**Resolutions For Parents of College Bound Seniors**

**John Klieforth, Principal**

Welcome to the new year and the start of the last semester for senior students. Please allow me to suggest a few things for you to consider at this time.

1. Do expect your senior to start the distancing process from the family. Many students become distant, and sometimes defiant, as they need to start the disengagement process on their path to independence. This is a natural part of the maturation process. If this seems difficult for you, just think back to the time of diapers, midnight feeding, ear aches and temper tantrums. If that doesn’t work for you, Jane Queen is available for appointments.

2. Take the time to find all the positive choices your student has made. Point out the obstacles they have overcome, celebrate the things that make them so unique and how proud you are of the person they have become.

3. Support, but don’t assume, the college application for your senior. The professionals at Accelerated Schools are trained in this process and can motivate your senior in an assertive, but hopefully, but does not come across as nagging. The staff will get you involved in items (i.e. FAFSA) that you need to be involved. Don’t back off completely as you need to assist in helping monitor deadlines (especially in regards to standardized tests) and ensuring the process does not stall out.

4. Set your senior on a course of independence. Is your student responsible for their own schedule, laundry, maintaining a bank account, making/keeping appointments, handling a credit card, keeping a calendar, preparing basic meals, living within a budget and accepting responsibility for their own actions? Is your student responsible for their own schedule, laundry, maintaining a bank account, making/keeping appointments, handling a credit card, keeping a calendar, preparing basic meals, living within a budget and accepting responsibility for their own actions?

5. Don’t fret over which college or which major they have chosen. That most likely will change many times over the years. My first major was forestry, Jane was going to be a pharmacist, Amber was a mathematics major and Michelle was an art major.

The general guidelines for resolution development and completion are making them realistic, specific, measurable, challenging and positive. Keeping these principles in mind should help you, and the seniors, with a balance in life that is meaningful and interesting.

May your new year not only be happy, but rewarding as well.

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**“Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.”**

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**From the Desk of the Queen**

**MONTHLY MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JANE JUANESE**

The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. If you are committed to making the best year of your life, start writing your story. Think of five things that are important to you, put them to paper. We call this goal setting. Now you have five goals you wish to accomplish. It is as simple as that and your thoughts crystallize once you write them down. I will share five of my goals to help you get started.

1. I want to become more patient.
2. I want to become more compassionate.
3. I want to read more books.
4. I want to think big and keep it simple.
5. I want to keep an open mind.

It was Danielle Williamsen who said, “Your life is always under construction. It is your job to learn how to untangle the threads and weave a tapestry that matches your desires.” I am excited for you to tell your story. Start now!

As we transition from 2017 to 2018, it is important for you to be aware of upcoming important dates. On Friday, January 5, there is no school. It is the close of the semester. Monday, January 8th is the beginning of the first quarter break. Monday, January 15th is the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday. Larry Graham and Simon Su will be in concert at Accelerated Schools on Saturday, January 13th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Hold the date and plan to attend. Martin Luther King Day will be celebrated on Monday, January 15th. There will be no school.

I want to welcome our new students, Adrian Sato and Alex Vogelsang, who will join our middle school while Alec Johnston will be in high school. We are delighted to have you at Accelerated.

Another year has passed and another year is beginning. As you go forward in 2018, remember what Einstein said: “Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.”

Happy New Year!

Ms. Jane

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**Big News From the Little House**

**Gingerbread Houses**
**Building and Eating**

Let’s Work Together to Clarify

**New Classes**
**New Year, New Opportunities,**
***New Classes—Yay!***

**Happy New Year, Mingle**

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**Important Dates**

- No School
  - January 5, 2018
- Third Quarter Begins
  - January 8, 2018
- Larry Graham and Simon Su in Concert
  - January 13, 2018
    2:00 to 4:30 p.m.
- No School – Holiday
  - January 15, 2018
- Accelerated Schools Pow Days
  - January 2018
- Quasquicentennial
  - Celebrating Our
  - 250th Anniversary
  - January 2018
- Building and Eating
  - January 21st
- Jingle and Mingle
  - January 22, 2018
- Changes in Middle School
  - January 2018
- Reunited and Eating
  - January 2018
- New Year, New Opportunities,
  - New Classes—Yay!
  - January 2018
- Resolutions For Parents of
  College Bound Seniors
  - January 2018
- Accelerated Schools
  - January 2018
- Important Dates
  - January 2018

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**January 2018**

**Issue 75**
Happy New Year! In 2018, Accelerated Schools will be celebrating our “Quasquicentennial” also known as our 125th Anniversary of our amazing building called Fitzroy Place.

Fitzroy Place, formerly known as the Iff Mansion, also known as Randell-Moore of Denver or most recently Home to Accelerated Schools of Denver has been a landmark in the University Park neighborhood for over 124 years. The home on the corner of Warren Avenue and Cook Street was commissioned by Elizabeth Iff, Warren, widow of Col. John Wesley Iff and wife of Methodist Bishop Henry White Warren. Elizabeth hired well-known architects Fuller and Wheeler to design the Richardsonian-Romanesque style home. Fuller and Wheeler are also known for designing The Theology School building also known as Iliff Hall, many educational buildings in the New York area, as well as some historic homes in Washington, D.C. Fitzroy Place was completed in 1893 and

The three-story home has 25 rooms and 13 fireplaces with 4 chimneys, 99 windows and some unusual features for homes of this time; many of these features are credited to Bishop Warren and his scientific mind. These include an elevator that went between the basement to the 3rd floor, a central vacuum system and an air cooling system for the first and second floors. In the basement, there was a refrigeration system for meat and another for perishable items. The home was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975; both the mansion and the carriage house were designated as local landmarks in 2007.

The Iff-Warren family lived here for over 73 years. Louise Iliff (daughter of John Wesley and Elizabeth) was the last of the family to live in the home. When she passed in 1966, she left the house and the out buildings as well as the land to the Iliff School of Theology. The Iliff School sold the property to Randell-Moore School of Denver, a private school well known within the community since 1950. In 1977, Carl Peterson was requested to combine his unique teaching system with the Randell-Moore School curriculum. The incorporation of this successful teaching method resulted in the name change to Accelerated Schools in 1984.

Now that you have had a little history lesson, we hope you will join us for the celebration and activities to come over the new year.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

AMIPOW DAYS
Evan Simpson, Middle and High School Instructor

With the new year, there are some exciting changes in the middle school. Where there had been two middle school classrooms, there is now one main classroom in which all students learn together. Students now have two teachers in the classroom at any given time guiding instruction. Students also migrate downstairs for their math and science classes, in preparation for the classroom required in high school.

Perhaps most importantly, we are thrilled to welcome new eighth graders - Alex and Aidan. It is going to be a great new year!

WE BELIEVE
Georgia Bruce, High School Instructor

That every student, regardless of their background or skill level will be able to acquire a growth mindset. This will enable them to achieve mastery and prepare our diverse population of students for life by developing their mind, body and character through rigorous academic studies, and character development activities in cooperation with the community we serve.

We stand at the Eve of a New Year, symbolizing an end as well as a beginning, signifying renewal, as well as change. Together, there is little we cannot achieve: students and teachers, parents and school. Together, let us explore the stars, conquer the deserts and make this small blue planet a better world - one day at a time. Let us make a resolution to bring the best of ourselves to class each day. To come prepared and ready to learn together. Not as passive receptacles of accepted platitudes, nor impatiently marking time till the next Facebook update - but enquiring minds, fully engaged, taking advantage of every moment.

Wishing everyone a wonderful New Year!

NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES, NEW CLASSES—YAY!
Anna Castillo, High School Instructor

Welcome to 2018! Friends! I hope the holidays brought everyone joy and much needed rejuvenation! At every new year brings changes, I miss Anna, have switched classrooms, classes, and students. In addition to teaching Spanish, I will be teaching two sections of ESL, PE, English Lab, and Freshman English. I look forward to the excitement of communicating with all of you about the successes of your young scholars.

LET’S WORK TOGETHER TO CLARIFY ANY CONFUSION
Zach Leins, High School Instructor

Students recently took an “End of December Test” covering everything taught since the start of school in August. Many students did extremely well. A fair amount of students did not score 80% or above. If you are one of those students, make sure to ask me questions during class or at any point in time you are here at school. Even though we reviewed every test question together as a class, I am more than happy to go over anything one on one. We will keep moving forward with class required material that we need to cover so I really encourage everyone to meet with me and go over anything you are even slightly confused about. Parents, please feel free to email me anytime at zleins@acceleratedschools.org or call me at 303.758.2003 ext. 113.

I wish you all the best in the new year.

BUILDING AND EATING GINGERBREAD HOUSES
Audrean McCormick, High School Instructor

For December’s final activity, many of our students went skiing, but we also had a group of students that elected to stay back and participate in our “On Campus Activity” of building gingerbread houses. Several students sampled the building supplies while they worked, ensuring that everything was “up to code”.

Below, I’ve included some images of their completed houses/compounds for you to enjoy since none of them made it home.

Mr. White, Middle School Instructor

We are all excited to start a new calendar year. Our Little Learners will continue to grow and develop a variety of skills and concepts to help support their learning. We will also use technology in various fun and interesting ways.

Most days, after the Little Learners have completed their daily math activities, they use Chromebooks to play math-focused games according to what they are working on in the previous lesson. During our literacy time, we create Google Slide presentations. This is a great way to organize and focus on learning and understanding while students share their new knowledge with one another. We also practice typing, organizational and presentation skills by finding photos that support their ideas and summarizing new information. This introduction to basic online programs will develop into more complex presentations in the future.

Throughout the school year, all students take online Math and Reading Assessments on the STAR and Map test sites. This data is used to show growth and make instructional decisions that help lead to more growth and success in the classroom.

This new year has many great opportunities for the Little Learners to grow and develop their understanding of how technology can be both fun and educational at the same time.