



BELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

1001 Ulysses St. Golden, CO 80401

Phone 303-982-4280 Fax 303-982-4281

Attendance 303-982-4340

December 2019

[School Website](#)

[Menu](#)

[Lunch & Bell
Schedule](#)

Message from the Principal...

Dear Bell Families-

In the spirit of this season of gratitude, I have so much for which to be grateful at Bell.

Generosity of our Community – Within the last month, our community has come through in the following ways to support our students and school:

1. The **PTA** successfully orchestrated the first **Direct Giving Campaign** that grossed over \$30,000 that will be given back to our school and programs this year. Through the generosity of **local business owner Scott Bristol**, we provided donut parties to the classes with the highest participation and Starbucks coffee for their teachers.
2. The **Bell staff members** behind organizing our **Giving Tree** and the **students, families, and staff members** who have selected tags from the tree, thank you. Because of this, students at Bell who may not have had any presents to unwrap this holiday season, now will. Thanks also to the **generosity of local business Bob's Burgers**, who held a fundraiser to support this cause.
3. **Parent volunteers and staff members** who spent countless hours supporting our **Robotics Team** in preparations for the **Cyber Robotics Coding Competition**. Because of their support and hard work of our students, **two teams** qualified for the **national finals**.

continued...

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 school_of_rock_golden_lakewood

Message from the Principal, continued...

Dedication - It's difficult to capture in words the dedication Bell staff, parents, and community members have for our students every day. Nevertheless, here is a feeble attempt:

1. Our **teachers** put in an immeasurable number of hours beyond the normal scope of their jobs every day. Some of the "extras" include: planning iSTEM and Humanities Showcases; putting on music and theater programs; providing after school tutoring; finding unique opportunities for our students to participate in (like presenting to Governor Polis or going on field trips); planning for Future Bobcat Night; sponsoring after school clubs; orchestrating the Rachel's Closet initiative; coaching students for academic competitions that happen on weekends and after school hours; guiding student council 2.
2. Our **mental health staff** provides caring and guidance for kids at possibly one of the most vulnerable times in a person's life (yep, that's middle school). Furthermore, they also help students find pathways for their future; work with the 8th grade TEAM leaders; organize the mentor program with community members; provide group workshops to help students through grief or simply to become more organized; provide schedules for all 930 students; deliver lessons about social & emotional health; support students who are in significant crisis; and organize visits for Future Bobcats. They also coordinate our **Mentoring Program** with some **dedicated community members** who come to Bell every week to meet with a student assigned to them to mentor. These mentors are also **heroes** to some of our students.
3. We have an incredible **office staff**, which includes administrative assistants and paraprofessionals. They do everything from greeting visitors, to providing love and compassion for students who need a Bandaid or enter the office crying, to answering phones, to tracking our budget, to calling parents.
4. We are lucky at Bell to have a team dedicated to the **Safety & Security** of our students and staff. This team includes our School Resource Officer from Golden PD, our Campus Supervisor, our Student Engagement Specialist (Mrs. Green). While our **administrative staff** also serves in other capacities, safety and security is a significant part of our role. From playing games with students in order to create relationships, to monitoring safety & support plans for students, to checking-in with teachers and students alike "just because," these members of our community handle some of our most difficult situations to ensure that ALL students and staff are taken care of.
5. The "behind-the-scenes" heroes is our **custodial crew**. Newly hired facilities manager, Isaac Pizarro-Robles, leads a team who makes our building clean and safe every day. Beyond that, however, they provide support to our after-school activities, clean-up some messes that I can't even explain, and fixes problems with the facility that sometimes I don't even know about, just because they are that good.
6. Bell is so lucky to have a **cafeteria crew** who has been at Bell for many years and somehow serves over 600 lunches every day, not to mention the many breakfasts they provide. They do so with efficiency and love, even in the midst of complying with a slew of district and federal food services regulations. This department is **self-sustaining**, meaning that they do not rely on any money from the school. I have worked in schools where there is a strained partnership between the school and the food services personnel, and it is difficult. We are *so lucky* to have a positive and strong partnership with our food services colleagues at Bell.

continued...

Message from the Principal, continued...

I am hopeful I did not forget anyone on this list. The long and short of this story is that educating and supporting our school takes the dedication of each and every member of our community, and we are ***so lucky to have the best of the best at Bell***. Again, with this time of year bringing out opportunities for reflection, I humbly want to say thank you. Happy holidays!

Truly,

Michele DeAndrea-Austin

Principal

Bell Middle School



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Businesses that want to sponsor this school, please contact TSCA at info@tscaschools.com or 970-239-1641.

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The School
Communications
Agency



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303.973.4424
www.littletonkidsdental.com

Second Semester Schedules:

Schedules for second semester will be released January 3rd at 3:00pm. Schedule changes are very limited as we have very little space. The only reason we will make a schedule change is if there is an incorrect class on a schedule (i.e. wrong Math class, duplicate class, or missing a core class). Students can either email their grade level Counselor, or they can sign up to see their Counselor to discuss a schedule change.

Elective Course Selection Process for 6th & 7th graders for the 20-21 school year:

It is hard to believe we are starting the process for scheduling for the 20-21 school year. Current 6th and 7th grade students will be receiving their elective course selection form through their Social Studies class in the months of January and February. More information and communication to come!

Current 8th grade students planning to attend Golden High School will be meeting with a Golden High School Counselor at the beginning of February (date and time TBD) to discuss registration. When the date and time have been solidified, the Bell Counseling Department will send out communication to students and parents/guardians.

Absences

Just a reminder... if your student will be absent for more than 3 consecutive days, please ask for a Pre-Arranged Absence form in the main bell office. This is to be filled out by parent/guardian, student, and all of their teachers with homework assignments. The form needs to be filled out and signed prior to your vacation! The pre-approval is based upon grades and Administration approval. Please keep in mind that even with approval, you could still receive an attendance letter during the school year if there are excessive absences.




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Rob Mangelson
(720) 878-4107
Rob@tscacolorado.com

 The School Communications Agency

Supporting Schools & Local Businesses

Golden High School Open House



Future 9th graders considering attending Golden High School. Did you miss our open house in November? Come to GHS on January 3, 2020, anytime between 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. for a family/student tour of the campus.



Outdoor Lab gear is available!! Makes a great holiday gift for your student! Please see the [6th Grade Outdoor Lab Website info.](#) or [Outdoor Lab Foundation Order Website](#) for more information, including where teams are going so you know the correct site to order for clothing!

Attendance Procedures

As we enter this very busy time of year, that also includes flu season, I want to remind parents of our attendance policies. If your child is absent from school, please make sure to call the attendance line (303-982-4340). We ask that you **keep your children home if they are sick**, particularly if they have a fever, are vomiting, and/or have diarrhea, so as to prevent the spread of illness. Additionally, **students must be excused within 24-hours of the absence**. If you have not called-in within 24-hours of the absence, you must talk with the student's assistant principal to get the absence excused. If you have if you are **planning in advance to take your child out of school for any reason**, please fill out a "Pre-Arranged Absence Form" and turn it into Mrs. Everett at least three days prior to the absence. While we clearly understand that students sometimes miss school for a variety of reasons, please remember that it is **very important to your student's success that they have good attendance at school**. Unfortunately, frequent absences can have a negative effect on students' progress and can result in further actions taken by the District truancy office.



ACTION ITEM: Read Carefully –Student Enrollment Process for 2019-2020 - Much like last year, you will have to go through the **Enroll Jeffco system, even if your student is staying at the same school for next year.** In other words, every student must be enrolled through Enroll Jeffco every year from here on out.

- **What do I do if I want to CHOICE ENROLL at a school?** We have received several questions about this, as some of our 8th graders are choiced into Bell and are likewise interested in choicing into Golden HS. **The 1st round choice enrollment window is NOW OPEN.** It will close on January 15, 2020. *This is your best chance to get accepted as a choice student at any school.* You will **again access the choice application through ENROLL JEFFCO.** For more information about Enroll Jeffco, please go to www.enrolljeffco.org.

ACTION ITEM: Family & School Partnership Survey – now open – This is a friendly reminder to take a few minutes (10-15) to take the *Family & School Partnership Survey* and let us know how we are doing (link's below). We take our survey data seriously, as we make decisions about our future; so, your participation is both needed and appreciated. The survey **closes on Friday, Dec. 20, 2019.** Thank you for taking the time to give us feedback! If the link below does not work, highlight the link using your cursor. Then copy and paste the link into your browser address window and hit the "Enter" or "Return" key on your keyboard.

- Survey Link: <http://sgiz.mobi/s3/FSP-2019-20>

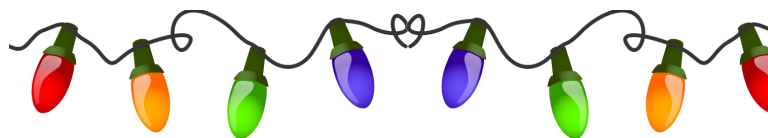
Student Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

- ***Our students' and staff's safety is of the utmost importance at Bell.*** For this reason, it is *imperative* that parents and other friends or family members who are dropping-off or picking-up students are **following the parking lot expectations** (*please make sure to share this information with anyone who might be driving your student to or from school*). Following the expectations also leads to a more efficient process, which helps get everyone through the line more efficiently and quickly. There are four simple, but vital expectations:
 1. Please **do NOT stop in the painted crosswalks** to drop your student off.
 2. Please **form ONLY TWO LANES.** The right lane (adjacent to the sidewalk) is used for stopping and dropping students off; the left lane is as a drive-through.
 3. Please **PULL all the way FORWARD** until you are directly behind another car along the drop-off sidewalk. This may mean you're dropping your student off on the west side of the parking lot.
 4. Please **DO NOT park on the left (outside) lane to drop-students off, OR cut-off cars in the right lane.** This is *dangerous and inefficient.* The left lane should be a non-stop lane in order to allow cars to drive-through the lot once their students' have been dropped-off. Your patience in waiting for the line to move forward is greatly appreciated and ***could save an injury or even a life.*** Thank you!

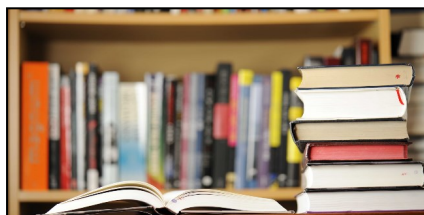
Changing Weather – Keep Your Students Warm and Safe –Please ensure that your students are appropriately dressed for the weather conditions. As a parent of two teenagers, I know that this is easier said than done because, clearly, we adults don't know what we're talking about. Nevertheless, please know that students **will be going outside for lunch recess as long as the temperature is 20 degrees or above and the conditions are otherwise safe.** So, layers are recommended (including hats, gloves, and coats). That is also true for our **morning routine before school starts.** Unless we have a **blue flag hanging from the hand railing in front of school,** students will be waiting outside until 7:15am to enter the building. If the blue flag is out, however, we will hold students in the lobby until it is time to go to class.

- ***If you are in need of warm winter clothes,*** we can help! You can simply call the office and ask for Mr. Hahn for help.

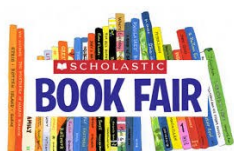
In Cases of an Emergency after School Hours – If there is ever an emergency that requires you to contact school personnel after school hours, please contact **District Security** at 303-982-2445. Again, this is **only if it's an emergency** that cannot wait until the next business day (for example: a child is missing, a family tragedy that needs some immediate attention from school personnel at the beginning of the next business day, etc.). Security will then be able to contact school administration and the necessary District leadership. Additionally, families are encouraged to use **Safe2Tell** if there are any safety concerns that require immediate attention.



Library Newsletter



Bell Book Fair



A tremendous THANK YOU to our Bell community for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair. We more than met our \$4000 goal by selling \$4500! All proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase hardback books for the Bell Library!

December's Tech Focus: Security and Privacy

Students in Jeffco are learning about and discussing the media this month and how our access to technology changes how we might view the world. [Click here for the family letter about security and privacy.](#)

Book Checkout and Overdues

Middle school students can check out four books at a time for two weeks at a time. Please visit the library before school, after school, during class with a pass, and during Bobcat time with a pass. Visit the [Bell Catalogue](#) through the Bell Website to look up available titles for checkout.

When books are overdue, parents will get reminders until the book is turned in. Fines will be assessed at the end of each semester.

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Broken Devices

Please speak to your students, especially those in 6th grade and those carrying devices, about caring for their Chromebooks and laptops. We have MANY lost, stolen and broken Chromebooks this year, and all these issues can easily be avoided. Chromebooks are to be charged every night, and left in lockers during lunch. Students are NOT to carry Chromebooks by their screens. Students are not to engage in horseplay with devices that belong to them or to another student.

Damages incurred to district devices are as follows:

Chromebook Repair Costs			
Part	<u>Touch Device</u>	<u>Non-Touch Device</u>	<u>Labor Charge</u>
Lower case	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$30.00
LCD cover with	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$15.00
Hinge Set	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$15.00
Upper case with	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$30.00
Motherboard	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$30.00
Screen Replacement	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$15.00
Audio/Power sub-board	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$15.00
LCD Bezel	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$15.00
Battery Replacement	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$15.00

Students with district Chromebooks who would like to purchase an accidental damage protection can do so by following this link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-6LmDu3zDoD6AYTnDAoIW0W8Vp9VnEmLDuzxmsl2Efl/edit>

Math Moments:

We are pleased to announce a monthly award, each teacher will nominate a student that is demonstrating amazing problem solving skills and dedication in their math class. We want to congratulate the November Mathematician's of the month:

David Joseph Salazar, Sofia Harcek, Brianna O'Connor, Alivia Corbo, Yasaman Hakimifar, Valentin Rabadan, Julianne Raebiger!!!

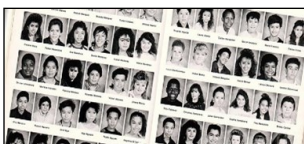


These Mathematicians are definitely:

$$B > \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

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Yearbooks!



Be sure to get your yearbook before the new year! Yearbooks can be purchased on jeffcoconnect or through the Bell main office for \$25. Keep these middle school memories!

Interested in traveling and experiencing new places?

Join a group of Bell Middle School peers and teachers on an adventure through Europe, during the summer of 2021, to grow as a global citizen and push the boundaries on your world view. To fully appreciate Central Europe, you have to experience both its storied past and its natural beauty. Berlin, Prague and Munich reveal centuries of history, from the medieval cobblestone squares to the remains of the Berlin Wall. In the Swiss Alps, history takes on a profound new meaning—these geological wonders are billions of years in the making. Want to learn more?? Come to Mrs. Martinez's informational meeting on 1/15 at 6pm in room #317 at BMS - but, first and for more information, please RSVP via the following link: <https://rsvp.eft>

REGISTER FOR FALL CLASSES

MON - THURS 4:30 - 5:30 (AGES 6 - 12)

MON - FRI 5:30 - 6:30 AND 6:30 - 7:30 (AGES 13+)



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