It is hard to believe that we are more than half-way through the school year. With this realization comes the springtime, which is always busy for us. One of the important activities that we as a school have in the spring is that state-wide testing, known as the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS). CMAS is an opportunity for our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students to show what they have learned and demonstrate their progress toward the academic standards in reading, writing, and math. In March and April 3rd-5th grade students will take English Language Arts and Math., 4th grade will also take Social Studies and 5th grade will also take the Science CMAS assessment during that time.

The data from all assessments is used to increase awareness of individual student, school, and district progress toward attaining higher achievement levels. Looking at student strengths and areas for growth, individually and collectively, helps us to continue to provide more comprehensive, prescriptive teaching.

Our teachers have embedded strategies and concepts into our curriculum throughout the year in order to prepare students to demonstrate proficiency with the Colorado Academic Standards. Since these assessments will be given on the computer, they have also begun to expose students to the online testing environment and the tools that will be available during testing. Talk with your child about the importance of this test. They should take their time and do their best. We do not want to stress children out, but we do want them to take the assessments seriously as the results can have an impact for them individually and well as for our school.

The schedule for assessments is included in this Newsletter and will be sent home with the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Our window for assessments is very tight. Because of this we ask that you please do not schedule family trips, doctor or dental appointments, and any other activities during the testing window.

We have a lot to be proud of at Sagebrush and the CMAS is just one way in which our students can demonstrate their knowledge and the excellent education they receive here.

Thank you,

Christopher Powell
Principal– Sagebrush
Important Reminders

Students are expected to arrive at school by 7:50 am class starts promptly at 8 am and are considered tardy after 8am.

- Students need to be picked up after school at 2:45, if you cannot be at school by then we do offer Before and After school care services. Call Zetana at 720-886-8370
- If your child arrives after 8 am you need to sign your child in at that front office
- If you need to leave a message for your child please call before 2:30 to insure your child gets the message. Office number 720-886-8300
- When picking your student up early please do so by 2:30 this helps with the teacher and end of day instruction.
- ALWAYS have your I.D with you when you come into the school
- If you need to speak to your child’s teacher during school hours please email them or schedule an appointment with them. Remember every minute counts in the classroom.
- NO DOGS ALLOWED on school property at any time.

Sunday March 8th—Time Change Spring forward

Thursday March 12th—PTCO Meeting

NO SCHOOL Spring Break March 16th-20th,

Monday March 23rd—SCHOOL RESUMES

Wednesday March 25th—District P.A.S.S Meeting

Monday March 30th—Class Pictures
Date: March 1, 2020

Dear Sagebrush Families:

Sagebrush will be completing CMAS testing the weeks of March 30 and April 6 for all students in grades 3-5. The majority of testing will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Makeups will happen on Mondays and Fridays. Please make sure your child(ren) are on time to school, are well-rested, and have eaten a proper breakfast. If students show up to school after testing has begun for their grade, they may have to sit out for several hours until they can be tested. For test security purposes, state law prohibits students rejoining their classmates or grade level peers on the same day until they have been tested on the same content.

In order to accommodate testing times and schedules, we have made a few changes to our specials schedule:

**March 30 – April 10 ONLY**
- 2nd Grade Specials will be 9:20 – 10:00
- 3rd Grade Specials will be 2:00 – 2:40
- 4th Grade Specials will be 10:00 – 10:40

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If you have any questions, please contact:

Kim Freed
School Assessment Coordinator
kfreed@cherrycreekschools.org
(720) 886-8329
Cherry Creek School District's Menu of Events for National School Breakfast Week: March 9th-13

- **Monday:** Berry Blast Bar for breakfast (K-12)
- **Tuesday:** Chicken & Biscuit for Lunch (Elementary)
  
  Tuesday: Chili w/Cinnamon Swirl Saucers for Lunch (Middle School)
  Tuesday: French Toast Sticks w/Cosmic Blueberry Syrup for Breakfast (High School)

- **Wednesday:** Coloring Contest (Elementary)
  
  Wednesday: Highlight Chicken and Biscuits for Breakfast, Encourage Tasting for Thursday's Lunch Option for Middle School (Middle and High School)

- **Thursday:** Chili w/Cinnamon Swirl Saucers for Lunch (Elementary)
  Thursday: Chicken and Biscuit w/Cheese for Lunch (Middle School)
  Thursday: Highlight Cinnamon Rolls for Breakfast, Encourage Tasting (High Schools)

- **Friday:** Breakfast for Lunch Served with Cosmic Blueberry Syrup (K-8)
  Friday: Highlight Breakfast Rounds for Breakfast, Encourage Tasting (High Schools)

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This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider
FROZEN FRUIT FRIDAYS!

CHOOSE SIDEKICKS AS A FRUIT OPTION FOR A PART OF YOUR COMPLETE MEAL OR PURCHASE FOR $1.25
The Cherry Creek School District’s Food and Nutrition Department is always ready for a review. From department directors to chefs working in kitchens across the district’s 108 square miles, those in charge of connecting more than 55,000 students with healthy, nutritious and tasty food are always striving for excellence. Whether it’s creating menus that include a variety of grain-rich meals and fresh fruits and vegetables or it’s rising before dawn to make sure all of the baked goods are ready for the breakfast run, Food and Nutrition professionals in CCSD set the bar high.

The department’s dedication to quality hasn’t gone unnoticed by the Colorado Department of Education. The CCSD Food and Nutrition Department recently underwent an administrative review by CDE’s Office of School Nutrition yielded high praise and impressive results. Indeed, the state’s administrative review, which is conducted every three years, encompassed visits to eight schools across the district and resulted in commendations regarding everything from menu design to food procurement.

That’s no small feat for a department that includes more than 60 full-service kitchens and that last year served about 3.2 million lunches and about 1 million breakfasts. According to Director of Food and Nutrition Services Kim Kilgore, the positive feedback from the CDE reflects a broader philosophy in every kitchen and every cafeteria across the district. “This kind of quality didn’t just happen over the past two months, as we were preparing for the review. These are measures we take every day at every school across the district,” Kilgore said. The department’s dedication reflects the Operational Excellence component of Cherry Creek Future Forward, the district’s roadmap for maintaining excellence well into the future. “This is our job. All of us work to instill the importance of making a difference every single day. It’s the culmination of always keeping the student in mind.”

That dedication was clear to the reviewers who visited cafeterias at Arrowhead Elementary, Canyon Creek Elementary, Challenge School, Cottonwood Creek Elementary, Highline Community Elementary, Laredo Middle, Overland High and Summit Elementary. At every school, reviewers praised kitchen managers and staff alike. They offered no suggestions for improvements in the operations at any of the schools, and they were impressed by signage, menu diversity and customer service.

Brandon Durio, the district’s Executive Chef, said the glowing reviews are a result of a shared commitment from the very top levels of the operation. Even as district chefs and bakers work to adhere to nutrition standards, they also work to offer students a variety of appealing flavor profiles and dishes. For the CCSD FNS Department, the everyday work of feeding thousands of students involves plenty of craft and artistry. “We are always focused on our customer service, and we’re always ready for a review,” Durio said. “We are so happy to welcome every single student to eat in one of our cafeterias. Our staff makes us proud, and they do so on a daily basis.”

Posted 01/13/20