

# Edison

A 21st Century Neighborhood School



JANUARY 2018  
SALLY WHITELOCK, PRINCIPAL      JOAN WIESER, PRINCIPAL RESIDENT

## A message from the Principal...

Dear Edison Community,

I hope everyone had a safe and fun winter holiday and a happy new year. The staff and teachers at Edison are rejuvenated and excited to be coming back to school. We have many engaging learning experiences planned for the second semester of the school year. We encourage you to ask your children what they are learning in school and we hope your children talk about the projects they do at school with you at home. At Edison, we use personalized learning and project based learning to provide opportunities for student voice and ownership in their learning, retention of content and joy in learning.

Did you know...Personalized Learning promotes the following key ideas:

- **Learner-focused learning** in which learning experiences are tied to students' needs, strengths, and/or interests. Teachers offer flexible modalities, groupings and times/places for learning. Students create plans and goals that highlight their strengths and personal goals through each unit of study.
- **Learner-demonstrated learning** is when students progress at their own pace based on demonstrated competencies. Learners have access to multiple assessment options or projects to demonstrate learning.
- **Learner-led learning** in which students control or take ownership of their own learning. Teachers provide learners with ongoing access to their performance data. Students receive continued feedback with which they monitor and create goals.

Please be on the lookout for the great projects students have created and displayed throughout the halls. As we always consider families to be partners in education, please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions

Sincerely,  
Sally Whitelock, Principal

## Mark Your Calendars:

January 8	First day back for students after winter break
January 11	CSC meeting in the conference room at 4:30
January 11	PTA meeting at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
January 12	Volunteer Training at 8:00 AM in the auditorium
January 12	Stock Show Spirt Day – students may wear 'cow boy/girl' clothing to school
January 12	School Tour at 9:30 AM
January 12	ECE Performance "Clothes!" at 10:20 in the auditorium

January 15	No School, Martin Luther King day
January 18	Glee Club Show "Annie" in the auditorium at 5:30 PM
January 22	DPS Northwest Regional Expo at North HS 6:00-8:00 PM
January 26	School Tour at 9:30 AM
February 2	No School, Teacher Planning Day
February 8	CSC Meeting at 4:30 PM in the conference room
February 8	PTA Parent Education Seminar at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
February 9	School Tour at 9:30
February 9	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Performance "The Solar System" at 11:00 in the auditorium
February 9	Rock the Night Away Family Dance at 6:30 PM in the gym
February 15	Parent Teacher Conferences and Math Night from 4:00-8:00 PM
February 16	Coffee Talk with the Principal and AP at 8:00 AM in the Library
February 19 & 20	No School
February 23	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Performance "Our Living Earth" at 2:45 in the auditorium
February 23	Box Top collection date
February 23	School Tour at 9:30

### **Please be on-time for school and pick up**

As the school year goes on, it seems as if more and more students are late to school and parents are late picking students up after school. We know that emergencies happen and that we are all very busy, however, students develop strong work habits when they are young. Additionally, when students are late to school, it is hard for them to start off in a positive, non-stressful way. When parents are late picking students up, children get worried. Please help us by getting students to school before the first bell rings at 8:40 AM and being at school to pick up your children by 3:30 PM.

Beginning January 8, there will be a **\$1 per minute fee charged to parents who pick up their children after 3:45 PM in the office.** Please know that the teacher workday ends at 3:45 PM, so there is no one to watch your children after this time. Thank you for your understanding.

### **ECE Performance**

Please join us to celebrate the learning of our ECE students at our annual ECE performance of "Clothes" on January 12 at 10:20 AM in Edison's auditorium. Our students love performing for their parents. Please join us. We ask that parents refrain from pulling siblings out of classrooms to watch performances due to space limitations in our auditorium.

### **Read-a-thon**

After a fun last day of school dressing up as their favorite story/book characters, Eagle Readers were tearing through pages over Winter Break according to posts on social media! We can't wait to tally up all those minutes, and start awarding prizes for readers!

Please return Reading Logs (or the random slips of paper your child tracked their minutes on) the week of January 8-12. The Read-A-Thon committee sent out sponsor emails and letters to all sponsors during the last weeks of December. If one of your sponsors didn't receive a message, please email us at [edisonreadathon@gmail.com](mailto:edisonreadathon@gmail.com) and we'll re-send. If your child was receiving pledges by minutes read, we'll contact sponsors with totals once we receive the Reading Logs back. Sponsors can pay by check or online at <http://edison.dpsk12.org/read-a-thon/>

We are thrilled to have children reading! We hope they made some special memories during this break. "There are many little ways to enlarge your world. Love of books is the best of all." – Jacqueline Kennedy

## **DPS School Choice starts in February**

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 2018-19 runs from February 1, 2018 to February 28, 2018 at 4:00 PM. You can fill out the School Choice form online at <http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/> starting on February 1 if you have a Parent Portal account. To sign up for the portal go to [myportal.dpsk12.org](http://myportal.dpsk12.org) and click on *Getting Started*.

School Choice will be 100% online this year. There will be no paper applications. Unfortunately we do not have all the information on how the new process will work yet but we will send that out by the end of January. In the meantime, please make sure you have a working Parent Portal account so you are able to submit your Choice application when the time comes. We will have computers available here in the office for any families who do not have internet access at home.

In addition to students who wish to choice out of their boundary school, *all* 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, *all* ECE students and ADV Kdg students who do not live in Edison's attendance area *must* submit an application.

## **Food Pantry and Coats for Needy Families**

Thanks to a collaboration between the Cub Scouts Troop 11, Bienvenidos Food Bank and Edison staff, Edison now has a small food pantry and supply of coats for students/families in need. If you or an Edison family you know is having financial difficulties and are in need of support for the holidays, food or a coat for your child, please reach out to our psychologist, Dr. Gina Coffee, at [Gina\\_Coffee@dpsk12.org](mailto:Gina_Coffee@dpsk12.org)

Donations of new coats and food will be accepted at any time. If you would like to volunteer to support the Sam Santos Christmas Basket Program, please contact Dr. Gina Coffee for information.

## **Inside Days**

With the weather getting cold and 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.

## **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 used this school year by DPS. 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](http://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, Discovery Link, 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.

## **Volunteering at Edison**

The goal of the Edison Elementary volunteer program is to assist the school in providing the best possible education for each student within a positive and caring community. If you were unable to attend one of our Parent Volunteer Trainings in the Fall, please join us on January 12 at 8:00 AM in the auditorium for our last Volunteer Training session. If you cannot attend this training opportunity, please go to the website at <http://edison.dpsk12.org/volunteering/> to read our Volunteer handbook, find information on the volunteer application, and get information on signing up to volunteer. Each year, we have many volunteers who give their time, energy and experience to help enrich the educational programs for our students. Volunteers make a difference and are an important part of our school team. Please volunteer at Edison when you can!

**\*\* WANTED:** Volunteers to help copy, laminate and cut out Eagle Eyes. Please contact Mrs. Wieser at [joan\\_wieser@dpsk12.org](mailto:joan_wieser@dpsk12.org) if you are interested in helping out.

## **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:** Please check your pantries and cut off all "Box Tops" that you find. Send them to school with your children before **February 23**. Box Tops are sent in to "Box Tops for Education" two times per year. All the money donated from participating companies goes directly to teachers for use in classrooms.
- **King Soopers or Safeway cards:** Please purchase a King Soopers or Safeway card from Edison's PTA. Cards can be purchased at PTA meetings or from the secretaries in Edison's office. Each card is \$10 and comes with \$10 on it. Then, each time you shop, load additional money on to the card prior to the clerk ringing up your groceries. Then, pay with the King Soopers/Safeway card. Edison PTA will receive \$5 from King Soopers/Safeway for each \$100 you spend.
- **Amazon Smile:** Sign up for "Amazon Smile" on Amazon (there is a link from Edison's home page) and choose Edison Elementary PTA as your choice for donations. Each time you purchase from Amazon, make sure you sign in with Amazon Smile. Amazon will then donate a percentage of your purchase to Edison.

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

- **Make a direct donation:** Go to Edison's website at <http://edison.dpsk12.org/> and click on the "Donate" button. You can donate any amount you choose directly to our PTA.
- **Donors Choose:** Check out the many Donors Choose projects that teachers have posted on Donorschoose.org and donate to any cause that you think will benefit your child and our community. You can find all current projects through the link on Edison's home page at <http://edison.dpsk12.org/>.
- Edison has partnered with Recycling Advantage to collect printer cartridges, cell phones, laptops and tablets for recycling. This will be a year-round fundraiser, so you can drop stuff off any time. All funds raised go toward supporting Green Team events and programs.

We appreciate your continued support!

## **Traffic and Parking**

Safety is our first priority at Edison and this starts with the 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 every time they enter the building.

**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 are available 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. Forms are available in the office.

## **A Message from our PTA...**

Edison PTA

### **PTA Leadership:**

President - Kurt Wolff

VP -

Secretary – Katie Malarkey

Treasurer - Chris Campbell