

Edison

A 21st Century Neighborhood School



February 2019

Sally Whitelock Principal

Benita Cervantes, Assistant Principal

A message from the Principal...

It is the time of year when parents (and schools) begin planning for the next school year. The school choice process in DPS opened on **January 15**. DPS is asking all families to submit their applications online. The school choice application is available at schoolchoice.dpsk12.org. Parents will need either an email address or a current Parent Portal account in order to start the application. ALL ECE students, 5th grade students, and students wishing to move schools need to complete a school choice application. The application **deadline is February 15 at 4:00 PM.** Edison has computers available in the office to support any parents and those in need of technology access with the choice application process.

Edison's School Leadership Team and Collaborative School Committee are already beginning to plan for the 2019-20 school year. Edison is projecting a similar enrollment next year as we have this year, so there will likely be only minimal changes in staffing and budget. We are excited that Edison's PTA has a fundraising campaign, which is raising money for additional paraprofessionals to support students (and teachers) in classrooms. We strongly believe this will provide additional instructional support to students. We are blessed to have a supportive school community as we plan for next year.

In order to support us with planning for choice enrollment and staffing, **we ask that parents please return the "Parent Projection Survey" that went home in Thursday folders.** Please be as accurate as possible. We use this information to determine how many new 1st-5th grade students we can accept next year.

Sincerely,

Sally Whitelock, Principal

Mark Your Calendars:

January 31	PTA sponsored Parent Equity Discussion in the auditorium at 5:30 PM
January 31	CSC Meeting at 4:30 PM in the conference room downstairs (cancelled Feb 7)
February 1	No School, teacher planning day
February 5	5 th Grade art celebration at the Book Bar from 6-7 PM – Garnand/Cleek
February 6	5 th Grade art celebration at the Book Bar from 6-7 PM – Runyon/Cleek
February 7	5 th Grade art celebration at the Book Bar from 6-7 PM – Archibald/Bisceglia
February 7	PTA Meeting at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
February 8	School Tour at 9:30 AM
February 8	3 rd Grade Performance “Objects in the Sky” at 11:00 AM in the auditorium
February 8	Rock the Night Away Family Dance at 6:30 PM in the auditorium
February 18	No School – Presidents Day
February 21	Parent-Teacher & Student Led Conferences from 4-8 PM
February 21	Usborne Book Fair from 4-8 PM
February 22	Kim Robards Dance company Ballet Assembly (12:30 for ECE-2 nd , 2:30 for 3 rd -5 th)
February 22	2 nd Grade Performance “Community” at 2:45 PM in the auditorium
February 22	Box Top Collection Day
February 26	Picture Day – Continuation Pictures for Grades ECE, K and 5
March 4	No School – Teacher Planning Day
March 5-8	Dr. Seuss Read Across America week - Tues: Fox in Socks (crazy sock day), Wed: Wacky Wednesday (Crazy hat/hair day), Thur: Oh the Places You’ll Go (College/Career day), Fri: I am not Going to Get up Today (PJ day)
March 7	CSC Meeting at 4:30 PM in the conference room downstairs
March 7	PTA Meeting at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
March 8	ECE Performance “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” at 10:20 AM in the auditorium
March 15	1 st Grade Performance “Back in the Good Old Days” at 1:25 PM in the auditorium
March 21	Picture Day – individual and class pictures
March 21	Community Culture and Passions Potluck Celebration 5:30-7:00 PM
March 22	Culture and Passions Day during the school day
March 25-29	Spring Break – No School

School lunch menus can be found at:

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

Parent Education Seminar

Please join us on **Thursday, January 31 at 5:30 PM** to participate in our 2nd engaging conversation about privilege, diversity and equity. Bill De La Cruz, a DPS expert on equity and inclusive cultures, will present. The work of eliminating opportunity gaps belongs to everyone in DPS. It is important for all of us to focus on how our actions further our shared value of equity. Bill De La Cruz supports educators and the community at large with resources and supports to ensure inclusive environments, which help to narrow achievement gaps.

3rd Grade Performance – Objects in the Sky

Please join us for our annual 3rd grade performance “Objects in the Sky” in the auditorium on February 8th at 11:00 AM to celebrate the curiosity and excitement students have experienced while studying the solar system. Can’t wait to see you there.

Rock the Night Away Family Dance

Get a little gussied up and come enjoy the Valentine’s season with the Edison community. Please join us at Edison’s annual **Rock the Night Away Family Dance** on **February 8 at 6:30 PM** in Edison’s gym. Students and their parents will enjoy music from our DJ. Cost is \$1 per person.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Please join us for Parent –Teacher Conferences on **February 21 from 4:00-8:00 PM**. Teachers will be contacting parents of students who need support academically, socially or with work habits to set up individual conferences. If parents wish to have an individual conference, please contact your child’s teacher to set it up. Students who do not need individual conferences will lead student-led-conferences with their parents to share what they are learning in school and their personal goals. We cannot wait to see everyone on this engaging evening to connect students, teachers and parents to the learning going on in classrooms.

Schedule:

- 4:00-6:00 Individually scheduled 1-on-1 Parent-Teacher conferences
- 6:00-8:00 Student-led conferences

2nd Grade Performance – Community

On **February 22 at 2:45 PM**, Edison’s 2nd grade students will be performing their annual “Community”. Please join us to celebrate our students’ hard work and demonstration of their learning.

Read-A-Thon

Edison Eagles read over 231,484 minutes during Winter Break! That is the equivalent of 160 days! Over 53% of our students turned in Reading Logs and the Read-A-thon committee handed out 1013 raffle entries. The top readers for each grade will be announced at the family dance on February 8th. The over \$5000.00 raised from the read-a-thon will be used to purchase books for our school in February or March!

If you have more sponsors you would like us to contact, it's not too late to enter their info into this form: <https://goo.gl/forms/sXCghFWNDG7JNrR62>

If you or sponsors would like to complete pledge payments, head to <https://edisonpt.ejoinme.org/readathon>

A donation of \$20 can typically purchase 3-4 books - let's get some exciting new books into classrooms!

For questions, prize donations, or to assist, please email edisonreadathon@gmail.com.

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

Random Acts of Kindness is the theme for February! Random Acts of Kindness Week is from 2/9 through 2/15, and Random Acts of Kindness Day is on 2/17. To learn more ways to support kindness (including free lessons for children) in February and all year, take a look at the Random Acts of Kindness website: <https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/>.

In addition, 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>. Stay tuned for information about joining me at Edison this spring for an informational session about keeping children safe.

DPS School Choice started January 15

At Denver Public Schools, everything we do is directed toward our goal of having Great Schools in Every Neighborhood. School Choice plays a key role in attaining that goal. Any DPS student who wants to attend a school other than their automatically assigned neighborhood school can take part in School Choice. Round 1 of School Choice for 2019-20 runs from January 15 to February 15 at 4:00 PM. You can fill out the School Choice form online (there will be no paper applications) using your DPS Parent Portal username and password. For additional information about the School Choice process, please go to <http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/>

In addition to students who wish to choice out of their boundary school, *all* 5th grade students and *all* ECE students *must* submit an application.

Inside Days

With the cold weather and possibility of snow on its way, 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-

Happy New Year! Please support the Edison PTA with our exciting fundraising and volunteering efforts this semester.

Every Student Counts campaign:

The Edison PTA 'Every Student Counts' campaign is a new direct ask campaign for the 2019-20 school year. The purpose of this campaign is to support the needs of Edison Elementary in providing hands on support to all of its teachers and every child through the use of paraprofessionals in the classrooms. It is further to provide assistance to the Edison Elementary staff and PTA by enabling the hiring of a part-time volunteer coordinator. Our goal is to raise \$35,000. For more information please go to <https://edisonptadenver.org/index.php/fundraising/donate/>

Volunteers Needed:

Rock the Night Away Coordinator

Job Description: The coordinator sets the dance theme, finds sponsors to pay for the DJ and books the DJ, works with Ms. Loehr for kid decorations, makes flyers and organizes dance volunteers for ticket sales, concessions and activities. Rock The Night Away is on Feb 8, 2019 in the gym and auditorium. Email Jessica Maddy-Key at ptaedisondenver@gmail.com if you would like to take the lead on this FUN all-school party!

EdFest Team and Sponsors

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

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.
- 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. These forms are available in the office.