

Thunderbird Update – August 27, 2020



Dear Johnson Families,

Our first days this week seemed to be successful, and I have received solid feedback from many of you. Yesterday and today, we have had great attendance, and we are so excited that you and your children are sticking with us. We have had many technology glitches, but all have persevered through these. We do not know what will go wrong until we try this new thing called remote learning. We continue to trouble shoot and find solutions. I wanted to remind you what I sent out on Tuesday night, and my hope is we can stay focused on coming together for these ends.

1. We all find what works for each child and family.
2. Each child feels connected and grows academically and socially.
3. We are resilient and persevere through the challenges of remote learning and technology.
4. We grow even closer as a community and find creative ways to support one another.

Reminders:

As you need support with the many challenges you will face, please reach out to your child's teacher, our office, our tech support, Mr. Hughes, or me. We are here to help and support in service to your child. The remote learning of this fall is very different from last spring as we have had time to plan and build our skills.

An important difference is we are required to take attendance. During remote learning, students can show attendance in three ways: they can attend the synchronous learning, log into asynchronous learning, and work completion. We will take attendance during our morning meetings and throughout the day. Another important difference is student work will be graded, and students will receive feedback on work completed. You will receive more information about each grade's learning expectations and grading during our virtual Back-to-School videos and live, virtual Q & A. Attendance and grading are intended to promote student learning. During your meetings with your child's teacher, many of you received an expectation grid for use at home. Please find this attached to this update. Use this to support learning in your home and how you see fit. We hope you find this useful.

Our virtual live Back-to-School night is Monday, August 31st from 5:30-6:30 pm. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us.

In closing, reach out if you need anything.

All my best,
Georgianna Dawson, Principal

PS. Sorry about all the spelling errors in my most recent school messenger. I believe I caught them and corrected them 😊. Thank you for your patience and grace.

Johnson Website

Have you taken the opportunity to familiarize yourself with the new and improved [Johnson Website](#)? Each of our classroom and specialist teachers have a [Learning Page](#). Each page includes teacher contact information, and many learning resources. Other resources available through our website: Staff directory, direct link to SchoolPay, calendars, newsletter archives, and tech resources. Please let us know if you notice something that would make our website more useful to parents.

Repeat News Articles

Back-to-School Night Q & A



As you know, our Back-to-School night will be offered in a virtual format. Classroom teachers are 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 live virtual question and answer session on Monday, August 31st from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Watch for more information from your child’s teacher.

REVISED (8/25/2020) Master Remote Learning Schedule

Monday – Thursday: See Master Schedule for each grade level’s daily schedule.

8:50 – 9:15 am – All Students Check-In, Attendance and Morning Meeting.

During remote learning, students can show attendance in three ways: they can attend the synchronous learning, log into asynchronous learning, and with work completion. We will take attendance during our morning meetings and throughout the day.

- Teachers will support remote student learning through a blending of three models:
 - **Synchronous** (*real-time*) learning: [Online learning in which teachers and students participate at the same time](#), but not in the same place. Synchronous learning is delivered through a virtual meeting platform.
 - **Asynchronous** (*any-time*) Learning: [Online learning in which students learn at different times and locations](#). Asynchronous learning is often supported by posted media materials.
 - Activities that support student learning. Independent practice may include reading assignments, general practice, homework, and projects.
- All lessons will be based on essential standards and provide meaningful work. Over the course of the year, all essential standards will be covered in core subject areas and courses.



Fridays: All students will have a live morning meeting from 8:50 – 9:15 am, then students will engage in independent and asynchronous work. Teachers will communicate their office hours on Fridays to that they can support students and families.

Teachers may make small adjustments in time and will be communicating to families their synchronous and asynchronous times during their literacy, math, and SS/Science times. Note that all synchronous lessons will be recorded; so, if students miss a session, they can go back and watch the lesson. We are taking attendance and hope that all students can attend lessons when they are live if possible. When you read our master schedule, those areas highlighted in peach are synchronous lessons, and those highlighted in green are asynchronous. The small group blue areas could be synchronous or asynchronous depending on students’ needs. Please note that all Specials times will have a synchronous component. Each classroom will have Art, Music, Physical Education, and Counseling each week.

Are you having an issue with a PSD-supplied laptop or device?



If you are having trouble with a PSD-supplied laptop or device, or wondering how to help your Student sign on to a District Application?

Give us a Call Using the Community Support Line at 970-490-3339

-OR-

Send Us an Email at covidtechhelp@psdschools.org.

You should also visit [PSD's Technical Support and Resources](#) website. The new website, designed specifically for students and parents, offers device troubleshooting information, application technical support and covers other common technical issues that sometimes come up.

Parents wanted for the District Accountability Committee

The Poudre School District's District Accountability Committee is looking to fill several important representative seats for the 2021-2022 school year. We would love to have a representative from Johnson. Interested? [Here is information](#) about the committee and how to apply!

Meal Services During Remote Learning

PSD will offer sack meals to PSD students from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday, at numerous PSD schools and additional locations (on scheduled school days). Johnson is one of the meal sites.

Students will be able to get two sack meals - one sack lunch for that day and a sack breakfast for the following morning.

For a complete list of locations and information visit this link:

<https://www.psdschools.org/programs-services/school-meals/child-nutrition-news-resources>

Johnson Elementary, 4101 Seneca Street, Fort Collins, CO 80526

Nearby mobile bus meal sites:

- **Rocky Mountain High School** - West Parking Lot
- Timber Ridge South by mailboxes



Free and reduced-price meals and fee waivers

If your child is eligible for free or reduced-price meals in PSD, you may also be able to take advantage of another fantastic benefit: [waivers from some school fees and charges](#).

- Step 1 – Fill out the [free and reduced-price meal online application](#) (or you may pick up an application at PSD's Child Nutrition office, 1502 S. Timberline Road in Fort Collins). [More info >>](#)

- Step 2 - Once approved for free or reduce-price meals, complete PSD's Permission to Share Information for Fee Waivers and Programs to Receive Goods and Services form, available online in [ParentVUE](#). You must fill out the Permission to Share form each year. [More info about fee waivers >>](#)

School donation requests

Below are a couple of items we are requesting donations for that are now visible in SchoolPay for parents to see. Click here to learn more about SchoolPay. [Pay Fees/Charges Online](#)

- **Johnson Supplies: Kindergarten - 5th Grade 2020-21**
\$20 to cover all or a portion of the cost of purchasing expendable supplies to be used by all students for literacy, math, social studies, science, and craft activities. Waivers are not applicable; students will have access to the supplies regardless of whether payment is made. **For families with more than one child enrolled at Johnson – we would only ask for one donation of \$20.**
- **Johnson Student Planner: 4th & 5th Grade 2020-21**
\$4 To cover all or a portion of the cost of the planners. Waivers are not applicable; all students will receive a planner regardless of whether payment is made.

Johnson Calendar of Events

August		
27	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Early Childhood laptop distribution at Fullana Learning Center
31	5:30 am – 6:30 pm	Virtual Back-to-School Night Q & A with Teacher
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](#)



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

Early Childhood and Early Childhood PSD Virtual laptop pick-up – Aug. 26-27

For students enrolled in PSD preschool and Early Childhood PSD Virtual, families in need of technology will come to Fullana Learning Center, 220 N. Grant Ave. in Fort Collins, to pick up their device from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 26-27. Come to the east side of the building from Loomis Avenue.

Using the ParentVUE, StudentVUE portals

The [Synergy ParentVUE portal](#) gives parents and guardians web and mobile access to permission to share and other forms, assessments, report cards and class schedules when available. Earlier this summer, parents should have received instructions on accessing ParentVUE accounts for both new and existing users. Learn how to access and/or activate your account on the "[Accessing and Activating a ParentVUE Account](#)" [web page](#). If you have questions, refer to the [ParentVUE Frequently Asked Questions](#) or contact the school office.

PSD mental health supports for students and families

Mental health specialists for students can be accessed through school counselors or administration teams. PSD Special Service Professionals (SSP) - mental health specialists, counselors, social workers and psychologists - are focused on re-establishing a sense of safety, belonging, and connection for students this year. [Read more >>](#)

Early Childhood Education accepting applications for preschool

PSD's preschool program still has open spaces for the 2020-21 school year. More families may qualify now than ever before. To learn more and begin your application online, visit the [Early Childhood Education web page](#) or call 970-490-3204.

[Expectant families/families with children, birth to age 3](#)

[Preschool programs for children, ages 3 - 5](#)

Review the PSD Student Rights and Code of Conduct

Each year, parents/guardians and secondary students must acknowledge that they have reviewed the [Student Rights and Code of Conduct](#), a compilation of rules, policies and regulations regarding student behavior. Parents/guardians will be asked to acknowledge they have reviewed the Student Rights and Code of Conduct when they log into the [ParentVUE](#) parent portal, and students in grades 6-12 will be asked to do the same when logging into StudentVUE for the first time this school year. [More info >>](#)

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.

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.