



BRIGGSDALE SCHOOL

FALCON FOCUS

Volume 6 Issue 3

February 15, 2020

What's Coming Up?

FFA Week

Feb. 18-21

Dist. Basketball

Feb. 25-29

Regional Basketball

March 6 and 7

State Basketball

March 12-14

Spring Break

March 16-20

Jr. High Play

March 27

Parent Teacher Conf.

April 8

Preschool//Kg Roundup

April 8

A Letter from the Superintendent

February Newsletter 2020

Happy Valentine's and Presidents' Day!

We are excited about all of the positive experiences our students are having and the learning that is happening every day. Likewise, we want to thank our school district for all the interest and support of our students and their educational experience.

State Testing Information

We are preparing for the state testing schedule for the CMAS tests. Our students from third through eleventh grade have tests that are taken in several sessions. In the opinion for the Federal and State Department of Education, these are required tests for all of our students.

The Challenge of State Testing

The Briggsdale School Board passed a resolution concerning the state tests: the time it takes to take the state tests, the time it takes to get results, the validity of the state testing results and the disruption to the learning during the day are a part of the challenges for our students taking the state tests.

All year, our teachers and students are working with the state standards and preparing for the state tests. We also test our students three times a year on standards based tests. The results of these tests can be a valuable part of knowing what are students are learning and can help with instruction, evaluations, and adjustments in the educational program.

However, the PSAT 9/10 and SAT tests do have value for the students preparing for college entry scores. The PSAT is a pre-test that prepares students for their junior year SAT test. The SAT is a college ready test, which is a given free to our students in the spring of their junior year in high school.

Briggsdale School DATA System

Our students are required by state law to be tested on a standardized test each year. The Ed Performance Test is the test that we use with our students from 1st through 10th grade while our kindergarten students TS Gold for their assessments. Our 9th and 10th graders take the PSAT and the 11th graders take SAT. All of these assessments are nationally normed, and we receive the results from these tests in a reasonable amount of time to share with our students and staff.

Additionally, we use other assessments through-out the year to evaluate our students' achievement and growth which include pre and post-tests, chapter tests or quizzes. We use these results for the Briggsdale School Data System and provide the information that we need to follow the other state requirements for teacher evaluation, student achievement, and student growth.



This Photo by Unknown

Kindergarten Rocks!

Kindergarten News

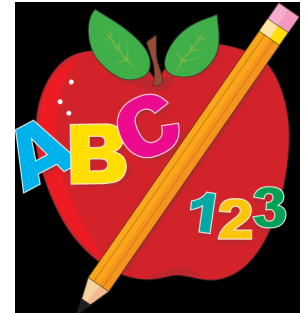
By the time you read this, it will be the middle of February. We have some exciting events coming up in the next few months - 100th day of School, Dr. Seuss' birthday, and a field trip to the Denver Zoo - just to name a few!

One important date coming up is Kindergarten Roundup for next year (Wednesday, April 8th). On this day,

this year's class will not have school.

Finally, a VERY exciting event in May is graduation. Please mark your calendars for Thursday, May 14th at 2:30 p.m. This is our graduation date and it's always fun to have the community celebrate how hard the children have worked and to cheer them on as they continue their educational journey.

The end of the school year will be here before we know it. Please be sure to read the May newsletter. At that time, I will ask the stu-



dents what they think is the most important thing they have learned in Kindergarten. I always enjoy hearing and

A Letter from the Superintendent, continued from pg. 1

State Testing Parent Opt Out

This year, again, we will follow the procedure for parents to opt out their students from the state tests. If a student does not take the test, they are not held accountable by the school or district. This allows the students to attend school and be involved in all school activities during the testing schedule.

The parents or guardian must fill out a form that opts out their student from the state tests. The forms are available through the Administration Offices, as well as in this newsletter.

If you have any other questions or concerns please contact me. My number is 970-656-3417.

Thank You,
Rick Mondt
Superintendent

Second Grade News

The second grade class is so amazingly awesome! They are growing and learning new things every day. Here are some of the things they are up to this quarter:

adding and subtracting two digit numbers
using text evidence to answer questions about a passage

writing paragraphs using main idea, details, and a conclusion
learning about people from America's past such as Martin Luther King, Abraham Lincoln, and George Washington
comparing and contrasting 4 Native American Tribes: Anasazi, Nav-

ajo, Inuit, and Wampanoag

and.....they have become technology gurus!

It's hard to grasp that we are almost to the final quarter. Please help your child at home by asking them what they are learning

and READ, READ, READ.....

Bobbi Miller

2nd grade

Teacher, Briggsdale School

RE



The first grade have been working on addition and subtraction in math. They are enjoying adding items and then taking them away. They recently discovered Yellowstone and all the park has to offer. Be on the lookout parents for your student asking for a trip to Yellowstone! In Science, we did a unit on Christmas colors with baking soda and vinegar. This was a huge hit with the class. We are also growing our own grass, so we can give it a haircut. This is helping us learn about seeds, water, sun, and temperature around the plant. The kindergarten and first grade will be heading to the zoo on April 23. Permission slips have been sent home, so please be on the lookout for it. Most of all, thank you for all you do for our school and students.



1st Grade





Briggsdale Kindergarten Roundup for the 2020-2021 School Year

Date:

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

Required Documentation:

Immunization Records

Social Security Card

Birth Certificate

(Students are required to be 5 years of age by June 15, 2020)

Registration:

Preschool News

The preschool and Kindergarten children loved saying the Pledge of Allegiance for the Falcon fans at the basketball game. They did a wonderful job and we appreciate all the fans support. In preschool we are really working hard on learning to recognize our letters and write our letters. We are working on cutting and counting. We had fun learning about and making patterns of all shapes, colors and sizes. The children are learning and growing every day. They are a joy to be with!

We are looking forward to spring and sunshine. On April 8, 2020 we will have preschool screenings and Kindergarten round up. If you have a child who will be 3 by June 15, 2020 and are interested in sending them to preschool please contact Mrs. Callaway at mrsallaway@briggsdaleschool.org for an application. Screening times will be set up and parents will be notified of their time slot for that day. We are looking forward to another full preschool class!

BBAC

Briggsdale Booster Activities Club

BBAC supports all areas of the school and is interested in more activities to support the students. Anyone is welcome to join. Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm in the school library.

Activities:

\$500 scholarship to one senior annually
Meal for fall and winter sports banquet
Senior Banners
Teacher appreciation meals

Sponsor for Drama trip to New York
Elementary Poster contest during Homecoming
Sports Physicals for athletes in May

Want to join?

Active Member \$5
Supporting Member \$25
Business Member \$50

Coming Fall of 2020- Business Sponsorship with logo on a banner to hang with the senior banners

Contact a current BBAC officer for more info:

President Russ Cundiff
Vice President Kaili Layer

Secretary Tina Lambertson
Treasurer Sallie Miller
Membership Crystal Layer

With the second semester well under way, we want to thank everyone for continued support of our students, staff, and school as we work to provide learning opportunities for our students. Spring is right around the corner, and while we know that there can still be challenging weather, we enjoy the warm weather as well as the snow we experience.

Over the course of the next month, we are finishing the basketball season and wish our players and coaches the best of luck at the upcoming tournaments. Additionally, we support our students during FCCLA and FFA weeks. It is always a pleasure to see our students in their varied activities. We are blessed in the many activities in which our students participate.

Most of all, we appreciate each of you and your support. We are better as we work together, and we appreciate the opportunity to work with you. You are invaluable as members of our school community. Thank you!

Mrs. Cathi Fulton
Principal





The elementary teachers would like to thank the community for supporting our recent fund-raising events - Quilt Raffle and Candy Bar Sales. The funds raised make it possible for us to take educational AND fun field trips throughout the year. Also, the funds raised make it possible for us to hold many special events during the year (such as Grandparent's Day).

A special "shout out" to Pam Snyder and Amanda Brown for, once again, making the quilt for our fundraiser. If you were at the Christmas Program, you saw what a beautiful quilt they made! They have done this for many years - thank you ☐!

Also, a big "THANK YOU" to our students and parents for all of their efforts in selling these items to their friends, families, and neighbors!

Finally, we do have some candy bars left over. Please let any K-5 student or teacher know if

Middle School News

Sixth and 7th graders have had a busy start to the second semester! In reading 6th graders have started reading *Holes* and *Kavik the Wolf Dog*. Students are extra excited to finish these books, so they can watch the movie. Once students watch the movie, we are going to be writing a compare and contrast essay between the book and the movie. In reading 7th graders have started reading *The Westing Game* and *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*. Both 6th and 7th graders have been practicing their say something strategy when reading. This strategy helps us make conversation with one another throughout the book. The 6th graders are finally wrapping up their Earth History Unit in science and are very eager to work with our Weather and Water Unit for the remainder of the school year. The 7th graders started off the semester in math learning about area and angle measurements. Our next chapter will continue to focus on area and volume. The 6th graders started off the semester in math learning about rational numbers. Our next chapter will focus on the coordinate plane. I am eager to continue to teach and grow with the 6th and 7th graders throughout the rest of the year!

Briggsdale RE10J District Parent Form to Excuse Student from State Testing

The Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS/PARCC tests) is an assessment system designed to measure student mastery of Colorado academic content standards. CMAS includes state testing in science and social studies, CMAS assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades 3-8, the preparatory exam (PSAT 9 in 9th grade and PSAT in 10th grade), and college entrance exam (SAT).

By opting my student out of state assessments, I recognize that I will not receive results of my child's achievement and growth results as measured by the state assessments listed above. I understand that educators will be using the Briggsdale Data System for instructional planning, class placement, and academic screening, and that this information will be available to my child's teachers.

While the school district encourages students and their families to ensure students are present and well rested on testing days, if parents determine that it is not in their child(ren)'s best interest to take these assessments, parents may opt their child(ren) out of state testing by returning this signed form to the school. Additionally, parents should understand that there are no consequences or ill feelings towards parents or students who decline to participate in the upcoming state mandated tests. Further, based upon decisions made by the Colorado State Board of Education, school districts are not held liable or penalized by the state for students who opt out of state testing.

A great deal of planning and logistics go into taking the state assessments. If the decision is made to opt out of the assessment(s), please return this signed form to the school by March 13, 2020.

As parent/guardian of _____, I am opting my child out of
 student's name
the CMAS assessments for 2019-2020.

Student's Name _____ Grade Level _____

Parent's Name (printed) _____

Parent's Signature _____

Date _____

Parent: If opting out of testing, please complete and sign the form and submit a copy to Briggsdale School.

By opting my student out of state assessments, I recognize that I will not receive results of my child's achievement and growth results as measured by the state assessments listed above. I understand that educators will be using the Briggsdale Data System for instructional planning, class placement, and academic screening, and that this information will be available to my child's teachers.

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Date _____

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Thank you for your support.

You are appreciated!

BRIGGSDALE SCHOOL

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