



Johnson Elementary

Thunderbird Times April 2022

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
tcrewds@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.pdschools.org>

School Hours for in-person learning:
8:50 a.m.—3:28 p.m.

Principal's Corner

Dear Johnson Families,

Thank you for your support as we enter the last leg of our school year. This is our busiest season for events and end of year activities. Please read through our newsletter to keep up to date on all that is happening. April brings our spring conferences, our spring book fair, classified appreciation, volunteer appreciation, and planning for next school year.

Spring conferences are on a teacher or family request basis. If you would like a Spring conference, please reach out to your child's teacher if they have not already reached out to you.

For our **classified staff appreciation** and **volunteer appreciation**, we have little acts of kindness planned. Our classified staff are an integral part of our success. Without our classified staff, we would not run as smoothly as we do. If you have a moment, drop a note to a favorite classified staff member. You can find a list on our website.

I would like to extend a special thank you to all volunteers. If you have given of your time to Johnson, please know how much we appreciate you.

Volunteerism makes a daily difference here. We look forward to seeing you, and appreciate all you do for us and the children here!

April is the month we begin to plan for the following school year. For the 2022-23 school year, we anticipate having two classroom teachers at kindergarten and fourth grade. All other grades will have three teachers.

continued on next page

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Principal's Corner

continued

One of the most critical and time-consuming tasks for teachers, and for me, during the spring is class placement for the following school year. The procedure we follow to ensure the best classroom environment possible for each child has several steps and takes several meetings. This is a complex process that teachers engage in to form classrooms that are balanced, diverse, and support all learners. Factors that are considered are academic ability, learning style, social and behavioral needs, peer relationships, age, gender, personality, and special needs. Every year, I get a **few** requests for class placement. If you are a family that would like to make a request, you will need to submit your request in writing. Please outline your reasoning for your request. You will need to include academic ability, learning style, social and behavioral needs, peer relationships, age, gender, personality, and/or special need reasons for your request. **The deadline for submitting requests is Friday, April 22, 2022.** You will need to submit your request to me via email with the email title as **Class Placement Request**. We truly value parent/guardian input and will make a best effort to honor requests; however, if we have too many requests, we will not be able to meet them all. We will not honor a request for a particular teacher *and* a friendship request. A family can make one or the other, but not both. Finally, we post class lists in August. **Once these lists are posted, we do not make changes to the classrooms as these changes unravel all the work that went into forming the class in the spring.**

In closing, thank you for making Johnson a great place to be.

Best,

Georgianna Dawson, Principal

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AP's Angle



April 2022

Our Last Virtual Assembly of the Year

We love assemblies at Johnson! They are exciting, a little loud, full of fun, and above all help to build a positive school culture and climate. As you know, due to health protocols, we have been creating virtual PRIDE Assembly videos instead. Of course, virtual assemblies are not the same as meeting all together, but with Ms. England's amazing and inspiring video editing skills, our students have really enjoyed this alternative medium for celebrating student success at Johnson. This month's video highlighted several awards given out to students and classrooms, the Johnson PRIDE Cheer (featuring students in Second Grade), a special message from students in our Early Childhood program, an announcement about the Art Show, as well as a fun April Fool's prank that cannot be missed! You can watch the assembly by clicking [here](#) and then open the PRIDE Assembly link for April 2022.

Our next Assembly will take place outside (weather permitting) on Friday, May 13th at 3PM, and we can't wait to hear all the cheers again.

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AP's Angle

continued

CMAS Testing and Raffle Prizes

Students in grades 3-5 will be taking the CMAS tests in April, and to encourage students to be on time, ready, and focused, our JPTO is providing some prizes. Some of our local businesses, including Fort Fun, Urban Air, and Fly High, have also given us some free passes to give out during CMAS, which we will do through a daily raffle draw. If students are in their classrooms by 8:45AM, do a morning exercise with their teacher, and do their best on the test, they can get their names in the raffle draw.

Standardized testing can be a stressful time for students, and so checking in with your child during this time can help to eliminate any unnecessary anxiety. I also found a [helpful article](#) for parents on how best to prepare your child for state tests. Please reach out to me if you have any questions about CMAS.

Thank you and here's to a great Springtime together at Johnson!

Matt Hughes

Assistant Principal



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Included in this Month's issue:

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Health/Safety Protocols

Here is a link to the most recent Health and Safety protocols in PSD:

<https://www.psdschools.org/2021-22-School-Year>

Upcoming Music Performances

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming music performances!



4th grade: *Olivia's Birds* on April 5th at 6:30 p.m. in the Johnson gym

- Attire for 4th graders: white t-shirt, jeans, and tennis shoes
- 4th graders should arrive in the music room at 6 p.m.
- This is a concert to raise funds and awareness for the Bounce Animal Shelter in Fort Collins. We will be selling crafts and asking for donations. Please bring a checkbook and/or cash if you are interested in helping financially.

3rd grade: *Where the Wild Things Are* on April 12th at 6:30 p.m. in the Johnson gym

- Attire for 3rd graders: white t-shirt, jeans, and tennis shoes
- 3rd graders should arrive in the music room at 6 p.m.

Johnson Choir's Spring Concert on April 28th in the Johnson gym

- 4th grade choir is at 6 p.m., call 5:30 p.m. in music room
- 5th grade choir is at 7 p.m., call 6:30 p.m. in music room
- Attire: white dress top, black dress pants or skirt, black or dark colored dress shoes, optional: tie, bowtie, or small jewelry

Please contact Breanne Mathias, Johnson music teacher, if you have any questions. Feel free to email bmathias@psdschools.org, or call: 970-488-5032. We hope to see you there!

News from PE Land

Hi Thunderbirds,

Here are the upcoming events in the PE Department:

- Johnson 4/5 track and field meet will be **April 25**. *No limitations for events*. The top 3 competitors in each event qualify for the PSD meet and can compete in **2 track events, 1 field event, 1 relay and 1 distance event (limitation rule)**.



Additionally, 4th-7th place are eligible for the PSD meet for the following reasons:

1. limitation rule, see above
2. prior commitments by a top finisher

The PSD meet is May 3 for 800meter run and 1600meter run. Main track and field meet is Saturday May 7. 5th grade at 8:00, 4th grade at 10:00.

- **Students that want to run the 800meter run (4th) or the 1600meter run (5th)** will have opportunities before and after school starting Tuesday, April 5th. These are a time trial format usually 15 minutes per session. The best 3 times qualify like the regular track meet AND THEY MEET THE DISTRICT QUALIFYING TIME.

Time Trial Schedule – 8:15 a.m.

4/5, 4/8, 4/12, 4/14/, 4/19, 4/22, 4/26, 4/28

Time Trial Schedule – 3:30 p.m.

4/7, 4/8, 4/12, 4/14, 4/19, 4/22, 4/26, 4/28

- This is not a regular schedule due to before and after school commitments
- Please arrange for AFTER-SCHOOL transportation

If you have photos of your little Thunderbird participating in sports or healthy activities (hiking, biking, sports, raking leaves) please send to jrumbold@psdschools.org or drop it off at school for me to post on the “**Beyond the Nest**” bulletin board

Running club is in progress on Mondays from 3:30-4:30. Permission slip required, K-2 students must have an adult present.

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

Three ways to report incidents, concerns in PSD

PSD believes in ensuring all people – students, parents/guardians and staff – are heard and honored in our schools and workplaces. It is important that you report your concerns, and there are three ways to do so through a [new web page on PSD's website](#).

- **Safety concerns:** Report through the [Safe2Tell website](#) or call 1-877-542-7233.
 - ◇ Examples: Threat of harm to others; threat of harm to self; illegal activity.
- **Sexual harassment:** Report through [PSD's Title IX platform](#).
 - ◇ Examples: Sexual harassment or discrimination based on sex and/or gender
- **Negative experience:** Report non-Title IX issues through [PSD's Incident Reporting platform](#).
 - ◇ Examples: Discrimination based on culture/ethnicity; bullying; racial or homophobic slander; anti-Semitism

More info, including the process for investigating complaints reported through each platform, is available on this new [web page](#).



Lost and Found

Is your child missing a coat, mittens/gloves, hats? If so, they may be in our Lost and Found. Feel free to come by to check the Lost and Found area near the Gym.

Promotion Ceremony Party Planners!!

It's that time of year again! Planning is underway for the 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony. The event will be held on the last day of school, Wednesday, May 25th. We are looking for 5th grade parents who would be interested in helping in the planning of the promotion ceremony, decorations, and festivities. If you can help, please contact Andrea Evans (303-596-5198) who has volunteered to help lead the event. A meeting will be scheduled soon to plan the details.

We will also need a few 4th grade parent volunteers to help on the day of the promotion ceremony to hand out cake and drinks to 5th grade families. This allows the 5th grade parents to enjoy this special day with their students. Please contact Andrea Evans if you can help in this way.

Andrea Evans, 5th Grade Promotion Coordinator

Earth Day Clean-Up at Johnson

Join us for Earth Day clean-up at Johnson on Friday, April 22, starting at 4:00 p.m. See flyer included in today's newsletter for details and directions.



Johnson Library – Closes on May 13th

This school year is drawing to a close. The library will be closing for book check-out on Friday, May 13th. All books are due back in the library on that day and library fines need to be paid.

Thank you,

Mrs. Slocomb, Librarian – Contact: liz@psdschools.org



Annual Art Show

See information included in today's newsletter regarding our Annual Art Show coming up on May 4th to 6th.

Johnson Calendar of Events

April		
5 – 7	10:15 – 11:20 am	State Testing for 5th Grade Students
11	2:15 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting
12	6:30 pm	3 rd Grade Music Performance, Johnson Gym
12 – 14	9:00 – 10:30 am	State Testing for 3rd, 4th & 5th Grade Students
15		NO SCHOOL – K-12 Conference Exchange Day
18 – 22		PSD Classified Staff Appreciation Week Volunteer Appreciation Week Spring Scholastic Book Fair
19 – 21	9:00 – 10:30 am	State Testing for 3rd, 4th & 5th Grade Students
22	4:00 pm	Earth Day Clean-up at Johnson
25	9:00 – 11:45 am 11:00 am – 9:00 pm 6:30 – 7:30 pm	4 th & 5 th Grades Track Meet, Johnson Fields Spirit Night at Modern Market (3260 S College) JPTO General Membership Meeting
26		Rain Date for 4 th & 5 th Track Meet
28	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	4 th Grade Spring Choir Concert, Johnson Gym 5 th Grade Spring Choir Concert, Johnson Gym

Johnson Calendar of Events

May		
2 – 6		Teacher Appreciation Week Art Week at Johnson
4	1:00 – 1:30 pm 1:45 – 2:30 pm	Rocky Mountain Raptor Presentation for K – 2 Rocky Mountain Raptor Presentation for 3 – 5
5	9:00 am – 12:30 pm	4 th Grade Field Trip, Lory Student Center
7	8:00 am 10:00 am	PSD 5 th Grade Track Meet, RMHS PSD 4 th Grade Track Meet, RMHS
9	2:15 pm	JPTO Executive Board Meeting
10	4:00 – 9:00 pm	Spirit Night at Schlotzsky's (4212 S College)
13	9:00 – 11:30 am	5 th Grade Field Trip, Webber Middle School
16		NO SCHOOL – K – 12 Building Workday
18		Last Day of School for Pre-K Students
19	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	2 nd Grade Field Trip, Butterfly Pavilion
20		Johnson Field Day – All Grades JPTO Family Movie Night at the Park *more info to come
23	6:30 – 7:30 pm	Rain Date for Field Day JPTO General Membership Meeting
24	9:15 – 9:45	Students Meet Teachers at Next Grade Level
25	9:00 am 11:38 am	5 th Grade Promotion Ceremony Early Release - Last Day of School – No Lunch Served

Quick Links

- [PSD 2021-22 K-12 Student/Teacher Calendar](#)
- [Early Childhood Poudre School District Calendar](#)
- [Johnson Elementary Website](#)
- [PSD Schools Parent Website](#)
- [District News](#)
- [School Meal Information/Menus](#)
- [PSD COVID-19 Data and School Information](#)
- [PSD Protocols for COVID-19](#)



In Case you Missed it & Monthly Reminders

I Matter

[I Matter](#) - Every Colorado youth is eligible for three free therapy sessions. Youth and their parents can visit the [I Matter platform](#) to take a confidential online survey about their mental health and schedule sessions with a licensed behavioral health clinician, primarily online over telehealth. State law allows youth ages 12 and up to use the platform independently; youth ages 11 and younger will need their parent or guardian's consent to sign up. Learn more on the [I Matter website](#).

School Options and Choice

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2022-23 school year. The second-consideration application period for the 2022-23 school year is now open. The second-consideration application period is available for families who missed applying during the first-consideration period. For complete details and to apply: [School Options and Choice in PSD](#)

School Registration Information

Registration for new students and students returning to PSD

All new and returning K-12 students register at their neighborhood school. You can find your neighborhood school on the [School Locator web page](#).

- Kindergarten students must be five and first-grade students must be six on or before Oct. 1. ([Superintendent's Policy JEB](#)). [Learn more about kindergarten registration >>](#)
- Returning students are students who left PSD and are returning back to a PSD school. **Current PSD students do not need to re-register every year to go back to the same school.**

Students wishing to attend a school outside their attendance area must submit a [School Choice application](#).

Online registration available for new and returning students

- To enroll new students in a PSD school, please visit the [PSD Online Registration web page](#).
- If you have questions about registration, please call the school your child will be attending.

Registration for PSD students moving to a new school

Current PSD students who are moving to a new school should contact their current school to withdraw and their new school to register. Students moving from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school do not have to contact their schools. Fifth grade students are pre-registered at their neighborhood feeder middle school in February. Contact each middle school for registration details.

ParentVUE – PSD Student Information System

Parents/guardians access grades, attendance, schedules and other student information through the Synergy parent portal. Complete secure login 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" posted below or contact your school.

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.

Student Data Verification

We encourage parent/guardians to review and/or update their family and student information. Up to date contact information is important in order to receive communication from Johnson and Poudre School District. Updates can now be completed through ParentVUE. Once you log into ParentVUE, click on the Online Registration tab on the top right corner of the screen:



Then, select 2021-2022 Family and Student Data Verification from the drop-down menu:

Please select the school year you are enrolling students in: *

2021-2022 Family and Student Data Verification

If applicable, parents can upload a proof of address and updated immunization record.

Please contact our office at 970-488-5000 if you have any questions or need a hard copy of the student verification form sent home.

Johnson Parent Handbook

The Johnson Parent Handbook for the 2021-2022 School Year is available on the [Johnson website](#) under the “About Us” Tab.



The purpose of the handbook is to provide information regarding Johnson Elementary School, as well as our school’s rules and procedures in an “easy to access” format. We encourage you to read it, keep it on hand to refer to it, and let us know if you need any clarification.

Poudre School District policies and regulations (including but not limited to those in the [District’s Student Rights & Code of Conduct booklet](#)) also apply to Johnson Elementary School and are controlling over our rules and procedures if there is any inconsistency or conflict. Although this handbook may reference certain District policies and regulations, the actual language of the referenced policies and regulations is controlling over the language in this handbook. District rules and regulations change over time. We will update you as new information becomes available. If you have any questions, feel free to call 488-5000 or visit the main office of Johnson Elementary School.

Before School Enrichment

Thunderbird Choir

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

- 5th Grade Choir - Mondays from 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- 4th 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

Chess Wizards - NEW Enrichment opportunity offered at Johnson

Chess Wizards is a premier chess education company providing fun, informative and challenging chess lessons to students. Chess Wizards teaches children many important life concepts, such as learning the ability to win graciously and accept defeat with dignity and sportsmanship. Students will be divided into groups according to their chess experience. At the end of this session, each student would have had the chance to participate in a mini-chess tournament.

To register, please visit www.chesswizards.com/register.

Running Club

Running Club resumed on Monday, March 21st. All Johnson students, PreK – 5, are invited to participate. The goal of Johnson Running Club is to promote healthy lifestyles and physical activity. Running Club serves as an after-school enrichment program.



We meet on Mondays after school from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. A permission slip is required to participate. However, if your child participated in the fall and will continue this spring – a new permission slip is not required.

- Running Club will be cancelled for rain/lighting
- PreK, K, 1st, 2nd graders must have a parent or guardian join them
- Permission Slip available here: [Running Club Permission Form](#)

Permission slips should be sent to Jim Rumbold, Johnson PE Teacher.

For questions about Running Club, please reach out to Mr. Rumbold directly at jrumbold@psdschools.org

After school kids yoga classes are back at Johnson!!

Your child can come "zen out" on Thursdays from after school-4:15PM. Students should meet their instructor by the flagpole. Once we are all together, we'll head back inside to the yoga room. We'll be stretching, strengthening, breathing, posing and playing yoga games to promote great health, relaxation, coordination, anxiety-reduction, and most of all-FUN! If your child is stressing out about school, this class will be a perfect way to help them cope. 5-week class will meet on Thursdays. Class begins April 21st and will meet each week until May 19th. Cost is \$59/student. Space will be limited, so register today! To register head to www.familybalanceyoga.com, then click sign up, then choose the tab for kids yoga, scroll down to find the Johnson class. Email familybalanceyoga14@gmail.com with questions. See your kiddo on the mat soon!"

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.

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) 420-7163

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 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

- 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)

Fundraisers that directly benefit JPTO

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 [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, 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.”