

July 30, 2021

Welcome Back Welchester Families! I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new school year. I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. It's hard to believe that it's time to mark your calendars with the upcoming important dates for the beginning of the 2021/2022 school year. Our theme this year is, "**Learn Together, Teach Together, Succeed Together. #BetterTogether**"

I am honored and proud to be starting my 9th year as principal at Welchester and my 22nd year in Jeffco. My goal is to partner with our school community and staff to provide access and equity for students through a collaborative and strong community rooted in high expectations and belonging. I am proud to start a new year with stability and consistency for you and our students. I love our community and I can't wait to see you all!

New Staff

Each year brings positive change. This includes a few additions to our staff. We are delighted to welcome:

Preschool- Karen Kitchner

5th grade- Emily Therkildsen

SLP- Emily Cavallaro

Instructional Coach- Jessie Meeks

Enrollment Secretary- Danielle Zarate

Kathy Dettmann, who held the role of enrollment secretary previously, has a new role this year as business manager, which supports the principal and financial aspects of the school.

2021-22 School Calendar

Facilities Update

As part of continuing bond work, last spring we received installation of interior and exterior cameras enhancing our ability to view and record who is on our campus at all times.

Online Registration is now open. Please click on the [Online Registration](#) link provided for directions on how to update Jeffco Connect, pay fees and access meal pay. Please feel free to call our enrollment secretary, Danielle Zarate, for any questions at 303-982-7450. Attached to this email will be your Jeffco Connect login information.

Class Assignments - Classroom assignments will be available directly from the classroom teacher prior to **Supply Drop-Off** and through the Campus parent portal by Friday, August 13th at 5 PM. We will be sending you detailed information on how to access the parent portal at that time.

We recognize there is still a lot of uncertainty as we return to school, however, I want to assure you that Welchester will work hard to maintain a healthy and safe learning community with as little disruption as possible. The district released new protocols today regarding masks for students PK-5. Please check your email for that communication as it provides more details. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out.

If you have any questions, feel free to call the office at (303) 982-7450 and talk with Kathy or Danielle. We are all here to help you and your child get settled into school and love Welchester Elementary as much as we do.

Supply Drop-Off - Students PK-5 may bring their supplies to school **Monday, August 16th** from **3:00-4:30 p.m.** to find their classroom, meet their teacher, and unpack their supplies prior to the first day of school. Kids may also bring their supplies with them on the first day if you can't make it on Monday.

The first day of school is Tuesday, August 17 for all grades PK-5. **Our school day is from 7:55 a.m. - 2:50 p.m. Preschool hours: 7:55 a.m.-2:40 p.m Please note: Preschool dismisses at 2:40PM.** The adjusted hours are to ensure uninterrupted daily planning for our preschool teachers.

Breakfast will be served starting at 7:40. Outside adult supervision begins at 7:45 a.m. with the soft start. Please do not drop your child off at school prior to 7:45.

Back to School Night is Thursday, **Aug 26, 2021** . Details coming soon!

Fall individual testing days for grades K-5th are **Friday, August 27 and Monday, August 30.** For new parents, assessment days are provided by the district for teachers to assess students' reading and/or math without having to use valuable instructional time. **We do not have a regular school day on testing days.** Students only come in for their assigned testing time. You will receive more information from your child's teacher after the start of school. Preschool follows a regular schedule.

Be sure to visit the Welchester's website to check for important events for the 2021-22 school year. We are adding event dates regularly as we confirm schedules so check often. If you have any questions, please call the office at (303) 982-7450.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Bethany Robinson, Principal