lesson from the actual class. It is imperative that students come to school each day to ensure they are receiving the instruction teachers have planned.

| | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 6 | 97.4% | 96.2% | 95.4% | 94.2% | 93.4% |
| 7 | 97.2% | 94.6% | 93.9% | 92.5% | 91.5% |
| 8 | 98.2% | 95.5% | 94.1% | 94.0% | 94.0% |

Students who have 95% attendance or better and no more than two tardies to any class, earn a free dress day on a monthly basis.

It Pays to Come to School! 100% Attendance

Students who have 100% attendance (including being on time to class) will once again receive \$100 for being at school each day. Last year we had 37 students meet this goal. We hope to beat the number this school year, and so far we are on track!

6th Grade Families – Don't Forget

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 or North High School. These clinics are available to ALL DPS students free of charge, so don't be afraid to utilize this great resource! Please leave updated immunizations in the Skinner main office.



The leadership class would also like to thank all families for your incredible participation in the annual canned food drive.

In total, we collected almost 1,102 cans that have already been delivered to the Bienvenidos Food Bank, along with over \$488 that was donated to the Food Bank of the Rockies. The first place winning learning families by grade level were:

6th grade = Ms. Espe

7th Grade = Ms. Smith

8th grade = Ms. Clothier / Ms. Montoya

Well done everyone!

Talking with Your Child about Marijuana and Other Drugs

According to the 2015 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS), 46.3% of DPS high school students had ever used marijuana, and 15.2% of high school students had tried marijuana before age 13. These numbers can be eye opening for some parents and they certainly display the importance of talking with your child about your expectations for them when it comes to drug use.

As a parent, you are the most important person in your child's life. The more that you talk to your kids about not using marijuana or other drugs, the more you can influence and encourage them to make healthy choices that will help them to succeed in life. Based on data from HKCS, your opinion is extremely important; in fact, youth reported that they are three times less likely to binge drink if they know that a parent feels it is wrong.

Although it is important to talk to you child about tough subjects, sometime the task can seem a little daunting, and finding the right opportunity to approach the topic can be tough. One way to make the conversation a little less awkward is to start the conversation at an early age, and keep it an ongoing topic as your child grows. You can also use everyday situations to get the conversation started, for example if you watch a movie with your child that includes marijuana, you can ask you child what they think of the marijuana use.

Hard conversations with your child are easiest if the lines of communication are already open. Use time that you already spend with your child, such as the car, the dinner table or while you are shopping to talk to you kid. For more information on how to talk with your child, visit denverrap.org.

SAVE THE DATE:

February 6th PTO Meeting

How to Talk with your Child about Marijuana

6:00pm – 7:30pm in the Skinner Library

Leading this informational session is a team who works with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) on Marijuana Prevention Workshops for parents of DPS, APS and Englewood Schools.

The objective of this group is to provide parents with information and tools regarding how to talk to/with their kids about not using marijuana. The sessions will be conducted in Spanish & English and childcare will be provided. Some of the topics that the workshop covers are:

- Laws around Marijuana
- Different methods of Marijuana use
- Health effects on children and adults
- How to talk with your children about marijuana and prevent its consumption among youth

SEE YOU THERE!