

# Aurora Frontier P-8

## Principal's Letter

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*Dr. Starla Pearson, Principal*

*Aurora Frontier P-8*

*3200 S. Jericho Way  
Aurora, CO 80013  
303-693-1995*

March 2014

Dear Frontier Families,

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders recently completed all TCAP testing in reading, writing, and math. What a great job our students did! They really gave it their best, knowing that the results offer a picture of what a student knows and is able to do. Thank you so much for your support in making sure our students came to school well rested and well fed, thereby being able to give their best performance.

With three quarters down and one to go, there is still much teaching and learning to do. Continue to ask your children about what they are learning. Have them talk to you about what they're reading; have them show you what they're writing. Ask them to teach you a math skill—when someone can teach someone else, it truly means *they* know it.

The South Metro Fire Safety Foundation has donated an automated external defibrillator (AED). This is a portable, electronic device that automatically diagnoses life threatening cardiac arrhythmias and is then able to treat the condition through electrical therapy, bringing the heart back into rhythm. The device adds an additional measure of safety for students, staff, and visitors.

I wish you a wonderful, restful Spring break.

Respectfully,



## Fifth Block Timeline

The voluntary Fifth Block of uninterrupted instruction is designed for students who have demonstrated growth but need more time to become proficient. This supports the belief that all students can learn, but some students need more time. The classes focus on math and literacy (reading and writing).

To obtain general information regarding 5<sup>th</sup> Block go to:

<http://fifthblock.aurorak12.org/>  
<http://fifthblock.aurorak12.org/timeframe/>

- ~ April 4, 2014 Invitations to attend Fifth Block sent out
- ~ April 11, 2014 All signed parent contracts returned.
- ~ Time Frame: May 27<sup>th</sup> - June 26, 2014
- ~ Bell Schedule to be determined.

~ Breakfast/Lunch will be offered to students at each school during Fifth Block. For those qualifying for free and reduced lunch, there is no need for parents and guardians to reapply.

## Message from the office:

### Attendance Guidelines:

It is important to all of us here at Aurora Frontier P-8 that students are engaged in their learning and that they are academically successful. This is best achieved with regular attendance through which they can acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for their academic and social success.

We understand that there are a variety of reasons that a student could be late for school. We have in place a policy that allows for 5 unexcused tardies per quarter without consequence. When the 6th and subsequent tardy thereafter is acquired in the same quarter, the student will serve lunch detention in the office and will be expected to do the work missed due to the tardiness.

### An excused tardy includes:

Drs./ Dentists Appointments with Documentation

Inclement weather : Attendance taken at 8:00 am.

An Occasional Issue

If you have any questions regarding the attendance policy please don't hesitate to contact Katie Wells at 303-693-1995.

## Around Frontier

### Exploring Cultures Around the World with the Diversity Club

Frontier students from Kindergarten to Eight grade are broadening their understanding of cultures and people from around the world through Diversity Club. On Tuesday afternoons with club sponsors Ms. Waterman and Mrs. Guenther, these students take part in an engaging and hands-on opportunity to learn about our world! Students have tried new foods from Greece, Ancient Rome, Japan, France, and Italy, and more! Students have studied the origins of holidays such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, and the many Christmas/Winter celebrations of the world. Students learned new words from other languages. Students put together African tribal masks, Chinese drums, and Nesting Dolls from Russia. Many of these lessons were built from Frontier staff members and students from this group. Students have enjoyed discovering about their own cultures, as well as new ones!! These students are leading the way in understanding what makes each of us unique and special!



## Physical Education

**PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE have your student wear gym shoes to Physical Education! Wearing the right shoes to exercise in makes the experience more comfortable, reduces risk and keeps everyone SAFER!**

**Thank you! Mrs. Handy**

## Health News

# Visual Health Awareness

By now you should have received notification if your child failed school vision screening. I have seen some beautiful new glasses! If you have not been able to get an appointment or need help obtaining glasses, please call me at 303 693-1995.

It is estimated that around 19 million children worldwide experience visual difficulties. Kids with uncorrected vision problems can face a variety of limitations both in the classroom and out. Vision screenings in the school setting along with proper follow-up care can help maximize potential academically, socially, and athletically. However, **vision screenings only occur once a year and young children's eyesight can change rapidly. Therefore, it is important to be aware of signs that your child might be struggling with vision.** Your child may not realize or be able to tell you that they are having trouble seeing, so it is important to know what to look for. **Much of the learning material that your child is exposed to is presented visually, making it vital that any problems with vision are identified and addressed as early as possible.**

The following resources were used in this article and can be visited for more information:

### Vision Screening

Each year, standardized vision screenings are performed with every child. By now, you should have been notified if your child did not pass the screening by phone or by letter. If your child struggled to pass the initial screening, they may have been referred by the school nurse for a follow up eye appointment.

### Importance of Follow-Up Appointments

Parents play a critical role in ensuring that visual impairments are addressed. **Some visual impairments have a limited window of opportunity for correction. Children can easily fall behind academically if proper follow-up care is not provided.**

### Signs that your child might be struggling with vision

- frequent eye rubbing/blinking
- short attention span
- frequent headaches
- holding reading material close to the face
- losing place when reading
- difficulty remembering what he/she read
- tilting head to one side

### What to do with this information

- **If your child is referred for a follow-up exam, don't wait!! Schedule an appointment with an eye doctor.**
- If your child wears glasses, it is essential for their academic success that they **bring and wear** their glasses **everyday!**
- Watch for signs (listed above) that your child's vision might be changing or declining, and follow up with the school nurse or a doctor if you suspect they are having difficulties.
- If your child experiences cognitive or physical disability, special types of testing may be needed to address these issues.



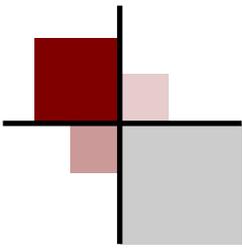
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### Financial problems? Need help finding a doctor?

We're here to help! Please contact your health paraprofessional or school nurse. There are many resources available to ensure that your child can receive proper

The following resources were used in this article and can be visited for more information:

- World Health Organization (<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs282/en/>)
- American Optometric Association ([www.aoa.org](http://www.aoa.org))



## Health News

Spring is here, and with it just a few reminders.

Allergy season is just around the corner. The school clinic does NOT have non-sedating allergy medications such as Zyrtec or Claritan. If your child suffers from seasonal allergies, please medicate him or her at home before school.

Please remind you children to dress in layers. The weather can be freezing in the morning and warm by noon or vice versa. It's a miserable recess when they are cold.

Please keep your children at home when they are ill until they are fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT the use of fever reducing medicine such as Tylenol or Advil. This district policy is intended to allow children to get well more rapidly as well as to decrease the spread of illness to unaffected children. We do not stock any cold medication. The variety on the market is mind boggling and each child reacts differently to the contents.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me with any health related concerns about your child. I am happy to do all that I can to promote their health and keep them learning.

## Music Notes:



### Music Notes:

#### Music Events 2014

**\*All Programs and Concerts are at Frontier P-8 at 7:00 P.M. unless otherwise noted**

*April 10, 2014 – APS Middle School Honor Band at Vista Peak Preparatory, 7:00p.m.*

*April 22, 2014 – APS Elementary and Middle School Honor Choir at Vista Peak Preparatory, 6:30p.m.*

*April 24, 2014 – APS Band Festival at Hinkley HS, during the day*

*May 1, 2014 – Middle School Bands with the Soaring Singers*

*May 14, 2014 – Middle School Play*

*May 15, 2014 – Band Trip to Elitch's Music Festival*

#### Band Students

Please remember our concert attire is the Frontier Band Polo shirt and black pants or a skirt. Please wear black shoes and socks. Make sure your permission slip and \$20 fee for the Elitch Music Festival is turned in so you can attend! We are also looking for anyone with a large vehicle to drive and help move equipment for the Elitch Music Festival. If you have a trailer, that would be ideal or possibly two vans with seats removed or a covered truck. Let me know if you are able to help!

#### Drama

The 7/8 Drama Class is currently working on a production called Princess Who? The performance date is May 14<sup>th</sup>. Any help would be greatly appreciated! We could use assistance on costumes, props, scenery, etc. Please contact Mrs. Mabrey if you are interested!

#### Website

Please check out the music website with information about programs, what we are learning in class, Soaring Singers, band and choir events, etc. Please check it for answers to any questions or for information. I hope it is helpful!

<https://sites.google.com/a/aurorak12.org/aurora-frontier-music/home>

**Congratulations to the Kindergarten, First, and Second graders on fabulous performances!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS



5<sup>th</sup> grade will be going to the City of Aurora's Water Festival at the Community College of Aurora on May 15, 2014. We will learn about Colorado's water laws, conservation of water, the water cycle and much more about the importance of water in our lives. It is a wonderful experience and we are thankful that we were chosen to attend this year.

Learn more at: <https://www.auroragov.org/LivingHere/Education/WaterEducation/WaterFieldTrips/?ssSourceSiteId=null> .

We will be taking chaperones on this trip, so be looking for a permission form/info flyer that will come home at the last week of April.

### 24 Tournament

The 24 Tournament will be held at the Professional Learning Conference Center on April 24. Sixteen 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade math students have been practicing since Feb. 20 during lunch and after school in order to qualify for the tournament. Four students will be chosen to represent our school from this pool of contestants. Wish our kids well!

## CLUB NEWS

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### Scrabble Club

Scrabble Club still has room for a few 3rd-8th grade members. See flyers in the community hallways. We meet every Tuesday through April 29th, 2014 .

3200 S. Jericho Way  
Aurora, CO 80013

Phone: 303-693-1995  
Fax: 303-326-1208  
E-mail: kskeller@aps.k12.co.us

*“Paving the Road to College... Every Aurora Frontier Student Proficient or Beyond by 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ”*

**We're on the web at  
[www.aps.k12.co.us/frontier!](http://www.aps.k12.co.us/frontier)**

# APS Online High School

PRIDE of the PHEONIX



## APS Online High School

11700 E 11th Avenue

Aurora, CO 80013

Phone: 303-326-1100

Fax: 303-326-1101

Web: [online.aurorak12.org](http://online.aurorak12.org)

APS Online High School will hold our **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Informational Night** for all prospective, incoming freshmen on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 beginning at 6:00 pm at our Main Campus site located inside of Aurora Central High School.

All departments will be presented that evening (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Electives) to answer any questions you may have. In addition, our staff will be informing you on the procedures regarding extracurricular activities. Topics to be covered include the benefits of Blended Learning Model, resources for students, Special Education, transition to a unique High School setting, as well as an overview on how students will register for fall enrollment.

Prior to the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Informational Night, our Counseling and Engagement Department will be in the Aurora Middle Schools delivering informational materials regarding the benefits of APS Online High School.

**We are looking forward to seeing you on March 19<sup>th</sup>!!!**

## Important Dates for Incoming Freshmen

	<u>When:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Where:</u>
<b>*8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Info Night</b>	March 19, 2014	6:00pm	ACHS Lab Site
<b>*2014-15 Fall Registration Deadline</b>	July 18, 2014	3:30pm	ACHS Lab Site
<b>*Freshman Orientation</b>	August 5, 2014	10:00am	ACHS Lab Site



APS Online High School  
11700 E 11th Avenue  
Aurora, CO 80010  
Phone: 303-326-1100  
Fax: 303-326-1101  
Web: [online.aurorak12.org](http://online.aurorak12.org)

APS Online High School sostendrá nuestra **Noche Informativa para Padres de Octavo Grado** para todos los futuros novatos, el Miércoles, 19 de marzo 2014 a las 6:00 pm en nuestro campus principal localizado en el interior de Aurora Central High School.

Todos los departamentos se presentarán esta noche ( Inglés , Matemáticas, Ciencias, Estudios Sociales , y optativas ) para responder a cualquier pregunta que pueda tener . Además, nuestro personal le informará sobre los procedimientos relativos a las actividades extracurriculares. Los temas a tratar incluyen los beneficios de el modelo Aprendizaje Mezclado , recursos para los estudiantes , la educación especial , la transición a una escuela secundaria única , así como una visión general de cómo los estudiantes se registrarán para la inscripción de otoño.

Antes de la Noche Informativa para Padres de Octavo Grado, nuestro Departamento de Consejería y Participación estarán en las Escuelas secundarias de Aurora entregando materiales informativos sobre los beneficios de APS Online High School.

**Esperamos contar con su presencia el 19 de marzo!**

## **Fechas Importantes para Estudiantes de Nuevo Ingreso**

	<u>Quando:</u>	<u>Hora:</u>	<u>Donde:</u>
* <b>Noche Informativa para Padres de Octavo Grado</b>	March 19, 2014	6:00pm	ACHS Lab Site
* <b>Fecha Tope para Inscripción de Otoño 2014-15</b>	July 18, 2014	3:30pm	ACHS Lab Site
* <b>Orientación de Novatos</b>	August 5, 2014	10:00am	ACHS Lab Site