



The Meeker Message

January 20, 2022



School Hours:

Mondays: 8:45 am to 3:10 pm (May arrive on/after 8:30 am)
Tuesdays through Fridays: 7:45 am to 3:10 pm (May arrive on/after 7:30 am)

Telephone: 970-348-2000 **Fax:** 970-348-2030

Principal: Cathy Nelson
Assistant Principal: Alison Ferguson
Dean of Students: Kelly Atkinson
Office Manager: Tami Naylor
Secretary: Eva Keaton

Principal Nelson's Post:

Dear Meeker Families:

It is hard to believe that January has come and gone and we have completed half of the 2021-2022 school year! We are looking forward to the opportunity to update you in regards to your child's progress at parent teacher conferences on February 7th and February 9th! We will have as many student-led conferences as possible and will continue to hold conferences virtually or in-person based on preference. As parents, please ask any questions that you are wondering about as well as share any concerns you are having about your child's education. It is only through conversations can we resolve any possible concerns or problems your child may be having at school. It is also important for you to share the positive things you have seen in your child's growth. Teachers do not hear often enough how they have impacted your child's growth. Teachers and your child will also be sharing with you celebrations in their learning as well as areas of improvement. As parents, your support is needed in ensuring your child reaches their end of year goals. Please make sure to ask how you can assist your child at home. Thank you ahead of time for working with your child's teacher as a team in educating your child!

We know that students are still being quarantined and needing to be isolated due to COVID-19. We also know that this means many times your child is needing to stay home and attend school remotely. From parent feedback we are hoping to make this easier for families. Each grade level has shared with you their Remote Learning Plan. This includes a schedule, expectations, and directions for you as a family just in case your child should need to attend school remotely. Please continue to give us feedback as we want to make sure we are constantly getting better!

Cathy Nelson, Principal

Panorama Family Survey January 31-February 25, 2022

Feedback to the Meeker staff is valued as we always are striving in becoming a school of excellence in all areas! We receive this feedback by having you complete a Panorama Survey. We will have a table of computers set up during Parent Teacher Conferences to ensure you have access to a computer since it is an online survey. You also may complete the survey at home at your convenience. Once you have completed this, you will sign a form which will be entered into a drawing. Three families' forms will be drawn receiving a gift card. Students will receive a special prize as well for you completing this important survey. Below is further information on this survey.

Our district values your feedback! This January 31st, we will be asking you to take a brief survey to tell us about your experience with Greeley Evans School District Six/Meeker Elementary School. To ensure we continue to provide high quality, rigorous learning experiences that meet the needs of our learners and prepare them for college and career, we need your feedback. We want to know what you think.

The survey will begin on January 31st and close on February 25th. You will be able to take the survey online at home, or when you come to your school's parent-teacher conferences.

We thank you in advance for your thoughtful responses. If you have any questions about the survey administration, please don't hesitate to contact us at 970-348-2000

Thank you,

Greeley Evans School District Six/Meeker Elementary School

Should Your Child Hit Back?

Dr. Patricia Nan Anderson: Advantage4Parents

Every once in a while, someone hits your child, do you tell him/her to hit back? Do you tell them "It's okay if you hit back in **SELF DEFENSE?**" No one wants their child to be picked on. We all want our children to stand up for themselves and get some respect. Certainly, we don't want to raise a bully but we don't want our kid to be a victim either. Is it ever okay for a child to return violence with more of the same?

If your child hits back occasionally, he will occasionally get into trouble. It will not help your child if he says you told him to hit back. It will not help your child if you tell the authorities you want him to hit back. Hitting back escalates a situation so that instead of one hitter in an encounter, there now are two. Your child is likely to earn the same punishment as the one who started it all.

If your child hits back often, so that hitting becomes his way of dealing with problem people, he will get a reputation for violence. Other kids may goad him, trying to make him hit and getting him into trouble. No matter what the provocation, your child will be looked on as a bully and as someone who goes looking for trouble.

If you still think hitting back is a good idea, see if you can say "yes" to each of these statements:

- Hitting back has never got me into any trouble.
- People like me more because I hit back.
- Hitting back always calms the situation.
- I can use my impulse to hit back at work, at home, and in the neighborhood with no problem.
- Hitting back has enhanced my reputation as a respectable person.

There's a difference between hitting back and defending oneself in a mugging. Fighting off an attacker in a life-and-death situation is quite different from the sort of playground justice we're talking about. If you feel your family is in constant danger from violent persons, then there are bigger changes needed in your life than just matching the level of violence around you.

What should your child do instead?

1. Speak up loudly. He could first tell the hitter, "Hey! Don't hit me!" or "Stop it!" Never underestimate the power of speaking up.
2. Leave the scene. No child should stand for violence against himself. Leaving the area or even going home can stop an altercation.
3. Go to a safe area. On the playground or at the rec center, a child can move to a more populated area, especially one where adults are. Hitters don't want witnesses.
4. Tell an adult. This is not tattling; it's getting help in a situation that has gotten out of hand. Unfortunately, when children tell an adult (you) they are sometimes told to hit back. Don't do that. Safeguard your child but don't advise him to do things that will increase his troubles.

Hitting back doesn't resolve a situation; it only pulls your child down to the same level as the person who hit first. Help your child find solutions to social problems instead of creating more.

Colorado Law on Juvenile Fights and Fighting & Parental Responsibility

In Colorado, juvenile crimes involve individuals between the ages of 10 and 18. Penalties for juvenile offenses can include fines, probation, commitment to a juvenile detention facility, and in some cases, jail.

Specified by law (19-4-103). Parents are responsible for paying for damages caused by their children. Any person, partnership, corporation, association, or religious organization is allowed to recover damages of not more than \$3,500 in court from the parents of each minor who damages or destroys property or causes bodily injury (13-21-107). Any person who aids or encourages a child to violate any federal or state law, municipal or county ordinance, or court order commits the crime of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. This is a class 4 felony (18-6-701). The parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the minor is required to attend all court proceedings concerning the minor. Failure to do so may subject the parent, guardian, or legal custodian to contempt sanctions (19-2- 109).

District Policy on Physical Aggression - This information is located on the District Website under the tab "Our District; Our Board of Education; Policy Manual; Section J; JICDD Violent and Aggressive Behavior.

Upcoming events:

- February 1 - MSA Meeting - all parents are invited to attend, 3:45 pm
- February 7 - No School - Parent Teacher Conferences & Book Fair, 11:30 - 8:30 pm
- February 9 - Parent Teacher Conferences & Book Fair, 3:30 - 7:30 pm
- February 21 - No School
- February 18 - 2nd Trimester Ends
- February 22 - Report Cards Go Home
- February 24 - SAC Meeting, 3:30 pm