



620 Wilcox Street
Castle Rock, Colorado 80104

Learning Knows No Bounds

~ **Special Education Newsletter** ~

News & Updates from Special Education Team

Volume 1, Issue 2

October 2021

DCSD Special Education staff work to ensure that all DCSD students with an IEP leave ready for post-secondary opportunities. This includes college and workforce readiness. We celebrate when people with disabilities are protected and provided for under Colorado law. Our graduates deserve full engagement in the life of their communities and we are working hard to make sure they have the skills and knowledge needed to thrive as adults.

From the Directors

October is Dyslexia Awareness month. We had an opportunity last month to share with our community programming options for students with Dyslexia within the Douglas County School District. That presentation is archived and on our website [here](#). Not every student with dyslexia has an IEP or a 504 plan. Many, many of our students with dyslexia are successful in the general education classroom. Should you have concerns about your child please talk to your child's teacher or counselor. We work as a team here in the district as literacy is everyone's work.

Please [click here](#) to visit our Douglas County School District Dyslexia Page. It has some great information under both [Resources](#) and [DCSD Dyslexia Digest](#).

Important Dates

Special Education Talk

Where parents and guardians come to speak and we listen! DCSD's Special Education Directors will be available to answer questions, hear concerns, and take feedback. There is no formal agenda so that we can devote the time to parents and their preferred topics.

Wednesday, October 20 | 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. @ Castle Rock Library - Event Hall

Please [click here for the Special Education Flyer](#), and/or you can [click here to RSVP](#).

Monday, November 1 | 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Virtual Event

Please [click here for the Special Education Flyer](#), and/or you can [click here to RSVP](#).

Special Education Talk



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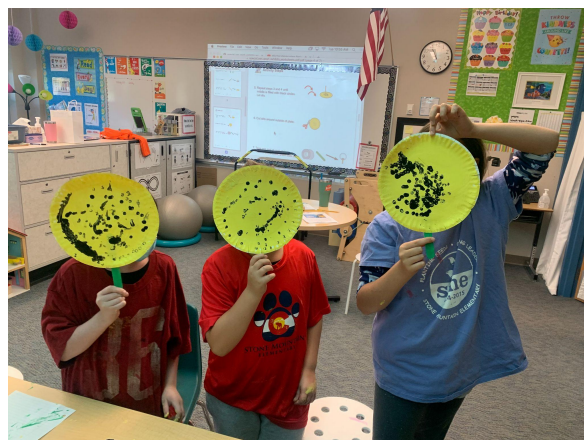
DCSD New Occupation Therapy Team Lead

Please join us in welcoming our new Occupational Therapy Team Lead, Patty Krienbrink. Patty comes to us with over twenty years of experience in the field, including work as an OT lead in Denver Public Schools. Patty has been described by one of her principals as "an amazing professional with creative ideas for kids". We are excited to work next to Patty as she brings her vision to life for Occupation Therapy work in DCSD. Patty will be transitioning into her new role over the next few weeks. Welcome aboard Patty!

DCSD Community News

Stone Mountain Elementary:

The students and the staff look forward to our Building Group sessions each Tuesday morning. Our SSN program uses the News 2 You and Unique Learning Systems to teach standard based skills in the areas of reading, math, social studies, science, art and health. There is a new "current events" article each week that includes a craft and cooking activity that corresponds with the topic of the week. The Building group gives our students a chance to take turns, follow directions, share materials, engage in related conversation, be creative, and have FUN! This week's article is about Vincent Van Gogh. The craft that was completed was a sunflower (inspired by several of Van Gough's paintings). Other crafts this year have included building a rocket, sponge painting the coral reef, and making popcorn decorations in celebration of the new Academy Awards Museum.





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News and Notes from

Ranch View Middle School:

I'll start off by saying we have fantastic new staff in our department who all have HUGE hearts for our kids and are all invested in our students' success. The collaboration within our department in the first few weeks has been super impressive. It truly takes a village and I'm so glad to be a part of this one! ❤️

-Katie Singleton, Special Education Teacher

One of our SSN students is now on the student council! This is true inclusion

Renaissance Magnet School:

Renaissance Special Education Staff accompanied their students on their voyage trip. Students were able to participate in activities such as kayaking and archery because they were supported by their special education teachers.



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Sarah Cannon
Director of Special Education
Castle Rock and Parker Regions

Connie Buechler
Administrative Assistant
to the Directors of Special Education
303-387-0080

Nicole Amidon
Director of Special Education
East & West Highlands Ranch Regions

[Click here for the link](#) to our Special Education Page

Nondiscrimination Notice

In compliance with Titles VI & 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, and Colorado law, the Douglas County School District RE-1 does not unlawfully discriminate against otherwise qualified students, employees, applicants for employment, or members of the public on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services. Discrimination against employees and applicants for employment based on age, genetic information, and conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth is also prohibited in accordance with state and/or federal law. Complaint procedures have been established for students, parents, employees, and members of the public. The School District's Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator to address complaints alleging sexual harassment under Title IX is Aaron Henderson, 620 Wilcox Street, Castle Rock, Colorado, complianceofficer@dcsdk12.org, 720-433-1083.

Outside Agencies

Complaints regarding violations of Title VI, (race, national origin), Title IX (sex, gender), Section 504/ADA (handicap or disability), may be filed directly with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 1244 North Speer Blvd., Suite 310, Denver, CO 80204. Complaints regarding violations of Title VII (employment) and the ADEA (prohibiting age discrimination in employment) may be filed directly with the Federal Office of Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 303 E. 17th Ave., Suite 510, Denver, CO 80202, or the Colorado Civil Rights Commission, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1050, Denver, CO 80202.