



THE BOLTS CONNECTION

885 S. Garrison St. | Lakewood | CO | 80226

JANUARY 2024

School Office

303-982-8220

Attendance Line

303-982-8189

Principal

Meredith Leighty

[BelArts Website](#)



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Happy New Year! 2024 is bound to be an exciting year of growth and accomplishment for our students.

Before we begin the second half of the school year, our staff came together to reflect on our successes and challenges from the first half – sort of like during half time of the Super Bowl – what went well that we should keep doing? What needs to be tweaked for the second half? We have adjustments to make on our end but we could really use your help! **On-time, daily attendance is critical for student success.** To truly feel the impact on instruction, parents need to be in the classrooms at the start of the day and toward the end – the number of interruptions caused by tardy students and early releases is significant. Can you please set a New Year's Resolution to limit tardiness and early releases? Thanks!

The second half of the school year is filled with performances, field trips, arts experiences and more! We can gather as a community at the Chili Cook Off in February and STEAM night in April! Please consider attending a PTA meeting to learn more about our fun family nights! The next meeting is Tuesday, January 16th! Our School Accountability Committee works hard every spring to prepare for the next school year! We start talking about the budget, staffing and calendar at our next meeting, also on January 16th – details below!

This month, I invite you to join me and our Family Engagement Liaison, Amy Kraft, for coffee on January 23rd at 8:00am. This is a more casual setting to discuss your hopes and dreams for BelArts and to get questions answered. I hope to see you there ☺

We have an exciting event this month that you do not want to miss! Melanie Rick, the co-founder of Focus 5 and a teaching artist partner at BelArts, is hosting a parent information night! Join us on January 17th to learn how to read art and why it is so critical to student comprehension and success!

Meredith.Leighty@jeffco.k12.co.us

Meredith Leighty



2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR ENROLLMENT

Enrolling now for the 2024-2025 school year!

<https://www.iefcpublicschools.org/schools/enrollment/enrollieffco>

Enroll Jeffco is open and the First Round of Choice Enrollment closes on Friday, January 12th. Round 2 starts on January 18th and goes until August 30th, 2024.

Enroll Jeffco is the on-line system for choice enrollment.

If you are currently a BelArts family, you are all set to return automatically but if you use the system now, we will have accurate enrollment numbers to guide our budget process this year.

If you are interested in enrolling your middle schooler at a school that is not your neighborhood school, be sure to jump on EnrollJeffco!

If you have friends and family with incoming kindergarten students, have them check out our school on the School Finder!

Enrollieffco.org



Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY

January 8th Students return to school

January 9th First rehearsal for Spring Musical AND Parent Info Mtg

January 11th Spirit Day/Night at Panda Express (7660 W Virginia Lakewood)

January 15th No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 16th SAC 5:00pm and PTA meeting 6:00pm in library

January 17th Parent Night with Melanie Rick @ 6:00pm

January 18th Donuts with Dads – Watch DOGS Spring Sign Up 7:45am-8:15am

January 23rd Coffee Talk @ 8:00am

January 24th Parent/Teacher Conferences Invite Only

FEBRUARY

Feb.15th BINGO and Chili Cook Off

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school!

Want to sponsor this school?

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Rob Mangelson at
Rob@tscacolorado.com or
(720) 878-4107.

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DONUTS WITH DADS

The spring calendar is up and ready for dads, grandpas, uncles, and brothers to sign up!

Donuts with Dads is on: Thursday, January 18th

Join us from 7:45am-8:15am for donuts with your students and to sign up on the Spring Calendar! We love having our Watch DOGS volunteer at BelArts!



Donuts with Dads!

Watch DOGS sign-up Event!

Please join us in the BelArts Library to discuss our Watch DOGS program and to sign up to volunteer between now and the end of the school year.

We value our Watch DOGS and look forward to hearing from you how we can improve the quality of the program.

Bring your child and enjoy donuts and coffee/juice together!

Thursday, January 18th

7:45AM in the BelArts Library



MARY POPPINS JR

We had 73 students audition for the play this year and we can only host 45 students. (For comparison, our first production, Annie Jr, had 28 students and that was all that auditioned so every student was selected.)

The decision to make cuts, this year, was very difficult for the directing team and we relied on performance rubric data to ensure that an objective process was held. Congratulations to those who were selected!

Each student that auditioned was given a letter - hopefully you will find it in their backpack. We were very impressed at the number of students that took a risk and tried something scary. We encourage students to bring the energy and motivation to all of their performances - we have a dance performance for all students on March 13th so mark your calendar!

We encourage all families to attend the performance of Mary Poppins Jr. on Saturday, April 6th.



PTA NEWS



Happy New Year!

PTA is excited for the spring and all of the great things going on. Please join us in the library on Jan 17th at 6pm for information on spring events and programs. We are excited for more staff grants, new ways to support classrooms and students, community events, and ways to appreciate our incredible staff!



Spirit Day/Night at Panda Express

Enjoy some Panda Express on Jan 11th during regular business hours, 10:30am-9:30pm! Mention BelArts or use the online code **365002** for BelArts to receive 20% back.

Location: 7660 W Virginia Unit D Lakewood 80226

Get Involved

You can become a PTA member at any time! [Join here!](#)

Want to volunteer? Join a committee to help with spring events and programs. [Sign up here.](#)

We are looking forward to all the great things 2024 will bring!

BelArts PTA website: <https://sites.google.com/view/belarts-pta/home>

Wed Jan 16th
SAC/PTA Meeting
5 and 6pm

Donuts with DOGS

Thursday Jan 18th
Donuts with DOGS
7:45am

Dads of Great Students
 Current and newly interested
 WatchDOGS, please join us for a
 donut, spend time with your kiddo and
 sign up to volunteer this Spring.

⚡ BELARTS PTA PRESENTS ⚡

CHILI

COOK-OFF

& BINGO NIGHT

February 15th, 2024  5:30pm-7pm

"Hot" Prizes for the Best Chili!
 Come join us for delicious chili & a fun night of BINGO!
 More details to come!



Chili Cook-Off and Bingo Night

One of our favorite FREE community events is coming back **Feb 15th**. Be thinking about your best chili recipes (red or green) and enter the cook-off for some exciting prizes. Sign up coming soon! We'll be playing Bingo for more fun prizes and enjoying time together as a BelArts community.

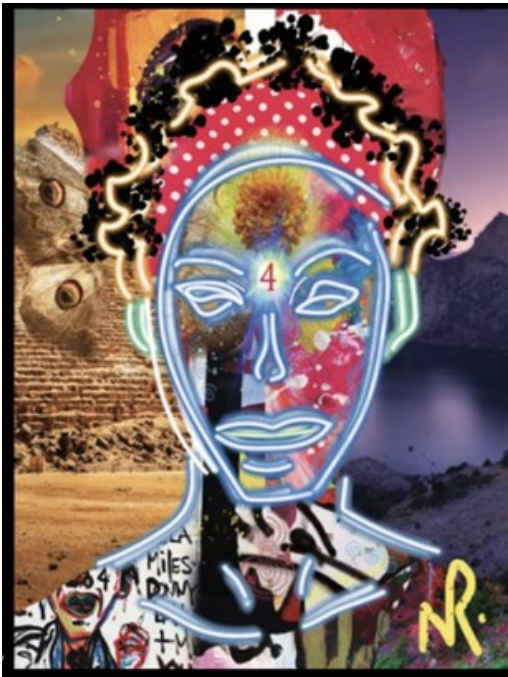
AN EVENING WITH MELANIE RICK

Focus 5 co-founder and teaching artist!

Join us on Wednesday, January 17th at 6:00pm

Learn what your students are learning!

How Reading Art leads to deeper understanding and comprehension!



Visual Art is
a text that
we can
decode and
comprehend.



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COFFEE TALK

WITH THE
PRINCIPAL



Please join Meredith and Amy Kraft-Family Engagement Liaison for a coffee talk. Learn more about what the FEL position offers and other exciting happenings in 2024.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23RD
8:00-9:00AM BELARTS
LIBRARY

www.reallygreatsite.com