



- 1/16 Middle School Honor Roll Breakfast 7:30
- 1/16 Elementary Awards Assembly 8:30
- 1/17 No School for Students
- 1/20 No School—Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 1/24 PTA All School Snowball Dance 5:30 PM
- 1/27 5th Grade Music Program 6:00 PM
- 1/28 Middle School History Day Showcase
- 1/30 Kindergarten Music Program 6:00 PM
- 2/6 PTA Meeting 6:00 PM
- 2/12 Junior Achievement JA in a Day Gr. K-4
- 2/12 End of Grading Period for Progress Reports
- 2/12 BAAC Meeting 4:30 PM
- 2/12 Academy Board Meeting 6:15 PM
- 2/13 Middle School Social Event 6:30 PM
- 2/14 No School for Students



## From the Director

### Just Like Cooking, Education Starts with the Right Blend of Ingredients

In the Creole and Cajun cooking of New Orleans, the base of most dishes is a blend of celery, peppers, and onions. This mixture is so important it's dubbed the "holy trinity" by southern chefs. In order to have the right flavor, dishes must have this perfect balance of ingredients in every pot. So whether you're making etouffee, gumbo, or jambalaya, no real Louisiana-style meal can begin without them.

For education, the ingredients are quite different, but three parts must be present for any school to be successful. The first is safety. Student learning cannot take place unless kids feel safe. This feeling must be present from the minute children come to school until it's time to go home. It doesn't matter whether it's drop off/pickup, a clean school, supervision in the halls, or consistent discipline. When we look at our practices and procedures, each one is designed with the goal of maximizing the conditions needed to keep kids safe. We must also be cognizant of things that make kids feel unsafe even if they have good intentions, like lockdown drills.

The next key ingredient is climate and culture. A positive learning environment starts with positive people creating a positive atmosphere. When done right, it can look simple or easy, but it doesn't just happen by accident. Character, attitude, constant effort, and a sense of efficacy all play a role in supporting the feeling that everyone is making a real difference. Sincere words of encouragement, a high level of trust, and relentless consistency all play key roles in making it happen. Think back to the teachers and coaches you admired the most. I bet they all had these characteristics.

The final element is the content/curriculum. You might think that what is taught would be the most important thing, but research shows that you have to have safety, order, and strong relationships first to ensure classrooms perform their best. When you think about it, it shouldn't really be a surprise to anyone that there is such a strong correlation between these three elements. We all learn best in these lower stress environments. This is especially true for kids. Also, curriculum doesn't just mean a textbook or worksheet; it is all of the learning elements present in the classroom and how they are being taught.

So like our friends in New Orleans, we have all the necessary ingredients to make something very special. I'm not sure schools have a name for this blend yet, but it is something we work hard to include in every class, every day in order to get the best results for our students.

## Stay Healthy During Cold and Flu Season

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the flu peaks in January and February but can begin as early as October. It takes a while for the person receiving the flu vaccine to be fully immunized which is why it is important to get your shot as early as possible.

It's also important to remember that the flu shot is never 100 percent effective, so even if you or your family has received the shot everyone should practice good health habits as provided by the CDC:

1. **Avoid close contact.** Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
2. **Stay home when you are sick.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
3. **Cover your mouth and nose.** Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
4. **Clean your hands.** Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
5. **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.** Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
6. **Practice other good health habits.** Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

For more information on staying healthy during cold and flu season, visit [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu).



**The Yearbook Club is in need of your photos! We would appreciate pictures of all school events, specials activities, after school programs, field trips and every day school life. PLEASE start going through your camera and help share the memories of this school year! Please put your photos on a CD and label it ATTN: Yearbook Club and drop it off at the front office, or you can email your photos to [yearbook@crownpointeacademy.org](mailto:yearbook@crownpointeacademy.org)**

**Thank You very much for all your help!**

## Box Tops for Education

Crown Pointe Academy is a participating school in the Box Tops for Education Program. Please bring the Box Top coupons to your student's classroom donation box. Tell your friends, tell your family, tell your neighbors to save those Tops for CPA!



## Grow a Garden— Seeds, Seedlings, and Know How from [dug.org/growagarden](http://dug.org/growagarden)

The mission of Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) is to come alongside residents, and together, cultivate gardeners, grow food, and nourish the community. DUG's Grow a Garden is a food access program that connects individuals, families, seniors, and groups to the necessary seeds, seedlings, and education to grow a thriving vegetable garden, thereby improving local food security for program participants.

### How does it work?

- Participants apply to the program using an online application during the January application period. Participants may also go to a distribution center to fill out the online application if they need computer or Internet access or additional assistance. You can find a list and map of our distribution centers on our website.
- Individuals and families select up to 10 seed packets and 5 two-packs of seedlings and can attend a gardening workshop. Groups can select up to 20 seed packets and 18 two-packs of seedlings and can attend a gardening workshop.
- Individuals, families and groups will receive their seeds and seedlings and have the options of attending a workshop at the distribution center of their choice. Seeds are available for pick-up in March and seedlings in May. Distribution centers will host a gardening workshop during seed distribution for participants to attend. Additionally, DUG offers a series of gardening workshops throughout the year at no additional cost to Grow a Garden participants.

### Who can participate?

This is an income-qualifying program for individuals and families and home and community gardeners alike. Those who live in Denver Metro and have a household income of less than 80% of median income qualify. Income limits are listed on the website. We are able to accept one application per household. The program fee for individuals and families is \$5, and the fee can be waived upon request.

**\*New in 2020\*** If your income is above the listed limits, we invite you to participate in the program at the Grow a Garden Member Level of \$60 (a \$240 value). When you become a member, you become a part of the dynamic community that is helping to transform food access in the Denver Metro Area.

Your benefits include:

- Up to 10 seed packets
  - Up to five two-packs of seedlings
  - Full access to our Urban Roots Garden Education workshops throughout the year (excluding materials)
- Early Access to our Spring Plant Sale Preview on Thursday, May 7th, 2020

### How do I participate?

The online application will become available on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

The deadline to apply is **January 31<sup>st</sup>**. **Due to the nature of the program, we are unable to accommodate applications after this deadline.**

Seeds will be distributed to distribution centers **the week of March 9th, 2020.**

Seedlings will be distributed to distribution centers the week of **May 11th, 2020.**

For more information, income qualification guidelines, and the online application, visit [www.dug.org/growagarden](http://www.dug.org/growagarden).



**Staff Extensions (303) 428-1882**

324	Arner, Celeste	Kitchen
219	Austin, Tammie	Kindergarten Assistant
128	Bandel, Denise	In House Substitute Teacher
223	Bonadonna, Janet	2nd Grade Assistant
512	Davis, Typhany	Middle School Math Teacher
410	Felten, Adina	4th Grade Teacher
103	Fiorini, Leslie	Front Office
408	George, Andrea	3rd Grade Teacher
102	Gerber, Trisha	Front Office
406	Gonzalez, William	Spanish Teacher Grades 4-8
228	Granado, Alicia	Kindergarten Assistant
412	Hardy, Liz	5th Grade Teacher
123	Hernandez, Diane	Evening Custodian
211	Holmes, Liann	1st Grade Teacher
212	Hubin, Ashley	2nd Grade Teacher
514	Hughes, Bonnie	Middle School Social Studies Teacher
104	Jaime, Felicia	Health Aide
521	Johnson, Kim	Middle School Assistant
221	Johnson, Velvet	1st Grade Assistant
107	Keyes, Erin	Assistant Director
115	Knutson, Kari	School Counselor
210	Koehn, Kala	1st Grade Teacher
409	Kokoszka, Jessie	4th Grade Teacher
222	Lacert, Abbi	2nd Grade Assistant
513	Laxton, Meghan	Middle School Language Arts Teacher
510	MacGregor, Matt	Middle School Math Teacher
105	MacGregor, Sandi	Financial Secretary
419	Martinez, Norma	4th Grade Assistant
113	Munier, Morgan	Daytime Custodian
420	Neuhalfen, Kendall	4th Grade Assistant
422	O'Connor, Katie	5th Grade Assistant
307	O'Neal, Pam	Music Teacher
106	Ouweneel, Keith	Director
118	Pilbeam, Jen	ELL/RtI Coordinator
407	Qualkinbush, Morgan	3rd Grade Teacher
504	Roe, Marcia	Middle School Science Teacher
421	Ross, Brenda	5th Grade Assistant
209	Rullo, Rosie	Kindergarten Teacher
313	Ring, Anna	Spanish Teacher K-3, Art Teacher
415	Sandoval, Jessica	Special Education Assistant
511	Scott, Jay	Middle School Language Arts
600	Sherlock, Evan	Expo Teacher
325	Shields, Wendi	Kitchen
418	Sinclair, Jennie	3rd Grade Assistant
405	Smeltzer, Danielle	Special Education Teacher
220	Smiley, Melba	1st Grade Assistant
417	Sunday, LuCinda	3rd Grade Assistant
523	Southern, Julie	Middle School Electives/Language Arts
117	Strass, Monica	Innovative Programs Director
306	Strick, Peggy	Librarian

**Staff e-mail Formula:**

firstname.lastname@crownpointeacademy.org

Check your student's grades and attendance  
anytime from the

*Infinite Campus Parent Portal*

Pick up your login info at the school office.

**Crown Pointe Academy Board of Directors****President**

Michelle Kline (303) 229-0078

**Vice President**

Cindy McNeal (720) 327-3691

**Secretary**

Dawn Baird (303) 657-9872

**Treasurer**

Gabe Sandoval (720) 220-5354

**Member at Large**

Eddie Rey (720) 300-7493

**Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Board**

President: Jesika Hardman

Vice President: Anthony Dietz

Vice President: Ginnie Harrington

Board Member: Austin Shelton

Board Member: Lilian Pacheco

Treasurers: Adria Hurd and Kendall Neuhalfen

Secretary: Angelica Fehlmann

208	Sullivan, Jackie	Kindergarten Teacher
318	Varner, A.J.	Physical Education Teacher
411	Wetmore, Melanie	5th Grade Teacher
213	Winham, Wilhelmina	2nd Grade Teacher
502	Worley, Paula	MS SEL Lab/GT Coordinator

Visit us on the web at  
[www.crownpointeacademy.org](http://www.crownpointeacademy.org)

**Non-Discrimination Policy**

Crown Pointe Academy shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations including without limitation, the constitutional provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability, age, race, creed, color, gender, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, athletic and other school-administered programs.