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. 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. This is dangerous and inefficient. This should be a non-stop lane in order to allow cars to drive-through the lot once their students’ have been dropped-off.

Thank you!
Counseling Department

Course Registration for 2018-19:

Current 6th and 7th Graders:
Elective course forms will be sent home with students January 30th to be signed by parent/guardian and returned to Social Studies classroom teachers by February 12th. Counselors will visit Social Studies classrooms on February 13th to help students enter their 2018-19 elective course selections electronically.

Current 8th graders:
Golden High School will visit Bell the week of January 22nd where GHS counselors will hand out course forms in Social Studies classrooms for students to bring home. Students are asked to return completed course forms to their Social Studies teachers by February 2nd. GHS counselors will return to Social Studies classrooms February 7th and 8th to help students enter their 2018-19 course selections electronically.

ALPs progress monitoring Survey #2:
Students with Advanced Learning Plans (ALPs) will be asked to complete their ALP #2 Survey in February from home. In this survey students are asked to reflect on their progress in attaining their ALP goal for the school year. Specific communication to families with students on ALPs was sent out this month (January).

Linda Jelinek
Bell Middle School
Counselor
303-982-8116
Counseling Newsletter 2017-18

Counselors are available to students for personal/social, career and academic support. Students can request to see their grade level Counselor by filling out a quick form in the main office. Counselors are also available for parent/guardian consultation. Appointments can be made by contacting your student’s Counselor.

Upcoming Events:

- Introducing a Food Services Experience for Spring semester: We are excited to introduce a new elective opportunity for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students in the Spring Semester. In this elective, youth will learn the safety and sanitation procedures incorporated with the kitchen and be introduced to the business side of the food service industry. They will learn their way around the kitchen, instilling healthy eating habits and build strong independent children. If your student is interested, please contact Counselor, Lindsey Leigh at Lindsey.Leigh@jeffco.k12.co.us.

- Winter Break is just around the corner! We hope everyone has a wonderful Winter Break and holiday season.

Helpful Tip of the Month:

Not only will the school reap the benefits of your involvement — you will, too. By interacting with teachers, administrators, and other parents on a regular basis, you'll gain a firsthand understanding of your child's daily activities. You'll also tap into trends and fads of school life that can help you communicate with your kids as they grow and change (all without intruding on their privacy or personal space).

Even if you haven't been involved in the past, it's never too late to start. In fact, it may be more important than ever to get involved when kids reach secondary school.

Erin Ballweg
6th Grade Counselor
Bell Middle School
303-982-1396
Computer Applications and Science Projects

We started the year off with studying, discussing, observing, and practicing proper keyboarding form. Keyboarding is the most important physical skill we teach in computer classes. Students will be typing for many years and proper form, accuracy, and speed is important to their success. Students type ten minutes to start class each day using the program Typing.com. **Anyone can use this free program anywhere and anytime.** Students need to reach at least 40 words per minute (WPM) to get their picture on the classroom WPM Hall of fame!

Students are now starting to create their class introductions using the Goanimate application. GoAnimate is a cloud-based platform for making animated business videos. It allows users to develop both narrative videos, in which characters speak with lip-sync and move around, and video presentations, in which a voice-over narrator speaks over images and props, which may also move around.

Computer Science will be soon working on 8-bit Pixel “works of art” and creating sprites (characters) for video games they will create in the future. Computer Applications will create Paint animations and are learning about the stock market. They also will choose their favorite Country of the World and complete PowerPoints during February showing the history, make travel arrangements, and schedule activities among many other things.

**Remember…..Every application we use in class is available for free from any internet connection!**
LanSchool

Bell has purchased a new tool for classroom management called LanSchool. This will allow teachers to monitor students at a glance, help with communication, and remove distractions. If you want to learn more information you can see the official website here.

The reason Bell is mentioning this is that because of the way we have to deploy this tool to the school’s Chromebooks. This will cause students to see a LanSchool icon with their School Google Login. We just want to be clear that while this icon will show up we can only monitor devices owned by the school and only when the student is at the school. This means we will not be able to monitor personal devices anywhere, school devices at home, or anything from a personal network.

Girls in STEM

The Girls in STEM club is competing in the Golden Library’s Girls in STEM Competition! Students are encouraged to make the world a better place or solve an everyday problem with an original design or concept: an engineering or a science project. Creations can be related to energy and environment, health and nutrition, biomedical or any topic that is of interest to you! Participants may work individually or in groups of four or less.

DECTech Students, Colorado School of Mines outreach program designed for girls, will serve as judges for the competition on February 4, 2018 at a before hours open house at the Golden Library. Winners will be honored at the International Women's Day Luncheon on March 8, 2018. All contestants will receive a certificate of participation.

Save the Date: On April 6th, Girls in STEM will be hosting it’s very first overnight HACKATHON!!! More details are to follow!

Upcoming events:

January 25th, February 1st: Girls in STEM club meeting to work on projects.
February 4th: Girls in STEM competition at Golden Public Library
Break in meetings in February and March
April 6th: HACKATHON!
7th Grade iSTEM Family Meetings

The 7th grade iSTEM students have a new structure to their Bobcat Time. Twice a month, during Monday Bobcat Time, Team IncREDible, (otherwise known as 7th Grade iSTEM Team Red) meets in the gym for some celebrations and team building. We had our first few family meetings before winter break to get the kids familiar with the structure and are hitting the ground running with our first few family meetings of 2018.

One of the things we do during our family meeting time is celebrate our Core Value award recipients for the previous two weeks. These awards are based on our five iSTEM Core Values: collaboration, critical thinking, respect, responsibility, and self-awareness. We look for a few students each two weeks who show strength or growth with these Core Values. Students can also nominate their peers for a Core Values award. Students and teachers also have time during the family meeting to celebrate the good works of one another in more informal way. These celebrations are shout-outs for a job well-done, a kind word or action, or a congratulation. Family meetings are also a time for team announcements and reminders.

We are excited for the semester of family meetings as it will give the whole team an opportunity to celebrate our hard work and successes. Go Team IncREDible!!!

Lost and Found

If your student lost small items at school such as jewelry, keys, cell phone, prescription glasses, calculators, etc, please come to the main office to claim them. All will be donated at the end of the year.
**Screenagers**

Bell Middle this year went to a no cell phone policy during the school day in order to keep our students focused on school work, and to diminish the disruptions that cell phones can cause at school. Our PTA has supported our efforts in finding ways to educate our community about the need to limit screen time, and we are thrilled to partner with our PTA to provide this amazing opportunity to our community!

Bell Middle School is thrilled to present SCREENAGERS: Growing Up in the Digital Age, a documentary about the biggest parenting issue of our time.

Are you watching kids scroll through life, with their rapid-fire thumbs and a six-second attention span? Well, it's not unique to just Bell Students! Physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston saw that happening with her own kids and began a quest to uncover how it might impact their development. As with her other two award-winning documentaries on mental health, Ruston takes a deeply personal approach as she probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including her own, to explore struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through poignant, and unexpectedly funny stories, along with surprising insights from authors, psychologists, and brain scientists, SCREENAGERS reveals how tech time impacts kids’ development and also offers solutions on how adults can empower their kids to best navigate the digital world to find balance.

SCREENAGERS addresses the most pervasive parenting issue of our time head on—depicting teen struggles over social media, video games and internet addiction. The film empowers kids to best navigate the digital world and provides practical resources to help them do it.

Watch the trailer here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQx2X0BXgZg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQx2X0BXgZg)

**Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at this link:** [https://impactflow.com/event/presented-by-bell-middle-school-pta-6951](https://impactflow.com/event/presented-by-bell-middle-school-pta-6951)

Thank you PTA for helping us learn and grow and support our kids!
Jumpstreet Indoor Trampoline Parks Celebrate Kids of All Abilities

April is National Autism Awareness Month but Jumpstreet celebrates kids of all abilities every month!

Jumpstreets across the country host a special semi-private event on the first Saturday of every month, including Saturday, April 7. Children with special needs and their siblings are welcome to enjoy the park one hour before it opens to the public. The private hour is from 9am to 10am.

Jumpstreet COO Mark Goldman says,

"Families have shared with us that their children with developmental challenges feel more confident in their play when the park is less crowded. We want all our young guests to have fun."

The special admission price for the monthly event is $8 for kids 5 years old and older and $4 for ages 4 and younger. The admission is for a two-hour pass.

For more info, please visit GotJump.com.

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