

2024-2025 Cottage School Program

Weekly News – Week of November 4



Circumstances don't create character. They reveal character.

~ Zig Zigler

How often do we find ourselves, as parents, wondering what our children are like in the different contexts they're in? Do they act the same at school as they do at practice? When they're with friends, do they make the same jokes they do when they're at home? When they're frustrated about something, do they respond the same way when they're alone compared to when they're with their peers? The sign of solid character is consistency in our response regardless of the circumstances. We hope that we know and understand our children like their friends do. Like their boss does. Like their teachers do. And our children want - and expect - the same from us too. How we wish we

could be a fly on the wall in the classroom, at the school dance, at practice...to see those vulnerable and hard times when our children are faced with choices that challenge their character.

Stress to your children that the foundation of values their character rests on will only grow stronger the more they rely on what they know is true, beautiful, and good. Solid foundations take time to build; they grow strong when we face hardships and setbacks, which come often. It's vital we talk to our children about these times and help them reflect on what they walked through. Doing so equips them with the fortitude that only reinforces the underpinnings of their character they will have to depend on again and again.

As we eye winter weather this week, please take note of CSP's snow day and 2-hour delay policy below!

In Partnership,

Justin Peterson
Cottage School Program and College Pathways Principal
jpeterson1@asd20.org
719-487-2000

Announcements

IMPORTANT/NEW INFORMATION:

1. THIS WEEK! Parent/Teacher Conferences

****With snow in the forecast this week, there is a possibility of a two-hour delay. A weather delay applies to all school activities, meaning it would impact conferences even though our CSP students are not at school. Any conference scheduled prior to 10:15 AM will need to be rescheduled in the event of a two-hour delay. Grade level teachers will be in touch with families to schedule a ten-minute phone or in-person conference on a future date.**

Original Communication: There will be no in-person classes for CSP students the week of November 4-7 due to Parent-Teacher Conferences. Sign-up links can be found in individual teacher/grade-level newsletters starting last week, and a master spreadsheet of links can be found [HERE](#). We strongly encourage all parents to meet with each of their children's teachers during this time.

2. Art to Remember (formerly Silver Graphics)

Our school is participating in a creative fundraiser with Art to Remember that allows you to purchase keepsake products customized with your child's art. There are over 60 products and many are less than \$20. These make great gifts and a percentage of every purchase goes right back to our school. Click [here](#) and enter the online order code shown on your child's order form or to search for your child's artwork. Then, have fun shopping! (Order forms were sent home in your child's take-home folder last week.) **Orders must be placed by November 12th in order to arrive in time for holiday gifting.**

3. Veteran's Day Invite

TCA will pay tribute to all the men and women who have bravely served our great nation as a member of the US Armed Forces on Monday, November 11th from 9:30am-10:45am in the North Campus gym. We invite you to come celebrate this day with us. A reception will follow for all veterans and their families in the library.

4. Band Greenery and Butter Braids Sale

It's Band's annual greenery sale! We are selling Red, White and Pink poinsettias, Christmas Cactus, Succulent gardens, wreaths plain and decorated, roping garland and Fraser Fir Trees. You can order online at: <https://www.payschoolsevents.com/events/details/36407>

To help with friend and family gatherings the Band is selling Butter braids. You can order a Butterbraid here: <https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/23f5de5b-3ed4-4fa1-b89d-26ffbec2ba02>
Deadline to order is November 15th.

5. TCA High School Theatre Department presents Singing in the Rain

November 14th , 15th 16th at 7:00 pm, 17th at 3:00pm and November 21st, 22nd, 23rd at 7:00 pm. Tickets for Adults are \$12, Children and Students are \$6, Staff and Senior Citizens are \$8 and Titan Club Members no cost. Purchase your tickets online at:
<https://www.payschoolsevents.com/events/details/36405>

6. Looking for ways to bless our staff? Food items for our Sunshine Cabinet are always welcome!

Throughout the school year, we know families often want to express their gratitude to all who work with our CSP and CP communities. If ever you want to drop off pre-packaged snacks of any kind (granola bars, individual bags of chips/pretzels, chocolate, pastries, etc.), we will stock the Sunshine Cabinet in our staff lounge for all to enjoy during the week.

7. Wreaths Across America

As TCA continues to support the Wreaths Across America Program, there are several ways you can participate. UPDATED INFO: TCA Families can donate a wreath to be placed at Pikes Peak National Cemetery (deadline Nov. 30th) or volunteer for the wreath laying ceremony on Saturday, December 14th. Please click wreathscrossamerica.org/co0024 for more information.

CSP Snow Day and 2-Hour Delay Policy

Winter weather will impact the school week at some point in the coming months, so please be aware of CSP's snow day and 2-hour delay policy. As a reminder, TCA follows D20's delay and closure status.

SNOW DAYS

CSP will follow Academy School District 20 closure status. When ASD20 administration cancels school due to inclement weather, several radio/TV stations will be contacted to broadcast the closure or delay. TCA uses the Blackboard Connect™ service to notify the TCA community in the event of a delay or closure COTTAGE SCHOOL PROGRAM DOES NOT MAKE UP SNOW DAYS.

2-HOUR DELAYS

Periodically throughout the winter, school will be delayed two hours due to inclement weather. Students may wear blue denim on these days. Hot lunch will still be available on delay days, or students may bring a sack lunch. All students should bring a snack and water bottle. Carpool as usual.

2-Hour Delay Schedule:

Grades 1-6: 10:15 - 3:30 pm

Kindergarten: AM class—10:15 - 12:30 pm

Helpful Information

Typing Pal Instructions for Students in Grades 3-6

Typing Pal is a learn-to-type program that we offer at no charge to all of our upper elementary students. There is no requirement to participate; it's simply something families may use as part of their home school curricula if students desire to learn/master basic typing skills. Log-in instructions are below.

1. Go to <https://clascott.typingpal.com>
2. Each student's **user name** is the first letter of his/her first name (as given in Infinite Campus; not a nickname) followed by the student's last name (i.e. shille would be the username for Stefani Hille).
3. The **password** is identical for each student—*titans*—UNLESS a student was with us previously and changed his/her account to a unique password. Once students are logged in, they may change their password to something unique to them.
4. Questions or trouble logging in? Contact Stef Hille at shille@asd20.org.

Information about Volunteer Applications and Fee Payments

Volunteer Application Process

- Interested in being a field trip chaperone, attending a field trip, or helping out in the classroom in some capacity (i.e. class parties, art show preparation, field day)? All individuals who are around students are required to be cleared as volunteers and undergo a background check. A few important things to note:
 - Field trip chaperones are filled on a first-come, first-served basis via your child's classroom teacher.
 - If a field trip venue permits, parents sometimes choose to drive themselves to the venue and pay their own entrance fee. A volunteer application must still be completed for all who might be interested in doing this. (Please remember attending a field trip is not always possible unless one is a chaperone.)
 - Volunteer paperwork must be completed even if one is not working directly with students (such as art show preparation).
- **Please click [here](#) to start the application process.** It should only take about five minutes. For Step One, please read the Volunteer Guidelines, print out the last page and sign, and either hand deliver or email to Tiffany Jolly in the CSP office (tjolly@asd20.org). For Step Two, the most important thing to remember to do is to select one "function"/volunteer classification

only: "Legal Guardian (Non-Overnight)." Email Stef Hille, shille@asd20.org, if you have any questions.

Student Fee Payment Process

- Student fees are now posted in Infinite Campus and they can be paid in the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#); information about how to pay fees in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal can be found [HERE](#).
- Fees can be paid from your Infinite Campus portal. We encourage you to attach your bank account as a payment method in Infinite Campus to avoid paying higher transaction fees. Paying with an e-check will only incur a \$0.35 fee for the entire transaction, but card payments will incur a 3.5% transaction fee. If you have previous years' fees to pay, you will have to change the year in the dropdown menu at the top of the Fees page in order to select and add the older fees to your cart.

A Note from the East Campus Librarian

Hello CSP Families!

Did you know that you have access to the East Campus Library and not just your students? You can come and check out materials (4 items per account) and have them for 2 weeks! Parents are welcome as soon as 8:05am until 8:20am. If you are here during school hours, feel free to stop by, however, if Mrs. Hinkin has a class with her in the library then we ask that you wait until after school or come back when she isn't with a class. The library is also open from 3:30pm-4:00pm.

Your student is also welcome to come by and checkout books! Without a parent, your student(s) can come in at 8:05am until 8:15am OR at the end of the day. However, we do ask that your student spends no more than 5min as we have to make sure the library isn't a "holding" area for late carpoolers, but rather an environment of finding great books and interacting with the library staff to help them find great books! You also have online access to audio books and e-books. Checkout our library page <https://www.tcatitans.org/schools/east-elementary/grade-level-information/east-elementary-library> for more information.

If you have any questions, contact the East Campus Librarian: Mrs. Hinkin, ahinkin@asd20.org



TCA Cottage School Program

Website: tcatitans.org

Location: [12201 Cross Peak View, Colorado Springs, CO, USA](#)

Phone: (719) 487-2000



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