

R.O.A.R Report

Visit us at: <http://rimrock.mesa.k12.co.us/>
Old editions will be archived on our website.



Mission Statement: *Is to be a school community where all learners (students, staff and parents) are valued and continuously strive to achieve our personal best. Si usted necesita una traducción en español favor de llamar al 254-5339. Estamos para servirles.*

September 21, 2016

Upcoming Dates

Picture Day – Thursday, Sept. 30

Fall Break – Monday, Oct 3 – Friday, Oct 7

PTO Meeting and School Meal – Thursday, Oct 13 4:00 pm

No School – Monday, October 17 – Teacher Work Day

Fall Conferences – Tues, Wed Oct 25 and 26 4:00 – 8:00 and Thursday, Oct 27 8:00 – 4:00

No School – Thursday, October 27 (Conferences) and Friday, October 28 – Comp Day for Teachers

Focus on Learning:

Added Support for 2nd Grade Classrooms

Each of our 2nd grade classrooms has 28 learners. We have been working with the district administration team to find funding for additional support. We are happy to announce we were granted 2 additional four hour aides to support our teachers and our learners during their literacy blocks. We welcomed Mrs. Lopez, Mrs. Ramirez and Mrs. Gallant earlier this month.

School Advisory Council (SAC)

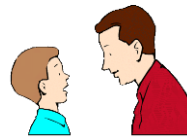
We held our first SAC meeting on Thursday, September 15 at 4:15 in our conference room. Our agenda included the following items:

1. Introductions and Planning
2. Review Safety Plan
3. Share and Review School Budget
4. Culture, Transparency and Learner-Centered Environment

Carolyn Nenne will continue to be our chairperson. Any interested parents and community members are always welcome to attend. We do have child care available during these meetings. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 17 at 4:15 pm. We will have a District Advisory Council Representative present and review our School Improvement Plan (including our goals) for the '15-'16 and '16-'17 school years.

Engaging Your Children in Conversations about Their Day

Mrs. Bricker, one of our Kindergarten teachers, shared an article with me and her families. Below were three questions a family shared that you can ask your children about their day to help them develop a growth mindset, a sense of community and to hear more than a typical response when you ask about



their day:

- How were you brave today?
- How were you kind today?
- How did you fail today?

We would love for you to share some of the responses you hear as you talk to your children. To read more, follow this link:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/meg-conley/we-ask-our-kids-the-same-3-questions-every-night_b_11665530.html .

Costumes on Halloween

As a staff we have voted to have 1st through 5th grade students have the option to wear costumes to school on Halloween this year. This will be a first and a trial year for our school. We ask that when you are picking out costumes, please remember that students come to school wearing their costumes and must be able to participate in their learning all day in costume without adult assistance – there will not be a parade. With this in mind, please ensure the younger ones do not need assistance with costumes when using the restroom. Costumes must follow our school dress code and should not include masks. Costumes cannot be inappropriate for school. We ask that the costumes not be too scary, gory, or include weapons or blood of any kind. Teachers can ask students to remove hats or other items if they are distracting or disrupting the learning of any child. Again, this is our first year and a trial year – if guidelines are followed and we have a smooth day, this could become a Rim Rock tradition.



Focus on Safety:

Before School Safety

We have had several students coming to campus earlier than 8:35 am. Please remember, we have staff assigned to playground supervision starting at **8:35 a.m.** each morning.

Children **should not be on school grounds** before this time as there is no adult supervision.



Bikes, Scooters – anything with wheels



For **everyone's** safety, we ask that **ALL** bikes and scooters be walked on campus. This includes adults as well as older siblings coming to pick up younger brothers or sisters.

We have lots of bodies in a small area and in order to avoid collisions we need all devices with wheels walked at **ALL** times.

Thank you for supporting the safety of everyone on our school grounds.



Drills

We held our first official fire drill yesterday – remember, our field was inaccessible due to the fence. All classes did a great job and found their spots on our field and in front of the school. We will have a fire drill each month as well as 2 lock down drills and a Shelter-In-Place drill this year.



Classrooms have been having on-going conversations about safety procedures and students are asking great questions. We appreciate your support at home as well!

Safety and Flow of Traffic in Our Parking Lot

Thank you!!! Families are following our safety guidelines and our parking lot is flowing well. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE remember expectations even when we have our first snow or it is raining during dismissal. As our mornings get cooler and fewer families are biking/walking to school, please be patient and plan for a little longer trip through the parking lot. Safety is our number one concern.



The Counselor's Corner

The Counselor's Corner

Each month, I will provide information regarding the school counseling program at Rim Rock Elementary. The goal is to help strengthen the connection between school and home. This school year, I will be introducing a character word each month. Character Education integrates positive values into every aspect of the school day through modeling, climate, and curriculum. In addition to character education, I will be interweaving Growth Mindset and Habits of Mind conversations and activities into my lessons.

For September the word is **caring**. The class lessons I teach to K-4th grade will relate to the monthly character word. The lessons that go along with caring are: how to be a good friend, show that you care/be a bucket filler. We are also focusing on being a good listener. All 5th grade lessons this year are lessons provided by the district called "Riding the Wave" which are lessons intended to get 5th graders ready for middle school.

Using *Habits of Mind* to Care for Others:

Striving for accuracy and precision
Find ways to improve your friendship skills (play fair, be kind, be helpful, share, take turns, tell the truth, listen to other's ideas, etc).

Taking responsible risks
Invite someone who's playing alone at recess to join you.

<http://www.dolsenkinders.com/using-habits-of-mind-to-care-for-others.html>

Kristen Walke
School Counselor
Rim Rock Elementary



<http://www.rimrockfamilyhandbook.com/>