



IB



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



COMMUNITY



ARTS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION



PYP

Bradley International School Principal Newsletter

Fall 2019

Dear Bradley Families,

The first semester has been full of many rewarding accomplishments and successes! In September, Bradley was named a 2019 National Blue Ribbon School award recipient as an Exemplary High Performing School. This year, we are one of five schools in the state to receive this award. A big congratulations to all of our outstanding staff, students, families and community in celebration of such an amazing achievement!! I attended a recognition ceremony in Washington, D.C. in November, along with Andrea Holmes, a beloved Bradley teacher, to officially receive the award.

Our students had a great start to the school year and continue to impress us with their commitment to learning. We are happy to report that we are once again rated a High Performance School according to the Denver Public Schools SPF (School Performance Framework). We are now in our fifth year of the *Ready* curriculum and our teachers are expanding their knowledge of the curriculum and perfecting their practice through professional development. We will continue to keep *mathematics as our school-wide focus* for this year. Our literacy and math programs continue to develop all students' understanding of how to be creative and proficient readers, writers and mathematicians. In order to accomplish mastery of the Common Core State Standards, we have maintained our Reading Differentiation Block to help meet the goals of all students. Based on STAR reading benchmarks, I am pleased to report increased growth of our students over the past 12 weeks. We hope that you were able to attend our Math and Literacy Nights this trimester. If you did not attend our Literacy Night and have a 1st through 5th grader, we enclosed our AR Home connect parent letter in the Report Card envelope. We hope you find this helpful to help track your child's reading progress.

As always, our teaching and learning approaches are rooted in the IB and Primary Years Programme. Our students are living the IB Learner Profile as they build their knowledge through inquiry, service learning through action and collaborative learning. To learn more about what your student is learning in their classroom, please see the classroom Fall Newsletters on the Bradley website.

Additionally, I would like to take a minute to reflect on some successful initiatives which you may already be aware of:

1) Reading:

- Students in 1st – 5th are using Accelerated Reader to track their independent reading skills and focus on comprehension.
- Students take STAR assessments monthly to track growth and reading levels.
- Teachers can see “live” reading data on TOPS reports while conferencing with students daily. Conferences include talking about: the books they choose, how many books they are reading, the level of their books, and their percent correct on AR comprehension quizzes.

3) Technology and Communication:

- We hope you are liking the new Bradley Marquee on the front of the school!
- We have added a Newline Interactive Flat Panel board in the library!

- School Deets: In order to provide timely communication, we have switched all of our school-wide written communication from Infinite Campus Messenger to School Deets. A weekly update is sent every Friday afternoon. If you have not signed up yet, please let your teacher know and she/he can help you.
- Please continue to check the Bradley website for current information:
<http://bradley.dpsk12.org>

4) Family Engagement:

- Our annual **Fun Run** was held in September by the **Bradley PTO** and raised over **\$26,000** to support our students! **THANK YOU!!!**
- On September 19th students and their families had a blast at **Family Math Night**.
- We also enjoyed various IB end of unit celebrations in the grade-level classrooms both during the school day as well as adding new evening events: **ECE Family Potluck, Kindergarten Force and Motion, First Grade Celebrations Potluck, Third Grade Market Day, Fourth Grade Economy Monopoly and Fifth Grade Explorer presentations.**
- **Family Literacy Night** on November 6th was a huge success!

Finally, I want to thank each of you for *your continuous involvement* in your child's education, especially in academics and achievement. Your encouragement and support help foster your child's love of learning. Our expectations are high and we need our families to help attain each student's success! Please ask your teachers for additional ways you can help support your child at home.

Thank you for supporting us!

Mr. Stephen Wera
Principal

Included with this letter:

- IB Report Card
- AR Home Connect Letter
- School Deets Connection Letter (if applicable)
- Blue Ribbon Magnet