

Dear Gold Camp Parents and Community,

Greetings, Gold Camp Elementary family! With summer coming to a close, we are growing more excited by the day for the upcoming school year! It will be wonderful to see familiar faces again, as well as extend a warm welcome to the new students and families joining our active school community. We have put together this newsletter to provide essential updates and resources, paving the way for a smooth and rewarding start for all of our students. Our Student & Parent Handbook can be found on our website, printed in your child's planner, and [here](#). (please take the time to review this document).

Student Supply Lists can be found at this website: [School Supply Lists](#) If the link is difficult to read or access, please use this link instead.
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1unisT0D80NISuJ2DE7my0nTKJ8EZiFcG/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106180338588683141403&rtpof=true&sd=true>

We are thrilled to invite our families and students to connect at our upcoming special events as we get ready for a wonderful year ahead!

- New Kindergarten families and families new to Gold Camp in grades 1-6 are invited to join us for a PTO sponsored dinner. Our Spaghetti Dinner will be August 12th from 6:30-8:00 in our school's cafeteria. Here's the flyer for the event: [Welcome Dinner for New GCE Families](#)
- At our **Ice Cream Social** students get the opportunity to meet their new teachers and classmates while enjoying a popsicle hosted by our PTO. Please join us on **Tuesday, August 18th, from 2:30 to 3:30 PM** on the back playground. Additionally, keep an eye on your inbox for a welcoming email from your child's teacher, which will be sent out by Monday (8/17/26) evening!
- Mark your calendars for our **Back-to-School Night on Aug 27, 2026** from 6:00-7:30. Our general session will start in the gym at 6:00 and will be followed by 2 classroom informational sessions at 6:30 and 7:00.
- PTO **Back-to-School BBQ** will be on September 18, 2026 from 6:00-7:30.

Parents, you should have received an email from our school district to complete an **annual update** in Infinite Campus for each of your students in our school district. This email was sent by messenger@cmsd12.org. Please check your email and complete this annual update by **August 19, 2026**.

To help ease those first-day jitters and ensure a smooth transition into the new school year, we are excited to host our **Elementary Orientation Day on Thursday, August 20th!** We have found that this smaller group setting offers a wonderful opportunity for students to connect with their teachers and classmates in a relaxed way. This personalized approach truly helps students feel comfortable and prepared, while giving teachers a chance to introduce classroom routines, show where to place supplies, and provide a quick tour of the school. Please be sure your child attends as we do take attendance.

Your child's teacher will share all the specific details about their orientation activities in their welcome email. We've organized the day into four one-hour sessions, and your child will be assigned to a session based on their last name. Don't worry, teachers might make slight adjustments to the timeslots to ensure the best experience for everyone!

The Orientation schedule will be as follows:

Last Name	Time Block
A-F	8:30-9:30
G-M	9:45-10:45
N-S	11:00-12:00
T-Z	1:15-2:15

We will start each session in the outside Amphitheater (South side of our building) where students and parents can meet their teachers. Our teachers and students will proceed to the classroom. I will have a brief 15-minute talk with each of the groups, so feel free to stay. Kindergarten parents, please accompany your child to their classroom and I will talk with you on the Kindergarten playground the last 20 minutes of your session. After the one-hour sessions, parents and students will leave and return the following day. **Friday August 21, 2026 will be the first full day of school for K-6 students.** School begins at 7:50 am and dismisses at 2:50 pm.

Our school district is pleased to participate in the Free-School lunch program again this year. Parents will receive or have already been sent detailed information regarding this initiative. You can check daily school lunch menus via the Cheyenne Mountain School District app or by visiting the Food Services section on our website.

Fuel Up Before the Bell! Free Breakfast this Year:

Wonderful news for all of our families! Beginning August 21, the cafeteria will serve breakfast each morning, completely **free of charge** for every student.

Breakfast Details & Daily Schedule

- **Doors Open:** 7:30 AM
- **Cafeteria Entry:** All students coming for breakfast must enter the school building directly through the **cafeteria doors**.
- **Timing:** Please ensure students arrive early enough to comfortably finish eating before the class bell rings at **7:50 AM**.

We encourage you to take advantage of this warm, nutritious morning meal to help your child start each day ready to learn!

School Entry: Students who are not eating breakfast at school will enter the school through the **back playground doors at 7:50 AM**. We'll have staff supervision beginning at **7:40 AM**, so feel free to drop off your child then. This is to ensure a safe and organized start to each day. During Orientation Day, teachers will show students their designated grade-level line-up spots. A friendly reminder: for safety reasons, using the playground equipment or playing on the blacktop is not permitted before or after school. We appreciate your help in reminding your child of this important school rule!

Drop-off/Pick-up Protocols: To ensure the safety of all our students, staff, and families, we kindly ask for your patience and a little extra time during drop-off and pick-up. Your cooperation in following these important guidelines for adult drivers will help make these times smooth and safe for everyone:

1. **Curbside Lane:** The lane furthest to the right is designated for **active drop-off and pick-up only**. Please remain in your vehicle and do not leave it unattended in this zone, as it can cause congestion and disrupt traffic flow.
2. **Speed Limit:** For everyone's safety, the speed limit is **5 miles per hour** when entering the parking lot. Additionally, remember that the speed limit on streets and avenues around the school is **20 miles per hour** during school days.
3. **Parking vs. Drop-off/Pick-up Zone:** When dropping off or picking up your child(ren), please utilize either the designated drop-off/pick-up zone or a parking spot in the lot. If you anticipate needing more than **30 seconds** to drop off your children, or if you need to exit your vehicle for any reason, please use the parking lot.
4. **Child Entry/Exit:** For their safety, children should always **enter and exit your vehicle from the passenger side** when using the drop-off/pick-up zones.
5. **Passing/Flow Lane:** The passing or flow lane should **never be used for picking up or dropping off children**. This creates dangerous double-parking situations and forces students to navigate between cars, which is unsafe.
6. **Crosswalks:** Always use the **designated crosswalks** when walking to and from the parking lot or crossing any streets. For the safety of our pedestrians, cars should **never be parked or students picked up within crosswalks**.
7. **Communication is Key:** Please remember to **use your turn signals** to communicate your intentions with other drivers and our duty personnel. Also, please be aware that drivers and pedestrians may have difficulty seeing drivers inside vehicles with **tinted windows**, so extra caution is always appreciated.

The YMCA provides before and after school programs for our students. If you are interested in school-aged care then you can contact the YMCA at 719.329.7289 or visit their website at <https://ppymca.org/programs/youth/child-care/before-after-school>

Our incredible PTO is already buzzing with excitement as they plan a fantastic year of community events for all our families! You can look forward to cozy movie nights, fun-filled dances, special gatherings, our much-loved Holiday Store, and many other wonderful opportunities to connect throughout the year. Keep an eye out for more details coming your way

soon! We are also thrilled to share that our biggest fundraiser of the year, the **Cougar Conquest Fundraiser**, is scheduled for **October 9th**. This major event is essential for supporting all the incredible programs and events our PTO provides for our students and school community. A part of this fundraising event is our business sponsorship program. The monies donated through a business sponsorship will be applied to your child's fundraising goal. If you are interested in supporting our PTO through a tax deductible donation, then please check out [this flyer](#).

Please call the school if you have any questions at 719-327-2820.

Warmly,
Becki Royall
Gold Camp Principal