



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

October 2018

Dear Meeker Families,

September has quickly gone and the month of October seems to be flying by at Meeker! Students are full of anticipation with Halloween right around the corner! We are excited to host the traditional Halloween parade and hope you will be able to join us at the end of the day!

As part of our Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) targets, we are monitoring students' progress by utilizing DIBELS, which is a screener for basic reading skills, reading fluency, and reading comprehension. On September 11th, all students at Meeker were assessed utilizing this screener. Our goal for kindergartners at the END of the school year is to have 90% of ALL students at benchmark. (Students scoring at the proficiency level for their grade level are at benchmark.) Our goal for first thru fifth grade, is to ensure 80% of all students are at benchmark. The following are the results for this screening period: Kindergarten- 26%, First- 59%, Second- 76%, Third- 59%, Fourth- 57%, Fifth- 51%. As you can see, we have much work to do and it is going to take all of us working together to obtain these goals. We need to continue having high expectations for our students.

Parents, you can help your child by reading at home in "just right" books for 20-30 minutes daily helps your child practice basic reading skills as well as to work on reading comprehension skills. Students do have the opportunity to check out books in our library as well as have access to books at the public library. Students are also given homework to allow for additional practice on skills to ensure students achieve mastery. Thank you ahead of time for assisting us in reaching this goal!

As we analyzed all past data over three years, a declining trend exists in Reading and Math academic achievement and Reading and Math academic growth. One of the root causes of these trends is lack of quality first instruction. Teachers need to receive professional development in utilizing high yield pedagogical practices to achieve academic discourse in their classrooms as well as professional development in co-teaching to ensure all students have access to grade level standards. Classroom climate is currently not conducive to learning and teachers need resources and skills to support students' emotional and social needs. Teachers are meeting weekly in their grade level instructional data team decomposing standards, writing teacher exemplars, and determining what instruction needs to look like and sound like for all students. Teachers are receiving coaching and professional development in The Leader in Me and implementing the seven character traits in their classroom. Teachers are also implementing routines to assist students in having structures that support their learning. We feel fortunate to have staff who are willing to be learners to ensure they are giving your child the best possible instruction.

Just a reminder that students at Meeker are on the trimester (3 times during the school year) report card system. Students will receive their first report cards on November 16th. Staff felt trimester reporting aligned better to our assessments and instructional plans than the quarterly system. As always, if you have any questions once your child brings the report card home, please contact the homeroom teacher.

~ Cathy and Ramon

PARENTS!



We hope your school year has gotten off to an awesome start! We are trying to immerse ourselves in the language of Leader in Me! In November we are going to be heavily focusing on Habit 1: Be Proactive the whole month. What does being Proactive mean? Here is the definition in some kid friendly ways! "I am a responsible person. I take initiative. I choose my actions, attitudes, and moods. I do not blame others for my wrong actions. I do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking." How is your student(s) being proactive at home? What examples of being proactive are you setting for them?

Here are a few books to read within the next month that give examples of being proactive.

- The Little Engine that Could by Watty Piper
- The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
- King Bidgood's in the Bathtub by Audrey Wood
- Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher by Bruce Coville
- On My Honor by Marion Dane Bauer

If you ever have questions or want to know more information about the Leader in Me, go to www.theleaderinme.org.



IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

"It's the Rule! Shots Before School!"

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics, Colorado Department of Health and Human Services and health care providers everywhere recommend Immunizations for all students. Colorado Law requires all students attending Colorado schools and licensed child cares to be vaccinated against certain diseases, unless an exemption is filed.

All **Kindergarten** students must be up to date with 5 immunizations.

All **6th Grade** students must have had an additional TDap immunization between 5th and 6th grade.

Students who are non-compliant with vaccines will receive a letter home in early October and will be required to complete these immunizations prior to early November in order to stay in school.

If you are unsure if your child has their immunizations, contact your school health office at 970.348.2026 to check on their immunization status.

Also, we recently completed Vision and Hearing screenings for your child in the school. Does your child need a follow-up? Ask us for more information about obtaining resources and visit the health services page for more information.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



Reminder of Birthday Treats

We recommend snack ideas like healthy ones and if you choose to bring cupcakes, please bring SMALL ones. No balloons can be brought into the classroom.

Lost and Found

The coats are piling up again. If your student is missing coats or hoodies, please come and get them. We will be donating them by Thanksgiving Break.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 2: Chocolate sales are due. Thank you for participating in another fund raiser.

November 9: First trimester Assembly and report cards coming!

November 13: Veterans Day Lunch at 1:15 pm & 6PM 3rd grade Veterans Day Program in gym.

RIDDLE: WHAT HAS THREE FEET BUT NO LEGS AND ARMS? ANSWER: A YARD STICK.

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable! Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school! Businesses that want to sponsor this school, please contact TSCA at info@tscaschools.com

or
970-239-1641.



PreK - 12 Colorado Teachers!

Apply for a Teachers and Technology Grant for the 2018 - 19 school year for your school

Meeker Elementary School

Grants range from \$500 to \$5000 and are available to full-time classroom teachers in public or private school. The CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation's Teachers and Technology grants are designed to help fund projects that advance student success through the innovative use of technology in the classroom.

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1. Go to the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android)
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