

## Studies Show ...

The name Jim Trelease is a familiar one in reading circles. He authored *A Read Aloud Handbook*. This text has become a standard in college teacher preparatory classrooms, is on the CRSS parent information cart in the library, and is quoted often in reading research. Visit [www.trelease-on-reading.com](http://www.trelease-on-reading.com) to look at the kinds of work he has done during his reading career.

At the site he also offers brochures for parents and teachers. The brochure that features 10 facts parents should know about reading is one that is often recommended. Read Fact Number 8 of that brochure to find out how the 3Bs help the 3Rs.

NOVELS  
Picture  
Books



Short  
Stories  
Comics

# Cannon River STEM School News

Volume 3, Issue 6

January 2015

## The Lottery is Coming!

As you all know, Cannon River STEM School limits class size. We use a lottery system as defined in state law to fill available openings in sections for next year. This year's lottery is on March 12<sup>th</sup>, and applications for inclusion in the lottery are due on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> by 4:00 pm.

A few things to remember about the lottery:

- Students already enrolled and attending CRSS are automatically enrolled into the next grade. If you have a child in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade now, we will automatically enroll him/her into 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at the start of the lottery. We distribute forms to assess whether you plan on returning next year so that we can determine how many slots may be available for the lottery. If we don't hear back from you, we assume your child will continue at CRSS.
- Siblings of currently enrolled students have preference in the lottery. After existing students are enrolled for the next year, any siblings of those students are enrolled in existing slots, or placed first on the waiting list. If there are more siblings than available slots, a sibling lottery precedes the general lottery to place siblings in order. If your enrolled child has a sibling you would like enrolled in CRSS next year, please submit an application as soon as possible, but certainly by March 10<sup>th</sup> (includes Kindergarten!).
- The general lottery then pulls and places applications in order for each grade, starting with 8<sup>th</sup> grade and working down by grade level to kindergarten.
- At the lottery application deadline (March 10<sup>th</sup>), the previous year's waiting list is expired, and a new waiting list is created through the lottery process.

We could use your help. Encourage interested families to submit an application to enter the lottery prior to the March 10<sup>th</sup> deadline. Remember that our class size increases to 22 at grade 4, so we will have at least 4 openings in 4<sup>th</sup> grade next year! Parents of current students provide our best, and most compelling marketing!

We will be hosting a Parent Information Session on Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 p.m. for families interested in learning about CRSS. We encourage people to let the office know they are coming at 507-331-7836. Please encourage families you know that may be interested to attend. We also have tours scheduled for Tuesday February 17 and 24 at 3:30 and 4 p.m. Again, please ask people to call the office to let us know they will be attending.

Applications can be obtained at <http://cannonriverstemschool.org/admissions> or by stopping in the CRSS office.

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in." [Unknown](#)

Volunteers are an integral part of the community here at Cannon River STEM School. We are fortunate to have a connection with Shattuck St. Mary's when it comes to volunteering.

Under the direction of Edward McKinley a group of 25 Shattuck middle level students have been on our campus to work with students in kindergarten, first grade and last week with our third graders. These students have assessed letter sounds, made activity boxes and helped students rehearse their reader's theatre parts.

Dr. Maren LaLiberty's Bio-Science students are currently helping the CRSS Science Fair students each Tuesday to prepare their projects for our third through sixth grade Science Fair in March. They assist in teaching some of the concepts and work with individual students to make their projects detailed and thorough.

John Blackmer has arranged for a group of upper level students to help on Mondays with math at CRSS. And parent Caren Putrah organized a group of students during their vacation to create Words Their Way activities for our students.

Please consider adding your talents to the volunteer pool at CRSS by contacting [aringli-en@cannonriverstemschool.org](mailto:aringli-en@cannonriverstemschool.org)

**Thank you** to all of our volunteers. Every volunteer hour is appreciated.



# February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <b>Science Fair Help</b> Session 3-4:30 <b>Information Night</b> 6:00—7:00 for prospective families	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 <b>Science Fair Help</b> Session 3-4:30	11	12 Board Meeting 7:00	13 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> Teacher Development	14
15	16 <b>NO SCHOOL</b> Teacher Development	17 <b>Science Fair Help</b> Session 3-4:30 <b>School Tours</b> 3:30 & 4:00	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 <b>Science Fair Help</b> Session 3-4:30 <b>School Tours</b> 3:30 & 4:00	25	26 Math Night K-8 6:00—7:30	27	28

## Congratulations

Kindergarten teacher, Lauren Girard and her husband, Jeramy welcomed their first child, Hartley Ruth Girard on January 11th. She weighed 8 lbs 1 oz, 20.5 inches.

While Mrs. Girard is out on maternity leave with Hartley, Ms. Taykalo will be the K-2 teacher.

## MATH NIGHT



Mark your calendars for the new and improved math night at Cannon River STEM School. This year we will hold a combined K through 8 evening that celebrates engineering and math.

February 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 7:30 join the Middle School students and CRSS staff at the STEM Arcade. Each arcade game features cardboard, recycled materials, an

important math concept, and a chance to test your skills. Watch for more information as we get closer to the date.

The arcade games were inspired by a video clip, Caine's Arcade, viewed by the Middle School Advisory groups in January. Using the engineering process to create, test, and refine their arcade games has been a powerful learning experience and one we hope you will take the time to enjoy on the 26<sup>th</sup>!

## Spotlight on New Board Members



The CRSS Board of Directors would like to introduce its two newest members both beginning their first terms with us in February; Dante Hummel-Langerfeld, parent of two CRSS students, and Cheryl Wendt, CRSS Special Education Coordinator and parent of two CRSS students. We also have Angela Rosendahl, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, returning for her second term on the Board. Involvement with the School Board or attending Board meetings is a great way to learn more about all that goes on behind the scenes and makes our school function. The Board continues to meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, now in Old Main. For more information, contact Board chair Shelly Cole at [scole@cannonriverstemschool.org](mailto:scole@cannonriverstemschool.org) or visit the school's website.

**REMINDER:** CRSS is intentional about establishing celebrations that match our mission. We do not celebrate Valentine's Day with a valentine exchange or parties. Please do not purchase valentines for school as they will not be distributed. This year for our February service project, the students will be making valentine's to share with residents at Milestone Senior Living, Keystone Senior Living, and St. Lucus Care Center. If you know of other organizations that might like to receive a valentine from CRSS please give us a call at 507-331-7836.

## Winter Conferences

Thank you for participating in Winter Conferences. We had a participation rate of 96%!