

April Newsletter 2021



Upcoming Events:

School Closure April 12th for Staff Development Day.

Yard Workday April 17th. We are willing to schedule so there are not large groups of people. If you are interested in helping but that day does not work, please let me know and we will arrange something.

Play/fundraiser will look different than it has in the past. Because of the uncertainty, we decided to go with a cool video of the kiddos so you can be there without being there! We are desperate for sponsors for this event, so if your family, or friends would like to donate to the school, please encourage them to do so. All donations can be sent to Our School. Please do not forget a return address so we can thank you for being a Rockstar!

So far, we would like to thank these sponsors:



SMB INC



Alpine Bank



& YOU?

Our School is looking for some gardening help this year. Are you a skilled gardener? Do you like to garden? Would you like to help a director who has a black thumb (not a good gardener)? If you answered yes, please reach out as we would love your help!

Shout out!

A HUGE congratulations goes out to all of the teachers, board members, and volunteers who make Our School such an amazing place for parents, teachers, and kiddos.

We've been rated by Colorado Shines!

[Congratulate your child's teacher on a job well done!](#)

Our School is happy to announce that we have been rated Level **5** by Colorado Shines, the state's new quality rating and improvement system for early care and learning programs.

We are committed to providing a high-quality learning environment that supports your child's development and gives him/her/they a strong start on the path to lifelong success. Our Colorado Shines rating is one way that we demonstrate our commitment to quality and continually improving the services we offer.

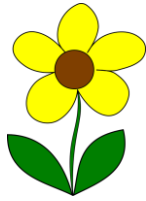
Why Colorado Shines?

Colorado Shines rates Colorado's early care and learning programs, connects families with quality programs, and helps early care and learning programs improve quality.

The early years are a very important period for a child's learning and development. Quality early learning programs prepare children for kindergarten and success in school.

This is how the Colorado Shines quality rating scale works:

- Level 1: The program is licensed with the State of Colorado, is regularly monitored and follows the requirements of Colorado's Early Learning & Development Guidelines (earlylearningco.org).
- Level 2: The program is meeting the requirements of Level 1 and is taking steps to improve quality.



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- Level 3-5: The program is licensed, has achieved high quality and is rated based on how it:
 - o Supports children's health and safety.
 - o Ensures staff are well-trained and effective.
 - o Provides a supportive learning environment that teaches children new skills.
 - o Helps families to become partners in their child's learning.
 - o Uses strong leadership and business practices.

Why are we so excited?

- There are only 11 centers in the state of Colorado which care for infants – preschoolers that have a level 5 rating. All of these centers are in the Denver area, except us and Blue Lake! Reaching a level 5 in any classroom, but especially an infant and toddler room, is extremely difficult because of the young ages and additional requirements they have! Nicely done, teachers!

If you have questions about our Colorado Shines rating, let us know! For more information about Colorado Shines, visit www.ColoradoShines.com.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month To Report Concerns & Suspicions About Abuse call:

1-844-CO-4-KIDS

Noticing Child Abuse or Neglect Isn't Always Easy. Calling Is.

Colorado now has one toll-free number to report child abuse and neglect. Please use it.

Colorado Child Abuse and Neglect: <http://co4kids.org/>

Stop It Now: www.stopitnow.org

The Enough Abuse Campaign: www.enoughabuse.org

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children: www.missingkids.com

National Center on the Sexual Behavior of Youth: www.ncsby.org

No Place Like Home: www.noplacelikehome.org

Joyful Heart Foundation: www.joyfulheartfoundation.org

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network: <http://www.nctsn.org/resources>

United States Department of Justice National Sex Offender Public Website: <https://www.nsopw.gov>

Illuminate Colorado: <https://www.illuminatecolorado.org/>

Darkness to Light: <https://www.d2l.org/>

Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault: <https://www.ccasa.org/>

Children's Behaviors: <https://www.stopitnow.org/>

Age-Appropriate Sexual Behavior: <https://www.stopitnow.org/>

More valuable info can be found at www.riverbridgerc.org including highly informative pod casts about protecting children from sexual abuse, resources and other information to keep our kiddos safe.

