Dear Foster Families,

It was amazing to welcome our students back to in-person learning this month and see how quickly they adjusted to the changes we had to put in place to keep them safe. This shift has been challenging in many ways for all of us. We have restructured many things this year, including having AMPS/electives in the classroom and having lunches brought to the students rather than having them stand in lines in the hallways. We are missing our fun community events that usually happen, such as Foster Field day by the amazing Sammy Chumacero, the Arvada Parade, Back to School night and more. We also truly miss our parents in our school setting, but at the same time feel that we are getting to know each other in a whole new way and deeper level. Lots of learning happening for all of us!

I wanted to be sure you knew that we have two modified contact days coming up in October for students K-5. There will be NO SCHOOL for students K-5th grades on October 13th and 14th unless scheduled by appointment with the teacher. October 15th is a teacher professional development day (n and October 16th is the Jeffco Fall holiday. For Middle school students, we will welcome Cohort A on October 12th, Cohort B on October 13th, and then all middle school students will be remote on October 14th. (This is what other middle schools and high schools in our area are doing during this week of October.) October 15th is a teacher professional development day and October 16th is the fall holiday.

This year we are happy to be the home for two of our fine Arvada Police Department officers. Officer Jessica Espinoza, who served as our SRO last year is returning and we are so grateful to have her. Officer Espinoza grew up in Westminster and she loves our community. Joining her this year will be Officer Avino Guerrero, who grew up in Denver but is from Zacatecas, Mexico and is fully bilingual. The Arvada Police department partners with us to have a supportive, conflict resolution based presence in our community. We are proud to have these two fine officers joining our community this year.

Halloween has always been a huge community event at Foster each year. I am not sure what we will be able to do this year, but wanted you to know I am trying to think of ideas that could work as I know how much many of our kids love it. (If we had a crystal ball to know the weather that sure would help!) If you have ideas, or want to think through it with me, please let me know.

Our next Accountability meeting will be on October 8th from 2:40-3:20. If you are interested in attending, please let me know and I will send you an invite and link to the meeting. This group meets once a week to talk about more of the details about the school, including data, our construction project, and next steps.

I also want to lift up that we are in constantly changing times. I had to have one grade level in our school start remotely and so appreciate the parents and teachers who simple adjusted and moved forward. Thank you to those we have called about runny noses, sore throats and tummies. If we stay vigilant, quarantine quickly, we will be able to stay in person for the longest amount of time. That is what we want, but there will likely come a time that you will receive communication that will have to make a quick shift. Please have a plan and be ready.
Thank you for all you are doing to show your child’s teachers that you appreciate them. This is THE hardest thing we have ever done, and there is no end in sight. Not one teacher I know feels that they are at their best, and that is so hard because we all want to be and do our very best.

When I look back at how much we have learned and grown since March 2020, that is when I am in a place of awe. When I see the time and energy teachers are putting into what they do each day, I am in awe. This is challenging work, but we will make it through together, and that includes you!

Thank you and let’s keep moving forward!

Leigh Hiester
Principal
lhiester@jeffco.k12.co.us
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Hello Foster!

My name is Emily Boncore and I am here at Foster as the school-based therapist through Jefferson Center.

I provide ongoing individual and family mental health therapy for students and families at Foster.

I work with students and families dealing with ADHD, anger, anxiety, abuse, divorce, depression, family and life transitions, self-esteem, suicidality, self-harm and trauma. I currently work with students both in person at Foster and in a remote telehealth setting for those students who are remote learning.

I am excited to support students and families at Foster and find it a privilege to be a part of this community. I am more than happy to answer any questions you may have and would love to connect with you and your family if you are in need of mental health support.

You can reach me at emilybo@jcmh.org or 303-335-7340.
Join Foster’s Parent-Teacher Association!
Foster Dual Language PK-8 PTA is a Community of Parents and Teachers working together in a Bilingual Environment to support our amazing students and to build community!

If you would like more information, please join us at a PTA meeting or email president@fosterpta.org or find us on Facebook.com/FosterElementaryPTA

Membership is online this year! https://foster-pk-8.cheddarup.com
(You do not need to be a member to attend meetings)

NEXT PTA MEETING IS NOVEMBER 5 AT 5PM (via Zoom)
Spanish/English translation is provided.

¡Únase a la Asociación de Padres y Maestros de Foster!
¡La PTA de Foster es una comunidad de padres y maestros trabajando juntos en un ambiente bilingüe para apoyar a los estudiantes maravillosos y construir comunidad!

Para más información por favor asista a una reunion o envíe un correo electrónico a president@fosterpta.org o visítenos a Facebook.com/FosterElementaryPTA

¡La membresía está en línea este año! https://foster-pk-8.cheddarup.com
(No es necesario ser miembro para asistir a las reuniones)

LA PRÓXIMA REUNIÓN DE LA PTA ES EL 5 DE NOVIEMBRE A LAS 5 (por Zoom)
Tendremos traducción al español/inglés.

Zoom instructions / Instrucciones para Zoom

To join / para participar...

Online/ en línea: https://zoom.us/j/91613169858

Phone / por teléfono: 253-215-8782