



April 23, 2022

"Our vision is educational excellence in knowledge, skills, and character with strong parent-teacher-student partnerships."

Happy Saturday, Wolverines! I hope everyone had a wonderful week. I was home with a sick kiddo most of the week, so it's been a whirlwind couple of days trying to catch up – hence this Saturday update. I hope you and your family are staying healthy, but by the looks of our attendance rosters, I'm afraid that may not be the case...

Principal Survey

I want to thank everyone who took the time to complete the principal survey. I had the opportunity to meet with Amy Hloucal, PAB President, to go over the results. I appreciate the opportunity to get feedback about my work and our school and take all of this input seriously.

I'd like to directly address a couple of the concerns that were raised:

- **Learning EXPO and Science Fair:** While I know that we are ALL sick of hearing that COVID is responsible when things don't go well, we were waiting to decide how the Science Fair and Learning EXPO might look this year based on how many mixed groups we could have in one space at a time. This led to information and correspondence that was not as timely or organized as it should have been. This critique is fair and I have made adjustments and a plan to address this next year.
- **Pick-up and drop-off; safety concerns**

This has been a topic of conversation for many years, and I am committed to making adjustments that keep our students safe. The parking lot and drop-off/pick-up lanes are the most dangerous places on our campus.

I do think that having pedestrians all use ONE crosswalk is an important way to make sure we all stay safe. I know that it can be a nuisance to walk to the crosswalk where a monitor is directing traffic. However, walking out into the traffic lane between cars is just not safe and doesn't set the best example for our students.

I am going to create signage that will help explain HOW drop-off and pick-up will work. This will not be in place until the beginning of the year, but should help eliminate some confusion about expectations.

Please take a moment to remind yourself of our procedures (and share with others who may help with student pick up or drop off!)

IN THE MORNING:

- The only lane open in the morning is the south lane, closest to the school.
- This is a "Kiss and Go" lane. If you choose to drop students off in this lane, please have students ready to go. As soon as your car is in park, students can open the door and hop out – you don't need to wait for a staff member. I will let cars leave as soon as they are empty, and pedestrians are clear.
- If you need to get out of the car or help students get out, please park and walk your students up to the building.
- Do not let students out of the car in the parking lot! The parking lot is not a drop-off location!

END OF THE DAY

- Both the far south lane (closest to the school) AND the middle lane are open.
- Please pull as far forward as possible while waiting for your student.
- Put your car in PARK while you wait.
- Once your student is seated and buckled - pull into the middle lane and you can leave! You do not need to wait in line if you are ready to go. (Keep this in mind

as you pull in. Leave enough space between you and the car in front of you so that you can get out when you are ready.)

- Pedestrians – PLEASE come to the crosswalk with a person directing traffic.

- **My presence outside**

This was a mixed bag of opinions. For the sake of transparency, I wanted to say that I **choose** to be outside in the morning and afternoon as much as possible for several reasons. First, it really is one of my favorite times of the day. I love seeing students and families, greeting all of you, and wishing you a good day. It's selfish, but I love it and don't want to give it up. Also, our staff members are busy getting ready for the day in the morning and need to be with the children right away. I can be outside for a bit after the bell rings most of the time, and it makes sense to give everyone in the building time to start the day right. Finally, I repeat that drop-off and pick-up are the most dangerous times of the day. I take it seriously and feel strongly about monitoring and hopefully helping keep everyone as safe as possible.

Outdoor Classroom – WORKDAY!

Please come help us get the Outdoor Classroom spruced up and ready to grow.

10:00-1:00 in the Outdoor Classroom. Bring your rakes, brooms, shovels, weeding tools, and gardening hand tools.

We will be working on the following projects:

Sweep paths, refresh mulch, weeding, refresh paver sand, prep garden mounds, prep planter boxes, re-stain tops of planter boxes, install Character Trait Trail pavers, straighten fences, refresh stone "river", clean, repair, and caulk sidewalk mosaics.

We need two rototillers (and operators!) for the garden mounds. Please contact Rob Langford (rlangfor@psdschools.org)

We need 8-12 additional stumps (seating). Please contact Rob Langford (rlangfor@psdschools.org)

TCKS 101 and Beyond

If you did not have the opportunity to attend one of our Monday night "Orientation" sessions when you joined the Traut community, I would like to invite you to come to **TCKS 101 and Beyond** on Monday, **May 2 at 6:00 pm** in the Media Center. This is a wonderful way to learn more about how Traut got started, why we are unique, and who we are. Additional details will be coming soon, and I would love the chance to meet with more of our families!

Summer Opportunities

Looking for summer opportunities for your kids? Check out these options from the Fort Collins recreation department. Click [here](#) for details.

Synchronized Swimming

Have you heard of the Fort Collins Synchro Team? We are a summer team that is a great alternative to the typical swim team. Please see the [brochure](#) and inquire if you have any questions!

<https://www.facebook.com/Fort-Collins-Synchronized-Swim-Team-100182261789650/>

Poudre River Public Library District Summer Reading Challenge

We are excited to share out information about our upcoming Summer Reading Challenge called **Oceans of Possibilities**. Please see the attached [brochure](#) for details about how your child can participate this summer!

Important Dates:

May 2	TCKS 101 and Beyond
Mon., May 16	NO SCHOOL – Teacher Work Day
May 23 (Rain Date, May 24)	Field Day!
May 25	Last Day of School (Dismissal at 11:35)

“Oh, my sweet Saturday,
I have been waiting for you for six long days.”
— **Charmaine J Forde**

I hope you enjoy a very sweet Saturday. Looking forward to seeing some of you tonight at the Spring Fling Fiesta!

Dr. Kendall