# Edison

A 21st Century Neighborhood School

## September 2020

**Sally Whitelock, Principal | Benita Cervantes, Assistant Principal**

### A message from the Principal…

What an interesting beginning of the school year! The hallways and classrooms as Edison have been very quiet the first few weeks of school this year, however, a lot of learning continues to occur. We are so very proud of Edison's students who demonstrate their commitment to their education by attending school every day - Edison's attendance is fantastic! Thank you parents and students for your efforts to get online and complete learning tasks each day! Additionally, we would like to take a moment to communicate our appreciation of parents who are supporting their children at home and teachers who are planning engaging and rigorous lessons and teaching students remotely every day. We know that remote learning is new and difficult for many and hope that students will be returning to in-person learning soon.

As we continue through these unprecedented waters, feedback from teachers, parents and students is invaluable. Please share with us your thoughts and recommendations regarding your child's remote learning experiences at the survey links below:

- Kindergarten: https://forms.gle/Jqu6D4c7n677sbbo8
- 1st Grade: https://forms.gle/dsQd64QehwqxhmNZ6
- 2nd Grade: https://forms.gle/s1vdd5Eja6ytGaPi8
- 3rd Grade: https://forms.gle/XLrVwhop51pLyiM36
- 4th Grade: https://forms.gle/9oraVqecwuhUAH5G8
- 5th Grade: https://forms.gle/jN8zMy9fwSw3pZuj7

We are excited for the year ahead.

Sally Whitelock, Principal

## Mark Your Calendars:

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| September 14 | ECE return to in-person learning |
| September 26-28 | Annual Eagle Run - Virtual this year! |
| September 28 | No School for students - Professional Development day for teachers |
| September 29 | Kindergarten return to in-person learning |
| September 30 | 1st grade return to in-person learning |
| October 1 | CSC meeting -virtual at 4:30 PM - Link - meet.google.com/whp-spfu-yvv |
| October 1 | PTA meeting - virtual at 6:00 PM - Link: meet.google.com/axi-uavx-ujx |
| October 12 | 2nd Grade 'Health and Safety Day' for students returning in-person at school |
| October 13 | 3rd Grade 'Health and Safety Day' for students returning in-person at school |
| October 14 | 4th Grade 'Health and Safety Day' for students returning in-person at school |
| October 15 | 5th Grade 'Health and Safety Day' for students returning in-person at school |
| October 14 | Parent-Teacher Conferences at 3:45-8:00 PM - virtual |
| October 15 | Parent-Teacher Conferences at 3:45-8:00 PM - virtual |
| October 16 | No school for students |
| October 19 | No school for students |
| October 20 | No school for students |
| October 21 | All students grades 2-5 return to in-person learning |
| October 30 | Fall/Halloween dress up day and class parties during the school day |
| November 5 | CSC meeting -virtual at 4:30 PM - Link - meet.google.com/whp-spfu-yvv |
| November 5 | PTA meeting - virtual at 6:00 PM - Link: meet.google.com/axi-uavx-ujx |
| November 10 | Lifetouch Picture day at Edison |
| November 13 | 1st semester award celebrations in classrooms for students |
| November 23-27 | No School - Happy Thanksgiving |

**School lunch menus can be found at:**
www.schoolcafe.com/dps. Then you can log in as a guest or create an account.

**If you need to contact the Transportation Department with bus issues:**

Please call 720.423.4624.

## Upcoming Events

### ECE Returning to In-person learning

We are excited to announce that Edison's ECE students will be returning to in-person learning at Edison on September 14! As always, the health and safety of our children is our top priority, therefore, we are following stringent state guidelines regarding the cleaning of our classrooms and facilities, and our teachers and school staff members are receiving training on new safety protocols.

Parents can find information regarding return to in-person learning policies and practices for this school year at: http://edison.dpsk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Edison-Return-to-School-Plan-Sept-2020.pdf

### In-person Learning Center at Edison

We are also excited to announce that Edison was approved to open a small (15 students) in-person learning center. We have invited 15 Edison K-5 students to come to Edison daily from 9-2 beginning September 14 to participate in remote learning, with their teacher and classmates, while also being supervised and supported by a DPS staff member. Students were chosen based on academic needs, attendance difficulties and family need. We are happy to be able to support these students during remote learning.

## Kindergarten - 5th grade Returning to In-person learning

We are excited to announce that Edison's kindergarten through 5th grade students will be returning to in-person learning at Edison on a gradual/phased in basis! As always, the health and safety of our children is our top priority, therefore, we are following stringent state guidelines regarding the cleaning of our classrooms and facilities, and our teachers and school staff members are receiving training on new safety protocols. On the first day of in-person learning for each grade level, teachers will teach students the new health and safety procedures. Students will return to school on the following schedule:

- September 29 Kindergarten return to in-person learning
- September 30 1st grade return to in-person learning
- October 12 2nd Grade 'Health and Safety Day' for students returning in-person at school
- October 13 3rd Grade 'Health and Safety Day' for students returning in-person at school
- October 14 4th Grade 'Health and Safety Day' for students returning in-person at school
- October 15 5th Grade 'Health and Safety Day' for students returning in-person at school
- October 21 All students grades 2-5 return to in-person learning

Parents can find information regarding return to in-person learning policies and practices for this school year at: http://edison.dpsk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Edison-Return-to-School-Plan-Sept-2020.pdf

## Discovery Link Day Care

Edison's Discovery Link daycare is currently providing day care services at Edison for kindergarten - 5th grade students from 8-12 daily, Monday through Friday. During this time, students engage in remote learning activities with their teachers and classmates, with the support of Discover Link teachers. We have spaces available. If you are interested, please go to: https://discoverylink.dpsk12.org/school-year-2020-2021-registration-information/

## K Pick up of Learning Materials

**9/17 and 9/18 Kindergarten Pick Up** - Our Kindergarten teachers will have more learning materials and supplies for families to pick up. We will have the materials ready for you. Please come to the window outside the main office between 8am - 3pm and we'll hand you the supplies. Please make sure to wear your mask. Thank you!

## Eagle Run

The **Eagle Run** is Edison's annual run-a-thon fundraiser and community building event. This year, due to COVID restrictions, the Eagle Run will be held virtually between **September 26th-28th**. This exciting fundraiser will focus on team-building, health, fitness and reaching personal goals. All Edison students are encouraged to participate, set-goals, and encourage their classmates. Students are also encouraged to get as many pledges as they can to help us all reach our goals!

**Please watch for communication coming soon explaining how students and families can participate, make pledges and donate.**

## Family-Teacher Conferences

Please sign up for a VIRTUAL family-teacher conference on either **October 14 or 15, 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 child. 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.

## My School Bucks

We would like to encourage all parents to sign up with MySchoolBucks through your Parent Portal account. It is easier than ever to pay for school lunch, ECE tuition, field trips and class fees online with MySchoolBucks.

Don't have a Parent Portal account? Go to: https://payonline.dpsk12.org/myschoolbucks-user-guide/#1512664218979-7b61e933-6f42 for steps to create one.

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# Important Information

## 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. You and your children may also enjoy trying out these free mindfulness sessions from Mind Yeti: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLiaUKiwbiHMQDQLCXoPaMMYotldKlUQCw!

## Equity Initiatives at Edison

Denver Public Schools has put an emphasis on addressing the need for equity and for addressing bias in our schools. As a community, Edison Elementary strongly agrees with the need to further this conversation and work to support all of our students at Edison with an explicit focus on our BIPOC students.

Edison's teachers have committed to the following:

- Teachers will have 3-5 positive touch points and a home visit if possible with families of Black students during Aug and Sept with the intention of building a positive partnership with parents.
- Edison staff will ensure all students 'see themselves' in the school and classroom environment: 1) Display books in lobby & classroom that represent all cultures; 2) 100% of teachers will intentionally display pictures of students/families in classrooms and in virtual classrooms; 3) Art teacher will plan for and display student art and professional art that represents a variety of cultures.
- Edison staff will implement the new attendance plan: 1) Teachers will conduct home visits (virtual or in person) with all students who had poor attendance in 2019-20 with a focus 1st on students who are Black and Latino; 2) Teachers will have personal contacts with parents when students are absent 5-7 days; 3) Psychologist will have personal contact with parents when students are absent 10-12 days. 4) During virtual learning, teachers will communicate with parents after one day of no engagement in learning. Students will be placed on a 'support' list with the psychologist and/or paras after 3 missed days.
- Edison teachers will ensure that the taught curriculum is culturally inclusive and students 'see themselves' in the curriculum, lessons and text: 1) Read alouds, guided reading text and classroom

libraries will include characters, stories, histories, etc of all cultures, including Black Americans; 2) Social studies lessons/units will authentically and accurately teach Black history and culture, and will be culturally inclusive. 3) Teachers will be brave enough, in all grade levels, to discuss culture, equity, race, differences, etc.

- During classroom observations, ILT will intentionally observe the engagement, work completions, and level of rigor of Black students, as well as teacher touch points with Black students. ILT will provide feedback to teachers regarding these observations.
- Teachers will work to decrease the number of Black students placed in intervention by: 1) using Tier 1 interventions in the classroom during core and small group instruction, 2) using at least 3 data points (different assessments) to verify that students may be in need of Tier 2 or 3 intervention.
- Teachers will intentionally plan to teach students to 'challenge the status quo': 1) during morning meetings at least 1 time per week. (The school psychologist and PBIS coordinator will share resources with teachers regarding race, equity, etc.) 2) during academic instruction during at least one unit per grade level. 3) by creating and encouraging intentional opportunities for students to be friends with someone that does not look like them (lunchroom, projects).

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# A Message from our PTA...

Welcome back Eagles! The PTA Executive Board is excited for the 2020-21 school year and the opportunity to continue to grow and improve our community through new endeavors and continuing our great traditions when we can during the pandemic. Are you curious what the Edison PTA is all about? And what PTA does for the school? The teachers? The kids? Then please join us at one of our PTA meetings. Currently, we are doing virtual meetings through Google Meet.

**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 Edison PTA membership by emailing ptaedisondenver@gmail.com or clicking on this link to join online https://www.accelevents.com/e/PTAMembershipDues.

Thank you for being a valued part of the Edison Community!

**Connect with us online or through social media at:**

Facebook – Edison Elementary Denver
Instagram - @edisonelementarydenver
Online - https://edisonptadenver.org/

**PTA Board:**

President - Tara Littell ptaedisondenver@gmail.com
Secretary – ***OPEN POSITION*** edisonptasecretary@gmail.com
VP - ***OPEN POSITION*** edisonvpdenver@gmail.com
Treasurer - Jennifer Maloney edisonptatreasurer@gmail.com

# Opportunities to GIVE to Edison

There are a variety of VERY easy ways that you can donate to the Edison PTA and school, sometimes without even spending an extra penny! Please support us any way you can!

**Direct Ask Campaign:** The Edison PTA asks all Edison families to strive to support Edison and the Edison PTA with as much of a contribution as possible each year. We know this year is very different with the pandemic, and some families are more affected by this than others. Unfortunately, the pandemic is also affecting school budgets, so your donation is even more important this year. Families can make a one-time donation or split into recurring monthly donations.

Last year PTA funds were used for: Paraprofessionals (1 per grade), Volunteer Coordinator, Tutoring, Online subscriptions for students (e.g. IXL), RIF books, Enrichment Scholarships, Field Trips, Playground Painting, and Community Events. The PTA is currently reviewing our programs to see what is feasible during the pandemic, while also hoping to have some of our normal funded events in the spring.

To contribute, you can give through any of these convenient methods:

- Venmo ID: @EdisonElementaryPTA
- Online at the PTA or Edison websites: https://edisonptadenver.org or https://edison.dpsk12.org.
- Snail Mail or Drop Off: Edison Elementary, Attn: PTA Fundraising, 3350 Quitman Street, Denver, CO 80212

**Check to see if your employer provides matching of qualified contributions made; we are a qualified 501c3 organization!

**King Soopers Rewards:** Register Edison PTA as your Community Rewards partner for King Soopers!
How do I enroll? 1) Go to www.kingsoopers.com 2) Sign-in to you digital account (or create one if needed); 3) Select 'Community Rewards' from the side menu; 4) Enter "Edison Elementary PTA" into the 'Find an Organization' search box; 5) Find 'Edison Elementary PTA' with address 3350 Quitman St, Denver, CO 80212 and select 'Enroll'; 6) You're all done!

**Box Tops**: The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state of the art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earning online at: https://www.boxtops4education.com/

**Donors Choose:** Check out the many Donors Choose projects that teachers have posted on Donorschoose.org and donate. You can find all current projects through the link on Edison's home page at http://edison.dpsk12.org/.

**Amazon Smile:** What's that? You can get the benefits of Amazon Prime AND be a fundraiser at the same time?! AmazonSmiles provides a .05% benefit on qualifying purchases made via our link: http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7150820

We appreciate your continued support!