



Dear Hutchinson Families,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! I hope you were able to relax and find joy over summer break. I am so excited for this school year. The last few years have been pretty tumultuous...as you all are aware. However, I know a strength of Hutchinson Elementary (as a school and community) is our focus on the “whole child”. Thus, we will continue to focus on instruction and achievement as well as the social-emotional development of all our students. I know that because of that focus, our students, staff, and community as a whole will THRIVE. So...on that note, I am incredibly excited about the work ahead this year.

In addition to welcoming you all back, I wanted to take this opportunity to provide some general information as well as upcoming events. There is a lot of information in this letter but I am hopeful that this will be helpful for you as you plan for the end of your summer and the beginning of the school year.

Assessment Days:

August 16th and 17th are assessment days for all students. Teachers return to work on August 10th, in addition, enrollment continues to fluctuate a bit. When teachers return on the 10th, we will finalize our class lists. Once finalized, you will receive an email from your child’s teacher introducing themselves to you. Within that email you will also receive a sign-up form to reserve a time for your child to come in and be assessed. The assessments are common assessments given throughout the year. Their purpose is to provide the teachers with information about where students are academically and provide teachers with an instructional path in order to meet students’ needs. The days were chosen by a calendar committee consisting of staff and parents. We chose the first two days so as not to break up weeks going forward.

Kindergarten Information:

For those of you who are new to Hutchinson, we do class lists for our kindergarten classrooms in a different way than most schools. When students officially start school on the 18th, our kindergarten students will attend school only ½ days (in the morning) on both the 18th and the 19th. We do this so that we have a little time to get to know our kinder students so as to create balanced classrooms. You will officially have your child’s teacher by the end of the day on the 19th and begin full day school on the 20th. We will

have our Kindergarten Meet and Greet on the 12th where you will get to know both teachers, who are both very talented and wonderful teachers.

Energy Bus:

We are very excited to continue our Energy Bus program here at Hutchinson. The Energy Bus for Schools program is designed to “fuel” our school, teachers, and students with positive energy. Research clearly shows that culture and leadership greatly influence a school’s learning environment and students’ academic success. Positive school climates are linked to increased high school graduation rates, turnarounds in low-performing schools, reduced school violence, and increased communication among students, families and faculty. The program focuses on 10 rules. Each month we will focus on one rule. As an example, the first rule we are focusing on is “You’re the Driver of your Bus”. We started this program last year and it has allowed us to be consistent in our language when it comes to behavior expectations. I also know that the same language can transfer to life at home for our students as well.

Supply Lists:

I know many of you are probably thinking about shopping for school supplies (if you haven’t already gone). We have all the supply lists posted on our website. Here is the link to the [Hutchinson Elementary Website](#) for your convenience.

Registration:

We are offering an open house registration opportunity for those who would like some assistance with Infinite Campus, submitting documents/or would like to pay their fees in person. Registration hours are: August 3rd-5th from 10am-2pm.

School/Family Calendar:

Here is a link to our [2022-2023 School/Family Calendar](#). Please note that there are still events highlighted in green as they are not yet finalized. There will be no changes unless absolutely necessary. If there are - you will be notified immediately.

School Lunch Information:

- Meals will no longer be free. They will be charged based on Free, Reduced, and Paid Meal eligibility. Money can be added to student accounts using School Cafe, www.schoolcafe.com/leffcoSD.
- Families need to complete a [free and reduced meal application](#) on School Café. Completing an application is one of the ways to be considered eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications opened July 1 so please take action.

- Log in to School Café or set up a new School Café account by [viewing these instructions](#) (you will need an account, and may not complete an application as a "Guest").
 - Complete your [free and reduced meal application](#).
 - While online applications are preferred, paper applications are also available (July 1 and after) at your student's school or the Food & Nutrition Services Office located at 809 Quail St., Building 1, Lakewood.
 - Families who are enrolled in SNAP, TANF, the Migrant Education Program, or other qualifying assistance program might be directly certified for free meals in Jeffco. This information is automatically transferred to Jeffco Public Schools for school meal eligibility.
- Families not eligible for free and reduced lunch will begin paying for meals using [their school café account](#) or pay cash.
 - If your student gets a school meal, the account will be charged. The school does not deny a student a meal. You can set up your student's school meal account through [School Café](#).
 - Meal prices will cost the following:
 - Elementary Breakfast: \$2.00
 - Secondary Breakfast: \$2.25
 - Elementary Lunch: \$3.25
 - Secondary Lunch: \$3.50
 - Adult Lunch: \$4.25
 - Milk Only: \$1.00

What Will Meal Service Look Like in 2022-23?

- Students will come through the line and eat in the cafeteria.
- Students will use their PIN (Student ID Number) when receiving meals and a la carte items.
- Please make sure your student knows his/her Student ID Number.
- Menus will be posted on www.SchoolCafe.com.
- On School Café, you may also place restrictions on your student's account regarding what they may purchase as a la carte and/or how frequently they may do so.
- Product and labor shortages may continue to affect menu items and availability.

Benefits of Completing an Application:

- Schools receive important funding and resources based on the number of free and reduced applications.

- School fee reductions
 - While fee waivers or reductions in fees will vary from school to school, the following fees can be waived or reduced, based on Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility:
 - Transportation
 - Technology
 - Outdoor Lab
 - Field Trips

The front office staff is back in the building and ready to answer any questions you have, so please don't hesitate to give us a call. The number is 303-982-9561. If we don't answer, please leave a message and we will get back to you. I hope you all have a nice end to your summer. See you soon!!

Warm Regards.

DeAnn Hoffman, Principal