



THE LEOPARD PRINT

TOGETHER WE CAN, TOGETHER WE WILL!

September 2018

IMPORTANT DATES

- **9/18 3:00-8:00pm**
Yellow Belly Chicken
Co. Fundraiser
- **9/18 4:00-5:00pm**
PTA meeting
- **9/19 3:00-5:00pm**
Skate City party
- **9/21 NO SCHOOL**
- **9/29 2:45-3:45pm**
Building Scarecrows
- **10/5 8:00-9:00am**
Coffee with the
Principal
- **10/6** Arvada Festival
of Scarecrows in
Olde Town Arvada
- **10/9 & 10/10**
Parent/Teacher
Conferences
- **10/12 NO SCHOOL -
FALL BREAK**

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you so much for the great showing last Saturday for the Harvest Festival Parade! Special thanks to Rob Buszta and Rick Bravo for all of the hard work preparing our float. We had close to 100 parents, students and staff marching with us through Arvada. Everyone came together and we all had a great time!

At Lawrence, we are committed to supporting students' academic and behavioral needs. In order to inform students about how to keep our community strong and address negative behaviors, our school psychologist (Megan Ryan), social worker (Liz Behrens), Jefferson County Mental Health support (Shana Miller) and administrative team (Tracy Krug, Assistant Principal) and I met with each grade level to review our roles at Lawrence. During this time, we discussed how we can make Lawrence a safe school by understanding what bullying behaviors are and are not. We also shared various strategies for kids to use if they witness bullying behaviors and/or are being bullied. As always, feel free to call the school if your student needs additional support or any issues arise.

See you all at Parent/Teacher Conferences on October 9th and 10th!

Sincerely,
Chris Benisch

PTA

**Meetings:
3rd Tuesday of the
Month**

4:00pm-5:00pm
Next Meeting:
September 18

Next Skate Party:
September 19
3:00pm - 5:00pm

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

This year we will be using sign-up genius for conference sign-ups.. Everything will be done on-line. [Here's](#) the link to sign-up.

Computers are available in the school lobby for family use. Check in at the office and use them any time during school hours.



SCHOOL CAFE NEWS

Please make sure your child's account stays current. Students are not allowed to buy Ala Carte items if their account is negative.

Breakfast: 7:20 to 7:40

\$1.85 for breakfast

FREE for free and reduced rates

If you have not applied or reapplied for free and reduced lunch, please do so.

Please call with any concerns. Thank you.

SCARECROWS

We're building scarecrows on Friday, September 28th to enter into the Arvada Festival of Scarecrows. Permission slips will go home next week - be on the lookout and return them to the office.

Lawrence News: Title I Notification

Lawrence Elementary is dedicated to making sure all of our children succeed in school and in life. We're proud of the programs we offer at Lawrence Elementary that help students learn and ultimately be successful.

However, the way our school and student achievement is measured and reported will be different under the federal law known as Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), formerly known as, No Child Left Behind (NCLB). It's important for you to understand how this law affects your child's school and our students.

ESSA, signed into law by President Obama in December 2015, requires states to set challenging standards in math, reading or language arts, and science that are aligned with higher education and Career and Technical Education (CTE) expectations. ESSA requires alternate achievement standards for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities as well as standards for English-language proficiency.

Lawrence Elementary receives funds from Title I, which is a federal program that provides resources to schools that have high free lunch numbers. ESSA focuses on schools, like ours, that receive Title I funding.

Under ESSA, every school receiving Title I money is required to notify parents of their rights:

- to know the qualifications of your child's teacher and will be notified if the teacher does not meet applicable licensure requirements;
- to know when your child has a substitute teacher for more than four weeks as well as the qualifications of the substitute teacher;
- to know how the school is rated by Colorado Department of Education, based on state standardized test scores;
- to understand Common Core State Standards as measures by state assessments and your child's test scores;
- to expect regular communication with your school in a language you can understand;
- to work with other families and teachers to develop a school-level family agreement between school and families;
- to help plan how money for family engagement should be spent;
- to work with other families, teachers, and the principal in developing a Unified Improvement Plan;
- to request a meeting with your child's teacher or the principal;
- to volunteer at the school, within school and district policy;
- to join your school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and school Accountability Committee to learn more about your school;
- If your school is in Priority Improvement or Turnaround status, you have the right to transfer your child to an option school identified by the district, with transportation provided.

We need your help to make sure all children are successful in school and in life. By working together as a community, we'll overcome our challenges and build the bright future our children deserve. If you'd like to get involved, please call 303-982-1825.

Thank you,
Chris Benisch, Principal

Dear Lawrence Elementary School Community,

We want to reach out to you about school safety early in the school year to both keep you informed of our procedures, and ask for your support in this area. Schools are one of the safest places kids can be, but when tragedy strikes, it's difficult not to worry.

Our school and all Jeffco Public Schools are deeply committed to [keeping students and staff as safe as possible](#):

- We take **proactive measures** to build community and create a safe environment, setting expectations of respect and inclusion, providing mental health supports, reaching out to families when students display a need for intervention, clearly defining how we expect students to behave while in school, and promptly addressing inappropriate behavior.
- **Preparation for emergencies** includes detailed school and district plans for a variety of crisis situations, staff training, and regular emergency drills that include students.
- **Safety measures** consist of controlled entrances, visitor check-ins, video cameras, security staff support, School Resource Officers (SROs) assigned by our local law enforcement agencies, and more.
- The school district has a **School Safety Task Force** examining aspects of school security and exploring how we might enhance our already robust policies and practices.

Family and community support is critical to student safety. Please keep the following in mind as you assist us with this vital work:

- Know our [school safety protocols](#), so if your school is dealing with an emergency you [understand the type](#) of emergency.
- [Understand our emergency procedures and communication limitations](#). We only share facts, student privacy must be respected, and sharing information that is not clear or verified may cause confusion. We value our relationships with families and want to keep you informed, but need to do so responsibly.
- Be vigilant. If you see/hear something that causes concern or sounds suspicious, report it to the school office, local law enforcement, or [Safe2Tell](#) as appropriate.
- Discuss safety topics with your child in an age-appropriate way. Remind them of school behavior expectations, and let them know how important it is to tell a trusted adult or use [Safe2Tell](#) if they have concerns for their safety or the safety of their classmates.
- Make sure your contact information and emergency contacts are current in our [JeffcoConnect](#) system.

Lastly, keep in mind that everyone must be responsible for their words and actions while on school property and must abide by our conduct expectations. Staff and students have rules to follow to keep everyone safe, and we expect the same of our visitors. **Individuals must NOT engage in, or encourage others to engage in, the following conduct:**

- Entering a school without stopping at the entry point to sign-in and receive a visitor's badge
- Displaying any behavior that would endanger the health, safety, or well-being of any student, staff member, or visitor
- Using profanity
- Treating any student, staff member, or visitor with disrespect based on ethnicity or race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, age, disability, or ability

- Treating any student, staff member, or visitor with disrespect based on ethnicity or race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, age, disability, or ability
- Making verbal or physical threats of abuse
- Initiating a fight or scuffle
- Bringing weapons on school property (law enforcement and school security personnel are exempted)

Failure to meet these expectations could result in an individual being asked to leave our property and/or the individual being barred from reentry.

Thank you for your attention to this difficult subject. We all know learning is our focus and student success our goal – but to make sure our students get there we need to have a solid foundation, and safety is a significant part of that foundation. I appreciate your support!

Sincerely,

Christopher Benisch, Principal
Lawrence Elementary School

Tracy Krug, Assistant Principal
Lawrence Elementary School