

[August 27, 2021](#)

CHALLENGE SCHOOL



This Week's News

August 27, 2021

A Message From the Principal



Thanks for making it another great week at Challenge School! It was great to see and meet so many families at our elementary back to school night on Tuesday. Our students and classes are already settling into their daily routines and we're already finding our rhythm for this year.

Please note our special communication from Superintendent Smith this week regarding changes to student mask requirements in CCSD. Students through grade 8 are required to wear masks inside all schools beginning on Monday. Staff will join students with this requirement. Honestly, we've already seen a tremendous commitment to student health and safety through mask wearing up to this point, so I don't anticipate this to be that big of a change for anyone. Masks are still not required outside.

Thanks to all elementary families for your collaboration to make our Wednesday early release days a success so far. Your in school options for care from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. include Wolf Watch and Chess Club (beginning after Labor Day). We will continue to explore other alternatives for elementary students on Wednesday afternoons, and we'll let you know if any additional opportunities are created.

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Unfortunately, we have to ask that you refrain from using the playground from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This interferes with our Wolf Watch program and their use of the playground space. We're required to maintain strict student numbers with Wolf Watch, and we can't have students not in the program playing with kids under our supervision. Please let me know if you have questions regarding our Wednesday early release.

We can always use help with afternoon traffic, and this would be a great way to log some volunteer hours to start the year! Information about how to get involved is listed later in this newsletter.

As always, we appreciate your ongoing partnership and support! Enjoy some time this weekend and soak up the sunshine. Be safe - Be well!!!

Principal Strohfus



Are you ready for the 2021 Wolf Run?! Get your running shoes on and help raise funds for the Challenge School Para Educator Salary Fund! Information will be coming home with your student on Friday, Sept. 3. For more information, you can click [here](#), or find it on the [PTCO's website](#), [Facebook](#) page or through SignUp Genius. Please contact the co-chairs, Crissy Davis or Amy Henry, with any questions at challengewolfrun@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

Howler and Wolf Wear
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August 30
New Family Coffee
8:00-9:00
CHL Cafeteria

September 2
School Picture Day

TSA Meeting
3:00-5:30

West Carpool Lot



The Challenge School West Parking Lot, "Carpool Lot" is now available to carpools of 4 students or more. Please complete the [application](#) and email it to our Security Guard at tverner2@cherrycreekschools.org to receive your Carpool Lot pass for the 2021-22 School Year. Please display your pass on the passenger side of your dashboard. Please note, this lot is only to be used by carpools of 4 or more students.

Speech and Debate



Challenge School is excited to offer Speech and Debate to our students in grades 6-8. Please click [here](#) for details.

Chess Club



Chess Club is back at Challenge! Please click [here](#) for the information on how to participate in PALS Chess Academy.

National Master Lior Lapid will be joined by a dedicated team of PALS assistant coaches. Given that this very popular chess club will be a Challenge to run, we are also **seeking parent volunteers**. In exchange for help with classroom management, setup, cleanup and dismissal, all children of parent volunteers will be given **free admission to our chess club as well as free admission to our monthly scholastic tournaments**. If you are interested, please contact Lior at lior@palschess.com or 720-317-7810.

New Family Coffee



Attention New parents! Please join Principal Strohfus, the Welcome Committee and the PTCO for coffee + breakfast on Monday! We would like to welcome you with free coffee + breakfast on Monday August 30th, from 8-9am at the Challenge School Cafeteria. Meet and chat with fellow new and current parents, get your questions answered and learn a thing or two about the school. Visit this [link](#) to learn more.

**September 3
Wolf Run Kickoff
Assembly**

**September 17
CHL Panda Express
Fundraiser**

Upcoming District Events

**September 1
District PASS
Meeting
6:00-7:30**

Medical Forms



Do you have Immunization Records, Asthma, Allergy and Anaphylaxis Forms, or other medical forms to turn into our nurses? Email a copy of your forms to our nurses: Denise Reich dreich2@cherrycreekschools.org AND Corina Van Haselen cvanhaselen@cherrycreekschools.org

Visit the CCSD Health Services website to find printable versions of all necessary health forms:
[CCSD Health Services](#)

Parent Volunteers



Now that parents can volunteer at school again, there are a variety of ways that classroom teachers might be able to use your help. If you are interested in helping us, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/QfQcGwcZ3G2jCyp87>. The answers will be shared with all teachers so they may contact you if they have a specific need that fits your interests/expertise.

School Pictures



Start practicing your smiles! Individual pictures will be taken at Challenge School on Thursday, September 2. Picture envelopes were mailed to homes earlier this month. If you would prefer to order photos online, please click [here](#).

Intramurals



Challenge School will be offering Intramurals this Fall. Please click [here](#) for dates and times.

All State Choir



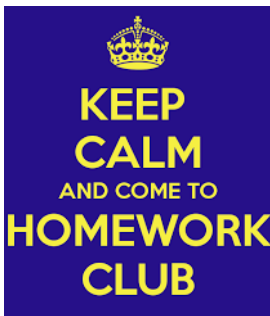
Middle School All State Choir auditions are coming soon! Please click [here](#) for information on the audition process.

Acting Audition Prep



Challenge School will be offering an acting audition prep class to interested middle school students. Please click [here](#) for information on how to sign up.

Homework and Study Skills Club



Hello! If you are interested in having additional time at school to complete homework, study, get organized, and/or plan out your schedule, Challenge School's Homework and Study Skills club for grades 5-8 is the place to be!

Ms. Haralson (school counselor) and Dr. Coggin (GT teacher) will be available after school on Tuesdays from 3-3:45 pm starting September 7th, 2021, in Dr. Coggin's room #174 to provide support and supervision. We will put out new dates for each quarter. Please sign-up before 8:30 am on Tuesdays. For any questions, email eharalson@cherrycreekschools.org and/or ecoggin@cherrycreekschools.org.

Please sign up for dates using this link:
<https://forms.gle/iPzCjZP3QLqHdT4B6>

PTCO Elections



We are happy to announce that Crissy Davis is running to fill the vacant Vice President position on the PTCO board and Payal Ahuja is running for Co-Volunteer Coordinator. The election is slated for September 13, 2021 during the general PTCO meeting. Meeting time and details will be shared in the coming weeks. If you're interested in running for this position, please feel free to contact the PTCO president at ptcochallenge@gmail.com for more information.

Opened Positions on PTCO Board

The following positions are open on the PTCO board. Interested candidates should please contact [Carolyn](#) or [Jessica](#)

1. Vice President
2. Co-Secretary
3. Co-Volunteer coordinator

Volunteers are needed to lead several important roles. If you are interested in any of these positions please contact Jessica at challengeschoolvolunteer@gmail.com for more information.

- Opened Volunteer Positions
- Staff Appreciation Chair
- CCSD Foundation Auction Basket Chair
- Immersion Fundraising Chair
- Restaurant Night Chair

School Store Volunteers



One volunteer is needed to help run the school store every other Friday afternoon. If you are interested please contact Jessica at challengeschoolvolunteer@gmail.com.

PTCO Budget



The PTCO budget is available for review at [view_ptco_budget](#). A vote to approve it will take place during the general PTCO meeting on September 13, 2021. If you have any questions please contact the treasurers, [Lisa Kessler](#), [Amy Henry](#) or [Michelle Ly](#).

Howler and Wolf Wear Purchase



At Challenge, parents provide support in many different ways, one of which is through the Howler event. Please use the link below and your login info to make a purchase to support your school. [Howler](#)

Proudly represent Challenge School in a unique way by wearing gears made especially for this purpose. Please use the link below to make a purchase and to show your support to Challenge School. [wolf wear](#)

Backpacks



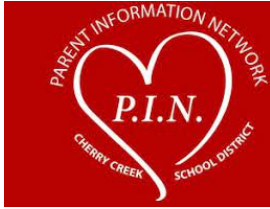
The CCSD Foundation has provided Challenge with free backpacks with school supplies inside, available for any student in need. If you are interested in one of these, please email Dr. Simmons, msimmons2@cherrycreekschools.org, and Ms. Haralson, eharalson@cherrycreekschools.org. We will coordinate with you for pick up, and it will remain confidential. This will be given out on a first-come, first-serve basis. Thank you!

SEAC Meeting



The Special Education Advisory Committee will be having its first meeting of the school year on Thursday, September 9 at CCIC (8000 S Chambers Road, Centennial) from 9:30-11:30. Please click [here](#) for the flyer.

Parent Information Network



The Parent Information Network will be hosting its first meeting of the year on Tuesday, September 7 at 9:15am. Please click [here](#) for more information.

News from the Cafeteria



Breakfast and lunch for all students will continue to be free this school year. Please click [here](#) for information.

CCSD Nutrition Services is hiring! Details in the link above.

MS Athletics and Activities



Did you know students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade can participate in athletics and activities at their CCSD Home School? For information on how to register with your Home School, click [here](#).

Lil Bruins Girls Basketball



Cherry Creek High School is hosting a camp for girls in grades 2-8. Please click [here](#) for details.

No Cost Fundraising



The companies that support our no cost fundraising efforts include:

King Soopers (Kroger), AmazonSmile, Box Tops for Education, Longmont Dairy, Coca-Cola and American Furniture Warehouse. If you make a purchase through any of these companies, a percentage of the money you spend is given back to support Challenge School.

Traffic Volunteers



Your school needs three volunteers each day to help direct traffic at the school premises through the end of the academic year. One person is needed to help with the crosswalk, one to direct and manage traffic in the circle lot, and one to manage traffic coming from the parking lot. If you are in the position to support your school in this time of need, please check in with the front office to receive a reflective safety vest. All interested volunteers are encouraged to please sign-up using the link below. Your support will be an invaluable addition to the safety of the pick-up routines at Challenge School. We greatly appreciate your consideration and the continuous help you provide. [Traffic volunteer sign-up](#)