April 2021

Columbine Hills Elementary School
6005 West Canyon Littleton CO 80128
Phone 303-982-5540
Attendance 303-982-5531

Hoofprints

Columbine Hills
Website

School Calendar

Jeffco Breakfast & Lunch Menus

"Aiming for Success, Believing...Together We Can!"

Message From the Principal

Dear Columbine Hills Family,

Spring is here! I hope everyone had a wonderful and restful spring break. We are looking forward to our last two months of school with our amazing CHE students.

“Grace is the glue that holds us together.” - Anonymous

Our community has shown such grace and understanding throughout this past year with pivoting to remote for quarantines and snow days. We cannot thank our students, teachers and families enough for their grace, flexibility and support with all of the changes that we have endured this year. I appreciate that our staff, students and community have forged ahead and didn’t think twice about providing a great experience for students. Thank you for not letting the hurdles get in our way. Our solid foundation grounded in the shared values of Columbine Hills and our mission of “Aiming for Success, Believing...Together We Can!” will continue to support the work we have done and will continue to do with grace and positivity. THANK YOU!

We appreciate everyone’s feedback through the Family-School Partnership Survey. We will use this information to continue to make CHE a great place for students and families. We will also review our students' feedback through the Make Your Voice Heard survey. All of this feedback will be used to continue to improve our work at CHE for students and families.

As your principal, I continue to strive for a successful experience for your child and our community. Please know my door is always open for questions, concerns or comments. Please feel free to send me an email or contact me at (303)982-5540.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wilson
Principal

“Aiming for Success, Believing...Together We Can!”
Colorado State Testing for 3rd through 5th Grade Students

Our third through fifth grade students will take state assessments that align with the Colorado State Standards. The Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) will be given in English language arts, math and science.

Standardized tests inform our school in many ways. Our teachers, for example, review the results from the state tests to adjust their instruction. Students and families will be provided a fuller understanding of their student’s mastery of grade level expectations from the CMAS. Our school is accredited, in part, based on CMAS results. CMAS provides a more accurate understanding of student knowledge because students will be asked to show and apply what they know, instead of just picking the right answer from a multiple-choice question.

We would appreciate your support in making sure your child is in attendance on the days that he/she is testing in April. A more detailed schedule will be sent to all 3rd through 5th grade families.

Food & Nutrition Services

Good afternoon!

As many of you know, we are facing a very dire staffing crisis at Food & Nutrition Services which we fear is going to spill over into the way we are able to feed kids in a quick and efficient manner come April 5, when so many return for in-person learning.

We have tried everything we can imagine to reach members in the community, but to no avail. I am in the middle of trying to figure out if I will be able to speak out tomorrow night at the PTA Townhall meeting; in the meantime, it would be so appreciated if you all could get this letter (attached) out to your school’s PTA members or president – as well as all the parents in your school. Whether it goes out this week in a Friday folder, an email communication, a weekly newsletter, it doesn’t matter – FNS is desperate to reach those parents who may have the ability to dedicate their time while their kids are in school to feeding others, whether they need the job or not!

Any sort of help would be so appreciated. Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Katie Jeter, BA, MSLA, JD
Director of Resources | Food & Nutrition Services
809 Quail St. | Building 1 | Lakewood, CO 80215
JeffCo Public Schools
Katie.Jeter@jeffco.k12.co.us

(p): (303) 982-6879 | (c): (720) 668-3502

continued...
Dear Jeffco parents & families,

With the anticipation of most students returning to the classroom on a full-time basis beginning April 5, 2021, we at Jeffco Food & Nutrition Services are facing a severe and dire need for employees to help serve breakfasts and lunches to kids in our schools.

Currently, we are looking at a staffing shortfall of roughly 85 employees to serve the needs of nearly 150 schools.

For some kids, breakfast and hot lunch are the only nutritious meals being served to each of them on a daily basis. The work we do for the schools and these kids is vital to the overall strength of our community.

- Are you looking for full- or part-time work?
- Has COVID left you furloughed, or unemployed?
- With your kids returning to the classroom, do you have the ability to dedicate your time to feeding kids for anywhere from four to eight hours each day?

If you answered, “Yes!” to any of these questions, we encourage you to go on to our web site and apply:

https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/employment/jobs

The more adequately staffed we are, the less likely there is to be any disruption to our students in the course of their workday within their learning environment. We have the ability to work with your schedule, offer flexible options, discuss benefits (if they are needed), and even provide potential opportunities for supplemental income in our summer food service program.

If you are interested, please do not wait and contact us or apply TODAY. Thank you!
Autism Awareness Month

Columbine Hills is honored to have an outstanding Autism Program to support students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. April is Autism awareness month and a time that we can recognize and celebrate differences. We wanted to share some facts and resources about Autism with you.

A few facts about autism:

- 1 in 68 kids are diagnosed with autism
- Boys are 4x more likely to be diagnosed than girls
- Autism is a bio-neurological developmental disability that generally appears before the age of 3
- Autism impacts the normal development of the brain in the areas of social interaction, communication skills, and cognitive function.
- Individuals with autism often suffer from numerous co-morbid medical conditions which may include: allergies, asthma, epilepsy, digestive disorders, persistent viral infections, feeding disorders, sensory integration dysfunction, sleeping disorders, and more
- Currently there is no cure for autism, though with early intervention and treatment, the diverse symptoms related to autism can be greatly improved

Facts from the National Autism Foundation and Autism Speaks.

Resources for students:

http://autism.sesamestreet.org/
http://pbskids.org/video/arthur/1447843659
Writer of the Month Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as the Writer of the Month for the month of March 2021 by their teachers. Their writing will be displayed in the front entry for everyone to read.

Kindergarten: Aubriana Martin (Ms. Baltazar's class)
   Layla Heit (Mrs. Blackwell's class)
   Brody Morrison (Mrs. Becker's remote class)
Grade 1: (Mrs. Hartley's class)
   Ellie Hastings (Mrs. Miller's remote class)
Grade 1/2: (Ms. Johanson's class)
Grade 2: James McKinney (Ms. Kloess' class)
   Kylie Maley (Mrs. Doherty's remote class)
Grade 3: Amelia Birchfield (Mrs. Bawden's class)
Grade 3/4: (Ms. Kirkland's class)
Grade 4: Isla Sawyer (Mr. Capansky's class)
   (Mrs. Fischer's remote class)
Grade 5: Johnny Freeman (Mrs. Bettmann's class)
   Tommy Cole (Mrs. Tapsfield's class)
   (Mrs. Cable's remote class)
BUG Awards

Congratulations to the following students who were chosen by their homeroom teachers to receive the BUG (Bringing Up Grades) Award for the month March 2021. The BUG awards are sponsored by the Littleton Optimist Club. Selection is based upon academic improvement and/or increased effort, improved or good attendance and good citizenship. Each selected student receives a “BUG” t-shirt, a “BUG” pencil and a certificate.

Kindergarten: Alex Haskett (Ms. Baltazar’s class)
Kayden Busick (Mrs. Blackwell’s class)
Adelena Williams (Mrs. Becker’s remote class)

Grade 1: James Walker (Mrs. Hartley’s class)
Malik Albright-Dawson (Ms. Miller’s remote class)

Grade 1/2: (Ms. Johanson’s class)

Grade 2: Maycee Capansky (Ms. Kloess’ class)
Xavier Funchess (Mrs. Doherty’s remote class)

Grade 3: Ryder Potter (Mrs. Bawden’s class)

Grade 3/4: Brennan Morrow (Ms. Kirkland’s class)

Grade 4: Robert Alzaidi (Mrs. Capansky’s class)
(Mrs. Fischer’s remote class)

Grade 5: Dexter Fischer (Mrs. Bettmann’s class)
Ben Ellinwood (Mrs. Tapsfield’s class)
(Mrs. Cable’s remote class)
We are excited to announce the new Board Members for the 2021-2022 school year!

- President: Sasha Maley
- Vice President: Krystal Mendinghall
- Secretary: Melissa Kubin
- Treasurer: Shelly Zeller

PTA is offering School Supply Kits for the 2021-2022 school year. All the supplies are brand name, backed by a guarantee, sold to you at cost and are delivered right to your child’s classroom in the fall.

Order your kit at www.edukitinc.com
Digital Citizenship

During the month of April, our 5th, 6th, 9th, and 10th grade classrooms will dive deeper into digital citizenship learning related to creating and maintaining one’s Digital Footprint & Identity. A digital footprint refers to the imprints left while online. It is important to help our kids understand that the information they share on the Internet is permanent and can never be fully erased.

In today’s world, it is not uncommon for employers and colleges to rely on simple Google searches to make initial judgments about applicants. According to Metropolitan State University, 70% of recruiters have admitted to denying a potential candidate due to information found on their social media accounts. Students today are Internet users and it’s important for them to understand that WE should both shape and protect our own digital footprints. As an adult in a student’s life, you can help guide positive choices in this direction.

Talk to your student(s) about what is NEVER okay to share online. The image, to the right, from www.kathleenamorris.com, is one way to engage younger students in a conversation about digital footprint.

With older students, it is okay to be more specific and have detailed conversations around their digital footprint. The image, to the left, from www.kathleenamorris.com, is a list of things students should keep in mind while navigating their digital lives.

Digital Footprint & Identify Family Activities:
- Grades 3-5  English Spanish
- Grades 6-8  English Spanish
- Grades 9-12  English

Family Tips Sheet
- Grades K-5  English Spanish
- Grades 6-12  English Spanish

Monthly Motto: We define who we are.

Discussion Question for School and Home: How can I cultivate my digital identity in ways that are responsible and empowering?
PARENTS! We’re excited to present the 2021 “Race to Read”® Program as we work with your child’s school to encourage at-home reading for your student!

“Race to Read”® starts on March 22 and ends on April 30.

Your student will have the opportunity to earn a ticket for themselves and one adult ($54 value) to the season-opening event at Bandimere Speedway—the NAPA Auto Parts “Night of Fire & Thunder”, scheduled for Saturday, May 22.

When complete, please mail, email, fax or drop off at our offices the two-page BINGO reading log (contact information below) before May 7. A ticket wristband to the May 22nd event will be mailed to your student (good for child and one adult).

Students who complete the BINGO and receive a ticket to the event on May 22, will also be eligible to pick up a prize goodie bag at the event. Goodie bag tent will be open from 2pm un- til 8pm and will be located on the west side of the staging lanes near the Novus Glass Tech Building (look for “Race to Read” flags). If unable to be at the “Night of Fire & Thunder on May 22, stop by our offices located at the Speedway during the summer months with your student’s unused ticket wristband and exchange for a goodie bag. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

Thank you for partnering with us as together we encourage your child to develop a love for reading through some fun prizes and incentives.

Tami Bandimere
“Race to Read” Coordinator
CHE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

For the month of March, our students have been learning about how compassion is empathy in action, understanding different preferences, practicing communication skills and calm down steps to manage strong feelings like frustration and anger.

As a reminder, families can create a free account on www.SecondStep.org to learn more and connect with your child’s social-emotional learning. In creating the account, you will need to enter a 12 digit code, based on your child’s grade. Here are the codes (do not need to enter spaces) for the Second Step:

- Preschool/Kinder: SSPK FAMI LY70
- 1st Grade: SSP1 FAMI LY71
- 2nd Grade: SSP2 FAMI LY72
- 3rd Grade: SSP3 FAMI LY73
- 4th Grade: SSP4 FAMI LY74
- 5th Grade: SSP5 FAMI LY75

Also, Jeffco’s Virtual Calm Room is still available to students and families to explore. You can visit the link below for activities and tools that may assist in calming the brain and body and help manage emotions and stress.

- [https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/services/health_services/healthy_schools/virtual_calm_room](https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/services/health_services/healthy_schools/virtual_calm_room)

Thank you,

Ms. Katie
Social-Emotional Learning Specialist
Katie.weaver@jeffco.k12.co.us
303-982-5519 (voicemail)
June 14th - July 15th

Speed and Weights for 4th - 8th grade Boys and Girls

All Sports Welcome

Columbine High School is offering its annual Speed and Weights camp this summer for kids from 4th-8th grade. The camp offers a great opportunity for young athletes to build a sound foundation of speed and agility that can transfer to any sport. The emphasis of the camp is on movement exercises that stress technique and build safe and effective habits. In addition, we emphasize discipline, family values, and life skills that affect every area of a student-athlete’s life.

This camp is the foundation of our sports programs at Columbine and is a major reason for our success in the classroom, on the field, as most importantly, as citizens. We are…

- The winner of the Paul Davis Sportsmanship Award for the last six years of the last eight years.
- Five time state champions in 5A football.
- Winner of 14 of the last 20 league championships in football.
- A high school that signs over twenty students a year to college athletic scholarships.

Go to [www.columbinefootball.com](http://www.columbinefootball.com) and register online.

Some of our notable alumni include:

- Andrew Gentry: 2020 Gold Helmet Award Winner. #1 recruit in CO, 32 DI scholarship offers
- Ryan Miller: 4 Year starter at Uiv. of Colorado, Drafted by the Cleveland Browns, 4 years in NFL, All-Colorado
- Danny Spond: 2 year starter at OLB at Notre Dame, started in Nat’l Championship game vs Alabama
- Curtis Cunningham: 3 year starter at Univ. of Colorado, 2006 Baseball Champs, 2006 State Football Champs
- Tanner Rogers: 2002 Colorado Offensive Player of Year, drafted by Florida Marlins
- Cameron McDondle: Finalist for the Harlen Hill Player of the Year (DII equivalent to Heisman Trophy)
Support Columbine Hills PTA
Passive Fundraising

Please ask your friends and family to support us in these ways too!

King Soopers

1. Sign in to kingsoopers.com on your browser.
2. Select King Soopers Community Rewards (under Community at the bottom of the page)
3. Select Enroll Now and choose Columbine Hills Elementary PTA (or search by organization number RX295)

A percentage of every purchase will be donated to our school.

Benefit Mobile

1. Download the Benefit Mobile App.
2. Create an account and link your credit card or bank account (this is used to make your purchases in the app).
3. Select Columbine Hills Elementary PTA as your beneficiary.
4. Use the app to purchase gift cards (use them as gifts or use them to cover your everyday purchases).
A percentage of every purchase will be donated to our school.

Box Tops for Education

Keep clipping the traditional box tops and send them into the school! Also, watch for products with the new box top logo on them.

1. Download the new Box Tops for Education Mobile App.
2. Create an account and select Columbine Hills Elementary as your school.
3. Keep your receipt when you buy products with the new logo.
4. Scan your receipt using the scan button in the app.

$.10 or more per box top will be donated to our school.

Pro tip: while you’re scanning receipts, use a service like Ibotta to get cash back for yourself

Amazon Smiles

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or the Amazon mobile app.
2. From your desktop, go to Your Account from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your Charity (under Other Programs). From your mobile app, select Menu → Settings → AmazonSmile.
3. Select Columbine Hills Elementary as your charity to support.
A percentage of every purchase will be donated to our school.
### SPECIALS ROTATION SCHEDULE 2020-2021

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<td>Dutch Creek/</td>
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<td>Grade 3</td>
<td>Capansky</td>
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Students will have a 2 week AMP rotation.

Advertising in this newsletter does not imply endorsement by the school or district.
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 _________________________,

____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
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