

# Cougar News

## Conferences

We have had 313 Parent-Teacher Conferences scheduled so far!!! **The scheduling window will be open until Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>**, if you have not scheduled yet.

### **Two important items about scheduling a conference:**

1. PLEASE only schedule a conference with the teacher indicated for **November** on the yellow instruction form that came home with the report card. The name should be your student's Language Arts OR Math teacher. If you have a concern and wish to schedule an appointment with another teacher, please contact that teacher **AFTER** November 18<sup>th</sup> via email.
2. OPTIONAL: You have the option to request a conference with your student's Related Arts Teacher(s) (Art, PE, Music, Media, Technology) Please note that the Related Arts Teachers see the entire school population and have limited time available to conference with parents. Please consider scheduling conferences with Related Arts Teachers **only** if there is a need, such as a concern with a grade or performance. If you have already scheduled a conference with them and it is **not needed** at this time you can cancel by accessing Conferences in Synergy. Thank you!

## **American Education Week November 16-November 20**

This year's theme, "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility," is a reminder to family and community members of the importance of American Public Schooling. We would like to encourage you to visit our school for a firsthand look at a typical school day. During this week, we also like to recognize our classroom teachers, paraeducators, secretaries, cafeteria manager, custodial staff, bus drivers and all other essential school personnel who work together to meet the needs of the whole student.

We do not have specified days for grade-level visitations, please join us any day. We will have a special event on Wednesday, 11/18/15, our annual Turkey Trot. We will be following a different schedule for the day, which will alter the normal lunch and recess time, see below.

The lunch/recess schedule for 11/18/15 will be:

Grade	Lunch Time	Recess Time
Kindergarten	11:45-12:15	11:15-11:45
First Grade	12:15-12:45	11:45-12:15
Second Grade	11:15-11:45	10:45-11:15
Third Grade	12:45-1:15	12:15-12:45
Fourth Grade	1:15-1:45	12:45-1:15
Fifth Grade	1:45-2:15	1:15-1:45

**Turkey Trot** is also during American Education Week! This is an annual event that our students have been preparing for and looking forward to.



One of the components of the event is a charitable food drive – actually it could be considered a Charitable TURKEY Drive. CES has partnered with another HCPSS School, Stevens Forest Elementary to provide FROZEN turkeys to families in need. We are attempting to BEAT last year's generous donation of 23 turkeys however we are currently at just 10 donated turkeys. Please consider donating a frozen turkey, 10 pounds or bigger.

Opportunities to support the 2015 Turkey Trot are:

- Donate a 10 lb frozen turkey to benefit SFES
- Donate a pie to drawn and awarded to CES students
- Donate your time to help with the event (hand out wristbands to the children as they complete each of their laps, record and collect wristbands after the run, pass out tokens and of course offer encouragement along the way.)

Sign up using this link: <http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/4710037034078>

### **Request from the Art Room:**

Our Art Department needs lots of **empty** 8 oz. water bottle for a sculpture unit. These are the mini sized bottles. Please start sending them in as soon as possible and tell your child bring them to the art room. Please keep sending the bottles in until we send out a notice that we have enough collected. Thank you for your support.



### **Get involved with the PTA!**

Our PTA does so many wonderful things for our school and our students. There are many, many ways to get involved. Visit their website for more info [www.cespta.net](http://www.cespta.net). Below is a list of events they are sponsoring or involved with:

November 18: Turkey Trot [Click here](#) for times

November 30: Hat and Glove drive ends

December 3-4: CES Holiday Shoppe

December 4: Hot Cocoa Social

December 9: Salvation Army Angel toy donation ends

December 14: PTA Meeting

January 26, 6-8 pm: STEM night

February 1, 6:30-8:30 pm: Book Fair Bingo

March 11: International Night

March 16: Are you as Fit as Your Cougar Cub?



Hello Parents/Guardians,

We recognize that creating a safe learning environment is a critical part of helping each child achieve academic success. This year we will introduce Sprigeo, a new online system that students can use to report bullying incidents and school safety incidents. Sprigeo will give your child another medium for communicating with our school administration when bullying or school safety incidents occur. All information sent through the Sprigeo system goes directly to selected central office staff who will then send the report to our administrators through a secure online connection.

How does the Sprigeo system work?

Students can access the reporting form directly through a link on our school web site or they may go to the Sprigeo.com website. After completing the reporting form and clicking the "submit" button, the report details are sent in a secure email to selected central office staff who will then send the report to our administrators through a secure online connection. Over 90% of students include their name when using the Sprigeo system. However, reports can be made anonymously.

Does the school system receive false reports?

Over 95% of reports sent through the Sprigeo system have been confirmed as authentic requests for help with a bullying incident or school safety incident. Unlike text messages or Facebook posts that can be shared among students, all Sprigeo reports are viewable only by selected central office staff and school administrators, minimizing the impact one student has to falsely accuse or abuse another student.

Why is there a need for an online reporting system?

The number one reason why children do not report bullying or abuse is the fear of retaliation from their peers. The Sprigeo reporting form can be accessed from the privacy of a home computer or other Internet equipped device, eliminating the possibility of being identified by another student.

We are happy to have this resource for our families to use.

Sincerely,

*Kaye M. Breon*  
Principal