

Johnson Elementary

Thunderbird Times

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:

Thank you for all your support through our Raise Craze fundraiser and our spring book fair. Thank you to all families for helping us stay in-person. I know it is very difficult to figure out if a child should stay home due to illness in these times. It is a big commitment, but this commitment has allowed us to stay in-person for over 6 weeks. Thank you all!



March brings our time to plan for next school year. Thank you to all who have completed your intentions for next school year. Based on what we have gathered from you and our current enrollment for next school year, we will have the following grade level configurations. Kindergarten through third grade will most likely have 2 classrooms each. Fourth and fifth grade will most likely be three classrooms each. Please keep in mind, no final decisions have been made as we are still in our budget processes to make these decisions. We may also have fluctuating enrollment which could cause us to add a teacher. We use an interest-based solutions model to make decisions about how we will use our allocated budget. Our School Accountability and Advisory Committee (meets March 10th) gives input on what interests our community might have, and our shared leadership team (meets March 11th) gives input from our staff. We then create a balanced budget that meets as many interests as possible. Our plan goes to our district leadership for approval. Between now and then, many factors may change.

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Principal's Corner

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We are also looking forward to our spring conferences. Unlike our fall conferences, we do not necessarily conference with all families. We conduct spring conferences when a family requests one or the teacher reaches out for a conference. Please connect with your child's teacher if you would like a spring conference. Our shared leadership team will set dates for our spring conferences, and they will happen sometime after our spring break.

In closing, thank you for all you do for Johnson and your children. You make Johnson a great place to be.

Sincerely,

Georgie Dawson, Principal



AP's Angle



Persevering Together (March 2021)

Last week and lucky for me, I just so happened to be in Ms. Funk's 2nd grade

class when the Mars Rover, aptly named "Perseverance", completed its 300 million-mile journey and touched down successfully on the red planet next door to us. Ms. Funk and her students all cheered and clapped for joy together the moment the mission was safely called a success. The students could sense that they were witnessing something



special in American space exploration history, and it was a delight to see all their beaming faces filled with wonder and curiosity, which is incidentally, the name of another Mars Rover!

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...to learn more about

these great companies!

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AP's Angle continued

Teaching children to practice **perseverance** in learning is so important, especially in our techno-world of instant results and fast access to information. Students can grow frustrated or bored with the patience required to build academic, creative, social, and physical skills for life in the 21st century. Students can also become disheartened by the more demanding concepts and challenging tasks, wondering if they are too far out of reach. Therefore, if we help students build the skills of perseverance, they will be able to keep trying and believing, and ultimately go, as Buzz Lightyear once stated, "to infinity... and beyond!".

For the Rover to be successful, NASA wisely created a timeline of goals (over several years) to plan, build, launch, travel, land, and communicate its discoveries back to Earth. Experts in the field of education highlight that this kind of step-by-step goal setting is an excellent way to help students develop perseverance at school. Goals and plans that are made by students and supported by parents/guardians who also model achieving their own goals, help to create momentum, encouragement, and celebrations for the long and exciting journey of growth and discovery ahead. So, let's all get buckled in and practice perseverance to follow and reach our dreams.

On Friday, February 26th, we celebrated school spirit and student success with our latest Thunderbird PRIDE Assembly Video. Principal Dawson announced the Thunderbird PRIDE students of the month, Specials teachers presented their golden awards, our amazing team of para professionals decided which classes were worthy of the golden cup and big trophy, our School Resource Officer took time out of his busy day to give an important message to the students, and I announced the winners of the Wall of Stars Leadership challenge. What a Thunderbird assembly for our Johnson students, who are truly out of this world!

Matt Hughes





Articles included in today's issue:

- News from PE Land
- Encouragement Matters
- JPTO General Membership Meeting Get involved!
- Calendar of Events
- In Case you Missed It
 - ♦ Second School of Choice consideration period now open
 - ♦ <u>Kindergarten registration is avai</u>lable online
 - ♦ Family Resources available for hardships during COVID-19
 - ♦ COVID-19 Protocols and Safety Guidelines
 - ♦ Ongoing Fundraising for Johnson
 - ♦ And much more....

Staff Encouragement

I want to give a huge thank you to Ms, Kathi and Ms, Karen in the preschool classroom. They go above and beyond by bundling up my little polar bear before pick up, knowing that we often walk home through the snow in the afternoons! It's so easy to pop her in the sled when she's got all her gear on and is ready to go! They do such an amazing job paying attention to the needs and habits of each individual family.

Also, thank you Mr. K. I don't know who you are, but my 3 year old thinks you are the coolest and tallest person ever!!:)

~Natasha Day, Parent

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News from PE Land

Hi Thunderbirds,

We are coming down to the end of the "Schools on The Move Challenge". Our new normal circumstances have shifted the responsibility of starting the challenge and submitting your log to adults in the home and tech savvy students. Boy, do I need one of those now! The paper copy is available and adding your daily responses online is an option. Best of all, it is not too late to fill in those days from earlier in the month. Many of the healthy habits are part of every kid's routine. I encourage you to download a copy and fill it in, next week an email will go out with the link to submit your log. It would be great to have every student submit their log and to show everyone how really healthy we all are!

Meanwhile, I hope that the two - week specials rotation is working out for you. PE has been more enriching in many ways.

Jim Rumbold, PE Teacher – Contact: jrumbold@psdschools.org

Encouragement Matters

During these difficult times, hearing positive feedback about how we are doing means so much to our staff. If you have something you would like to share to encourage them, please send an email to Tina Crewdson (tcrewdso@psdschools.org). I will share your comments in our school newsletters and the PSD Communications office.

Frequently Asked Questions and Resources

PSD Community and District News

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

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

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 March 22 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 Bokovitz

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 Calendar of Events

February					
26	3:15 pm	Virtual PRIDE Assembly			
March	March				
4		JPTO "Raise Craze" Fundraiser ends			
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 – "Spring" forward			
		1 hour			
12		NO SCHOOL – Teacher Workday			
15 – 19		NO SCHOOL – Spring Break			
20		Spring Begins!			
22	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting			
22 – 26		Classified Staff Appreciation Week			
April					
2	3:15 pm	Virtual PRIDE Assembly			
12	4:00 – 5:00 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting			
16		NO SCHOOL – Conference Exchange Day			
19		NO SCHOOL – Teacher Workday			
26	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting			
May					
7	3:15 pm	Virtual PRIDE Assembly			
10 – 14		Teacher Appreciation Week			
10	4:00 – 5:00 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting			
17		NO SCHOOL – Staff Workday			
17	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting			
26		Last Day of School – Half Day			

Quick Links

- Johnson Elementary Website
- PSD Schools Parent Website
- <u>District News</u>
- PSD School Calendars & Schedules



In Case you Missed It

Important Information from Previous News Updates

Second School of Choice consideration period now open

If you missed the first period of consideration to apply for School of Choice, the second application period is now open. Families have a wide array of wonderful PSD schools to choose from. More information >>

Kindergarten registration is available online

Register online at <u>olr.psdschools.org</u>. Even if you opt to send your child to a school outside your neighborhood through School Choice, you must still register your child at your neighborhood school. <u>Read more about Kindergarten options >></u>

Family Resources available for hardships during COVID-19

PSD staff and community partners recently compiled updated support resources for staff and families. If you know someone who needs help, check out the Family Resources web page >>

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. >>

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!

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 <u>any</u> of the symptoms listed, keep your child home: <u>Can I</u> 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 snuggly.
- Remind your children to wash their hands frequently.
- Communicate with us about cases and potential exposures.

Processes when staff or students are exposed to or test positive for

Parents, guardians, staff and students should notify their school or supervisor if there is a positive COVID-19 case or possible exposure.

Return to learning guidance

For students and staff returning to work or school in PSD following a positive COVID-19 symptom screen, PSD follows the <u>CDPHE Return to Learn guidance</u> for K-12 schools.

A group of nurses and PSD staff evaluated the updated guidance, which is now in effect and outlines when staff and students can return to work and school.

Note: This guidance is NOT intended for cases or close contacts of COVID-19. A confirmed COVID-19 case or close contact should follow public health isolation or quarantine instructions for return to school/work.

<u>Critical symptoms</u>

• Loss of taste or smell

Critical symptom response:

- Follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND be 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.
- COVID-19 test recommended.

Major symptoms

- Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4 F or greater
- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Major symptom response:

- If symptoms resolve within 24 hours of onset and stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (48 hours total)
- If symptoms DO NOT resolve within 24 hours, either:
 - Follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.
 - * Get a polymerase chain reaction (PCR), Abbott ID Now, Curative, or Binax Now COVID-19 test. If test is negative, return to school once symptom-free for 24 hours. If positive, follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.

Minor symptoms

- Sore throat
- Runny nose or congestion
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Fatique
- Nausea, vomiting
- Diarrhea

Minor symptom response:

- If symptoms resolve within 24 hours of onset and stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (48 hours total)
- If symptoms resolve within 48 hours of onset and stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (72 hours total)
- If symptoms DO NOT resolve within 48 hours, either:
 - Follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.

Get a polymerase chain reaction (PCR), Abbott ID Now, Curative, or Binax Now COVID-19 test. If test is negative, return to school once symptom-free for 24 hours. If positive, follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.

If there are questions about when a student can return to school, the school nurse or PSD health staff will make that determination.

PSD COVID-19 case protocols:

- 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.
- <u>PSD COVID-19 protocols:</u> Contact tracing will look different at the preschool/elementary and secondary levels.
- <u>Return to Learn:</u> 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.
- <u>Health and Safety web page:</u> Information on the 3 W's best practices, cleaning and sanitizing of schools.
- <u>Larimer County COVID-19 data:</u> Current COVID-19 data from the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment.

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 are 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 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.
•	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	12:25 – 12:45 p.m.
•	5 th 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 <u>Menu Website</u> 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 <u>iTunes</u> or <u>Google</u> Play and search for Nutrislice.

Student Council and Morning Fresh

Johnson's Student Council is still collecting Morning Fresh milk caps. There is a tote located near the front door at Johnson. Please use the hand sanitizer provided before opening the box. See flyer included in today's newsletter for more information.

Emergency Contact Information

Now, more than ever, it is <u>very</u> important that we have up to date emergency contact information for each student. Please be sure that we have current phone numbers for both parents/guardian, and additional emergency contacts in case we are unable to reach the parent/guardian. Parents can view and update information on file for your child through <u>ParentVUE</u>.

If you are unable to access ParentVUE – please call our office (970-488-5000) to check the information we have on file for your child.

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.

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

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 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.

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!

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.