



August 7, 2020

Dear Wolfpack,

As the school year approaches the team at Weikel Elementary is very excited to reengage with students. Having had the staff in the building for over a week has really brought a new level of excitement and joy to our school. As we know, the upcoming school year will be different from years past. Be assured the safety of The Pack is our highest priority. The district has published and communicated the Fountain-Fort Carson Reopening Guide, if you would like to review it you can find it at <https://www.ffc8.org/domain/1495>.

This letter is intended to share how that guidance will be implemented at Weikel this year. Please know that as we work through this year, our processes and application of the protocols may be adjusted as needed to keep students safe.

Face Coverings: All students will be required to wear a face covering during most of the day. Students will be provided with “mask breaks” multiple times during the day (recess, lunch, etc).

Social Distancing: Students will be asked to maintain 3 – 6 feet of social distancing whenever possible. Student seating will also be arranged to promote social distancing while students are in the classroom.

Volunteers/Visitors: We are encouraging families to communicate with staff virtually to the greatest extent possible. If an in-person meeting is needed, we are asking our community to make an appointment. The number of visitors to the school on any given day will be limited. Visitors will be asked to wear a face covering and take part in a health screening to include a temperature check.

Daily Practices:

Morning entry: We will be asking that students arrive to school no earlier than 7:10 a.m. As they arrive at school they will go directly to classrooms. We will be using several entry points to the school this year to help with social distancing. We will be teaching students this process on the first day they attend.

Health Screenings: Students will participate in a health screening, to include a temperature check from their teacher after they arrive in the classroom.

Breakfast: For students wishing to eat breakfast at school, breakfast will be delivered to the classroom and students may eat after health screenings are completed.

Handwashing/Sanitizing: Students will be asked to wash or sanitize their hands several times during the day. Handwashing will occur upon entering or leaving the classroom, transitions in the instructional process, transitioning to specials or lunch, and upon leaving at the end of the day.

Classroom Instruction: During instruction, the sharing of materials between students will be significantly limited. Small group instruction, centers rotations, and collaborative discussions will be organized to meet social distancing whenever possible. Encore classes will be held in several locations depending on the course. These locations may include outside, large spaces in the school, or in homeroom classrooms.



Recess: Student will sanitize their hands prior to recess. Students will be provided with an outdoor recess (as weather permits) daily. Students will be asked to refrain from games that require physical contact. During recess, students will not be required to wear a mask. Students will engage only with the students in their classroom during recess.

Restrooms/Hydration: Teachers will facilitate structured restroom breaks throughout the day. Students will still be allowed to access the as needed, but will be required to sign in and out of the classroom and follow all necessary health practices. Water fountain use will be limited to filling water bottles only. Student will need to bring a water bottle daily, and take it home each evening for cleaning.

Lunch: Students will sanitize their hands prior to lunch and wash their hands after lunch. They will be eating lunch in their classroom. Classrooms will follow district practice in meeting the needs of students with food allergies. We are asking parents to not each lunch with their student this year, as we are significantly limiting access to the instructional environment.

End of Day Release: Students exit the school through multiple exits to promote social distancing. Your child's teacher will be communicating where you can meet your child for those being picked up. For students walking home, they will be encouraged to maintain social distancing and leave the school campus as quickly as possible. For older students meeting younger siblings, teaching staff will work with families to establish these meeting points outside of the building.

Library Access: Students will be able to check out books from the school. Our Media Specialist will provide classes with a cart of books to select from during the week. If a student wishes to check out a specific book, they will be taught how to request that book directly from the media center or ask their classroom teacher directly.

Student Attendance: Student attendance will continue as it has in the past, in accordance with district policy and practice. If there is an extenuating circumstance related to attendance, school administration will work with families on a case-by-case basis.

School Events: Large scale school events will not occur during first quarter and will be evaluated for subsequent quarters based on county and state health guidance.

After School Student Activities: These activities will be limited during first quarter and evaluated for subsequent quarters based on county and state health guidance. The Weikel Team will be evaluating the process of hosting remote after school experiences. More information will be available once those processes have been created.

Again, the Weikel staff wants you to know that our primary goal is to keep students safe, healthy, and happy. If you have any questions regarding the information provided above, please feel free to contact a member of the Weikel Administration Team. We look forward to seeing you soon!!

Misty Deherrera
Principal, Weikel Elementary