



April 15, 2024

Dear Cottonwood Families,

WOW, only six more weeks of school. I'm surprised every year at just how fast the school year goes. I guess the saying is true, time flies when you're having fun! Please review the following for school information and announcements.

**CMAS:**

Parents of 3rd, 4th and 5th graders, we made it through week 1 of testing! Thank you for your help by ensuring that your student(s) are present and on-time for testing. Students who have opted-out of CMAS should attend school in the morning on-time as usual. During the testing time they will go to the innovation space where they are supervised and will have classwork to complete.

Remember, CMAS testing continues through April 26th. For more specific information please refer to the [parent letter](#) sent out on March 13th.

**Restaurant Delivery for Students to School:**

We are beginning to see an increase in restaurant delivery for student lunches. Unfortunately, we are experiencing too many problems with restaurant delivery services, therefore, we have to ask that parents no longer use this method to provide lunch to their student(s). If you bring your student lunch and drop it off in-person, this is absolutely fine. Otherwise, please send your student to school with lunch from home or have your student get lunch from our cafeteria. Student lunches from our cafeteria are free so be assured that if home lunches are forgotten we will always provide a cafeteria lunch. Thank you for your understanding.

**Items Dropped Off for Students:**

This is just a reminder that all items, including lunches, dropped off for students should be labeled with the student's name and teacher name and placed on the drop-off table in the front vestibule. Typically, we make one group delivery of items around 9:20 AM, which is in time for the first snack recess. If time permits throughout the day, office staff will call individual classrooms to notify students of items left for them. Although we try our best, this cannot always happen. Therefore, **if an item is important, please be sure it is dropped off by 9:20 AM or communicate directly with your student before school to instruct them to check-in with the office to pick-up their belongings.**



**Cottonwood Library:**

Students' last week for checking out books in the library will be the week of April 22, and our final due date is May 3. Please help your children find any missing or overdue library books. We will be sending home reminders about overdue books in case they have forgotten which books they have checked out. If you know a book is lost and would like to pay the fine, please email [jpasso@cherrycreekschools.org](mailto:jpasso@cherrycreekschools.org) and we will generate a bill on RevTrak.

**Free Book Fair:**

We will be having a free book fair during the week of May 13-17. Classes will come to the library during their regularly scheduled library times, and every single student will get to take home a free book! We are currently accepting donations of picture books, chapter books, and nonfiction. If you have any books you would like to donate, please drop them off at the front office.

**Cottonwood Creek Yearbook:**

Friday, 4/19 is the ABSOLUTE last day to customize\* your yearbook and have it shipped with our school order. Yearbooks are a fun way to look through the year's memories with your child, collect signatures and notes from friends, and have a memento of this year. You won't want to miss it! A portion of the proceeds go back to the Cottonwood PTO.

\*Customization is optional.

If you already have an account, go to: [www.treering.com](http://www.treering.com) and sign in.

If you don't have an account, go to: [www.treering/validate](http://www.treering/validate) and enter the school code.

School Code: 1014637672101413

**Inside Out Enrichment Program:**

The Inside Out summer enrichment program, sponsored by the Office of Gifted and Talented Services, offers students a learning environment that fosters critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and effective communication skills. Inside Out offers classes with options for half-day or full-day for one or two weeks during June 2024. Registration opened March 25<sup>th</sup> and closes April 22<sup>nd</sup>. For more information – please click the link below:

<https://cherrycreek.revtrak.net/other-programs/rw-ccsd-inside-out-summer/>



### **Photos of Your Furry Friends:**

The school clinic has updated our bulletin board for the Spring! Students have been having fun looking at and sharing photos of YOUR pets (all PETS)! If you haven't already, please send in a hard copy of your pet's picture to the nurses clinic so we can put it on display for the Spring!

### **PTO Sponsored Cottonwood Auction April 19th:**

Join us on Friday, 4/19 for our school's largest fundraiser, *The Cottonwood Auction + Party: Cottonwood Loves the '80s*. Funds raised will help support the highest level of education for our students. Buy your tickets today by clicking [here](#)! Find information below about the wine pull, sign-up socials, and more.

If you can't attend the event in person, you can still participate in the silent auction which opened today at 4:00pm, by sponsoring a staff ticket, or by making a donation on the auction website. <https://us.givergy.com/2024cottonwoodauction/>

Proceeds from the auction help close the gap between current state funding and school needs. Additionally, the proceeds fund Teacher Assistant salaries, school wide enrichment programs, educational subscriptions for students, and more. We appreciate any support you are able to provide.

### **Hiring:**

Cottonwood is currently looking to hire new team members for the following positions, [Instructional Paraprofessional](#), [Severe Needs Paraprofessional](#). If you or anyone you know would enjoy working with the awesome students and staff at Cottonwood Creek, please pass along the job postings.

### **Leaving Cottonwood?:**

To assist us in estimating enrollment for next year, please let us know if you have plans to move out of our neighborhood or otherwise enroll your student in a different school. Additionally, please let us know if you have a 5th grader who will not attend Campus Middle School for 6th grade. To notify us, please complete the attached [Form](#).

### **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](#).



Sincerely,

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

Office Manager - Joan Salinger - [JSalinger@cherrycreekschools.org](mailto:JSalinger@cherrycreekschools.org) - 720-554-3203