

Thunderbird Update – August 13, 2020

Dear Johnson Families,

We hope this newsletter finds you and your family well! We welcomed staff back yesterday and are in the process of getting ready for your children.



We have new staff to announce. We have Ms. Becky Troutman joining our first-grade team as Ms. Jennifer Morris has accepted a position with PSD Virtual. We also have Ms. Satie Walker joining our third-grade team as Ms. Megan Moreau also moves over to PSD Virtual as a third-grade teacher. As you have contact with Ms. Morris and Ms. Moreau, please congratulate them on this new adventure they are undertaking. Please also welcome our Ms. Troutman and Ms. Walker. We are excited to have them join us!

Later in this newsletter, we have a bit of information about materials distribution/device distribution. The dates for the distribution are Monday, August 24th and Tuesday, August 25th. Teachers will reach out to schedule an appointment for your child to meet the teacher and get needed supplies for learning. Please consider your child's assigned day to be your child's first day of school for 2020. This would be the day to dress up, take a picture, and celebrate the 1st day of school. While this does not feel like the traditional first day, let's make the best of it and celebrate your children. They all deserve a first day for 2020. We are in a history making time with challenges that we will weather – together.

We are excited to begin the 2020 – 21 school year! Please take a few minutes to read through today's Thunderbird Update. We know you have many questions. Please feel free to contact our school office at 970-488-5000. We will do our best to help you!

Best to you all,

Mrs. Georgianna Dawson

Student Materials Distribution

Our staff is preparing a plan for materials distribution to students. Teachers will schedule time for each family, along with your student to come to the school to meet the teacher, pick-up school materials; laptop (if your child needs one), textbooks, school supplies etc. Watch for more information soon! The dates we have reserved for this distribution are August 24th and 25th.



PSD Virtual

The district has set August 21st from 8:00 am to 11:00 am for device pick-up for our students who have enrolled in PSD Virtual. We will have staff stationed out front with a device checked out to your child through our media system. Please watch our newsletter for updates as we get closer to this date.

If you have enrolled your child with PSD Virtual this school year, but are still considering returning to Johnson Elementary, you may make that change up until the first day of school. Please call our school office if you have questions (970-488-5000).

PSD Virtual:

PSD Virtual was established as a yearlong 100 percent online education option for the 2020-21 school year as an alternative for PreK-12 families who opted for the consistency of learning online all the time. PSD Virtual will not shift among the [district's educational phases](#), which are dependent on current public health conditions, guidance and orders. [Watch this video](#) to learn more about what is different between PSD Virtual and remote education in a student's home school.

Enrolled PSDV students will pick up their laptops at their home schools. The deadline to register for PSDV was August 8.

School Supplies

This year's school supply list is available on our website: [Johnson School Supply List](#)

If you ordered school supplies through **1st Day School Supplies**, those kits will be distributed along with laptops, textbooks, etc.

We do have backpacks filled with school supplies available for families who are unable to provide them for your child. Please call our school office (970-488-5000) if your child needs a backpack and supplies.



Teacher Assignments



Class Lists will not be posted on the school doors this year. Instead, families will be able to see who your child's teacher is via [ParentVUE](#). Our hope is that finalized class lists will be available on August 17. This has been a very intensive process with balancing class placement requests from April, A/B requests, removing students who have decided to attend PSDV this year, and considering academic and behavioral needs of students. Thank you for your patience as we create class lists.

Back-to-School Night

Our Back-to-School Night will be offered in a virtual format this year. Classroom teachers will be putting together BTSN videos that will include information about academics and what the school year will look like in terms of academics and grade level standards. Our teachers will be available for a virtual question and answer. We had planned on August 24th, but may need to change this to accommodate our materials distribution and meet your teacher days. Watch for future details on our back to school night in our newsletter and from your child’s teacher.



School Meals

District staff are actively planning for the critical distribution of meals during this period of remote education. We will share more information soon.

Johnson’s Website has a NEW Look

Be sure to check out the New and improved [Johnson Website](#). We are excited about the new look and hope you find it easy to use.

Johnson Calendar of Events

| August | | |
|------------------|-------------|--|
| 17 | | Check ParentVUE to see who your child’s teacher will be! |
| 21 | | Back-to-School Night Videos shared by Teacher |
| 24 | 5:30 – 6:30 | 1 st Day of Remote Learning Student Material Distribution – more info to come Virtual Back-to-School Night Q & A (Tentative Date) |
| 25 | | Student Material Distribution – more info to come |
| September | | |
| 7 | | NO SCHOOL – Labor Day |
| 25 | | NO SCHOOL – Teacher Workday |
| | | |

Quick Links

- [Johnson Elementary Website](#)
- [PSD Schools Parent Website](#)
- [District News](#)
- [PSD School Calendars & Schedules](#)



Repeat News Articles

To review PSD District news click here: [District News](#)

PSD assessing laptop, internet needs: Log into PVUE now

Aug. 10, 2020

Dear PSD families,

PSD is continuing to survey families to determine which students need a laptop device and reliable internet services to access remote learning this fall.

- Parents and guardians should log into [ParentVUE](#) and go to the “Student Information” (Student Info) screen.
- **Please review or indicate laptop needs for EACH of your students, as well as review or modify your response to having reliable internet services in your home.**
- To make changes, click on the "Edit Information" button. If modifications are made, click “Save Changes” at the top of the screen. The deadline to complete these important steps is midnight Thursday, Aug. 13.

If a family indicates they don't need a district-issued device, PSD may distribute it to a student who doesn't have one. PSD has purchased MiFi devices (portable internet hotspots that enable students to engage in remote education wherever they are) and will distribute those to families who have shared that they have insufficient internet connectivity in their home to complete their work.

PSD has a long-standing one-to-one technology program in place that provides laptop devices to students in grades 3-12. This summer, PSD ordered devices for all kindergarten through second-grade students, as well. Due to global supply chain delays, however, it is likely that PSD will not receive these devices until sometime later this fall. While the district awaits delivery of these K-2 laptop devices, families can help PSD fill the gap to ensure all students have devices for remote learning.

When will laptops be distributed?

Since Friday's announcement, we've heard from numerous families with questions about when their student will receive their PSD-issued device. Schools will communicate when and how distribution will occur.

The district will provide how-to guides for families to learn how to navigate these primary learning management applications that will be used this year to support their students (Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, etc.). More information about the how-to guides and other IT support will be available soon on the [Technical Support and Resources web page](#).

Having issues with ParentVUE?

If you are experiencing issues logging into ParentVUE, please refer to [ParentVUE support and FAQs](#) found on the District website. If you have previously logged into ParentVUE, select the option to reset your password. If you do not see an email from the system, we recommend you check your junk mail or spam folder. If you still cannot access it following these steps, please email covidtechhelp@psdschools.org.

Parent Communication from Johnson

One of our goals at Johnson Elementary is to be eco-friendly. We send parent communication: newsletters, flyers, and weekly updates, through School Messenger. We post copies of newsletters and updates to the Johnson website on a weekly basis. The **Thunderbird Update** is published and sent via School Messenger each Thursday, except the first week of each month when the **Thunderbird Times** is published.



The email address you provide during registration is used to send communications from PSD and Johnson Elementary.

Poudre School District policy does not allow the distribution of non-District communications to students through our school. PSD offers other options for any vendor, group, organization, or business wishing to distribute advertising through school newsletters and activity flyer packets. For complete details visit PSD's [Flyers and Advertising in Schools](#) website.

Organizations can purchase advertising in individual school newsletters through the [School Communications Agency](#). 60% of revenue from advertising goes back to the school to be used at the principal's discretion. Contact: (970) 239-1641.

District Advisory Board

Johnson Elementary is looking for a parent or community member to represent Johnson on Poudre School District's Advisory Board. The District Advisory Board advises the district on a number of issues and is made up of parent representatives from each school and acts as a link between the community and the district. The DAB gives parents an opportunity to interact and engage with the district. If you are interested in being a DAB representative for your school, please contact Ms. Dawson or Mr. Boese. The DAB meets the first Monday of the month from 7-9pm either remotely or at the Johannsen Support Services Center located at 2407 Laporte Avenue. You can find more information about the DAB by going to the following link:

<https://www.psdschools.org/community/community-committees/dab>

The Poudre School District is committed to the policy that no otherwise qualified person shall be denied access to, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to unlawful discrimination under, any District program or activity on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, age or disability. District compliance with this policy shall be the responsibility of, and reports and complaints of discrimination based on these protected classifications should be directed to: For District students and community members: Director of Student Services, 1630 South Stover Street, Fort Collins, Colorado 80525, phone: 970-490-3033; For District employees: Executive Director of Human Resources, 2407 La Porte Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521, phone: 970-490-3620.