

Volume 13 Issue 6  
Sept. 28, 2009

Learn Today, To Lead  
Tomorrow

Liberty Common School

Common Knowledge, Common Virtues, Common Sense  
1725 Sharp Point Dr., Ft. Collins, CO 80525, (970) 482-9800  
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 is Happening  
in October?

Oct. 1-BOD Mtg. High School  
Expansion-7 p.m.

Oct. 2- Fall Festival-6 p.m.

Oct. 2- School Pictures-(Free  
Dress Day)

Oct. 9- Upper School Dance-  
6:30-9:00 p.m.

Oct. 9- Hearing/Vision Screening  
K-3, 5,7,9

Oct. 13- Upper School Concert-  
6:30 p.m.

Oct. 15-BOD Meeting-7 p.m.

Oct. 16- No School-Staff/  
Professional Development

Oct. 23- No School-Parent/  
Teacher Conference

Liberty Common School  
Board of Directors  
2009-2010

Terri Fisher- 223-0989  
Kayleen Fraley-377-8850  
Craig Horton- 207-1454  
Dave Kleen- 377-9579  
Dan Provaznik- 223-0188  
Jeff Webb-545-9636  
Bill Werst- 631-8379

Board of Directors Meeting:

Oct. 1, 2009 -7 p.m.  
Oct. 15, 2009- 7 p.m.

BOD AGENDA

Financial Review, Special Edu-  
cation report, Approve  
Accountability Report and SIP,  
FY'09 Audit Report



Lunch Calendars  
due on the 20th. of  
every month.

Educational Philosophy 101 (Continued)

Today, I continue with the explanation of the *Classical Liberal* approach to education, which Liberty Common School embraces. The two other educational philosophies that are being compared and contrasted to the Classical Liberal philosophy are *Rationalism* and *Romanticism*.

A defining characteristic of each philosophy is its attitude toward knowledge and how knowledge is gained. The *Rational* approach would state that knowledge is gained through whatever our five senses tell us. This is the old “looks like chicken, smells like chicken, tastes like chicken, must be chicken” approach. The educational process is logical, and therefore it is not concerned with tradition, culture, or religion. Education decisions are considered in terms of what advantages are provided to students in the marketplace as opposed to what it will cause a person to become. This philosophy originated during the Enlightenment, or Age of Reason, emphasizing that the mind can explain or solve everything through reasoning.

The *Romantics*, on the other hand, discount specific knowledge as being important. The *process* is what is important. This philosophy does not value a core content of knowledge for the children, or society. Instead, *Romantics* value the ability to find what is needed. This philosophy is prevalent in our society today. Often it is heard that the student does not need to have the information, but must know how to access it. Many of the current day expeditionary learning programs embrace this idea. Supporters of these programs feel that a child will learn all that is needed through the process of their own “life experiences.”

The *Classical Liberal* approach, however, emphasizes that knowledge of culture, customs, traditions, social practices and religion are important. This approach relies on the collected wisdom of people of our modern time and from our past to develop “*cultural literacy*.” The *Classical* approach recognizes the importance of learning facts. The “boring” facts of geography, for example, provide the foundational “what” and “where” needed for students to ask “why” and “how” as they develop true understanding. Why did Europeans discover routes to China? Why did democracy emerge in Greece rather than Egypt? How did the colonial powers manage to conquer most of the world? The answers to these questions, inspired by “mere facts,” require knowledge of geography, oceanography, astronomy, and history, as well as, anthropology, economics, comparative religion, and sociology.

When knowledge about a topic is obtained, the child is able to think about the facts, see the patterns within the facts, mentally map the facts and make hypotheses or solve problems relating to the facts. Finally, the student is able to make rational decisions and problem solve from their understanding of that topic. This is what Liberty Common School refers to as the “Thinking Framework.”

It should be obvious that Liberty, by following the *Classical Liberal* approach to knowledge, is considerably different from many of the “progressive” educational schools. We will continue to hold true to the direction that our founders set for us as we teach our children to be culturally literate and productive members of our society. They are “learning today to lead tomorrow!”



## Seussical Jr., Auditions

Auditions are **Sept. 29th at 3:15 p.m.** Please note this year the musical will be on **December 11, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.**

## Fall Festival- October 2nd-6:00 p.m.

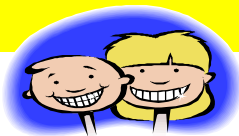
Come join the Liberty Common family for a celebration of the season at the Fall Festival. There will be games, crafts, prizes and food for everyone to enjoy. **WE STILL NEED 15 MORE VOLUNTEERS** to help run craft tables and game centers, as well as donations of candy, (nut free), 2ltr. Pop and sugar cookies, cans of frosting and cupcakes(store bought) and help setting up and cleaning up afterwards. If you can help in any way, please contact Lisa Murph at 227-8718, 490-6062, Earl-Lisa@comcast.net or Susan Groeger at 691-2033 or Groegerse@yahoo.com  
**Parents- Please fill out the attached food pre-order forms for Subway and CiCi's Pizza. These preorder forms are due back to the Front Office by September 30th. Thank you**

## Art Auction for Open Door Mission

During the Fall Festival there will be a Silent Auction of Art Work-painting and ceramics-by students from Liberty Common School. These are pieces that have been left from past classes. There is a pre-showing of the art pieces on the big long wall by Mrs. Karr's classroom and in the art glass cabinet starting September 25th. Please contact Mrs. Borak, if you find art work that is your youngster's. Artwork not picked up will become part of the **Silent Auction for the Open Door Mission** during the Fall Festival. The idea is that the beautiful art work filling shelves and drawers of the Art room can be enjoyed by many people and raise money for the hungry of our community during these tough times. Some of you might remember that eight years ago our Silent Art during the Fall Festival brought in \$100.00 for the Red Cross for helping the victims of 9/11.

## MathCounts Team To Begin Soon

All 6th-8th graders are invited to join the Liberty MathCounts team. We will have weekly meetings where students can hone their math skills while preparing for the MathCounts competition. Students will also have the opportunity to challenge themselves in individual math contests throughout the year. All meetings will be held in Mr. Lovely's classroom from 3:15 to 4:15 and will alternate between Thursdays and Mondays starting Thursday, October 8. If you are interested in joining this fun math experience, please complete a sign-up sheet and return it to Mr. Lovely. Sign-up sheets are available from the Front Office, Mr. Lovely, Mr. Vetter, Mr. Huey, Mrs. Crisafulli or Mrs. Jordan.



## Picture Day is Oct. 2

Individual picture day is October 2, 2009. This is a free dress day for students and they are encouraged to wear appropriate picture taking attire. Please make sure you student

is not wearing jeans with holes or t-shirts with inappropriate sayings. Girls are not allowed to wear spaghetti straps or mid-drifts. Thank you.

## October Count

All public schools in Colorado receive funding from the State based on the number of students who attend their school. It is critical that your student be present during the October Count period. The count occurs September 24th-October 8th. October 1st is the official count date set by the state. If your child will be absent for more than 2 days in a row other than for an illness, during this time, please see Mrs. Hanawalt for an official document to sign. Thank you.

## Vision/Hearing Tests



According to district guidelines, we will be screening grades K-3, 5, 7 and 9 for hearing and vision. If you have a child in grades 4, 6 or 8 that you would like to be screened, please call us at ext. 113. Please remind your children to wear their glasses or contacts on Friday, October 9th.

## Liberty Common Soccer

**Sept. 28th** Quarter Finals Game at Liberty

## Liberty Common Volleyball

**Sept. 28th vs. St. Joseph**

## Boy's Basketball Tryouts

Hey all you 7th and 8th grade hoopsters! The time is almost here for another intense season. Tryouts will be on **10/7 and 10/8 from 3:15-4:45.** Liberty paperwork and a doctor's physical need to be on file before on can even try out. Talk to Mr. Dybzinski if there are any additional questions. See you there!

## Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day-Oct. 3rd.

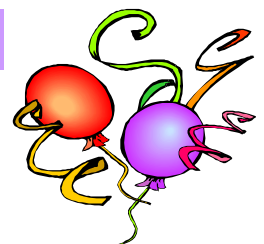
October 3rd is National Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day. You are invited to join Mr. Siener and others from our Liberty family for this Free Event. Parents are encouraged to join their children on the ride. It takes place in Lory State Park and spaces are limited so sign up soon. Full details and registration can be found at <http://www.overlandmtb.org>. If you are interested in helping with the event contact Mr. Siener, [jeff.siener@libertycommon.org](mailto:jeff.siener@libertycommon.org).

## 5th and 6th Grade Math Club

If you love math, join us for the fun and challenge of Math Olympiads. The 5th and 6th grade math club meets on Wednesdays after school until 4:00 p.m. in Mrs. Crisafulli's classroom. For more information, contact Sondra Iverson at [sondra@pleasingsoftware.com](mailto:sondra@pleasingsoftware.com) or just stop by on Wednesday.

## Balloon Mania Dance

Upper School Dance- Oct. 9th., 6:30-9:00, casual dress. Please be kind and pick up your student at 9:00 p.m.



# Three Major Educational Philosophies

	<b>RATIONALISM</b>	<b>ROMANTICISM</b>	<b>CLASSICAL LIBERAL</b>
<b>WHENCE ORIGIN</b>	Enlightenment/Age of Reason 1700's Reason (mind) can explain or solve everything.	Rousseau 1800-1850	Classical Tradition High points in human civilization
<b>CHARACTERIZING METAPHOR</b>	Child as "blank slate, Tabula Rasa" Utopian ("no place") Unconstrained Vision create perfect society or institution which will in turn create perfect individuals.	Child as –the unfolding flower  Idyllic ("dream world")	Child on The Journey The individual as an autonomous moral agent  Ability, Capacity (might/strength)
<b>ATTITUDE TOWARD KNOWLEDGE</b>	Knowledge is important to reasoned argument but limited in derivation. Only acceptable knowledge is through 5 senses /science, not tradition, culture or religion.	Rejection of knowledge as "mere facts/trivial pursuit" emphasis on "process" it is relative	Cultural Literacy Customs, traditions Collected wisdom of group Social practices FACTS: thinking of theme patterns, hypotheses, rational judgment.
<b>ATTITUDE TOWARD MORALS</b>	An intellectual exercise Situational ethics Moral reasoning Decision-making models	Values Clarification "How do you feel about this?" Emphasis on Self-Esteem	Habit Formation Virtue equals Strength The earned capacity to act out proper principals; hardiness Imitation of present and past examples in history and literature
<b>ATTITUDE TOWARD DEVELOPMENT</b>	Environmental Behaviorism	They'll get it when they're ready" emphasis on "developmentally appropriate" Relativism Genetic Determinism	Sequenced: no fixed phases Children are highly competent Learning requires effort plus hard work Knowledge, Patterns, Modeling, Creativity Volition, mankind has agency
<b>ATTITUDE TOWARD ASSESSMENT</b>	Argument Evidence Logic	No standardized test "don't want to teach to test" "tests don't assess creativity"	Clear evaluation against a well-defined standard
<b>ATTITUDE TOWARD SKILL</b>	Exercise of mind (a reasonable /reasoning approach)	Child directed; aka "child centered based on emotional and internal readiness-waiting for skill to unfold Progressive	Direct Instruction Practice Habit Formation Spontaneous Ability thru Automaticity
<b>ATTITUDE TOWARD CREATIVITY</b>	Functional	Overflow of spontaneous expression	The directing of skill and knowledge, craftsmanship and hard work
<b>THE END OF EDUCATION (The goal!)</b>	Progressivist Gets caught up in Relativism Reductionist Cognitive	Socialization of the Child	The outfitting of the child with skills. Knowledge, virtue, capacity, hardiness to fulfill life long journey
<b>DEFINING VISION</b>	Unconstrained view of man's nature Vision of the Anointed	Unconstrained view of man's nature Vision of the Anointed	Constrained view of man's nature Tragic Vision

# SUBWAY SANDWICH ORDER FORM

Please fill out one order for each meal you would like to purchase. More order forms are available in Front Office. Each meal cost \$5.75, including beverage. **PLEASE PAY THE NIGHT OF THE EVENT**

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please CIRCLE 1 choice per section.**

**Bread:** White Wheat Herb/Chz Oat

**Sub:** Veggie Ham Turkey Trio Tur/Ham Spicy

**Cheese:** American Provolone None

**Veggie:** Lettuce Tomato Cucumbers Green Pepper Onions Pickle Olive Jalapeños Banana Peppers

**Chips:** Baked Regular Classic Lays Doritos BBQ Sun Chip Cheddar Cheetos

**Cookie:** Choc. Chip White Chip Sugar Oatmeal Raisin Snickerdoodle

**Beverage:** Water Coke Diet Sprite Lemonade Tea Red Tea  
Fanta Orange Cherry Coke

Mayo, mustard, oil, vinegar will be provided for you.

**Payment:** Cash Check MasterCard Visa

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please CIRCLE 1 choice per section.**

**Bread:** White Wheat Herb/Chz Oat

**Sub:** Veggie Ham Turkey Trio Tur/Ham Spicy

**Cheese:** American Provolone None

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**Cookie:** Choc. Chip White Chip Sugar Oatmeal Raisin Snickerdoodle

**Beverage:** Water Coke Diet Sprite Lemonade Tea Red Tea  
Fanta Orange Cherry Coke

Mayo, mustard, oil, vinegar will be provided for you.

**Payment:** Cash Check MasterCard Visa

# CiCi's Pizza Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please enter the number of slices you would like for each type of pizza. **PLEASE PAY THE NIGHT OF THE EVENT** Pizza will cost \$2.00. Sodas will cost 50 cents.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pepperoni Pizza

\_\_\_\_\_ Sausage Pizza

\_\_\_\_\_ Veggie Pizza

\_\_\_\_\_ Cheese Pizza



Fall Festival- October 2nd  
6:00 p.m.

Parent Volunteers Needed  
Be a part of this fun  
Liberty Common Tradition

Contact Susan Groeger-631-2584  
Lisa Murphy-227-8718



## Prevention of H1N1 & Seasonal Flu

*We Need Your Help to Control the Spread of Seasonal and H1N1 (Swine) Flu*

*(Updated September 21, 2009)*

Several Poudre School District Schools are reporting that an increasing number of students are absent with flu-like symptoms. Because flu can be easily spread from person to person, PSD is taking steps to reduce the spread of flu in schools. We want to keep schools open and functioning in a normal manner during flu season. **We need your help to do this.**

**Prevention is the best strategy, and here's how you can help:**

- **Teach children to wash their hands** often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub. You can set a good example by doing this yourself.
- **Teach children to cover coughs/sneezes and not share personal items** like drinks, food or unwashed utensils, and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues. Students should cover their coughs or sneezes using the elbow, arm or sleeve instead of the hand when a tissue is unavailable.
- **Clean surfaces and objects that your child touches frequently** with appropriate cleaning agents.
- **Know the signs and symptoms of the flu.** Symptoms of the flu include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit, 37.8 degrees Celsius or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.
- **Do not send children to school if they are sick.** Any children who are sick while at school *will be sent home*.
- **Keep sick children at home** for at least 24 hours *after* they no longer have fever or do not have signs of fever, without using fever-reducing drugs. Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people infected.
- **Get your family vaccinated** for seasonal flu and H1N1 flu when vaccines are available. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), a vaccine specific to H1N1 may not be available until mid-October. They are recommending the vaccine be made available to individuals in priority groups, including school-aged children.

Poudre School District is working closely with the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment and other city, county and state agencies to monitor flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take concerning schools..

### **Helpful websites and phone numbers:**

Larimer County Dept. of Health and Environment: <http://www.co.larimer.co.us/health>

H1N1 Flu Information and Resources: <http://www.flu.gov/> or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)

Steps if Children are Sick or School is Dismissed: <http://www.flu.gov/plan/school/parentfactsheet.html>

Steps to Protect Your Family from Flu: <http://www.flu.gov/plan/school/parentfactsheet2.htm>