



Summer 2022

Dear Coyote Students,

Get ready for an AMAZING year! Our team has been working hard to continue our goal to be **a school where students love to attend each and every day.** The start of school will be here before you know it so enjoy these last few weeks of summer and get excited!

I hope that you have had an amazing summer thus far. My summer has been filled with a lot of fun activities and experiences. I've ridden waves, driven 1550 miles in an RV, read books, rode a subway, played cards and Bananagrams, completed puzzles, napped in a hammock, and played lots and lots and lots of basketball. This summer has been awesome!

What did you do this summer? I look forward to hearing all about your experiences.

Me, Ms. Mustipher, Mrs. Todd and our team have been working really hard to prepare for your arrival and we hope that you have an eventful last few weeks of summer. Please be sure to read, read and then read some more as you get ready for the start of school. I challenge YOU as a Carolina Park Coyote to be a LEADER of the PACK.

Your teacher looks forward to meeting you on Monday, August 15th and I look forward to seeing you soon at Carolina Park Elementary School.

Your Friend (and Head Coyote),

Mr. Antonelli



Dear Carolina Park Elementary Families,

It is with great excitement that I write to you this summer with plans for another amazing school year. We are looking forward to moving into a new school year and returning many of the events and practices that make Carolina Park Elementary an excellent school!

I hope that this letter finds you well and that your summer has been filled with enjoyable family experiences. As we begin Carolina Park Elementary School's sixth year, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the families who helped make our past year such an incredible success, despite the many challenges that we overcame. I also want to welcome the many new families to our school and Coyote Nation! We look forward to seeing you and your children in the coming weeks as we work together throughout the year to provide the best possible learning environment.

My expectation for your family's experience at Carolina Park Elementary is nothing short of excellence. I am proud and honored to lead our school and I look forward to collaborating with our families and parent groups. We have formed an amazing faculty at Carolina Park Elementary and my promise to you is a phenomenal learning environment for your child each day. We have great plans for your children this year, and I encourage and challenge you to be an active part of their educational career.

Important information is included in this packet and I ask that you please read through everything carefully. If you have questions about any of the contents in this packet, please do not hesitate to contact the school at 843.856.8060. I wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable remainder of the summer vacation.

Sincerely,


Michael C. Antonelli

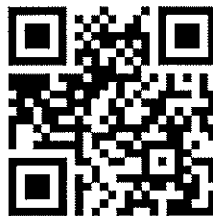
MEET THE TEACHER EVENT & POSTING OF CLASS ROSTERS



The rosters for all classes will be posted in the main hallway of our school beginning at 1:00. The roster process is a very complicated system in which we take into account a number of factors while specifically placing each of our (nearly 1000) children. Over the spring and summer I received feedback from many parents requesting specific teaching characteristics and/or learning environments for our children. Please know that we have reviewed and have taken into account each and every one of these requests as we determined classroom placements. If you are unable to attend on this date it is recommended that you either have a friend check the list for you, or email charlene_milson@charleston.k12.sc.us, on Tuesday 8/16 and she will let you know the name of your child's teacher.

During this afternoon, you and your child will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher, visit the classroom, pay student fees (\$40), learn all about and join our PTO, purchase Carolina Park attire, and conduct self-guided tours of our amazing facility. You will have 2 options for paying school fees this year.

1. You will have the ability to **pay online** through RevTrak. Simply click on this QR code for information.



2. If you choose to **pay with cash or by check**, we will have a separate (short) line as we will write you a receipt at the time of deposit.

Since this is not a school day, overflow parking for this event is available across the street in Wando High School's back parking lot. If possible we encourage you to walk or ride your bike to this event as parking will be a challenge.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17TH

How will arrival for the first day of school operate?

In an effort to alleviate traffic congestion on our first day, we will offer a staggered arrival for all children as follows (with the exception of bus riders):

Last names beginning with **A-M will arrive between 7:00-7:30**

N-Z will arrive between 7:30-8:00

If this adjustment presents a hardship in any way for you or your family please arrive at the normal time. The bus pick-up times will be the same as any other school day. If your child will ride the bus on the first day of school, his/her arrival will NOT be staggered. A list of bus times and stops will be posted on the CCSD website, www.ccsdschools.com prior to the start of school.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18TH AND BEYOND

DAILY ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL OPTIONS

Bus riders:

Buses will arrive and depart from the bus loop. In the morning buses will unload at 7:00 and students will enter the building through the Kaleidoscope entrance.

Car riders:

Morning Car Rider Line - Our car rider loop is on the front side of the building. Cars will enter the loop and immediately turn right. **We have two lanes which allows us to stack additional vehicles if needed. As you approach the building the two lanes merge to one lane for drop-off. The unloading area is along the full length of the sidewalk. Please be sure to pull all of the way forward and make sure that your child is ready to exit in the mornings when you stop.** We have a raised crosswalk at our main entrance. Please do not park on this crosswalk. It is also important that parents remain in vehicles at all times while in our car rider line. Car rider drop-off will begin at 7:00 and end at 7:25 each morning at the school's main entrance. Many parents arrive at the car rider line prior to 7:00 which is okay. **However, please do not release your children from your vehicle until faculty members arrive to duty at 7:00.** If you arrive at school after the 7:25 bell has sounded, please park and walk your child to the main office for sign-in as they are considered tardy to school.

Afternoon Car Rider Line - We will begin at 2:30 each day. We will follow the same route as above with the exception of also using the bus area for a secondary car loop. Our School Resource Officer will direct cars into this area. It is important that cars do not enter our bus area until directed to do so (after our buses have departed for the day). We have created unique, school-issued placards for you to use. You may pick up placards at our Meet the Teacher Day on August 15th or you may request them through our main office. The most efficient way to let us know who you are picking up is to simply hold and show your placard to the individual calling names as you pass them in the line. **If you forget your placard when picking up your child, you may be asked to bring your driver's license to our main office in order for us to dismiss your child.**

Walkers and Bike Riders:

We are so excited to provide the opportunity for many of our students to walk and/or ride bikes to school. **We have 2 different biker/walker areas and it is important that you, your child, and your child's teacher are all on the same page to ensure that they are dismissed correctly.**

MAIN Biker/Walker Area: Safety is our top priority and we have designed an access point and path in the back right corner of our property (along Darrell Creek trail). The path leads students to the back entrance of the school where multiple bike racks are located. We encourage students who walk and/or ride bikes to use this entrance/exit in the mornings and afternoons. If parents wish to meet walkers and/or bike riders in the afternoons they will meet them on the side of the sidewalk outside of the gate at Darrell Creek Trail. Please

do not block the sidewalk.

LIBRARY Biker/Walker Area: We have additional bike racks located at the front of our school near our library for students who enter campus from that direction. By choosing this mode of dismissal (Biker/Walker) for your child you are giving them permission to exit campus with or without an adult. Our ability to supervise students ends once children exit our campus.

Parent Drop-off:

Morning parent drop-off is for parents who wish to walk their child to the main entrance in the mornings. Parents will park in the front parking lot and use the sidewalks leading to the main (raised) crosswalk. Parents are to escort students all the way across the crosswalk and to the canopy area at the school's front entrance. Please do not drop students off at our bus canopy area. Under no circumstances are students allowed to walk unescorted at any point in our parking lot, nor cross traffic at any point other than the raised crosswalk.

Kaleidoscope (After-school program):

We are excited to have a well-designed access point for afternoon/evening Kaleidoscope pick-up. Parents may park in the front parking lot and simply enter the entrance marked Kaleidoscope.

Important note regarding golf carts:

The Mt. Pleasant Police Department has given clear direction that golf carts are considered vehicles. Golf cart use and parking should follow all rules and procedures outlined for vehicles. Under no circumstances should golf carts be driven on sidewalks or other areas not designated for vehicles.

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can I walk my child all the way to the classroom if I wish?

Parents may walk their child to their classroom on the first day of school. Parents of kindergarten students may walk them to the classroom during the first week of school (until Friday 8/19). Parents who elect to park and walk their children to school will drop them off at the front door/main entrance. We will have faculty members on duty throughout the building to assist your child (if needed) as they walk to class. Any parents entering the building will have to enter through the main entrance and check in at the main office.

How can we stay current regarding school updates?

Please follow us on Facebook. Our Facebook page, Carolina Park Elementary, is the best way to stay informed. We will also use the automated phone call system and email for updates and announcements. This system pulls information from our database for the calls and emails. If you do not receive the messages please contact our main office to update your contact information.



School Facebook Page

Where should I park when I visit the school during the day?

Parking for all visitors will be in the front parking lot. Under no circumstances should anyone park on the grass, the street, or any other area not designed for parking at any time.

How can I receive information about the PTO?

We have a new PTO website which can be accessed using the first QR code. Registering for this new website will allow the PTO to more easily communicate about all PTO events, spiritwear, fundraising, and volunteering.

PTO membership is free and a great way to stay involved! Please scan the second QR code to join the private Carolina Park Elementary Facebook PTO page.



PTO Website



PTO Facebook Page

PARENT ORIENTATION AND OPEN HOUSE

This event will give you an opportunity to hear a presentation by your child's teacher about all of the exciting plans for the school year. This event is designed for adults and we ask that, if possible, you make other arrangements for your children.



PARENT / STUDENT HANDBOOK

The handbook will be placed on our website prior to the first day of school for your review. Hard copies will also be available in our office if needed. I've listed below two important policies from the handbook that I would like for you to familiarize yourself with at this time.

FOOD POLICY

Carolina Park Elementary is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all of our students. We place a high priority on our school food policy as we recognize its power to fuel learning. A vast body of research shows that improved nutrition increases a student's focus, attention, and classroom behavior. These beliefs have resulted in the following food policy for our school:

- We limit the amount of food sent to school, also known as 'outside food'.
- Outside food will only consist of daily lunch, daily snack, food for occasional instructional lessons and scheduled classroom parties (ex. Valentine's Day, end-of-year party, etc.)
- Outside food is not permitted to celebrate children's/faculty member's birthdays. Instead, classrooms have a list of fun, non-food options for children to select in an effort to celebrate their special day. (ex: appear on the morning news show, have a parent come in and read to the class, extra recess for the class, etc.)
- Items to be eaten in the classroom during daily snack shall be healthy. No junk food please.
- Candy will only be used for rare, educational purposes.

If your child has a life-threatening food allergy, please e-mail amanda_kalinsky@charleston.k12.sc.us with specific information prior to August 10TH.

DRESS CODE

The goal of our dress code is to provide parents and students with a wide variety of clothing options, while ensuring that student attire does not interfere with instruction. All students are expected to wear appropriate clothing that complies with the CCSD Code of Conduct. Carolina Park Elementary T-shirts are available for purchase and event shirts will also be sold throughout the year. Fridays are Spirit Days and we ask that all faculty and students wear Coyote Gear on Fridays. House Spirit Days will also occur each month and students will be asked to wear their House colors. Thank you for ensuring that your child adheres to our dress code policy.

- Shoes with a closed toe are required (backless shoes and those with greater than a ½" heel are not permitted).
- Athletic shoes should be worn on PE days.
- Shorts and skirts must be at least as long as the child's pinkie fingertips when arms are fully extended beside the legs.
- When leggings are worn, the accompanying top must be an appropriate length.
- Halter tops and tops with spaghetti straps are not allowed. Shirt straps must be at least the width of two fingers. Please help us instill this early, as it is difficult to say that younger students can wear these items and older students cannot.
- Shirts must cover the midriff, back and chest.
- Hats, bandanas, or headgear are not allowed (hats may be worn at recess on cold days).
- Hoods may not be worn indoors.
- Clothing must fit properly: not oversized or too tight, and pants must fit at the waist.
- Clothing and accessories may not display profanity, suggestive phrases, weapons, and/or offensive/inflammatory graphics or statements.
- Any attire, bracelets, necklaces, accessories, etc. that are determined to be unsafe or a distraction to the learning environment are not allowed.
- Perfumes and colognes should not be worn as some students can be highly sensitive to them.
- Students not in compliance with the dress code may be supplied a change of clothes by the nurse.

Thank you for taking the time to read through this important packet of information. If you have any questions please feel free to contact our school. We look forward to an amazing start to the 2022-23 school year!

***CAROLINA PARK ELEMENTARY is the school where TEACHERS choose to teach,
FAMILIES want to send their children, and most importantly,
STUDENTS love to attend each and every day.***