

## Thunderbird Update – August 12, 2021

Dear Johnson Families,



While many of you are celebrating this next step, we know some of you have reservations or questions about safety. You will see many similar precautions in our building as you see in the community. Mask requirements, handwashing, social distancing markers, and health screenings will continue to be a prominent part of our school routines. We have explicit teach-to's about our procedures, so students are clear about the universal precautions they need to take.

### General information:

- Guidance from Larimer County and PSD changes routinely, so this information may evolve based upon their direction.
- We will continue our practice of having parents come to our vestibule to conduct business.

### Fall 2021 School Return

- **Symptom Screening:** Please screen your child for symptoms prior to sending him/her to school. [Can I go to school symptom check](#)
- **Handwashing:** We will wash hands in the classroom
  - each morning upon entering,
  - before lunch,
  - after every recess
  - after every cough or sneeze, and
  - after using the restroom
  - Students may bring a personal lotion to use.
- **Surface areas:** Will be sanitized routinely throughout the day and in the evening.
- **Arrival:** Students may arrive on the Johnson campus at 8:35 AM. Students can play on our playgrounds or go to breakfast at this time. When the school bell rings, K-1 students should line up on our playground for teachers to bring them into the building, and 2-5<sup>th</sup> grade students line up at their classroom doors. Students will not use the main entrance if at all possible.
- **Playground:** Students will have recess while at school. The Johnson playground will be closed to other students and visitors Monday - Friday from 8:30a - 3:30p.
- **Dismissal:** All students are dismissed through exterior doors
- **Breakfast/Lunch:** Sack breakfast is available in our cafeteria at 8:35 AM. Breakfast service ends at 8:50 AM. If you send your child after this time, make sure they have had breakfast. Two sack lunch choices will be available. Lunches brought from home should include items that children can open independently.

We are planning on meals being eaten in our cafeteria or outside (as the weather allows).

- **Masks:** Cloth or disposable masks must be worn at all times except when eating. Please send a spare mask in your child's backpack. As stated previously, please make sure your child has a clean mask every day. Masks are not required when outdoors. Students can put their masks on as they enter into the building.
- **Snack/water bottles:** Students may bring a small snack and one or two full water bottles. Bottle fillers will be used this year for refilling. No other personal items (toys, recess equipment) should be brought from home.
- **Cohorts:** Students will interact with students in their **classroom cohort**. This will be about 16-25 students. A few students may interact with a small group of students from other classrooms to receive specialized instruction for GT, special education, or intervention. In all cases, students will be spaced 3 feet or more apart during those specialized services where possible.
- **Spacing:** Students will be spaced 3 ft apart when possible. Some classrooms are configuring with a learning partner for social emotional reasons and because of space restrictions.
- **Attendance:** Attendance will be taken daily. If your child is ill, please call our attendance line at 970-488-5095. Please describe the symptoms related to the illness in case we need to begin contact tracing and other protocols.
- **Recess:** Students will go out to recess 2-3 times a day to the playgrounds. While outside, students are not expected to wear masks. They can play with whomever they wish to within their grade level.
- **Contact tracing:** We will use targeted trace contact methods if we have a COVID positive case.
- **When students are absent:** We will follow our normal policies of providing missed work for students to complete. Teachers may check in with students who are absent, but students will not access the classroom remotely. See note about learning pages.
- **Learning pages:** Learning pages will continue to be updated.

All my best,  
Georgianna Dawson, Principal

### **Fall 2021 Health/Safety Protocols**

Visit the [PSD Health and Safety website](#) for the most up to date information regarding district COVID protocols for schools. The district continues to follow guidance and orders from public health officials to meet evolving health and safety requirements and to implement district COVID protocols.

## **Class Lists/Teacher Assignment**

We know students are excited to know who their teacher and classmates will be! Class lists will be posted on the main doors at Johnson on Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> by 10:00 a.m. Parents may also look for your child's teacher assignment through [ParentVUE](#) on this date.

**Once these lists are posted, they do not change.** Administration, classroom teachers, support staff, and specials teachers all work diligently to place your child in a balanced classroom in which he/she will be successful. We consider a multitude of factors including but not limited to friendships, gender, academic needs/strengths, gifts and talents, learning styles, social/emotional needs, and more. Moving a student from one classroom to another classroom after all these considerations are made unravels this thoughtful work and has a ripple effect for other students. This is why: **Once these lists are posted, they do not change.**

## **School Supplies**

The school supply list for this school year is included in today's news update, posted on the main doors at Johnson, and on the [Johnson website](#). If your family ordered school supplies through "1<sup>st</sup> Day School Supplies", they will be waiting in your child's classroom on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school.



## **Back-to-School Night**

We plan to hold our BTSN in person on Monday, August 23. We will offer 3 sessions: 5:30 - 6:00, 6:05 - 6:35 and 6:40 - 7:10 p.m. Watch for a sign-up genius from your child's teacher on August 13. We will not be offering our traditional Open House/Ice Cream Social this school year. Students should bring their school supplies on the first day of school.

## **First Day of School**

The first day of school for students in 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. School hours are 8:50 a.m. to 3:28 p.m.

Kindergarten students will have intake testing on August 16 and 17, and staggered start on August 18 and 19. Kindergarten families will receive a letter from your child's teacher with detailed information on the opening schedule.



## **Daily Schedule**

School hours for students in Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade are 8:50 a.m. to 3:28 p.m. **Students should not arrive at school before 8:35 a.m. unless attending BASE Camp or a special program.** 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.     Playground supervision begins  
8:45 a.m.     Entrance bell rings  
8:50 a.m.     **Classes begin**  
3:28 a.m.     School dismissed  
3:45 a.m.     Students should be off campus

## **Tentative Lunch Schedule**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>K</b>	11:35 – 12:00
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	11:45 – 12:05
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	12:20 – 12:40
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	12:15 – 12:35
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	12:35 – 12:55
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	12:45 – 1:05



## **ParentVUE – Synergy (PSD Student Information System)**

Parents/guardians can access grades, attendance, schedules, and other student information through the Synergy parent portal. Complete secure logon through the [ParentVUE/StudentVUE portal](#) or through the apps, which can be downloaded from the [iTunes Store](#) and [Google Play](#).

Parents/guardians can only see their student's information. Parents/guardians must have "educational rights" to access ParentVUE. Once educational rights are reflected in Synergy, parents will receive an email with a user activation code.

Learn how to access and/or activate your account on the ["Accessing and Activating a ParentVUE Account" web page](#). If you have questions, refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions" or contact our school office at 970-488-5000.

## **Transportation**

PSD's Transportation department is striving to maximize student ridership while following state and county safety guidelines for bus transportation. For the most up to date information on bussing in PSD, visit the [Transportation website](#).

## **School Meals**

Thanks to an extension of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's school district reimbursement program, PSD will once again offer free meals to any enrolled PSD student during the 2021-22 school year. Ala carte items will once again be sold at secondary schools.

Families are encouraged to apply for [Free and Reduced meals](#) for the coming school year starting on August 1, 2021. Those who qualify for benefits are eligible for school fee/charge waivers.

For complete details on school meals in PSD, visit the [Child Nutrition website](#). Have a question and your not sure who to contact? Send your question to [nutrition@psdschools.org](mailto:nutrition@psdschools.org) and we will get it forwarded to just the right person.

## **PSD needs Substitute Teachers**

Are you interested in becoming a substitute in Poudre School District? PSD is recruiting substitute teachers. Here is the link to the PSD Website for more information: [Subbing for PSD](#). On this page is a link to the Colorado Department of Education's website, which includes CDE stipend incentives for those who get licensed to substitute.

## **Johnson Representative needed for the District Advisory Board**

We would like to have a representative from the Johnson parent community for the PSD District Advisory Board. The District Advisory Board advises the district on a number of issues and is made up of parent representatives from each school and acts as a link between the community and the district.

The DAB gives parents an opportunity to interact and engage with the district. If you are interested in being a DAB representative for you school, please contact your principal.

Please see the [DAB bylaws](#) and [representative responsibilities](#) documents for more information.

Meetings are usually held the first Monday of the month, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Johannsen Support Services Center, 2407 Laporte Avenue.

## **Johnson SAAC Committee**

Our School Accountability and Advisory Committee meets four times a year. Please see our meeting dates below. Our SAAC is responsible for advising the school in the following areas: resource allocation, our school unified improvement plan, school safety, and school direction. Other topics are discussed as they come up. If you are interested in supporting Johnson Elementary in this work, please contact the school principal to get more information.

We meet at Johnson Elementary in the media center from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Meeting dates are listed below.

SAAC Meeting Dates: September 22, 2021, November 3, 2021, January 12, 2022, March 9, 2022

## **Johnson Calendar of Events**

<b>August</b>		
13	10:00 am	Class Lists Posted on the main doors at Johnson
16	8:50 am – 3:28 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Day of School for 1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students
16 – 17		Intake Testing for Kindergarten Students
18 – 19		Staggered Start Days for Kindergarten Students
20	8:50 am – 3:28 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Full day of school for Kindergarten Students
23	5:30 – 7:10 pm	Back-to-School Night * <b>Sign-up for one of 3 sessions</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of School for Pre-School Students
<b>September</b>		
6		<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Labor Day
17		<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Teacher Workday
24	TBD	Johnson P.R.I.D.E Assembly
22	6:00 – 8:00 pm	SAAC Committee Meeting
22 – 24		ECO Week for 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Students *more info to come
29		Individual Student Picture Day

[PSD 2021-22 K-12 Student/Teacher Calendar](#)

[Early Childhood Poudre School District Calendar](#)

Visit the [Johnson Website](#) for events and activities specific to Johnson.

## **Before and After School Care – AlphaBEST services at PSD Schools**

[ALPHAbest](#) Education offers before and after school childcare services to students at PSD schools. For information about rates, schedules and to register visit the [Alphabest website](#).

### **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.*