

Teton Valley Community School Highlights from the 2008-2009 School Year

- The Teton Valley Community School (TVCS) Board of Directors made a decision to expand to 8th grade by the fall of 2010. Seventh graders will be attending TVCS starting this coming fall and 8th graders will be admitted the following year.



- TVCS students in 1st through 6th grades participated in a puppet theater project that integrated Spanish, art, drama and storytelling. The project was organized by TVCS Spanish teacher, Bonnie Krafchuk and was supported by a grant from the Idaho Commission on the Arts. Dark Horse Book hosted a public performance of the bilingual shows.

Students planted cold-tolerant cherry and plum trees with assistance from their farm and garden teacher, Erika Eschholtz. This will add to the diversity of foods already produced by students on our 2 acre campus. In addition, TVCS helped support start-up garden programs at the Tetonia and Victor Elementary Schools through our sponsorship of Full Circle Education.



- The combined 5th/6th grade class embarked on an academic journey through southern Utah. Inspired by their teacher, Natasha Peterson, and NOLS instructor Dan Verbeeten, students learned about geology, natural history, human history, renewable energy and water conservation. Nature art, poetry, and wilderness skills were integrated in this week-long learning adventure.

The Teton Springs Foundation awarded TVCS a grant to create more space in the Center for Early Learners (CFEL) in response to a high demand for our project-based pre-school program. This will allow TVCS to continue to provide a dynamic and developmentally-appropriate experience for up to 60 young children, ages three through five.



- Section 8 Design, a local architectural design firm, collaborated with students, faculty, and staff at TVCS to create a site plan for our campus expansion. They also worked directly with students to design sustainable, flexible, and educational classroom spaces and submitted their work to the 2009 Open Architecture Challenge - an international classroom design competition.



Four TVCS teachers participated in a Watershed Teacher Institute presented by Friends of the Teton River. This field and classroom based professional development program emphasized the "inquiry method" as way to use the local watershed to improve student performance in science.



Thank you for your support!