

# CHAPLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Volume 5 Issue 1 Follow us on Twitter at Kevin Chavez@ChaplinElementa

September 2022

## From the Principal...

K. Chavez

September 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are off to a smooth start of the school year. We have so many new families and some new staff as Mrs. Ecsedy and Mrs. Cilley retired at the end of the school year. Mrs. Silva, Miss Lungarini, and Miss Hallisey have joined us.

We have almost completed our Fall NWEA benchmark assessments. You will be receiving reports of your child's results once all students have finished. These assessments, given at the beginning of the year, help us to observe the skills that were retained well by the students and give us information about skills that need reinforcement as we move into curricula for your child's new grade.

CES has been hit with COVID again this year with numerous students and staff testing positive. We want our students in school learning, but we all need to ensure we are doing our part to keep the families of CES safe and healthy. Sending sick children to school hurts a number of families. Any-one with symptoms or testing positive must remain out of school! Parents and guardians should contact either me or Nurse Shieber; we will work with you to understand what needs to be done to keep your child's class healthy. If your child is a close contact, you should have them wear a mask for ten days. Please do a COVID test on days 6 and 8. If the tests are negative and no symptoms appear, the mask can come off on day 11. They may come to school during this time. We all need to know we can rely on our families to do right by everyone in the school.

We are planning family engagement nights— something that we have missed out on over the past three years as there was no best way to invite so many people to school while staying healthy. Although we still have concerns, we are planning for some evenings. Our first evening is scheduled for October 27. A flyer will come home soon to give you the details. Please reserve this night to come join us at school.

As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns you have about any issue at CES.

K Chavez

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*At Chaplin School, we strive to cultivate a strong, collaborative school climate and culture that is focused on high academic development and achievement for all students. – High standards for curriculum implementation and student learning.*

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## Important Dates

- Oct 6 PTO Meeting 6:30 PM
- Oct 7 No School for Students (Teacher Professional Development)
- Oct 10 NO School
- Oct 12 BOE meeting 6:30 PM
- Oct 14 Pre-K early dismissal
- Oct 27 Family Engagement Night (more details coming)



## How are we doing?

At Back-to-School Night, I shared some of the CES Smarter Balanced Assessment data and told the parents and guardians that I would share more once it was available to the public. Every school and school district has a performance index based on SBAC scores. The goal is to reach a score of 75. Since the 18-19 school year, just about every school district has realized a decrease in this score. Some schools/districts have gone down as many as ten points. CES has gone down only 2.3 points in ELA and 4.2 in Math. Interestingly, the girls at CES are only .7 of a point under the score from 2018-19 in ELA, and the boys are only .6 of a point under the score from Math.

All of our grades with the exception of last year's fourth grade scored above the state average in both ELA and Math. Following each class from the 2021 SBAC to the 2022 SBAC, there are improvements in the percentage of students scoring in the standard met and standard exceeded levels with the exception of Math in last year's fourth graders.

Our greatest increase was the present sixth graders who had 18% more students score at the 3 and 4 levels in ELA. The second greatest improvement was last year's sixth graders who had 11% more students score in the 3 and 4 levels in ELA.

The present fourth graders had the greatest percentage scoring at the 3 and 4 levels in ELE with 67% of them reaching these levels. The present sixth graders had the second greatest percentage of students reaching these levels as 64% of the students met or exceeded the standards set for fifth grade.

Our goal for this year is to have 65% of students (in grades 3-6) reach these levels. That is not enough though. To do this, we need to move students from the 1 and 2 levels forward. We are striving to cut this percentage in half at each grade level.

This is a huge goal, but with the support of families helping their children to prioritize reading nightly and completing math practice homework in order to come to school prepared to ask questions about the concepts they are finding difficult, we can achieve this TOGETHER!

The recipients for the Responsibility Spirit Sticks in September are: K– Sadie; G1- Elise & Ava; G2- Connor, Catie, Jackson, & Braylee; G3– Jack & Autumn; G5– Ani & Jeanna; G6– Justin, Aneila, & Emilee

Thank you for showing responsibility to yourself, to others, and to our school!

## Responsibility

# PTO

As discussed at Back-to-Night on September 1, we are looking forward to expanding our PTO. A number of parents said they would like to join the PTO and be active members. A number of people are interested in being on the executive board. This is a group that can have a huge impact on the school lives of the students. There are many who want to come to each monthly meeting and contribute by participating on one of the committees or even chairing a committee.

Our hope is that 70%, or better, of our families will join the PTO and attend some of the meetings. This will be a year to get more parents involved as we try to return to pre-pandemic routines. Please consider joining the organization to help the school.

The first meeting will be Wednesday, October 6 at 6:30. Monthly meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30. The first meeting will be held in the gym as we are uncertain as to how many people will join us.

Thank you!

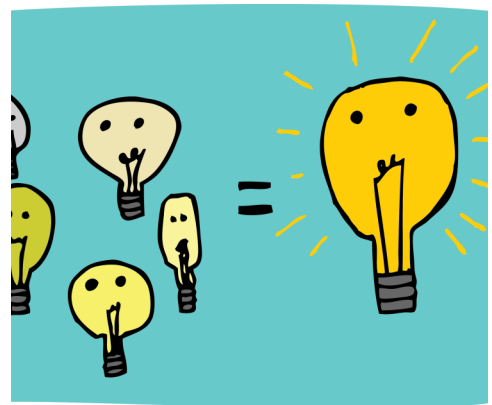
## Rough Draft Thinking

Correct answers matter but not as indicators of who can do...The staff at CES has a belief that every student can be competent and learn at high-levels with intentional teaching. Part of this intentionality is promoting academic discourse throughout the day. This entails a shift in the students' point of view from "performing" to participating in "sense making". As students share and value their thinking as well as the thinking of their classmates, the class moves away from competence as producing correct answers towards competence as participatory.

We want our students to create their own ideas and justifications that their ideas are reasonable. In order to accomplish this, we are providing students with the opportunities to construct their own learning through reflection, refining, and extending existing ideas, knowledge, and experience. This sense-making can be difficult for our children; however, in order for them to truly own their learning, we will continue to use collaborative learning communities where children build knowledge together rather than competing to give correct answers.

The goal is to have our students go from telling themselves that they are not going to raise a hand because they do not understand this thing **toward** sharing their unfinished, in-progress ideas and remain open to revising those ideas. This concept of communicating to learn has so many benefits beyond placing the student in the role of sense-makers. It fosters perseverance. It tells us that not only can incorrect answers be revised but correct answers can be improved. Revising our thinking can help our students to remain open to thoughts as they shift their thinking based on new connections and elaboration.

Finally, rough draft thinking makes it apparent to students that by revising their thinking, learning takes place incrementally.





Physical Education News

September 2022

The students have been working hard on their fall fitness testing. They have been running the mile and P.A.C.E.R. tests, sit-ups, push-ups, pull-ups and flexibility assessments. The top milers will be participating in a cross-country race against Hampton and Scotland schools on October 17<sup>th</sup> afterschool here in Chaplin. Those runners who have the top mile times will be given more information soon.

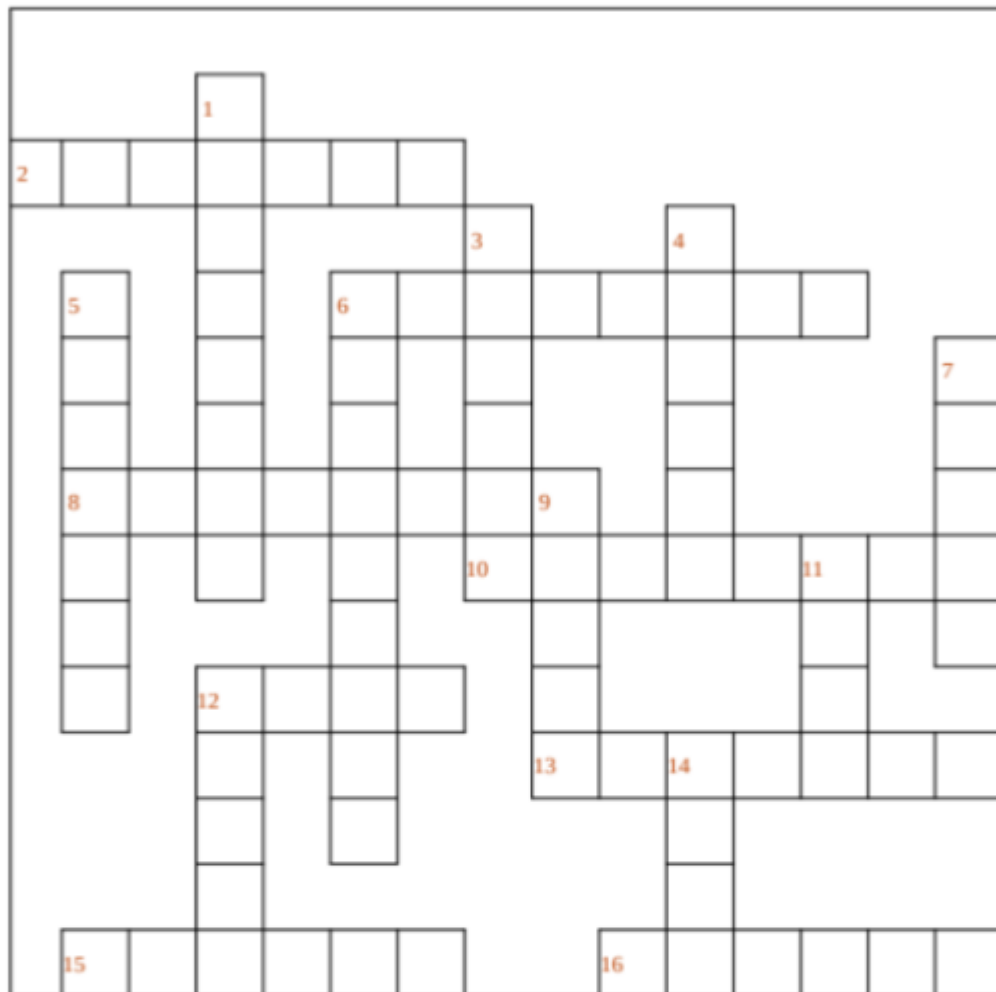
The 5th graders will be participating in the D.A.R.E. program with our resident Trooper Sean Tucker during health class starting October 11. This program follows the Decision-Making Model of defining the problem, assess what your choices are, responding by making a choice using facts and information you have gathered and evaluating your decision. We are lucky to have our resident Trooper run this program for the students.

The following students have been chosen as a Soaring Eagle or Bucket Filler (kindergarten) during the month of September:

(K) Cortney, Timothy, Elliot, Ivy, & Sadie (1) Finn, Colton, Ava, Aayden, Elise, Caleb, Alyvie, & Noah (2) Braylee, Cooper, Tirza, Antonella, Jade, Emmeline, Connor, Olivia, Kalina, & Catie (3) Jack, Matthew, Lev, Isaiah, Sophia, Adam, Autumn, & Nora (4) Ella, Myles, Olivia, & Amelia (5) Megan, Ani, Jeanna, Nora, & Ambrosia (6) Sam, Emilee, Justin, & Kelby

Congratulations!

# Fall



## Across

- 2 Halloween month
- 6 Rodent that hordes nuts
- 8 People at the first Thanksgiving
- 10 Thanksgiving month
- 12 Yellow vegetable that grows on stalks
- 13 To gather farm crops
- 15 Thanksgiving main dish
- 16 Falls from trees

## Down

- 1 Sport played with a brown ball
- 3 Another name for Fall
- 4 a color and a fruit
- 5 Great for pies or for carving
- 6 Keeps birds away from fields
- 7 Nut from an oak tree
- 9 Birds fly \_\_\_\_\_ for the winter
- 11 Bundles of hay
- 12 Drink made from apples
- 14 Tool to clean up leaves

