

What's Happening

Parent Advocacy



Parent Advocacy Strategies: Building Partnerships Between Home and School

***"At conferences, I have questions.....
but I end up smiling and nodding anyway."***

"Is my child being challenged in the classroom?"

"Should my child be assessed for gifted services?"

"Now that my child is in middle school, is she receiving gifted services?"

"My gifted child just entered high school; now what?!"

Did you ever want to advocate for your gifted child, but felt you might offend a teacher with your questions or didn't know how to negotiate the system?

Conferences are around the corner; here's a chance to pick the brains of TSD's administrators, principals, teachers and counselors. Bring your questions and any you may have been reluctant to ask in the past.

Our panel will candidly answer and advise you on strategies to best advocate for your child. You will leave with key language, procedures and tactics that **unite parents and teachers** in support of your child's academic success.

Thursday, February 13, 2014 7:00-8:00pm
TSD Administration Building ~ Boardroom
Taft Ave., Loveland, CO 80537

800 S.

REGISTER NOW



Panel Members:

Diane Lauer

Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Kathy Sather

Early Literacy TOSA

Larry Shores

Principal - Winona Elementary

Tiffany Miller

Principal - Conrad Ball MS

Lanny Hass

Principal - Thompson Valley HS

Val Wirt

8th Gr. Teacher-Conrad Ball MS

Niki Weitzel

GT Counselor - Loveland HS

Sue Teumer

GT Teacher - Lucile Erwin MS



9 slots left ~ Register Now

The Apple Doesn't Fall Far From the Tree... Or Does It?

Parents know that GT kids are anything but predictable. They may:

- Show superior reasoning/problem-solving, but dominate/withdraw in team situations.
- Set high standards for themselves while also overly critical and impatient with others.
- Show flexible thinking, yet reject authority, and be non-conforming and stubborn.
- Observe and be responsive to new ideas and often get bored with routine tasks.
- Show social poise and communicate maturely, yet may argue with authority figures.
- Possess a subtle sense of humor, but make jokes that are consider inappropriate.

Where do these traits come from? Well....have you taken a good look in the mirror lately? We may exhibit many of these traits ourselves, and not even be aware of how similarly wired we are to our children. Conversely, you may ask yourself, "Which planet did this child come from?"

Just as parents must nurture their children's awareness of being gifted, so they must also become self-aware of their own traits and idiosyncrasies to truly appreciate and interact successfully as a parent with their gifted child.

Dr. Jennifer Ritchotte will facilitate an exploration of common gifted characteristics. Parents will leave with a deeper understanding of their children and selves.

Thursday, February 6, 2014
6:30-8:00 pm
Bill Reed Middle School
370 W. 4th Street Loveland, CO 80537

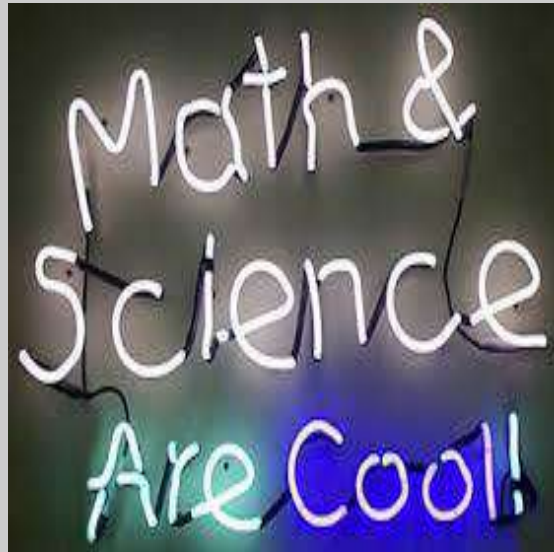
ST-EMS

Summer Enrichment

Summer in Thompson - Experiences in Math and Science will return this summer. Math and science-themed classes will be available for all exiting K-8 students. **We are excited to be able to offer middle school level classes this year!**

Registration will begin on April 8. Courses will run June 9 - 13 and June 16 - 20 at a school to be determined later.

More info will be coming in March.



2nd Annual Thompson School District Science Fair

January 11, 2014



2014's Science Fair boasted over 100 submitted projects in the Animal, Behavioral, Chemistry, Earth & Space, Energy & Transportation, Engineering, Environmental Sciences, and more. Students were judged on their project plan, adherence to the scientific method, presentation and poster board.

Individual schools, parents and teachers are encouraged to host their own Science Fair in advance of the 3rd Annual District Science Fair, to be held in January 2015. For more details to plan your school fair, contact [Michelle Stout](#) at 613-5057.

	Life Science	Earth Science	Physical Science	Chemistry	Grades 6-8
1st	Willow Slayton Chance Hill Hannah Harling	Wyatt Malara Molly Moran Jordan Reichhardt	Tyler Joshi Brandon Manges Alyssa Hanson	Parker Minor	Alexander DeMartine
2nd	Derrek Parker Avery Lyons Eva Eyer	Derrek Parker Trevor Nistler Paul Westerfield	Connor Wood Sammy Malara DonnaJo Garcia	Alysa Ahrens	Madeleine Boyles
3rd	Sofia Marinello Dylan Sellers	Marco Turvey Izaiah Ault-Herrera	Sarah Wood Kyla Minor Adrian Reghitto	Allison Hocker	Dominic DeMartine
4th	Kailey Sellers Zach Rechkemmer		Joey Perko	Kendall Petty Makenna Garcia	
5th	Ava Perko Andrew Macking			Nevaeh Ahrendsen	
HM	Isabella Kersley				

"C-O-N-G-R-A-T-U-L-A-T-I-O-N-S"

17th Annual TSD Spelling Bee
January 25, 2014

"In an unprecedented move Saturday morning, this year's elementary school spellers worked their way through the regular list and another 21 words on a second list.

This was truly, truly an epic spelling bee," said Lisa Paradise, spelling bee coordinator for Thompson School District. "To go into that many additional words shows their overall knowledge of words." [Read More from The Reporter Herald](#)

Elementary Top Competitors:

- 1st: Adrian Reghitto, Berthoud Elementary
- 2nd: Avery Crockett, Ponderosa
- 3rd: Kaitlyn Ricks, Ponderosa

Middle School Top Competitors:

Top 6 heading to the State Bee ~ Mar 8:

- 1st: Naser Moin, Lucile Erwin
- 2nd: Elizabeth Netschke, Turner
- 3rd: Amber Holt, Loveland Classical
- 4th: Tori Miller, Bill Reed
- Tied for 5th: Avery Pflieger/Brady Nicks, both of Lucile Erwin



Image courtesy of The Reporter Herald

Four alternates to State:

- 7th: Savannah Brown, Loveland Classical Charter School
- 8th: Colin Adams, LucileErwin
- 9th: Eryn Batie, Bill Reed
- 10th: Ami Jones, Walt Clark



Pre-State Chess Tournament

February 1, 2014

Over 80 students, spanning grades K-11 braved the weather to compete for the coveted tournament trophies and opportunity to compete in Denver at the state competition.

The District Tournament will be April 26. All TSD students are welcome to participate and compete. Please contact [Brian Lindsey](#) at 970-690-7380 for tournament details or to form a team at your school.

	Grades K-3	Grades 4-6	Grades 7-8	Grades 9-12
1st	Nathan Woo	Luke Namesnik	Connor Lindgren	Jacob Schafer
2nd	Caden Neumiller	Megan Lindsey	Jared Ogg	Luke Slayback
3rd	Elizabeth Thompson	Alexander Aiden	Paul Slayback	Emily Sullivan
4th	Ty Baker	Jackson Gibbs	Hunter Ogg	Cameron Baur
5th	Connor Ericson	Nicole Rogers	Daniel Meador	Taylor Valliere

Mathcounts Pre-State Tournament

February 1, 2014

On the snowy Saturday morning of Feb 1, twenty-seven middle schools from Lucile Erwin, Walt Clark and Conrad Ball Middle Schools duked it out math-style at the Mathcounts State Qualifier Tournament.



The Regional Competition is Feb 8th at UNC in Greeley, with the victors heading to state. The top five competitors at state win a half-tuition scholarship to DU or the Colorado School of Mines.

The top competitors were:

- 1st: Nasar Moin - LEMS
- 2nd: Kaleb Joshi - CBMS
- 3rd: Gabe Patton - LEMS
- 4th: Nicholas Amihin - LEMS
- 5th: Colby Vrem - CBMS
- 6th: Sarah Peters - CBMS
- 7th: Jared Geling - LEMS
- 8th: Ami Jones - WCMS
- 9th: Devon Evert - CBMS
- 10th: Laura Lenhart - CBMS

Top Teams:

- 1st: Lucile Erwin MS



Calling artists of all ages!

Coming this spring...

Shadows in the Arts -- offered the past five years -- is an annual program that pairs Loveland area artists with elementary, middle and high school students to give them a lesson on a particular artistic medium.

Students are referred for eligibility by their school's art teacher. Interested students should contact their teacher to learn more about the 2014 Shadow in the Arts program. Details will become available mid-February.

Odyssey of the Mind

Creativity on steroids. That's how some might describe OM. Ten schools, several with multiple teams, are hard at work, applying their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and world level.



Robotics

Lego robotics challenges have been based on topics such as nanotechnology, climate, quality of life for the handicapped population, and transportation. Participants are exposed to potential career paths within a chosen Challenge topic, in addition to solidifying the STEM principles that naturally come from participating in a robotics program.



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