

Council Grove Elementary School

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Kelcy Bremer, Principal kbremer@cgrove417.org

Tasha Green, Assistant Principal

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July 12, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! It is going to be a great one!

Online enrollment is open for returning students from July 8th through July 19th. If you need assistance with the online enrollment tool between July 8th - July 19th, please contact the district office at 620-767-5192. Any returning students who do not complete the enrollment process online will need to attend onsite enrollment July 26th, from 1:00pm to 7:00pm, in the Council Grove Junior Senior High School commons area.

Class lists will be posted on our website as soon as we finalize enrollment in early August.

CGES is the home of the district 4 Year Old Preschool Program which aims to serve all four year olds in our district! We have morning and afternoon sessions available. If you have a child that is 4 years old or will be 4 years old by August 31st, and you would like for him/her to attend our district PreK program, please plan to attend Onsite Enrollment at the Council Grove Junior Senior High School Commons Area on July 26th (1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) Please also spread the word to friends and family that may be interested in this opportunity!

Back to School Night for PreK - 6th grade students is on August 13th from 4:00-8:00 p.m. We will be using SignUpGenius to schedule Back to School Night times with teachers. Please watch for communication that includes a link to schedule your classroom visit. Along with meeting the teacher, bringing school supplies, and getting important classroom information, our Back to School meeting also includes our Annual Title I meeting. As a Title 1 school we are required each year to: Inform parents/families of their school's participation, explain the requirements of the Title 1, Part A program and to explain the right of parents to be involved. Kindergarten parents will be asked to complete the Ages and Stages Questionnaire either during Back to School Night or at home. More information about the ASQ can be found in this packet.

We would like to invite you to our PAC (Parent Advisory Council) meetings this year. Our goal is to increase participation and parent involvement during meetings. PTO meetings will immediately follow the PAC meeting each month in an effort to streamline meeting dates for families. PAC meetings are your opportunity to have a voice, share feedback, and be part of the decision making process for CGES. All parents/guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meetings will be held in the CGES Conference Room which is located off the front lobby. Please enter the main doors. Zoom links to the meeting will also be shared via Classroom Dojo. The dates for our PAC meetings are listed on the Tentative Dates at the end of this letter.

You will also notice a couple of changes on the Tentative Dates list provided below. We will not be holding a Kindergarten Orientation day this year. All students will have the same first day of school, Thursday, August 15th. There will also no longer be a Kindergarten Celebration at the end of the year, instead our Kindergarten teachers will be planning their own classroom celebrations. We will be adding a 6th Grade Send Off at the end of the year. More details will be shared at a later time.

Our Board of Education has approved to continue to provide free breakfast for all USD 417 students! It is important for every family to fill out the Free/Reduced Application to see if you qualify for free or reduced lunches. This data is also an important part of our school funding, so we appreciate your help filling out the form! The link can be found on the front page of our district website. Breakfast will be eaten in the lunchroom. Doors open at 7:45 am. Students eating breakfast will go directly to the lunchroom and students not eating will report to their classroom. Bus riders who are eating breakfast will report directly to the lunchroom before going to their classroom. If you are dropping your child off at school, please make sure to allow time for eating; students are tardy at 8:00 am. Free/Reduced Application

We have a few faces on our staff this year and some staff in new positions. Listed below are our grade level, specials teachers, and positions you may have a need to contact.

Principal: Kelcy Bremer

Assistant Principal: Tasha Green

Pre-K: Angie Bailey and Brooke Lococo Kindergarten: Brier Blythe and Robin Frye

1st Grade: Milo Swift and Lori May

2nd Grade: Brianna Ewing, Myah Frick, and McKenzie Rowlett

3rd Grade: Lena Gosnell and Alicia Kelley 4th Grade: Destiny Barnett and Jessica Tidd

5th Grade: Kristina Balboa, Tiffany Bunn, and Theresa Kinsey 6th Grade: Colleen Booker, Joshua Gant, and Steffany Spear

PE/Health: Broc Finch Vocal Music: Lisa Bolieu

5th/6th Grade Band: Lisa Bolieu and Matthew Meals School Counselors: Tina Wheeler and Joel Young Title I Teachers: Vanessa Hinds and Krista Wilson

Special Education Teachers: Mallory Hiegert, Amy Nielsen, and Sarah Secord

Librarian/Computer Science: Rachel Hodges

Art: Bob Alexander

Secretaries: Korina Martin and Carol Wright School Nurses: Rinda Stecher and Janelle Wirtz

After School Program: Joany Fox

Mental Health School Liaison: Dustin SanRomani

English Language Learners: Heidi Grant

Food Service Director: Becky Shearer, CGJSHS Transportation Director: Matt Weaver, District Office Superintendent: Tyson Eslinger, District Office

We both feel very strongly about having open doors and open communication. We look forward to creating a partnership with you to ensure the success of your child. We are so excited for the 2024-2025 school year!

Sincerely,

Kelcy Bremer, Principal Tasha Green, Assistant Principal