

Edison A 21st Century Neighborhood School



November 2017

Sally Whitelock Principal

Joan Wieser Principal Resident

A message from the Principal...

2017 State of the School Address

Dear Edison Community,

In the fall of each school year all schools in Colorado receive CMAS data and schools in DPS are "graded" with a report called the School Performance Framework (SPF) based on data from the two previous years. Though I and the teachers at Edison understand the importance of high stakes tests like the CMAS and use this data to support our curriculum and instructional decision making, we also have other student achievement data to help us with instruction and differentiation in the classroom. At Edison, we give assessments throughout the year to measure student growth including: ANet literacy, guided reading levels, Aimsweb, STAR reading, STAR early literacy, Accelerated Reader, written assignments, ANet math, STAR math, and unit assessments which we use to make informed decisions. We also rely on the daily work of students to assess their needs and ensure quality instruction for all. We are very proud of the achievement of Edison's students and would like to share the following information with you:

The Colorado Department of Education released the results of the 2016-17 Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) testing in September. In April 2017, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students across the state took the CMAS test to determine their academic achievement in reading, math and science (5th grade only).

On the English Language Assessment (Reading), 55.6% of Edison's 3rd-5th grade students scored in the "Met or Above Expectations" category, an increase of 2% from 2016.

- 57.5% of 3rd graders scored "Met or Above Expectations" (increase of 6.3%)
- 55.0% of 4th graders scored "Met or Above Expectations" (decrease of 3.1%)
- 54.2% of 5th graders scored "Met or Above Expectations" (increase of 2.9%)

On the Mathematics Assessment, 52.3% of Edison's 3rd-5th grade students scored in the "Met or Above Expectations" category, an increase of 2.9% from 2016.

- 54.5% of 3rd graders scored "Met or Above Expectations" (decrease 1.6%)

- 46.9% of 4th graders scored "Met or Above Expectations" (decrease 1.9%)
 - 55.6% of 5th graders scored "Met or Above Expectations" (increase 12.3%)
- Additionally, 5th grade students took the science CMAS with 61.1% of 5th grade students scoring in the "Met or Exceeds Expectations" category, an increase of 12.3%.

The Colorado Department of Education also provides schools with Median Growth Percentile data. The Median Growth Percentile is a rating for 4th and 5th grade students which compares each student's growth on CMAS/PARCC to students that scored like them the prior year, with a score of 50 being the median score and a score of 40-60 being moderate growth and over 60 being high growth. Edison's MGP for 2017 was:

- Literacy - Overall: 52 (increase of 8), Grade 4: 53, (-3 from 2016) Grade 5: 45.5 (+12.5 from 2016)
- Math - Overall: 47 (increase of 4), Grade 4: 46 (+1 from 2016), Grade 5: 49 (+7 from 2016)

Edison also monitors the achievement level and growth of each student in grades 1-5 four times per year with STAR reading and STAR math assessments. Individual reading and math goals are set for each student. Following are the percent of students who ended the 2016-17 school year at or above grade level, as well as MGP for STAR assessments:

STAR Reading assessment:

- 1st grade: 86% at grade level or above, MGP: 79
- 2nd grade: 85% at grade level or above, MGP: 73
- 3rd grade: 73% at grade level or above, MGP 62
- 4th grade: 66% at grade level or above, MGP 60
- 5th grade: 74% at grade level or above, MGP 60

STAR Math assessment:

- 1st grade: 84% at grade level or above, MGP: 83
- 2nd grade: 92% at grade level or above, MGP: 76
- 3rd grade: 79% at grade level or above, MGP 70
- 4th grade: 66% at grade level or above, MGP 43
- 5th grade: 74% at grade level or above, MGP 56

The School Performance Framework (SPF) is a 'report card' that DPS creates on each school based primarily on CMA MGP data, as well as CMAS status and engagement data (attendance, student perception and parent perception). Edison's SPF ratings were:

- Overall: Meets; however, due to Academic Gaps being Approaching, the overall rating was brought down to "Accredited on Watch"
- Student Progress Over Time - Growth: Approaching
- Student Achievement - Status: Meets
- Parent and Student Engagement and Satisfaction: Approaching (.5 points away from Meets)
 - o Parent Perception Survey: Overall 80% positive response rate

- Student Perception Survey: Overall 85% positive response rate
- Academic Gaps - Approaching

In addition, school culture, student engagement and parent engagement are keys to our success at Edison. We believe that all students at Edison need to enjoy learning, participate in project-based learning, and engage in collaborative learning opportunities. We value all of our families and recognize that "it takes a village to raise a child." We also value collaborative decision making between the school and the parent community and want to formally invite parents to attend our CSC meetings and PTA meetings. We encourage parents to volunteer in classrooms, participate in community events and join us for student celebrations of projects. Lastly, please check the Edison website for updated information, read the Edison and classroom newsletters, and share ideas with us through email or face-to-face visits. Thank you for partnering with us.

If you were unable to attend the "State of the School Address" parent meeting on October 25 and would like to learn more about the SPF and Edison's current assessment data and improvement plan, please join us at our next CSC meeting on November 9 at 4:30 PM.

Sincerely,
Sally Whitelock, Principal

Mark Your Calendars:

November 1 & 2	Parent Teacher conferences from 3:45-7:45 PM
November 1 & 2	Usborne Book Fair in the auditorium from 3:30-8:00 PM
November 3	No School
November 8	PJ Day to support Spark Change – Bring \$1 donation to wear your PJs to school
November 9	Picture make ups
November 9	CSC meeting at 4:30-5:30 PM in the conference room downstairs
November 9	PTA meeting at 6:00-7:00 PM in the auditorium – Parent Education Seminar on Growth Mindset, Bully Proofing and Personalized Learning
November 9	Picture make-up day
November 10	English Language Acquisition Parent Advisory Committee - Ms. Polenz's room, 8:00AM
November 10	School Tour, 9:30-10:30 AM
November 16	Build-it Night at 5:30 PM in the auditorium
November 16	Thanksgiving Lunch in the cafeteria – Must sign up and pay by Nov 2.
November 17	School Tour at 9:30-10:30 AM
November 17	Science Fair in the gym during the school day
November 20-24	No school – Thanksgiving Break
December 1	1 st Trimester Award Ceremonies for students during the school day
December 5	Reading Is Fundamental – Book give away to students
December 7	PTA meeting at 6:00-7:00 PM in the auditorium
December 8	Kindergarten Performance at 2:05 PM
December 8	School Tour at 9:30-10:30 AM

December 12- 14	Scholastic Book Fair in the auditorium
December 14	Literacy Night at 5:30 PM
December 15	School Tour at 9:30-10:30 AM
December 21	Read-a-thon Kick off
December 22-January 7	Winter Break
January 8	First day back for students

Parent Teacher Conferences

Please sign up for a parent-teacher conference on either **November 1 or 2 between 3:45 and 7:45 PM**. This is a great time to find out how your child(ren) is doing in school, celebrate success and set academic and/or work habit goals for your children. We strongly believe that teachers and parents must work together, as a team, to ensure the educational success of children. We value these opportunities to collaborate with you and are looking forward to our one-on-one conferences.

Parent Education Seminar

Please join us at our first parent education seminar on November 9 at 6:00 PM in Edison's auditorium. Edison's school psychologist, PBIS coordinator and a teacher will present on Growth Mindset, Bully Proofing and Personalized Learning. The PTA is hosting this event and will be providing day care.

Build-it Night

Edison's annual Build-It-Night is scheduled for Thursday, November 16 at 5:30-7:30 PM in Edison's auditorium. Please join us with your children to build fun tool boxes or bird houses. This is a free event. All kits and tools will be provided by the PTA.

Thanksgiving Lunch

Please join the Edison community on Thursday, November 16 for a wonderful Thanksgiving lunch served by our fantastic cafeteria staff. The cost for lunch is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. If you plan to attend, please return the sign-up sheet, which went home in Thursday folders, and payment by November 2. Please be aware that we may run late because it is hard to serve high numbers of people in our small cafeteria kitchen. We appreciate your patience.

The lunch schedule on Thursday, November 16 will be:

- ECE: 11:00
- Kindergarten: 11:20
- 1st grade: 11:55
- 2nd grade: 12:15
- 3rd grade: 12:30
- 4th grade: 12:45
- 5th grade: 1:00

Science Fair

Has your student shared information with you about the science fair? We encourage all students to participate in the science fair. Students will work on and complete this fun enrichment activity at home. Please look for information that went home in Thursday folders and support your children in scientific investigation. On Friday, November 17, please join the students in Edison's gym to learn about their scientific research projects and celebrate their learning.

Please sign-up and find additional information about the science fair at:

<http://edisonextraenrichment.weebly.com/science-fair-sign-up-and-paperwork.html>

Green Team – Healthy Halloween options

The Edison Parent Green Team is proud to sponsor a Healthy Halloween again this year! Did you know...last year Edison students turned in over 100 pounds of candy!!! **Let's Beat that Record!** You can participate in the Edison Halloween Candy Buy Back Program in exchange for incredible and healthy prizes! **Here's how it works...**

- SECURE your "Official Buy Back Voucher" - one per student came home in Thursday folders.
- COLLECT your Halloween Candy after you go trick or treating! (A minimum of one pound of candy is required.)
- BRING your candy AND your "Official Buy Back Voucher" to one of these participating dentists/orthodontist in the Highlands: Speaks Orthodontics, Tennyson Pediatric Dentistry, Highlands Smiles
- Candy MUST be turned in between November 1-November 8.
- Candy is exchanged for FREE admission coupons to awesome and fun exercise activities just for kids! (Mid Air Adventures, Jump Street, Earth Treks Climbing, Laser Quest, Skate City, Big Time Fun, Sky Zone and MORE!)
- Limited prizes are first come, first served - SO DON'T DELAY!

Eagle Run – A HUGE success!

Eagle Run results—WE DID IT AGAIN! We reached our goal! Thank you to everyone who participated, donated, volunteered and supported our second annual Eagle Run. The fundraiser was a huge success! Our Edison Eagles raised **\$25,126**, exceeding our goal of \$20,000. This money will ensure a fantastic Enrichment Day, provide classroom needs and so much more!

Congratulations to our top three fundraisers! Our first place winner from 2nd grade raised \$841! The second place winner from 1st grade raised \$448, and third place went to another 2nd grade student who raised \$400! Congratulations to all—we hope you enjoy your new Apple iPods and are busy loading it with your favorite running tunes!

Our Eagles can RUN: During the 2nd annual Eagle Run we ran a total of 8,409 laps = 1,051 miles! Great job Eagles!

Read-a-thon – COMING SOON!

Eagle Readers read over 65,000 minutes during last year's Winter Break! We're hoping to break that record this year in our 3rd Annual Read-A-Thon! Using the same team names as the Eagle Run, classes will challenge themselves to reach a class goal, and the classes with the highest participation will receive a class party! Plus, the reader who reads the most minutes per grade will receive a prize! Plus, Eagle Readers who read at least the minimum amount suggested per grade will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win fantastic prizes! Another huge success last year was that our Read-A-Thon raised over \$10,000 for literacy supplies thanks to generous donors! This year, our goal is to raise at least \$10,000 for more books. Our library, book Room, and classroom libraries constantly need to be refreshed. We'll be sending home sponsor request forms before Thanksgiving break to be returned the following week. Then, Read-A-Thon committee members will reach out to your sponsors by mail or email and share information about the Read-A-Thon - we know it's a busy time of year! Eagle Readers will read over the 18 days of Winter Break and return Reading Logs when we come back to school in January. Prize winners will be announced at the Family Dance in February.

Weather Delays and Closures

Since winter is right around the corner, 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 beginning 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 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.

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, 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 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/>.

We appreciate your continued support!

Electronics Recycling Fundraiser – Year Round

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.

Coats for Needy Children

If you are a family that struggles financially and your children are in need of a new winter coat, please reach out to our psychologist, Gina Coffee, at Gina_Coffee@dpsk12.org

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;
- 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 every time they enter the building.

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 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 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...

After seeing the collective might of Edison's kids, teachers, administration and families at our 2nd Eagle Run and Fall Fest, it is clear we have an amazing community. Together we make Edison GREAT!

Thanks to all of those that participated, volunteered and attended these great events- Eagle Run raised over \$25,000 for our school and Fall Festival brought in over \$10,000 that will go directly into the classrooms.

Upcoming Events – Can you help?!

Parent Teacher Conference Dinner for Teachers: Bring in an item to feed our teachers while they stay late for conferences. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4baaac22a3fc1-fall3>

Usborne Book Fair: November 1 and November 2 after school. Sign up to help with sales during parent teacher conferences. www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0F4BAAAC22A3FC1-november

Build It Night: Thursday, November 16, 5:30-7pm in the cafeteria. Bring your tools and your kids too and build kits from Home Depot. They make great holiday gifts!

Science/STEM Fair: Friday, November 17, during school day in the gym. All Grade level students are invited to showcase their engineering project or scientific method experiments for Judges. Best projects are invited to participate in January's District Science Fair.

RIF (Reading Is Fundamental): Tuesday, December 5 during the school day in the auditorium. Twice a year, all students come to the Auditorium and choose a new book for FREE!
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4BAAAC22A3FC1-rifdistribution4>

All events are sponsored by the PTA!

PTA Leadership:

President - Quintin Galt
Secretary – Katie Malarkey
VP - Kurt Wolff
Treasurer - Chris Campbell