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Thunder Vista Buffalo News

August 12, 2022

Hello Thunder Vista Families,

It is hard to believe that the first day of school is just a few days away. We know that this is a very exciting time for our students and families as you anticipate meeting new teachers, making new friends, and reconnecting with students and staff members that you have missed over the summer.

As a THV staff, we are also eager to connect with all of you and hope to see you at our Meet and Greet, Monday August 15 from 3:30-5:30pm. This open house event will be held in our classrooms and will provide a way for staff to connect with families and students. We are excited to see the smiling faces of returning students and those new to us this year. This is also a great opportunity to drop off your school supplies. You can access our [school supply list here](#) as well as on our school website.

- Preschool staff is participating in our Meet and Greet this year. The preschool staff will have their doors open so that families can peek in the classrooms. Preschool orientation will still be held on August 22 and parents will receive detailed information about the preschool program on that day.
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- Middle school students will have access to their lockers during our Meet and Greet to store their individual supplies.
 - 6th grade - drop off common supplies (like tissues, disinfecting wipes, highlighters, etc) with their 3rd period teacher (CORE 1).
 - 7th grade - drop off common supplies with Mrs. Schankweiler (math).
 - 8th grade - look for a separate communication from the teachers for additional information about the Meet and Greet.

Your Thunder Vista administrative staff is honored to serve you and your children during your time in the Thunder Vista Buffalo Herd. If we haven't met you before or if we are just getting to know each other, [here's a bit more about us](#).

UPDATES

Student Chromebooks

If your child brought their Chromebooks home for the summer, please remind them to bring their fully charged Chromebook to school on their first day. If they chose to leave the Chromebook at the school for the summer, we will get those returned to them.

During the online registration process over the summer, parents were asked to acknowledge the new Chromebook Insurance fee. If you inadvertently clicked past the information, click [here](#) to read more details about this program.

Kindergarten Boo-Hoo Breakfast

Sending your child to kindergarten is a huge milestone (and we realize it can be emotional too!!). To celebrate this milestone and ease your drop-off woes, we're inviting you to our Kindergarten Boo-Hoo Breakfast on August 16th from 8:00 - 8:45 am.

Join us in the cafeteria for bagels, coffee and connection. This is a perfect time to meet other kindergarten parents and learn more about how you can get involved at Thunder Vista.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Middle School Cross Country

We are excited that the district has decided to bring back some of our middle school athletic opportunities. Co-ed cross country for 6-8 graders starts the week of August 22nd. Katie Tennant and Molly Knight (Marx) will be taking on coaching duties for this team. Students will practice after school approximately three days a week and will attend 3-4 track meets depending on the district wide schedule. We anticipate that the season will extend through mid-October. More information will be provided as we receive it. Please click here for [registration information](#). Interested students can turn their forms into the main office. Go THV Buffs!

Air Quality Research Study

Thunder Vista has partnered with the University of Colorado at Boulder as part of their study of the health impacts from wildfires. The CU researchers are looking for families who are interested in having the air quality inside their homes measured. Please see [this letter](#) for more information on how to become involved. The researchers will also be joining us during our Meet and Greet on August 15th to answer any questions and to provide more information to those interested families.

REMINDERS

Summer 2022 Construction Update

We previously shared with you in May that construction would begin at the end of the school year to address significant concrete heaving issues, especially on the northeast side of our school building. We are pleased to share that this work is on schedule and will be completed prior to students and families returning to school. Until then, the north side of our building, including the primary playground and outdoor learning area, are still not accessible as this construction comes to an end. For the safety of all, please encourage your children to avoid this area as this work is completed. Thanks for your patience and understanding as we complete these critical improvements.

Welcoming New Staff

As our school community continues to grow, so does our Thunder Vista staff. Please join us in welcoming staff new to our Thunder Vista Buffalo Team:

- Julie Phillips - first grade teacher
- Sharayah Murphy - fifth grade teacher
- Shawna Dawson - sixth grade social studies teacher
- Jessy Draper - sixth grade science teacher
- Claire Dean - art teacher
- Andrew Rogge- art teacher
- Lee Smith - computer science

These individuals are strong additions to the positive culture we are so proud of and the high quality educational opportunities we offer.

First Day of School - Tuesday, August 16th for ALL K-8 Students

All K-8 students will attend school on Tuesday, August 16th. This day will run on an 'Early Release Schedule' from 8:00-1:40. On Wednesday, August 17th, the day will run on a 'Normal Day Schedule' from 8:00-3:10. This will be the only week during the school year that an 'Early Release Schedule' is on a day other than a Wednesday. Our [school website](#) is always a great place to check for any upcoming calendar times and events.

- Tuesday, August 16th - 8:00-1:40
- Wednesday, August 17th - 8:00-3:10

Please note - For the first day of school on Tuesday, August 16th, all elementary students will line up outside on the north side of the building with their classroom teacher near their [designated entry/exit locations](#). Elementary teachers will be holding up name signs for easy identification. Middle school students will enter the building at their [designated entry/exit location](#) beginning at 7:40 and report to their period 3 class on the 3rd floor. Staff will be available to help middle school students with finding their classrooms.

Following the first day of school, students may enter the school building starting at 7:40 using [these designated grade level entrances](#).

Elementary Class Placements and Middle School Schedules

The parent portal in Infinite Campus opened on Friday, August 5th, allowing parents to view their child's teacher and/or middle school schedule. Over the summer we were fortunate to hire additional staff members to join our Thunder Vista electives team. This means that we can offer new electives courses for students. We make every effort to schedule students into their preferred electives, however, with the addition of new electives, some students will see they are enrolled in an elective they may not have selected.

We are very excited about these offerings and encourage students to explore various opportunities during their middle school years so they have a wide range of experiences heading into high school. Please note, middle school schedule change requests will only be considered for the following reasons:

- Student is placed in an incorrect level of a class
- Student is missing a core class (Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, Science)
- Student request would help balance class sizes

Please utilize [this form](#) by 8/12/22 to communicate schedule requests with your student's school counselor.

Elementary class placements were made with teacher input prior to leaving the building in May and were reviewed by administration over the summer. Thoughtful consideration was given to creating classrooms that have a balance of students across many factors. We are unable to honor classroom placement requests at this time.

Online Check-In

If you have not done so already, please complete the Adams 12 online check-in process. Online check-in is open through August 14th. Online check-in is necessary for schools to schedule students and allows families to verify and update primary household and demographic information for returning students, at their convenience, from anywhere with an internet connection. Families can also update or add emergency contacts and update health information for all students in a primary household. In addition, families will sign off on mandatory forms, district policies, and procedures. Click [HERE](#) to set up your Parent Portal on Infinite Campus.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

Following the first day of school and for the 2022-2023 school, all K-8 students will report directly to their classrooms after entering the building. Reference this [building entry/exit schedule](#) for specific grade level details. This document includes a chart with both entry

and exit times for each grade level. The first time indicated in the far right column for each grade level is the same time of a 7:40 a.m. entry into the building.

Entry doors during student arrival will close at 7:53. If your student arrives after this time, they will enter the building through the cafeteria doors. This door will remain open and supervised until 8:10. If your student arrives later than this time, please drop your student off at the school's main entrance on the south side of the building.

The second time indicated for each grade level (in the far right column) indicates the time that students in a particular grade level will be exiting the building. Please note that the bell rings at 3:10 and some classes will not be exiting their classrooms until 3:13 p.m.

The middle column of the chart indicates the entry/exit points that specific grade level classrooms will be using to enter the building in the morning and to exit the building in the afternoon. The entry/exit areas are indicated in text above and entry points are marked with stars.

Staff supervision of students during arrival each day is from 7:40-8:00 and from 3:10-3:20 (1:40-1:50 on Weds.) during dismissal. Please do not drop off students prior to 7:40 each morning and have them picked up no later than 3:20 (1:50 on Weds.) every afternoon.

Parking Lot and Hug and Go Lane

All visitors to the school should use the Visitor Parking Lot located on the southwest side of the school near the main entrance. If this lot is full, visitors may use the staff lot on the southeast side of the building. The southeast parking lot may also be used for parking only during student arrival and dismissal times. If you choose this location, please note that it is not designed as a Hug and Go Lane drop off and pick up location.

Our school's Hug and Go Lane for student morning drop off only is located in our northwest parking lot. Please review these Hug and Go Lane procedures. A photo of the hug and go lane can be accessed [here](#).

- If you would like to park and walk with your child to the blacktop/playground area, you may enter and park in a designated spot.
- Please do not stop and exit your vehicle in the Hug and Go Lane. If you need to assist your child in exiting the vehicle, you must park your vehicle in a designated spot in the parking lot.
- The green lines on the pedestrian side of the parked cars indicate the student drop off zone. Please pull all the way forward to the stationary car in front of you and have your children exit the car if your car is positioned along this path. The Hug and Go Lane was designed for a single lane of traffic with a pedestrian shoulder. The pedestrian shoulder beginning and ending point is indicated with the wavy green line in the above map.
- **Please Note - New Pedestrian Access**

- Over the summer, in collaboration with the City of Broomfield, we were able to extend our sidewalk along the south side of the west parking lot. This is a big improvement to our school and will help ensure that students walking to school can stay safely on the sidewalk during morning dropoff and afternoon pickup without entering the crosswalk. This means if your student comes to school from the south, near Preble Creek Pkwy, we want them using the new sidewalk. Signage will be posted to assist pedestrians with access to and use of this new sidewalk.
- With the addition of this new sidewalk, we are now able to allow vehicles to turn left out of the northwest parking lot.
- Please remind your child that they need to stay on the sidewalks when in our parking lot.
 - Click [here for a photo](#) of the location of the new sidewalk.
- Additionally, students who come to school from the north should continue to use the pedestrian crossing area at the intersection of Middle Peak and Pikes Peak Drive when walking to and from school. If you will be using the pedestrian crossing area, you must wait for the crossing guard to stop the Hug and Go Lane traffic and stand in the crossing area before you will be invited to cross.

Please watch for pedestrians at all times in the parking lots and streets, and be alert at crosswalks.

Breakfast and Lunch Services

The cafeteria will serve only lunch daily. The federal waiver allowing for free school breakfasts and lunches was not extended for the 22-23 school year. Elementary lunches are \$3.50 daily and \$17.50 weekly. Middle school lunches are \$3.75 daily and \$18.75 weekly. Families are encouraged to visit [payforit.net](#) to pre-pay for school meals. [Payforit.net](#) makes paying for school meals easy. If your family needs support with paying for school lunch, please apply for free and reduced lunch benefits on [this website](#).

With the federal waiver no longer in effect for free school breakfasts and lunches, we will no longer serve breakfast each morning.

Click [here for the 2022-2023 School Meal Guide](#) for additional information and details.

See you all next week!

~Teresa Benallo, principal

~Manissa Featherstone, assistant principal

~Jody Roper, assistant principal

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