

**The Broomfield Bulletin**  
**Administration Newsletter**

Dr. Vanessa Ewing  
Week of: January 11, 2010



Dear Families:

It is with mixed feelings that I have decided that this will be my last year as Principal of Broomfield Academy. I have cherished the role that I have had these past four years. Helping to lead our incredible school has been my proudest and most rewarding professional accomplishment. My goal as Principal was to assist in building a strong foundation for the new Broomfield Academy, so that it would continue to grow and develop for many years to come. I feel I have accomplished that goal. The students, families, and teaching staff at our school are truly one-of-a-kind.

My decision has not been an easy one, but I am now ready to focus my energies on two other passions in my life - my family and teaching. I am looking forward to devoting more time to these very important aspects of my life. While I will not be Principal this summer, you will still see me around the school. I look forward to continuing my involvement in the school as part of Academic Achievement Group, serving on the Board of Directors, and assisting administration and teaching staff in a part-time capacity.

I believe our school is in a very good position for the current leadership to guide us toward a bright future. I will be working with Michael Greenberg, Broomfield Academy's Director of Operations, who is leading the recruitment and selection process. He has many years of HR, recruiting and selection experience in both business and Early Childhood settings. Anica McFarlane, our Administrator, and staff, along with the new leadership, will continue to fully support the school's mission of an individualized education helping children be exceptional, accelerated, and creative, ensuring that we continue our tradition of evolving strong programs.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me in person, by phone or at [principal@broomfieldacademy.com](mailto:principal@broomfieldacademy.com).

Many thanks for your support and warm regards,

Dr. Vanessa Ewing

## **Operations and Facilities Column**

The project to return the pool to service, as part of the PE program, continues. Additional electrical and HVAC bids were requested and attained. Following removal of the concrete decking, the area around the pool was excavated. This is being done in order to replace and update plumbing, to move one of the skimmers to the shallow end of the pool, to add a second drain, to replace the underwater light, etc. For much of the past week, the interior of the pool was sanded and prepared for minor fiberglass repairs and for re-coating. Feel free to peak through the windows of the pool, either side, if you are curious. Due to construction, please, no visitors inside the pool building.

Attendance at the Jan. 14 open house was very strong, with many referrals from current families. There was interest from prospective families in all grade levels, from JK through 6th. New photos and FAQ's were added to the website and will be updated again in coming weeks.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns or suggestions you might have. I welcome your comments. A link to my email address can be found on the 'School' page of our website. Michael Greenberg, Director of Operations

## **Announcements:**

**There will be no school / services on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, due to the national holiday - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

**2010-11 Student Visits:** On Wednesday (1/13) students were able to visit with teachers from the grade level above their current placement. Through this process they were able to familiarize themselves with the curriculum, programs, and services, as well as the teachers they may not know well.

**Parent / Teacher Meet and Greet:** On Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, from 5 - 5:45 pm teachers will be available in their classrooms to meet with parents and answer questions about the 2010 - 2011 school year. Dr. Ewing, Anica McFarlane, and Michael Greenberg will be available to answer questions also. We are looking forward to talking with you about the programs, units, and activities scheduled for the summer and upcoming school year!

**Upper Class - 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teaching Position:** We are currently in the second phase of our extensive interview process for candidates for the upper grades position. As part of the process, top candidates meet for a group interview and teaching lesson with us prior to our selection. Please check with our administration for further questions or details regarding this process.

**Principal / Head of School Position:** The interview process for highly qualified candidates to join our administration team will begin immediately. Please feel free to talk with any of our administrative team about this process at any time. You will be provided with continued updates throughout the selection process.

**Meeting Date -- Learning Community Book Club:** Tuesday, March 2nd 5 p.m. at Old Chicago's. The next selection for reading and discussing will be the autobiography *Look Me in the Eye* by John Elder Robison, as well as parts one and two of the text "*Mellow Out,*" *They Say. If I Only Could. Intensities and Sensitivities of the Young and Bright* by: Piechowski and Colangelo.

Additional short articles and readings will also be discussed in our 2<sup>nd</sup> book club meeting related to social / emotional struggles of children (date/time and additional readings- TBD in April).

**Parent Individualized Student Learning Plan (ISLP) Conferences and Minimal Days - February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.** Sign-up sheets available in the front foyer area beginning January 20<sup>th</sup>.

School will end at noon on 2/4 and 2/5 due to Parent / Teacher conferences. If you would like your child to register for **extended day**, sign-up sheets will be in the front foyer beginning 1/20. Students will have a snack but will not have lunch at school unless they are staying for extended day care.

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays Parent Support Meetings - Beginning Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**SAE - Social, Academic, and Emotional Needs of Gifted and Creative Students.**

Come to meet with and join other parents in our school to share our stories, strategies, and resources in a confidential and supportive group to discuss topics such as:

**Perfectionism**  
**Obsessions**  
**Attention Struggles**  
**\*\*\*And more!**

**Sensitivity**  
**Peer Group Struggles**  
**Excessive Energy**

**Questioning Authority**  
**Motivational Struggles**  
**Fears / Worries**

Meetings will be held in Mrs. Mountain's Kindergarten classroom from 5:30-6:30 unless stated otherwise.

**Student Ambassador Program:** This program is for student leaders in each class that will serve as role models for other students through service learning, supporting and welcoming new or struggling students, and helping each class focus on the virtue of the month. We meet for lunch meetings and special event coordination planning throughout the school year. Our second meeting is scheduled for February 10<sup>th</sup> at noon.

**Cognitive Assessment / Test:** On Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (times to be determined by student grade levels / # registered), Broomfield Academy will be offering the CogAT test. The *Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)* measures students' learned reasoning abilities in the three areas most linked to academic success in school: Verbal, Quantitative and Nonverbal. Its primary goal is to assess students' reasoning abilities. This test is not required for our students and is being offered to families who are interested in better understanding their child's abilities and potential needs. The test will be offered to interested families with children in Kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> Grade during a Saturday session on campus. There is a \$20 fee per child for this test. Please contact Dr. Ewing if you would like to register for this testing by February 1<sup>st</sup> or to ask any additional questions.

**1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Stanford Achievement Test:** during the month of April all students 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade will take the Stanford Achievement Test with their classroom teachers. More information will be coming home regarding this assessment later from your child's teacher.

**Broomfield Academy Enrollment Referral Program:** Broomfield Academy families earn a \$500 academic tuition credit for each family they refer, and who subsequently attend the school for the majority of the academic school year. There is no limit to the number of credits each family can receive. The \$500 credit, per family referred, is applied equally to all remaining payments or can be carried as a credit towards future charges and fees.