



October 2, 2023

Dear Cottonwood Families,

WOW, the school year is flying by. We have only two weeks until the end of our first trimester and Fall Break! Please review the following for some important information and reminders.

Cougar of the Month Award:

This school year we started a new tradition to celebrate Cottonwood students who consistently demonstrate ROAR (Respect Own it Attitude Responsibility) behavior. ROAR behavior applies throughout the entire school day: while in the classrooms, halls, restrooms, playground, library and lunchroom. One student from each grade level is nominated each month for the Cougar of the Month award. Congratulations to October's Cougars!

Kindergarten: *John Francom*

First Grade: *Easton Reed*

Second Grade: *George Mushovic*

Third Grade: *Finn Carron*

Fourth Grade: *Cody Gao*

Fifth Grade: *Scarlett Kim*

Dogs on Campus:

The official CCSD policy prohibits dogs on school grounds during school hours, including pick-up and drop-off times. However, I am a personal dog lover and my experience so far is that our community is diligent and keeps their dogs leashed and under control while visiting campus. In addition to keeping your dog leashed and under control, I would ask that if you choose to bring your dog(s) to campus, you stay at the edges of our property and not integrate into any crowds. This will allow students and families with allergies or fears of dogs to comfortably come and go to school and not have any interactions with dogs. Thank you for understanding.

Picture Retakes:

Individual picture retakes will be this Thursday, October 5th from 9:30 - 11:30am in the library.



Lunchroom Procedures:

You may hear from your student(s) that there are a few new procedures in the lunchroom. This is part of our effort to teach appropriate behaviors when in a shared space, such as the lunchroom. Our effort is a result of a number of students not wanting to eat in the cafeteria due to the activity and noise level. We are hoping the new procedures will make the cafeteria a space where all students are safe, can socialize, and enjoy their lunch. Parents, please support our effort by talking to your student(s) about appropriate ROAR behavior in the lunchroom:

- Voices should never go above a level 2 (table talk).
- Students should remain in their seats, unless going to the restroom or purchasing a snack.
- All personal lunch waste should be cleaned up at the end of the lunch period.
- Students should remain quietly in their seats until lunchroom staff dismiss their table.
- All conversations end and attention is given to the lunchroom staff when students hear our Cougar Call...*"I say COUGAR, you say..." "PAW"*.

Thank you. We appreciate your help in this effort.

October Count:

Today we completed the second of three October Count days. We have one remaining day, this Wednesday, **October 4th**. October Count is a statewide process through which the State of Colorado gathers data on public schools. The primary information provided to the State through this process is student attendance data. The information is used for a variety of purposes, one of which is school funding. The State provides schools \$8,000 for every student who is in school on count days. **Please help us obtain the needed funding for your student(s) by ensuring they are in school and on time on Wednesday.** If you have the ability to reschedule appointments or other conflicts it would be appreciated.

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Meetings:

SEAC is hosting two meetings this month:

- Thursday, October 12th from 9:30 - 11:00 at SARC
- Thursday, October 26th - Evening Tour of CCIC



For more information please click [HERE](#).

Specials:

In an effort to provide parents information about what is happening during your student's specials time, the Specials Team will be publishing monthly updates that can be found at the following [LINK](#).

After School Clubs/Activities:

If your student is interested in after school activities, you can start by reviewing our [LIST](#) of both school sponsored and private clubs at Cottonwood. Please note that activities are added throughout the year, so we will do our best to keep the list up-to-date. Please note that all after-school clubs/activities, with the exception of kids club, exit through the front main entrance of the school at their specified dismissal time. When picking up, please wait by the front doors for your students.

Little Bruins Wrestling:

If your student is interested in youth wrestling, the Cherry Creek Youth Wrestling Club is offering two upcoming sessions. Please see their [flyer](#) for details.

Future Bruins Night:

5th grade parents, mark your calendar for this year's Future Bruins Night at Cherry Creek High School, Thursday November 16, 2023. The details of the event can be found [here](#).

Sincerely,

Drew Francis - Principal [Cottonwood Creek](#) Elementary School

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