



A 21st Century Neighborhood School

April 2019

Sally Whitelock Principal

Benita Cervantes, Assistant Principal

A message from the Principal...

Dear Edison Community,

I hope everyone is having a memorable Spring Break and enjoying the time off with their family.

April is the time of year in Colorado for **standardized assessments**. The Colorado Department of Education requires that **all 3rd-5th grade students take the CMAS** (Colorado Measures of Academic Success). These assessments include Mathematics and English Language Arts and give schools, teachers, students and parents information on whether students are on track in their learning. Additionally, 5th graders are assessed on science with the CMAS. These assessments will be given online and will be administered under standardized conditions to ensure the reliability and validity of the results.

The CMAS will be given on the following dates:

- 4/8-4/15 - 3rd grade ELA and Math
- 4/11-4/18 - 4th grade ELA and Math
- 4/8-4/18 - 5th grade ELA, Math and Science
- 4/19-4/26 - Make-ups

In order to provide students with the opportunity to do their very best on these assessments, we need parent support. Please support us by:

- Refraining from taking vacations or keeping students out of school during these dates;
- Talking with your students about focusing well and doing their very best on these tests;
- Ensuring that your children get a good night's sleep and have a good breakfast;
- Encouraging your children!

At Edison, our teachers understand the importance of CMAS and other assessments to monitor student progress, guide instruction and assess the effectiveness of schools; however, we believe that students demonstrate their learning in a variety of ways. Ultimately, we want our students to love learning and be excited for their future college and career options. Therefore, we work hard to remain balanced. In April and May, teachers will assess students with STAR reading and STAR math. Additionally, teachers will continue to engage students in reading, research, writing, projects, collaboration with peers and presentations. We will continue to encourage students to set personal academic goals for reading and pursue learning in areas that interest them. As we approach this 'testing season' in education, please help us to continue to celebrate learning and the efforts our children make every day.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement!

Sally Whitelock, Principal

Mark Your Calendars:

March 25-29	Spring Break – No School
April 4 & 5	5 th grade overnight field trip to Balarat
April 4 & 5	4 th grade overnight Colorado field trip
April 4	CSC Meeting at 4:30 PM in the conference room downstairs
April 4	PTA Meeting at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
April 8-19	CMAS testing for 3 rd , 4 th , 5 th grade students
April 9	Reading Is Fundamental distribution of books to students
April 16	Community Night at NY Pizza Pub from 4-10 PM
April 19	GOES Health Fair at 3:45 – 4:30 PM
April 22	Earth day parade at 8:00-8:30 AM
April 29	No School for students – Teacher planning day
May 3	CSC Meeting at 4:30 PM in the conference room downstairs
May 3	PTA Meeting at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
May 4	Parent Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at 8:00 AM in Edison's auditorium
May 4	Edfest 'Underground' Edison PTA Fundraiser at 7:00-11:00 PM at the Elk's Club at 2475 W. 26th Ave.
May 6-10	Teacher Appreciation Week

May 8	National Bike to School Day
May 10	Scholastic Book Fair in the auditorium from 8:00-4:00
May 10	Field Day during the school day
May 13-17	Spirit Week (Monday: PJ day, Tuesday: Crazy Hair day, Wednesday: Hat day, Thursday: Backward day, Friday: Sports day)
May 16	New ECE & Kindergarten parent information night at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
May 17	5 th grade wax museum and Revolutionary War performance in the afternoon
May 24	ECE Jelly bean day
May 28	Enrichment day
May 29	Talent Show
May 30	5 th Grade continuation at 6:00 PM at Skinner MS
May 31	ECE continuation at Edison at 9:30 AM
May 31	Kindergarten continuation at Edison at 10:30 AM
May 31	Last day of school. School ends at 12:30

School lunch menus can be found at:

<http://foodservices.dpsk12.org/whatson-menu.php>

“GOES” Eco-Health Fair

Please join us for our annual Eco-Health Fair “G.O.E.S.” (Get Outdoors and Eat Smart) on **Friday, April 19 from 3:45 – 4:30 PM on Edison’s playground.** At this annual wellness event, students and their families will learn about how to take care of our environment and our bodies. Come learn how to make healthy food, how physical activity improves our health and ideas for taking care of our Earth. Everyone is welcome to attend this FREE event.

Earth Day Parade

Earth day is Monday, April 22nd. The student Green Team is hosting an Earth Day parade. We encourage ALL students to make a recycled hat....there may be prizes for the best hat. Also, we encourage students and families to make signs about something they are passionate about, (i.e. save the bees, plant a tree, recycle, etc.). Students should meet in the front of Edison at 8:00 AM with their hats and signs to parade around the building, cleaning up trash as we go.

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

Edison would not be the fantastic neighborhood school that it is without the support of our parent volunteers. If you volunteered this year on the PTA or CSC, on a field trip, stuffing Thursday folders, at a community event, or in the classroom, you are invited to our annual **Parent Appreciation Breakfast on Friday, May 3 at 7:45 AM in Edison's auditorium**. Thank you for your support this year!

Edfest Underground

MARK YOU CALENDARS! Edison's annual 'Edfest Underground', an adults only fundraiser and community celebration, is scheduled for Saturday, May 4 at 7:00-11:00 PM at the Elk's Club at 2475 W. 26th Ave. in Denver. Please plan to join us for this fun community celebration and raise money for Edison's PTA at the same time.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for Friday, May 10 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM in the auditorium. Please plan to get great deals on kids' favorite books, just in time for summer time reading!

We need volunteers!!

May 7 at 4:00 – set up for the fair.

May 10, 8:00-4:00 – sell books to very enthusiastic readers!

May 10 at 4:00 – take down and put away.

If you would like to help please contact Sally Whitelock (sally_whitelock@dpsk12.org) or Matt Carter (Matthew_Carter@dpsk12.org). If you'd like to help sell books you must submit the paperwork for an FBI background check since you'd be handling money. You can get the paperwork in the office and should do so by April 15 to be sure there is time to get it processed.

This is a really fun event that kids love – come see for yourself!!

Mental Health Minute (by Dr. Coffee, Edison School Psychologist, gina_coffee@dpsk12.org)

Autism

April is Autism Awareness Month, and World Autism Awareness Day is on 4/2. You can register for the Autism Speaks Walk here: http://act.autismspeaks.org/site/TR/Walk/Colorado?fr_id=4278&pg=entry. In addition, the Autism Community Store at 7800 E. Iliff Avenue offers many helpful supports for individuals with Autism: <https://www.autismcommunitystore.com/>.

Safety

Please be aware that Safe2Tell Colorado not only provides a safety reporting system where you can anonymously report anything that concerns or threatens you, your friends, your family, or your community (hotline: 1-877-542-7233), but also offers an online parent resource center with information about safety topics such as suicide and youth, bullying, and trauma: <https://safe2tell.org/?q=parents>. Please feel free to **join me at Edison's April PTA meeting (4/4 at 6pm)** for an informational session about keeping children safe. I look forward to seeing you then!

CSC

The CSC is a collaborative committee of school leadership, teachers, parents and classified staff who meet monthly to strategically design the school's Unified Improvement Plan, analyze school data, provide guidance on and approve the school budget and staffing allocations, and advise the school leadership on school design decisions. Everyone is welcome to attend CSC meetings; however, decisions are made by committee members. Meetings are typically held the first Thursday of the month at 4:30. There is an opportunity for parents to share concerns and celebrate during the open forum.

There are four parent representatives who are nominated/elected to the CSC. Each CSC parent representative serves for two years. **We are currently in need of two new CSC members for the 2019-20 school year.** If you are interested or would like to nominate someone to represent parents on the CSC, please complete the nomination form and return it to Sally Whitelock in the office by April 19.

Inside Days

With the cold weather and possibility of snow at this time of year, please be aware of the inside day policies at Edison. We really believe that students need to get outside and run around at the lunch hour. Unless it is below 20 degrees, very windy or very wet, students will go outside for recess. Please make sure your children dress accordingly every day. If students are inside for recess, they will have an opportunity to watch a movie, play board games or play calm games in the gym.

A Message from our PTA...

Hello Edison Families-

Please support the Edison PTA with our exciting fundraising and volunteering efforts this semester.

EAT OUT AND GIVE BACK! -

Community Night: NY Pizza Pub (35th & Tennyson)

Tuesday, April 16th @ 4pm-10pm

Please join us for dinner at NY Pizza Pub Tuesday night! From 4-10pm mention Edison for your takeout or dine-in order and a percent of your purchase will come back to the school!

Register Edison PTA as your Community Rewards partner for King Soopers!

Why am I doing this?

1. Free and easy way to give to Edison's PTA.
2. No card needed; you can use your AltID!
3. Now applies to all shopping methods even Clicklist and onsite pick-up

How do I enroll?

1. Go to www.kingsoopers.com
2. Sign-in to your digital account (or create one if needed)
3. Select 'Community Rewards' from the side menu
4. Enter "Edison Elementary PTA" into the 'Find an Organization' search box

5. Find 'Edison Elementary PTA' with address [3350 Quitman St, Denver, CO 80212](#) and select 'Enroll'
6. You're all done!

Volunteers and Donations needed:

EdFest Team and Sponsors

EdFest is our Edison Adults Only Party. The party is in May but planning starts in January. Please join the team or sponsor the event by emailing Lynda Lastowka or Chris Campbell at edisonvpdenver@gmail.com

- Calling for donations for our EdFest Live/Silent Auction - Suggestions (but not limitations) include: gift cards to restaurants, services & retailers, Mountain Condos, Sports Tickets + Memorabilia, Concert Tickets, Season Passes and Kids Activities.
- Please contribute to your themed classroom basket. Baskets will be available for auction or raffle at EdFest. Many small contributions will make a fantastic prize! Details coming in April.
- Sponsors needed - Do you want to help Sponsor EdFest? We are now accepting cash donations starting at \$500 to help sponsor EdFest activities. Please contact Jen Neal at edisonfundraising@gmail.com for more details.

PTA Business

PTA Board and Chair person positions

Now accepting nominations for the 2019-20 PTA Board and Officers. It is time once again to recruit candidates to hold PTA Officer Positions. Our goal is to enlist the talents of as many Edison parents, friends and family as possible. *Please see the nominating packet at the end of this newsletter for more details.*

PTA Officers Elections & Parent Education Event

Thursday, April 4th @ 6:00pm-7pm (*Auditorium*)

Come help elect the 2019-20 PTA Board and Officers. Then plan to join us for our final Parent Education Event by Dr. Gina Coffee! See detail in the 'Mental Health Minute' section. Child Watching will be provided.

Connect with us online or through social media at:

Facebook – Edison Elementary Denver

Instagram - @edisonelementarydenver

Online - <http://edison.dpsk12.org>

PTA Board:

President - Jessica Maddy-Key ptaedisondenver@gmail.com 303-725-4679

Secretary – Katie Malarkey edisonptasecretary@gmail.com

VP - Chris Campbell and Lynda Lastowka edisonvpdenver@gmail.com

Treasurer – Ben Latham edisonptatreasurer@gmail.com

Weather Delays and Closures

Since winter is here, we want to make sure that parents understand the DPS/Edison Weather Delay and Closure policies.

Weather Delay Schedule for Identified Schools: In the event of adverse weather conditions that would impede the Transportation Department's ability to safely access students, a "***Weather Delay Schedule for Identified Schools***" will be implemented. The goal for this delay schedule is to provide buses/students an additional 60 minutes to access schools that start at 8:30 a.m. or later. If DPS has a **Weather Delay, school will begin at Edison for ALL students at 9:40 AM.** Morning buses will begin pickups at bus stops 1 hour later than the normal pick up time. Discovery Link will provide care for their registered students from 6:30 AM until 9:40 AM when school starts. Breakfast will still be available to students as they arrive to school one hour later than usual.

School Closing: If schools are to be closed due to weather conditions, the district is committed to making a decision as early as possible. The decision to close is made by the Superintendent based on information provided by representatives from transportation agencies, the weather bureau, city and county law enforcement and DPS Transportation. If school is cancelled, this information will be communicated in the following ways: local television and radio stations, dpsk12.org, and the district's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

Severe Weather During School Day: DPS will closely monitor severe weather conditions and forecasts throughout the day to ensure student safety. Should severe weather begin during the school day, bus routes will run in the same order as normally followed in the afternoon. Depending on conditions, arrival times at home may be delayed. You can reach the district transportation department at 720.423.4624 for your student's bus arrival time any time it's late. After-school activities (athletic events, enrichment programs, Kaleidoscope, etc.) may be modified or cancelled as a result of the weather conditions. Edison will send IC messages to communicate school closures during the school day.

Opportunities to GIVE to Edison

There are a variety of VERY easy ways that you can donate to the Edison PTA and school, without spending a penny! Please support us any way you can!

- **Box Tops:** Collect those box tops year round and submit twice annually to help provide funds to classroom accounts for ALL teachers. The next collection date is Friday, February 22.
- **King Soopers or Safeway cards:** Purchase a pre-loaded gift card for \$10. ***Before*** the cashier rings you up, ask them to add money to your card, then pay with it. ***5% of reloads come back to the PTA General Fund.***
- **Amazon Smile:** What's that? You can get the benefits of Amazon Prime AND be a fund raiser at the same time! Amazon Smile provides a .05% benefit on qualifying purchases made via our link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7150820>

If you would like to donate directly to Edison's PTA or the school, some other ways include:

- **Make a Direct Donation:** You may always make a donation, either one-time or recurring, through PayPal, Venmo, Square, or a check. Check to see if your employer provides matching for qualified contributions; we are a qualified 501c3 organization!
- **Donors Choose:** Check out the many Donors Choose projects that teachers have posted on Donorschoose.org and donate. You can find all current projects through the link on Edison's home page at <http://edison.dpsk12.org/>.

We appreciate your continued support!

Traffic and Parking

Safety is our first priority at Edison and this starts with drop off and pick up of students. In order to make sure that all students are safe and accounted for at all times, please keep the following in mind:

- ECE students are to be dropped off and signed in in the classroom each morning and then picked up and signed out at the kindergarten playground each afternoon;
- Kindergarten students are to be dropped off/picked up on the southeast side of Quitman Street and enter/exit the building with their teachers by the kindergarten playground on the south side of the school;
- 1st-5th grade students are dropped off/picked up on the playground on the east side of the school or on the northwest side of Perry Street in the Kiss and Go/Greet and Get lane (polka-dotted);
- School buses park on the east side of the school on the southwest side of Perry Street. Please do not park or even pull over in this area;
- The parking lot is for DPS staff ONLY, please do NOT park, drop off or pick up students in the parking lot.
- All parents/community members must enter the building through the front doors, check-in at the office and get a visitor/volunteer badge.

Kiss and Go Lane: Parents who do not want to park and stay with their 1st-5th grade students on the playground in the morning may drop off their students in the student drop off lane between 8:30 AM and 8:40 AM. We ask parents to NOT park in the Kiss and Go /Greet and Get lane on the northwest side of Perry Street, outside the fence by the playground/community garden.

Greet and Get Lane: In order to help with afternoon traffic, parents who have 1st-5th grade students can sign up to have their child/ren ready and waiting at the pickup area at 3:30 PM on the northwest side of Perry Street, by the playground/community garden. Registration forms are available throughout the year in the office. The following guidelines apply:

- This is only for cars. Walkers and students of parents who park will be picked up on the playground.
- Parents should pull over on Perry Street, stay in their car, and move forward as space allows.
- Cars may only stop long enough for their child/ren to get into the car.
- Cars must continue to move and leave the parking lane immediately after picking up their children.
- Parents must pick up children at 3:30 PM. If children are not picked up on time, the teacher will bring them to the office and parents will need to find parking and come in to the office to pick the students up and sign them out.