

Edison

A 21st Century Neighborhood School

Sally Whitelock, Principal Joan Wieser, Principal Resident

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January 2017

From the Principal...

Dear Edison community,

Hello! At Edison, we are excited to announce that we have begun implementing Personalized Learning practices in 3rd-5th grades. The teachers have been studying and implementing instructional methods that maximize student leadership, voice and choice in the classroom. We have seen engagement, retention of content and joy for learning increase! You can hear the excitement pouring from the classrooms.

Personalized Learning promotes the following key ideas:

- **Learner-focused learning**, where the learning experience is tied to each student's needs, strengths, and/or interests: the framework suggests that a teacher offer flexible modalities, groupings and times/places for learning. Students create contracts that highlight their strengths and personal goals through each unit of study.
- **Learner-demonstrated learning**, where students progress at their own pace based on demonstrated competencies: the framework suggests that learners have access to multiple assessment options. (Think a multiple choice test, oral evidence or rubric-based project, to name a few ideas.)
- **Learner-led learning**, where students control or take ownership of their own learning: the framework suggests providing 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. Please provide feedback following this link. <https://goo.gl/forms/I84sdfmF8pLdw7xk1>

Thank you,

Joan Wieser
Principal Resident

Upcoming events:

January 9	Students return to school from Winter Break
January 9-13	Reading Log due back
January 12	PTA meeting at 3:45 in the auditorium
January 12	CSC meeting at 5:00 in the conference room
January 13	School Tour at 9:30
January 16	No School
January 20	Coffee with the Principal and AP from 8:00-8:30 in the Library
January 27	School Tour at 9:30
February 3	No School
Feb 9	CSC meeting at 4:30
Feb 9	PTA Speaker 6:00 in the auditorium
Feb 10	3 rd Grade Performance at 11
Feb 10	Family Dance: 6:30
Feb 10	First Friday
Feb 20	No School
Feb 23	Parent Teacher Conferences 4-8
Feb 24	Box Tops due at school
Feb 24	2 nd grade performance in the auditorium at 2:45

Growth Mindset

The Student Engagement Committee is excited to celebrate the Growth Mindset we have seen in the halls, on the playground and in the classroom. We are so proud of our students sharing and showing their Growth Mindset. Have your children been talking about Eagle Eyes? Well, Eagle Eyes are earned when students show a Growth Mindset and Edison character traits. Students learn about a Growth Mindset and character traits through Morning Meeting, First Friday Celebrations and Buddy Classrooms. At each First Friday, a Buddy Classroom pairing gets honored with the Edison CARES award and has bragging rights for a month! Students love collecting Eagle Eyes!

Donations to Edison

Edison is excited to announce that through our supportive community that we have received two donations! One for \$7500 from an anonymous donor in which \$5000 will go to Edison's music program and \$2500 to Edison's green team for green and nutrition initiatives at Edison. The other one \$10,000 from the Kossler family and The Denver Burger Battle. We are so thankful for the great community partnerships ☺!

Your Feedback in Action

Edison's Parent Engagement Committee and PTA have been hard at work examining the feedback from parents (from the Parent Satisfaction Survey, the State of the School Address, and our on-line google

survey). We greatly appreciate your feedback and would like to share some things we will be implementing based on your feedback.

Our community shared that you would like more opportunities to provide the school with feedback. Therefore, we will be doing the following:

- We have created an on-line google survey asking for feedback. The link will be in every newsletter and on our website. Please feel free to continue to provide us with feedback any time.
- We have placed a suggestion and celebration box in the school office. Please share suggestions or celebrations any time you are in the office.
- We will be scheduling "Coffee with the Principal and AP" in the school library every other month. Please join us to share ideas, ask questions, or just to visit. The first Coffee will be January 20 from 8:00-8:30 AM.
- We will continue having English Language Acquisition Parent Advisory Committee breakfast meetings every other month with parents who have students who attend Edison who are learning English. Our last meeting was held December 19. We appreciate the feedback and involvement we received.

Our community also shared that you would like more communication from the school. Therefore, we will be doing the following:

- We will continue to email our school newsletter with in-depth information about school happenings. This newsletter will go out to families the first week of every month and can be easily translated into any language.
- We have begun sending weekly school updates with information for the upcoming week.
- Teachers will continue providing communication through classroom websites, newsletters, emails, phone calls and dojos.

Lastly, parents communicated that they would like more opportunities for parent education events. Therefore, we will be:

- Having three parent education PTA meetings during the school year. The first Parent Education event was on October 6. Our next Parent Education event will be February 9 at 6:00 PM in the auditorium and will present information on Growth Mindset and Bully Prevention.

We appreciate your feedback and look forward to continuing our collaboration.

[Solar System: 3rd Grade performance](#)

Please join us in the auditorium on February 10th at 11:00 to observe the curiosity and excitement students have experienced while studying the solar system. Parents are welcome to attend. Please sign in the office! Can't wait to see you there.

[Eagle Read-A-Thon \(over \\$1200 in donations so far!\)](#)

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 9-13. 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 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 January](#)

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 2017-18 runs from Jan. 5 to 4 p.m. on Jan. 31, 2017. You can fill out the School Choice form online at <http://schoolchoice.dpsk12.org/pre-enrollment/> starting on January 5 if you have a Parent Portal account. To sign up for the portal go to myportal.dpsk12.org and click on *Getting Started*. In addition, *all 5th grade students, all ECE students and ADV Kdg students* who do not live in Edison's attendance area must submit an application. Please look for detailed information about the process as well as FAQs in this week's Thursday folder.

[College and Career Readiness](#)

College and career readiness is quickly becoming one of the hottest topics in public education because basic curriculum knowledge is no longer enough to prepare our future leaders for the global market that exists. Educators at Edison are able to integrate career-readiness standards into our school because others have begun the process of laying the foundation. At Edison we are focusing on how we can incorporate more of these standards throughout the day.

The National Office for School Counselor Advocacy has identified eight components of college and career readiness, and six of these are applicable to the elementary setting:

- **College Aspiration:** Nurture confidence in students to aspire to college by maintaining high expectations and conveying the conviction that all students can succeed in college. Through establishing a Growth Mindset within Edison, we empower our students that anything is possible as long as you work hard and set goals.
- **Academic Planning** for College and Career Readiness: At Edison we encourage students to participate in rigorous academic programs by increasing rigor within each classroom and helping students realize they are capable of achieving greater academic goals than they set for themselves. Students identify their own strengths and set targeted goals during reading, math and writing.
- **Enrichment and Extracurricular Engagement:** Push the administration to conduct a school and community audit of enrichment and extracurricular activities that offer participation and

leadership options to all students. Edison offers enrichment and extracurricular activities to provide students with different opportunities and experiences.

- **College and Career Exploration and Selection Process:** Promote a college-going culture where students are encouraged to aim high. They should also begin writing processes that help them develop college application skills such as writing personal statements. At Edison, we have been focusing on providing students' skills they need as active members of our global community through transferring the purpose of written and oral communication.
- **College and Career Assessment:** When students complete a benchmark test, take the time to share the results with them. Help students become more self-aware of their achievement and take a personal interest in their growth. At Edison, we believe in the word 'yet' so we provide students opportunities to learn and grow from their work and personal reflection. Students have the opportunity to learn from their assessments and understand the data and what action steps they need to follow through with.
- **College Affordability Planning:** Begin financial literacy at an early age. Integrate lessons about basic finance, wealth and money management into math curriculum. At Edison, we have touched on this in every grade level, but could support this standard better within instruction.

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 now upon us, 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 this school year. 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. Kaleidoscope will provide day care for Kaleidoscope-registered students from 6:30 AM until 9:40 AM when school starts. Breakfast will still be served to students as they arrive to school.

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, 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.

Parent Portal

DPS has an online Parent/Student Portal to make it easier to track a student's progress and plan for their future. Students can log into the Parent/Student Portal to see if they have all their assignments handed in. Parents can log into the Parent/Student Portal to check on their child's grades, attendance and test results. Parents may also opt students out of certain assessments. If you do not have a Parent Portal account, go to myportal.dpsk12.org and click on *Getting Started*.

PTA Corner...

Denver Eats Card

Edison PTA was chosen by the Denver Cruiser Ride to debut a delicious new way to support school programming. Your \$5 donation towards the PTA will allow you to redeem your good intentions by way of 10 great FREE food deals.

10 Highlands-area restaurants are offering these free items to you in recognition of your support. We keep 100% of the money, DCR builds great karma, and local businesses are supported. No purchases required; single use per deal (but we'll get you more cards!); deals expire 5/31/17.

Haven't tried the new Papa Murphy's on 44th? FREE large pizza with one topping! This alone doubles your investment. Need a coffee? This will cover you at Book Bar! Craving friend pickles? Hit up the Crazy Fox. Look for more deals on the order form coming home in your child's Thursday/Friday Folder. Return with a check made out to Edison PTA and we'll deliver!

Don't delay; we have a limited supply!

Parent Education Event

February 9 6pm-7pm in the Auditorium. Open to everyone!

Join us for FREE event with babysitting & light refreshments.

Come hear Speakers Joan Wieser (Edison Principal Resident) and Amanda Shackleton (Edison Psychologist) presenting on **Growth Mindset & Bully Prevention**. PTA is excited for this, our second Parent Education Event of the school year and look forward to seeing you there.

Volunteers Opportunities

– Rock the Night Away **School Dance** on Feb 10

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0F4BAAAC22A3FC1-2017

– Student Led Conferences **Teacher Dinners** on Feb 23 – Like cooking? Sign Up Coming soon...

– Our **EdFest** Team are looking for new members. Newbies welcome - email Brian at edisonvpdenver@gmail.com to join the fun!

When's the **next PTA Meeting**? Thurs, Jan 12, 3:45pm-5pm

Happy 2017!

--Edison PTA Board

Contact the PTA Officers

Alex Cisney – President – ptaedisondenver@gmail.com

Kalisha Frazier and Kristi Guinn – Vice-Presidents – edisonvpdenver@gmail.com

Michelle Kettleborough – Secretary – edisonptasecretary@gmail.com

Kim Adams – Treasurer – edisonfundraising@gmail.com