



# Eagle's Cry

The Paonia Elementary School Newsletter

August 29, 2017



## Mark Your Calendar

### September

9/4- Labor Day Holiday  
No School

9/8- 9:15 Lock Down Drill

9/11- 6:00 PPO Meetings

9/14- Student Pictures

9/15- Field Trip: Kindergarten to  
Austin Farm

9/19- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Midterms

9/19- Field Trip: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Cottonwood Days

9/22 - PHS Homecoming

## School News

### Lock Down Drills

Our school is required to conduct monthly fire drills and quarterly lock-down drills. A lock down drill consists of locking all classroom and exterior doors and covering all windows in case there is a potentially dangerous situation occurring in our neighborhood. During these drills the teachers continue to teach in the classroom, however until it has been verified that all rooms are 'secure' parents and visitors not already in the building will not be allowed to enter the building. Sorry for any inconvenience.

### PES Spirit Gear

Stop by the front office and ask about how you can order PES spirit gear. We also have Eagle's car magnets and license plate holders for sale at the front office. Fridays are spirit days, so make sure to wear your red and black!

### Student Pictures

This year, MJ Thomas Photography will only be visiting PES in the fall. At that time, both individual student and class photos will be taken. **There will not be any pictures taken in the spring.** Our picture day is coming up soon, on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Dress you best!

### Message from the Cafeteria

Please send in your completed free and reduced meal applications as soon as possible. The end of the grace period for free and reduced meals from last year is October 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you have not filled out a 2017-2018 application you will be responsible for any lunch charges your child incurs. Please check your Tuesday Express folders for low or negative lunch balance updates.

Even if you qualify for free and reduced you may only receive a free milk if you take a full meal. If you bring lunch from home you must pay \$0.50 for milk.

## Information in the Office

There are flyers available at the front office for the following programs:

- ✓ Pee Wee Football registration forms for 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> graders
- ✓ Free/Reduced Lunch Application Forms
- ✓ Avalon After-School Program

## Attendance Policy

At our annual Back to School BBQ, I mentioned our School District's new attendance policy. Here are some of the changes that all parents should be aware of:

- School attendance is mandatory for children six years of age and older by Colorado State Law.
- For attendance tracking purposes, an absence is counted, whether it is excused or not.
- An absence occurs when a student misses more than 45 minutes of a morning or afternoon learning period.
- After 4 absences, the school will mail a letter to families notifying them of the number of absences.
- After 6 absences, a meeting will be scheduled with the principal and family to create an Attendance Improvement Plan.
- After 9 absences, a meeting may be held with the family and the School District Attendance Review Board.
- A tardy occurs if a student arrives between 8:05 and 8:45, or leaves between 2:40 and 3:25.
- Families are encouraged to provide the school with documentation of doctor's appointments when students are absent for health appointments.
- Families are encouraged to meet with the school administration prior to any extended family vacations in order to complete the Attendance Improvement Plan.

The purpose of these changes is to ensure that students are present at school to the greatest extent possible. We want to work with families to reduce the amount of absences, and ensure the greatest amount of learning for all of our students. Please let me know if you have any questions about the attendance policy changes.

## Title I School

All PES parents need to be informed annually of our Title I status. PES is a Title I school, which means we receive federal funds since more than 40% of our students receive free and reduced lunch. Title I funding supports all day kindergarten, parent involvement in the school, as well as professional development for our staff. In September, as the staff and PPO develop our school's Unified Improvement Plan, we will identify parent involvement activities and professional development that target the academic needs of our students.

Additionally as a Title I school parents have the right to request information about the qualifications of our professional teaching staff concerning their highly qualified status and the right to timely notice from the school if their child has a teacher who is not highly qualified.

## Parent Involvement Drawing

After reading this *Eagle's Cry*, please fill out the coupon below with the names of each child in your family and return it to school. PPO sponsors this drawing to encourage parent involvement. Each child in the winning family receives \$1. Thanks for being a faithful reader!

Please cut off the coupon on this line.

---

I've read the August 29<sup>th</sup> Eagle's Cry. Please enter this coupon in the newsletter drawing.

---

(Names of children)

(Parent signature)