

### Hello to our DaVinci families ~ new and returning!

Welcome to the 2016 - 2017 school year! Once again, we have had an extremely busy summer planning for another fun and exciting school year!

We continue to offer you our wonderful Da Vinci program at the Bear Creek Student Center, with some incredible changes. Da Vinci days will be Monday through Friday, with Mondays being optional elective days. It has been a mission of ours to put a child in every open seat, because we have a lot of families who want to be a part of our program. With our enrollment process this summer, we are doing just that. If you're a new family, we welcome you heartily with arms wide open! At the same time, if you're one of our many loyal families returning this year, we cannot wait to see your smiling faces again. More information about the coming school year will be available at our orientation meetings in a couple of weeks. We hope to see you all there.

One major exception to this comes with a change to our educator to student ratio this year. We will have an ACE in every class this year, along with our wonderful teachers, of course. The ACEs (Assistant Classroom Educators) are much more than instructional aides, and they are highly trained. This will make our ratio in the average of 15:1 for each class, helping us provide even more support for every child. Our mission is to personalize each child's education, and with the addition of our ACEs, we hope to continue to improve on our personalization.

The following documents will be provided in your packet. You will receive your packet on the day of Orientation.

Please return all forms by August 29th, 2016

Emergency Form BCSC Memorandum of Understanding Medication Form (if applicable) BCSC Guidelines Parent Volunteer Interest Form (if applicable) Technology Form

# ~Da Vinci Orientation ~

<u>All new and returning families are encouraged to attend Orientation Day.</u> Assignments for the first day of school will be provided, so please attend so that your student starts the first day of school at home with the proper materials. Your orientation time is determined by Grade level:

# Wednesday, August 24th

Grades: 7/8: Group meeting from 9-9:45 am. Then

breakout to meet with teachers.

Grades: 2/3/4: Group meeting from 10-10:45 am. Then

breakout to meet with teachers.

Grades: TK/K/1: Group meeting from 11-11:45 am.

Then breakout to meet with teachers.

Grades: 5/6: Group meeting from 12-12:45 am. Then

breakout to meet with teachers.

Of course, if you cannot attend the timeslot with your grade designation, please choose another, more convenient time. However, we have a lot of families, so we try to avoid too big a crowd. If you can, we ask that you attend your designated time.

Unlike previous years, we will also have this information packet available for pick-up after orientation for those families that cannot make it. We ask that you read over the materials provided, signing the required forms, and ask questions you need answered.

<u>Reminder –  $7^{th}$  Graders:</u> Please keep in mind that all incoming 7th grade students must have proof of an adolescent whooping cough booster shot (Tdap) before starting school. If you have not already done so, please bring proof of immunization for your student on the day of orientation and turn in with the rest of your paperwork.  $7^{th}$  grade students will not be able to start school on August  $29^{th}$  until this has been received.

# 1st Day of School: School begins on Monday, August 29, 2016.

#### New team members!

We are extremely excited to announce our two newest teachers to our Da Vinci program:

Amy Collins will be teaching first grade.

Kellee Speakman will be teaching our 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade multi-age class.

You will have the opportunity to meet them at our orientation day.

Also joining our team this year:

Shelley Shepherd – receptionist Stacy Doucette – ACE Linda Appleberry – ACE Rosie Gutierrez – ACE John Henderson – ACE Michelle Navarro - ACE

## **Electives**

As promised, we are providing wonderful choices for electives this year:

- Lego League/Robotics
- Theater
- Art
- Web Design (this class will be connecting with a classroom in Africa)
- Raspberry Pi (this is a computer programming course using the new, sophisticated Raspberry Pi hardware and operating system. Check them out at <a href="https://www.raspberrypi.org/">https://www.raspberrypi.org/</a>.)
- Spanish

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the front office at (951) 225- 7650. We look forward to a wonderful new year with all of our Da Vinci families – old and new!

Shane Wickwire, *Principal*EJ Whitehead, *Assistant Principal*