After I was hired at Bear Creek, I received a book from Mrs. Norton's class with this cover. Inside were kind words and positive encouragement from students as I began the job of principal at Bear Creek. It was a wonderful welcome to Bear Creek, from students whose writing was impressive for 1st graders, but even more importantly whose words were thoughtful and kind.

As I finish my last week at Bear Creek I want to thank the students, staff and parent community for a wonderful 14 years. I'm not sure I will ever climb to the top of Bear Peak in a bear suit again as a result of a lost bet, but I will remain living in the neighborhood and look forward to seeing all of you out and about on the trails, in King Soopers and elsewhere in the neighborhood.

Over the years, I've enjoyed learning with students, problem-solving as issues came up, and helping students learn to be friends to each other. But most of all, I've enjoyed laughing with students. Most days on morning announcement I would start with a joke, so I thought I would end with a last (visual) joke.

At the beginning of one school year, a teacher made a visual display with the students of goals they had for the class for the year, in order to make it a great year. I liked all the ideas student had, but I particularly liked, "Seek the Joy!"

As we were standing out at recess, I asked the student who wrote it about it and he said, "We're so lucky to live in these mountains. We should just every day focus on finding fun stuff to do. Every day you should seek the joy of being alive." Wise words.

I am grateful for both the big and and the small things that made my life at Bear Creek such a wonderful experience. I hope you do the same on a daily basis, and that every day you seek the joy of being alive!  

Kent Cruger, Principal
GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK
TO THE BEAR CREEK CLASS OF 2018

The Bear Creek family wishes you all the best as you make the move to middle school next year. Come back and visit us when you can!!!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Russell Baker</th>
<th>Caroline Holloway Imrie</th>
<th>Trevor O'Dowd</th>
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Happy Summer Break! ~ Kent Cruger
BEAR CREEK CALENDAR
AT - A - GLANCE

Monday, May 21
Kindergarten Graduation @ 10:30

Tuesday, May 22
Awards Assembly 9:00-10:00
Mr. Cruger’s Farewell Party 3:00-5:00

Wednesday, May 23
Awards Assembly 9:00-10:00

Thursday, May 24th
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

5th Grade Graduation
1:30 - 2:45pm

Please return any BC badges that may be hiding in drawers or cars.

May Issue of Thrive Update Newsletter

Lost & Found
Lost & Found will be in the foyer next week May 21-May 25. Please stop by and have a look. May 31 is the deadline to pick up any articles of clothing! After which it will be bagged and donated to a charity.

Bear Creek Yearbooks
If you forgot to order a yearbook, you are in luck! We have extra copies in the office for $16. Stop in anytime....

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
As you are looking for activities for your children to participate in before and after school, I just wanted to give you a “heads-up” about where to look for activities that are happening at Bear Creek, and which ones are Bear Creek and BVSD sponsored.

*Starting today in Bear Tracks, you will see opportunities for your children to participate in school sponsored clubs such as intramural sports, jump rope, Spotlights, and drumming club. Bear Creek clubs are supervised by Bear Creek staff.

*Lifelong Learning, which is part of BVSD’s Community Schools Program runs many wonderful activities for students in schools across the district. If you go to their web-page you can find great kid classes, many of which will happen right at our school! Lifelong Learning will send you mail alerts of activities that are happening at Bear Creek. You can sign up for classes at any location, but parents have found it particularly accommodating when classes happen right at Bear Creek. This fall at Bear Creek Lifelong Learning will offer at Bear Creek such things as chess, basketball, Spanish classes, and Lego building.

*Finally, please check the Community Board in our front hallway where other activities that are not sponsored by the school or Lifelong Learning can be posted. Oftentimes these activities happen at Bear Creek, as groups can rent some of our spaces after school.

Visit with Lilac Bunny this summer!!

Mrs. Jenak is looking for some families to host Lilac Bunny, aka The Cutest Bunny Ever, for some time this summer. She is very easy to care for and all bunny supplies will be provided. Please contact Mrs. Jenak if you are interested. maria.jenak@bvsd.org

Mrs. Platt’s third grade guinea pigs, Flower and Hayrack are in need of a summer home. This is a wonderful opportunity for students and families to experience a part time pet. I am hopeful that a family will volunteer to care for them from May 24th through August 15th. If you are able to look after our furry friends, please email Mrs. Platt at jennifer.havlick-pla@bvsd.org
Elementary Lunch Menu

Week of 5/21-5/24

Monday, May 22
Meatball Sub
Pepperoni Pizza
Cheese Pizza

Tuesday, May 23
All-Beef Hot Dog
Veggie Burritos’
Baked Beans

Wednesday, May 24
Beef Nachos
Been Nachos

Thursday, May 25
Chicken Quesadilla
Cheese Quesadilla

The Learning Garden

The Learning Garden needs regular maintenance over the summer to ensure students have crops to harvest in the fall. These tasks include...

The Learning Garden needs regular maintenance over the summer to ensure students have crops to harvest in the fall. These tasks include (1) checking to make sure the irrigation system is running properly (2) weeding to eliminate competition for plants we want to grow (3) harvesting vegetables and herbs that are ripe. These activities would take about one hour and would need to be done twice per week. Please see the Garden Flyer for more details.

Health Room Medication

Those families who have medication in the Health Room, please stop by and pick it up. All medication left in the Health Room will be disposed of.

Please thank and support these merchants who contributed to the Earth Day prizes.

Boulder Cycle Sport
Yoga Lift
Mountain Sum
Tinker Art Studio
Sweet Cow
Murphy’s South
Tandoori Grill
Table Mesa Hardware
Pharmaca

STEAM!
Save the Date!

Thanks for your feedback on STEAM night! Based on your ideas, we have decided to move it to October 9 from 6-8 next fall. In the meantime, enjoy this slideshow that Kylie (from Mrs. Ellis’ class) created.
celebrating 14 YEARS

THANK YOU MR. CRUGER!
YOU'RE OUR HERO!

you can BE A HERO!

COME TO OUR BEAR CREEK PARTY HONORING MR. CRUGER ON TUES, MAY 22ND FROM 3-5 PM. WEAR YOUR HERO COSTUME, COME READY FOR FUN, AND BRING $$ FOR THE SWEET COW TRUCK!

you can HELP OTHERS!

IN TRIBUTE TO OUR HERO, MR. CRUGER - PAY IT FORWARD! YOUR MISSION: DONATE $14 TO ALICIA SANchez INTERNATIONAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN HONOR OF MR. CRUGER. HELP OUR BVSD NEIGHBORS! GIVE TODAY! HTTPS://SQUAREUP.COM/STORE/BEARCREEK-PTO

* SANchez ELEMENTARY HAS 62% FREE/REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM DEMOGRAPHIC - THE BVSD AVERAGE IS 20%
Upcoming events:

May 22nd
PTO sells Cashback Cards in the morning. $5

May 22nd
Kent’s Farewell Party
4-5.30 pm

May 24th
Last Day of School

I can’t believe the school year is wrapping up already!! As a PTO, we have organized and helped organized a lot this year. Teacher Breakfast, Kindergarten Playdates, Carnival, school painting projects, restroom make-overs, Maker Fair, Fall run, Fun Fitness Day, Lip Sync, garden projects, Walk-to-school Days, Safety T-shirts, Teacher Appreciation week, and thank you gifts. Of course, none of this would have been possible without the amazing support of parents like you. To each of you who participated, I thank you!

Budget
Next year’s budget has been approved. I believe many parents will be happy to hear that the number of teacher assistant hours next year will be increased by 35 hours next year. Maybe even more if hours if parents and family use their Cashback Cards. See below.

PTO Good byes
Linna Shih, Susanne Kianicka, Jessica Knape and Narisa Wild are leaving the PTO board. They all worked incredibly hard on behalf of our school this year and we are so grateful for their support!

Welcome new PTO members
The PTO is thrilled to announce we have four new board members that were voted in at our last meeting. Please welcome Christina Gardner, Amy Kahn, Katelyn Root and Sun-Young Hendrick.

Cashback Card Reminder
If you or a family member don’t have a Cashback Card, please come and pick up ($5) a card at our table Tuesday morning. New for next year, every dollar raised per month above $2700 will go directly toward adding more teacher assistant hours. December last year, we raised $3500! So get into the habit of reload and swipe those cards!

New PTO Chair
I have truly enjoyed being your president the last two years and I am happy to pass the PTO baton along to Michael Bucey and Lisa Schneider, who will lead your PTO next year. Thank you for the support you have given me and the board.

Karin Larsson, PTO Chair
karin.f.larsson@gmail.com

www.HelpAtSchool.org
# Thank You 2017/18 Volunteers!
(253 volunteers filled 868 jobs)

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<th>Barbara Broughton</th>
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Save your Stuffies and Books!

We need gently used stuffed animals and books for our Bear Creek Carnival in September!

Keep us in mind when you clean out your closets this summer! We will be collecting donations in August. The stuffed animals will be given away as prizes at the Carnival Stuffie Walk, (like a cake walk, only the prize is a stuffed animal!) We will use the donated books as prizes: we would love picture books and chapter books. Thanks, and mark your calendars now for the 2018 Bear Creek Carnival, Thursday, Sept 13th, 4 to 6:30 pm!
GROCERY CASHBACK CARD REWARDS

Earn money for teacher assistants in 3 easy steps

1. Get a Cashback Card from the office or the PTO.
2. Load money onto your card at the cashier using your credit card or cash prior to grocery scanning, or before pumping your gas.
3. Pay for your groceries or gas with your Cashback Card. Fast and easy! You can continue to reload your Cashback Card - each and every time Bear Creek earns cash back!

*Every dollar above our monthly goal of $2700 will go directly toward more teacher assistant hours
Earn 5% Cashback for Bear Creek Elementary while shopping at Alfalfa’s. No need to load the card! How does the program work?

Do you shop at the local natural grocery store Alfalfa’s? If so, there’s now a very easy way to make money for Bear Creek while you shop. Apply for a Rebate/Cashback Card and get it scanned when you check out each time. 5% of your shopping payment will be donated by Alfalfa’s to Bear Creek. Yes, it’s that simple. You will be able to use other coupons/discounts as you normally do. You can make your shopping payment with cash or credit card as you normally do. The only additional step is to get the Rebate/Cashback Card scanned after making the payment. Bear Creek will receive a check from Alfalfa’s at the end of every month.

How do I get the Rebate/Cashback Card?
Please fill in this form: http://tiny.cc/BearCreekAlfalfas. You will be notified by email when your card is ready to be picked up at Alfalfa’s (either the Boulder or Louisville location). It will take a few business days for your card(s) to be ready.

Thank you for supporting Bear Creek!

Did you know you can find Box Tops on many of the brands you use to make Thanksgiving dinner, from potatoes to crescent rolls? Remember to clip those Box Tops and turn them in to school. They really add up! Thanksgiving is also a great time to collect extra Box Tops from family and friends as you gather for the holiday weekend. For a list of participating products, go to BTFE.com. Have a great break!
The Car Free Commute Team gives kudos to everyone who helped make Bear Creek one of the top active commuting schools in all BVSD!

Thanks to:
- Walking School Bus “drivers”
  - Mr. Soole
  - Andy Jacobson
  - Kathryn and Dave Penzkover
  - Nick Yurk
- Parent volunteers
  - Lisa Chase
  - Kristina Waag
  - Kylie C
  - Christie Reneer
  - Lisa Schneider
  - Jeannie Wyer
  - Tania Hollingsworth

Kudos to 4th graders June Meehan and Kate Hawk for organizing the popular Darley Walking School Bus every Monday and Friday for the last month!

- Mr. Cruger for championing the Cruger Cup!
- All the students winners of the Cruger Cup who made green trips to school year round.
- Your PTO for supporting Trip Tracker and Car Free Commutes!

The Car Free Commute team is: Susan Churchill, Brent Halscy, Andy Jacobson, and Ning Mosberger
Spring Walk to School & Earth Day
We would like to thank our Earth Day Pledge Volunteers Carolyn Greene and Kathy Croasdale for setting up the pledge window and getting the gift certificate from the Table Mesa merchants.

We would also like to thank Lisa Chase, Susan Churchill, and Andy Jacobson for the Bike to School Celebration and bike tune up.

And last but not least, thank you Ning Mosberger-Tang for the wonderful photos.
Bear Creek School Spirit Tee Shirt

As you know, your kids received one of these tee shirts last August with their school supplies. If you will need another shirt(s) for the 2018-19 school year, please return this form and $10 each to the office by May 24, 2018. The cost will again be part of supply money for all NEW students in August but you will need to order yours now.

High points:
- If your shirt(s) from August 2017 will work for another year, there is no need for you to buy another.
- If you would like to order shirts for anyone else in your family, please do.
- If you would like to have an extra shirt for your student, please order that.
- If you would like to recycle your shirt, we have had needs during the school year for extra shirts for one day purposes. We can keep a stash here for kids who forget them for field trips or other activities where the green shirt is needed.
- As you can see, there are 2 styles for adults - a v-neck fitted and a crew neck square.
- Sizes available - Youth S, M, L, XL; Adult S, M, L, XL, XXL.
- Shirts will be waiting for your student on the first day of school in the classroom.
- Feel free to order as many shirts as you like.

Student Name_________________________ Classroom teacher________________

Size(s) desired__________________________________________________________

Total $_________________________
Library News

Thank you so much for supporting our Usborne book fair and making it a great success!! This year we took mostly cash bonus from the fair (25% of $5400= $1350, as well as $225 in book credit), which we will use for library and classroom purchases. A huge thank you goes out to the volunteers who helped set up, close up, and run the registers: Julie Sherman, Gwen Grasse, Denise Walker, Narisa Wild, Patricia Wright, Vanessa Carroll and Lisa Schneider. We could not have a book fair without parent helpers!

All library materials were due on May 11th. Please help your children find and return any outstanding library materials or pay for any lost items. This helps simplify our end of the year inventory process. If you have already paid for a lost book but return it before the last day of school, we will happily refund your money.

A huge thank you goes out to the dedicated volunteers who helped keep the library running smoothly this year: Gwen Grasse, Heidi Samuel, Annie Haselfeld, Denise Walker and Michelle Vancil. Also thanks to all who donated birthday books and to those who remembered to mention Bear Creek while shopping at Grand Rabbits. Your purchases helped us earn store credit to buy materials for our ILC program. The PTO’s generous funding also continues to allow us to update our library collection.

Don’t forget to keep reading and to visit the public library this summer. Check out the following sites for some ideas to keep you inspired to read this summer.

Your Next Read
http://www.yournextread.com/us/

What Should I Read Next

Guys Read
http://www.guysread.com/

Nancy Keane’s site (children’s lit expert)
http://nancykeane.com/rl/

Boulder Public library also has a great summer reading program. Visit your local library or check the Boulder Public Library site to find out more!

Read This Summer
Keep your kids healthy this summer

Your family looks forward to it all year. Summer means freedom from homework, PTA meetings, and the rush to catch the bus. In fact, bedtimes, meal planning, and TV rules sometimes take a vacation, too. However, this carefree season is not always good for kids’ health.

Even though a break from the grind can be relaxing, some parts of a routine are important for kids to stick with all year round, like the right amount of sleep and time to exercise every day. Too much of a break can lead to unhealthy changes. In fact, a 2016 study found that children tend to gain weight faster during the summer. And they’re more likely to become overweight or obese when they’re out of school.

So even when you’re taking a break this summer, the choices your family makes are still important. Here are five ways to keep it healthy.

Focus on Food

You can still pack a lunch for your kids, even when they’re not headed to school. It works great if they’re spending the day at camp. But they can also take it along on a hike or to the pool or park, instead of grabbing fast food or raiding the vending machines. Fill that brown bag with fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and protein, and skip sweetened drinks.

At home, swap out the junk food in your pantry and fridge (soda, cookies, chips, fatty frozen foods) for healthier stuff. When your kids want to raid the kitchen during the day, they’ll have better foods to choose from.

Take advantage of your kids’ extra downtime to get them involved with their food, too. Plant a garden together, or visit a farmers market to pick from all the in-season produce. Let them choose tomatoes, melons, or peppers, and then make dinner together. Research has shown that kids who learn how to grow and cook their own food eat more fruits and vegetables.

Find a New Routine

The school year comes with plenty of structure, and all that scheduling can help encourage healthy habits. Put a little rhythm into lazy summer days with activities that will keep them active. You can sign your child up for day camp, swim lessons, playgroups, story time, or other activities. Check your local parks district and libraries for free or low-cost options. Or make your own plan for regular activities to cut down on boredom. A daily schedule could mean less screen time and less snacking (and maybe even less whining).

Be Serious About Bedtime

Without the early school-day alarm looming, getting kids to bed on time can seem less important.
But a sleep routine still matters. Kids who sleep less have less energy to do the things that keep them healthy, like exercising. A tired brain is also more likely to make unhealthy choices, like zoning out on the couch with a bag of chips all day. So limit those up-all-night sleepovers and be firm about a set bedtime. To make it easier:

- Keep a regular dinnertime.
- Make sure your child gets fresh air and exercise during the day.

Turn off screens an hour before bed.

**Stick to Screen Time Limits**

To your kids, marathon sessions of TV or video games may seem to be a great way to pass a summer day. But extra time in front a screen replaces other activities that are better for them, like playing outside or getting a good night’s sleep. It can also lead to unhealthy weight gain -- the more TV kids watch, the more likely they are to gain extra pounds.

Keep screen time limits at your house the way you would during the school year. (Don’t have rules around screens? Summertime could be a good chance to test some out.) Outline times when devices aren’t allowed (like dinner) and create media-free zones in the house (bedrooms are a good bet). The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that kids ages 2 to 5 spend no more than 1 hour per day with high-quality TV or apps, and that older kids have consistent limits on how long they use TV, smartphones, or computers.

Plus, there are a lot of other fun ways to spend a summer day that don’t involve a screen! Help your kids come up with a list of activities they can try during the day. You’ll have a ready-made solution the next time you hear “I’m bored.”

**Get Outside and Get Active**

There’s no better time to show kids that moving is fun. Don’t focus on calorie burning. Instead, help them try something new or find activities they like. If sports are their thing, you can sign them up for a camp or a league. Or help them organize a regular game of baseball or kickball with other kids nearby. Or teach them how to fly a kite, paddle a canoe, or do a cannonball into the pool.

And make your family time count. Set a time every day when you all take a walk, ride bikes, play tag in the backyard, jump rope, play soccer, dance, or swim. It all adds to the 60 minutes of activity kids need every day -- no matter what season it is.

WebMD Medical Reference Reviewed by Roy Benaroch, MD on February 7, 2017
Colorado Water Festival

Fifth graders attended the Colorado Water Festival at CU on Tuesday, participating in laboratory demonstrations and other fun ways to think about water usage and conservation.
Caesar’s English Toga Walk

Students in Mrs. Ewing’s spelling block celebrated the end of their Caesar’s English program with a toga walk down the “Appian Way” and a classical feast provided by parents.

International Culture Festival

A special thank you to Nataliya Mccain, Caroline Bruce, and Elin Laux who had the vision and to all the families who participated by sharing their family customs, foods and crafts. It was an awesome evening!!

(more photos on following page)
International Students Read to 2nd Grade

Second-grade students enjoyed reading with international students from CU on April 25th.
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**Teacher Appreciation Week May 7th–11th**

**BOOK FAIR**

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- **Student Council 3:03-3:50**
- **Fun & Fitness**
- **Band Concert @ 6:30 @ Southern Hills**
- **6th Grade Transition Night @ Southern Hills**
- **Awards Assembly 9:00-10:00**
- **Kent’s Farewell 3:00-5:00**
- **Awards Assembly 9:00-10:00**
- **Last Day of School**
  - **5th Grade Graduation 1:30-2:45**
- **May 2018**

**Kent’s Farewell**

- **Last Day of School**
- **5th Grade Graduation**
May 30 – July 31

BOULDER PUBLIC LIBRARY 2018
SUMMER OF DISCOVERY

READ for prizes.
VISIT for activities.

LIBRARIES ROCK!

For more information | Para más información:
boulderlibrary.org/summer
303-441-3100
WE IMPACT
STUDENTS
COMMUNITY
INNOVATION

Do you know about the important work we do within our community?

HOW WE MAKE AN IMPACT

🌟 Crayons to Calculators
Ensuring local students, no matter their financial situation, are equipped with the school supplies they need to succeed. 10,250+ backpacks full of supplies were delivered in 2017.

🌟 Summer Shuffle
Preventing summer slide in literacy among students in low-income neighborhoods, in partnership with Boulder Housing Partners.

🌟 Classroom Innovation Grants
Funding for innovative instruction projects and methods that require support beyond schools’ capabilities.

🌟 Career Pathways
Cultivating career exploration after school with students participating in different career possibilities through hands-on and meaningful learning experiences. Students are also connected with professional mentors within the business community.

🌟 Opportunity Fund
Fostering student motivation, engagement, and success by reducing economic barriers to participation in enriching educational experiences. $77,000 was provided to students in 2017.

Please visit our website today to learn more about the IMPORTANT work we do within our community:
ImpactOnEducation.org
For over three decades, the CU Wizards program has presented FREE monthly shows that entertain and inform children about the wonders of science. Under the direction of Prof. David Nesbitt, these interactive shows are presented once a month from September through June. They are hosted by renowned University of Colorado, Boulder professors and provide a perfect start to a fun-filled weekend. The shows are geared toward children and young adults, but all are welcome!

Each program lasts about an hour and includes several lively demonstration experiments.

No reservations required. All shows are on Saturday mornings and begin at 9:30 a.m.

WHERE?

At the University of Colorado at Boulder in the Duane Physics or Cristol Chemistry buildings. There is FREE PARKING in LOTS 308 and 436. There is also parking available for a $4.00 flat fee in the Euclid parking structure. Please refer to our website for additional parking information.

SPONSORS:

- Chancellor DiStefano
- David Paddock Endowment
- George Gamow Memorial Lecture Fund
- College of Arts & Sciences
- Merrill Lynch
- CU Science Discovery Program
- CU Outreach Program
- Local Wizards Fans who donate!

CU Wizards 2018-2019 Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/22/2018</td>
<td>Prof. Lew Harvey</td>
<td>Illusion and Reality: The Science of Perception</td>
<td>Duane Phys G1B30</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/20/2018</td>
<td>Prof. Katja Friedrich</td>
<td>TBA: Cloud Science</td>
<td>Duane Phys G1B30</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/3/2018</td>
<td>Prof. Niels Damrauer</td>
<td>The Chemistry of Bread!</td>
<td>Cristol Chem 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/1/2018</td>
<td>Prof. Steven Brown</td>
<td>There’s Something in the Air!</td>
<td>Cristol Chem 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/26/2019</td>
<td>Prof. Mark Hoefer</td>
<td>Surfing with a Mathematician!</td>
<td>Duane Phys G1B30</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/23/2019</td>
<td>Prof. Sean Humbert</td>
<td>TBA: Bioinspired engineering- Buggy Robots</td>
<td>Duane Phys G1B30</td>
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<td>3/16/2019</td>
<td>Prof. Alysia Marino &amp;</td>
<td>TBA: Electricity and Magnetism</td>
<td>Duane Phys G1B30</td>
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<td>Prof. Daniel Bolton</td>
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<td>4/20/2019</td>
<td>Prof. Amy Palmer</td>
<td>One Fish...Two Fish... Fluorescent Red &amp; Green Squish!</td>
<td>Cristol Chem 1</td>
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<td>5/18/2019</td>
<td>Prof. Steven George</td>
<td>The Chemistry of Energy!</td>
<td>Cristol Chem 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/22/2019</td>
<td>Prof. Brian Argrow</td>
<td>TBA: The Game of Drones!</td>
<td>Duane Phys G1B30</td>
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For more information please visit: www.colorado.edu/cuwizards
Black holes!

JUNE 16, 2018
9:30-10:30 a.m.

CU Wizards Presents:
Prof. Andrew Hamilton

Fiske Planetarium
www.colorado.edu/cuwizards
CU Wizards Presents:  
Professor Brian Hynek  
Saturday, June 2nd  
9:30-10:30 a.m.  
Free STEM program for Kids!

ROCKS from Outer SPACE!  
CU WIZARDS at  
FISKE PLANETARIUM

www.colorado.edu/cuwizards
**BVSD is working to improve air quality in our schools**

Last year, BVSD began a long term initiative to collect indoor air quality data across the district to identify where we can make changes to improve it. Recognizing the proven role of good indoor air quality for student performance and health, BVSD hopes this work will have significant benefits for students and staff. There are a couple of ways parents are asked get involved and help with this effort:

**Provide information about reasons for absenteeism**
In addition to collecting data from school sites, we want to understand how air quality may be affecting student health and absenteeism. Beginning this school year, when parents call in to report a health-related absence from school, they will be asked to identify the nature of the illness. Learn more.

**Join the District-wide Air Quality Team**
The district is creating an Indoor Air Quality Team to work with us on this initiative. The team will include BVSD principals, teachers, parents and community members. Once convened, the team will determine meeting times and schedule. Applications are due September 9. Follow these links for more information and the application.

For more information about the air quality initiative, go to: bvsd.org/airquality.

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**Student accident insurance 2017-2018**

Low-cost student accident insurance is again being offered by Markel this year. They have changed their enrollment method from paper to electronic and will not be providing print outs to schools to distribute to students. Attached is a PDF of their enrollment information. This information is also available on the district website at http://www.bvsd.org/employees/AthleticsActivities/Athletic%20Insurance%20Information/Forms/AllItems.aspx.

**Healthy Kids Initiative**

Another possible option for parents whose students need health insurance is the Boulder County Healthy Kids Initiative which helps families enroll in Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) and Medicaid. CHP+ and Medicaid are free and low-cost health insurance plans that provide dental, medical, prescription, mental health, and vision benefits. There are no monthly premiums, and co-pays range from $0 - $15 depending on family income. CHP+ has higher income eligibility limits than many public assistance programs, so many working families can qualify. Assets are not considered when determining eligibility for these programs. Some families who have not previously qualified may be able to qualify now due to new income guidelines.

Eligibility specialists are available to serve families at all BVSD schools. Call 720-515-1454 today to talk with a specialist or to make an appointment!

More information is available on the district website at http://www.bvsd.org/healthykids. A link to this page is on the front page of the district site: Go to www.bvsd.org and click the Healthy Kids Initiative logo at the bottom of the page.

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**NONDISCRIMINATION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

In compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, Colorado law and Board of Education Policy AC (Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity), Boulder Valley School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, national origin, religion, ancestry, need for special education services, age, marital status, genetic information, or physical characteristics in admissions, access to, treatment, or employment in educational programs or activities which it operates. Complaint procedures have been established for students, parents, employees and members of the public. The following person has been identified as the compliance officer for the district: Superintendent, Boulder Valley School District6500 Arapahoe Rd.
Boulder, CO 80301    720.561.5114    Superintendent@bvsd.org