Dear Foster Families,

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of this school year. It has been a great one and we thank you for sharing your precious children with us. We have had four community meetings this week to talk about and gain input for changes happening at Foster in the coming years. This was divided into two different areas of focus: first, what middle school will look like next year and second, what the community wants the school to look like in the next 3 to 4 years.

**Middle School summary for 2019-20:**

- Students in 6th and 7th grades will make up our first Foster Middle school next year. We will add 8th the following year. 7th and 8th grade will be for Dual Language students only.
- We are finalizing staffing and at this point only need to hire a bilingual secondary Math teacher.
- Students will have lockers and will be in the intermediate hall.
- They will have a different set of rules than the elementary students. (soft start, not lining up, fluid lunch time, choice of pizza for lunch as they do in middle school)
- Chromebooks and ipads for every student.
- Two electives each day: Band/Orchestra/Mariachi and one other choice between topics such as: photography with Mr. Jesse, Circus Arts with Ms. Sammy, Percussion ensemble with Ms. Bequette, STEM exploration with Ms. Carla, and more.
- Partnership with Arvada High School - weekly STEM work at AHS in their engineering lab, STEM lab, or PBL with the students and teachers there.
- Block Schedule will be utilized to provide more time on certain days for students to dig deeper into learning.
- We will have meaningful, purposeful homework for 6th and 7th graders
- Space- addition begins in January 2020 and our plan is that it will be our middle school wing.
- Trips to Peru (March 2021) and Washington DC (next year) for students who would like to travel there. (ask Ms. Sammy or Mr. Jesse for more info)
- Continuation for 5th grade will be May 21st for 5th graders and May 22 for 6th graders. Both start at 6:00 in the amphitheater.

These are the main topics I covered about middle school for next year. We will have another informational meeting in May for future middle school parents to share more information.

I also shared that there is a group of staff and parents who are working on the proposal to take to the school board about Foster becoming a Dual Language PK-8 school. This work is happening because Most Dual Language programs across the nation are stand alone schools, rather than a program within a school. This shift would allow for Foster to build the entire community around one clear focus and create a stronger vision for the school with wall-to-wall programming. The expansion to 7th and 8th grade will provide equity in programming in Spanish and support students in attaining the Jeffco Seal of Biliteracy.
Here are the models we are considering taking to the school board:

**Model #1 : Foster Dual PK-8 STEM Option school**
For the 2021 school year, Foster would shift to a Dual PK-8 school. The boundaries would change for the current neighborhood students in the tradition strand and they would attend Secrest, Lawrence, or Arvada K-8. Transportation would be provided.

**Model #2 : Transition to Foster Dual PK-8 STEM school**
For the 2020-21 school year, Foster would shift to Dual Language PK-8 programming, but we would not offer Traditional Kindergarten or Traditional 6th grade. We would fulfill our commitment for traditional programming for students who are in 1st-5th grade for that school year and then revisit based on numbers for the 2021-22 school year. Students could then attend Secrest, Lawrence, or Arvada K-8. Transportation would be provided.

**Model #3 : The Hybrid Foster Dual PK-8 STEM school Model**
For the 2020-21 school year, Foster would shift to Dual PK-8 programming. We would combine elements of model one and two which would honor our current neighborhood boundaries as priority enrollment. We would not offer Traditional Kindergarten or Traditional 6th grade. We would fulfill our commitment for traditional programming for students who are in 1st-5th grade for that school year and then revisit based on numbers for the 2021-22 school year. Students could then attend Secrest, Lawrence, or Arvada K-8. Transportation would be provided.

We will have another survey sent to you in the coming weeks to get more feedback on the options and will be going to the Board of Education again next month to share our information and request for next steps. Now is the time to get involved if you have an opinion about this important issue.

Thank you to Tracie Mayes for our awesome new “Hecho en Foster” design! It rocks!

Thank you to all of you for your continued support and communication. It truly takes a village and I am so grateful to share this village with each and every one of you.

**In Peace,**
Leigh

**Accountability Committee**

We hope you will join us for our next Accountability meeting which will be on Thursday, May 16th at 3:00 in Leigh’s office. We will continue to discuss the proposal of Foster becoming a Dual Language PK-8 school. Please join us!
Dear Kinder Families,

We are fast approaching the end of our school year! Here are some important highlights and reminders:

Writing – Wow! Kinder writing has evolved so much since August. Please continue to help your child dive into writing by writing together at home. A fun way is to have a special family notebook where you can write letters to your child and they write back, grocery lists, about your weekends, etc. J

**Important May Dates:**

May 1st – Spring Carnival

Assessment Days – Thursday, May 2nd and Friday, May 3rd

Zoo Field Trip – Friday, May 10th

Kinder Continuation – Wednesday, May 22nd @ 10:00 a.m. followed by a potluck after the ceremony. Stay tuned for more details about bringing a dish to share.

We love teaching your children!
Please feel free to contact us with any questions, concerns or ideas.

Thank you for your support!

Ms. Melissa, Ms. Shannon, and Ms. Alma
We want to thank you for a great year! We have enjoyed having your students in class.

Please continue to check your students red folders and class dojo for any upcoming information.

iPads and all their accessories will be staying at school starting April 29th. If you have any broken or lost items, they will need to be paid for by the end of the year.

Thank you for coming to our first grade PBL program and seeing all of the student's amazing work.

Thank you!

Ms. Rosa, Ms. Brie, Ms. Stephanie
Dear Parents and Families,

We are amazed at how fast this school year has gone by! This past month we have been continuing to grow and learn as second graders. We will soon be ready for 3rd grade! Wow! We continue to practice and monitor our Peace Promises each week. This is as important as ever this last month of school. Please ask your child how they are doing with their Peace Promises and check in on Class DoJo!

In Reading and Writing we have been working on sharing our opinions about a story or event. This included not only stating our opinion but giving evidence based on the text for our thinking. Students worked hard at writing a topic sentence, stating more than one evidence based reason for their opinion and writing a concluding sentence. We had a lot of fun reading the story, “Hey Little Ant” in both Spanish and English environments and writing our opinion of the story. We have also started our next unit on comparing and contrasting fairytales and folktales. Students have a lot of fun with this unit reading different stories from around the world. We also learn to write our own fictional narratives.

In Math we have been working very hard at adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers! We are getting it! Students are becoming more confident at regrouping and ungrouping numbers. This is complex thinking that requires students to have a deep understanding of our number system. Students use multiple strategies for showing their thinking and understanding of hundreds, tens and ones when solving problems. We will soon start our final unit on arrays and fractions.

In Social Studies we have been learning about communities past and present. Students shared their timelines with the class and learned so much from each other! We loved seeing all the amazing ideas you thought of to explore with your children! We had timelines of families, Barbie, Micky Mouse, clocks, cars, sports, The Arvada School House and so much more! It was truly amazing to see how much work kids put into this project! Next we have our final Science unit on Push and Pull. Students will learn about different forces through a variety of hands on activities.

Thank you for everything! Please remind your children to stay Focused on Learning these last weeks of school. As you can see we are not done learning! We will continue to communicate about events the last week of school and would love your support!

Upcoming Second Grade Events:
• Columbine Park Walking Field Trip (Last week of school)
• Old Town Arvada Splash Fountains and Scrumptious Walking Field Trip (Last Week of School)
Last Day of School Potluck

Sincerely,
Ms. Hollie, Ms. Marcela and Ms. Heidi
Dear families,
We can’t believe it is already May and that our year with your third graders is almost over! Thank you for all your support that made this year such an incredible one. We will be wrapping the year with Social Studies, learning about the cultural regions and interactions of the First Americans.

Math will bring us full circle, putting together everything we’ve learned this year and using it to solve real world problems. Students will use their critical thinking skills to justify and defend the strategies they use to solve various problems.

Writing will again be a culmination of all they have learned about being a writer. We will apply our knowledge of previously learned genres and use all parts of the writing process to write for a specific purpose and audience. We will think about how we have grown as writers and prepare to become 4th grade writers!

In our final Reading unit, we will be applying all of the reading skills and strategies we’ve learned to deeply comprehend complex texts. We will demonstrate this deep thinking both orally and in writing, digging deep by reading a text multiple times to actively engage in using all strategies and skills learned throughout the school year.

Upcoming Events
Wednesday, May 1: Spring Carnival
Thursday-Friday, May 2-3: Student Assessment Day: by appointment only
Monday, May 13: Talent Show
Thursday, May 23: Last Day of School, Early Dismissal @ 1:10 pm

Again, thank you so much for a wonderful year! We know our students will do great things in 4th grade!

Thank you,
The third grade team
4th Grade News!

Wow, it’s crazy that we’re moving into our last month of 4th grade! This year has flown by FAST! April was a busy month! The 4th graders did an amazing job on CMAS, always putting forth their best effort! They also did a great job sharing their expertise on Colorado in 4th grade program, The Colorado History Museum.

Thank you for all of your support this year! Please make sure to have your child continue practicing math facts and reading from now until the beginning of 5th grade! The 4th graders have worked super hard to make growth this year, and we don’t want them to lose what they’ve learned over the summer. For the students in dual, make sure they are practicing their second language as much as possible over the summer!

What are we learning?

[Math: Geometry:] In this unit, students will be able to explain concepts of angle measurements and identify/solve for angles using estimation, benchmarks, and protractors and explore properties of plane/2D geometric figures and use key vocabulary to describe and classify based on their attributes.

[Science:] In our final science unit, Detectives of the Past (ecosystems), students will learn about food chains, food web, energy transfer (producer, consumer, decomposer), ecosystems, habitats between and among living and nonliving components of ecosystems and what happens when new species are introduced.

[Writing:] We will continue working on our last writing unit of the year, Writing Across All Genres. The focus of this unit is for students to revise previous texts and/or write new pieces; applying their knowledge of previously studied genres, narrative, informational, opinion/persuasive, using all parts of the writing process to write for a specific purpose and audience.

[Reading:] We will continue working on our final reading unit of the year, Exploring Deeper Connections. The focus of this unit is for students to compare and contrast multiple forms of texts. In order to do this, students need to independently select and apply reading strategies and continually monitor their thinking and understanding.

Important Dates to Remember!

- Thursday, May 2nd & Friday, May 3rd: Flex Days (testing by appointment)
- Monday, May 13th: Field trip to Four Mile Historic Park
- Tuesday, May 14th: Talent Show
- Thursday, May 23rd: Last Day of School 1:10 dismissal

Thank you for your support!! We have loved having your children in class with us this year!!

The 4th Grade Team
Hello 5/6 grade families!

Welcome to April!!
In the past month we have been busy preparing for the review units. We have had so much growth and now we look forward to much more before we end the year.

We will be having an informational meeting for parents about our GROWING and CHANGING unit in the 5th grade rooms, please see the Friday folders for more info.

In these last few weeks of school we have so much learning to do. We do not have any other long term planning days, however we have so many exciting things planned for May. Our 5/6 program will be a concert and a STEM fair.

Here is the tentative schedule:
The concert will be at 5:00
A performance will be right after
The STEM fair will be 5:30-6:00

Soon we will be collecting the iPads, If you are looking for some additional homework or activities please continue to do math facts and read at home. We will send iPad fee sheets home as they apply. As we move closer to the summer months please remind your student to only bring water in their water bottles for the classroom. We want to ensure that the students are getting enough water to feel comfortable at school. Please feel free to email or call with any questions or concerns.
Thank you for a wonderful school year! and we look forward to seeing what amazing 6th and 7th graders Foster will have next year!!

Information will be sent shortly about the end of the year celebrations and activities.

All the best,
5th and 6th Grade
Fit Bits: News from the Foster P.E. Department!

Thank you Foster Roadrunners for all your hard work raising money for the American Heart Association during our annual Kids Heart Challenge fundraiser! We almost met our goal of raising $5,000.00 with a grand total of $2,985.00 collected! We can all be proud of the money we are donating to a worthy cause.

I’d like to especially thank Beau and Dexter Friesden for raising the most money in the school with over $300.00 donated! Great job boys and thank you for your contribution!

We will be receiving our PE thank you money and the thank you prizes in 2 or 3 weeks, Ms. Sammy will deliver them to your student’s classroom.

Stay healthy, stay happy!

Ms. Sammy Chumacero
Music Notes

Wow I can’t believe that I am writing this for the month of May! This year went so incredibly fast. I am so impressed with the musicianship of our students at Foster. As the years go by and students’ musical experiences mature, it is a real pleasure to watch this transformation take place.

This year we have explored singing, moving, playing and creating.

Talent show is coming up and students are working hard to get prepared for that big show.

Over the summer be sure to include music as a part of every day.

Allison Bequette
Foster Music
From the Library
Carla Coverdell, Digital Teacher Librarian and GT Building Liaison

If you are receiving overdue notices for books checked out of Foster’s library, please assist your child in locating and returning those books as soon as possible. This allows other students to enjoy them too. Sometimes books are returned and not checked in; if your child indicates the book has been returned, let our library staff know so we can check our shelves. Sometimes, books are returned to school but don’t get back to the library. Lost books can be paid for in the library which allows students to resume checking out. If a lost book is paid for and then found, your money will be refunded. ALL student library books are due May 9. Any fees for lost books not paid for by the end of the year will be posted to individual student accounts with payment required when school begins. Thanks for helping us keep our collection intact and available to all of our young patrons.

Foster’s annual Buy One Get One (BOGO) book fair will be open in the library on the following days:
Monday, April 29  1:00-4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 30  8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 1  8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (open during Spring Carnival)

Book Fair set up will begin at 9 a.m. on Monday, April 29; teardown will occur May 2 starting at 9 a.m. If you would like to assist with book fair tasks, please contact the librarian at carla.coverdell@jeffco.k12.co.us or by calling the school office. Additional information coming soon!

Student iPads will be collected at the end of the year. Each student will be required to return the device, the full cover (including the hard screen cover), original cable and charging box. The Foster charging box includes a number strip that corresponds to the barcode on the device. We do not accept alternate equipment. Our iPad Agreement includes return or replacement of all equipment. You may make payment for missing/damaged components in the office.

iPad Fee Schedule
iPad  $300.00
Otterbox cover $  46.00 (full price for any missing component or negligent damage/no charge for accidental damage)
Cable  $  9.50
Charging Box $  11.50

Please assist your child in locating all components. Any replacement costs not paid by end of year will be posted to student accounts. If you have questions, check with your child’s teacher.
Sometimes we're all too quick to count down the days till school is out that we forget to make the days count.

Please remember to pick up your students' medications on the last day of school. **ANY and ALL medication(s) that are left in the Clinic will be discarded according to District policy.**

Reminders for next year:

Please make sure your child is all caught up on his/hers immunizations shots (per District & State policy).

**ALL NEW FORMS MUST BE FILLED OUT and signed by your Healthcare Provider for ALL Medication Prescriptions and Over the Counter Medications (Per District & State policy).**

Summer fun is almost here, please be safe, healthy, and happy.

Sincerely,

Health Aide
Holli Mulholland
Dear Parents and Guardians,

Quiet zones will be in effect along the entirety of the G Line corridor on April 26, 2019, when the line opens for passenger service. Quiet zones are areas along a railroad segment where train operators don’t have to sound their train horns at crossings on a routine basis. Train operators will no longer be sounding their horns at railroad crossings; however, the operator reserves the right to use their horn under circumstances that require additional safety precautions such as:

• If there is an issue with the timing of a crossing gate.
• When workers are on or near the tracks.
• When pedestrian or vehicle traffic could affect train travel through a crossing.
• Anytime it is believed that an emergency situation exits or could exist.
• When a train uses automatic train control instead of positive train control.

The following safety measures have been put into place by RTD at intersections along the line to keep pedestrians, vehicles and train passengers safe after quiet zones are implemented:

• Bells at gate location and flashing red lights to alert all traffic and pedestrians that a train is coming.
• Ample safety signage installed to alert pedestrians and vehicles of where to safely stop for the trains.
• Four gate arms in place to block lanes in both directions to stop vehicles from going around the gates when descended.
• A gate arm or pull swing gate at each intersection to alert them of a train coming.
• Chain link fencing along the sidewalk approaching the intersection to channel pedestrians to the correct area.

All crossings are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

RTD has conducted an extensive safety outreach and education program since before the commuter rail lines became operational, known as the Partners in Safety Program. To request a safety education presentation or materials, contact communityengagement@rtd-denver.com.

RTD needs your help with educating children about safe behaviors on and around our transit system. Please take a few moments to review the following safety tips with your family:

• Avoid using headphones and your cell phone awhile around trains and tracks.
• Always follow safety signage and obey warning devices like flashing red lights and crossing gate arms.
• Stop and wait for the gates to fully raise before crossing the tracks.
• Always look both ways before crossing the track as trains can travel from either direction at any time.
• Never trespass on any train track – it's illegal and dangerous.
• Gate attendants may be present at crossings at any time as a safety precaution, such as routine maintenance or repair. Be prepared to follow their instructions.

For additional safety tips, or to take RTD’s safety pledge, visit our Partners in Safety webpage. Please contact communityengagement@rtd-denver.com with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support in making our transit system safe for everyone.

Sincerely,

RTD Community Engagement