

# Edison A 21st Century Neighborhood School



August 2017

Sally Whitelock Principal

Joan Wieser Principal Resident

## **A message from the Principal...**

Welcome back! We are excited and ready for another great year full of learning, growing and challenging one another. Within the next weeks, we will open our school doors to welcome you to the new year. Together, we will create a year of excellence for our children as we focus on rigorous and engaging learning experiences, strong parent and community engagement, personalized learning and maintaining a positive and growth mindset culture. We are determined to deliver excellent mathematics and literacy instruction and we will create a school where safety, respect, accountability, support and excellence are highly evident! We will continue to focus on making our vision and mission the core of our daily work with children, teachers and parents.

Parents, we know you want the best for your children! So do we! High performing schools have highly effective leaders, teachers, teams and connections with the community. This year, we are going to excel in involving you - please get involved!

Sally Whitelock, Principal

## **Mark Your Calendars:**

July 20-August 15	On-line Student Verification open (see below for details)
August 10	In-person student registration/verification from 9:00-3:00
August 17	Back to School Night and Lawn Party 5:00-7:00 PM
August 21	First day of school for ECE, 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> graders. School starts at 8:40 AM
August 21	Coffee and Kleenex for ECE parents at 8:45 AM on the playground

August 21	Kindergarten Assessment Day
August 22	First day of school for kindergarten students. School starts at 8:40 AM.
August 22	Coffee and Kleenex for Kinder parents at 8:45 AM on the playground
August 30	PTA Social at Local 46 at 5:00 PM
August 31	Volunteer training at 9-10:00 AM or 4-5:00 PM
September 1	Volunteer training at 8-9:00 AM
September 4	No School
September 7	CSC meeting at 4:30-5:30 PM in the conference room downstairs
September 7	PTA meeting a 6:00 – 7:00 PM in the auditorium
September 22	Eagle Run during the school day
September 29	Picture day

### **On-Line Student Verification for the 2017-18 school year is now open**

Please be aware that the **DPS Online Student Verification is open**. Parents are **required** to complete a new Student Verification every year. The annual online verification process allows families to save time by updating their household information online before registration.

**Online Verification for the 2017-2018 school year will take place from July 20 until August 15 at 5:00.** You must have a Parent Portal account to verify online. If you need to open a Parent Portal account so you can do online verification, as well as have access to other important information about your student, go to [myportal.dpsk12.org](http://myportal.dpsk12.org) and click on Getting Started. You will need your student's DPS ID# to start your account. If you forgot your password or you can't log in (you must log in at least once every six months to keep your account active), you can ask for help by emailing [portalteam@dpsk12.org](mailto:portalteam@dpsk12.org) or calling the portal hotline at 720.423.3163. You may also visit [schoolchoice.dpsk12.org](http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org) to get started.

If you do not have computer access or your address has changed, you will need to come to Edison to complete your student's registration/verification. We will have registration at Edison **on August 10 from 9:00-3:00**. If your address has changed please bring a new proof of address (current Xcel or water bill or lease or mortgage statement), and if your child has had additional immunizations please bring an updated record. Otherwise, all you will need is names and phone numbers for anyone you want to be on your child's emergency/pick up list.

There are a few things that are unable to be changed/updated through Parent Portal registration. For the following, you will need to come to Edison's registration (but you can still complete the actual verification online to save yourself time while you're here):

- If you need to change emergency contact information, you will need to complete a new emergency contact form in Edison's office during registration.
- If your student needs to keep medication at school, you will need to pick up a new form to be filled out by a parent and physician. These will be available at registration as well as in the office throughout the school year.
- If you need a transportation exception form, you will need to complete this during registration at Edison.
- If you need a Free/Reduced Lunch form, you will need to complete this during registration at Edison. This will be available throughout the school year as well.

## **Back to School Night and Lawn Party**

Back to School night will be **Thursday, August 17 at 5:00 PM**. Please bring a picnic dinner for you and your family to eat on the blacktop while visiting with friends and neighbors starting at 5:00 PM. Mrs. Whitelock will give a brief welcome at 5:40. Then, families and students will be invited into the student's classroom to learn about the exciting events for the year. Each teacher will present information two times, from 6:00-6:30 PM and again from 6:30-7:00 PM so that parents that have more than one child can visit both classrooms. Please note that the field is closed, so the lawn party will be held on the black top on the east side of the school. **Please bring school supplies to drop off in classrooms.**

## **Kindergarten Assessment Day**

On **Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>**, kindergarten teachers will work with your child one-on-one for a 15 minute period. During this time, they will ask your child to try some pre-reading and early math tasks. The main purpose of this testing is to help teachers get to know your child, so they can plan instruction according to their individual needs. It is also very helpful for teachers, learners, and parents to become acquainted before the **first day of school on Tuesday, August 22**. Teachers are looking forward to meeting you all! Please complete online verification (see above) for your child, identify your child's teacher's name through Parent Portal, and then sign up for an assessment time. Please sign up for an assessment appointment through the following links (copy and paste the link into your address bar):

- Ms. McSherry/Ms. Novak: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084caaab28a02-miss>
- Mrs. Rosenthal: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084eaca82ea20-2016>
- Ms. Case: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080944ADAE22A6FD0-2017](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080944ADAE22A6FD0-2017)
- Ms. Kamp: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080945A5AC23AAFC1-2017](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080945A5AC23AAFC1-2017)

Please use your child's first and last name for one 15-minute period. Please be on time for your appointment. Thank you!

## **Edison Field Closed – New Grass**

If you have driven by Edison, surely you have noticed that the field is fenced off and new grass is growing. DPS and Edison's facility staff have been working hard this summer to improve Edison's field. Currently, the field is fenced off in order to allow the grass to grow. The field will remain closed throughout the Fall. Though we wish our students could play on the field during recess, this will not be possible for several months. We will work with our students to support them in playing appropriate structured games on the black top and equipment until the field is re-opened. We appreciate the efforts DPS grounds department and Edison's facility staff have made to improve our campus.

## **Coffee and Kleenex for ECE and Kindergarten Parents**

If you are the parent of an ECE or kindergarten student, please join our PTA leadership for coffee and Kleenex on the playground on the first day of school right after you drop off your child. This is a great way to meet other parents, get to know the PTA officers, and celebrate/mourn the first day of school for your little one.

## **Solar Eclipse**

As many of you know, on Monday, August 21 (the first day of school), all of North America will be treated to an eclipse of the sun. This is a very exciting scientific opportunity, which we would like our students to be able to experience. Therefore, we have purchased solar eclipse glasses for all of our students. Teachers will take students outside to observe the eclipse between 11:00 and 12:30. Parents are welcome to come enjoy this experience with their children, please just let the teacher know and sign in at the office.

## **Volunteer Training for Parents**

Please join us for one of our Parent Volunteer trainings (see dates above). We will provide parents with information on how to complete volunteer applications, how to sign up for volunteering opportunities, and best practices for volunteers related to confidentiality, working with students, and communication with teachers.

## **Eagle Run**

This year's Eagle Run is Edison's second annual run-a-thon team builder and fundraiser, which will take place during the school day on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. This exciting fundraiser will focus on teambuilding, health, fitness and reaching personal goals. All Edison students are encouraged to participate, set goals, cheer on their classmates and run as many 1/8 mile laps as possible during the run. Students are also encouraged to get as many pledges as possible to help us reach our fundraising goals! The Eagle Run has a goal to raise \$20,000 through lap pledges and lump sum donations. Please watch Thursday folders for participation information.

## **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;
- 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students on the playground in the morning may drop off their students in the student drop off lane between 8:30 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 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students can sign up to have their child/ren ready and waiting at the pickup area between 3:30 and 3:40 PM on the northwest side of Perry Street, by the playground/community garden. Registration forms will be available at Back-to-School night in classrooms and 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 by 3:40, 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.
- Only adults listed on the permission slip will be able to pick students up.
- Cell phones must not be used in the Greet and Get lane and all Colorado Motor Vehicle laws (seat belts, car seats) must be observed.
- Parents wishing to use the Greet and Get lane will need to fill out a permission form and return it to their student's teacher so that the teacher will know to send the child to the Greet and Get pick up area at 3:30 PM.

### **Parent Leadership at Edison**

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a school sanctioned organization supported by the State and Federal PTA. The PTA is committed to supporting Edison in providing activities that promote parent engagement, educational opportunities for students, legislative support and fundraising events for Edison. The PTA helps coordinate a variety of community events and fundraising opportunities throughout the year, as well as provide feedback to the school. Your PTA Board: Quinn Galt, President; Kurt Wolff, Vice President; Katie Malarkey, Secretary; Chris Campbell, Treasurer; Jessica Key, Fundraising Chair.

The Collaborative School Committee (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. Meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of each month from 4:30-5:30 PM and are open to all community members. Your Collaborative Decision Making Committee parent members for this school year are: Anne Spires-Delong, Kristi Guinn, Megan Hiltner, and Allison Graham.

**We encourage you to GET INVOLVED!!! Come to a PTA meeting or a CSC meeting!**