

[September 11, 2020](#)

CHALLENGE SCHOOL



This Week's News

September 11, 2020

Message From the Principal



The second half of September will bring some of our more regular school events - of course with our new "virtual" spin on things. Today you will be able to schedule time with your child's teachers for our virtual parent/teacher conferences, (see the link below). We will not be hosting our traditional student-led conferences this time around. Rather, we're asking you to meet directly with individual teachers. We believe that in this environment it's important to make direct connections between parents and classroom teachers. Conferences will be held using Microsoft Teams.

PASS will kick off the year on September 15 at 6:30 in a Microsoft Teams event. We'll be discussing our school-wide goals for inclusive excellence and also our work with teachers this year to examine and expand our racial consciousness. This event will be followed by our district PASS meeting on September 16 at 6:00. We'd love to have you join us!

Accountability will resume for this year on September 22 at 5:00 p.m. This will be a Microsoft Teams event. At this meeting we will begin to explore budget and staffing implications from the COVID pandemic and the current state of operations in CCSD and

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Upcoming School Events

Virtual Parent-Teacher
Conferences
Thursday, 9/24
Friday, 9/25

No School
Friday, 9/25
Due to Conference Day

at Challenge. Information for both ACC and PASS are listed below. Please plan to attend and learn more about what's going on at Challenge.

We hope it's becoming part of your routine to use the COVID symptom tracker every morning for your students before dropping them off at school. As we begin with an early cold season this year, it's of vital importance that all families do their part to help keep each other safe and healthy. We all have a part to play in managing the overall health of the entire school.

Big changes will be coming later next week with our parking lot. We've dropped the carpool requirement to four students, so we hope this increases carpool participation. Additionally, we've been working with district security and Aurora traffic engineers to try to improve upon safety for pedestrians, vehicles, and safer transition in and out of the parking lot. As final plans are solidified, look for a dramatically revised map early next week. We will all work to be patient as we execute a two week trial period and evaluate the changes made. Our top priority is safety, and our changes are all made in alignment with that goal. Just like all other schools in CCSD, traffic is terribly congested every morning and every afternoon - normally for about 20 minutes. Your patience and courtesy are so greatly appreciated!

We look forward to seeing you soon at our virtual events!

Principal Strohfus

Important Links:

[Planning Forward
2020-2021](#)

[Challenge School
Website](#)

[2020-2021 Challenge
School Calendar](#)

Virtual Conferences



This fall our teachers will be hosting Virtual Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday, September 24 afternoon/evening and Friday, September 25 all day. For all information about how to sign up for a Conference time, please click [here](#).

Carpool to School



Visit the [school website](#) to see more information on how to apply for a pass to use the Carpool Lot. **Now, you only need 4 students in a carpool to qualify for a pass!**

COVID Symptom Checker



Cherry Creek School District will be utilizing a COVID Symptom Checker for the 2020-2021 school year. For more information, please click [here](#). **This must be completed daily in order to attend school.** Have your student log in to their portal before school daily and answer the questions. Below is the QR code which will take you to the log in site. Print the QR Code and keep it handy at the breakfast table!



Challenge School AAC and PASS

Please click [here](#) for information on the Challenge School Advisory and Accountability Committee.. The first AAC meeting of the year will be September 22.

Partnership for Academically Successful Students is comprised of parents and educators who collaborate to promote the success of all students. Please click [here](#) for more information. The first PASS meeting of the year will be September 15.

District PASS Meetings

Join the [District PASS Committee](#) meeting on September 16 via Zoom.
When: Sep 16, 2020 06:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)
Register in advance for this meeting:
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEkf-irgjkqHdUmNUiAlt-B9jvakAn4KBq>
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Book Fair



Fall Touchless Book Fair is coming! Please click [here](#) for details.

Yearbook



Want to see your students in the yearbook? Please click [here](#) to see how you can help!

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/904084ACA628AAF49-remote>

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

Fundraising Coordinator Needed



The PTCO is in urgent need of a volunteer to coordinate our fundraising efforts. This position can be shared by two or more people and all work can be done on your own time from your own home or office. The majority of the position involves sending emails and populating a spreadsheet. Please contact PTCOChallenge@gmail.com for more information.

Fundraising Opportunities



AmazonSmile - Remember to designate Challenge School as your charity and visit www.smile.amazon.com to earn money. Do not forget you must choose Challenge School as your charity every 6 months when you use the mobile app!

Box Tops - Keep collecting any clip-able tops and send them to school in a ziploc baggie with your child's name and Connections teacher's name. Students should give the baggie to their Connections teacher. Scan your receipts (within 2 weeks of purchase) using the Box Tops app. Click on the "Credit" button while scanning to designate a classroom. The class with the most collected box tops wins a party at the end of the year!

King Soopers - Link your King Soopers account to Challenge School with the code XT444. Every time you make a purchase King Soopers will donate to Challenge. You only need to set this up once.

Coca-Cola - Scan or enter your Coke product codes at www.us.coca-cola.com/give, or send the codes to school in a ziploc baggie labeled with your child's name and Connections teacher's name.

Volunteer Opportunities



Click [here](#) for a current list of volunteer opportunities. Challenge School depends on the generosity of our parent volunteers. Thank you and don't forget to record your hours in [HelpCounter](#).

Reserved Parking Spaces



PTCO still has one reserved parking spot available for purchase left over from last spring's Wolf Drive fundraiser. The spot in the main lot is available for \$500. If you wish to purchase either one, please visit <https://wolf-drive-2020.cheddarup.com> If you have questions, please contact PTCOChallenge@gmail.com.

Howler Deadline Extended



The deadline for the Howler has been extended until September 30. Please click [here](#) for ordering and advertising information.

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.