

## Thunderbird Update – March 11, 2021



Dear Johnson Families,

Thank you for all you do for Johnson! Our Raise Craze has been an impressive success, and it amazes me what a small community like ours can do. We raised \$11,100.00 and completed 1,125 acts of kindness! Way to go Thunderbirds. Please give a big thank you to all who supported each of you in our Raise Craze. We will honor classes and individuals with the highest acts of kindness as well as those with greatest funds raised when we return from spring break.

On a different note, we have had two classrooms go to remote this past week. We are grateful to all in helping us limit this impact to only two classrooms. The classes will hopefully return to in-person learning after spring break. If you want more detailed information about COVID 19 and Johnson elementary, you can visit our PSD website: [PSD COVID 19 Data and School Information](#)

Our JPTO executive committee met on Monday night, and it is the time of year we begin talking about new officers for the following school year. Our JPTO is a great group of people and they need your help. If you are interested in providing leadership to this important team, please reach out to one of our JPTO officers, Mr. Hughes, or me.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs. Dawson

### **Dress Like a Book Character Day is TODAY!**

Students are invited to dress like a Book Character today, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Characters must be from a book that the student has read or wants to read (movie or cartoon characters are okay to dress up as, but only if they originated from a book). Simple, home-made costumes with a hint of imagination are encouraged.

### **FREE Meals during Spring Break**

The Lunch Lab will be offering "Grab and Go Meals" for kids 18 and under during Spring Break. Meals will be available Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Fort Collins Fresh Food Pantry at 1301 Blue Spruce Drive and Loveland Fresh Food Pantry at 2600 N. Lincoln Avenue. No registration or identification required.

## Spring Workdays for Elementary Teachers

As you may have seen in recent news articles from PSD – two new workdays for teachers have been added to this year’s school calendar, March 12 and April 19. To clarify the information shared in [last week’s announcement](#), both dates are elementary workdays, meaning students in grades PK-5 will not have school. Middle and high school students will participate in asynchronous learning online. For more information on these workdays please read the [March 3<sup>rd</sup> PSD Update](#)

## State Testing in April/May

It is Colorado state law that all school districts administer state tests. Statewide assessments provide valuable information to students, families, schools, districts, the state and taxpayers. All tests will be taken electronically again this year. As it stands now, see the chart below for what grades will be tested, what subject they will complete, and on what dates they will test. **Students do better when they test with their classmates, so please plan vacations around these dates.** If you have questions about this testing, please contact Mr. Hughes at (970) 488-5015, or by email at: [mhughes@psdschools.org](mailto:mhughes@psdschools.org)  
Thank you.

Date	Grades	Times	Subject Area
April 20, 21, 22	3, 4, 5	9:05 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.	ELA, 3 units / 90 minutes
April 27, 28, 29	3, 4, 5	9:05 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Math, 3 units / 65 minutes
May 4, 5, 6	5	9:05 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Science, 3 units / 80 minutes
May 10-14	3,4,5	9:05 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Make-up Testing

**We have 9 ½ weeks of school left this year. Here is what we expect of families to help keep our school open:**

- 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?](#)
- Provide your children with masks and teach them how to wear and care for them.
- Remind your children to maintain safe social distancing and to wash their hands frequently.
- Honor school procedures for school arrival and departure and school guidelines for visitors.
- Let us know about COVID-19 cases and potential exposures. Call (970)488-5000.

## STEM-X Summer Programs

Elementary (3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>) and Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>) grade students are invited to attend the STEM-X Summer Programs from June 7 – 18, 2021. See flyer included in today’s newsletter for details and registration information.

## Healthy Kids Connection

Look for the March issue of the Health Kids Connection and more information about National Nutrition Month, recipes for St. Patrick’s Day and Spring and 5210+ Challenge wrap-up information. See flyer included in today’s newsletter.

## Johnson Calendar of Events

March		
12		End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
14		Daylight Savings Time Begins – “Spring” forward 1 hour
15 – 19		<b>NO SCHOOL – Spring Break</b>
20		Spring Begins!
22	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting
22 – 26		<b>Classified Staff Appreciation Week</b>
April		
2		Virtual PRIDE Assembly
12	4:00 – 5:00 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting
16		<b>NO SCHOOL – Conference Exchange Day</b>
26	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting
May		
3 – 7		<b>Teacher Appreciation Week</b>
7	3:15 pm	Virtual PRIDE Assembly
10	4:00 – 5:00 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting
17		<b>NO SCHOOL – Staff Workday</b>
17	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting
26		Last Day of School – Half Day

## In case you missed it...

### 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 [olr.psdschools.org](http://olr.psdschools.org). 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. [Read more about Kindergarten options >>](#)

## **Outdoor Recess Guidelines**

As a gentle reminder, Colorado brings ever changing weather. Please make sure your child brings the appropriate gear to go out and play. The children love playing in the snow at recess and have such a great time with this. Our temperature cut point for going out is 10°. We do watch for windchill and factor this in. In other words, if the temperature is 20° but windchill says it feels like 7°, we keep the children inside.

## **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 at [tcrewds@psdschools.org](mailto:tcrewds@psdschools.org). I will share your comments in our school newsletters and the PSD Communications office.

## **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.

## **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. >>](#)

## Early Childhood Education

Know a preschooler who could benefit from going to school in PSD and connecting with professional, compassionate educators? Did you know ECE is in-person, four days a week during the second semester? To learn about the application process and more, visit the [Early Childhood Education web page](#)>>

## School Meals

The district will provide free meals to PSD students (PreK-12) through the end of the 2020-21 school year. [PSD Meals During 2020-21 web page](#) >>

## 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](#) >>

## 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](mailto:customerservice@alphabest.org)

## 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.
- [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.

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

<a href="#">Technical Support</a>	<a href="#">Health &amp; Safety</a>	<a href="#">2020-21 School Year</a>	<a href="#">ParentVUE</a>	<a href="#">PSD Virtual</a>
<a href="#">Calendar</a>	<a href="#">Transportation</a>	<a href="#">School Meals</a>	<a href="#">District Policies</a>	<a href="#">Departments</a>

**Quick Links**

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



*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.*