




## DURABLE GOODS

- Printer/scanner/copy
- Karaoke machine
- TV/DVD player
- Skis/snowboard
- Record player
- Cleats
- Racquetball racket
- Computer accessories
- Leap-Pad system
- Aquarium

Where in the paper are the Vikings? There are (4) hidden Vikings in this issue...can you find them? 

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Editorials	2
VISION News	3
Keeli Kolumn	4
Fun Page	5
Movie Reviews	5
Classes	6
RC Spotlight	7

# Vanguard News & Views

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

APRIL 8, 2008

## Curricula Adopted

By Kayla Bellew and Caleb Weaver



On February 21, VISION staff, parents, and students gathered together to make a decision: What curriculum should be adopted. The contest was between two different programs: OdysseyWare, and PLATO.


**PLATO:** A representative spoke over a speakerphone and showed a slideshow to accurately represent the first curriculum, PLATO Learning, to the audience. This curriculum is for grades K-12 and consists of student-paced lessons that can be accessed at any time. Parents/teachers can monitor the student's progress by viewing reports of what they have accomplished. There are many resources for learning a particular subject, including the lessons themselves, games, offline activities, and web activities. The curriculum can be personalized for each student, with the parents choosing which of these resources they want to use. They can also add extra resources as they feel neces-

sary. There are both lesson and unit pre-tests to help make sure the student has learned the content. Anyone with a computer and high-speed internet can use this curriculum.

**OdysseyWare:** This program, like PLATO, offers great flexibility. There are many tools available to the student, from the built-in one click dictionary, to the powerful information center. It also includes features that keep the student involved. A common problem among software curricula is that they can continue with the lesson, and the student can sit back and let his mind wander. OdysseyWare solves this problem by using slideshows, which requires constant clicking of the next button. Videos and games also work to keep student's interest (don't worry, they're educational). However, despite the advantages of these, they all take a periphery position to one issue.

Is the student learning? An engaged student is not necessarily a learning student. So the beauty of this program is it is adaptable to the individual user. For example: The program can be modified for say, tenth grade math, and ninth grade English, if the student happens to be better in math. It also prevents slouching through the year, as the teachers can set the grade they feel the student can achieve. Then, the student cannot move on until he achieves that grade. This is obviously a very powerful program loaded with many options.

The conclusion of this debate was surprising, as well as pleasant. Both PLATO and OdysseyWare were approved. While the Plato catered more to the younger Learners, OdysseyWare was the perfect tool for VISION's more advanced students.

 Presli Hulet has entered a contest sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation. Her project idea is about Green Schools and she could win a prize ranging from \$3,000 to \$250. The more votes she receives, the greater the chance she could win a cash prize. Any prize money will be used to help the VISION program.

**The contest ends April 11, so please log into <http://reelthinking.nimsisland.com/>.**

Then, recruit as many of your friends and family as you can to vote for her idea.



# Counterattacks

## Oh Say Can You See!

Patriotism runs high at the Delta VISION School now that the United States and Colorado flags have been hoisted!



Thank you to Mercer Electric for the installation of the lighting and helping us support America!

To the Editor:

*I really enjoyed reading the second issue of "Vanguard News and Views." The articles are informative, well written and provide the reader with an in-depth view of the VISION program. You have a pleasing layout with a nice mixture of font styles. My only suggestion concerns your photographs. I realize that these are "newspaper quality", and great detail is not an option, but perhaps there's a way to bump up the resolution just a bit. All in all, this is a quality publication that is a fine example of the high standards demonstrated by VISION students.*

Dick Nunamaker

## From our Editor

Caleb Weaver

Debates always have two sides. Some just happen to be more evenly matched. This is the case with the recent curriculum issue. On one hand, VISION needs to be accountable to the school board because of its use of public funds. However, the question must be asked: Is it really necessary? Are VISION students getting away with too much? Who is to determine what is "too much?" It seems as though government, whether it be Federal, State, or county, has this insatiable thirst for power. But yet a curriculum that is consistent program-wide would save time and money. So the question becomes this: Are we willing to sacrifice freedom on the altar of convenience? Those who embrace autonomy insist we must not be afraid of work and pain to gain choice. But, say the tried and true energy-conservers, progress is everything! If that means a little loss of liberty, then so be it. Is this debate merely a conflict of opinions? Or is it something more...something bigger than this particular issue, or even this program. It is between two radically different worldviews. One, campaigns freedom, choice, and dare I say it, the American Way. The other wants unity. They want unity on all levels, forced unity in the name of "change", "efficiency", or "progress". So this author has only one question for his readers: Which do you want?







# KEELI KOLUMN

Dear Keeli,

I ran my first track meet last weekend and my coach made me run the one mile and the two mile! It was so hard! I've never run that much in my life! Well anyway, I got an ok time on the one mile but the two mile I gave up I was just so tired and it was so far. I ran 8 laps then I stopped. Well now a lot of kids at my school are making fun of me and I don't know what to do. They're kind of hurting my feelings, what should I do?

Sincerely, Sad Runner

Dear Sad Runner, I am very sorry that you didn't make the whole two miles. You tried very hard and all you can do is your best! It's your first year and I don't think you should worry about it to much. The kids making fun of you where not even in the meet so just try to ignore them. I am sure you will do much better next time! Just do your best and try to have fun!

Love, Keeli

## VISION Open House

*Lance Marney*



Lance Marney's Computer

On Tuesday, February 26, 2008, VISION's first "Open School Day", which was put together by the Student Task Force, was underway. It was a day where the students of the VISION Program were invited to bring in samples of their school work, hobbies, art and achievements, in an effort to reach out and build a bridge of openness between the VISION HCP program and the Delta County School District. Several breath taking projects were brought in by VISION students including a beautiful vase made by the talented hands of Samantha Quinn. Several stalk car pieces including trophies, pictures, plaques and a jacket were brought in by Anna Tiffany. A Plexiglas encased lit computer built by Lance Marney was also on display. Presli, along with her sibling Camri Hulet, presented their Science Fair projects: one on Tobacco by Camri and the other "A Change in Sugar Content in Apples" by Presli Hulet. Presli Hulet also displayed her Spanish and Algebra 1 notebooks. Marylee Couch brought in several well written short stories to show the District Personal that came to view all the Learner's displays.

Lauren McCay



Presli Hulet



**Science Fair Participants**



Dustin & Cassandra Bravo



Camri Hulet



# FUN PAGE



**Game Review**  
**Spider-man: Friend or Foe**

William Pell  
Student Submission

Spider-man: Friend or Foe is a new E-10 rated video game. It has three developers for PC, PSP, DS, PS2, Xbox 360, and Wii versions. This review is based on the PS2 version in which a second player can join in with the drop-out feature.

The game starts out with a cut scene in which Spider-man is attacked by the villains from the first three films. The New Goblin comes and helps Spidey, only to have creatures, called PHANTOMS, capture everyone but Spider-man, who gets rescued by S.H.I.E.L.D. You battle classic Spider-man foes and Phantoms in a variety of environments. The more classic villains you defeat, the more allies you have!

You can choose to play as a villain or a hero and your role will still be a good guy. The only drawbacks are that two characters are essentially clones of each other. The other thing is that after trying almost everything, Silver Sable (who is supposed to be available in PS2, PC, and Xbox 360) is nowhere to be found. Only on the PSP are carnage and Electro available as un-lockable. Although the game play is geared toward the younger crowd, I recommended this game to all Spidey fans.

## SuperKids WordSearch Puzzle

H Y R O T S I H S T N L F Z H W  
 P O H S I L G N E T I E T A O F  
 Y Q B P D L E B M T F O S F A L  
 G N I D A E R S Y A E I G T O J  
 T T O P M R F D E M P L G E P R  
 G F L T D S G S H T E H H S I C  
 S A O N G S L O S S S A E M T D  
 D I G F T I I B E T J E W O P A  
 C E Y N N R T C I G T C R A O N  
 P S W X R I N T D D I S E H L L  
 M A Y R G E E Q T F D A G P A S  
 C P S C I V I C S E O J F M E K  
 S I R C F T Z L I O I G F I R H  
 T K S N E A I X A L P M R L A E  
 D E S U V E H N N E B R L A T X  
 R H T A M E S E G F B E T X D D

Find the following hidden words:

geography, math, English, science, history, reading, biology, civics, writing, music, csap

Make your own SuperKids WordSearch Puzzles at:

<http://www.superkids.com/aweb/tools/words/search/>

## The Spiderwick Chronicles

Lance Marney

The Spiderwick Chronicles is a fantastic movie for both the young and mature audiences. The movie entails of a fantasy world living amongst our own human world. After leaving her husband, Helen Grace has taken her three children Mal-lory and twins Jared and Simon to the Spiderwick Estate - a decrepit mansion Helen



inherited from her supposedly psychotic Aunt Lucinda. The Spiderwick Estate has a secret however: 80 years ago explorer Arthur Spiderwick wrote a *Field Guide to the Fantastical World Around You* and, in doing so, unleashed some terrible forces. Now, an army of goblins led by Mulgrath is massing to take the book away from its

place of protection and only the three children stand in the way of Mulgrath's domination of the world. While the movie tended to have a slow start, as it picked up it surprised audiences with an enthralling story, captivating imagery and fantastic action sequences.



# Teen Happenings

*Ashley Quinn*

On February 12, 2008, a large group of teenagers met at the office to go on an awesome trip to Grand Junction to go ice skating at the Glacier Ice Arena. The kids had a wonderful time learning how to skate and those kids that already knew how to skate were learning how to spin, stop correctly, and jump. While there, some of the kids participated in another game that was taking place on the other half of the rink.



On March 11, another group of about 20 teenagers met at the VISION office to make some tasty homemade ice cream. While the ice cream was chilling and mixing, the boys had fun playing a game of Flag Football and the girls hung-out. After they enjoyed their ice cream they discussed plans for Prom.

6:00 pm. They will be picked up by 8:00 pm. Please call the VISION office to reserve a spot for your learner. If you have any questions call Marie or Cathy at the VISION office 874-8226.

The next Teen Night will be on April 11 at the bowling ally in Delta. The learners need to bring \$10.00 and meet there at



*Learners gain skills and knowledge when organizing their thoughts on paper*

## WEDNESDAY CLASSES

*Sara Hart*

On Wednesday, February 27, 2008, Lorena Gladding taught a writing class that she hoped would help Learners gain skills and knowledge when organizing their thoughts on paper. In this class she took a practical hands-on approach, while teaching the Learners about cluster, paragraph, idea, and detail formation. In high school, Lorena Gladding never learned to write as well as

she had hoped. It wasn't until college that her passion for writing sparked. Although her major was in business, she strongly considered changing it to English because she enjoyed her English class so much. Since then she has continued to study writing and how to write well. "I strongly recommend others interested in writing excellence explore

these writing techniques." Thank you for offering an excellent writing class Lorena!

## VISION SPRING WORKDAY

**Attention!!!!!!**

VISION is having a workday on May 15, starting at 9am. We need Learners, parents and staff to come help complete various odd jobs around the building. We will be planting the gardens, cleaning up the area and assembling more outside tables. Lunch will be provided for everyone that shows up to help by 10.

**RAKES,  
SHOVELS,  
MUSCLE, &  
SWEAT!**



# VISION Student Goes to Vietnam

*Sherah Foster— Student Submission*

Imagine this: you're in a Communist country on a mission trip, having fun with a bunch of youth, when the police arrive, yelling that you have to leave. My name is Sherah Foster and I recently had the privilege of going on an overseas mission trip to Southern Vietnam. This was my second trip to Vietnam, and I was very excited to go along with my dad, our pastor John Copper, and my two friends, Sarah Fuller and Tim DaCosta. Although we had an interpreter, the first day was awkward, trying to "break the ice". We asked them to share their testimonies, and asked if we could pray for them. As time went on, things got easier. It was amazing how we could communicate with the kids although we spoke two drasti-

cally different languages. The best part of that first day was when we all played the guitar together. Music is so universal. They would sing and Tim would pick out cords to accompany them. After that they wanted us to teach them an English song. Tim played a song on his guitar, and I sang the words as they tried to follow along. They kept saying: "Sing again!" "Sing again!" Tim thought it was really funny when they told me to sing louder. After lunch on the second day, I was by the front door and can remember an angry Communist official suddenly barging in the door. I hurriedly went back into the room and sat down. The police interrogated the adults for four hours. Finally they told us that these religious meetings were illegal and that we could not be

there anymore. So we had to say goodbye to all those wonderful kids and leave. We spent the remainder of our time doing "touristy" things. But even though we had such major disappointment, it was the best mission trip I've ever been on.



## Administrative Highlights

*Caleb Weaver*

Elaine Queen started as an RC at North Fork then came to Delta VISION in 2000. She was added to the staff in 2001. Her interest was piqued. However, her decision did not become clear until her son enrolled in the program. When she saw what a wonderful program it was, her mind was made up. It must have been a good choice, because when asked what one thing she is proud of, she said

that she was proud to be working in this parent guided program. She sees the future of VISION as an exciting horizon, as the new school idea develops. The success of the Wednesday classes has also been a source of hope. When these classes were first offered, participants were few and far between. Now, these same classes boast more than one hundred students, a drastic improvement over the dismal



Elaine Queen  
Funding /Educator  
Administrator

numbers of their predecessors. However, working for VISION has not always been easy. "The whole religious funding thing was challenging," said Elaine, as well as all the new rules imposed by the school board.

She lives in Hotchkiss, along with her four boys, her husband Mark and various cats and dogs. Leisure time consists of snowmobiling and other family activities. Thank you, Mrs. Queen, for the eight years of service dedicated to students and family!

## Staff / RC Spotlight

*Amanda Bryant*



Darci Hellman is one of the Delta VISION HCP's new Assessment Coordinators. She worked diligently with Andrea Gressman in researching and developing an assessment process for the DVHCP. She helps facilitate the implementation and maintenance of Scantron and CSAP testing that the Learners participate in to document and evaluate how they are progressing. The VISION program is required by the school

district and state to monitor student progress through standardized tests. The Assessment Coordinators are accountable for every test; ensuring that they don't get lost or stolen. Darci has to make sure that the Learners participate in the assessments. Parents sign an agreement with the program when they enroll their students stating that their Learners will take part in the required state assessments. Making sure the testing environment is optimal to the students is one of the goals for this position. She is

also in charge of providing accommodations for Learners with special needs. These tests help the individual family see how their Learner is progressing in school, and what areas that Learner may need assistance with. The school district and the CDE need to know how the school is performing and ensure that there is student growth. The VISION program is accountable for the CSAP scores of all our Learners.

E-mail: [tdenny@deltaschools.com](mailto:tdenny@deltaschools.com)

Fax: 970-874-8336

Phone: 970-874-8226

1080 Pioneer Road

Non-Profit  
US Postage Paid  
Delta, CO 81416  
Permit #31



#### **DVHCP Vanguard News & Views Staff**

Top Half Circle: (from left) Kayla Bellew, Keeli Needham, Amanda Gresham, Lance Marney, Editor in Chief-Caleb Weaver,

Bottom Half Circle: (from left) Nolan Bryant, Amanda Bryant, Ashley Quinn, Sara Hart.

### **Parisian Prom Night**

**This year's Senior Prom will be April 26, at the Delta VISION office from 8pm to midnight. The theme is "Parisian Nights"**

**The cost is \$8 for one person or \$12 for a couple.**

### **Graduation Night**

**The Graduation Ceremony this year will be at the Delta Center for Performing Arts. The ceremony will begin at 6:00 on May 30th with refreshments served afterwards.**