

# Extended Learning Time Plan

Centennial has been approved to move forward with our innovative Extended Learning Time (ELT) plan. *Details below...*

May, 20 2014

Earlier this year, Centennial was invited to participate in a selective program called the Time Collaborative with four other schools—three elementary schools from DPS and one from Boulder Valley. The year-long Time Collaborative work was facilitated by staff from The National Center for Time and Learning (NCTL). Over the course of the year Centennial created a innovative school schedule that adds 5 days and approximately 300 contact hours to our students' school year. Now that Centennial's ELT plan has been approved and funding has been secured we thrilled to share highlights of the plan with you.

## A New School Year

Centennial will add 5 days to the student calendar next year. The 2014-15 school year will officially start on Thursday, August 21 for all Centennial students (ECE-5). Thursday, August 21 and Friday, August 22 will be days devoted to Crew and community building and creative experiences for students to kick-off their learning

expeditions. On these two days students may have the opportunity to engage in exciting team building experiences facilitated by organizations like Keystone Science School, or Environmental Learning for Kids or they may work with an organization like Abrakadoodle Art to have an opportunity to express themselves creatively.

The other 3 days that will be added to the school calendar are all non-student contact days that we'll repurpose as 'school days.' During the three ELT Community Meetings we held we received positive feedback on eliminating 'non-student' contact days as it was often challenging for families to find child-care or high quality actives for their students. These additional days are as follows:

- November 10
- February 17
- April 1

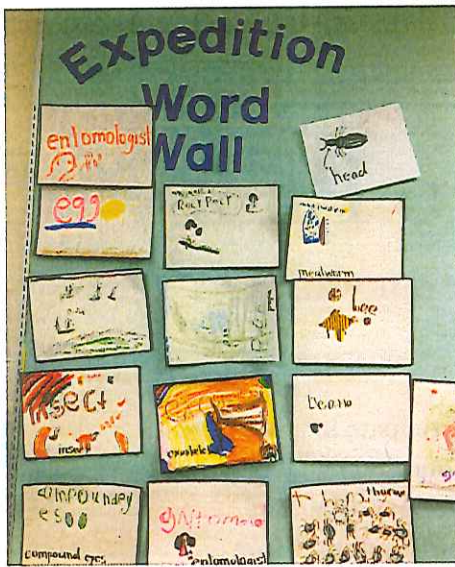
## A New School Day

For the 2014-15 school year Centennial's school day will be **8:00am - 3:45pm** for all grade levels (ECE-5).

Adding an additional 45-minutes to the school day will ensure that our teachers have the time they need to provide longer blocks of uninterrupted instruction and have the time to provide in-depth Expedition study each day. Ultimately, more high-quality time every day allows us to implement the Expeditionary Learning model to its fullest potential.

One of the features we are most excited about our daily schedule next year is the opportunity all of our students will have to participate in engaging enrichment classes every Wednesday afternoon after lunch. Before lunch, 8:00-12:00, students will be in their classrooms with their teachers participating in an Expedition, day, but after lunch (12:00-3:45) students will go to enrichment classes until the dismissal bell.

Students will attend five, 8-week enrichment classes over the course of the school year. Classes will be either 60, 90 or 180-minutes in length. Students will go to enrichments with their classroom Crew. Enrichment classes will be offered in the





following areas: Arts/Humanities, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), and Adventure/Fitness. When ever possible, enrichment classes will align with a grade level's Expedition topic as well. Students will experience different enrichment experiences during each 8-week session.

Here's a preview of the enrichment classes each grade level could participate in for the first 8-week session.\*

ECE	Abrakadoodle Art Gravity Dance Kinder Kixx Soccer
Kindergarten	Butterfly Pavilion Challenge Island Cleo Parker Dance
1st Grade	Gravity Dance Radiant Beginning Yoga Kinder Kixx Soccer
2nd Grade	Da Vinci Club Mind Spark
3rd Grade	Denver Center for the Performing Arts Sticky Fingers Cooking
4ht/5th Grade	Denver Zoo Tech Know Radiant Beginnings Yoga

*\*Please note this is just a draft and providers may change before the start of the school year and the classes students participate in will change every 8-weeks.*

Student enrichment schedules will be shared with parents either at registration or during the 1st week of school.

## After-school Programming

Centennial will continue to provide before/after school programming next year. Please note however, given Centennial's new school hours (8:00-3:45), after-school care will begin at 3:45pm. Since our morning start time will not change, before-school care will start/end will have the same schedule next year as this year.

