



Hotchkiss K-8 School

Weekly News Update

“Opening doors for endless possibilities.”

September 4, 2020



Principal's Message

I wanted to share a story with you about the buffalo and the cow. Even though these two animals share some similarities, they are very different on how they react to storms. When a storm comes over the mountains from the west to the east, cows will instinctively try to outrun the storm. They are never successful in doing this and ultimately get caught in the storm. This results in the cows being in the storm much longer than they should have been. And as a result they suffer much longer than they needed to. The buffalo on the other hand will charge toward the storm when it crests on the mountain. As they charge the storm, the buffalo meets the storm head on and is in the eye of the storm for a much shorter time. This results in less suffering for the buffalo. If we look at storms as challenges or difficulties in our own lives, we are much better off acting like the buffalo than the cow. When we procrastinate or avoid solving problems they inevitably become worse and harder to solve. I invite our students to face their challenges head on, both big and small. Enjoy your three day weekend!

Water Bottles

Please remember to have your child bring their own water bottle to drink out of during the day. The water fountains are not turned on at this time. We purchased some water bottles for students to have if they didn't have one. They have spouts and can be reused, but were not meant to be a permanent solution. We are almost out of them, please make sure they have a water bottle to last throughout the year. If this is something you can not provide right at this time, please let us know. We are also in the process of installing bottle fillers in our drinking fountains on the middle school side of the building.

K-5 Specials (P.E. Art and Music) Schedule Change

I wanted to share a schedule change with our K-5 specials schedule. This is a preventive measure to keep students in cohorts for a longer period of time and reduce the number of classes affected if we had to quarantine. Students will have one special during the week for the whole hour. In an event we needed to quarantine because the Specials teacher tested positive for COVID, it would reduce the number of classes that would be affected. Our specials classes include Music, Art and P.E. For example, if a Specials teacher had to quarantine only those classes they taught that week would have to quarantine. Instead of all K-5 classes quarantined, it might be one Kindergarten class, the 2nd grade class and one 5th grade class. If you have any questions please contact the office.

Breakfast and Lunch Program Update

Please read the attachment about an update on the breakfast and lunch program. Through the month of December all Colorado students will be able to eat breakfast and lunch free of charge, regardless of income qualifications. The letter attachment will have more details.

Calendar

Monday, Sept. 7	NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
Tuesday, Sept. 15	School Picture Day
Friday, Sept. 25	Student Council election applications due
Monday, Sept. 28	7th/8th Football and volleyball practices begin, if approved by the health department. A current sports physical will need to be on file with the office before you can participate.

Please remember our primary form of communication is our weekly Friday Newsletter through email, we are constantly putting up new information on our website under the community tab, please check it regularly. You may also access the newsletter through our website: hk8.deltaschools.com and please like us on Facebook, at facebook.com/HotchkissK8. You are always welcome to call the school office (872-3325) for questions and information. Hard copies are available by request.