The Rocky Mountain of Expeditionary Learning
Executive Director Communication

March 4, 2015

Dear RMSEL Parent Community,

Wow, if you were unable to attend The Wizard of Oz musical performance you truly missed an amazing demonstration of high quality work and student engagement. I personally attended the show on Saturday evening and was astounded with the performance of our students, planning of our staff, and support of our parent community. The annual spring musical is in its second year and will be a long-standing tradition moving forward. Be sure to watch field notes carefully next spring and plan to attend the musical if it fits with your family's schedule.

Tomorrow evening the 9th / 10th grade students will be showcasing their final products from their mini-challenge. The mini-challenge is a two-week independent study that is the first step in the four-year independent study program embedded within the RMSEL High School. Students select a profession to research and intern with an expert in the field, expanding their learning beyond the classroom and into the community. The range of experiences includes performing arts, visual art, construction, medicine, biological field studies, and even the creation of skateboard press. This is one of the many unique experiences at RMSEL in our high school that maintains a high level of motivation in connection to our school mission.

Next week the construction company will break ground on the auxiliary field project on the southeast property adjacent to the playground. A temporary fence will be installed and the grading will begin to level and fill the field space. We are excited for winter to be behind us and get back on schedule with construction. This space is a much welcomed addition to the property and will support physical education and RMSEL athletic programs.

On Monday we will begin the annual state assessment on which I elaborated in my previous communication. We will provide an additional update to parents as we implement the new state assessment system. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact a member of our administration.

I would also like to follow up on my communication on February 11, 2015, regarding immunization records. At this time, our team has audited our immunization records and found a discrepancy to the records originally reported in the news media story. Our current immunization exemption rates are listed below by school level:

- Lower School – 16/148 – 10.8% Exemption Rate
- Middle School – 19/152 – 12.5% Exemption Rate
- High School – 16/91 – 17.6% Exemption Rate
- Entire School Population – 51/391 – 13% Exemption Rate

We will continue to monitor immunization compliance at RMSEL. In the event you receive communication regarding immunization records from Nancy, please respond accordingly. We want to report accurate vaccination and exemption rates to our school community.

Sincerely,

Chad