



JICES September-October 2009

Words of Wisdom From Mrs. Berg



Dear Families of Students at JICES,

Next Thursday will be the official Count Day for all Colorado public schools. Like every other public school in Colorado, the number of students at James Irwin Charter Elementary School on October 1 will determine the funding we receive for the rest of the year.

As you may know, JICES receives **less** funding per student than any other Harrison District 2 school. Period. We receive ***much*** less funding, yet our students are performing at the top of the district. We understand that we need to stretch our dollars further and be careful stewards. Those funds allow us to have adequate staffing and resources in order to continue delivering an excellent education to your students.

We truly believe that “all students can learn” and we want to do “what’s best for students.” This critical funding helps pay for the following:

- Quality instruction with research-validated curricula
- Training and coaching teachers for effective instruction
- Low student to teacher ratios: having an instructional assistant in every classroom
- Supplies and materials to support instruction
- Having adequate utilities, facilities, and maintenance
- Assorted other costs that contribute to school operations

The attendance records we need to keep are very detailed and meticulous. **Please make every effort to ensure your child is promptly here at JICES next Thursday, October 1.** Absences and tardies will make the record keeping much more complicated and time-consuming for our office staff. In advance, thank you for your help in this.

On October 1st you will also receive a **orange** Impact Aid Survey Form that needs to be completed for every student. By turning in this form by October 2, you will also help us return the forms quickly to the district. ***Classrooms that return ALL their forms on October 2nd may find they have a surprise!***

Thank you, again, for your help in this.

Elizabeth Berg

Principal

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Just a reminder that there will be no school for students on Friday, Oct. 9, and Monday, Oct. 12 as well as Thursday and Friday (Oct 29-30)



Please be alert to any delays/cancellations due to weather by listening to the following radio stations and TV stations for current information:

RADIO: KRDO AM, KVOR AM, Q102.7 FM, Magic FM, KGFT, 100.7, KTLF 90.5

TV: KOAA 5/30, KKTV 11, KRDO 13

You may also call the ES Office and listen to the recording

302-9000



**NO AM-Kindergarten on 2 hour delays
Extended day begins at 10:00 AM.**



CSAP Countdown: Grades 3-5

As we start to prepare for our CSAP testing in the Spring, teachers are now instilling good work habits in the classrooms. As the time approaches, we want our students to be confident and prepared for these tests.

We will have this CSAP Countdown in every newsletter to keep you informed and to pass on some helpful ideas to help your student achieve their best.

The dates are listed. We ask that you not schedule any doctor appointments or vacations during the time of testing or during the two weeks before testing. This will ensure that your student is fully prepared for the CSAPs.

Thank you for your cooperation.

CSAP Testing Window Grade 3- Reading-Feb. Grades 3-5 -March

This and That

Time Change

Don't forget that on November 1st, Daylight Savings Time ends. Please make sure that your clocks get changed.



Attendance/Early Pick-up

Please be advised. . .

Early releases are excused for doctor appointments only.

We ask that you try to schedule appointments after school hours, if possible.

When one student is dismissed early, the entire classroom is affected.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Student Pictures...

Pictures are scheduled for Thursday, October 1st.



**STUDENTS
MUST BE IN
UNIFORM**

Please do not send in your order envelope and payment until the day of pictures.

“Extra, Extra, Read All About It”

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent –Teacher Conferences will be on **October 29-30**. Sign up sheets will be posted outside your student’s classroom. This is a great opportunity to increase our Home/JICES teamwork.

Listed below are some helpful tips that will help make the most of Parent-Teacher conference time:

- * **Take notes.** Before the conference, jot down any concerns you have about your child along with questions about the curriculum. Take your notes along as a reminder.
- * **Be on time.** Teachers are usually on a tight schedule for conferences. If you're punctual, you will have the maximum talk time.
- * **Stay calm.** If there are problems, focus on ways to work with the teacher on solutions. Kids benefit when parents and teachers are on the same page.
- * **Plan the next step.** Discuss how you will follow up on issues raised. You could swap email addresses or phone numbers (jot down best times to talk) or schedule another meeting.



Lunch Program

Our lunch program is up and running. It has been a huge success!

Regular lunches are \$1.15 and reduced lunches are \$0.50. In order to qualify for free/reduced lunches, a form must be completed and returned to our office or to the district office.

You can either send money with your student (cash or check made out to Harrison D-2) for one day, one week, or all year! If you have any questions, please contact Angie at 540-4058.



PTO News

A BIG THANK YOU to all our JICES families that participated in the fundraiser!! Our school made a profit of \$8,700.00!

What a fantastic start to a new year! Great job!

Our next PTO meeting will be Friday, October 2, 12:30-1:15 in the Teacher’s Training Room.



Upcoming Events...

JICES Calendar

October

Thur.	Oct. 1	Student Picture Day Count Day
Fri.	Oct. 2	PTO Meeting 12:30-1:15 PM
Fri.	Oct. 9	Staff day-NO Students
Mon.	Oct. 12	Columbus Day-NO SCHOOL
Tue.	Oct. 12	Chick-fil-A Spirit Day
Thur.-Fri.	Oct. 29-30	Parent- Teacher Conferences- NO STUDENTS

November

Sun.	Nov. 1	Daylight savings time ends
Wed.	Nov. 11	Veterans Day-NO SCHOOL
Wed.-Fri.	Nov. 25-27	Thanksgiving Break-NO SCHOOL

Friday Assembly Schedule

8:00-8:15 AM

Oct. 2- Grade 5

16- Grade 4

23- Awards

30- Grade 3

Nov. 6- Grade 2

13- Grade 1

20- Kindergarten

Special points of interest:

- *Sign Learning Plan nightly*
- *Notify the office when your child is absent to avoid uncused absences.*

Just a reminder that the last Friday of each month students can wear their JICES Spirit Wear.

Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found is growing at a steady pace. If your child is missing an item, please check the table **in the lobby**.

*Please note that we will be donating unclaimed items at the end of each month.