

Edison A 21st Century Neighborhood School

March 2017

Sally Whitelock, Principal Joan Wieser, Principal Resident

Secretaries: Michelle Miller, Barbara Schrant

Office: 720-424-7780 Attendance: 720-424-7784

From the Principal...

Dear Edison Community,

It is hard to believe that it is March already, especially with the warm weather that we had in February. I hope everyone is preparing for an exciting spring break!

The Parent Satisfaction survey is just around the corner. DPS uses the Parent Satisfaction survey as one of the indicators of an "Effective" school. The surveys are a crucial component of the School Performance Framework which rates Edison compared to other DPS schools. If you believe that we (the teachers, staff and administrators at Edison) are doing a good job, please communicate this on the survey. Additionally, at Edison, we use the survey to determine what parents believe we are doing well and what parents hope we improve on. These surveys provide the school with valuable feedback which supports us to continually improve and ensure a high quality education within a positive school community for every child that attends our school. In order to get an accurate picture of parents' perception of the school, we really do need a lot of surveys returned, therefore we have a goal of over 90% of the surveys being returned. Each family will only receive one School Satisfaction survey. School Satisfaction surveys are going home with the oldest Edison student in each family in Thursday folders in March. **Please complete the survey, seal the envelope and either send it back to school with your child to be mailed via DPS mail to the central office or mail the completed survey back to DPS.** Again, if we are doing a good job, please let us, DPS and the community know! We appreciate and value your feedback, input and involvement. Together we will continue to provide a high quality, 21st century education to every student who enters our doors.

We appreciate your ongoing thoughts and feedback. You may always provide feedback and/or suggestions by following this link. <https://goo.gl/forms/I84sdfmF8pLdw7xk1>

Thank you for your continued support.

Sally Whitelock, Principal

Upcoming events:

March 2	ECE, kindergarten & 5th grade Lifetouch cap & gown picture day
March 2	PTA meeting at 3:45 PM
March 2	CSC meeting at 5:00-6:00 PM in the conference room
March 3	Second Trimester Awards Ceremony
March 10	Coffee with the Principal & AP at 8:00 AM in the library
Mar 12	Daylight Savings Time
Mar 17	1 st grade performance "Then and Now" at 1:25 in the auditorium
Mar 22	Lifetouch picture day – class pictures and individual
March 27-31	No school / Spring Break
April 3	No School – Teacher planning day
Apr 4-7	Spirit Week during school day <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tuesday – Crazy Hair Day- Wednesday – Backwards Day- Thursday – Hat and Crazy Sock Day- Friday – Edison T-shirt /Blue and Gold Day
April 6	CSC meeting at 4:30-5:30 PM in the conference room
April 6	PTA meeting at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
April 7	First Friday Assembly during the school day
April 10-21 st	PARCC end of year assessments for grades 3-5
April 17	4 th grade performance "Colorado" at 6:00 PM in the auditorium
April 21	Earth Day Parade 8:30 AM
April 21	Health Fair at 3:45-5:00 on the playground
April 27	Author's Tea at 3:45 PM in the auditorium
April 29	Totally Tennyson

2nd Trimester Award Celebrations

On **March 3**, during the school day, Mrs. Whitelock and Ms. Wieser will have the pleasure of celebrating students' achievements for the 2nd Trimester. Students who had perfect attendance, met their Accelerated Reader (AR) goals, achieved their Math Facts goals, and who were nominated as Good Citizens will receive awards. Please help us celebrate our growth mindset by asking your children about their goals for the trimester and encourage them to set new goals for the 3rd trimester and put forth effort to achieve their goals.

Coffee with the Principal & AP

On **March 10 at 8:00 AM**, Mrs. Whitelock and Ms. Wieser will hold another informal conversation in the library. If you have questions, suggestions, concerns or ideas to share, please join us.

1st Grade Student Performance – “Then and Now”

On **March 17 at 1:25 PM**, Edison’s 1st grade students will be performing “Then and Now”, a celebration of their learning about communities in the past and present. Please join us for this wonderful performance and celebration of learning in the auditorium.

Spirit Week

April 4- 7 is our annual Spirit Week. During this week, Edison students show their school spirit through fun dress up days. We hope all our student will enjoy this fun week.

- Tuesday – Crazy Hair Day
- Wednesday – Backwards Day
- Thursday – Hat and Crazy Sock Day
- Friday – Edison T-shirt /Blue and Gold Day

Valentines for Vets

This Valentine’s Day, Edison students showed how caring they are by decorating Valentines for active military members and US veterans. Ms. Hardy delivered the Valentine cards to veterans to a local VFW and overseas to active service men and women. The students were able to engage in real world examples of living our school values. During February’s First Friday assembly, students then had the opportunity to learn from and listen to a US Veteran. His message stressed the importance of a growth mindset and how to live your values every day.

Jump Rope for Heart

Jump Rope for Heart started in the middle of February. Students are encouraged to raise funds to support research for heart disease and education to prevent heart disease. Students should bring donations/packets back to Mr. Auday during PE class. Thank you Mr. Auday for organizing this fantastic fundraiser and for the jump rope unit in physical education class which teaches students about healthy and active living.

CMAS testing

Please mark your calendars with state assessment dates. During two weeks in April, all 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students will complete the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS/PARCC) tests. Please support us with 100% attendance during this testing time.

- 3rd Grade: April 10-14
- 4th Grade: April 17-21
- 5th Grade: April 10-21

Parent Education Seminars

At the February PTA meeting, we held our second parent education seminar of the year. Sally Whitelock and Cindie Tomcho presented on Bully Proofing and Joan Wieser and Allison Lahner presented on Growth Mindset. We hope parents appreciated this information.

Our next parent education seminar is scheduled for April 6 at 6:00 PM in Edison's auditorium. Stay tuned for more information.

Personalized Learning

Do you have a 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade student at Edison this year? If so, ask them about the remodeling happening in their classrooms. Through a professional development opportunity with DPS, Edison's intermediate teachers are redesigning their classrooms to support personalized learning and project based learning. With this initiative, students have more choice and voice in their learning and are thereby collaborating and critically analyzing in new and exciting ways!

We listen to your Feedback

Have you noticed the Suggestion Box in the office or the google survey on the newsletters and weekly updates? If you took the time to share your thoughts and ideas – Thank you! Some of the thoughts that our parents have shared include:

What are we doing well?

- Growth mindset curriculum
- Exposing students to a variety of potential interests and areas of inquiry
- Continuous assessment and adjusting instruction
- Good foundation in literacy and math
- Communicating through emails, parent meetings, newsletters, dojos, parent-teacher conferences and PTA calendar
- A variety of school event

Suggestions and responses from our staff:

- Suggestion: "Add a daily recess in the morning." Response: The teachers considered this suggestion and believe that we do not have the time to have an additional recess and teach the important content to our students. Instead, they are implementing 'brain breaks' which provide students an opportunity in the classroom for activity and movement. Brain breaks may include a dance, a cooperative game or short exercise.
- Suggestion: "Better, quality learning materials instead of worksheets." Response: The teachers at Edison have adopted EngageNY math which provides opportunities for students to think critically in math and apply the skills they are learning, in addition to completing worksheets to support mastery and practice of skills learned. Additionally, through a personalized learning initiative, teachers are improving our science and social studies lessons/units to provide even more hands-on learning opportunities, research and projects for our students. We believe this will provide rigor and quality learning opportunities and actively engage all of our students.
- Suggestion: "Wish there was more of a Parent of Edison training." Response: This is a great suggestion. Edison's PTA and Parent Engagement Committee are therefore working on this and will have it ready for next school year.

Inside Days

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

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 delayed 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...

Pizza? It's what's for dinner!

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

Tuesday, March 7 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 25% of your purchase will come back to Edison!

EdFest Planning Meetup

Tuesday, March 14 6:30pm

6:30pm at Common Grounds (44th & Vallejo)

Come and find out about Edison's biggest (adult only) *partay* of the year! Newbies very welcome.

Parent Education Event STAND BY FOR MORE DETAILS...

Thursday, April 6

6pm-7pm in the Auditorium

Plan to come along and join us for our final Parent Education Event of the year!

Babysitting provided.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Parent Education Events are new to PTA this year, and WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK! Presentations have included: Growth Mindset; Bully Prevention; DPS Mill & Bond Levy (on 2016 Election Ballot); Sugar & Kids in School. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

For future Parent Education Events: What would you like to learn about? Give us suggestions for speakers, topics or workshops you would like to have. Or, do you have other suggestions for PTA?

Give us feedback at <https://goo.gl/forms/l84sdfmF8pLdw7xk1>

YOUR NEXT PTA MEETINGS

March 2 PTA Meeting (2017-18 Officer Elections: come vote for next year's PTA Board)

May 4 PTA Meeting (PTA Volunteer Appreciation Tea)

--Edison PTA Board

Contact the PTA Officers

Alex Cisney – President – ptaedisondenver@gmail.com

Brian Ripley and Kurt Wolff – Vice-Presidents – edisonvpdenver@gmail.com

Kristi Guinn – Secretary – edisonptasecretary@gmail.com

Chris Campbell – Treasurer – edisonptatreasurer@gmail.com

Jessica Key – Fundraising Chair – edisonfundraising@gmail.com