



Volume 15 Issue 1  
August 22, 2011

*"Semper Excelsius-  
The Liberty Way"*

The Liberty Common School  
*Common Knowledge, Common Virtues, Common Sense*  
A National Charter School of the Year, A Nationally Recognized Blue Ribbon  
School, A Certified Core Knowledge Visitation Site School,  
A John Irwin School of Excellence

## What's Happening At LCS-K-6th

**Aug. 25**– Back to School Night  
(Parents Only), 6:30 p.m.

**LCH 7th-11th grade Back to  
School Night** has been moved  
to 8/30/11 at 6:30 p.m. to allow  
parents to attend both Back to  
School Nights if applicable.

**Aug. 26**–Registration deadline  
for Spanish After School

**Sept. 1**– Grandparents' Day  
Committee Meeting, 7-8 p.m.

**Sept. 9**–Chess Club begins-see  
flyer on page 5.

**LEGO Robotics Meeting**  
There will be an informational  
meeting this Wednesday,  
August 24th, from 3:15 - 4:00  
in Room 153. All kids in 4th -  
6th grades who would like to  
participate in this year's FIRST  
LEGO League competition  
should plan to attend. Parents  
are also encouraged to attend  
and to ask questions. Send  
email to Dean Iverson at  
[dean@pleasingsoftware.com](mailto:dean@pleasingsoftware.com)  
for further details.

### Liberty Common School Board of Directors 2010-2011

Amy Redstone-378-1170  
Dan Provaznik- 223-0188  
Mark Sutherlin-225-0432  
Cassy Turner- 691-3027  
Jeff Webb-545-9636  
Bill Werst- 631-8379

**Board of Directors Meeting:**  
Liberty Common School  
September 15, 2011  
1725 Sharp Point Dr.  
Faculty Room

## Headmaster Writing by Russ Spicer

Welcome back everyone. We are so excited to have your children back in our wonderful  
school for another year of educational enlightenment! 😊

Last year was a great year of expanding our educational offerings to more students in  
the elementary and adding a high school. The growth and expansion went better than  
anyone could have anticipated. Last year's transition also involved a reconfiguration of  
the organizational structure at both campuses. The headmaster became more of a CEO  
and each school was assigned a principal for its daily management and leadership. Mr.  
Churchill and Mr. Schaffer were splendid in their new roles as the Liberty Common  
School continued its tradition of being one of the top schools in the state and nation.

This year, we will pick up where we left off...and continue to get even better! Our motto  
this year is "Semper Excelsius – The Liberty Way." "Semper Excelsius" means to  
always give your best. At the Liberty Common School, that is exactly what we do.  
Excellence is our standard in everything we do – whether it is in our academics,  
athletics, music, art, extracurricular activities, student life, or character education  
program. If we are going to do something, we are going to do it to the best of our ability.

Congratulations to the students, teachers and parents for another outstanding  
performance on the CSAPs. All of the scores are high across the board and several of  
our scores were the top scores in the state.

### Elementary (Out of 1042 schools)

Tied for 1<sup>st</sup> highest score in 6<sup>th</sup> grade writing @ 100%  
Tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> highest score in 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading @98% and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
reading @99%  
Tied for third highest score in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading @ 98% and 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
writing @ 98%  
We were in the top ten highest scoring schools in all but two tested  
categories.

### 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> (Out of 548 schools)

Reading  
7<sup>th</sup> – Tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> highest score in the state @ 99%  
8<sup>th</sup> – Tied for 1<sup>st</sup> highest score in the state @ 100%  
Writing  
7<sup>th</sup> – The 1<sup>st</sup> highest score in the state @ 100%  
Math  
7<sup>th</sup> –Tied for the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest score in the state @ 94%  
8<sup>th</sup> – Tied for 4<sup>th</sup> highest score in the State @ 95%

### 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> (Out of 458 schools)

Reading  
9<sup>th</sup> – Had the 2nd highest score in the state @ 98%  
10<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> highest score in the state @ 96%  
Writing  
9<sup>th</sup> – Had the 4<sup>th</sup> highest score in the state @ 94%  
10<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> highest score in the state @ 92%  
Math  
10<sup>th</sup> – Tied for the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest score in the state @ 88%

How neat is that? That's pretty neat!

(Continued on page 3)

## How to Reach Us

- Our office hours are **7:30-4:00 p.m.**
- Our telephone number is **(970) 482-9800**
- Our attendance line is **(970) 482-9800**, option 2, please call by 8:30 a.m.
- Please note that you may go to your student's classroom and wait for them to be dismissed only after 2:50 p.m.
- If you need to take your child to an appointment during school hours, please come to the Front Office, sign them out and we will call them out of class.
- All students who arrive after 8:00 a.m. must be signed in at the Front Office. It is important that a reason be written as this determines if the tardy is excused or not.
- Our school closes at 4:00 p.m. All students need to have left the building by 4:00 p.m. or chaperoned by a parent or guardian.

## Attention All 5th Grade Parents

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment requires **all students entering the 6<sup>th</sup> grade to have proof of receiving the Tdap booster vaccine, or a signed exemption.** This is based on the Center for Disease Control recommendations to prevent cases of Pertussis (Whooping Cough).

Please submit clinic documentation to the school health office to verify that your child has been immunized, or submit a signed exemption. The information will be included in your student's school immunization record.

## Spaces Still Available for Spanish After School

There are still a few spots available to participate in the after school Spanish program here at Liberty. If you are interested, please fill out the registration form (See page 6) and bring into the front office. Payment is due at registration. Classes start on Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will accept registrations until August 26<sup>th</sup>.



**Back Again**  
By: Bob Schaffer,  
LCHS Principal

We're one grade further and one track bigger. The 2011-12 school year at Liberty Common High School is well underway – larger, better, smarter.

Our first junior class is leading the way like champions. Our new 7<sup>th</sup> graders are wide-eyed, energetic and, in just three schooldays, already growing up fast.

The summer was busy. Construction crews divided our most spacious quarters giving us three more classrooms, albeit cozier ones. We fit.

And what about this year's Torch Trek? Hats off to the scholars of *Domus Virtutis*, especially to House Captains **Kati Werst** and **Emily Yeh**. As back-to-school celebrations go, this one will be hard to top.

The Colorado National Guard landed one of their helicopters in our field and by it delivered the Colorado Flag that had, that very day, flown over the State Capitol in our school's honor. The Flag was re-raised by an Air Force color guard right alongside the National Colors which flew over the U.S. Capitol, also in the school's honor, last year on our first-ever opening day.

The Flags looked beautiful flapping atop our new flagpoles. It was a perfect dedication to them and to the hard work that has made Liberty Common High School a magnificent institution.

The ranks of our teaching staff have swelled, too. The new teachers have been getting up to speed on the many Liberty traditions.

They've matched their new colleagues in summer hours spent on classroom preparation, lesson planning and course development. We've made some truly great new hires.

In coming editions of this newsletter, greater explanations of school developments, policies, philosophy and more will appear at this spot. For today, the start of a new school year is as big as can be.

The atmosphere at LCHS is exciting and energizing. The kids are off to a very good start and it's a sure joy to have them back again.

“Around, around, flew each sweet sound,  
Then darted to the Sun;  
Slowly the sounds came back again,  
Now mixed, now one by one.”

– Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*

## Headmaster Writing Continued from Page 1

I am pleased to introduce you to the new teachers, teacher's aides, and staff that will be joining our team this year:

### Elementary

Kindergarten – Mrs. Angela Horton (Teacher), (T.A.), Eileen Bayens (Part-Time T.A.)

1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Ms. Jessica Rencher (Teacher)

4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Elizabeth Bartley (Part-Time T.A.)

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Kara Freeman (Part-Time T.A. for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>)

Art and Music – Mrs. Erin Grandprey

Music – Ms. Jill Palfreeman

Academic Support Team – Ms. Michelle Howard, Mrs. Anna Broskie,

### High School

College Counselor – Mr. Jesse Morrill

English – Mrs. Libby Kueneke

History – Mr. Jason Mayer, Dr. Robert Robinson

Science/Math – Mrs. Janet McGowen

Spanish – Mrs. Makenzie Tricola, Mrs. Paulina Dietrich (Part-time).

Academic Support Team – Mrs. Jean Bradley, Mrs. Janice Garland

We are excited to have these smart and highly capable teachers, aides, and staff members join our existing superstar team. Please take time to welcome them and introduce yourself to them.

We appreciate your choice of Liberty Common School for your child and realize that you always have the option to choose to attend other schools. Thank you for the opportunity to serve your student. We continue our pledge to provide a quality education to your children and we commit to always giving our best.....“Semper Excelsius – The Liberty Way.”

Russ Spicer, Headmaster

## Seeking Volunteers for Grandparents' Day

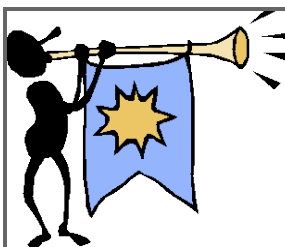
### Be a part of Grandparents' Day!

Seeking volunteers to be a part of planning and carrying out Grandparents' Day. This year's event will take place on Tuesday, November 22 (or Nov. 21st. For M/W Kinders) and is a great time for grandparents (or surrogates) to spend a fun morning with students and receive a warm welcome to the Liberty family. This event also supports the character foundation stone of Respect.

Volunteers are needed to make this another successful Liberty Common event. The committee will begin meeting Sept. 1 from 7-8 pm at Liberty Common School and will meet most Thursdays from 7-8pm. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Amy Redstone at 378-1170 or [chookela@hotmail.com](mailto:chookela@hotmail.com).



Liberty grandparent and students enjoy each other's company during Grandparents' Day 2010.



All students who ordered CDs and DVDs from Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs, the wait is over! Your orders will be ready for pick up beginning tomorrow, Tuesday, August 23rd! Stop by the front office to get yours. Please email or talk to Ms. Voorhies with any questions.



# LIBERTY COMMON SCHOOL

Common Knowledge, Common Virtues, Common Sense

1725 Sharp Point Drive, Fort Collins, Colorado, 80525, 970-482-9800  
A John J. Irwin School of Excellence

**Office Use Only:**

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration Form for 2011-2012 After School Spanish

Dear Parents,

It is that time of year to begin thinking about registration for the After School Spanish Program for next year. We have 40 total spots available for these classes. All students will be pretested to see what class is best for their ability. The registration for these classes will be based on a first come first serve process. Once classes are full, there will be a waiting list. Classes are held twice a week from 3:00 to 4:00. The first week of classes will begin on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Spanish After School Pilot Program that started on September 2010 follows the Santillana curriculum for beginning Spanish learners.

### Next Year's Configuration 2011-2012

Book	Class Size	Class Days	Level	Status
<i>Comienzos</i>	2 classes of 20	Mon. & Wed. / Tue. & Thur.	1	Open
<i>Canciones</i>	20	Mon. & Wed	2	Open
<i>Animales</i>	20	Tue. & Thur.	3	Full

This next year, Level 2 will work on 12 units while now they will only cover 8 units of the book *Canciones*. Level 3 will start fresh with the new curriculum *Animales*. Both Level 1 classes will keep on working with *Comienzos*, an introduction to the Spanish language. Please note that the level 3 class is currently full.

The fee for next year will be \$250 per student per year (for two classes of an hour a week). This equates to \$25 per month. Families with more than one child will pay \$250 for the first enrolled and \$150 for any additional student. A check needs to accompany this registration to hold your child's spot for the class. Refunds for the class will only be administered within the month of August.

For any additional information please contact Mr. Churchill [cchurchill@libertycommon.org](mailto:cchurchill@libertycommon.org) or the teachers Carolina Herrera [cherrera@libertycommon.org](mailto:cherrera@libertycommon.org) and Paulina Deitrick [pdeitrick@libertycommon.org](mailto:pdeitrick@libertycommon.org). If you are interested in having your child attend one of these classes, please fill out this registration form and turn into the front office.

Student name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

LIBERTY COMMON SCHOOL is an authorized charter school of Poudre School District.

# Liberty Chess Club



**Who:** For all students k-6.

**What:** A 12 week chess program full of lessons, chess games and tournaments!

**Beginner group (K-2):** Fridays 7:00am-7:50 in the Library.  
**Advanced(3-5):** 3:15pm-4:15 in the Art room.

**Why :** To improve your chess, learn strategy and forward thinking and have a great time with friends.

**How:** It costs \$40 dollars and you can sign

## Schedule

September: 9, 16, 23 and 30.

October: 7 and 14.

November: 4, and 18.

December: 2, 9, and 16.

(The second session start date will be January 13<sup>th</sup>.)

### **Introducing the Coach**

Hi! My name is Zachary Bekkedahl, chess coach and teacher of many schools and my own chess club. I can't wait to run Liberty chess again! I want to build off of our hard work last year and continue to grow as a team! Nice work everybody in placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the district tournament!!!

If you have questions please call me @ (970) 581-2424 or e-mail me at [info@chessmatesfc.com](mailto:info@chessmatesfc.com) If you would like further information about me or my club check out my website at [www.Chessmatesfc.com](http://www.Chessmatesfc.com). Thanks!

-Zachary Bekkedahl