



CORY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
1550 S. STEELE STREET
DENVER, CO 80120

JENNIFER HARRIS
PRINCIPAL

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Dear Cory Families,

During the late summer and late spring, Denver can occasionally experience extreme heat. Some 79 schools within the Denver Public Schools do not have air-conditioning or only have partial air-conditioning and may experience increased temperatures within the building. During moments of extreme heat, we make every effort to ensure our school stays open and comfortable. Our number one priority is the safety and well-being of students and staff. If the temperature within the building rises to the degree that we feel it is unsafe to host classes, there is a possibility that our school may have an early release day.

In the past few years, Denver Public Schools has put a number of solutions into place to reduce the impact of extreme heat on our schools, students and staff.

- Two years ago, we pushed the start date back for most schools to help lower the risk of having students in school during times of extreme heat.
- Using bond funds, we have invested in cooling solutions in our schools over the last 2 years
- We have purchased temporary portable cooling units for all schools.
- We have provided additional training for all school staff in how to manage excessive heat.
- Finally, we created a process to allow schools that do *not* have air conditioning to have the option of calling an early release day following a an extended forecast of “extreme heat” conditions.

In the event that we do need to declare an early release Heat Day, we will make the decision by **5 p.m. the day prior to the early release. An early release Heat Day notice will immediately be posted on our school's website and the DPS website. An email and Robo-call will be sent out to alert our families of the change in schedule for the following day.**

I understand this is short notice and an inconvenience for many of our families and that child-care may be an issue for some. We are working closely with DPS Transportation to ensure that a modified bus route will be implemented on an early release Heat Day, and that students will be dropped off at their normal locations. **Parents who do *not* wish for their student to ride the bus home earlier in the day will have the option of picking up their students at the school building.**

I am available to answer questions you may have regarding the possibly of an early release Heat Day. As always, thank you for your continued support of our school, and I very much appreciate your patience as we get through the first couple weeks of the year.

In partnership,

Jennifer Harris, Principal