Dear Columbine Hills Parents,

The 2022-2023 school year is off to a great start. I want to thank all of our staff, students and families for their hard work in helping us to successfully launch the school year. Our community continues to model and live our school’s mission of “Aiming for Success, Believing…Together We Can!”

I have been visiting classrooms talking with students about what “success” looks like. Our students understand that success is more than just achievement with academics, but it is also the impact of our daily actions on one another. I know that our students will be very successful this year both academically and socially. All classes have reviewed our school-wide expectations of being Respectful, Responsible and Safe. We are ready to “catch” students doing the right thing and recognizing that through positive DOJO points, colt cards, and positive phone calls home! You can read more about our school-wide PBIS system and expectations in the parent handbook on our website.

Celebrating student success is an important component of our Columbine Hills Community. This year we will continue to celebrate student growth and achievement in writing through our writer of the month awards. Each month one student from each class will be selected as the “Writer of the Month” and will have their writing hung in the front hallway for everyone to read. Students will also be recognized in front of their classmates on the fourth Friday of the month.

We will also continue to recognize students in partnership with the Optimist Club of Littleton through our B.E.E Awards. This stands for Best Effort Everyday! The purpose of this award is to honor students every month who continually work hard even when things are challenging. Students selected for this award have shown perseverance, kindness and model appropriate behavior.

If you are looking for ways to get involved at Columbine Hills, there are many opportunities for you to do so. Our first School Accountability meeting will be held on September 13th at 5:30pm followed by our PTA meeting at 6:30pm. Both meetings will be held in-person at CHE.

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

As your principal, I am committed to a successful and positive elementary school experience for your child. I welcome any questions, concerns or comments anytime. Please feel free to send me an email or contact me at (303)982-5540.

Sincerely,

Christa Wilson
Principal
Christa.wilson@jeffco.k12.co.us
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. This committee will meet the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm prior to our school’s PTA meeting. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 13th at 5:30pm at Columbine Hills.

“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.

Watch D.O.G.S

Thank you to all who attended our Watch Dog kickoff on August 31st. We are excited to build a strong program once again this year at Columbine Hills. The Watch Dog program is two fold. It provides positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important and helps to provide an extra set 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, eat 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.

If you haven’t already signed up, please go to the CHE website to get signed up to be a Watch Dog! The sign-up can be found under the clubs & programs tab.

continued...
Parent Handbook Highlight: Attendance!

Good Attendance is important for success at school. We ask that parents partner with to ensure students are regularly at school and ready to learn.

Attendance Policy

Every day of school is a “regular” day for attendance purposes. Attendance is the responsibility of the student, the parents, and the school. The importance of regular, daily attendance as a basis for academic achievement cannot be over-emphasized. Absences have a negative effect upon instructional continuity, regardless of the attempts to make up work. Our school has designated a target goal of 96% attendance this year and reviews attendance monthly to ensure all students are helping to meet our goal.

There are two types of absences – **excused and unexcused**. Absences will be excused for illness, family emergencies, and religious holidays. Absences for any other reason such as missing the bus, bad weather, waking up late, staying out late the night before and no excuse at all are **unexcused**.

continued...
Attendance Line (303)982-5531

Parents are to call the Columbine Hills attendance number before 8:00 a.m. to report a student’s absence. Emailing and/or communication with your child’s teacher does not excuse an absence. You must call the attendance line to report the absence. This is a 24-hour voice mailbox so you can leave a message any time, day or night. It is a parent’s responsibility to notify the school regarding a student’s absence to the office. If we do not hear from a parent regarding an absence, the attendance secretary will make every effort to contact the parent and any emergency contacts to establish the student’s whereabouts. The absence will be marked as unexcused if a phone call from the parent/guardian is not received within 24 hours of the absence. To ensure safety, if a parent cannot be contacted, the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department may be asked to help locate the child.

Pre-arranged Absences

Families are expected to plan family outings and vacations in conjunction with school holidays. If your child will be absent more than two days for a scheduled absence, a pre-arranged absence form must be completed 3 days prior and turned in to the office for approval. Approvals will only be granted to students with good attendance and good academic standing. If not approved, the absences will be marked as unexcused.

Pre-arranged Absence Form
The Columbine Hills Elementary PTA enjoyed the Ice Cream Social. It was so nice to see familiar faces and meet new families. We look forward to partnering to make this year an amazing experience.

To become a PTA member [2022 - 2023 PTA Membership Form].

Another easy way to support PTA is to link your King Soopers and Amazon accounts to Columbine Hills Elementary so we can earn rewards. Follow [Passive Fundraising Info] for easy step by step instructions.

The PTA sends out information in a variety of ways, including Hoofprints, Monday Folders, and in the Sunday call/email.

Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 13th @ 6:30, every individual present will be entered into a $25 gift card drawing. We encourage you to reach out with any ideas or questions at columbinehillspta@gmail.com.

We are super excited about our new Spirit Wear store. You can now shop at your convenience all year round and have your items shipped to you directly. Columbine Hills has a 2 week free shipping promo from 8/26 - 9/12. Check out the store at [https://columbinehillsspiritwear.com/].

The PTA has only one Fundraiser a year and it kicks off September 8th. More info to come home. Your support allows us to pay for the Science Fair, Grants For Education, Teacher Reimbursements, Annual Resources, Conference Dinners, End of Year Celebrations, Staff Appreciation and so much more! We thank you in advance!

Did you know that there is a snack cart in the staff lounge and the CHE staff loves snacks? Please help us fill up the cart, drop some snacks by the office or use the following QR code to purchase and have them delivered.
A PARIS STREET MARKET
Vintage & Artisan Outdoor Market
Monthly - First Saturday
Sept - October | 8 am - 2 pm

FARMERS’ MARKET
Fresh, Local Produce Weekly
Every Wednesday
Sept 7 - Sept 28 | 10 am - 2 pm

FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO
in the BARBOX Garden
Every Friday Night
Sept 2 - Sept 30 | 4 pm - 6 pm

EARN YOUR BEER
Fit Camp in the BARBOX Garden
Every Saturday Morning
Sept 3 - Sept 24 | 10 am - 11 am

A PARIS NIGHT MARKET
Vintage & Artisan Night Market
Saturday, Sept 24
4 pm - 9 pm

ASPEN GROVE
You’re invited to SEPTEMBER EVENTS 2022
plus, Labor Day Hours
Monday, Sept. 5 | 10 am - 7 pm

ASPENGROVECENTER.COM

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Sponsor This School!
YOUR NAME HERE
Click HERE to Contact Us Today!

Rob Mangelson
(720) 878-4107
Rob@tscacolorado.com

The School Communications Agency
Supporting Schools & Local Businesses
Simple Strategies for Creating Strong Readers

Without doubt, reading with children spells success for early literacy. Putting a few simple strategies into action will make a significant difference in helping children develop into good readers and writers.

Through reading aloud, providing print materials and promoting positive attitudes about reading and writing, you can have a powerful impact on children's literacy and learning.

- Invite a child to read with you every day.
- When reading a book where the print is large, point word by word as you read. This will help the child learn that reading goes from left to right and understand that the word he or she says is the word he or she sees.
- Read a child's favorite book over and over again.
- Read many stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite the child to join in on these parts. Point, word by word, as he or she reads along with you.
- Discuss new words. For example, "This big house is called a palace. Who do you think lives in a palace?"
- Stop and ask about the pictures and about what is happening in the story.
- Read from a variety of children's books, including fairy tales, songbooks, poems and information books.

Reading well is at the heart of all learning. A child who can't read well, may have difficulties in other subject areas. Help make a difference for a child.
Dear CHE Family,

We want your child to be successful in school and that means supporting and encouraging their whole development. While excelling in academic classes is important, children also need skills to take on learning challenges, make good decisions, manage strong emotions, and get along with others.

To help achieve this goal, we will continue using Second Step® Elementary, a research-based social-emotional learning program designed to improve children’s social-emotional skills. For those of you new to CHE, Second Step skills and concepts are designed to help children both in and out of school. Four units will cover the following:

- **Growth Mindset & Goal-Setting:** Children learn how to pay attention and manage distractions, develop a growth mindset, and apply goal-setting strategies to their social and academic lives.

- **Emotion Management:** Children learn how to identify and label emotions and use emotion management strategies—including stress management for older students—to calm strong feelings.

- **Empathy & Kindness:** Children learn how to recognize kindness and act kindly, have empathy for others and take others’ perspectives, and recognize kind acts and empathy as important elements of building and maintaining relationships.

- **Problem-Solving:** Children learn how to identify and state a problem, recognize if a problem is an accident, and use the STEP problem-solving process:
  - S: Say the problem
  - T: Think of solutions
  - E: Explore the outcomes
  - P: Pick a solution

You’ll receive communications from your child’s teacher to help you reinforce Second Step language, skills, and goals at home. If you have any questions about Second Step Elementary, please don’t hesitate to contact me or your child’s teacher for more information. Thank you for your support as we work to build a safe and supportive school community.

Sincerely,

Jeni Wells
Social Emotional Learning Specialist
Columbine Hills and Leawood Elementary Schools
Dear Parent/Guardian;

There has been a confirmed case of head lice in your child’s classroom/grade level.

Anyone can get head lice...primarily through direct head-to-head contact.

Although it is uncommon, head lice may also be transferred through hats and other personal items.

Therefore, it is important to remind your child to avoid sharing hats/helmets, combs/hair brushes, and other head/hair items. Signs of a head lice infestation include: itchy scalp, tickling sensation on the head/in the hair. Head lice are most active in the dark.

Below you will find information about checking your child for head lice as well as treatment information if needed. Do not treat your child for head lice unless you see an active louse.

A fine tooth comb should be used for nits.

- Seat your child in a well-lighted area.
- Use a magnifying glass if available.
- Divide hair into sections beginning at the base of the neck.
- Adult lice are small (about the size of a sesame seed) and move very quickly.
- Eggs (nits) are usually found firmly attached to the base of the hair shaft close to the scalp.
- Start behind the ears/near the neckline/and back of the head.
- Head lice hold tightly to the hair. They move by crawling. They cannot hop or fly (they do not have wings), but they do move quickly making it difficult to find them.

If you find head lice:

- Do not treat someone who does not have live lice. Do not use these products as a prevention method to avoid lice.
- Begin treatment as soon as possible. Your child may return to school following the completion of the 1st treatment with a recommended medicated shampoo.
- Always check with your child’s healthcare provider with any concerns regarding lice treatment or if this is a recurrent infestation.
- Read and follow manufacturer’s directions on treatment box/bottle

Most Commonly Recommended OTC Treatments:

- Permethrin creme rinse 1% (Nix)
- Shampoos containing Pyrethrins and Piperonyl Butoxide (Rid)
- Comb the dead lice and any remaining live lice out of the hair using a fine-toothed nit/lice comb.
- Be patient and thorough.
- Re-treatment is generally recommended for most lice treatment 7-10 days following the initial treatment.
- It is important to check the hair and comb through it with a nit comb every 2-3 days. This will help to remove nits and lice and can decrease the chance of self re-infestation. Do this for 2-3 weeks to be sure all lice and nits are gone.

continued...
Tips for combing out head lice and nits:

- Use a fine-toothed louse or nit comb. These combs may be included within packages of medicated head lice treatment or you may buy one from most drug stores or pet supply stores. Combs with metal teeth spaced close together seem to work best.

- Comb daily until no live lice are discovered for two weeks. Be patient. It is time consuming.

- Combs/brushes and hair accessories in contact with an infested person should be washed in hot water each day to dislodge any nits.

Treatment of clothes and other items:

- A clothes dryer set at high heat will kill lice and/or nits on pillowcases, sheets, nightclothes, towels and similar items that an infested person has been in contact with during the previous two days. (Lice/nits do not live more than 24-48 hours off the head.)

Treatment of the home

- Thoroughly vacuuming the house and furniture is strongly recommended.

Head lice are a problem in many communities and do not reflect poor hygiene or social status. Lice infestation is much easier to treat if caught early so please do your part to prevent the spread of this communicable condition by checking your child(ren) on a regular basis.

If you should discover a case of head lice, please notify your child’s school as well as the parents of your child’s playmates. This is the best way to protect your family and community.

Please contact your student’s health provider with questions or concerns regarding unmanageable or extended periods of head lice infestation.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact your school Health Aide or Area Registered Nurse.

Sincerely,

Miranda LaChance- Health Aide
Kerri Burnside- Area Registered Nurse
Digital Citizenship Monthly Planner

August Topic
Expectations and Device Care.
We establish classroom rules and procedures which support a culture of responsible use and communicates clear guidelines. We reinforce habits which identify devices as a learning tool.

Motto
We Are responsible learners with devices.

Guiding Question
How do I care for my device as a tool for learning?

Resources
Device Certification Resources

September 2022
Information for Families

Illustrative Mathematics K-5

We’d like to introduce you to the Illustrative Mathematics curriculum. This problem-based curriculum makes rigorous elementary school mathematics accessible to all learners.

What is a problem-based curriculum?

In a problem-based curriculum, students spend most of their time in class working on carefully crafted and sequenced problems. Teachers help students understand the problems, ask questions to push their thinking, and orchestrate discussions to be sure that the mathematical takeaways are clear. Learners gain a rich and lasting understanding of mathematical concepts and procedures and experience applying this knowledge to new situations. Students talk about math, listen to each other’s ideas, justify their thinking, and critique the reasoning of others.

This kind of instruction may look different from what you experienced in your own math education. Current research says that students need to be able to think flexibly in order to use mathematical skills in their lives. Flexible thinking relies on understanding concepts and making connections between them. Over time, students gain the skills and the confidence to independently solve problems that they’ve never seen before.

What supports are in the materials to help my student succeed?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Warm-ups</th>
<th>Activity &amp; Lesson Syntheses</th>
<th>Section Summaries</th>
<th>Representations</th>
<th>Family Support Materials</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Each lesson begins with a warm-up routine that is an invitation to the mathematics of the lesson. During warm-up routines, all students are encouraged to share their developing ideas, ask questions, and respond to the reasoning of others.</td>
<td>Each activity and lesson includes a synthesis that provides an opportunity for students to discuss key mathematical ideas of the activity/lesson and incorporate their new insights into their big-picture understanding.</td>
<td>Each section is followed by a section summary that describes the key mathematical ideas discussed in the section. The summaries include visuals and worked examples of problems when relevant. Students can use the section summaries to review the topics covered in the section.</td>
<td>There are a limited number of representations thoughtfully introduced in the curriculum and students are encouraged to use the representations that make sense to them. These representations help students develop an understanding of the content as well as solve problems.</td>
<td>Included in each unit, is an overview of the unit’s math content and questions to ask or problems to work on with your student.</td>
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continued...
What can my student do to be successful in math?

Learning how to learn in a problem-based classroom can be a challenge for some students at first. Over time, students gain independence as learners when they share their rough drafts of ideas, compare their existing ideas to new things they are learning, and revise their thinking. Many students and families tell us that while this was challenging at first, becoming more active learners in math helped them build skills to take responsibility for their learning in other settings.

Here are some ideas for encouraging your student:

- If you’re not sure how to get started on a problem, that’s okay! What can you try? Could you draw a picture or diagram? Could you make a guess? Could you describe an answer that’s definitely wrong?

- If you’re feeling stuck, write down what you notice and what you wonder, or a question you have, and then share that when it’s time to work with others or discuss.

- Your job when working on problems in this class is to come up with ideas and share them. You don’t have to be right or confident at first, but sharing your thinking will help everyone learn. If that feels hard or scary, it’s okay to say, “This is just an idea . . .” or “I’m not really sure but I think . . .”

- Whether you’re feeling stuck or feeling confident with the material, listen to your classmates and ask them about their ideas. One way that learning happens is by comparing your ideas to other people’s ideas.

We are excited to be able to support your student in their journey toward knowing, using, and enjoying mathematics.
FAMILY HEALTHY HABITS: BACK TO SCHOOL

It's that time of year again! Set your student up for success with these 5 Back to School tips.

1. Acknowledge Worries
Starting a new school year can bring up feelings of anxiety for both adults and children. Managing your own stress can help your student feel more calm. Talk with your student about how they are feeling. Listen and provide reassurances. Help them make plans for handling any specific situations they're worried about. Discuss fun and exciting things that happen throughout the school year.

2. Get Active
Physical activity can not only keep your student physically fit, it can also help your student stay mentally fit. Regular exercise can boost mood and help your student pay attention in class. Encourage your student to get outside to play. Check out ways to be physically active as a family HERE.

3. Set a Bedtime Routine
Not getting enough sleep can cause behavioral issues and difficulties concentrating. Create a bedtime routine (get items ready for the morning, brush teeth, put on pajamas, read books, lights off) and turn off the screen an hour before bedtime. Learn how much sleep your student needs HERE.

4. Set a Morning Routine
Wake your student up at the same time each morning. For students who wake up on their own, encourage them to set an alarm with the same wake-up time each day. Create a morning routine (brush teeth, get dressed, eat breakfast). Identify a place where your student will keep all items needed for school (backpack, iPad, shoes, coat, lunch box, etc.) to help decrease stress in the morning.

5. Stay Connected
Keep lines of communication open with both your student and the school. Check in with your student about how school is going each day. Stay in the know regarding school events and communicate with the school regarding how they feel your student is doing academically, socially and behaviorally.

healthyschools@jeffco.k12.co.us
Jeffco Healthy Schools
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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____________________________________________________________________________
Food For Thought BakPak Program

Each Thursday, the Food For Thought BakPak Program will distribute sacks filled with food to students who need food during the weekends. The Food For Thought BakPak Program is a partnership of businesses, faith-based ministries, and the communities of SW Jefferson County who care about hunger needs of students in our schools. This program is designed for families who are struggling financially and may need support to provide adequate food for their children on weekends. The weekend bags consist of food for meals for each participating student. The food will be packed in a plastic grocery bag. It will fit in the child’s own backpack or will be easy to carry.

If you wish for your student(s) to participate in this program, please complete the information below and return to the school office as soon as possible. If participating in this program, your student’s name will be shared with the BakPak program coordinator for the purpose of labeling the bags.

If you do not need assistance, but may be interested in making a monetary or food item donation toward this program, please let the office know.

If you have any other questions, please contact the office.

_____ Yes, I would like my child (children) to participate in this program.

Parent Name: ______________________________________________________________

Student: ____________________________ Classroom Teacher: ______________________

Student: ____________________________ Classroom Teacher: ______________________

Student: ____________________________ Classroom Teacher: ______________________