

Johnson Elementary

Thunderbird Times october 2020

Johnson Elementary 4101 Seneca St Fort Collins, CO 80526

Main Phone Line 970-488-5000

Attendance Line 970-488-5095

Principal

Ms. Georgianna Dawson 970-488-5002 gdawson@psdschools.org

Assistant Principal Mr. Matt Hughes 970-488-5015

mhughes@psdschools.org

Office Manager

Ms. Tina Crewdson 970-488-5001 tcrewdso@psdschools.org

Secretary/Health Tech

Ms. Wrenn Thornton 970-488-5003 wthornto@psdschools.org

School Counselor

Mr. Jason Allen 970-488-5038 jallen@psdschools.org

School Website http://joh.psdschools.org

School Hours for inperson learning: 8:50 a.m.—3:28 p.m.

Principal's Corner

Dear Johnson Families,

Happy October! Thank you for your incredible flexibility and patience as we navigate this time together. Last spring our motto was, "We're in this together." Our re-entry days for our PreK-2nd graders have illustrated this more than ever. Our first two days have gone as expected, and I am grateful to all our families for meeting our expectations! Thank you for supporting your children and our campus safety.



As we enter October, we have some important news regarding our normal events:

- 1. Parent-Teacher conferences commence at the beginning of this month. All our classroom teachers have sent out SignUp Genius invites. Please make sure you connect with your child's teacher through these invites. All conferences should be held virtually. This will be an important time for you to understand your child's progress, and a time for you to share any insights about your child. We do strive to connect with 100% of our families.
- 2. Our JPTO is also planning a virtual book fair. We should have more information soon about whether this is a go, and the details for participation. We are excited about this option for our school.
- 3. We normally have our Fall Festivities toward the end of the month in celebration of Halloween. As Halloween falls on a Saturday this year, we will not have in-school celebrations. Teachers may still have fall themed events that relate to academics.

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Principal's Corner

continued

I also want to highlight some new procedures for late student arrival and early student pick-up. As we are not allowing any visitors into the school, our drop off and pick up procedures must also follow this current norm. If you need to drop your child off late to school, you will need to walk your child to the front doors. Ring the intercom as you normally do. One of our office staff will come to the door. You will sign your child in outside, and staff will walk your child into the building. Your child will then go to class. If you need to pick your child up early, you will ring in using the intercom, and we will bring your child out to you. You will then sign your child out.

As we begin in-person instruction, birthday celebrations will be a part of our time with children. We find ways to celebrate your child that promote activity. Some children choose an extra recess for the class while others choose to have a special book read to the class. These are just two ways we celebrate a child's birthday rather than food-based celebrations. We do not allow any food items to come in for birthday celebrations. This has been a long-standing tradition here at Johnson and promotes an inclusionary environment that is safe for all.

Finally, we are so excited to be with children again. The past two days have been celebratory and full of great joy.

I hope you and your family are well,

Georgianna Dawson, Principal







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Included in this Issue

- School culture and safety
- Returning to school safely
- Daily Schedule Phase 3
- Attendance and absence reporting
- Medication and health care action plans
- Transportation information
- School meals in PSD
- AlphaBEST Childcare
- PE News
- School donations help with learning materials
- Mental health matters: Every kind act matters
- Early Childhood accepting applications for pre-school
- Johnson Parent Teacher Organization (JPTO)
- Ongoing fundraisers for Johnson
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WATER RESTRICTIONS BEGIN OCT. 1 STOP OUTDOOR WATER USE. HORSETOOTH OUTLET PROJECT Caty of Collins FCGOV.COM/HOP 970-416-8040, V/TDD 711 9/20



School Culture and Safety

Dear Parents / Caregivers:

We wanted to take this opportunity, with students back in the building, to let you know how committed we are to creating a school culture were everyone is treated with dignity. To make this possible, we recognize that one of our most important responsibilities is to create



and sustain a safe environment so our students can enjoy learning and focus on their work. As in any school, we acknowledge that social conflicts and bullying can occur within our community.

We also know that some of these issues can be complicated to define, and people have different thresholds for what bothers them. Even if it is not bullying, our students can get into conflicts with each other that can make it more difficult to learn. So, while we work with school staff to create a safe learning environment in the building, we also have the following programs and resources to support our students' social skills in their interactions with each other:

- Weekly Social/Emotional Learning sessions with Mr. Allen (Counselor)
- 3R Strategy (Recognize, Report, Refuse)
- Anonymous bullying reporting system
- Restorative Practices
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
- Student/Family Connections Surveys

Our staff are focused on building a community-wide approach to addressing bullying. If you have any questions about any of these evidence-based programs or practices, or would like more information about getting involved, please do not hesitate to email me at: mhughes@psdschools.org

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Reach Parents in Larimer County through our mobile-ready newsletters

Market your business in both Poudre and Thompson school districts.

You gain visibility and targeted, increased awareness; schools gain funds from advertising revenue.



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How do we define bullying?

Bullying takes place when one person and/or a group repeatedly abuse or threaten to abuse their power over another person. This behavior has a profoundly negative impact both on an individual child's life and on the overall school culture. Bullying is a process of stripping someone of their dignity, of their inherent worth, by attacking and/or humiliating them because of a perceived inherent trait like their socioeconomic level, race, a disability, sexual orientation, or other traits.

How will the school respond to bullying?

Any bullying behavior demonstrated at school or outside of school that affects our school community will be addressed by the school. As a school, we will take any report of bullying seriously. Bullying will be responded to through a continuum of consequences and interventions up to and including out of school suspension depending on the frequency and severity of the behavior.

Some situations, including less severe first offenses, may be handled by the school through student conferences, mediation, or other interventions without a phone call to the student's parents or caregivers. Any student who is suspended will not be permitted to return to school without a re-entry meeting with an administrator. If any of these consequences becomes a likely outcome, we will notify you.

How can families respond to bullying and support the school?

If your child is the target of bullying inside or outside of school, please ask your child to describe the situation in writing. Please give us your contact information, including the best times to reach you. We will address any problems of this nature as quickly as possible, but please allow us 24 hours upon receipt of your written communication to respond. If you do not hear from us by that time, please call the front office. We also teach our students how to use the Safe2Tell application. Our school website also includes an email for reporting bullying.

Please understand that we want all our students to feel valued and respected in our school. These situations are hard for everyone - parents/caregivers, school administrators, teachers, and students alike - but it is in these moments when we truly show what we stand for as a community. Working together, we can do our best to ensure that our school is a safe community where every child can succeed.

Best Regards,

Matt Hughes, Assistant Principal

Contact: mhughes@psdschools.org or 970-488-5015

Returning to School Safely

We are following our district guidelines that you can view if you follow this link: PSD Phase 3 Information.

Family expectations:

One of our goals is to remain open and serving families for as long as possible. We need your help in accomplishing this goal.

- To do this, we need every family to commit to keeping sick children at home. Please make sure you do not send your child sick child to school. If you know your child does not feel well, keep him/her at home. Limiting how much contact we have with people who do not feel well supports us staying open and serving our community. <u>At-Home Symptom Screening for Parents and Staff</u>
- 2. Send your healthy child to school with a clean mask. Teach children how to properly wear their masks. They should have their noses and mouths covered. We do plan on giving students mask breaks during the school day, and students will not go longer than 90 minutes without a break.
- 3. Teach your children how to properly cleanse hands if you have not done so already. They should use soap and water. They should work the soap on their hands to a count of 20. We sing our ABC's which is about the length of time needed.
- 4. Practice social distancing. They need to see and practice what six feet feels like. Play airplane with your arms outstretched, so they can see how far six feet is.
- 5. Send your child with two water bottles filled for the day. If students need to refill their water bottles, we will allow them to do so; however, water fountains will not be used to directly drink from.

School Arrival and Dismissal:

School Hours for In-Person learning: 8:50 a.m. - 3:28 p.m.

Students can arrive to campus beginning at 8:35 am. Students should report directly to their outer classroom doors. No students or family members should come through our front doors. We have socially distanced dots/markers painted outside each door. Each child should wait (using social distancing dots) to be checked in with the teacher. Once students are checked in, they will wash hands and get settled at their learning space.

Students who normally get breakfast will follow the signs to our designated door for breakfast entry. They will pick up their breakfast from our kitchen and go to their classroom outer door where they will wait to be checked in. They will then follow the handwashing procedures, then eat breakfast at their space. Once done eating, they will clean up their area and get it ready for sanitizing. Staff will help each student sanitize spaces.

Returning to School Safely

continued

At dismissal, we will use a staggered dismissal process that supports social distancing. If you normally pick your child up, please allow for extra time for this staggered process. All students need to be picked up promptly.

What will lunch and snack time look like?

Students will eat lunch and snack in their classrooms. For students who normally get their lunch from our cafeteria, they will have their lunches delivered to the classroom. We will follow a sanitizing routine before and after eating times. Students will wash their hands before and after eating. Each child's space will be sanitized before and after eating times. We also plan to eat outdoors when the weather permits. During eating times, students will be socially distanced and have a mask break.

If you send your child with a lunch or snack, make sure your child can independently open what you have provided.

Lunch Schedule by Grade

 Kindergarten 	11:30 – 11:55 a.m.
• 1 st Grade	11:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
• 2 nd Grade	11:55 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
• 3 rd Grade	12:05 – 12:25 p.m.
• 4 th Grade	12:30 – 12:50 p.m.
• 5 th Grade	12:40 – 1:00 p.m.

Recess information:

Students will have recess in cohort groups. When they can socially distance, they will be not be required to wear a mask. We have planned activities that promote play and social distancing. When they play on the large play structures, they will need to have their masks on.

Daily Schedule PHASE 3

School hours for students are 8:50 a.m. to 3:28 p.m. Students should not arrive at school before 8:35 a.m. unless attending AlphaBEST or eating breakfast. Safety is a priority, and we want to be sure that staff members are present for supervision. Please make sure children are not on campus prior to 8:35 a.m. and leave promptly by 3:45 p.m.

8:35 a.m.	Campus supervision begins, and breakfast is served.
8:50 a.m.	Classes begin.
3:28 a.m.	School dismissed by grade level (oldest to youngest) using staggered dismissal procedures.
3:45 a.m.	Students should be off campus.

Attendance and Absence Reporting

If your student is ill, they should not come to school.

If your child will be absent or tardy, please call our school attendance line at 970-488-5095. Be prepared to answer the following questions:

- 1. Give your students First and Last Name, Grade and Teacher
- 2. Reason for Absence
- 3. If your child is ill, is he/she experiencing any of these COVID-like symptoms:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - · Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - · New loss of taste or smell, OR
 - Sore throat

Please leave a detailed message about your child's symptoms, information about any possible exposure to a COVID-19 case, and your phone number to receive a call back from our health office staff.

Medication and Health Care Action Plans

Please turn in student medication forms, Health Care Action Plans, medications, and updated immunization records on Friday drop off/pick up day, or call to make arrangements to deliver them another day. **The items should be brought to the main entry.** Give us a call and we will come out to meet you.

Phone: 970-488-5000

You may also FAX medical forms: 970-488-5007 – Attention: Wrenn Thornton

Transportation in Phase 3 in-person learning

PSD's Transportation department is striving to maximize student ridership while following state and county safety guidelines.

In alignment with the district's 2020-21 school year planning, PSD will bus students for whom transportation is legally required, as well as many students who applied for and are approved for bussing. Those who applied but live within walking distance of their school or applied to a PSD school of choice are not eligible. PSD instituted a transportation registration process this school year because current public health guidance significantly limits the number of students on each bus.

- The Transportation Department will start communicating routes to families approved for transportation the week of Sept. 28. It is likely that communication will start with K-2 families only, as grades K-2 start in Phase 3 on Oct. 5, followed by families with students in grades 3-5 and secondary students.
- To follow public health guidance, seating will be limited to one rider per seat; two can ride on one seat if both riders are from the same household.
- Face coverings will be required for all drivers/riders to board the bus.
- All buses will be disinfected at least twice daily.

For additional information and applications for transportation, click here: <u>Transportation in the 2020-21 school year</u>

PSD's new before and after school care provider – AlphaBEST

To support families during the modified return-to-school plan, AlphaBEST is providing a full-day option with their AlphaAcademy program, as well as before -and-after care for students returning to the classrooms during the hybrid schedule. Before-and after care will be held at Johnson. The full day program for the days children are not onsite will be available at Lopez Elementary.

A secure registration platform is available on the AlphaBEST website.

Please contact AlphaBEST with questions:

972-668-0640 or customerservice@alphabest.org

Meal distribution as PSD shifts to Phase 3

Meals are currently free through December for students 18 years and younger, as part of a U.S. Department of Agriculture school district reimbursement program. Students can choose to eat school meals during Phase 3 or bring their lunch from home. Meals will also be distributed outdoors at designated school and mobile sites; this is where students on remote education days and PSD Virtual students can receive meals. More information >>

- Oct. 1-indefinitely: Meals will be distributed from 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. (on days school is in session) from parked PSD school buses at five mobile sites only; all other mobile sites that operated during 100 percent remote education closed Sept. 30:
 - ♦ 2025 N. College Ave.
 - ♦ 820 Merganser Drive
 - ♦ 401 N. Timberline Road
 - ♦ Cloverleaf Community Clubhouse, 4412 E. Mulberry St.
 - Mummy Range at the Clubhouse
- Oct. 1-9: Meals will be distributed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (on days school is in session) outside at the following 18 school sites:
 - Bacon, Bauder, Beattie, Cache La Poudre, Eyestone, Irish, Johnson, Laurel, Linton, Lopez, Olander, Riffenburgh, Tavelli, Timnath, Werner and Zach elementary schools; and Boltz and Lesher middle schools.
 - Some of these school sites will close at the end of meal service on Oct. 9.
- Starting Oct. 12: Meals will be distributed from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (on days school is in session) outside at only at the following school sites:
 - Cache La Poudre, Linton, Timnath and Eyestone elementary schools; and Lincoln, Webber, Boltz and Kinard middle schools.

News from PE Land

Hi Thunderbirds,

My best wishes for you as we take the experience of the pandemic on, knowing that many are impacted more than we will ever know.

In Virtual PE Land classes have met for 30 minutes per week and we are limited to doing individual activities. I have tried some new things, like aerobics/dance but also relied on previous learning using simple equipment. For the near future, we will continue using common objects or equipment that you have at home. As we start the A/B schedule, live classes at Johnson will be outside. Some equipment will be shared but without touching with hands, as in soccer. Equipment will be quarantined and sanitized when accidentally touched by hand. Masks for PE will be necessary, along with social distancing. There will be no virtual PE during a live class. This asynchronous time will be more flexible for families with regard to location and need for a computer to access the activities. Please check the PE Learning page for activities and also the Friday box. The health and fitness of all of us is important and I hope you can find fitness in new ways.

Last, if you are doing Running Club, the last day is Friday October 9.

Jim Rumbold, PE Teacher

Important News and Updates

We realize you have probably been overwhelmed by communications coming from Johnson Elementary and Poudre School District. If you wish to review news you may have missed, click the links below:

PSD Community News

Here you will find the most up to date news and information from Poudre School District.

Johnson Elementary News Updates

When you are on the Johnson Home Page – scroll to the bottom of the page. All news updates and communications are listed in the newsletter section.

Phase 3: Hybrid In-School/Remote Learning

This page will answer most questions you have about Phase 3 in PSD.

School donations help with learning materials

These donation items are visible in SchoolPay: Pay Fees/Charges Online

Our budget has seen significant cuts due to the decrease in enrollment, caused by COVID-19. We are very thankful for the donations that we have already received from the Johnson Community.

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.

Mental health matters: Every kind act matters

Several months into a life-changing global pandemic, national protests, and political discord, some are feeling exhausted, frustrated and powerless and find it is harder to be their best selves. Despite the many impacting events we can't control, we still have choices. We can choose to be kind in the face of unkindness, uncertainty, and fear. Read more and get links to helpful kindness-boosting resources >>

More students than ever qualify for Early Childhood Education preschool

PSD's preschool program still has open spaces for the 2020-21 school year. More families may qualify now than ever before. ECE students will start with inperson education Oct. 5, the same day their K-2 peers start in Phase 3: Hybrid In-School/Remote Learning. To learn more and begin an application online, visit the Early Childhood Education web page or call 970-490-3204.

Join us for the next JPTO General Membership Meeting

JPTO General Membership meetings will generally be held on the last Monday of each month from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Our next meeting will be held virtually on Microsoft Teams on October 26 at 6:30 p.m. 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 serve 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

Ongoing Fundraisers for Johnson Elementary

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

American Furniture Warehouse Fundraiser

Shop at any AFW location, online or by phone and mention Johnson Elementary at checkout. Our school will receive 2% donation on any purchase, 4% on Beauty Rest mattresses. Invite others to participate. Friends and Family can help too!

Caps4Cash – Morning Fresh Dairy Fundraiser

Caps4Cash is a Morning Fresh Dairy program where schools earn cash by collecting caps from Morning Fresh Dairy glass bottles. Each cap will be redeemed for 5 cents. We use this fundraiser to help support our Student Council Program.

Advertising Fundraising for Johnson

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

Fundraisers that directly benefit JPTO:

Box Tops Fundraiser

Looking for a quick and easy way to help support our amazing school? Download the free Box Tops App. And register Johnson Elementary as your school and when you go shopping just go into the app and take a picture of your receipt and it will give our school .10 per participating items, just make sure you submit them within 14 days of your purchase.

King Soopers Community Rewards Fundraiser

Johnson has recently been added to the list of nonprofits eligible for funding through their community rewards program. We encourage our families to register your *King SooperCard* and choose Johnson as the designated nonprofit. Go to www.KingSoopers.com

- Scroll all the way down near the bottom of the page where you will see "Community" click on it.
- You will then see "KingSoopers Community Rewards" click on it.
- In the middle of the page you will see "enroll now" click on it.
- Next you will need to add your email and password.

(If you've never logged in before, but still have a card, you can attach an email and password to your existing number by creating an account)

Ongoing Fundraisers for Johnson Elementary

If you don't have a card, choose "create an account".

- A search box will open to select your charity type "Johnson PSD" on the left of the screen. On the right, you can select "education" as type. Click on the magnifying glass for the search to work and select your organization.
- There are two Johnson schools listed. The address is with it, so finding ours
 is easy and at the top. (4101 Seneca Street) Click "enroll"
 Adding this card will not affect your gas points or other discount benefits
 you receive through King Soopers.

Amazon – Smile.amazon.com Fundraiser

Amazon has a wonderful giving program called <u>Smile.amazon.com</u> that gives 0.5% of your qualified purchases to a charity of your choice. Here is how you can give to Johnson Elementary. All you have to do is register!

How to enroll:

Go to smile.amazon.com, scroll to the bottom of the page

At the bottom of the page click on "get started"

It will take you to a login page. Log in with your amazon account

On the task bar you will see **Your Charity**. You can then **select the charity**. Our registered name is **Johnson Parent Teacher Organization**. (It is not listed as Johnson Elementary.)

Know that all funds go to support our school, Johnson Elementary.

Remember you must log in from the smile page at smile.amazon.com each time you make a purchase for the charitable donation to count.

Thank you so much for supporting our school!

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!

Parent Communication from Johnson

One of our goals at Johnson Elementary is to be eco-friendly. We send *most* 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.

Johnson Calendar of Events

October	tober					
8		Original Works Orders are Due				
12	4:00 – 5:00 pm 4:00 – 8:00 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting *Virtual K – 5 th Parent/Teacher Conferences				
13	4:00 – 8:00 pm	K – 5 th Parent/Teacher Conferences				
14	4:00 – 8:00 pm	K – 5 th Parent/Teacher Conferences				
15		NO SCHOOL – Conference Comp Day End of 1 st Quarter				
16		NO SCHOOL – Conference Comp Day				
19		Phase 3 begins for Grades 3 – 5, MS, HS Group A – Monday and Wednesday Group B – Tuesday and Thursday All Students learn remotely on Fridays in Phase 3				
26	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting - *Virtual				
26 – 30		Virtual Scholastic Book Fair				
November						
11	6:00 – 7:30 pm	Veterans' Recognition at Johnson * *This event will look different than in years past. SAAC Committee Meeting *Virtual				
16	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting *Virtual				
18	TBD	Individual Student Pictures – Group A				
19	TBD	Individual Student Pictures – Group B				
25 – 27		NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break				

view the PSD Calendar for dates beyond this date:

2020 – 2021 Revised K-12 Student/Teacher Calendar

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Quick Links

- Johnson Elementary Website
- PSD Schools Parent Website



- District News
- PSD School Calendars & Schedules

Frequently Asked Questions and resources

Answers to common questions are available on the PSD website. Read more >>

	Technical Support	Health & Safety	2020-21 School Year	<u>ParentVUE</u>	PSD Virtual
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