



Welcome Back!

I am elated to welcome all returning & new families to the Medicine Bow, 4th & 5th grade community! I hope you all had a fantastic summer break & your kiddos are ready to take on the new, exciting, & challenging learning we will embark on this year. Our first chance to see each other is Back to School Night (see details below). In the meantime, if there is anything you need me to know in order to start the year off on the best foot possible, please send me an email (found at the bottom of this newsletter). We are a team & the success of your child depends greatly on our communication. My hope is to provide your child with any support needed as we navigate upper elementary together.

Yours truly, Ms. Miranda

Back to School Night

Our first opportunity to see you this year is at Back to School Night on Tuesday, August 13th from 5:00 - 7:30 pm. When you arrive, please go first to the gym for important all-school information from the admin team. (We have buses this year!) Afterwards, head to your child's classroom. Each teacher will host five, duplicate 20 minute sessions adhering to the following schedule. Class rosters will be posted on classroom doors to help you navigate. This night is an "eyes only" night, meaning students and siblings may not access any materials in the classroom. Our hope is that families will **read the following Upper Elementary Policies & Procedures beforehand** so we can use this valuable time together for community building and Q & A.

5:05 - 5:25 Gym
5:30 - 5:50 Gym + Classrooms
5:55 - 6:15 Gym + Classrooms
6:20 - 6:40 Gym + Classrooms
6:45 - 7:05 Gym + Classrooms
7:10 - 7:30 Classrooms

(*No matter your arrival time, you must 1st attend a session in the gym*)

Phase In Day

All students new to Upper Elementary are invited to Phase In Day on Wednesday, August 14th. This is a required day for all 4th graders & any 5th graders new to FHM. We are looking forward to the opportunity to help the incoming students get acclimated to their new environment. All elementary teachers will be waiting outside on the elementary playground to greet students as they arrive. * There is no before or after care on Phase In Day! *

First Day of School

Upper elementary teachers will be joyously awaiting the arrival of all students on the blacktop from 8:00 - 8:15 am on Thursday, August 15th. This is a normal, full school day for all FHM students.

Important Dates:

- **08/13/19 Back to School Night**, 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
- **08/14/19 Phase In Day** (students new to Upper Elementary), 8:15 am - 2:00 pm (normal Wednesday hours)
- **08/15/19 First Day of School!** 8:15 am - 3:15 pm (normal M, T, Th, F hours)
- **08/20/19 After School Activities/Clubs Registration DEADLINE!**
- **08/26/19 After School Activities/Clubs Begin!**
- **09/02/19 Labor Day, No School**



* Be sure to look for the box of photo props on Wednesday, August 14th and Thursday, August 15th for the opportunity to take a picture with your student. Props will be located under the school sign at the front of the building and by the fence near the elementary playground. Signs like this one will be available for every grade level.*

Upper Elementary Policies & Procedures

- **Snack** - Students are able to eat a snack during morning work cycle. Please, send your child with a healthy, low-sugar snack every day!
- **Water Bottle** - While students are able to utilize water fountains, we encourage you to send them with a water bottle each week that they can keep in the classroom.
- **Homework** - Students will have weekly homework that includes a reading log, spelling words, math facts, journal entry, and practical life. After thoughtful consideration, we have decided to replace the long-term legacy homework projects with weekly homework. Students will still complete long term projects in class, and there will still be opportunities for families to see in-class presentations. Stay tuned for details.
- **Personal Belongings (toys, jewelry, electronics)** - Toys are not allowed in the classroom. We are not responsible for the loss of any items brought to school.
- **Personal Belongings (clothing, backpack, boots, etc)** - We strongly encourage you to label all of your child's possessions that come to school.
- **Volunteers** - FHM is revamping our volunteer model. Keep your eyes open for more info in September!
- **Absence Procedure** - Attendance is critical to your child's success. Please call the attendance line at 303-982-0280 if your child must miss a day of school. Then, contact your teacher directly to determine the make-up work your child will need to complete. Due to the nature of Montessori, not all assignments can be made up at home.
- **School Day Times (Elementary School):** 8:15 a.m. - 3:20 p.m.
Doors are open from 8:00 - 8:10 a.m. Enter through elementary playground doors. * If you need to drop your child off before 8:00 am, they MUST be enrolled in before care. Unsupervised students ARE NOT PERMITTED on school grounds before 8:00 am; this is out of concern for the safety of your child! There are no adults outside before 8:00 am.
- **Student Cell Phones** - If your student brings a phone/communication device, it will be checked in to the teacher and not accessible during the school day. If you need to contact your child, call the front office.
- **Birthdays** - Each child can play a birthday game of their choice.
- **School Supplies** - Supplies are done through [this all school Sign Up Genius \(click for link\)](#). Please, don't label these supplies as they are shared within the classroom and school community.

- **Contacting Your Classroom Teacher** - Email is the best way to get ahold of me - mlanders@jeffcoschools.us :)