

Aug/Sept 2019

"Work Hard Every Day...Every Day Work Hard"

Upcoming Events

9/2

No School—
Labor Day



9/3

PTA Mtg 3 pm



9/9

Picture Day



9/27

Vision
Screenings
Kdg—3rd Grade



Coyote Courier



From the Desk of Mr. Hopkins

Dear Purple Sage Community,

Welcome back to Purple Sage for another awesome year! I am so pleased to see all of our returning students and to meet all of our new students. We are adding students daily and this is a testament to this amazing school and community, we should be proud that we are a destination for new families.

This year, we have introduced a new way to check on students and their readiness to learn when they arrive to school. We know that some of our students have had one or more adverse childhood experiences and may not be ready to learn or they might not always have everything that they need to be a successful student that day. We are asking them to let us know if they are ready to learn and if not, to tell us how we can help them get ready. To do this, we will ask them to show us their fist and if it is closed they are ready or in a "green" zone. If their fingers are wiggling and not in a tight fist, then they may need something to help them be ready and we will help them identify what that is. If their four fingers are up then that means they have "flipped their lid." We will then work to help them get back to a "green brain" and ready to learn again. Here is a link to a video that your students have viewed, please feel free to talk to them about it and use this at home <https://vimeo.com/221019140>. So far, it has been well received and students seem to really understand where they are concerning their readiness to learn as they walk into the building.

Attendance is also a huge roadblock to learning and can have an adverse effect on student morale and the classroom culture. It is difficult for a student to get into a groove if they are late or absent and that can create anxiety and frustration. This anxiety and frustration often manifests itself in the form of behavior that can be detrimental to the learning of others. I am asking for a concerted effort from everyone to please have your children here on time and for as many days as possible. I promise that they will grow that much more.

I am also excited to have partnered with our Purple Sage PTA to bring you several choices for PSE "swag." You can look online from now until August 30th at PSEfall2019.ItemOrder.com and see all of the new gear that has been designed for us and place your order at this online store. We will also be producing bumper stickers for student of the month and to simply show your Coyote pride around town. Thank you PTA!

Thank you as always for partnering with us to educate your students.

Sincerely,

Mark Hopkins

Principal

— WELCOME —
BACK TO SCHOOL



Counselor's Den—Mrs. Schmelzenbach

Hello Purple Sage Families! I'm so excited to be your new school counselor this year. This is my first year as a school counselor. I recently graduated from Northwest Nazarene University with my master's degree in school counseling. I have a passion for elementary students and believe these years are pivotal for emotional, social, and academic growth and development. I will be dedicated to working with all students to be the best they can be and to help them grow towards their full potential.

Prior to seeking my counseling degree, I was an active parent, classroom volunteer, PTA member, recess duty, and also an assistant secretary at two different elementary schools in the Treasure Valley. These experiences helped me discover how much I love working with students and families in the school environment and the school community. Please don't hesitate to contact me if there are ways I can support your student(s) here at school.

My role as a school counselor is to support students in their academic, social/emotional, and career development. There are many ways my services are delivered. First, I'll be visiting each classroom each month to do character education lessons. This year, I'll be coordinating these lessons with both Mill Creek and Heights Elementary school counselors, which we hope will be unifying among the community. Secondly, I'm available for responsive services which may include group counseling or brief solution-focused individual counseling or group counseling. Finally, I'm available to consult or collaborate with you, teachers, and other staff to support students' individual needs and goals.

The schedule for classroom guidance lessons for the 2019-20 school year is:

- ◆ September—Respect
- ◆ October—Caring
- ◆ November—Inclusiveness
- ◆ December—No Lessons (short month)
- ◆ January—The Great Kindness Challenge
- ◆ February—Integrity
- ◆ March—Responsibility
- ◆ April—Courage
- ◆ May—No Lessons (short month)



Safety Reminders.....

- ⇒ Remember to use the crosswalk
- ⇒ Always check in and out of the office, even before going to the playground
- ⇒ Do not cross between the buses

