



Council Grove Elementary School

Heather Honas, Principal

hhonas@cgrove417.org

Fax: 620-213-4056

Kelcy Bremer, Assistant Principal/Early Childhood Coordinator

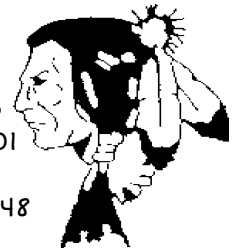
kbremer@cgrove417.org

706 E. Main

Council Grove, KS 66846

Phone: 620-767-6851 x101

Phone: 620-767-6851 x148



July 19, 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! We are looking forward to a more “normal” year. Please read the attached information about attendance at the end of this letter. I will follow our truancy policy (located in the CGES Parent/Student Handbook on our website www.usd417.net). The research on attendance is eye-opening and will help your child be successful in school.

We were able to keep the expanded 4 Year Old At-Risk Preschool Program to serve any and all four year olds in our district! We have morning and afternoon slots available. If you have a child that is 4 years old or will be 4 years old by August 31st, and you would like for him/her to attend our district Pre-K program, please plan to attend Onsite Enrollment at the Council Grove Junior Senior High School Commons Area on July 28th or 29th (1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) Please also spread the word to friends and family that may be interested in this opportunity!

Online enrollment is currently open for returning students and will end on July 22nd. If you need assistance with the online enrollment tool between July 4th and July 22nd, please contact Bryce Johnson the district office at 620-767-5192 or bjohnson@cgrove417.org. Any returning students who do not complete the enrollment process online will need to attend one of the onsite enrollment dates on either July 28th or July 29th, from 1:00pm to 7:00pm, in the Council Grove Junior Senior High School commons area.

Back to School Night for Pre-K - 6th grade students is on August 16th from 4:00-8:00 p.m. This year we will be using SignUpGenius to schedule Back to School Night times with teachers. Your child's teacher will contact you with more information in August. After our Back to School meetings, we will have our Annual Title I meeting. This short meeting is required and will: Inform parents/families of their school's participation, explain the requirements of the Title 1, Part A program and to explain the right of parents to be involved. Kindergarten Orientation will be held on the morning of August 17th. For Kindergarten parents, a separate letter with more information is attached.

CGES is excited to remind you about PAC (Parent Advisory Council). Our goal is to increase participation and parent involvement during meetings. PTO/PAC will be held at the same time to combine two meetings into one. During PAC meetings, we would like parent feedback when reviewing/creating policy, reviewing KESA Action Plans, and how to better support parents on school curriculum, academics, and social/emotional student growth. Please contact Mrs. Honas if you are interested in having a role in PAC. All parents/guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meetings will be held in Mrs. Bremer's Room and via Zoom. Please enter the main doors. Zoom links to the meeting will also be shared via Classroom Dojo.

Unfortunately, breakfast and lunches will not be free to all students this year. It is important for every family to fill out the Free/Reduced Application to see if you qualify for free or reduced lunches. This data is also an important part of our school funding, so we appreciate your help filling out the form! (I have attached the application link at the end of this letter.) Since breakfast will not be eaten in the classrooms this year, we have a change in our schedule. Only non-bus riders who are eating breakfast may enter the lunchroom doors at 7:35 am. The doors will open for other students at 7:45 am and students will report to their classrooms. Bus riders who are eating breakfast will report directly to the lunchroom before going to their classroom.

We have quite a few new faces in our staff this year. Listed below are our grade level teachers. Pre-K: Angie Bailey and Brooke Lococo, Kindergarten: Brier Blythe, Milo Butler and Robin Frye, 1st Grade: Myah Frick and Lori May, 2nd Grade: Tiffany Bunn and MaKenzie Heft, 3rd Grade: Sarah Hanks, Katy Herde and Alicia Kelley, 4th Grade: Emily Ehrlich, Emily Hrencher, Julie Koch and Sara Mitchell, 5th Grade: Summer Firebaugh and Theresa Kinsey, 6th Grade: Colleen Booker and Joshua Gant, PE/Health: Amy Finch, Vocal Music: Lisa Bolieu, 5th/6th Grade Band: Matthew Meals and Lisa Bolieu. Our school counselor is Orin Grammer, and our Title I Teachers are Angela Harris and Krista Wilson. Danica Johansen, Mallory Hiegert and Amy Nielsen are Special Education teachers. Kelcy Bremer is now the full time Assistant Principal/District Early Childhood and 504 Coordinator. We welcome, Tasha Green, as the new District Instructional Coach and Sherri Terrell as the new Special Education Coordinator. We just were informed that our district received a grant for a Mental Health School Liason. This position will be filled by Dustin SanRomani.

Please remember that the class lists posted on our website are tentative. We have made some changes already and there will be more changes made after enrollment.

Below are **tentative** dates that you may want to put on your calendar.

2022-23 CGES Tentative Dates

- July 4 - July 22 - Online Enrollment for returning students only (www.usd417.net)
- July 28-29 - Onsite Enrollment for new or returning students @ CGJSHS
- August 8 - PTO/Parent Advisory Council (6:00 p.m. in Mrs. Bremer's Room or via Zoom (Zoom link will be posted on ClassDojo)
- August 16 - Kdg-6th Back to School Night by Appointment (4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)
- August 17 - PreK Back to School Orientation by Appointment (8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)
Kindergarten Transition Day (8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.)
- August 18 - First Day of School! (School starts at 8:00 a.m. and Dismissal is at 3:10 p.m.)
- August 23 - Band Instrument Showing (6:30-7:30 p.m. in the lunchroom)
- August 26 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Kinsey)
- August 29 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Firebaugh)
- August 31 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Kinsey)
- September 1 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Firebaugh)
- September 5 - No School - Labor Day
- September 6 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Kinsey)
- September 7 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Firebaugh)
- September 9 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Kinsey)

September 12 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Firebaugh)
September 14 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Kinsey)
September 15 - 5th Grade to Starbase (Firebaugh)
September 15 - 4th Grade to Twin Lakes Water Festival
September 16 - Fall Picture Day
September 23 - 6th Grade Field Trip
September 26 - No School - Professional Development
October 7 - 1st Grade Field Trip
October 7 - 2nd Grade Field Trip
October 17 - Late Start (10:00 a.m.) - End of 1st Quarter - No breakfast or AM Pre-K classes
October 17-20 - PTO Book Fair
October 18 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)
October 20 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)
October 21 - No School - Parent/Teacher Conference Week
October 24 - PTO/Parent Advisory Council (6:00 p.m. in Mrs. Bremer's Room or via Zoom (Zoom link will be posted on ClassDojo)
October 28 - Fall Picture Retakes
October 28 - 4th Grade Field Trip
October 31 - CGES Fall Celebration (Classroom Parties)
November 6 - Daylight Saving Time Ends (Fall Back)
November 10 - Veterans Day Assembly (2:15 p.m. in the CGES Gym)
November 11 - No School - Professional Development
November 23-25 - No School - Thanksgiving Break

December 12 - CGES Winter Music Concerts @ CGJSHS Auditorium (6:00 p.m. - PreK and Kindergarten; 6:45 p.m. - 1st and 2nd grades)
December 13 - CGES Winter Music Concerts @ CGJSHS Auditorium (6:00 p.m. - 3rd/4th grades; 7:00 p.m. - 5th/6th Grades Band and Vocal)
December 21 - All School Christmas Assembly (9:00 a.m.) Classroom parties
December 21 - Early Dismissal (1:10 p.m.) - End of 2nd Quarter
December 22nd - January 3rd - Winter Break
January 4 - Classes Resume
January 9 - PTO/Parent Advisory Council (6:00 p.m. in Mrs. Bremer's Room or via Zoom (Zoom link will be posted on ClassDojo)
January 16 - No School - MLK Day
January 25 - CGES Spelling Bee (9:15 a.m.)
January 27 - 3rd Grade Bread in a Bag
January 30 - No School - Professional Development
February 8 - County Spelling Bee @ CGJSHS (1:00 p.m.)
February 14 - Valentine's Day Classroom Parties
February 15 - District Dental Screenings
February 17 - No School - Professional Development
February 20-23 - PTO Book Fair
February 21 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)

February 23 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)
February 24 - No School - Parent/Teacher Conference Week
March 6 - PTO/Parent Advisory Council (6:00 p.m. in Mrs. Bremer's Room or
via Zoom (Zoom link will be posted on ClassDojo)
March 10 - Early Dismissal (1:10 p.m.) - End of 3rd Quarter
March 12 - Daylight Saving Time Starts (Spring Forward)
March 13-17 - No School - Spring Break
March 21 - Spring Individual/Class Picture Day
March 23 & 24 - Early Childhood Screening (No PreK classes)
March 31 - Kindergarten Round Up
April 7 - No School - Good Friday
April 21 - No School - Professional Development
April 24 - CGES Spring Music Concerts @ CGJSHS Auditorium (6:00 p.m. - PreK and
Kindergarten; 6:45 p.m. - 1st and 2nd grades)
April 25 - CGES Spring Music Concerts @ CGJSHS Auditorium (6:00 p.m. - 3rd/4th
grades; 7:00 p.m. - 5th/6th Grades Band and Vocal)
May 1 - PTO/Parent Advisory Council (6:00 p.m. in Mrs. Bremer's Room or
via Zoom (Zoom link will be posted on ClassDojo)
May 5 - Kindergarten Field Trip
May 5 - 3rd Grade Field Trip
May 15 - 6th Grade Step Up Day (9:00 a.m.) - Alexander Art Works Tour (PM)
May 18 - 2nd/3rd Grade Play Day (9:00-11:00 a.m.) - 4th/5th Grade Play Day (1:00-3:00 p.m.) -
3rd Grade Bike Safety (PM)
May 19 - Kindergarten Celebration (12:30 p.m.) Kdg/1st Grade Play Day (1:00-2:30 p.m.)
May 23 - Last Day of School! (3:10 p.m. dismissal) AM Preschool Celebration (10:00 a.m.), PM
Preschool Celebration (2:00 p.m.)
June 1 - Lost and Found items taken to Thrift Store

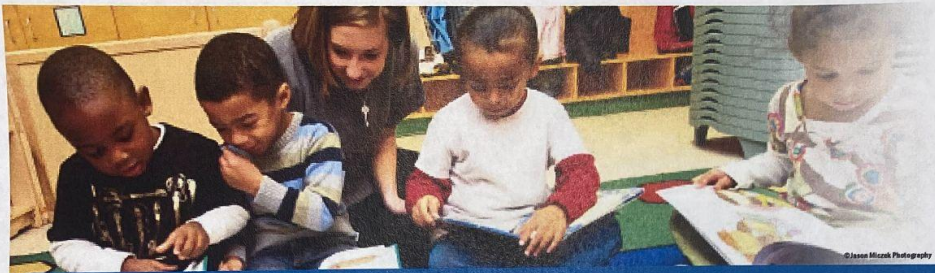
I am excited for this year! Let's make the 2022-2023 school year the best yet for our students,
staff, families and communities!

Sincerely,

Heather A. Honas

Heather Honas
CGES Principal

[Free/Reduced Application](#)



Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

School success goes hand in hand with good attendance!

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Find out what day school starts and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your child to her teachers and classmates before school starts to help her transition.
- Don't let your child stay home unless she is truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors, or other parents for advice on how to make her feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.



For more on school readiness, visit attendanceworks.org and reachoutandread.org