

Excel Academy Eagle Update

October 6, 2023

UPDATES FROM THE SCHOOL

Dear Eagle Families,

Welcome to October! It's a great time of year when we start to see students settled into routines and engaged in learning. We look forward to seeing you at our Guardian-Teacher Conferences next week!



Please join me in welcoming the following staff members who recently joined our community:

- **Ms. Remy Harris** is our new School Counselor. Ms. Harris will be working with students to support social-emotional and behavioral learning. She will also be one of our school's 504 Team Leads once she completes the requisite district training.
- **Ms. Anne McGovernan** is a new Paraprofessional, supporting Mrs. Makey's 1st grade classroom. Mrs. McGovernan is also a parent in our community who brings experience from the health and human services sectors to her work.
- **Ms. Tricia Kent** is a new Paraprofessional who will be supporting our elementary Intervention and Special Service Provider teams. While new to Excel, Ms. Kent is not new to charter schools. Her own children attended charter schools and Ms. Kent previously worked as a Clinic Aide at a charter here in Jeffco for 16 years.

Thank you to the 32 families who have already completed the Quick Pulse Survey! The Excel Academy Board of Directors and I are taking a quick pulse survey as a follow-up related to topics aligned with Excel Academy's Strategic Plan. By completing a pulse survey now, we can better assure that we continue things that are going well and enhance or change areas needing improvement. Please take five minutes between now and October 16th to [complete the pulse survey](#). Thank you providing feedback to help Excel Academy continue to grow and improve.

In closing, just a friendly reminder that there is no school for students from Friday, October 13th through Friday, October 20th due to Fall Break.

In Partnership,
Kresta Vuolo
Executive Director

Guardian-Teacher Conferences

We look forward to connecting with families during Guardian-Teacher Conferences. These are scheduled by appointment for Elementary and on-demand in person for Middle School on Tuesday, October 10th from 4:30 - 8:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 12th from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.



ELEMENTARY CONFERENCES:

Elementary families signed up for conference slots (2 15-minute slots for students on READ Plans or one 15-minute standard spot) with their specific teacher. Please plan to arrive at the school with plenty of time to park, buzz in, and get to the classroom. Please have a seat in the chairs outside of the classroom until one minute prior to your scheduled conference time. At one minute before your scheduled conference time, please knock on the door. If the door is still closed at your scheduled conference time, please knock again and then walk in. If you need more than your allotted and scheduled time, you will need to schedule an additional call for a later date, as we need for conferences to end at their scheduled time

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONFERENCES:

Middle School students filled out a conference reflection form in homeroom this week. That form should be coming home to you today. Last week we sent home MAP scores. These two forms will guide our 5-7 minute conversations at conferences next week so please bring them to conferences with you and look them over before you come. Please also bring a list of your child's teachers so you know who you to meet with. When you arrive, please come to the gym where all of our Middle School teachers will be seated at tables. Guardians will form lines to speak with teachers. Please form a line about 5 feet behind the table in order to provide privacy for families while they talk with the teacher. When it's your time, you will have 5-7 minutes to speak with the teacher. If you need more time, you can request that the teacher contact you to schedule another time.



Classroom Fall Parties

On Tuesday, October 31st students can wear costumes to school.

All costumes must be Rated "G", meet dress code requirements, be school appropriate, and follow the guidelines below:

- No face masks, hats, weapons, or depictions of scary characters or violence
- Face paint must still allow staff to easily identify the person
- No blood, gore, or things that could frighten our youngest scholars
- No Inflatable Costumes
- Students must be able to sit easily at their desk and do schoolwork

We will have a regular school day until 2:45 when class parties begin. Please keep this in mind, as costumes could get soiled or damaged during the school day activities.

Classroom parties will start at 2:45. For space reasons and to support students for whom noise, crowds and activity can be overwhelming, we ask that classroom volunteers be limited to 2 people. Watch for an email from the classroom teacher with ways to donate to the class party.

Hat Day Fundraiser, Tuesday, Oct. 10

Wear your favorite school-appropriate hat for the day for only \$2 on Tuesday, October 10!

Some of our 6th and 8th graders have chosen the YouthBiz Exploration where they are focusing on fundraising for their extended overnight field studies to Arizona and Washington D.C. Please support our students' efforts by wearing a hat for \$2 on Tuesday.

Hat Day [Flyer](#)



Explorations Needs - Volunteer Opportunities

Supplies: Explorations is underway, and our students have begun planning and crafting their projects. Students have come up with a supply list and we are looking for donations to fulfill their wish lists. It would be wonderful if we could get some of these supplies by

Wednesday when Explorations meets again. If you are able, please consider donating to our

Explorations supply needs: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094EAFAF2BAB9-44975057-explorations>

Remember that for every \$10 you spend, you can log one volunteer hour with the PTO.

Thank you so much!



Sewing Machine and Volunteer: Our middle school Fashion Explorations class wants to learn how to sew their own clothes. **Do we have any volunteers who would be willing to bring in their sewing machine and give a demonstration?** Better yet, any volunteers willing to come in every week during Explorations to help the kids learn and practice? Explorations is every Wednesday from 2:40 - 3:30. *Please contact Shelley Smith at Shelley.Smith@jeffco.k12.co.us if you would like to volunteer. We would love to have you join us!*



Jessica Kim, Author Visit - Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6

We are so fortunate to have author, Jessica Kim, visiting Excel on Tuesday, October 10. Students in grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 will spend an hour with Ms. Kim, author of [Make a Move, Sunny Park!](#) and [Stand Up, Yumi Chung!](#) Book orders turned in before her visit will be personalized by Ms. Kim. We will still have books available after her visit that will be autographed. Order your book [here](#).

Eagle Athletics

The **volleyball** team showed marked improvement on Monday when facing the Evergreen Country Day School. Game one of the "B" team series featured a back and forth affair with Evergreen eventually prevailing 25-23. In game two, Excel put it all together whipping Evergreen 25-17. In the rubber match Evergreen was too much for our girls and we fell 15-9. The game we won marked the first game our "B" team won this year! In the nightcap the "A" team flexed its muscles and dismantled Evergreen 25-7 and 25-0, yes you read that right 25-0. Gianna Marcolina started out the match serving and never relinquished a single point, serving 25 in a row! Our volleyball teams get another match-up against ECDS next week - see below!



On Wednesday the **Cross Country** team traveled to Majestic View Park for their meet. The course was hot and dusty, but the team managed to run extremely well. Zach Behrends and Ceeley Batemean led the Eagles respectively in each division. Zach barely missed medaling with a fourth-place finish by a mere half of a second. The Eagles travel to Addenbrook Park on Friday October 6, 2023, for the Runners Roost #2 race where they will compete against 21 other middle school teams, a true test of their wills! Watch out for the sharks in the water canals you have to run through! Go Eagles!

Next week is a busy one for our Eagle athletes. We hope you will come out and cheer for our students.

- Monday, 10/09 - Boys Soccer vs. Evergreen Country Day School @ Stenger #20, 4:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, 10/11 - Girls Volleyball @ Evergreen Country Day School, 4:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, 10/11 - Boys Soccer vs. Lincoln Academy @ Stenger #20, 4:15 p.m.
- Thursday, 10/12 - Girls Volleyball @ Lincoln Academy, 4:15 p.m.

7th Grade Extended Field Study to Keystone Science School

What a wonderful experience students had at the Keystone Science School at the end of September! Hands-on activities learning about forest ecology in our own mountains - so valuable! Students who were not able to attend experienced similar activities here at Standley Lake.



Walk to School Day Was a Huge Success!

Thank you to everyone who participated in Walk to School Day on Wednesday, October 4. It was so great to see our community come together and share in this experience. Thank you also to the volunteers who decorated the sidewalk with so many positive messages for our students. What a joy it was seeing all of the smiling faces walking into school!



SOAR Winners

Congratulations to this week's SOAR drawing winners!

- Self-Discipline
- Outstanding Effort
- Acceptance of Others
- Resilience

- K-Marlee Jolly
- 1st-Jackson Desrosiers
- 2nd-Emmet Edwards
- 3rd-Marina Marks
- 4th-Landyn Yamasaki
- 5th-Ellie Swainson
- 6th-Mason Houser

Class Winner: Ms. Mader's Class for Self-Discipline

FROM THE CLINIC

Family Healthy Habits & Physical Activity

Family Healthy Habits & Physical Activity. Click [HERE](#) for the flyer.



Runny Nose Season is Upon Us!

With runny nose season gearing up, our middle school classrooms could use donations of tissues as we have already gone through our supply. Additionally, pencils would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION (PTO)



Vegas Night!

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE! Come out and join the Excel community for a Vegas Night Theme Party. This is the PTO's Fall Fundraiser, which is replacing the Love for Excel Gala this year. We'll have a silent auction, a buffet-style dinner, casino games, a photo booth, lawn games, a cash bar, and maybe even a special guest photo bomber! A starter pack of casino chips is included, and more chips will be available to purchase to keep the fun going! All the money spent in chips will go to the PTO, which in turn goes back to our kiddos and our school!

[Vegas Night Flyer](#)

Link to tickets - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/e2e67644-d243-4d0b-b903-3cd3317a2357>

PTO Links

[Excel Academy PTO Website](#)

[Track it Forward Volunteer Opportunities & Hours Tracking Site](#)

ENRICHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

Helpful Links & Resources

[Order Breakfast or Lunch](#): **October** meals available to order. (due a week before the week of meals)

[Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#) (Check grades, missing assignments, attendance, pay fees)

[Infinite Campus Parent Directions](#)

[Log Volunteer Hours](#) and sign-up for volunteer opportunities

[2023-24 Excel Academy School Year Calendar](#)


Ideas for thanking a staff member: [Treats and Deets](#)




Excel Academy K-8 Charter School

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