



COLUMBIA FALLS JUNIOR HIGH

Ted Miller - Principal x 4009
John Cooper - Assistant Principal x 4008
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Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to Columbia Falls Junior High and the 22-23 school year! I am proud and humbled to serve as principal. There is a great tradition of academic excellence and serving the whole child. We have an excellent staff, hard-working students, and a wonderful community to work within.

Providing a safe, welcoming, positive, and productive environment is one of our primary focuses at CFJH. We ask for your assistance in achieving this objective. We are doing our best to keep our students and staff safe and healthy, physically and mentally. Please do not hesitate to immediately contact Mr. Miller, Mr. Cooper (Assistant Principal), or our school counselors about any issues your child may be having. Working together we can make sure your child has a successful school year.

Attendance is a crucial factor for student success. Breakfast is available for students at 7:55 a.m. Starting the day off with a meal and having the energy to learn is extremely important. **Our school day starts at 8:18 a.m.** This is two minutes earlier this year so we can have four minutes for students to transition between classes, use restrooms, etc. Students are dismissed M, T, Th, F at 3:25 p.m. and on Wednesday at 2:25 p.m. Please ensure you call the school office to excuse your child when they are absent. We need your help in confirming they are accounted for and safe.

Our theme this year is "Row the Boat!" Teachers, students, and staff have always worked hard and will continue to make gains this year. Rowing the boat is all about energy, sacrifice, and direction. The oar represents energy, the boat is the support system and serving others, and the compass represents direction. This is embracing the past and looking to the future. I think this will be a great theme for the year! We can always keep our oars in the water, help each other, and row the boat to keep heading in a positive direction!

In addition, here are a few important reminders, frequently asked questions, and relevant topics. Please take a moment to read through the bullet points.

- Cell phone/Smartwatch- Cell phones are discouraged at CFJH. Cell phones, if present, must be turned off when entering the school building, and locked in the student's locker for the remainder of the school day. If observed or heard in the building it will be confiscated and turned into the office. Also, if a smartwatch is used to make a phone call or text someone it will be confiscated. Students will comply with the staff request to confiscate the phone/smartwatch and the parent will need to pick up the item(s).
- **NO BACKPACKS** will be allowed in the classroom this year. Backpacks will be stored in the locker.
- P.E. uniforms (7th & 8th only) need to be purchased through the school. The cost is \$13.00 and the money can be turned into the student's gym teacher.

- Infinite Campus - If you need help logging in or starting an account, please visit or call the office. If you are starting a new account there will be a sign up sheet so the office staff can send you the directions and login information via email. Also, students will be able to look at grades and keep up on assignments.
- Media Platforms for Information - Check our website cfjuniorhigh.org (a new website will be opened on August 15th). for dates, reminders, etc. Another option is our FB page, Instagram, and Twitter. All pages can be found by searching cfjh_wildcats. Our Twitter handle is @cfjh_wildcats. Our social media sites will have pictures and activities posted as well. There is a media team of students who also help run our social media accounts. Look for **#RowTheBoatCFJH** and **#WildcatWay**
- TDAP Shots - Required for incoming 7th graders.
- Parking and Traffic Concerns - There is one driving lane that gets very congested, especially at the end of the day. Please pull forward in the pick up line to keep traffic off of Talbot Road and flowing into the parking lot. Please drive slowly in our parking lot and watch for students crossing and bike riders. Park in the parking lot while waiting for students if the drive lane gets full. Thank you for your cooperation.
- Sports Physicals - Need to be turned in prior to participating in practice. Fall practices start Monday, August 29th. Students can start signing up for sports at the office starting the first day of school.
- 6th grade Information:
 - We keep 6th grade separated as much as possible from 7th & 8th.
 - Students transition between classes and some different areas in the building.
 - We have an 8-period day. Along with core classes, 6th graders will have PE, keyboarding, counseling, library, and band or choir.
 - Cross Country is the only school-sponsored sport for 6th graders.
- **Breakfast and lunch meals are not free this year like in the past two years.** Breakfast costs \$1.75 and lunch is \$3.00. There is a free and reduced form to help with the cost of school meals if you wish to fill it out. The forms are located in the office.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks again, and we look forward to another exceptional year at CFJH!

Sincerely,



Ted Miller, CFJH Principal