



7036 Cowpoke Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80908
Office: 719-495-7360
Fax: 719-495-4239

Dear Grand Peak Families,

As you know, there are many changes unfolding day-by-day in relation to our return to school in a few weeks. We are committed to keeping you as informed as possible, as quickly as possible. We know that having access to as much information as possible is vital to your being able to make the most informed decisions possible for your child and your family. Our goal is always the safety and well-being of our students, staff, and community. It is with this in mind that we announce the following decisions:

Last night our Board of Directors voted to join with District 49 in postponing the first day of school until Monday, August 17. The intention is to begin that day with in-person learning and Streaming School. Your selection of one of these two options has already been recorded. The board similarly voted to align with D49 going forward for the 20-21 school year on any start day changes.

Please also note the change in policy for face coverings: The Board of Directors, in alignment with District policy and CDC guidelines, has revised its previous recommendation and will now be requiring ALL students in grades 1-8 wear masks or other face coverings while in the building or while not socially distanced outside, such as at carpool and pickup.

Our kindergarten students are highly encouraged but not required to wear face coverings or face shields, EXCEPT during transitions where they will be in the hallway or communal places such as carpool or pickup. Thus, we ask that our kindergarten families still send their child to school wearing a mask and provide extra masks for their students to have at school. Teachers will help students place their masks in separate places in the classroom after entry.

Please know that we will work with all of our students to create a helpful and welcoming community of engaged learners. We know our students and will support them in loving ways to be successful. We understand the developmental process of learning to wear a face covering for extended periods, and we are ready, willing and able to make this transition as supportive as possible.

- If there is a request for either partial/full face covering exclusion, medical documentation is required.
- Students must provide their own masks or face coverings. We request that students have extra masks on hand at school in case any get lost, dirty, or



7036 Cowpoke Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80908
Office: 719-495-7360
Fax: 719-495-4239

broken. Please plan to bring extra masks or face coverings on the first day of school.

- Please label your child's masks or provide ones that are easily identifiable to them as theirs.
- Please plan to clean the masks nightly, or switch them out to a new mask each day.
- Masks must be worn to fully cover both the mouth and the nose.
- If a child has not regularly worn a mask yet, we encourage parents to begin helping them do so. For tips on how to do this, please see <https://bit.ly/3046qEN>.

If this change in expectation causes you to change your in-person or Streaming School option, please call the front office or email our Registrar, Marcia, to let us know as soon as possible so we can make the necessary adjustments to classes.

We understand that these changes can be frustrating at times and we share your desires to provide the most nurturing and “typical” set of experiences as possible. We are in unusual times and we look forward to working together to support your children in rigorous and engaging learning experiences this year!

Sincerely,

Scott Hunter, Principal