Steck Star-Lights

3-1-2019

★ MISSION STATEMENT ★
As a community, we work to ensure every student achieves academic, social and emotional growth.

★ VISION STATEMENT ★
Steck Stars☆ are known, safe, inspired, challenged, and empowered.
Dear Steck Families,

We are writing to let you know about a game called the “Momo Challenge,” similar to a game that circulated last year called the “Blue Whale Challenge.” The Momo Challenge is an online challenge game that urges participants to commit various acts of self-harm that increase in severity with each new activity. For each activity, they are encouraged to upload physical evidence to an online site. The final task urges participants to kill themselves.

We have discovered to our concern and chagrin that the “Momo Challenge” is being talked about in our fifth grade classes. Here at Steck we are implementing a Riding The Waves curriculum that addresses social emotional issues and is the District’s approved suicide prevention program for fifth graders. The District uses Signs of Suicide for 6th and 9th graders. Both of these programs are developmentally correct and are presented throughout the schools each year.

We encourage you to determine whether your child is involved in games like the “Momo Challenge” or the “Blue Whale Challenge” and discuss the dangers of playing similar games. Please explain to your child that games like these may seem harmless at first, and that they should be wary of any online game that requires them to interact with others they do not know.

In a time when social media is constant and present in our children’s lives, it’s important to talk to them about the dangers of online games. As a reminder, the terms of service for all social networks prohibit anyone under 13 years of age from using the services. This applies to Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and all other social networks. As an additional resource to learn more about cyber-safety as a parent, we encourage you to visit CommonSenseMedia.org, a partnership we have forged through Denver Public Schools. As a school community, we will continue to work with our students to empower them to understand online safety and cyber-citizenship.

Additionally, if your student has warning signs of depression or suicide, don’t be afraid to ask them if they have thought about harming themselves. Raising the issue of suicide does not increase the risk. Instead, it decreases
the risk by providing an opportunity for help. Remind your student to tell you and an adult at school if they know of peers that are hurting themselves or talking about suicide. Denver Public Schools works to provide access to safety programming in all of our schools. Programming includes the Signs of Suicide (SOS) curriculum and Safe2Tell programming. Our school psychologists, school nurses, social workers and counselors are trained in suicide prevention and supports and take all reports seriously.
If you have questions, please reach out to our Steck mental health staff. If your child is in need of immediate assistance, please call 911 or access one of the crisis supports shared below.

Sincerely,

Robin Kline, Principal

1. National Crisis Line, 1-800-273-8255, 1-800-273-TALK
2. The Trevor Project (GLBTQ) 1-866-488-7386
3. Safe2Tell 1-877-542-7233

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No School for ECE-5th Grades on Monday, March 4, 2019!

Report cards were sent home today in Friday Folders for 1st-5th grades. Report cards for students who have more than one household were mailed to both homes. You may also access your child’s grades on Parent Portal. Kindergarten students will receive their report cards on Tuesday next week.

CMAS Dates:
3rd-5th Testing will be held the following mornings:
April 9, 10, 11: Reading/Writing
Girls on the Run will begin practice on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 after school in Room 210. Can't wait to see you there! (There will be no practice on Monday March 4th.)

A Note from Kat Zimmerman

Assessment Season Notes:

Mrs. Kat’s schedule will change for the month of April due to proctoring CMAS testing for 3rd-5th graders and ITBS (a.k.a Iowa Test of Basic Skills) for K-2nd graders.

Spring Magnet Testing (a.k.a. the CogAT) is here!
If you are interested in Magnet testing or if you missed the deadline for the CogAT in the fall for your 1st, 3rd, 4th or 5th grade student at Steck, you can sign up via GT.dpsk12.org by April 1st. Click on the link to Nominate for Magnet Testing to complete the online application or print a paper copy to mail into the GT Department.

I give the assessment here at Steck between April 29th and May 8th with results available for the 2nd round of DPS Choice for anyone interested in Magnet programs. I’ll share scheduling details once I know how many students are signed up for the assessment.

NOTE: Students that took the NNAT or CogAT already this year cannot take it again at this time.

K-2 Spring Testing

In April, I will be administering the ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) for selected students in kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades. Families will receive an “Intent to Test” Letter in March with details about specific dates. The ITBS is given to students who have two of the three data points (such as an NNAT or CogAT score at 95%ile or above AND a formal teacher observation survey with 95%ile or above) indicating they might benefit from GTprogramming. The results of the ITBS are the third and final data point needed in order to make a formal identification for a gifted student.

Email me anytime at Kathleen_zimmerman@dpsk12.org if you have any questions about the ITBS or other GT programming at Steck.
PART-TIME CUSTODIAN for Denver Public Schools

**Location:** Assignments are based on applicant address and job openings within the district.

**Schedule:** Summer hours begin in most schools the first week of June, with shifts typically during the day. Evening hours - typically a 4 hour shift between 5pm - 12am will resume the first week of August.

**CUSTODIAN HELPER**

**Location:** Hill Campus of Arts & Sciences and Steck Elementary, Northeast

**Work Year:** Traditional 245 work days per year

**Schedule:** Monday - Friday, 5:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. & 1:30 -10pm

**Essential Functions and Objectives:**
The Custodian Helper works under the direction of the Facility Manager and/or Assistant Facility Manager, cleaning the facility and performing grounds work in accordance with DPS guidelines. May perform minor maintenance activities on facilities and equipment.

For more details and to apply click on the link below:

*DPS JOB BOARD*

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**Important Upcoming Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/4/2019</td>
<td>NO SCHOOL-ECE-5th Grades</td>
<td>ALL DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/6/2019</td>
<td>2 Hour PLC Late Start</td>
<td>10:10 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/7/2019</td>
<td>5th Grade Talent Show Rehearsal</td>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/13/2019</td>
<td>CSC Meeting</td>
<td>3:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/14/2019</td>
<td>Class Pictures</td>
<td>All Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/14/2019</td>
<td>5th Grade Talent Show</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/19/2019</td>
<td>PTSA Meeting</td>
<td>8:15 am</td>
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**Important Links:**

- [2019-2020 Steck Elementary Intent Survey](#)
- [March Traffic Volunteer Sign-Up](#)
- [Common Sense Media](#)
Every year Steck earns hundreds of dollars through the collection of Box Tops. These pink and white coupons can be found on hundreds of products -- many of which are probably in your pantry right now!

**Become a Steck Volunteer!**