



Meeker Elementary School

Home of the Mountain Lions

School Office(970) 348-2000

School Website Click [HERE](http://www.greeleyschools.org/meeker) www.greeleyschools.org/meeker

December 2018

Happy December Meeker Families!

As we reach the end of 2018, staff at Meeker reflect on the celebrations of the school year as well as reflect on areas of growth. For those of you having students receiving English Language services and Special Education services, most services have been delivered through the co-teaching model with service providers coming into the classrooms rather than to provide services in another setting. One of the challenges of co-teaching is the time it takes to plan for both teachers to plan and at this time teachers are collaboratively planning once a week. They would like to find more time for planning so we will continue to work on this area. Overall, students are excited to stay in their classrooms and these students are having access to grade level standards and then instruction is differentiated according to their needs. In most cases, growth is occurring using this model. We also are continuously getting feedback and training in regards to the use of the High Yield Pedagogical Practices (HYPPs) as we currently are using four of these practices to ensure students are engaged and in academic discourse 30% of the time using academic vocabulary. Staff have been working hard on improving their delivery of instruction. We are fortunate to have the level of dedication of our teachers at Meeker! Staff have high expectations of all students and setting our routines has supported the

work needing to be done at Meeker. Students and staff have worked hard at adjusting to the redesign of Meeker and we have problem solved some of the challenges as well as appreciate being in a new space and being back at Meeker.



As we review our data in Reading and Math, it is evident we have several celebrations and most students are showing progress. However, we still have too many students who still are significantly behind in their skills. We are needing your assistance to ensure your child can reach their grade level. For 3rd-5th graders, if your child is behind in Math and has been recommended for the After School Program, PLEASE make sure your child attends this program. If your child has been given homework, this is their opportunity to practice skills they have been taught. PLEASE make sure they complete this homework. Reading daily at home supports your child in practicing reading skills and strategy and is critical to your child's success at school. Finally, attending school daily, coming to school on time and staying the entire day ensures your child is receiving all the instruction in all content areas so he/she can meet the end of the year goals. Thank you to those families who are ensuring everything possible is being done for your child to be successful!

Continued...



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Overall, students reading progressed in three of the six grade levels as measured from the beginning of the year to December 11th. The following are the benchmark results, comparing the beginning of the year DIBELS Benchmark to the middle of the year DIBELS Benchmark: Kindergarten-26% to 60% (+24), First: 59% to 74% (+15), Second: 76% to 70% (-6), Third: 60%-52% (-8,) Fourth: 57%-52% (-5), and Fifth:52% to 57% (+5). Our goal is to have at least 80% of all students at benchmark by the end of the school year. Teachers

and the administrative team appreciate all that our parents are doing at home to support their child in becoming a successful reader!

We will see you back at 7:45 on January 8th. We will send you a phone message on January 4th reminding you of the school start date and time.

May this holiday season be filled with peace and joy!

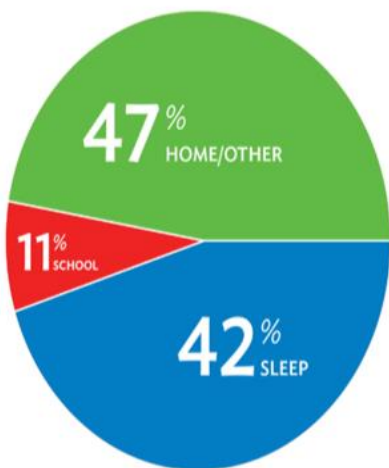
Cathy and Ramon

IMPORTANT DATES AND REMINDERS

- Winter break December 21 – January 7, 2019 No school.
- January 21, 2019: no school Martin Luther King Day

Remember that if you are missing any coats, gloves, or hats, please check the lost and found. The clothing will be given to a local charity after December 21, 2018.

With winter here for a while, make sure you dress your children in warm clothing. Have a safe and wonderful time during your winter break. See you in the New Year!



You Are The First Teacher

Take lead at home by teaching and modeling principles of effectiveness to all family members.

Over the span of 180 days, a student only spends 11% of the time at school (943 hours). The majority of his or her time (47%) is dedicated to family life at home (and other places outside school). You are your son or daughter's first and most influential teacher. You lay the foundation for the education of their mind, heart, body, and spirit. No matter what is going on in your school, you can help your son or daughter discover the leader within and prepare for a great life of contribution and service. If you have a school that already supports the principles laid out in *Leader in Me*, your job is simpler, but no less important.

Instructional Hours – US schools average 943 hours of instructional time in 180 days.

Recommended sleep for school age children is at least 10 hours

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HOW TO DOWNLOAD THE SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY APP:

1. Go to the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android)
2. Search for "The School Communications Agency" app and download it to your device
3. Open the app, type "Meeker" into the search box and select it to open the school app
4. Select "Set as Default" and the Meeker app will automatically open each time you open the School Communications Agency app

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