



# Johnson Elementary

## Thunderbird Times October 2021

**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](mailto:gdawson@psdschools.org)

### Assistant Principal

Mr. Matt Hughes  
970-488-5015  
[mhughes@psdschools.org](mailto:mhughes@psdschools.org)

### Office Manager

Ms. Tina Crewdson  
970-488-5001  
[tcrewds@psdschools.org](mailto:tcrewds@psdschools.org)

### Secretary/Health Tech

Ms. Wrenn Thornton  
970-488-5003  
[wthornto@psdschools.org](mailto:wthornto@psdschools.org)

### School Counselor

Mr. Jason Allen  
970-488-5038  
[jallen@psdschools.org](mailto:jallen@psdschools.org)

### School Website

<http://joh.psdschools.org>

### School Hours for in-person learning:

8:50 a.m.—3:28 p.m.

## Principal's Corner

Dear Johnson Families,

Thank you for all you do for Johnson. We have had a smooth start to the school year. October is a very busy month for schools. Please pay close attention to important dates and talk with your child about what is happening at school.

Our "RAISE CRAZE" kindness fundraiser was a huge success. Our community spread kindness while at the same time raising money for Johnson. We had 851 acts of kindness with \$22,426.00 raised. We have met our goal, and I will be on the ROOF doing my work as best as I can this Thursday, October 7. The children are super excited about putting their principal on the roof. Thank you to our JPTO and our entire community for this important support.

Parent-Teacher conferences are this month as well. If you have not already signed up for a conference, please contact your child's teacher to do so. This is an important time with your child's teacher where you will hear everything about your child's progress towards grade level expectations. Conferences are also considered one of our grade reporting times. The fall conference is our first reporting to families, and you will not receive a written report card. At semester (January) and at the end of the year (May), families will receive a report card on student progress. Personally, I am very proud of our professional staff, how they prepare for conferences, and all the knowledge they have about each child at such an early time of the year. I am equally proud of our parent community and the high level of participation we have in conferences. Know that our goal is 100% participation by every family. Please support us in attaining this goal.

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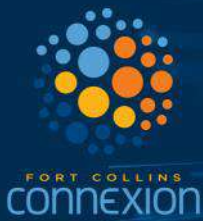


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Auxiliary aids and services are available for persons with disabilities.



## Principal's Corner

*continued*

We close out the month with our annual fall festivities. We will have our fall class parties on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. We anticipate hosting our traditional fall parade of costumes, and we will need to adhere to current county guidelines. Please watch for news about how this will run. Please see our guidelines for costumes in our school handbook. We are an inclusionary environment which means all children should feel included and safe here at school.

Thank you in advance for your support of Johnson Elementary. You are one of the many reasons Johnson is a great place to be!

All my best,

Georgie Dawson

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page 2

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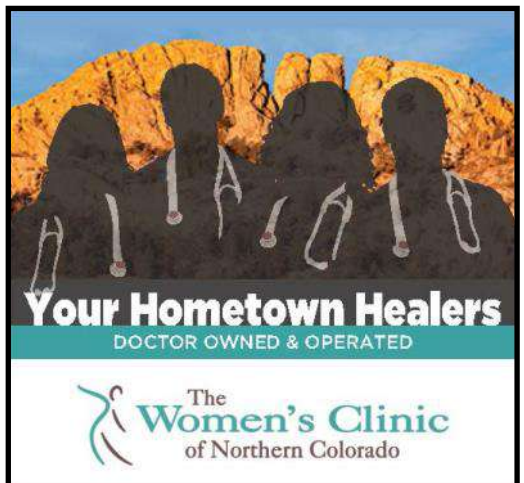
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## AP's Angle



October 2021

### Wall of Stars

The AP's Wall of Stars has returned with a new look, and soon it will be filled with the names of students who have been caught practicing leadership at Johnson. Our theme for the month of October is: **CARING**

Classroom teachers recently showed their students a video that I made which explains how this initiative, to help promote a positive school culture and climate, works. You can watch the video by clicking [here](#). A big thank you to the JPTO for helping to sponsor this program.



### Math Olympiads

We are also launching an afterschool enrichment program for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students called, "Math Olympiads". This U.S. based program has been serving schools across America and around the world since 1977.

During weekly afterschool sessions, we will give our "Mathletes" strategies and instructions for the monthly contests. Following each contest, we'll break down and discuss solution methods together for each problem that was presented. Our main goals are as follows:

*continued on next page*

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connections

## AP's Angle

*continued*

- To stimulate enthusiasm and a love for mathematics
- To introduce important mathematical concepts
- To teach major strategies for problem solving
- To develop mathematical flexibility in solving problems
- To strengthen mathematical intuition
- To foster mathematical creativity and ingenuity
- To provide for the satisfaction, joy, and thrill of meeting challenges

From November to March, students will participate in five challenging monthly contests. **No traveling is required**. These contests provide an incentive for students to intensify their study of math.

Interested 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students will receive more information and parent consent forms on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Go Thunderbirds!

Matt Hughes

Assistant Principal

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## Articles included in today's issue:

- [Principal's Corner](#)
- [AP's Angle](#)
- [Raise Craze Results](#)
- [Spirit Night Update](#)
- [Parent/Teacher Conferences – October 11 – 13](#)
- [RMHS Feeder Parade – October 22](#)
- [Scholastic Book Fair – October 25 - 29](#)
- [School Options & Choice – 2022-23 School Year](#)
- [Johnson Spirit Week at Loveland Laser Tag](#)
- [PSD Hiring Substitute Teachers](#)
- [Before and After School Enrichments](#)
- [Johnson Calendar of Events](#)
- [In Case you missed it](#)

### Spirit Night Update

Thank you to everyone who showed up to our recent Chipotle Spirit Night. 33% was generously gifted back to our school, for a total of \$536.23.

Rita's Italian Ice contributed to our Raise Craze goal with a \$300 donation, we REALLY enjoyed seeing all the families and the folks at Meals on Wheels were so excited to get the placemats to pass out.

### Parent Teacher Conferences – Have you signed up?

Parent/teacher conferences are being scheduled on October 11 – 13<sup>th</sup>. All parents/guardians should have received a conference sign-up link from your child's teacher. Some of our Specials teachers have additional conference availability. Sign-up for your child's conference(s) here: [Conference Sign-up](#)

NO SCHOOL on October 14 and 15 – Conference Comp Days

## **Raise Craze Results**

When we kicked off a few weeks ago, we set a goal to raise money for our school while completing Acts of Kindness for others. This is called paying it forward. In other words, to thank all of the generous people (and businesses) who donated to our school, we kept the kindness going by doing something kind for someone else.

And boy did they. I can't recall a single time I DIDN'T see an act of kindness happening while I was visiting the school. Not only did we reach our fundraising goal (with the help of our Family Service Night at Rita's where we raised \$300) but kindness has exploded at Johnson as 180 participants completed over 850 acts of kindness!

Thank you to our Johnson community for your strong support of our efforts. Because of you, your family and friends, JPTO will be able to continue to provide our annual support:

- to Johnson students from technology resources and classroom aids to outdoor equipment, educational assemblies, and family fun nights
- to Johnson staff including specials, Gifted & Talented, ELA, Integrated Services, and Positive Behavior Intervention Support with a yearly stipend and funding for approved special requests
- to fund additional health and wellness measures (including but not limited to wobble stools, slant boards, lap desks, standing tables, air filters, etc)

Congratulations to all the classes who have achieved their in-class goals!

Kelly Steinway, JPTO Events and Fundraising Coordinator

## **Scholastic Book Fair – Coming Soon!**

We're excited to invite you to our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair during the week of October 25<sup>th</sup>. Watch for more information including, hours, and purchasing options to come home with your student.

## **RMHS Feeder Parade – You are invited!**

Dear Rocky Feeder Schools,

My name is Ben Harding and I'm part of the Rocky Mountain High School Student Council. Our annual Feeder Parade is coming up! We would love to invite all of your students to join us for this fun event!

The parade is on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, and we are asking participating students from your school to meet at the French Field gates, located south of RMHS, at 5:15 pm. The parade will start at 5:45. All students from the feeder schools that are participating in the parade will get free entry to the football game as long as they have a stamp, which will be provided at the start of the parade. Parents/guardians or other family members will be able to purchase tickets to the game through our digital ticketing system at the following link: <https://events.ticketspicket.com/agency/7b23c1cd-0681-4d8a-abe9-0aed2d545775>

We would like to remind all families and students that French Field has a clear bag policy.

The event itself consists of a fun interactive parade for students attending a school that feeds into RMHS. Students will gather at the gates and line up for the parade with other students from their school. There will be a large banner for each school and Student Council members to help lead and organize the students. The marching band will lead the parade around the French Field track. At the end of the parade, there will be a designated picture spot where each school will get a picture taken with the RMHS dance team, cheer team, and Lobo mascot.

We can't wait to see you all at the event!

Sincerely,

Ben Harding and Rocky Mountain High School Student Council

## **Johnson Spirit Week at Loveland Laser Tag**

**Loveland Laser Tag** has a great deal for our Johnson families from October 11 – 15. The timing is perfect if you're looking for something to do on those days school is out!

A \$25 entry includes: 3 hours of laser tag, laser maze, climbing wall, ropes course, bumper cars, X-Rider, and a \$10 game card. Johnson receives \$5 back!!

Kelly Steinway, JPTO Events and Fundraising Coordinator

## **School Options and Choice for School Year 2022-2023**

Do you know of families with children outside of the Johnson attendance area that are interested in attending Johnson as their school of choice for the 2022-2023 school year? If so, please share with them that the application process is now open.

Applications for the 2021-22 school year are no longer being accepted. The school transfer process must be used for the remainder of this school year.

### **The 2022-2023 school choice application window opened on Friday, Oct. 1.**

- Please note the order in which applications are received during the first consideration application period do not affect a student's acceptance.
- The first-consideration application period closes at noon, Friday, Jan. 21.
- New and currently enrolled students who wish to enroll or return to their neighborhood school for the following school year do not need to submit a School Choice Application. Please contact the neighborhood school directly to enroll the student for the following school year.

Visit the [School Options and Choice](#) webpage for application link, additional information and the timeline for the school choice notifications.

## **PSD Hiring 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.



## Before and After School Enrichments

### Thunderbird Choir

Thunderbird Choir has started for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. To follow the school district's COVID rules and guidelines, we will have separate practices:

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir - Mondays from 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir - Wednesdays from 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

All practices will be in the music room and students may enter from the outside music door, which is closest to the 2nd grade classrooms. Music teachers are waiting to hear back from the district about performances. In any case, we will at least have virtual performances. Please look out for papers with more information about choir to come home in the beginning of September. I am overjoyed to direct Johnson Thunderbirds again in choir!

Ms. Breanne Mathias

Johnson Elementary Music Teacher

[bmathias@psdschools.org](mailto:bmathias@psdschools.org)

### Johnson Running Club

Running Club meets every Monday from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. We meet by the small trees outside of the gym. You must have a permission slip to participate. See Johnson Website>enrichments. Or pick up a permission slip in the main entry near the office.

Safety is the main concern. Flip flops, dress sandals, open-toed shoes, dress shoes either inhibit movement or increase risk of falling or both. Affordable used shoes are at ARC and Goodwill. Thanks in advance for making sure kids leave the house with PE shoes.

On a similar note, most health agencies recommend children have an active recess, so having the PE shoes on ALL DAY makes it easier for kids to get active, blow off steam, get focused, whatever you want to call it 😊

\*\*\*Running Club will be canceled for rain/lightning

\*\*\*PreK, K, 1st, 2nd must have a parent or guardian

Students need PE shoes, comfortable clothes and a water bottle.

Mr. Rumbold, PE Teacher – Contact: [jrumbold@psdschools.org](mailto:jrumbold@psdschools.org)

## Before and After School Enrichments

### Math Olympiads for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students



We will be launching *Math Olympiads*, every Thursday (starting Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>) from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., in the Media Center.

Created in 1977 by Dr. George Lenchner, an internationally known math educator, the [Math Olympiads](#) went public in 1979. Last year nearly 170,000 students from over 6,000 teams worldwide participated in the Olympiads. All 50 states and about 35 other countries were represented.

During this afterschool enrichment, students will practice and prepare for contests, using non-routine problems that support higher level thinking. From November to March, students will participate in five challenging monthly contests. **No traveling is required**. These contests provide an incentive for students to intensify their study of math.

During our afterschool sessions in October, we will give our “Mathletes” strategies and instructions for the monthly contests. Following each contest, we’ll break down and discuss solution methods together for each problem that was presented. Our main goals are as follows:

- To stimulate enthusiasm and a love for mathematics
- To introduce important mathematical concepts
- To teach major strategies for problem solving
- To develop mathematical flexibility in solving problems
- To strengthen mathematical intuition
- To foster mathematical creativity and ingenuity
- To provide for the satisfaction, joy, and thrill of meeting challenges

Interested 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students will receive more information and parent consent forms this Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. **Parent consent forms will need to be returned by Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**. (Please contact your child’s 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher to request a consent form).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [mhughes@psdschools.org](mailto:mhughes@psdschools.org).

Go Thunderbirds!

Matt Hughes

Assistant Principal

## Johnson Calendar of Events

October		
8	9:00 – 11:30 am	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Field Trip, On the Vine Farm *Walking
10	4:00 – 8:00 pm	Spirit Night at Noodles, South College
11	2:15 – 3:15 pm 4:00 – 8:00 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting, Media Center Parent/Teacher Conferences
12	4:00 – 6:00 pm	Parent/Teacher Conferences
13	4:00 – 8:00 pm	Parent/Teacher Conferences
11 – 15		Spirit Week at Loveland Laser Tag
14 – 15		<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Elementary Conference Exchange Day
21	3:30 – 4:30 pm	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math Olympiads Program Begins
22	5:15 pm *arrive	RMHS Feeder Parade – Parade begins at 5:45 pm
25 – 29	8 – 9 am & 3 – 4 pm	Scholastic Book Fair
25	6:30 – 7:30 pm	Final meeting for Running Club – Resumes in Spring JPTO General Membership Meeting, Media Center
29	2:30 – 3:00 pm 3:00 pm	Johnson P.R.I.D.E. Assembly Classroom Holiday Parties Holiday Costume Parade – Outside
November		
3	6:00 – 8:00 pm	SAAC Committee Meeting, Media Center
7		Daylight Savings Time Ends “Fall back 1 hour”
8		<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Building Workday
11		Veteran’s Recognition at Johnson
15	2:15 – 3:15 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting
18		Turkey Round-up for Larimer Cty. Food Bank
22	6:30 – 7:30 pm	JPTO General Membership Meeting
24 – 26		<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Thanksgiving Break
December		
10		Johnson Pride Assembly Spirit Night at Panda Express
13	2:15 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting
17	TBD	Holiday Parties
20 – 31		<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Winter Break
January 2022		
3		<b>NO SCHOOL</b> – Building Workday
4		Students Return to School

### Attendance and Absence Reporting

If your student is ill, they should not come to school.

If your child will be absent or tardy, please call our school attendance line at 970-488-5095. Be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. Give your students **First and Last Name, Grade and Teacher**
2. **Reason for Absence**
3. If your child is ill, is he/she experiencing any of these COVID-like symptoms:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell, OR
  - Sore throat

Please leave a detailed message about your child's symptoms, information about any possible exposure to a COVID-19 case, and your phone number to receive a call back from our health office staff.

### Volunteer Opportunities

We are welcoming volunteers back into our building to help with educational student opportunities!

Volunteers must be [registered with PSD](#). Please visit the PSD Volunteer website for complete details on COVID protocols in PSD.

Please reach out to your child's teacher for volunteer opportunities.

## Health/Safety Protocols

We want to thank our parents/guardians for keeping children home when they are not feeling well. Please screen your child for symptoms prior to sending him/her to school. [Can I go to school symptom check](#)

As always, we ask that you continue monitoring your child and keep them at home if they begin experiencing any symptoms (runny nose, new or worsening cough, fever of 100.4 F or higher and more). PSD strictly adheres to the state's [Return to Learn guidelines](#). If symptoms begin, we encourage you to be tested for COVID-19. Please notify us immediately at (970-488-5000) if any member of your household tests positive.

## AlphaBEST - Before and After School Childcare

AlphaBEST Education offers before and after school childcare services to students here at Johnson.

For information about rates, schedules and to register visit the [AlphaBEST webpage](#).

### Hours of operation

- Before-school programs will run 6:30 a.m. until the first bell Mondays through Fridays.
- After-school programs will operate from the time of dismissal until 6 p.m.
- AlphaBEST will align with PSD decisions about opening, delayed start and school closures due to emergencies and inclement weather. AlphaBEST will be closed on most days when PSD is closed. Full-day care will be available at a PSD site on teacher workdays.

## 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 your 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.



## School Donations help with learning materials

These donation requests help cover the cost of many learning materials. We appreciate your support in helping supply our students with the materials they need to be successful in school. These donation items are visible in SchoolPay: [Pay Fees/Charges Online](#)

- **Johnson Supplies: Kindergarten - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade 2021-22**

\$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: 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade 2021-22**

\$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.

## 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 [School Communications Agency](#). 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

### Amazon – [Smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) Fundraiser

Amazon has a wonderful giving program called [Smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) 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](https://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](https://smile.amazon.com) **each time you make a purchase for the charitable donation to count**.

Thank you so much for supporting our school!

### King Soopers Community Rewards Fundraiser

Johnson has recently 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](http://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.

*continued on next page*

### 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.

*“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.”*