

Hello Campus Families,

Welcome to the 23-24 school year! I hope you and your family are doing well and are enjoying a restful summer. At CMS we have been busy preparing for a great new year and are very excited to see our returning students back in the halls and welcome our incoming 6th graders. As I begin my second year as Principal of this amazing community, I want to share some important information about what you can expect in terms of communication and support. Every week I send out a newsletter that outlines all of the upcoming events and highlights some important information that assists you in partnering with the school for the benefit of your children. In addition to the weekly newsletter, I am also holding monthly Coffee with the Principal events that allow for more informal conversations based on parent questions and concerns. We also have quarterly Accountability, Parent-Teacher Organization and Diversity & Inclusion PASS meetings that allow you to engage in partnership with CMS and learn more about our school initiatives. Finally, we hold two Parent Tech Nights where you can learn all about Schoology and PowerSchool, Parent-Teacher Conferences in the Fall and Spring and Back-To-School events that introduce all families to the teachers that will be supporting your child's growth over the next few years.

As you can see, partnering with our families is a priority for the CMS administration and staff. It is only through partnership with our families that we can effectively serve all of our students in achieving their goals and growing as learners. I thank you, in advance, for your partnership and am looking forward to working with you all to support your child.

Below are some important highlights for the beginning of the school year to help you navigate the next few weeks.

Math Curriculum Information:

We have moved to a new Math curriculum called Open Up Resources. This curriculum is founded in developing both procedural knowledge and conceptual understanding of math concepts. We held a Math Parent Night at the end of last year and I have linked that presentation below if you would like more information regarding the new curriculum.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1OveIoPOkQETBVzU4ldFJDGwB9QlkdXf6HUnxt-cm4Hw/edit?usp=sharing>

First Days of School/Phase-In Days:

As we have done for the past few years, we will begin school with our phase-in days. **Monday, August 14th** will be the first day of school for **6th grade** and will include the 6th grade orientation program provided by our Campus Crew students and advisors. Students will attend for the full school day and transportation will be provided for our 6th graders.

In addition to our 6th grade orientation on **Monday, August 14th**, our **new 7th and 8th grade students** will also have orientation from 10:00-11:00 am. Transportation will **NOT** be provided for these students. This event is only for students who are new to the school.

Tuesday, August 15th is our first day for 7th and 8th grade students only. 6th grade students will not be attending school on the 15th. This is a full school day and transportation will be available.

Wednesday, August 16th all students will be attending school. It is a full day and transportation will be available.

Back To School Nights - August 16 & 23:

Wednesday, August 16th is our **6th grade BTSN**. While the official start time of BTSN will be at 5:45 pm, we will be holding an optional presentation around our discipline systems, our PBIS program and the steps we take to create a positive school culture for all students at 5:00 pm in the Large Gym. At 5:45, I will then address the community and the chairs of our parent organizations will share information on how to be involved in the operation of the school. This will also be held in the Large Gym. Starting at 6:15 parents will walk their student's schedule and meet their teachers. The evening will end at 7:30 pm.

Wednesday, August 23rd is our **7th and 8th grade BTSN**. While the official start time of BTSN will be at 5:45 pm, we will be holding an optional presentation around our discipline systems, our PBIS program and the steps we take to create a positive school culture for all students at 5:00 pm in the Large Gym. At 5:45, I will then address the community and the chairs of our parent organizations will share information on how to be involved in the operation of the school. This will also be held in the Large Gym. Starting at 6:15 parents will walk their student's schedule and meet their teachers. The evening will end at 7:30 pm.

Parent Tech Nights:

We will be holding two **Parent Tech Nights** on **Monday, August 28th from 6:00-7:00 pm** and on **Tuesday, September 5th from 6:00-7:00 pm** in the **CMS Library**.

Student Picture Day:

Our Student Picture Day will be held on **Thursday, August 17th**.

Coffee with the Principal:

My first Coffee with the Principal event will be held on August, 30th from 9:00-10:00 am in the CMS Library.

As always, I invite you to continue to provide feedback in order to strengthen our community for all stakeholders. Please do not hesitate to reach out to lstaal@cherrycreekschools.org if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks!

Lissa Staal
CMS Principal