Dear Columbine Hills Community,

Like the leaves that have begun to change to vibrant fall colors as they prepare for the winter season, we have been making small changes to help improve our practices to meet the needs of each and every student here at Columbine Hills. October has come quickly, and the teachers are looking forward to parent/teacher conferences to share the growth we have seen already in our students this year.

We have seen great results as a school with our implementation of our structured literacy program along with our writing framework of SRSD. Our students are thriving in their literacy development. As we reflect on our strengths and areas of growth, our school-wide focus for improvement this year will focus on math. We will be diving into the new math state standards and create learning progressions to ensure we are developing mathematicians from Kindergarten through 5th grade. When teachers have clarity around the standards, we can ensure that students have a clear understanding and be successful in their learning. We know that when students are able to articulate the skills and strategies they need in order to be successful, they are able to achieve and grow.

continued...
Message From the Principal, continued...

Please join us for our School Accountability meeting on Tuesday, October 10th at 5:30pm in the library. PTA will follow at 6:30pm. Childcare will be provided for the PTA meeting.

The beautiful colors of fall let us know that October is here! Teachers are looking forward to parent/teacher conferences to share the growth we have seen already in our students this year. Conferences are a great time to continue to build that partnership with your child’s teacher at parent/teacher conferences. We are looking forward to this opportunity to share the growth we have seen already this year. This is a great time for you to ask questions about your child’s progress and how we will work together to support your child in learning. Conferences will be held on Wednesday, October 23rd and Thursday October 24th. Sign-up Genius links will be posted on the CHE website for you to sign up for a time to meet with your child’s teacher.

As your principal, I continue to strive for a successful experience for your child. I look forward to seeing you all at the many fun events we have planned this month. I always welcome any questions, concerns or comments you have. Please feel free to send me an email or contact me at (303)982-5540.

Sincerely,
Christa Wilson
Principal

“Aiming for Success, Believing…Together We Can”
Halloween Parade and Parties

We are looking forward to our Halloween parade and parties this Thursday, October 31st. The parade will start at 8:30am and will be outside. We ask parents to line up outside near the basketball courts on the west side of the building to watch. Classroom parties will begin after the parade. Students should wear their costumes to school, **please be sure to send a change of clothes for your child after the party.** Parties will end at 10:30am. Parents, if you are planning on attending this event, please make sure you sign in at the office.

1. Halloween costumes need to adhere the following expectations:
2. Costumes should follow the Student Dress Code Policy found in the CHE parent/student handbook.
3. For safety reasons, masks should not be worn.
4. Toy Weapons (Toy or facsimile guns, knives, swords, bats, etc.) are **not allowed.**
5. Costumes that are overly graphic, promote violence or otherwise might logically be assumed to be offensive to others are not acceptable.

As a reminder, we need to make sure that 50% of the treats served at our parties promote healthy eating options. This is in alignment with the district’s healthy schools policy. We appreciate your support in helping us to follow these guidelines.

"No Paws Please"

Just a friendly reminder of our "No Paws" policy at school between 7:00am - 6:00pm. Pets are not allowed on school grounds when students are on campus due to allergies and the unpredictability of animals. Signs are posted on the edges of our campus. We appreciate your help in keeping our students safe.
Official Count Day!

Mark October 2 on your calendar – it’s October Count! The most important action you can take to support school funding is to make sure your student attends school that day. Much of public education funding from the State of Colorado is based on student count, and the official student count day this year is October 2.

The “count window” the state observes is September 25th - October 9th, and the key student count day is **Wednesday, October 2**. Please help us ensure all our students are accurately counted by having your student in class that day! If your child must be absent on October 2 due to serious illness, call our attendance line, 303.982.5531 to report the absence. Attendance during the “count window” will help counteract an absence on October 2, but it’s best to come to school that day.

Thank you for your supporting Columbine Hills Elementary School!

School Accountability Team

The school-level accountability committee (SAC) serves in an advisory role to the school principal. The school’s principal is ultimately responsible for ensuring compliance with all Federal, State and District requirements and meeting the academic performance expectations defined by Jeffco Public Schools. We are looking for parents who are willing to partner with the school as we plan and work towards our goals for the 2019-2020 school year. Join us for our next meeting on Thursday, October 10th at 5:30pm.
Partnership and Volunteers at Columbine Hills Elementary!

The great redwoods of California are one of the beautiful natural wonders of North America. These giant evergreens can grow to a towering 300 feet tall and live for hundreds of years. For all their magnificence, one would think the redwoods would require a deep root system to keep them upright. Instead, they have roots that spread out along the surface of the forest floor to capture all the moisture possible, intertwining with the roots of other redwoods in the grove. The interlocking roots securely support and sustain these giant sequoias when storms strike and fierce winds blow. The trees’ survival depends on the combined support of one another.

Like the redwood trees, a system of support and partnership is an important part of making a school community thrive and grow. At Columbine Hills, we continue to work to build strong partnerships with parents and community members. The parent and school partnership is a vital part of making a school thrive and supporting our students. There are many opportunities for parents to build this partnership at CHE. PTA, School Accountability Committee, and the Healthy Schools Committee are just a few. We know that when we support one another and encourage one another, we become strong together and like the giant redwoods, we keep growing taller.

We are always looking for parent volunteers to help out at Columbine Hills Elementary. If you are interested in being a volunteer this year, please contact your child’s teacher. We do ask that you complete a volunteer confidentiality form this year. These are available in the front office or through your child’s teacher.

Meet our New PE Teacher, Hailey Castleberry!

Hailey is originally from Oklahoma and is a graduate from Oklahoma State University with a degree in Secondary Education. Hailey was also a collegiate track athlete at OSU and values the importance of physical activity and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. She moved to Colorado a year ago and recently married her college sweetheart, Kade, a Colorado native. Hailey enjoys working out, going to the lake, spending time with family and most importantly her two Goldendoodles, Boone and Breck. We are glad to have her as part of the CHE Family!
Watch D.O.G.S

We would like to get the Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program started at Columbine Hills this year! This national program is an innovative father involvement, educational initiative of the National Center of Fathering. There are two primary goals of the WATCH D.O.G.S. program.

1. To provide positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important.

2. To provide extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

WatchDOGS are fathers, grandfathers, uncles, and other father-figures who volunteer for at least one day each school year. During the day, WatchDOGS may read and work with students, each lunch with students, watch school entrances and hallways, assist with traffic flow and other assigned activities where they will actively engage with not only their own child, but other students as well.

Mark Your Calendars!

Parent teacher conferences are coming up! Conferences will be held on Wednesday, October 23rd and Thursday, October 24th. All parents need to sign up to meet with your child’s teacher. We will be using the sign-up genius system. Links to sign up are posted on the CHE website and sent home in our weekly calls. We value your partnership in your child’s education and look forward to sharing your child’s growth so far this year.

“All alone we can do so little, Together we can do so much.” –Helen Keller
From the PTA

Science Fair – The kids will attend a fun assembly on October 11th to kick off our Science Fair. Registration forms will go out in Monday folders October 14th and are due by October 21st. Also, SAVE THE DATE for Family Science Night on November 21st.

PTA Meeting – Come join us October 10th from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the cafeteria for our monthly PTA meeting.

Business Memberships – A huge thank you to our local businesses who have joined the PTA. Thank you, John Davis Real Estate Agent for your recent membership. We appreciate your support!
Getting to School Safety!

Parents we need your help in keeping students safe. If your child is riding a bike or scooter, please make sure they are wearing a helmet and following safety rules such as looking both ways prior to crossing the street and riding on or near the sidewalk. We want all students to be safe coming and going from school. Thank you for your help.
Lice at School

Fall 2019

STOP THE SPREAD OF LICE

Weekly Head Checks

We encourage you to check your child’s hair on a weekly basis now and throughout the school year. Control of head lice depends on prompt identification, effective treatment, perseverance and teamwork!

Did you know that lice love a party? Lice transmission is more likely to occur through sleepovers, family members and friends that spend large amounts of time together. School is not a common place for the spread of head lice.

How to check for lice:

- Seat your child in a brightly lit room.
- Part the hair and look for crawling lice/nits one section at a time. The easiest place to find them is close to the scalp at the back of the neck or behind the ears.
- Live lice are hard to find. They avoid light and move quickly. Nits will look like small white/yellow/brown specks and be firmly attached to a hair strand near the scalp.
- Nits can be confused with many other things such as dandruff, dirt particles, or hair product residue. One way to tell the difference is that nits are firmly attached to hair, while dandruff, dirt, or other particles fall off easily.
- Notify your student’s school health room if lice are found or if you have any questions or concerns regarding lice and your student.

Lice Facts

- 6-12 million people worldwide get head lice every year
- Lice do not spread disease
- Poor hygiene does not cause lice – lice can affect anyone
- Treatment with an approved shampoo, following the directions on the label, along with daily combing with a nit comb is the best treatment
- Lice DO NOT jump or fly
- Lice can only go 24 hours without food (biting the scalp). They do not live in coats, couches, hats, or animals
- Lice are spread by direct head to head contact.

If you have additional questions or for information on how to treat identified lice, please read Jeffco Health Services Lice FAQ’s: Insert FAQ link
September 2019

Dear Columbine Community,

I hope you have all settled back into the routines that come with the start of school each year, and I truly hope you are looking forward to a remarkable year as your child continues on his/her/their educational journey in Jefferson County! It is my great privilege to serve as the Community Superintendent for our elementary schools in the Columbine Articulation as well as those in Conifer, Evergreen and Dennison.

As a Community Superintendent, my most important responsibility is to support each school community through direct collaboration with the building administrator, staff, students and families. I am available to problem solve, provide feedback, connect schools with district resources and resolve any questions, concerns or issues that arise in the school and its community.

I look forward to seeing you and your children as I visit schools and attend various events throughout the school year. My goal is to support schools in providing positive and engaging learning experiences for all students as they learn and grow both academically and socially each year.

I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with an amazing group of Principals who serve school communities that are so dedicated to the success of all children. I am driven by the optimism, enthusiasm, and curiosity that both our students and educators bring to our buildings each day.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child’s teacher, your school principal or me anytime you have a question or concern, or if you would like to share a positive experience. We are all eager to partner with you in support of your child!

In partnership,

Amanda Pierorazio
Community Superintendent
amanda.pierorazio@jeffco.k12.co.us
(303) 982-3567

Our Mission: To provide a quality education that prepares all children for a successful future.
### Overview
As required by law, Jeffco’s Wellness Policy and Guidelines include standards for foods shared during the school day starting in 17/18 unless otherwise noted.

### Why?
- Improve Nutrition
- Address Allergies
- Promote Equity
- Protect Family Decisions on Food

#### Healthy
- The foods we share can teach students about nutrition and balance.

#### Flow district definition in the Guidelines
- OR
- Create and document their own definition

### Holiday Celebrations
- If food is offered at school celebrations, at least HALF should include healthier options.
- Schools or classrooms can also opt for no food or only healthier food!

#### Ideas for Implementation:
- Inform teachers and parents about providing balanced options for celebrations
- Create a sign-up sheet that includes at least half healthier options (don’t forget to address allergies)
- Determine other non-food options for celebrating

### Rewards
- Schools will not use food or beverages as rewards for academic performance or good behavior.

#### Individual exemptions are allowed with approval of school leadership

#### Ideas for Implementation:
- Utilize non-food rewards for the whole class, such as extra physical activity or recess time, games, a fun dress-up day, playing music
- Limit individual rewards and focus on clear expectations and positive words for all students
- Utilize other rewards such as being a line leader, sitting with a friend, choosing a movement break or game, additional work credit

### Birthdays
- Starting in 2018-19 (or sooner), student birthdays should only be recognized with non-food celebrations.

#### Many schools already have similar policies in place

#### Ideas for Implementation:
- Clearly communicate these standards with families and consider engaging family groups
- Determine other non-food options for celebrating birthdays
- Ask families to not bring in food to share (this does not apply to food for individual consumption)

### Additional Information
- To access the full Wellness Policy and Guidelines, visit: www.tinyurl.com/jeffcohealthyschools

- Any other shared food should be selected judiciously, taking into consideration the nutritional value of the food being served, Jeffco’s goal of promoting healthy dietary habits, and the frequency of use.
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<td>Pretzel Stick with Cheddar Cheese Sauce</td>
<td>Cheese and Pepperoni Pizza</td>
<td>Crispy Chicken Sandwich Nachos</td>
<td>Cheeseburger, Cinnamon French Toast Sticks, Hamburger</td>
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<td>Teriyaki Chicken</td>
<td>Hummus Box, Original Flavor</td>
<td>Hummus Box, Roasted Red Pepper</td>
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<td>Cheese Stick, Yogurt and Granola Meal, Cheese Stick, Yogurt and Granola Meal, Mac &amp; Mini Dog</td>
<td>Breakfast Bites, Turkey Pot Pie</td>
<td>Italian Hoagie / Hoagie Italiano</td>
<td>Homestyle Chicken Nugget, Soft Tacos</td>
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<td>Twisted Cheese Stuffed Breadsticks</td>
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<td>Jazz Berry Crunch Parfait Steak Strips</td>
<td>Beef Chili, Mac &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>Cheese and Pepperoni Pizza</td>
<td>Hummus Box, Original Flavor</td>
<td>Boneless Wing Fish &amp; Chips</td>
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<td>En Fuego Bean and Cheese Burrito</td>
<td>Hummus Box, Roasted Red Pepper, Meatball Hoagie</td>
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<td>Cheese Stick, Yogurt and Granola Meal, Cheese Stick, Yogurt and Granola Meal, Mandarin Orange Chicken</td>
<td>Fall Salad, Frito Pie</td>
<td>Cheese and Pepperoni Pizza</td>
<td>Italian Hoagie / Hoagie Italiano</td>
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Columbine Hills Elementary School “Home School Connection”

Please return to Christa Wilson, Principal

I have a question, a concern or something positive to share:

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

This information is optional:

Name:________________________________

Daytime Phone:_________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________________

We would like to give you an opportunity to share your appreciation of our staff by using this form below. Simply return the form to the office.

Staff Appreciation

Dear _________________________,

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________