



## Colorado Basic Literacy Assessment Days

December 7, 2011

Dear Parents,

This letter is to inform you of a modification to our 2011-2012 school calendar. Due to assessment requirements of the Colorado Basic Literacy Act, **on April 30 and May 1, 2012 students in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will only attend school during their scheduled assessment time.**

The Colorado Basic Literacy Act was enacted by the Colorado General Assembly to ensure that all students by the third grade have the literacy skills essential for success in school and life and to ensure all students receive the literacy support needed. CBLA calls for local school districts to identify students who are reading below grade level and give them the necessary reading interventions. In the spirit of CBLA, our schools are dedicated to providing all students with the literacy skills essential for success in school and life.

As part of this act, our schools are required to conduct a one-on-one end-of-year assessment to help evaluate the reading level of students. These assessments not only meet state requirements but more importantly provide our teachers with valuable information on how to best meet the literacy needs of students. Administering this many individual assessments is time consuming. **Therefore, on April 30 and May 1, 2012 students in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will only attend school during their scheduled assessment time.** Through a negotiated process it was determined that this sustained two-day assessment period is the most cost efficient and educationally effective method to complete these required assessments.

Your school will send home detailed information about the design of these assessment days and the time your child needs to be present as the date approaches.

We understand that having students not attend school during these days may cause difficulties for which we apologize.

Thank you for your support. Please contact your school for additional information.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Bankes, Ed.D.  
Director of Elementary Education