

Thunderbird Update – September 10, 2020

Dear Johnson Families,



I hope you are all well and settling into a routine that is comfortable for you and your family. Our teachers continue to make adjustments to help meet your needs and figure out what works for each family. On a different note, our Johnson Parent Teacher Organization Executive Committee met on Tuesday. At this meeting, we decided to postpone our main school fundraiser until spring. In the meantime, we hope to promote all our passive income fundraising. These efforts constitute over \$4600 for our JPTO. The passive fundraisers that benefit our Johnson directly fluctuate greatly. Below you can find a list:

These passive fundraisers directly benefit our JPTO:

1. Attendance at Restaurant Nights
2. King Soupers (grocery card programs)
3. Amazon Smile (designate Johnson Elementary JPTO)
4. Box Tops (Send in your receipt)
5. Participation in Original Works
6. Scrips Card Program (purchase gift cards through JPTO)

These passive fundraisers directly benefit Johnson Elementary discretionary fund/classroom budgets:

1. American Furniture Warehouse
2. Advertising in our Monthly Newsletter
3. Milk Bottle Tops (goes to our student council)

We appreciate all the donations that support our school and your children.

Best to you all,
Georgianna Dawson, Principal

Student Assessments

Student assessment is a meaningful part of student learning and instructional planning. Over the past couple of weeks, we have been gathering student learning data through various online benchmark monitoring programs such as ACADIENCE (formally DIBELS). Over the next couple of weeks students in **Grades 3, 4, 5** will begin the Fall 2020 NWEA MAP tests for Literacy and Math. These state assessments are central in determining instructional levels and providing a means for viewing growth. The MAPS testing schedule has been added to the Johnson Calendar of Events. We will also be sending out a simple MAPs guide for parents/guardians (Grades 3-5 only), so please look out for that on Friday in the distribution pick up materials.

I like to remind students and parents that MAPs tests will not affect grades and they cannot pass or fail these tests. The assessments are designed to help teachers improve student growth throughout the year, which is especially helpful for us this year.

Students will complete these assessments virtually. We ask that all families support, but not too much. We want to know what your child can do, so we can tailor learning to their needs. Thank you for all your support as we gather meaningful assessment data to maximize student learning at Johnson.

If you have any questions about assessments, please contact me: (970) 488-5015 or mhughes@psdschools.org.

Matthew Hughes, Assistant Principal

REMEMBER – Student work distribution and work return is TOMORROW!

Please look for a communication from your child’s teacher about how they would like your child’s work turned in. Every Friday during remote learning, homeroom teachers will have a tub outside their classroom door from 7:30 am - 4:30 pm. Look for a plastic tub with a blue lid. Inside of the tub, student work will be sorted alphabetically by student name. Parents should take new work from your student’s folder and return completed work to his/her folder. **We will provide hand sanitizer for use before taking work from your child's folder.** Please take the work – but leave your child’s folder. We will re-use the folders for work distribution and collection each week.

Family Wellness Challenge

We are excited to announce the Thunderbird Family Wellness Challenge, September 11 – 30. Take a family walk for 15 minutes, 3 – 4 times a week. Post a picture of you and your family walking together on our Johnson Facebook page @JohnsonTbirds1988.



Johnson Calendar of Events

September		
11	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Student Work Distribution and Work Return
11 – 30		Thunderbird Family Wellness Challenge
15	9:30 – 10:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.	3 rd Grade MAPS Testing (Math) 5 th Grade MAPS Testing (Math)
16	9:30 – 10:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.	3 rd Grade MAPS Testing (Literacy) 5 th Grade MAPS Testing (Literacy)
18	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Student Work Distribution and Work Return
21	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	JPTO General Membership Meeting *Remote
22	9:30 – 10:30 a.m.	4 th Grade MAPS Testing
23	9:30 – 10:30 a.m. 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	4 th Grade MAPS Testing SAAC Committee Meeting *Remote
25	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	NO SCHOOL – Building Workday Student Work Distribution and Work Return
October		
12	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	JPTO Executive Board Meeting *Remote
15		NO SCHOOL – (K-5) Parent Teacher Conferences End of 1 st Quarter
16		NO SCHOOL – (K-12) Parent Teacher Conferences
26	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	JPTO General Membership Meeting - *Remote
November		
25 – 27		NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break

Quick Links

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



Repeat News Articles

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

What data are PSD using to determine what happens after Oct. 16?

If there is one thing that is constant, it is that the COVID-19 pandemic is always changing. Because of that, it's important for our community to understand there is not one single data point that will determine whether Poudre School District is operating in an educational phase with remote education ([Phase 1](#)), mostly remote learning with small group in-person supports ([Phase 2](#)), a remote and in-person hybrid ([Phase 3](#)), or fully in-person education with health protocols ([Phase 4](#)). We understand this may be frustrating to hear because we, as humans, like certainty and knowing that when X happens, Y will always occur as a result. Unfortunately, that is not the case with the current global situation.

To review this article in its entirety, click here: [What data are PSD using to determine what happens after Oct. 16?](#)

Johnson Master Remote Learning Schedule

Monday – Thursday: Each grade level/teacher will share the daily remote learning 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 so 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.

Johnson Parent Teacher Organization (JPTO)

Please mark your calendar and plan to get involved in JPTO!

JPTO General Membership meetings will generally be held on the last Monday of each month from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The first meeting for the 2020-2021 school year will be **virtually on Microsoft Teams on September 21 at 6:30pm**. All Johnson parents and guardians are welcome.

If you would like a link to the meeting or have any questions and ideas on how to better our Johnson community please email JPTO80526@gmail.com. As always, you do not have to be on the Board to attend these meetings and have a say in what goes on. You can attend PTO meetings and be a voting member without having an official role.

Meet our JPTO Officers:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • President | Andrea Evans |
| • Vice-President | Wednesday Melssen-Vogel |
| • Treasurers | Amelia Olschner |
| • Secretary | Melissa Bolovitz |
| • Events and Fundraising | Kelly Steinway and Shalese Payton |

What exactly does JPTO do?

JPTO has previously sponsored events such as the Fund Run, Family Movie Night, Fall and Spring Book Fairs, Family Fun Nights, and Original Works just to name a few! This year we are looking at other creative ways we can safely provide school spirit events for our Johnson community. We would love your input!

Through fundraising JPTO has been able to purchase items for our school, support our amazing staff and community by providing appreciation weeks, spirit gear, and funding staff request for various needs. This year we will strive to continue this tradition to provide learning tools and experiences that teachers and students can benefit from to meet the moment, whether we are learning virtually or in the building at any point throughout the school year.

This year's needs may look different than previous years. We will continue to support our staff in ways that will keep your students safe and learning throughout the year.

Check out our new website <http://johnsonpto.weebly.com> and our Community Events page on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/JohnsonElementaryCommunityPage/>

Please "like" our page to get notifications of upcoming Johnson events for the community and invite your Thunderbird friends!

~Andrea Evans, JPTO President

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.

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 2021-2021 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.

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](#)

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.

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.