

Thunderbird Update – April 1, 2021



Dear Johnson families,

Please take a few minutes to review today's Thunderbird Update so that you are aware of upcoming events.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

During the week of April 12th, we will conduct parent-teacher conferences. Unlike our Fall conferences, we meet with families on an as needed basis. If you are a family that would like to attend a conference regarding your child's spring progress, please reach out to your child's teacher.

Federal government approves Colorado waiver to reduce CMAS tests in spring 2021

On March 26, the Colorado Department of Education announced that the state legislature and U.S. Department of Education reduced the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) tests that students will take in spring 2021 due to the unique circumstances Colorado schools and districts are facing as a result of the pandemic. Parents have the options to opt their students out of the testing outlined below (deadline by April 9). If a family would like to have their child take an optional test, we will also need to know that by April 9. They may do so by completing the necessary forms digitally by logging into [ParentVUE](#) and accessing Services Tracker. Instructions [are available here](#).

Please see Johnson's revised testing schedule:

| Grade | Dates | Times | Subject Area |
|---------|-----------------|------------------------|--|
| 3 | Apr. 20, 21, 22 | 9:10 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. | ELA, 3 units / 90 minutes |
| 4 | Apr. 20, 21, 22 | 9:25 a.m. – 10:35 a.m. | Math, 3 units / 65 minutes |
| 5 | Apr. 20, 21, 22 | 9:10 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. | ELA, 3 units / 90 minutes |
| 3, 4, 5 | Apr. 26, 27, 28 | 9:05 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | 2 nd test Opt-ins, Make-ups |

For more information about state assessments, visit the Colorado Department of Education [website here](#) or visit the [PSD District and State Assessments web page](#).

Group Class Pictures – Message from Skillman Photography

With schools dealing with protocols for COVID-19, class group photos will not be taken this year. Johnson Elementary will be offering an 8x10 class composite with those photographed last fall and this spring at Johnson in lieu of the spring class group for only \$11.50.

They can be ordered by returning order envelope (sent home with students) or order online. Online orders will have a \$1.00 convenience fee added.

Must be ordered by **April 16, 2021**.

SECURE PRE-ORDER ONLINE:

Go to www.skillmanphotography.com

Click on “order prepaid school portraits” and have credit/debit card ready.

ACCESS CODE: JOHN2020CG

The composites will be delivered to school in May. Sample from another school pictured below.



Johnson Calendar of Events

| April | | |
|---------|-----------------|---|
| 2 | | Virtual PRIDE Assembly |
| 12 | 4:00 – 5:00 pm | JPTO Executive Board Meeting |
| 12 – 16 | | Parent/Teacher Conferences (Before/After School) |
| 16 | | NO SCHOOL – Conference Exchange Day |
| 19 | | NO SCHOOL – Elementary Teacher Workday |
| 20 – 22 | | State Testing – Grades 3, 4, 5 |
| 22 | 4:00 pm | Earth Day Clean-up |
| 26 | 6:30 – 7:30 pm | JPTO General Membership Meeting |
| 26 – 28 | | State Testing 2 nd Test Opt-ins, Make-ups – Grades 3, 4, 5 |
| 30 | | Talent Show Video Auditions are DUE |
| May | | |
| 3 – 7 | | Teacher Appreciation Week |
| 4 – 6 | 9:05 – 10:30 am | State Testing, 5 th Grade |
| 7 | 3:15 pm | Virtual PRIDE Assembly |
| 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 | Time TBD | 5 th Grade Promotion Last Day of School – Half Day |

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.



In case you missed it...previously published articles

Don't forget - Meet superintendent finalists during April 2 online community forum

Search firm Hazard Young Attea & Associates, or HYA, will host a virtual forum from 5-8:30 p.m. April 2 during which PSD students, families and community members can meet the three superintendent finalists selected by the Board of Education. There will be time for attendees to ask questions. Information about the finalists will be posted on the [PSD Superintendent web page](#) when it is available, prior to the forums. Spanish interpretation will be available. [Get the online meeting link and call-in option information here >>](#)

5th grade end of year events

We are in the planning phase of organizing our traditional 5th grade end of year events. We are planning for an "in person" promotion ceremony. The promotion ceremony will take place on the last day of school, Wednesday, May 26th in the morning. Our planning will follow all district and county guidelines. We will share more information as it becomes available.



Earth Day clean-up at Johnson – April 22

One of our parents is organizing an event for Earth Day clean-up here at Johnson. Join us in front of the school (social distanced of course) at 4:00 p.m.



What to bring: trash bags, gloves, masks, positive attitude

For questions about this event please contact: Dawnell Huitt at DawnellandJason@gmail.com or call 970-988-8302.

Following public health guidelines, PSD to allow voluntary shortened quarantines

PSD believes access to education is critical to student success. As allowed by [county](#) and state public health guidance, PSD staff and students can voluntarily end their quarantines early if they meet strict criteria and are approved by PSD COVID-19 Response Teams to do so. This goes into effect March 22 and is a change from PSD's previous protocols. Process information and criteria are available on the [PSD Protocols for COVID-19 web page >>](#)

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. 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 >>](#)

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

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

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|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 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](#)
- [2020-21 FAQ web page](#): Answers to common questions are available here.
- [PSD COVID-19 protocols](#): Want to know what happens when there is a COVID-19 case in school? Need to know what other health and safety protocols are in place this school year?
- [PSD COVID-19 Data and School Information](#): View COVID-19 cases by school and department, trends across age groups, school outbreak statuses, total students and staff in remote learning and more.
- [CDPHE Return to Learn](#): When students and staff can return to school and work after experiencing illness symptoms.
- [Health and Safety web page](#): PSD's health-centered practices, the 3 W's, cleaning, sanitization of schools, and more.
- [Larimer County Department of Health and Environment](#): Current LCDHE COVID-19 data and county pandemic response information.



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.