



ROADRUNNER EXPRESS

Foster Elementary
Jefferson County Public Schools

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**August
2019**

Principal's Page

Dear Foster Families,

Welcome back! It is exciting to begin this school year with the addition of our new dual language middle school group. If you look down the intermediate hallway, you will see the lockers that we had installed and the 6th and 7th graders have been feverishly learning how to open them, memorizing combinations, and learning to do much more than they ever imagined in their 3 minute passing periods.

We have the middle school students learning the basics of being a mariachi, which included learning to play guitar. The African drumming, ceramics, circus arts, mindfulness, and STEM electives are off to a great start and I am looking forward to seeing what the students are able to accomplish during their 9-week class. Foster is lucky to have such amazing and talented teachers!

The elementary program has started smoothly as well and the teachers have worked hard to make sure everyone feels engaged and included. Students have learned the procedures they needed to master and are ready to learn. On August 27th we had our Lockdown Drill practice and everyone did a fantastic job. We are ready to learn and to be safe!

In terms of changes for Foster in the coming year, we continue to have meetings at the district level to determine what that will look like. We will be presenting to the School Board and the Superintendent in the next few months about the recommendations for next steps regarding proceeding with Foster becoming a Dual Language PK-8 school. Our hope is to have the final decisions by November 1st so that families can plan accordingly.

Happy start of the year to you all!
Leigh

Accountability Committee

We hope you will join us for our first Accountability meeting of the school year; which will be on Thursday, September 12th at 3:00 in Leigh's office. We will continue to discuss the proposal of Foster becoming a Dual Language PK-8 school and give you some updates on school growth and data. Please join us!



**September
2019**

- 2 . . . Labor Day-NO School
- 13 . . Individual Pictures
- 13 . . PTA Mtg. 9-10AM
- 16 . . PTA Mtg. 6-7PM
- 19 . . Field Day
- 20 . . NO SCHOOL Prof.Learning
- 25 . . 1 Day Count thru 10/9



Kindergarten

Welcome Kinder Families!

Kindergarten is such a special year in your child's academic career! We look forward to forming a solid partnership with each of you, having your child's success as our common goal.

This month in Kinder, we have been working on learning the procedures and routines of our classrooms. These routines will help us establish peaceful and safe environments in our classrooms.

We have also been busy learning about the important *Peace Promises* that will help us do our best and treat others with kindness. We have been practicing how to use the Peace Place in our classrooms.

Hands On Parent Tip: One major part of Kinder is the importance of good handwashing to lessen the spread of germs. You can help your child by practicing good handwashing at home accompanied by a fun song:

"Wash, wash, wash your hands, play our handy game.
Rub and scrub and scrub and rub!
Germs go down the drain! Hey!"
(Sung to the tune of Row Your Boat)

Thank you for your support!

Ms. Melissa, Ms. Shannon, and Ms. Alma





Welcome to first grade! We are so excited to be at Foster teaching your children.

Our traditional teacher is Ms. Melissa.

Our Dual Language teachers are Ms. Brie and Ms. Rosa.

For the first weeks of school, our goal is getting to know your students and helping them learn classroom routines.

- ♦ In literacy, we are learning how to pick appropriate books, check for understanding and how to read to ourselves.
- ♦ In math, we are reviewing last year's knowledge, further developing our number sense, and adding/subtracting to ten.
- ♦ In writing, students will be keeping a draft book and learning to use the writing process.
- ♦ We are also working on conflict resolution and following Foster school behavior expectations.

♦ Please make sure your child has headphones because we will be rolling out the iPads in our classrooms throughout the next couple of weeks.

We look forward to meeting all of you and teaching your children throughout the year.

Ms. Melissa, Ms. Brie, Ms. Rosa



2ND GRADE

Welcome 2nd Grade Families!

We are so excited to grow with your children this year! Our goal is to form a solid partnership with all of you to ensure your child's success. These first few weeks of school have been spent working on the routines and procedures of the classroom. We want to create a safe and productive class community and peaceful learning environments. In each subject area we are putting routines in place to help everyone in the classroom succeed at their task or job. We are also learning how to be a community member and solve problems peacefully.

Our 2nd grade team consists of 3 teachers. Ms. Heather Vogel is teaching our traditional strand, Ms. Hollie Sprague is our Dual English teacher, and Ms. Elena Mendoza Bilger is our Dual Spanish teacher. We are very honored to serve your families this school year. As our 2nd grade journey begins we look forward to motivating your children and lighting a spark in their hearts for learning and discovering!

Looking forward we will be continuing to put routines in place the next few weeks. In reading we will be working on collaborative conversations, retelling stories and identifying the main idea in a book. In writing we will be collecting ideas, planning and drafting personal narratives. Please don't forget to send in pictures for your child to use to decorate their draftbooks! In math we will be working on manipulating 2 or more single digit numbers to find sums. We will also use our knowledge of parts and whole to solve and justify word problems. In Social Studies we will be learning all about our community how to be a positive community member.

We would like to thank you all for coming to Back to School Night. It is always a pleasure meeting all of our new families. We are going to have a great year and please feel free to email us if you need anything!

Sincerely,
The 2nd Grade Team





Hello Third Grade Families!

Welcome to a whole new year!

We have enjoyed getting to know your students these last few weeks, and look forward to building relationships that will support our community of learners throughout the year. Our time together has been focused on setting ourselves up for a successful school year through community building activities, establishing norms and procedures, and learning about the 7 Habits of Happy Kids.

Moving forward, we will be launching our Reading, Writing, Math, and Content Workshops. Students will be reviewing concepts they already know, and learning new skills and strategies that will build the foundation for the duration of the school year.

Thank you for coming to Back to School Night. Please check Class Dojo regularly, and if you haven't signed up, please do - it will be our primary form of communication!

Thank you!
Ms. Nikki, Ms. Paola, and Ms. Whitaker





4th Grade News!

Welcome back to another exciting year at Foster!! We'd like to take a moment to introduce our team of 4th grade teachers this year.

Ms. Stephanie Hultine is in her 12th year of teaching and very happy to be here at Foster. She will be teaching the 4th grade Dual Classroom. She will be teaching Literacy and content in English.

Mrs. Vicky has been teaching 13th years in Jeffco and 12 years at Foster. She will be teaching Math and Literacy in Spanish for 4th grade dual. We've had a great time getting to know your children over the past few weeks! We've spent a lot of time learning and practicing our rules and procedures and are already diving into our curriculum. 4th grade is a big year of growth in academics and independence.

We're excited to build great relationships with you and your children this year! Please keep us updated with your latest contact information and feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Vicky veortiz@jeffco.k12.co.us

Ms. Stephanie shultine@jeffco.k12.co.us



This is 5th Grade

Hi families! Welcome back and we're so happy to have your students in our classes this year. Thank you for attending Back to School Night.

Students will be receiving new chrome books soon along with iPads. Both devices are to be used for academic use.

Here is an overview of our first units. Hopefully students are coming home and sharing their new learnings with you.

Math - Adding and Subtracting Fractions

Social Studies - Emerging America and the colonization of the US

Writing - Learning the writing workshop and writing a slice of life narrative

Reading - Learning Reader's workshop, setting goals, and reviewing important comprehension strategies to guide us this year

Word Study - Language acquisition and bridging between English and Spanish

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your students' teachers.

Tiffany Alvarez (Traditional) - tiffany.alvarez@jeffco.k12.co.us

Kristin Steele (Dual - English) - kristin.steele@jeffco.k12.co.us

Julie Cole (Dual - Spanish) - julie.cole@jeffco.k12.co.us



middle SCHOOL

English Lang. Arts

Welcome back to school! I missed you all so much. I am happy to see the returning middle schoolers and I look forward to all of the exciting changes. Please be sure to check the class website found on the class syllabus. Also, please be sure to check Campus for attendance and grades. The first units are as follows:

6th Grade: Exploring Character Response

7th Grade: Examining the Influence of Setting Character Development.

Our Arvada High School Visits should be in full swing after week 2 of school. While we are there we will be doing STEM related activities.

Spanish Lang. Arts

Welcome my dear parents! I am so excited to start a new year with all the students again. I am teaching Literacy in Spanish and the first units are as follows:

6th Grade: I am bilingual

7th Grade: Unveiling my identity

Please check out the classroom website; which can be found in the class syllabus for some updates.

We will be using Infinite Campus this year for all grades and attendance,
so make sure to sign into your account and check weekly.

Math

Hi, My name is Michael Chavez and I am the new middle school Math teacher. I will be helping your son/daughter achieve their best in everything we do. The first unit we are beginning with is "Ratios"

Students will have homework this year in order to retain as much as they possibly can to move forward

Science

My name is Nidya Caviedes I'm excited to be starting my first year at Foster. I am the new 6th and 7th grade Science teacher and the first units are as follows:

6th Grade: Matter

7th: Mixtures

Please be sure to check Campus for attendance and grades,
also make sure to sign into your account and check weekly.

Social Studies

Welcome to 6th & 7th grade Social Studies! I'm excited to be starting my 10th year here at Foster as a part of the middle school team! Please check out our classroom website; which can be found in our class syllabus and on our school website.

We will be using Infinite Campus this year for all grades and attendance, so make sure to sign into your account and check weekly.

We are beginning our year with the following units:

6th Grade: Western Hemisphere: The Development of Cultures Over Time

7th Grade: Eastern Hemisphere: Legacies of Early Civilizations

6th Grade families, Outdoor Lab Meeting: Monday, September 9th @5:30-6:30pm

Outdoor Lab: Monday, October 21st- Thursday, October 24th





Welcome to the 2019/20 Visual Arts newsletter!

This letter will inform you, the parent/guardian the art happenings here at Foster. I am extremely excited about this year and I am looking forward to all of the art your child will be producing in their class.

This school year will be about exploration of traditional art (drawing, painting and sculpture) as well as exploring some non-traditional art (S.T.E.A.M, recycled art, and animation).

If you would like to see, some examples of artwork please feel free to visit our Foster Elementary Art page on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ArtFosterelem>).

Thank you!



Music Notes

I hope that all students are ready to come back to school for another great year!

As we move through the first few weeks we will all get to know each other again and welcome our new students into their class rooms.

In music, students will have the opportunity to learn new skills and concepts that center around beat and rhythm, melody, harmony and form according to their grade level. All children will be able to experiment and create, discovering music using our Orff instruments and other equipment as well as use their very own instrument-voices!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Ms. Bequette

Allison.bequette@jeffco.k12.co.us



From the Library

The Foster Elementary library is open for business! Each class will visit our library once per week with their classes to check out books and other resources. Books may be kept for up to two weeks, though they may be returned earlier. Please help your child take good care of their library books and return them on time. If your child had a lost book at the end of school last year, you may pay for those books in the office. The fine has been posted to each child's Campus account which may also be paid online.

iPads are being issued to students as well. In most cases, returning students are receiving the same device they used last year. Please alert the library or your child's teacher right away if there are missing/damaged components or damage to the device so we can get that remedied quickly. If your child did not return all of the components at the end of the school year, please drop by and either return the missing components (might be part of a case, a charger, or a cable) or pay for them so the device can be issued. Cables are available for \$10.70 and adapters are \$11.50 at this time and can be purchased in the office.. Otterboxes can be purchased for \$46 if any part of the cover was not returned or if there was purposeful damage.

As we begin the year with iPads, we ask families to review care and use requirements for devices at home and at school. All students will have access to iPads for the instructional day and will continue to be responsible for care and proper use of these devices while at school and at home. Families are financially responsible for negligent or purposeful damage to devices as per the agreement you reviewed when enrolling your child(ren).



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES OF 5th, 6th AND 7th GRADERS:

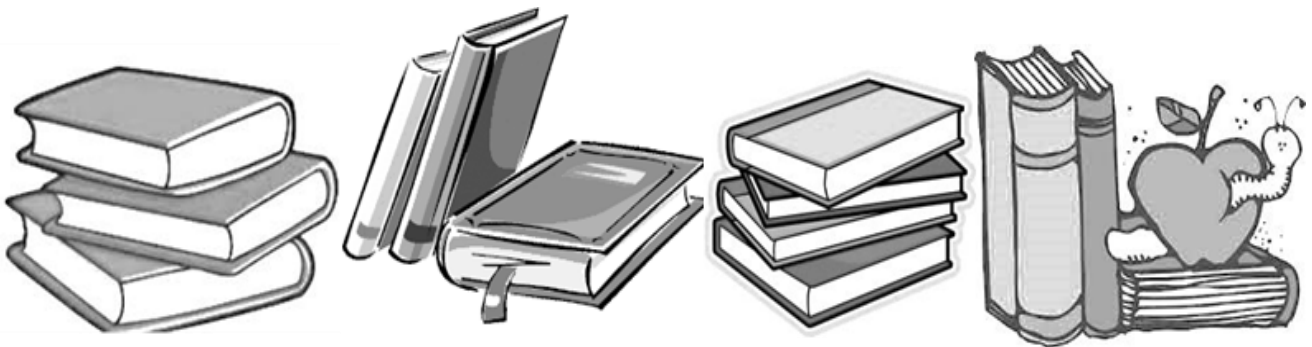
Lenovo Flip/Touch Chromebooks have been issued to students in grades 5 through 7. At the present time these devices will remain at school. When enrolling your student, you agreed to the Technology Use Agreement which provides access to district/school owned devices at school and at home. Fines related to damage/loss done purposefully or through negligence is the responsibility of the student. Examples of repair costs (not including labor) are:

Broken/Damaged Screen \$100
Motherboard \$100

Keyboard \$ 50
Battery \$ 50

Lenovo is offering a warranty which can be purchased by families anytime within the first year for Chromebooks only (not iPads). This warranty helps families pay for losses/damage as needed. You will need the serial number of the device issued to your child which can be found on the back of the device. There are several warranty options available; to learn more, please visit Jeffco's Tech for Education website at: https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/academics/curriculum/technology_in_the_classroom/techford

www.jeffcopublicschools.org/academics/curriculum/technology_in_the_classroom/techford





Dear Parents,

We hope that you and your children have had a fantastic summer break and that you are off to a great start for the 2019-2010 school year at Foster Elementary!

The Special Education team will be collaborating and maintaining open communication with General Education teachers and parents, so that we can provide the necessary support our students need to make significant academic progress in a safe, structured, and positive environment.

Foster's Special Team members are listed below.

Please call ahead to set up an appointment at (303) 982-1680:

Katie Miller: Speech and Language Pathologist (part time
Wednesday and Friday 8:15-3:50) ext: 5-8854

Ashley Doherty: Speech and Language Pathologist
(part time: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:15-3:50)

Meredith Nunnelly, School Social Worker:
Monday- Friday 8:15-3:50) ext: 5-8839

Annie Huebner Middle School Learning Specialist
(part time Tuesday, Wednesday and ½ day Thursday)

Pilar Rojas-Russell: K-5 Bilingual Learning Specialist
(Monday –Friday all day) ext: 5-8856

TBD K-5 Traditional Environment and Dual/English Learning Specialist
(Monday –Friday all day) ext: 5-8856





Hello Foster Families!

My name is Emily Boncore and I am the school-based therapist through the Jefferson Center for Mental Health at Foster. I wanted to introduce myself and share with the Foster community a little bit about the services I provide.

- I provide ongoing individual, group, and family therapy at Foster Elementary.
- I can work with students and families regarding a number of issues including ADD/ADHD, anxiety, abuse, bullying, divorce, depression, family and life transitions, self-esteem, trauma and anger (to name a few).

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!

