Hello Conifer Family and Friends, this is Principal Paxton with your weekly update on news and information for the week of Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

**Here are some important announcements...**

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<td><strong>Freshmen Orientation Day</strong></td>
<td>The staff is excited to welcome the Class of 2025 to Conifer High School! On Monday, August 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;, we're hosting Freshmen Orientation from 7:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. This day is set aside for freshmen to spend the morning working with Link Leaders (upper classmen) on team building activities and navigating the school building. A free pizza lunch and beverage will be provided for ALL freshmen attendees. Following lunch, the students will spend the afternoon following their schedule and meeting with their fall semester teachers. Students just need to bring their smile and energy ... they don’t need to bring school supplies or their backpack. In addition, students should be prepared for their yearbook/ID photo to be taken by DR Photos. In addition, transportation will NOT be provided to and from school on Monday, August 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;.</td>
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<td><strong>New Conifer Parent Orientation</strong></td>
<td>Parents new to Conifer are encouraged to attend a Parent Orientation and Question/Answer Session hosted by our PTSA in the Conifer Cafeteria on Monday, August 16, 2021 from 7:45 until 8:45 a.m. The session provides a great opportunity to answer parent questions and help parents navigate the “high school experience”.</td>
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<td><strong>Non-Freshmen New Transfer and Exchange Student Orientation Session</strong></td>
<td>To support the academic success of new transfer and exchange students, the Conifer Counseling Center is hosting an orientation session and school tour on Monday, August 16, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the Counseling Center. For More information, please call Registration Secretary Jolene Sadowski at 303-982-5249.</td>
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<td><strong>School Pictures</strong></td>
<td>DR Photo will be here on August 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to take photos for the Freshman and on August 17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; and August 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; to take photos for the Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors. Every student will need a student ID and updated photo for Infinite Campus. They should have their picture taken during Seminar, Lunch, Study Hall, or Free periods. To order pictures, click <a href="#">THIS</a>.</td>
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<td><strong>First Day of School for All Students</strong></td>
<td>The First Day of School for ALL students is Tuesday, August 17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; at 7:30 a.m., which is a Green Day. To reduce morning traffic congestion, district buses will drop-off students between 7:00 and 7:15 a.m. Parents dropping off students and student drivers should arrive between 7:15 until 7:25 a.m. Juniors and Seniors should enter through the new addition lobby doors until the main entrance construction is complete.</td>
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**Rite of Passage Ceremony for Freshmen and Sophomores**

completed. Freshmen and Sophomores should enter through the lower-level door nearest to the bus circle on the west side of Campus. As a reminder, the late bell rings at 7:30 a.m.

During the First Day Seminar, we’ll welcome our Freshmen and Sophomores with our annual Rite of Passage Ceremony and Welcome to School Assembly in the competition gym. Teachers will release students for the ceremony.

This year’s bell schedule will run from 7:30 a.m. until 2:40 p.m. New students are encouraged to review the attached bell schedule and Green/Silver block schedule days.

**DECA**

DECA is gearing up for the new school year - are you thinking about joining us? Check us out on Instagram: @conifer.deca or DECA.org

We already have several exciting DECA events and trips on the calendar - a fall social; live, in-person mock role-plays; the Beaver Creek trip at the end of October; District competition in person in December; Sports Marketing Conference in Orlando, Florida in January, State at the Broadmoor end of February; Internationals in Atlanta end of April; and any other fun activities we can fit in and get clearance to embark on.

For anyone interested in joining DECA for 2021-2022, information is available in this link - https://tinyurl.com/ecph6abk. All Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors must be enrolled in a 1st Semester Marketing or Business class in order to participate in DECA, but 9th graders can participate in our JV DECA program, so check your schedules! Contact Amber Hall at abhall@jeffco.k12.co.us with any questions about DECA.

**Fall COVID Guidelines (as of August 5, 2021)**

On Wednesday afternoon, the Jefferson County Public Schools shared the Start-of-School Health Protocols in an email. The following is a brief summary of those protocols (more detailed information can be found at the following link: https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/about/communications/jeffco_news/fall_2021_health_protocols):

**Experiencing COVID-like Symptoms:**

- Stay home! Families should call their medical provider. If symptoms have not improved after 48 hours, please notify the school and the school nurse will follow up with you. CDPHE’s Return to Learn guidance is located here.

**Masks:**

- Strongly recommended for ages 12+, when indoors at school.
- Masks are required for unvaccinated staff.
- Masks are welcome for anyone in the district.
- Masks are required on all Jeffco buses - to and from school and on all field trips. Masking on public transportation is a Federal requirement, including school buses. Please see this federal order for more details.
• Medical/Disability-Related Mask Exemption process located here.
  o Staff who require disability related accommodations related to mask wearing, will be referred to Legal and Employee Relations.

• Requests for religious exemptions will be handled in accordance with applicable law. Please contact Legal Services and Employee Relations.

Quarantines:

• Students may attend school unless Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) contacts them and requires them to quarantine. JCPH will contact the families of those who need to quarantine based on contact tracing provided by school administration teams.

• Quarantines will NOT be issued by JCPH IF close contacts to positive individuals are either masked or vaccinated.

• All quarantined staff and students will quarantine for 10 days. They are eligible for shortened quarantine periods per JCPH:
  o Must complete 7 days and return to school and activities on day 8 IF:
    ▪ COVID pcr or rapid antigen test is negative at day 5, 6 or 7 post exposure date AND symptom free

• For quarantined students, learning will continue from home. Access to Google Classroom (with no online streaming) will be available and work must be provided to the student as it is in the case of any prolonged absence from school.

  Policy language: “Makeup work should reflect class assignments missed during the absence, and a reasonable amount of time should be allowed for work completion. Time allowed to make up work is twice the number of classes or days missed (two days allowed for makeup work for each day of absence); however, an extension of this time limit may be approved by the school administration. Students who complete makeup work within the required timeline will receive full academic credit earned for the makeup work”

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<th>Celebrating Conifer’s Students and Staff on Facebook and Instagram</th>
<th>In a concerted effort to recognize our students’ accomplishments, we recommend you visit our Conifer High School Facebook (<a href="http://www.facebook.com/coniferhighschool">http://www.facebook.com/coniferhighschool</a>) and Instagram (@Coniferhs) pages. You will find a plethora of candid photos of student/staff involvement and student/staff celebrations.</th>
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<td>Jeffco Code of Conduct</td>
<td>If high expectations are to be held for academic achievement, it is clear that behavior expectations be adopted as well. Our goal is to create a culture of honor and respect that is consistent from classroom to classroom and can be carried over into the community. It is the goal of our school for behavior expectations to stand with academic standards to create a total learning environment for all students.</td>
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Please visit the Jefferson County Public Schools Code of Conduct website ([http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/schools/code_of_conduct](http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/schools/code_of_conduct)) to review and better understand the policies regarding student conduct.

**Facility Improvements**

In November 2018, the Jefferson County voters approved the ballot initiative that directly supported Conifer’s ability to provide innovative learning opportunities in a state-of-the-art facility that provides a safe and welcoming atmosphere. The new improvements include updating aging classroom spaces, the addition of a desperately needed auxiliary gym, the installation of all-weather turf fields that will increase the opportunity for our athletes to practice and play on their home field, and significant improvements to the safety and security of our building.

**Temporary Entrance in New Addition Lobby**

The remodeling of the main entrance temporarily requires us to shift our entrance to the new lobby entrance on the east side of campus.

**Parents Schedule an Appointment**

As a result of COVID Guidelines and the temporary entrances, parents need to schedule an appointment with office staff, counselors, or teachers in advance. We are not allowing walk-in appointments or meetings.

The Jeffco COVID Guidelines for Visitors Starts on Tuesday, August 17th:

- Visitors should engage in self-screening at home before entering a Jeffco Public Schools building, and follow any health protocols that may be in place.
- All visitors are required to wear a mask while indoors. Visitors are not required to wear masks outdoors.

**Parking Passes for Juniors and Seniors**

Student driver parking passes will be issued beginning on Monday, August 30th. Juniors and Seniors should complete the online parking pass document: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScnW4efPZZ2DCvJ_EY1VZEmmiOKY-EbBF2oUhLSffl_b2byLQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScnW4efPZZ2DCvJ_EY1VZEmmiOKY-EbBF2oUhLSffl_b2byLQ/viewform)

The parking passes fee will be $125.00 for the school year and prorated based on when the parking pass is purchased.

 Sophomores need to meet with Athletic Director Eric Kragel to complete their parking pass documentation.

**Chromebook Distribution for Incoming 9th Graders and New 10th/11th Graders**

As students start back to school for the 2021/22 school year, our 9th, 10th & 11th graders will do so with TechforEd Chromebooks to use for school. Each student in 10th & 11th grade has already received their Chromebook as a Freshmen and will need to bring their Chromebook with them on the first day of school. **Any 10th or 11th grader new to Jeffco Schools will receive a Chromebook on the first day of school.**Incoming 9th graders will receive their Chromebook at Freshmen orientation (Link Day) on Monday, August 16th. They will keep this Chromebook for the next four years as long as they are enrolled in a Jeffco Public School. Click here for more information about the program. Please reach out to our Digital Teacher Librarian, [Karen.McIntosh@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:Karen.McIntosh@jeffco.k12.co.us) with any questions.
### Chromebook Distribution for Seniors

Any Senior who needs a Chromebook for the 2021/22 school year needs to fill out this form for a school-owned Chromebook. We will distribute Chromebooks to Seniors the first week of school. Seniors may bring their own devices for school use if they already have a device.

If you choose to bring your own device to school, it must be in good working order with a keyboard you can bring back and forth to school. No cell phones! Click here for more information about bringing your own device to school. Please reach out to our DTL, Karen.McIntosh@jeffco.k12.co.us with any questions.

### Bleacher Progress

The Conifer Lobos Unified Boosters (CLUB) wanted to share with you an update on how incredibly far they have come with the bleacher construction project in only one month and thanks to all the generosity of our volunteer’s time and energy. THANKS to our amazing volunteers!

They are still in dire need of assistance and would appreciate any time that you could potentially offer (even 3 to 4-hour shifts are welcome). We’re still working Thursdays-Sundays from 8:45 am to 3:00 pm and you can sign up here to help:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084AABAE23A20-volunteers

We are now assembling the bleacher frames, risers, seats, and back rests and, have two small block wing walls left to erect. This is pretty easy work just time consuming.

Like before, we suggest:

- wear jeans, work boots, and bring work gloves
- bring a water bottle and a sack lunch
- bring sunscreen and a hat

Also, if you have any of the following items, please bring what you can:

- a pre-charged cordless drill, an extra drill battery, and your battery charger
- 1/2” & 9/16” sockets (for driving the nuts and bolts together)
- 3/16”, 7/16”, & 1/2” drill bits (for drilling through aluminum)

Thanks in advance for your potential assistance with this project!! When completed, this will be one of the finest stadiums in Jeffco and you’ll be able to proudly say that you contributed to the improvement of your community, Conifer High School athletic facilities, and all of the spectator’s comfort! Thanks for your consideration.

### ConiferFest at Beaver Ranch

This year’s ConiferFest at Beaver Ranch is Saturday, August 21st from 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. This annual fundraiser by the Rotary Club of Conifer supports:

- 285 Backpack Project: Provides weekend meals for financially impacted students and their family. In addition, it provides snack food for school based academically focused programs.
| Back-to-School Night  
Wednesday, September 1st at 5:30 p.m. | Back-To-School Night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 1, 2021, from 5:30 until 8:00 p.m. Parents will be provided the chance to ask questions and learn about the opportunities we provide students. In addition, many of the extracurricular clubs and activities are represented during the evening to demonstrate their contributions to our great school. |
| --- | --- |

In Sports ...

| Boys Golf  
Wednesday, August 18th | On Wednesday, August 18th, our Boys Golf Team will travel to Hyland Hills Golf Course for a tee-off at 8:00 a.m. |
| --- | --- |
| Boys Soccer  
Thursday, August 19th | On Thursday, August 19th, our Conifer Boys Soccer team will host George Washington High School on Fitz Field at 4:00 p.m. for the **Game of the Week**! |
| Softball  
Thursday, August 19th | Also on Thursday, August 19th, our Lobo Softball team will take on Pine Creek High School on Lobo Softball Field with the first pitch at 4:00 p.m. |
| Volleyball  
Thursday, August 19th | And on Thursday, August 19th, our Conifer Volleyball team will host Fort Morgan High School in the Competition Gym at 7:00 p.m. |
| Cross Country  
Saturday, August 21st | On Saturday, August 21st, our Cross-Country Boys and Girls will host an Invitational on our new Track starting at 8:00 a.m. |
| Softball  
Saturday, August 21st | And on Saturday, August 21st, our Softball team will host Eagle Valley High School with the first pitch at 10:00 a.m. |
| COVID Protocols for Athletics and Activities | - CHSAA sanctioned activities/athletics will revert back to Fall, Winter, & Spring seasons for the 2021-2022 school year.  
- If a Student-Athlete has tested positive for Covid-19 and has not completed the return-to-play protocol with their school’s athletic trainer, they are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. Beginning the return-to-play process soon will prevent any delay in the student’s ability to begin |
participating with his/her team. Check with the Athletic Director if you have questions.

- Masks are not required outdoors. Masks strongly recommended for unvaccinated student-athletes while indoors at school.
- All coaches and sponsors, as part of our staff, are required to report their vaccination status to ESS. If they are unvaccinated, they are required to wear a mask indoors.
- Athletic and activity overnight travel returns to normal. Masks are required on buses. Limit 4 students to a room. Coaches and sponsors will ensure that student-athletes and activity participants symptom screen before any overnight travel and not attend if exhibiting symptoms.
- All spectators watching games indoors will be required to wear masks, even if vaccinated. This is in alignment with the district’s school day, visitor expectations. This includes student spectators to indoor athletic events. Unvaccinated players on both teams are strongly encouraged to wear masks. Note: Indoor mask requirements in schools will be revisited throughout the school year, especially if cases in the county are near or below 35 per 100,000 over a 7-day period (CDPHE guidelines), and/or vaccinations become available for students age 11 and under, and/or quarantine requirements by Jefferson County Public Health (JCPH) are relaxed.
- All spectators watching games outdoors are not required to wear masks.
- Masks are not required for outdoor school-sponsored activities.
- All student-athletes are subject to quarantine if they are a close contact of a positive individual and they are unvaccinated and not wearing a mask. Same protocol as students in classrooms.

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<th>Sports Registration</th>
<th>Register now for Fall Sports by visiting the Conifer Athletic page on our website REGISTER HERE Fall Coaches contact information</th>
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We only announce Varsity Home games and all Cross Country and Golf events for the Fall season. For more game information, please visit rSchoolToday.