

[November 20, 2020](#)

CHALLENGE SCHOOL



This Week's News

November 20, 2020

Message From the Principal



Today marks the end of our first week of fully remote learning as a school and as a district. Many changes have come our way really quickly. We want to thank you for your flexibility, patience, and collaboration through these initial days of our remote launch. So far we've distributed over 100 devices to support remote learning and worked to help solve many at home tech problems for families, even helping to connect with outside resources for internet access and increased bandwidth. Please email CHLTech@cherrycreekschools.org if you need assistance or have questions.

Our PTCO is still busy behind the scenes promoting the Read-A-Thon, spirit night fundraiser, and opening nominations for our annual exceptional volunteer. Thank you for your continued support! We couldn't be who we are without you all!

Emotional health and wellbeing are always important topics through the winter holiday season. We want to support your students now more than ever. Thanks to Dr. Mindy Hartley and Emily Thomas for sharing important information about students' mental health during the pandemic. We appreciate the PTCO for featuring this important topic to support our students. They've further demonstrated a commitment to a healthy school community by planning a virtual wellness week. Please read on if you'd like to get involved! You can also link to our mental health team

In This Issue

Message From the Principal

Teams A & B Story Time

Exceptional Volunteer
Nominations

Challenge School
Application

The Middle Years
Newsletter

Original Works

Volunteer Update

Flu Shot Clinics

Food and Nutrition Services
Breakfast/Lunch Pickups

Challenge School Tech
Support

Challenge School Spirit
Night

Read-A-Thon Update

Wellness Committee Chair

Social/Emotional and
Wellness Support

Yearbook

Peanut Butter Yoga

Destination Imagination

PTCO Facebook

for questions and support further down in the newsletter.

Students are out of school for the entire week of November 23-27. There are no classes during, and there is no homework assigned. We will return to remote learning on Monday, November 30. Please take the time over this week to enjoy family. It's important that we work to keep one another safe and healthy during this time. Be safe, be well!

Principal Strohfus

Teams A & B Story Time



Volunteers, you are invited to participate in Story Time for Teams A & B! Volunteers will be reading two picture books on Google Meets (this usually takes about 15 minutes). Then, volunteers will spend a few minutes at the end of the session allowing students to share their thoughts and comments. To participate you will need to be able to access Google Meets via a desktop computer, laptop computer, or pad/tablet with internet capabilities, a camera, and a microphone. One of our Challenge School Teachers' Assistants will be attending each meeting to provide support and assistance. Our Library TA, Alecia Hadden, can share a link with you if you would like to observe a session before reading.

Sign up here via [Sign Up Genius](#)

Questions? Email Alecia Hadden at ahadden@cherrycreekschools.org

Exceptional Volunteer Nominations



The PTCO is now accepting nominations for the Challenge School Exceptional Volunteer for 2020. Please visit this [link](#) for more details and to submit your nomination. Nominations are due December 18.

Mental Health and
Wellness:What You Need
to Know

No Cost Fundraising

Upcoming School Events

Sunday, November 22
End of Read-a-Thon

November 23-27
No School

Upcoming District Events

Important Links:

[Challenge School
Tech Support](#)

[Planning Forward
2020-2021](#)

[Challenge School
Website](#)

[Challenge School
"Peanut Butter &
Jelly" REMOTE
LEARNING
CALENDAR](#)

[Challenge School
REMOTE LEARNING
DAILY SCHEDULES](#)

Challenge School Application



Do you know anyone interested in applying to Challenge School for the 2021-2022 school year? Please click [here](#) for more information on the application process. Current Challenge students do not need to reapply.

The Middle Years Newsletter



The December 2020 Editions of The Middle Years Newsletter are available now. Please click on the links for [English](#) and [Spanish](#) versions.

Original Works Fundraiser



Our yearly Original Works art fundraiser has been extended! With the holidays quickly approaching, this extension will give families the opportunity to do their holiday shopping in a safe and convenient manner. Better yet, orders placed before December 4 will arrive before the holidays! Please see this [letter](#) for more information.

Volunteer Update



Given the extraordinary circumstances we are in right now, the 25 hour volunteer requirement is being changed from a requirement to a target for this school year. We do still need parent help and involvement (see Volunteer Opportunities under Important Links in the sidebar), and are grateful for any time that you are able to donate. A new activity called 'Remote Learning' has been added to HelpCounter where you can record the time you spend assisting your kids through the remote learning process.

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

[CCSD Parent Resources](#)

[Schoology Troubleshooting Guide for Students](#)

[2020-2021 Challenge School Calendar](#)

Flu Shot Clinics



STRIDE will be hosting flu shot clinics!
Please click [here](#) for dates and information.

Food and Nutrition Services Breakfast/Lunch Pickups



Please click [here](#) to view information regarding Food and Nutrition Services' 7 Days of mobile meal distribution in November. Breakfast and lunches are FREE for all students ages 18 and under!

To pick up meals after November 30, please click for details in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

Challenge School Tech Support



Does your child need help troubleshooting technology during remote learning? Does your child need help with their CCSD device? Do you need to request a device for your child? Do you need help accessing internet? If so, please send an email to chltech@cherrycreekschools.org. Our tech team will do our best to problem solve!

Challenge School Spirit Night



Please join us on Monday, Dec 7 at Chipotle at 1205 S Havana Street from 4pm to 8pm. 33% of all sales will come back to our school! To get credit for Challenge School, please show this flyer to the cashier (either on your phone or a printed copy). Or, order online using the Chipotle app or website and use Promo Code BVJDJQL.

Read-A-Thon Update



The PTCO Board would like to thank everyone who has participated so far in our Read-A-Thon fundraiser. So far we have about 56% of our students are participating and we've raised 42% of our goal! That represents a whopping 46,508 minutes logged - wow!! Let's keep that momentum going! Great job Challenge!! The

Read-a-thon will be extended another two weeks, through December 4.

Congratulations to our top classes: Mrs. Casner's class is currently in the lead with the top number of minutes read. Mrs. Lamb's class is currently in the lead with the highest amount of donations. Way to go!!! A note for parents whose students may be leery of participating: if your student doesn't want to log reading minutes but you still want to donate, we have set up a special CheddarUp platform just for you. Please visit

<https://challenge-school-read-a-thon.cheddarup.com> to read all the details. Again, this is ONLY for those folks who may have elected to opt out of using the Read-A-Thon platform.

Questions? Please contact

ChallengeReadAThon2020@gmail.com

Wellness Committee Chair



We are in need of a Chair or a couple of Co-Chairs to organize and implement virtual wellness programs for the students. This year's focus will be on sleep, exercise and nutrition. We'll be starting with a Sleep Challenge. Earn your volunteer hours by teaching our kids the importance of getting enough good quality sleep. Contact challengeschoolvolunteer@gmail.com if interested.

Social/Emotional and Wellness Support



If you would like to join Challenge School's **Social/Emotional and Wellness Support** Schoology course, here is the link:

572X-F3HN-6QPST

The course is full of resources for elementary students, middle school students, parents/guardians, and staff to access. This is available for all Challenge families and students to join and is optional. Dr. Hartley and Ms. Thomas are also hosting virtual office hours to provide additional support to Challenge students and families. Sessions are confidential, optional, and can be either phone or video sessions.

To set up a Virtual Mental Health Appointment with Dr. Hartley, sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b48acaa2aa3fd0-remote>

To set up a Virtual Counseling Appointment with Ms. Thomas, sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084AACAA628AAF49-remote>

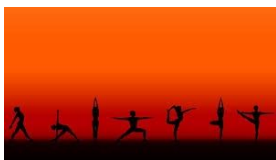
For any further questions please contact mhartley4@cherrycreekschools.org and/or ethomas@cherrycreekschools.org. Thank you!

Yearbook



We have a new request for yearbook photos! Send pictures of your student staying connected with their pals. To submit pictures for inclusion in the yearbook, please follow the instructions provided. Please click [here](#) to see how you can help!

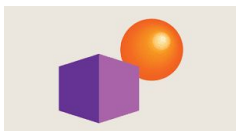
Peanut Butter Yoga Club



Are you a middle school student that needs to relax (right NOW!)? Be part of the Peanut butter Yoga Club. Because Yoga focuses on developing “your practice,” you can join at any skill or experience level. Yoga is great for increasing your strength, flexibility, and your ability to focus. If you are already participating in a sport, it is an excellent way to cross train. Of course it also helps reduce stress and we all need a little of that right now. Take some time to take care of yourself! Classes will meet virtually on Peanut butter days from 1:00-1:30 during the month of December. Please contact Mrs. Blythe if you have questions at:

hblythe@cherrycreekschools.org Or if you are ready to sign up, Click Here:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4FA8A82CA0F58-peanut>

Destination Imagination



Destination Imagination teams are forming now. Please click [here](#) for the interest form. All forms are due by December 4.

PTCO Facebook Page



Did you know our PTCO has a Facebook group for the parents and caregivers of our students? It's a great place to ask questions and learn from other parents. Please go to www.facebook.com/groups/challengeparentsl/ to join.

Mental Health and Wellness: What You Need to Know



Dr Mindy Hartley and Emily Thomas presented "Mental Health and Wellness for Children and Families Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic" at our PTCO General Meeting on November 17. If you missed their presentation or would like to view it again, please click [here](#). This presentation contains links to a variety of resources to help our students and families during this challenging time.

No Cost Fundraising



As the holidays are approaching, please remember to help us raise money through the no-cost fundraisers, especially AmazonSmile and King Soopers. Visit the PTCO's website for more information regarding the programs.

Feedback

We hope that you are getting all of the information that you need from this update. If you have ideas on how we could better keep you informed, please email dbustamante@cherrycreekschools.org.