

August 2024 Newsletter



School Hours

Monday through Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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IMPORTANT DATES

8/1/24 Happy work anniversary to: Mr. Dan, Ms. Debby, and Ms. Jessica!

8/2/24 Last day of Summer Session

8/3 National Watermelon Day

8/5/24-8/9/24 Staff Training Week (NO STUDENTS)

8/12/24 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

8/15/24 First Activity- Hiking (Mt. Blue Sky)

8/17/24 National Non Profit Day

8/19/24 National Aviation Day

8/24/24 National Waffle Day

8/25/24 Avery's b-day

8/26/24 Women's Equality Day

8/29/24 Activity- Paddle Boarding (Soda Lake)

8/30/24 Happy Work Anniversary to Mr. Evan!

[Click Here to View Our August Calendar!](#)

Monthly Message From Our Executive Director, [Michelle Tuengel](#)



I have always loved this time of year, not just because we are getting new school supplies, like pens and notebooks. There is something in the air to me. It's like we are getting a fresh start. After all, it is the beginning of a new school year, and anything is possible.

Many of you know that we have students here all year long. Our Summer session started on May 28, 2024, and ends on August 2, 2024. Our first day of classes for the 2024 - 2025 school year is Monday, August 12, 2024. This is earlier than some other schools; however, this extra week will ensure that all students have the opportunity to earn half a credit by the winter break. All students should be here between 9:15 am and 9:30 am on Monday, August 12th.

We have many returning students as well as some new faces joining our school.

I would like to welcome Cole W. to the Middle School and Tham D., Thai T., Spencer G., and Nathan J. to our High School. We are so excited to have you all here.

For those of you who did not know,



Birthdays this month

8/25/24 Avery's b-day

Donor Spotlight August 2024

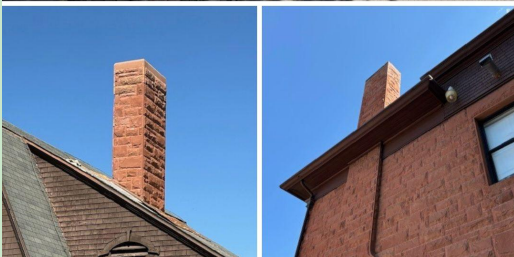
We would like to thank the following individuals and companies for their generous donations and pledges of support during the month of July:

- **Madonna Nuce**
- **April De Roin**

For information on becoming a donor, please visit acceleratedschools.org or contact us via [email here](#).

Donate Here

Fitzroy Place Restoration Project!



Accelerated Schools received a grant with the help of Historic Denver and great news: as of the end of July, the chimney on the carriage house has been repaired. The masonry team has now moved to the main building to work on the four (4) chimneys, as well as the stone bases and pillars on the North portico.

As we embark on a new school year, I want to remind you of the 6 core values that Accelerated Schools lives by.

Accelerated Schools' Core Values:
Core Value 1. Catching kids doing the right thing is paramount.

Core Value 2. In a safe and secure environment, every student will have an Individualized Success Plan.

Core Value 3. Honesty and integrity guide our decisions. We will have High morals, principles, and values. All people will be treated with dignity and respect.

Core Value 4. Cooperative efforts (students, teachers, staff, parents, and guardians) will be used in saving students' academic lives.

Core Value 5. Accelerated Schools will manifest a private school identity where teamwork is the norm.

Core Value 6. All students will progress at their own pace from where they are to where their highest potential lies.

I wish each of you a wonderful school year.

Best,



Upcoming Events (September)

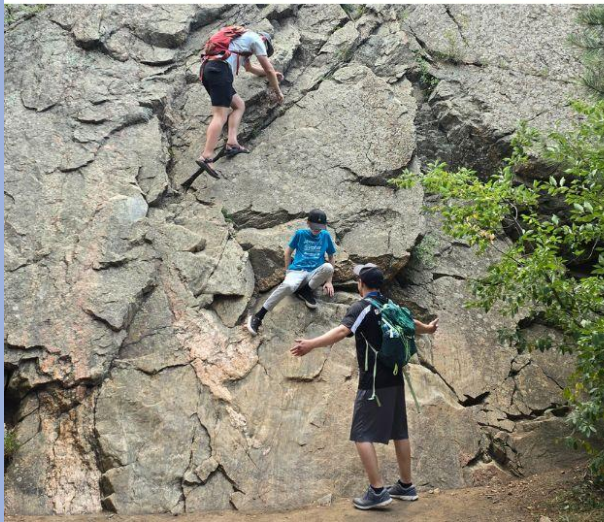
School Picture Day: 09/11/2024 (during school)- school dress code must be followed!

Back to School Night: 09/11/2024 5-7pm
Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to attend

July Activities

7/11/24 Paddle Boarding- Big Soda Lake





Cleaning out the Garage?

Accelerated Schools is always looking for gently used items we can use, such as sports equipment, art supplies, books, bikes, ski/snowboard gear, or even fresh ingredients for our cooking class! Please keep us in mind if you are downsizing or clearing out your space. We also rely on donations for our silent auctions during annual fundraising events. Email us at info@acceleratedschools.org for more information. We provide receipts for tax purposes for donations.

Activities Blend Academics and Fun

Jessica Machetta, English/Language Arts, Civics, Life/Study skills, and Activities Coordinator

A big incentive for our students to strive for good attendance and grades is our weekly or bi-weekly activities, which take us all over Denver and beyond. Students must qualify for the fun trips, but no one is excluded from activities they can participate in for academic credit. “Oh, you were having fun while learning? Whoops!”

This summer took us everywhere from trails, lakes and to the U.S. Mint and beyond. What better way to let students learn about science and history than immersing them in living science and history? I love that our school allows us to formulate learning

activities that appeal to all of our students, no matter what grade or ability level.

As we begin the regular school year, I am finalizing our activities calendar, sticking with tried-and-true favorites as well as adding venues that are new and exciting for our staff and students. That said, I am always open to suggestions, so if you stumble across something interesting and have an ah-ha moment, please let me know! Keep in mind that we are a nonprofit organization, so keeping an eye on our expenditures for activities is always paramount. Shoot me an email at jmachetta@acceleratedschools.org.

Ski season will be here before we know it, when we will take our skiers and snowboarders to Loveland Pass every other week to “shred the gnar”! Be sure to stay tuned to our social media posts to keep up with our adventures!



3 Tips/Strategies for Managing The Transition From Summer Back to School

Kyle Pepper, History Instructor and Enrollment Counselor

I hope you all have been enjoying your summer time here in beautiful Colorado or wherever your summer travels have taken you! I am very excited about the upcoming school year and look forward to the students returning for the Fall semester on August 12th!

With the 2024-2025 school year and the end of summer school and/or break quickly approaching, it is important to be adequately prepared and ready so students have less of a difficult time transitioning from summer activities/programs/relaxation and back into the typical Monday through Friday school year routine.

In order to help facilitate a smooth transition back to school and relieve any excess stress and anxiety from parents, families, and students during this hectic and unpredictable time of year, I wanted to share some tips and tricks to help prep you and/or your child or student for the new school year ahead.

Start Counting Down and Set a Back-to-School Sleep Schedule (and Start Early), and Generate Excitement!

Getting the appropriate amount of sleep at night is necessary for all students to be successful in school, regardless of learning disabilities. While it may seem impossible with summer activities and family trips filling the schedule during the summer months, one strategy to help you and your child get back into a healthy school night routine is to start your child back on a consistent sleep schedule a few weeks before they return to school so that they can be better prepared for the transition to earlier mornings.

Be Involved and Be Organized!

Organizational skills are key for student success in school. For this reason, it is important to provide your child or student with the adequate tools to help them stay organized over the summer will make it much easier for them to make the transition back to school.

Touch Base with Teachers and Therapists!

Reaching out and reestablishing relationships with teachers, school staff, therapists, and coaches as soon as possible is another great way to prepare yourself and your student for what will take place during the upcoming school year. Students who build relationships and rapport with staff members and instructors are more likely to succeed in school and will likely have a much less stressful time adjusting back to the typical school environment.

Lastly, please enjoy the remaining weeks of summer with family and friends! Time bonding with friends and family is extremely important, especially when it's so hard to do so during the busy school year. We look forward to an excellent academic year ahead and to see all of the growth and achievements of our students!

The Great Wave off Kanagawa

Raechel Kimsey, Fine Arts Instructor

You have probably seen this artwork at some point in your life. Japanese in origin, it has become so well-known that it has even inspired an emoji!

This print is from a series of prints by Katsushika Hokusai called *32 Views of Mt. Fuji*. In the series, each of the scenes are vastly different from each other. Some prints highlight the quiet peace and



natural wildlife surrounding the mountain in different seasons, while others show people engaging in their every day lives, working and enjoying leisure time. Sometimes, as in *The Great Wave off Kanagawa*, the mountain is a passive player in the scene, simply existing within view. Other times, the mountain is an active subject as a habitat or source of natural resources. Not everyone notices Mt. Fuji in the background of the Great Wave, mistaking it for, yet, another wave in the cacophonous scene laid before them, but it's there just barely poking out from behind the waves.

During this time in Japan, people were wealthier overall, giving them time and resources to pursue their own enjoyment. This led to the strengthening of leisure industries including the arts. Block printing was a technique used to create books and scrolls surreptitiously and offer them for sale. Eventually, printers began to sell single prints that were intended to be enjoyed on their own as artworks outside of books. This is the beginning of what is referred to as *ukiyo-e* style printing. The term means "Floating World". This term was used to describe the temporary nature of all things. Ukiyo-e prints depicted things as they existed only for brief moments of time.

You can think of block printing as using a series of stamps. To print in color, a carved block had to be created for every color that was to be used in the print. *The Great Wave* used seven different blocks and is thought to have been reproduced around 8,000 times for eager patrons. Some artists used more colors in their prints, and others used less. How many colors can you identify in the image you see here?

Introducing Mr. Quinton!!

Quinton Thai, Mathematics Instructor

As the summer semester comes to an end, I am increasingly excited to begin the next academic year. Due to my excitement I figured I would drop it in the newsletter. I graduated from Colorado State University with a Biology and Industrial Psychology degree. Prior to being a part of Accelerated Schools as a math instructor, I was a science teacher having taught Biology, Earth Science, AP Chemistry, and AP Physics in both public, private, and correctional schools in the Fort Collins/Loveland Area. After my five years of science education, I was a college admissions coach focusing on the ACT and SAT for students in one on one situations.

Outside of academia, I am an avid e-sports gamer, and top level table tennis player for the state of Colorado. I heavily enjoy nature and the outdoors, which has led to a lot of good times on our summer activities we had this summer. Again, I am very excited to be a part of Accelerated Schools and have been nothing but impressed with the students and staff alike.



For more than 40 years, concerned parents have turned to Accelerated Schools for individualized learning programs helping students overcome challenges, and excel academically. The fact is, a traditional school system is not designed to meet the needs of every child. When a student is not being successful, or is not thriving in a traditional environment, parents must often look elsewhere for a solution. This is where Accelerated Schools comes in.

Accelerated Schools begins by creating a learning program designed specifically for a student. Our work points are toward changing the ratio of failure to success and by cultivating an environment of accountability. Our students are given attainable goals and are rewarded by celebrating their accomplishments. Once a student starts experiencing success, their attitude, motivation and effort improve dramatically. This ends the negative cycle and leads to positive academic progress and positive self-esteem.

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If you have comments and/or suggestions about our newsletter, email [Kayla Presnal](mailto:Kayla.Presnal)

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