

The MISSION of the Acorn School for Early Childhood Development is to provide high quality, accessible, early care and education programs and to advocate for higher standards in the field of early childhood education.

Letter from the Executive Director

Happy New Year! Are you like me, having a hard time remembering to write 2008 on your checks? Seems like just yesterday I was trying to remember to write 2007 and now another year is gone! Well, 2008 is here and things are in full swing at Acorn. You have probably noticed changes to the classrooms with new flooring, paint, and some equipment. These are all great signs of progress and the goal is to continue to provide high-quality care and education programs for your children.

I sincerely hope that 2008 will be a banner year for the entire Acorn community. We have many plans in the works, from continuing the playground project to the board developing a 5-year strategic plan that will cast the vision for future growth. We are striving to be able to serve more children and families with the same philosophy and vision that has guided Acorn for the past 13 years. Your input and participation will be critical this year. Please give your feedback, respond to surveys, attend Parents In Partnership (PIP) meetings, and always feel free to pop-in and visit or volunteer in your child's classroom. We aim to make Acorn an extension of your family, and hope that we exceed your expectations in providing the best care and educational program to your children in 2008.

Sincerely,
Matt Eldred
Executive Director

Our New Flooring!

Thanks to all our parent volunteers who helped rip out the carpet and tile in preparation for the new recycled rubber flooring. A big thanks to Rich Scott (parent in Pre-School II) for coordinating the project.

Also, thanks to Sustainable Flooring for their very significant donation of much of the materials and supplies for the project.

Top Right: Rich Scott, left, Ed Snyder, and Greg Bauer, General Contractor

Bottom Right: Susan Scharf
Left: Chris Rice



January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	28	30	31		

7	Back to School
10	PIP Meeting
21	MLK Day – School Closed

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

7	New Year Potluck Party
14	Valentine's Day
18	President's Day - School Closed
29	It's Leap Year

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

13	PIP Meeting
20	1st Day of Spring
24 - 28	SPRING BREAK - School Closed

Board of Directors

Judy Snyder, Chair • Kitty Mulkey • John Hunter • Diana Royce Smith • Allison Cook • Shawn Pater

HELLO FROM THE TODDLER ROOM!

Welcome! We are the Tadpoles. Our ages range from 15 months to 2 years. We have a maximum of 9 friends per day in our class. We love playing in our classroom. There is so much to do and so much space to run and climb. We have recently discovered finger painting, and most of us love that as well. Overall, our days are spent playing, singing, dancing and reading, with plenty of time for hugs and snuggles.



Thank you so much to Maxima's husband, Roger, for helping bring Santa to our school. It was so exciting and fun for everyone!

HOLIDAY BAZAAR FOLLOW-UP

The 2nd Annual Holiday Bazaar held on December 1st was a huge success! With 21 vendors, a silent auction and raffle, manicures and pedicures, the photo show, and Santa Claus, we were able to raise more than \$3500 for the school. This well exceeded our goal and helped us put in new recycled rubber flooring throughout the school! A big thanks to Stephanie O'Connor and Karen Zeid for chairing the event, and to Linda Miron, Rich Scott, and all of the other volunteers that helped with set-up, clean-up, advertising, and making the day run so smoothly. This annual event is now a staple for Acorn, so mark your shopping calendar for this year's Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, December 6, 2008.

PLAYGROUND

The Acorn School for Early Childhood Development playground project is underway. We have completed Phase I, and are currently in fundraising mode for, and designing Phases II and III. If you are interested in being a part of the playground project, please contact Matt Eldred at 303-938-8233 or director@theacornschoool.org.

BUDGET:

- Design and development of master plan and construction documents for Phase I, \$4800
- Construction - Phase I, \$18000
- Spring, 2008 planting and maintenance, \$2000
- Design redevelopment and construction documents for Phase II, \$3000
- Construction - Phase II, \$30000
- Spring, 2009 maintenance, \$1400
- Design redevelopment and construction documents for Phase III, \$2500
- Construction - Phase III, \$20000

OVERVIEW:

The design and reconstruction has begun on our two existing outdoor playscapes, a larger area for preschoolers (ages 2-6) and a smaller area for toddlers.



OBJECTIVES:

- Address safety issues and design/build all areas to conform with ASTM safety standards
- Complete the project in phases that would coincide with funding over the course of a few years
- Develop landscaping and increase natural elements
- Reuse existing materials when possible
- Provide a variety of play opportunities that include: water, sand, paths, musical instruments, play structures, rocks, climbing, practical life, riding toys, movement and rest.
- Add storage and design spaces that encourage the storing of small toys and riding toys
- Limit maintenance requirements
- FUN, FUN, FUN



Connecting great kids with great care.