

Our Goals for Student Achievement

District Goals

1A

Our on-going efforts to eliminate academic achievement disparities by providing all students with rigorous and relevant learning experiences to become leaders who create solutions that contribute to the betterment of our global society. We strive to obtain this goal through:

- Whole Well-Being
- Relationships
- Equity
- Engagement
- Growth Mindset

By 2023, All CCSD student groups will demonstrate a median growth percentile of 60 or higher towards the College and Career Readiness benchmarks in ELA and Math as measured by state assessments.

School Goals

As a school community we will collaborate and align our practice to design culturally responsive and rigorous learning opportunities with the intent to increase the achievement of all students in grades 3 – 5 in Mathematics and in English Language Arts. Students meeting or exceeding expectations for college and career readiness will improve by 10% in each content area as measured by the 2021/ 22 Statewide CMAS Assessment.

Teachers, Parents, Students – Together for Success

In The Classroom

What will students and teachers do to support students' success in the classroom?

1B

Ponderosa teachers will strategically align expectations, curricular programs and instructional practices in the content areas of reading and math with the Colorado Academic Standards. The entire staff will focus on the Plan, Teach, Monitor and Adjust Teaching/ Learning Cycle to improve instructional practices and to meet the needs of our diverse learners. Teachers will collaboratively plan instruction to ensure alignment of expectations. Efforts will be focused on further developing and refining existing core academic programs and establishing clear, explicit and consistent lesson format, structure and routines which will include

- Guided Reading, Lucy Calkins, Bridges Mathematics, Number Talks, Foss Science and Inquiry Journeys SS.
- Co-teaching, Culturally Responsive Education (CRE) and Thinking Maps.
- Common assessment practices to monitor student learning.
- Align key instructional components and develop common shared language, which will be focused on research-based instructional practices.

At Home

What will parents do to support the students' success at home?

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Ponderosa parents and staff members collaborated to develop ideas in which parents can support their child at home in reading and math:

- Ensure your child is prepared and comes to school “ready to learn.”
- Monitor your child’s progress and make sure he/ she is working towards their achievement goals.
- Check your child’s backpack and weekly homework folder, confirm that they complete all assigned work.
- Communicate and advocate for your child’s needs. Be sure to actively communicate with the teacher and school staff.
- Read every night with your child.
- Attend, in-person/ remotely, any of the regularly scheduled parent/ community-night events, education nights and conferences.

Students

Ponderosa students collaborated with staff and parents to define success and to develop ideas as to how they can be most successful at Ponderosa Elementary school. The group agreed that the following ideas best support success at home and at school.

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- Complete my assignments to the best of my ability at school and at home.
- Develop challenging, yet realistic growth and achievement goals in reading, writing and mathematics.
- Demonstrate PRIDE (our one school rule) at all times. The letters in PRIDE stand for Perseverance, Responsibility, Integrity, Dedication and Empathy.
- Participate and listen in class, putting forth my best effort.
- Ask my parent, teacher and/ or another trusted adult for help when I need assistance with:
 - School work and homework
 - Interactions with school mates
 - Issues involving safety
 - Read every night.

What is a Family-School Compact?

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A School-Parent Compact for Achievement is an agreement that parents, students and teachers develop together. It explains how parents and teachers will work together to make sure all our students reach or exceed grade-level standards.

Effective compacts:

- Link to the goals of the school improvement plan.
- Focus on student learning skills.
- Describe how teachers will help students develop those skills using high-quality instruction.
- Share strategies parents can use at home.
- Explain how teachers and parents will communicate about student progress.
- Describe opportunities for parents to volunteer, observe, and participate in the classroom.

Jointly Developed

The parents, students and staff at Ponderosa Elementary School developed this School-Parent Compact for Achievement. Teachers suggested home learning strategies, parents added ideas to make them more specific, and students told us what would help them learn. Meetings are held each year to review the Compact and make changes based on student needs. Parents can contribute comments at any time.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

If you would like to volunteer, participate and/or observe in the classroom, please contact: Gabriela Marroquin at 720-747-2803 or gmarroquin2@cherrycreekschools.org



Opportunities to Build Strong Partnerships:

The following meetings occur each month at Ponderosa. We invite all parents to attend:

- Accountability
- PTCO
- PASS (Parents for Academically Successful Students) Dates and times are listed on our website.

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We have fantastic opportunities for families to enjoy the school community and to inform themselves of the learning that takes place at our school:

- Title 1 Family Night – October 5, 2021
- Family Literacy Night – December 9, 2021
- Family Stem/ Math Night – January 20, 2022
- Family Culture's Night – April 28, 2022

Communication about Student Learning

Ponderosa Elementary strives to keep parents well informed. Strong communication is very important to us. Some of the ways you can expect us to communicate with you are:

- Weekly homework folders
- Notes or phone calls to the home
- Updates to the school WEB site
- Updates to school marquee
- BlackBoard Connect Ed messages (voice recordings, text messages and emails)
- Family connection meetings (in-person and remote)
- Parent/ teacher conferences November and March (in-person and remote)

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Do you have questions about your child's progress? Contact your child's teacher by phone 720-747-2800 or e-mail. E-mail addresses are on the school WEB site at <https://www.cherrycreekschools.org/ponderosa>

PONDEROSA
Home of the Panthers

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