

Thunderbird Update – January 21, 2020



Dear Johnson Families,

We have had a solid start to in-person learning. Thank you all for your kudos, encouragement, and ideas for areas of improvement. Thank you to our JPTO members who supported us with our arrival. As the week has gone on, schedules and routines have smoothed out. By the end of day on Wednesday, I had visited every classroom (briefly) and checked on how things were going. Most importantly, children are doing well, and they are visibly happy to be back.

I have had a few parents ask me about our request that families let their children cross from the east side of Seneca with a crossing guard rather than walking up to campus. This request is in the spirit of limiting crowds and promoting social distance. At the same time, please do what you are most comfortable with as a family. I appreciate your support of our requests but also understand what a strange time this is for all.

January into February is our school of choice and enrollment season. While our first consideration for school of choice has passed, we are now in our second round. If you know of anyone who has not registered their child or is seeking a school, please reach out to them and tell them about Johnson. We have room in most grades for Fall of 2021.

Finally, thank you for all you are doing as a community. We appreciate your support, and we appreciate how you all have responded to the challenge of this historic time. Please reach out if you need anything at all. We continue to be in this together. Thank you for your partnership.

All my best,

Georgianna Dawson, Principal

Online Spirit Gear Store – Reopened!

Families, we heard you and reopened our online store for all your Thunderbird gear needs. You have until February 7th to place an order online.

Once the store closes items will be delivered to the school within 3 weeks and distributed to your child. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Click here to order Johnson spirit gear: Shop for [Johnson Spirit Gear](#)

Kelly Steinway, Spirit Gear Coordinator

Here is what we expect of families to help our school stay open for in person learning:

- Complete symptom checks for your children every day. If your child is experiencing **any** of the symptoms listed, keep your child home: [Can I go to school today?](#)
- Reinforce the safety measures we put in place at school.
- Help your children to understand this will pass, and we hope to return to “normalcy” as soon as possible.
- Provide your children with a mask and teach them how to wear and care for masks. The mask should fit snugly.
- Remind your children to wash their hands frequently.
- Communicate with us about cases and potential exposures.

Skillman Photography offering makeup picture day – February 10

If your child was absent or is new to our school and did not get a school picture taken in November, there is another opportunity coming up on Wednesday, February 10th. Skillman Photography will be at Johnson from 9:00 – 9:30 for picture makeup/retakes. You may also get re-takes if you were not satisfied with your child’s school picture. You can request that a picture makeup form be sent home with your child by calling the school office. You may also order pictures online. See flyer included in today’s newsletter for complete details.

Kindergarten – 4th grade families – Have you completed this survey?

We are beginning the important work of planning for the 2021 – 2022 school year. Part of that work is to establish expected student enrollment for next school year. We need your help in this process. We have created a short survey to gather information from each of our families regarding your plans for next school year. You will only need to complete one survey per family. The survey allows you to include information for more than one student. **Please complete the survey by February 19th.**



[Enrollment Survey for the 2021 – 2022 School Year](#)

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

Visitors/volunteers

No visitors/parents, or volunteers are currently allowed in PSD schools. If a parent needs to drop an item off for a student, or pick items up from the main office, they may come to the main entry, ring the doorbell and someone from the office will come out and assist you.

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 January 25 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.

Johnson Calendar of Events

January 2021		
21	9:00 – 10:30 am 9:00 – 10:50 am 10:00 – 12:00 10:50 – 12:00	Winter MAPS Testing – Math MAPS – 2 nd Grade MAPS – 4 th Grade MAPS – 5 th Grade MAPS – 3 rd Grade
25	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting *Virtual
26	9:00 – 10:30 am 9:00 – 10:50 am 10:00 – 12:00 10:50 – 12:00	Winter MAPS Testing – Reading MAPS – 2 nd Grade MAPS – 4 th Grade MAPS – 5 th Grade MAPS – 3 rd Grade
29	3:15 pm	Virtual PRIDE Assembly
February		
8	4:00 – 5:00 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting *Virtual
10	9:00 – 9:30 am	Makeup Picture Day
15		NO SCHOOL – Staff Workday
22	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting *Virtual
26	3:15 pm	Virtual PRIDE Assembly
March		
8	4:00 – 5:00 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting
10	6:00 – 7:30 pm	SAAC Committee Meeting
12		End of 3 rd Quarter
14		Daylight Savings Time Begins
15 – 19		NO SCHOOL – Spring Break
20		Spring Begins!
22	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting

Frequently asked questions and resources [Read more >>](#)

Technical Support	Health & Safety	2020-21 School Year	ParentVUE	PSD Virtual
Calendar	Transportation	School Meals	District Policies	Departments

Quick Links

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



Help us to celebrate Mission Moments at Johnson and in PSD

At PSD, your mission moments of how you support "Educate ... Every Child ... Every Day" is important to us. Telling positive stories about what is happening in the district during this challenging time is valuable not only for our staff but also for the community. We want to be able to display the good work that you are doing and know that it is appreciated! You're what makes us #PSDproud! [Submit a Mission Moment today. >>](#)

In case you missed it!

Mrs. Dawson's communication - January 14

Dear Johnson Families:

We are excited for students to return next Tuesday, January 19th. In preparation, I would ask for your help with a smooth arrival and pick-up. Please review our parking lot etiquette. We have published this multiple times. We have reposted it here in our newsletter, and our duty staff have created a video to review how our parking lot works. We should have that out to all families soon. In the spirit of safe arrival and pick-up, we recommend you allow for extra time (15 minutes) as you get used to how long it will take to drop your child off at school. Below, I have highlighted a few things to pay attention to.

1. For student drop-off/pick-up, use the two lanes on the east (left lanes as you enter) of the parking lot. Do not use the inner (west/right) lanes closest to the school. The west lanes are for our buses and authorized vehicles. If you need our ADA parking, you are an authorized vehicle, but you must have your tag displayed. We have small children crossing these lanes, and they are hard to see.

2. We expect all families to use our “staffed” cross walks during high traffic times (arrival and dismissal) when students are crossing the parking lot to get to the school. We do not want families to use the crossing area that crosses at the entrance of our inner lanes. This cross walk is not staffed, and the large pine tree obstructs drivers’ view for small children. During low traffic times, it is fine to use this crossing area.
3. Use the sidewalks rather than walking down in the middle of our traffic lanes or crossing between cars.
4. If you are stopped by a staff member, and he/she is asking you to do something differently, please comply. Our goal is to create a safe campus for your child.
5. If you are in a hurry, park along Seneca (in a legal space) or W. Troutman and walk up to the campus. Your children do know where they are to go and can do so independently. We will have staff helping. If you have a preschooler, you will need to check your child in at the preschool doors.

We are getting ready for heavier car traffic than we normally see since busing is restricted at this time. Patience, grace, and flexibility are currently our mottos. We hope we can all engage in this thinking as we begin in-person learning for our second semester.

Last week, I sent our guidance for how families can support our school staying open for in-person learning. Please review this as well.

In closing, thank you for all you do to make this a great place to be. We are so excited to see you and your children!

Georgianna Dawson, Principal

Parking lot etiquette

We are very fortunate at Johnson Elementary to have over 400 students who attend our school. Unfortunately, our parking lot was not designed to accommodate such a large number of vehicles when parents are dropping off or picking up their student(s). So, to ensure student safety and to speed up the process, we ask that you help us out by doing the following:

- DO not leave your car unattended
- In the drop off lane, please pull all the way forward to the very end of the parking lot (south side) before stopping to let your student(s) out of the vehicle. A staff member will be on duty and will motion you forward as space allows. We have two crosswalks to our building and it is essential that we use the full length of the drop off lane to keep traffic flowing. In the afternoon, when picking up, the staff member on duty will help your student(s) find your vehicle even if you pull all the way to the end of the lane.
- In the drop off lane, if you are waiting for the vehicle in front of you, please be patient and do not let your student(s) exit the vehicle until you have been motioned forward

and are at least even with the first crosswalk. We will move vehicles through the drop off lane much faster and students will be better supervised.

- Please do not park and exit your vehicle in the drop off lane. It is important that you be able to pull forward when motioned by the staff member on duty. If you need to park and exit your vehicle, please find an open parking space on the east side of our parking lot (the west side is for staff) or park along Seneca to the north of our building. When picking up in the afternoon, the staff member on duty will help your student(s) find your vehicle so you do not need to get out to find your student(s).
- Please wait until a space is available in the drive through lane before pulling into our parking lot. We must keep the intersection and the bus/van lane clear at all times. Also, please do not let your student(s) exit the vehicle while parked at the stop sign. We must be able to keep traffic moving along.
- After you drop off or pick up your student(s), please exit the drop off lane and pull through the parking lot to exit. This will open up more space for parents waiting in line. Please watch for parents leaving parking spaces on the east side of our parking lot.

When parking please use the east facing slots in the parking lot. This allows you to back out without interfering with vehicles in the drop off lane. Also, the inner driveway is for buses and daycare vans **only** between 8:35 – 9:05 a.m. and 3:10 – 3:35 p.m. Please do not drive in the inner lane during those times. The parking slots on the inner lanes are reserved for staff members only, so please do not park in these spots. Please do not park vehicles on the blacktop on the north or south side of the building. All vehicles should be parked in our parking lot only.

School arrival and dismissal process

School hours for In-person learning: 8:50 a.m. – 3:28 p.m.

Students can arrive to campus beginning at 8:35 a.m. Students should report directly to their outer classroom doors. No early arrivals and no playing or gathering before school. **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.

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 does mealtime look like?

School meals are free to all children for the remainder of this school year.

Sack breakfast will be available for pick-up at the cafeteria door on the south east corner of the school near our pre-school classrooms. **Breakfast is served from 8:35 – 8:50 a.m. If your student arrives after 8:50 am, make sure he/she has had breakfast.** Students will pick up their breakfast 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.

Students will eat lunch and snack in their classrooms, except for kindergarten and 2nd grade students who will eat with social distancing and plexiglass dividers, in the school cafeteria. Two sack lunch choices will be offered each day. Sack lunches will be delivered to classrooms and the students eating in the cafeteria. 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 11:25 – 11:50 a.m.
- 1st Grade 11:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- 2nd Grade 11:55 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
- 3rd Grade 12:05 – 12:25 p.m.
- 4th Grade 12:25 – 12:45 p.m.
- 5th Grade 12:40 – 1:00 p.m.



Menus & meal information

The district will continue to provide free meals to PSD students (PreK-12) through the end of this school year. Menus are subject to change based on availability of ingredients, supply or other factors.

PSD's [Menu Website](#) lets you search for menus and gives you access to information about allergens, carb counts, and nutrition details with each daily item. To download a free app for your phone, go to [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#) and search for Nutrislice.

Recess information

Students will have recess in cohort groups. When they can socially distance, they will 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.



Student pick-up during the school day/late arrival

If your child arrives late to school (after 8:50) and teacher has already closed her outside classroom door, please walk him/her to the main front door near the office. Office staff will ask you to sign your student in.

If you need to pick your child up during the school day – please call the main office (970-488-5000) when you are on your way to the school (5 to 10 min away). We will have your student ready and waiting for you to sign out at the main entrance. Ring the bell to the left of the main door and we will bring your student out to you.

Early Childhood Education

PSD's preschool program still has open spaces for the 2020-21 school year, and ECE's compassionate and professional teachers can't wait to work with the children in your lives. More families may qualify now than ever before. To learn more and begin an application online, visit the [Early Childhood Education web page](#) or call 970-490-3204.

AlphaBEST Education

Did you know **AlphaBEST Education** offers before and after school care at Johnson Elementary. The program adds enrichment, fitness, fun and quiet time in a safe and supervised environment? Johnson AlphaBEST Hours: 6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. A secure registration platform is available on the [AlphaBEST website](#).

Please contact AlphaBEST with questions: 972-668-0640 or customerservice@alphabest.org

PSD superintendent search online survey, forums

The Board of Education would like to hear input as it searches for the next Poudre School District superintendent. Parents/guardians, students, staff and other members of the PSD community are invited to complete a survey.

- The survey takes about 10 minutes and must be completed by Jan. 22.
- English survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PSDsearch>
- Spanish survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PSDbusqueda>
- Hazard Young Attea & Associates, a search firm hired by the Board of Education, will compile input gathered from the survey, forums and invite-only focus groups and create a leadership profile report that will be presented at the board's public Feb. 9 meeting.

The school board will also solicit diverse ideas from numerous stakeholder groups, including parents/guardians and students, through a series of facilitated, invitation-only, online January forums. Event information is posted on the [PSD Superintendent Search web page](#), which is the primary source of information for the hiring search. We encourage everyone to share their voices as part of this important process.

Once on the [PSD Superintendent Search web page](#) users can translate the content. Click on the word "Translate" along the top, green navigation bar and select your desired language from the list displayed.

PSD COVID-19 case protocols will shift with return to in-person learning

- [PSD COVID-19 Data and School Information](#): PSD 14-Day COVID-19 Location Screening case trends, monitoring when a school's case percentage goes over 1% – when a partial or whole school temporary closure may be necessary.
- [PSD COVID-19 protocols](#): Contact tracing will look different at the preschool/elementary and secondary levels.
- [Return to Learn](#): PSD will align with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's updated Return to Learn guidance, which maps out when students and staff can return to school and work after experiencing illness symptoms.
- [Health and Safety web page](#): Information on the 3 W's best practices, cleaning and sanitizing of schools.
- [Larimer County COVID-19 data](#): Current COVID-19 data from the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment.

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.