



Colt News



Continental Elementary School Newsletter February 2020

Continental Families,

Can you believe we are already in February? We have so many events happening this month our Book Fair, Literacy Night, Love of Reading Week, 8th grade Trip to Walden Grove, Science Fair/ Science Night, 5th Grade Biztown Trip, Kindergarten Roundup, and the SweetArt Gala to name a few!

The month of February is a special month as there is a strong focus on kindness due to it being the month of Valentine's Day. Here at Continental we are a Be Kind school. This month - and the months ahead- we will really be focusing on what it truly means to be kind. It is important that acts of kindness and compassion are spread throughout our school and as a Continental staff, we nurture that. I have had many important conversations with parents, teachers, and staff throughout the school year that revolve around worries for their children and the state of world when it comes to children being treated unkindly. On the student surveys last year students overall feelings were that they felt our school had "bullies" but that they felt that they had the knowledge to face difficult situations. Moving forward we

would like to ensure that Continental is a school that students always feel safe to come to and know that when they are here they are respected and their differences that make them unique are accepted and celebrated. Also, it is important that students who are exhibiting unkind behaviors are given the attention needed to ensure that they learn how their actions impact the lives of others. We will be working on a project that will involve parents who will help us to come up with positive programs during recess, guest speakers, and events that will help us to ensure that our students are building each other up on a daily basis in their words and actions. This will take a village and we look forward to any help that you can contribute. We will keep you updated on this project.



Have a wonderful month!

Your Proud Principal,
DeAnna Cuevas

Superintendent's Message

Dear Colt Families,

We are making amazing progress on IXL usage and mastery of skills! Keep up the good work! Congratulations to all of our top IXL users who were recognized at our awards assembly! **YOU ROCK!**

Also, a **GREAT BIG SHOUT OUT** to our 33 students who had perfect attendance for the entire semester! Keep up the great work students and parents!

It continues to be an honor and a privilege each day to continue to see the amazing teaching and learning that is going on in classrooms and around campus each day! It is apparent that everyone is working hard to "Stay in the game of increasing student achievement!" **Go Colts!**

On another note, please don't forget to get your tax credit donations in! April 15th is the deadline for 2019 taxes. Our amazing tax credit donations sustain all of our clubs, sports and tutorials! It's dollar for dollar on your State Tax refund! You will get back what you donated! Allowable contribution is \$200.00 single/\$400.00 married. Please consider donating to

your child's club- ask your family and friends as well! **First time donors will be entered into a drawing for a Colt T-shirt for your child and a \$25.00 Amazon Gift Card! Tax Credit information and pamphlets are available in the front office and club sponsors will be sending home information with your child. Get your tax credit donations in ASAP! We appreciate all that you do to ensure high quality education and opportunities for our students! THANK YOU!**

Your Proud Superintendent,
Ms. Roxana Rico

Message from the Business Office

Annual Financial Report (AFR)

Did you know that you can access our Continental Annual Financial Report (AFR) from our district website?

Here are the following steps:

- District website- continentalesd.org
- Business tab
- Annual Financial Report (AFR)
- Scroll to Continental (9 page document) summary view is easiest to read)

Any questions please feel free to contact the business office at (520) 625-4581 EXT. 7362

Director of Student Services & Principal Announcements:

Parents, recently some students have been using their cell phones/ smart watches to call you at the end of the day to change transportation arrangements. Please make sure that any transportation changes are made by you and you notify the office. This will help with our dismissal process to ensure there is not confusion. We will be speaking to the student about this as well. - Thank you.

Parent drop off in the morning:

Parents, to ensure that the morning drop off runs smoothly and there is not an overflow backing into the road, please pull up all the way in the drop off line. We will be unloading 4 cars at a time in the specified zone. Please be patient and refrain from unloading until you are in this zone. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.

Attendance:

Parents and students, attendance is extremely important. We have seen a trend in students being absent/ tardy on certain days or for middle school during 1st period. It is very important to us that your child is in attendance each day and on time as there is important academics that they need to partake in. Attendance letters have

been sent home for excessive tardies and absences. Let's work together to resolve this. The Principal Mrs. Cuevas and Director of Student Services, Mr. Lathen, will be touching base with parents in which absences are a concern.

ATI Benchmark Testing Week of Feb. 3rd-7th

Grades 2nd-8th will be testing this week on ELA and Math. Scores will be made available online for parents (K-12 Student-Parent Center) on Monday February 17th. You can access their scores and see the items they got correct and incorrect as well as what the actual ELA and Math questions were.

Link: <http://www.ati-online.com/>



Login is your child's first and last initial + their student ID #

Password: is their birth date ##/##/#### (if their birth month/ day is a single digit you may need to enter a 0 before the month/day). If you have any issues with logging in contact Mrs. Cuevas at deanna.cuevas@csd39.org

State Testing is Around the Corner

Parents and students state testing will take place in March through April.

March 24th: AIMS- Science Test
4th & 8th

March 31st-April 24th- AzM2 State Testing
3rd-8th

On Wednesday, March 4th from 6:00-7:00pm Mrs. Cuevas will be giving a tutorial using the online sample tests for grades 3rd-8th. It will be right after the Math Night. This will be a time for you to ask questions and to become familiar with what the tests look like (**BRING THEIR LAPTOPS/YOUR LAPTOP**). I highly encourage students to start becoming familiar with test format and testing tools. Sample tests can be accessed at the following link:

<https://azm2portal.org/sample-tests.stml>



Click on :

IXL USAGE UPDATE:

ELA/Language Arts Total time spent 953 hr 27 min; Total problems attempted 191,192; Total skills practiced 5,160; Total skills mastered 1,986 **Students practicing 70%**

MATH Total time spent 869 hr 12 min; Total problems attempted 173,929 Total skills practiced 6,316; Total skills mastered 3,114

Students practicing 67%

KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!! IXL is a great way to practice skills and to enhance learning for students who are ready to go beyond the grade level standards. It's a great way to get in some extra practice for AZ MERIT test coming up in April!

Challenge: Log into IXL if you have not already done so. Let's see if we can increase our percentage of students using IXL to **80% by March 1st**.

SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

School achievement summary >

THIS YEAR, WE'VE ANSWERED **791,328** QUESTIONS!

Aim for 90,000 questions each month!
FEBRUARY

SKILL PROGRESS SUMMARY

13,095
SKILLS MASTERED

15,078
SKILLS PROFICIENT

26,357
SKILLS PRACTICED

TIME SPENT



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Dear Colt Families,

The first week in February is National School Counseling Week. Our focus is "Resilience," the inner strength that helps you overcome the challenges and obstacles you have in life to help you become a better human. As your child's school counselor, I am here to help students work on the skills that will help them become resilient so they can pursue all of their dreams.

What do school counselors do?

- *Provide short-term counseling for students
- *Work with students in small groups or in classrooms
- *Teach students to develop problem solving/decision making skills
- *Assist students to improve self-esteem, social skills, and self-control
- *Provide students ideas to be used as coping skills for challenges either at home or in school
- *Teach students to advocate for themselves
- *Work with students, staff, and families to improve school concerns (attendance, grades, discipline, etc)
- *Offer positive parenting strategies to parents
- *Advocate for student's needs
- *Serve as a link between home and school
- *Provide resources and information on community services/agencies and assist in coordinating services for families
- *Offer classroom management strategies and support to teachers
- *Identify students in crisis and respond to the situation
- *Coordinate efforts with other school programs

Second Semester small groups are taking off! Class lessons this month are on the topic of Diversity and Being a Good Citizen. Please take a moment with your child this month to discuss the importance of treating everyone with kindness and celebrating our differences because that is what makes us unique and special. Also, take a moment to talk about what a good citizen does. Someone who is a good citizen in their community may pick up trash at a park, recycle materials, help an elder person cross the street, or volunteer at a food bank. Being a good citizen at Continental means following our 3 school wide expectations...Be Kind, Be Safe, and Be Responsible. ☺

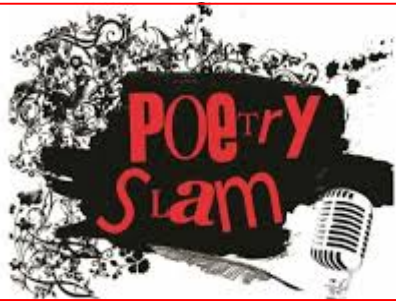
With Valentine's Day this month, I thought I would share a list of Top 10 movies that focus on kindness and friendship that you might be interested in watching on a Family Movie Night!

Ferdinand Charlotte's Web UP
Finding Dory Kindness is Contagious Wonder
COCO Inside Out Homeward Bound

Sincerely,

Kris Godfryt, M.S.
School Counselor





Get your poems ready for our 1st Annual Poetry Slam!

Get ready to rap, sing, or act out your favorite poem or a poem you have written. On Wednesday, February 12th during lunches Mrs. Cuevas and Ms. Rico will be ready to hear your poems. They will pick the top 10 -12 performers to present their poems during lunches on Friday, February 14th. Please let your teacher know if you are interested. Your teacher will sign you up on a google document that was sent to them. Thank you and it's time to get your poetry on!



Save the Date

CONTINENTAL SCHOOL
CAREER DAY MAY 13, 2020!

If you are interested in sharing in this educational experience please call Monica Molina at (520)625-4581 or email: monica.molina@csd39.org

Happy February and Love of Reading Month!

I would like to remind and encourage all of our wonderful colt families to make reading a part of your family time! Family time is so important... Why not make reading part of this valuable time with your kids?

Here are some tips for integrating reading into our daily family activities:

- Read bedtime stories
- Play a board game
- Visit your local library
- Read a recipe and cook something yummy together!
- Create a comfy reading space in your home.
- Put your child in charge of reading the grocery list at the store.

We would love to have our parents volunteer to read in our classrooms during the month of February and especially on the week of February 11th- February 15th. We will be having special activities planned for Love of Reading Week. Stay tuned and please contact your child's teacher if you would like to share your favorite book with the class.

