

# Edison A 21st Century Neighborhood School



September 2018

Sally Whitelock Principal

Benita Cervantes, Assistant Principal

## **A message from the Principal...**

What a fantastic beginning of the school year! Edison students and teachers are already working hard to set the stage for rigorous instruction, project based learning, creative problem solving and lots of learning! We are challenging students to have a growth mindset and set personal goals as they are moving into this new year of school. Please ask your children to share their Learning Profile and Personal Learning Plans with you.

We would like to invite parents to continue to partner with us in the education of their children. We know you do this daily through conversations about school, reading with your students and helping your students with homework. We hope that you also get involved by volunteering at the school and joining the PTA. Please join us at a Volunteer Training. Please remember that all parents/community members must enter the building through the front doors, check-in at the office and get a visitor/volunteer badge.

The annual Eagle Run is September 21, please support your children with setting goals and getting pledges for the laps they run.

We are excited for the year ahead.

Sally Whitelock, Principal

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**Mark Your Calendars:**

August 30 Volunteer Training at 9:00 AM in Edison's auditorium  
August 30 Volunteer Training at 4:00 PM in Edison's auditorium  
September 3 No school for students, Labor Day  
September 6 CSC meeting in the conference room at 4:30 PM  
September 7 Volunteer Training at 800 AM in Edison's auditorium  
September 14 English Language Acquisition Parent Advisory Meeting at 8:00 AM in Mr. McConnell's room  
September 20 PTA meeting in the auditorium at 6:00 PM  
September 21 Annual Eagle Run (Run-a-thon community builder and fundraiser)  
September 28 Pastries with Parents at 8:00 AM in the Library  
September 28 Picture Day  
October 4 CSC meeting in the conference room at 4:30 PM  
October 4 PTA meeting in the auditorium 6:00 PM  
October 5 School Tour at 9:30 AM  
October 12 School Tour at 9:30 AM  
October 17 & 18 Parent-Teacher Conferences from 4:00-8:00 PM  
October 19 No School for students  
October 22 & 23 No School for students  
October 26 Fall Harvest Festival

**School lunch menus can be found at:**

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

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**Volunteer Training for Parents**

Please join us for one of our Parent Volunteer trainings on **August 30 at 9:00 AM or 4:00 PM or on September 7 at 8:00 AM**. We will provide parents with information on how to complete volunteer applications, how to sign up for volunteering opportunities, and best practices for volunteers related to confidentiality, working with students, and communication with teachers.

All parents who wish to volunteer at the school in any capacity (field trips, in the classroom, on the playground, Thursday folders, etc) will need to complete a Volunteer Application. Parents can complete the Volunteer Application on line only if you have a gmail account. Please note that you will need to upload your government issued ID before submitting your application. Otherwise please get an application in the office.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r6ckwAYrnf89Sm0s795\\_C6Cz-2c2ILZ\\_/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r6ckwAYrnf89Sm0s795_C6Cz-2c2ILZ_/view)

## Pastries with Parents

Edison's Principal and Assistant Principal would like to invite students and their parents for pastries in the library on Friday, September 28 at 8:00 AM. Please join us for informal conversations about anything on your mind.

## Eagle Run

The **Eagle Run** is Edison's annual run-a-thon fundraiser and will take place during school on **September 21<sup>st</sup>**. This exciting fundraiser will focus on team-building, health, fitness and reaching personal goals. All Edison students are encouraged to participate, set-goals, cheer-on their classmates and run as many 1/8 mile laps as they can during the run. Students are also encouraged to get as many pledges as they can to help us all reach our goals! This year our goal is to raise \$25,000.

Students will begin running at the following times:

5<sup>th</sup> grade – 8:55

4<sup>th</sup> grade – 9:40

ECE – 10:25

3<sup>rd</sup> grade – 11:05

1<sup>st</sup> grade – 1:25

Kindergarten – 2:10

2<sup>nd</sup> grade – 2:45

**How do we participate?** Your student's pledge sheet will be sent home in Thursday folders. ECE and Kinder students' pledge sheets ask for lump sum donations only. Pledge sheets for grades 1-5 have both a per-lap and lump sum option. Students are encouraged to collect pledges from family, neighbors, friends, co-workers, etc.

On **September 21<sup>st</sup>**, all students will wear their Edison T-shirt, bring a water bottle and join their classmates to run as many 1/8 mile laps as they can in 25 minutes (ECE and kinder will run for 20). Their laps will be tallied after the run and the rest of their day will resume as usual.

Students will be sent home with their lap number and can then put it on their pledge sheets and collect pledges in cash, check or online until **November 15<sup>th</sup>** when all pledge sheets are due back to school.

## My School Bucks

We're excited to share that you now have the option to make student payments online. And, with MySchoolBucks and a Parent Portal account, it's easier than ever to pay for school lunch meals, ECE or full-day kindergarten tuition, field trips and class fees.

We want the tool to be easy for you to use. That's why there's a site that provides detailed instructions on how to sign in to MySchoolBucks through your Parent Portal account, and link your MySchoolBucks and Parent Portal accounts. Don't have a My School Bucks OR a Parent Portal account? For steps to create either account and/or how to link the two accounts please go to: <https://payonline.dpsk12.org/>

If you have a question about a student fee or a refund, contact us directly. If you have technical support questions, contact MySchoolBucks at 1-800-803-6755 or fill out the MySchoolBucks support request form. If you have feedback, email [online\\_bill\\_pay@dpsk12.org](mailto:online_bill_pay@dpsk12.org). We'd love to hear how MySchoolBucks and the Parent Portal are working for you.

## **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.
- **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 funds raiser at the same time?! AmazonSmiles 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 to qualified contributions made; we are a qualified 501c3 organization!
- **Donors Choose:** Check out the many Donors Choose projects that teachers have posted on [Donorschoose.org](http://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!

## **Mental Health Minute**

(by Dr. Coffee, Edison School Psychologist)

I am so excited to be Edison's school psychologist again this year! As the school psychologist, I collaborate with Edison teachers and staff to support the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional growth of all students. Each month, I'll include this Mental Health Minute in the community newsletter to share resources with you. This month, as we ease into the new school year, please see this informative link for Back-to-School Resources for Parents: <https://www.edutopia.org/article/back-to-school-resources-parents!>

## **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;

- 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.

**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 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 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 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.

## **Parent Leadership at Edison**

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a school sanctioned organization supported by the State and Federal PTA. The PTA is committed to supporting Edison in providing activities that promote parent engagement, educational opportunities for students, legislative support and fundraising events for Edison. The PTA helps coordinate a variety of community events and fundraising opportunities throughout the year, as well as provide feedback to the school.

The Collaborative School Committee (CSC) is a collaborative committee of school leadership, teachers, parents and classified staff who meet monthly to strategically design the school's Unified Improvement Plan, analyze school data, provide guidance on and approve the school budget and staffing allocations, and advise the school leadership on school design decisions. Meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of each month from 4:30-5:30 PM and are open to all community members.

**We encourage you to GET INVOLVED!!! Come to a PTA meeting or a CSC meeting!**

## A Message from our PTA...

Welcome back Eagles! The PTA Executive Board are excited for the 2018-19 school year and the opportunity to continue to grow and improve our community through new endeavors and continuing our great traditions. Are you curious what the Edison PTA is all about? What we do for the school? The teachers? The kids? Then please come and join us at our first PTA meeting of the year on September 20<sup>th</sup>; the agenda includes introductions and a vote on the 2018-19 budget. We will be in the Edison Auditorium at 6:00 PM, FREE childcare is provided, and we'll have light refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Top 5 reasons to join the Edison PTA:

1. It is awesome, and you become instantly cool. Seriously, though, children love it when their parents get involved.
2. You become "in the know." Gain some insight into your child's school and get networked!
3. Share your skills. Everyone has something to offer, and our kids benefit every time we lend a hand. Even just an hour of your time can have a huge impact.
4. It is a bargain — just \$10 bucks a year for an individual, \$15 per year for a family. Don't miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime offer!
5. It is a chance to get your voice heard — share your concerns, and your victories!

You can register for membership online, in person at PTA events (including our Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> meeting), or by emailing PTA Membership Chair, Lindsey Frey, at [membershipedisonpta@gmail.com](mailto:membershipedisonpta@gmail.com) or clicking on this link to join online <https://edisonpt.ejoinme.org/annualdues>.

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](mailto:ptaedisondenver@gmail.com) 303.725.4679  
Secretary – Katie Malarkey [edisonptasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:edisonptasecretary@gmail.com)  
VP - Chris Campbell and Lynda Lastowka [edisonvpdenver@gmail.com](mailto:edisonvpdenver@gmail.com)  
Treasurer - TBD