



Skinner Middle School Newsletter

August - September 2013

*The legacy, the passion, the opportunity
Educating and motivating life-long learners who explore,
create and achieve.*

Welcome Back to School!

Ms. Koyama, Ms. Meier, and the Skinner Faculty would like to welcome you to the 2013-14 school year! We are excited to have just met our incoming 6th graders during 6th Grade Academy. This graduating Class of 2020 is the largest Skinner 6th grade in the past 7 years!

We are looking forward to seeing all of our amazing Skinner Scholars in a few short days! The Skinner Staff have been preparing all summer for another incredible school year.

Important information to note for this school year:

- **First Day of School:** 6th graders begin on **Monday, August 26th**.
New to Skinner 7th & 8th Orientation – Monday, August 26th
7th & 8th graders begin on **Tuesday, August 27th**
- **Breakfast:** Students can eat breakfast for free starting at 7:10 in the cafeteria. Please enter through the back west cafeteria door for the morning routine, otherwise students wait on the front lawn until the first bell rings at 7:25am.
- **Family Back to School Night BBQ:** Come meet the amazing Skinner faculty from 5:00 to 7:00pm on Wednesday, August 28th. Skinner will provide the paper products, hot dogs veggie burgers, hamburgers, and water bottles starting at 5:00pm. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. While families enjoy dinner and socializing, teachers will be available at designated tents, administration will be available for questions, and PTO will be available to sign up volunteers for the school year. Mark your calendar for this important time to get information about Skinner and your child's school year.

Upcoming Important Dates for August - September

Monday, August 26 th	First Day of Classes for 6 th grade & ORIENTATION for new to Skinner 7 th & 8 th graders
Tuesday, August 27 th	First Day of Classes for 7 th and 8 th grade
Tuesday, August 27 th	Summer Homework Due for 7 th and 8 th grade
Wednesday, August 28 th	Back to School Night Family BBQ 5:00pm – 7:00pm *Back (North) Field
Friday, August 30 th	August Celebration for students in “Good Standing”
Monday, September 2 nd	NO SCHOOL – Labor Day
Tuesday, September 10 th	PTO / Volunteer Kick-off Meeting
Monday, September 16 th	Picture Day
Friday, September 28 th	September Celebration for students in “Good Standing”

Picture Day



September 16th

Students are required to come to school in Skinner dress code for any picture day. Students are allowed to change his/her top layer right before picture time if a different shirt is desired for school pictures.

After School Options

All Skinner Scholars MAKE EVERY MINUTE COUNT! After school time is no exception. The school day ends at 2:45 and after school programming begins at 2:50 pm. Students should have a clear understanding with families about after school activities and rides. Students will not be allowed to linger in the halls or on the front lawn as there is no after school supervision unless a student is involved in an organized school activity.

Options for after school are:

- Register with the Neighborhood Center and take advantage of tutoring and extra-curricular activities
- Attend PIE with grade level teachers (more info about designated days to come at the BBQ on 8/28).
- Get involved with Skinner Athletics (information to come at the BBQ on 8/28).
- Walk home OR get picked up by 3pm

**Any student who remains on school property after 3pm will be placed into ASI, where a parent or guardian must sign him/her out



The Neighborhood Center is very excited to release its first logo, soon to take over North Denver!!! A special thanks to Sour Grapes for donating this amazing service, and Jennifer Gauerke for taking all the details and coming up with this perfect representation. She captured our personality and our strong ties to Skinner in an imaginative, original way. Also, thank you Rebecca Caldwell for all that you do to support the Neighborhood Center.

Get Your Student Involved in the Skinner Neighborhood Center

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 720-424-1475, or stop by between the hours of 10am to 6pm. Don't miss out!

Programming for 2013-14 will begin 9/9 for tutoring and 9/16 for all other programming.

Before and After School Student Pick-up/ Drop-off Reminders

As we begin a new school year, we would like to bring the safety of our students during before and after school pick-up and drop-off to the forefront of our minds.

For the safety and wellbeing of all students and staff, Skinner has **two morning drop-off locations** for students.

Back of the building

41st Street is the prime morning drop-off location for students who wish to take advantage of Skinner's free hot breakfast. Parents should pull up curbside to let students out, as pulling into the parking lot causes safety hazards for students.

Front of the building

Students can also be dropped-off on 40th Street, in the front of the building. Parents should pull up curbside to let students out, as stopping in the middle of the street to load/unload causes traffic jams and unsafe conditions for students.

Skinner has **one afternoon pick-up location** for students. In order to ensure appropriate supervision, students are asked to exit the front of the building on 40th Street. It is suggested that students and parents have a conversation regarding afternoon pick-up locations, as 40th Street becomes very congested.

Thank you for helping Skinner Staff keep all students safe!

Parents & Guardians Get Involved!

Skinner Welcomes Volunteer Parents and Guardians !!!

If you have a child at Skinner and would like to lend a helping hand with ongoing classroom activities or school-wide events, and if you have not yet signed up for this, please let us know! We are creating a volunteer program and would like to include your name and contact information to let you know when there are opportunities to help. A team of volunteer organizers for each grade will be coordinating this effort. To sign up and receive information about the process to register as a Skinner volunteer, please contact Rebecca Caldwell, Rebecca.Caldwell@dpsk12.org, 720-424-1495.

Mark Your Calendar for PTO Dates:

September 10th Kick-off meeting 7pm
November 5th
January 7th
March 4th
May 6th