



Dear Buffalo Ridge Family;

Where were you and what were you doing fifteen years ago? In 1997, I was living in Lubbock, Texas, teaching 3rd grade, coaching T-Ball and teaching swimming lessons. In the 1990's, I remember being introduced to the World Wide Web (www), using email for the first time, and getting my first cellular phone (it was a brick). Fifteen years later, I am surfing the web, using email, and making calls from a phone I carry in my back pocket. Welcome to the 21st century!

Fifteen years ago in Castle Rock, Colorado, at the corner of Monarch and Campden Place, Douglas County School District broke ground on Elementary #25, later to be proudly named Buffalo Ridge Elementary, home to the Buffaloes with the colors: hunter green, navy blue and khaki. Thousands of students have passed through this school and three principals have served as leaders. I am privileged to have served as principal for the past six years and I am excited to watch my first kindergarten class of students graduate fifth grade and make the leap to middle school. It is a very special year indeed.

Fifteen years is a great milestone for our school and our community. To celebrate, we are hosting our **15th Anniversary Gala at Sanctuary on Friday, March 16, 2012**. I invite you to join the celebration of our "family" and help support BRE for many years to come.

Time and time again, our community shows overwhelming support and generosity. For this, I, personally, thank you. With the monies raised already this year, we will purchase a new math program for next year. We have also made great strides with additional technology in the classroom, science curriculum (FOSS Kits) and across grade level teacher training for Every Child a Writer.

While this adult-only evening will be for all to celebrate with our BRE family, there will be a fundraising element to the evening. There will be an auction with the money raised going toward two wish list items. First, with district budget cuts, our class sizes will be higher than we prefer at a range of 26-31 students. Because of this, we hope to raise funds to support additional teacher aides for our classrooms. If we are successful and can raise even more money, we would love to fund a permanent legacy, such as a school marquee, to be enjoyed by future families and community supporters.

So, mark your calendar, pull out your dancing shoes and get ready to celebrate on **March 16, 2012**. Be on the look out for more details in the weeks to come.

BRE is the place to be!

All my best;

Ally Berggren, Principal