

Welcome to 4th grade at Cory Elementary!

We are preparing and planning for a very exciting and fun fourth grade experience! This school year you will have two teachers: you will begin your day with Mrs. Gibbs, working on literacy and social studies, and then switch classrooms after lunch & recess to work with Mr. Egland for math and science.

Ms. Gibbs's Literacy Class

Fabulous fourth graders:

In my class, we will work together as a team and support each other like family. I hope we can be teachers and learners together! While I have been a teacher for many years, this will be my first year at Cory. Get ready to learn in new and exciting ways! I cannot wait to help you grow as a reader, writer, and valuable member of our community and the world. I'm hoping you will teach me how things work around here, so we can keep all the amazing aspects of the Cory community going in our classroom.

I was born and raised in Littleton, Colorado, but I have also lived on Oahu in Hawaii and in Charleston, SC. My favorite ways to spend my time are hiking, snowboarding, running, practicing yoga, cooking, and hanging out with my family. I have a husband, two sons, and a dog named Griffin. I can't wait to get to know each other more as we grow and learn together!

Wonderful parents, caregivers and guardians:

I'm so excited to have your 4th grader in my class, and to partner with you this year! This will be my 14th year as an educator, but my 1st year back after taking 7 years off to stay home with my two sons. While I am new to Cory, and DPS, I have a wide variety of experience in various educational roles in Colorado (Jeffco), Hawaii, and South Carolina. I am so excited to bring a fresh perspective to Cory, but I will also be learning how to assimilate and adapt to the amazing ways of Cory as well! My goal will be to help you feel empowered as a partner in your child's education, and to provide you with many opportunities to get engaged and involved in your child's learning. I also know and respect that parent engagement looks different for every family. I look forward to getting to know you, your family, and your fourth grader more.

Mr. Egland's Science and Math Class

I am so excited to be your child's math teacher this year! This year we will focus on cultivating a love (or at least appreciation) of math, science, and social studies. My class is a place where students can take risks, make mistakes, and help each other grow. Students will be asked to engage in discussions that require them to critically think about our topics and put into words the 'why' behind these concepts. I am excited for our students to build resiliency and critical thinking skills, while also having fun.

I have been teaching in Denver since 2018. Before returning to Denver, I taught English in Taiyuan, Shanxi, China. I have taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels across the years, moving into teaching grades 4-5 specifically last year.

I am from Colorado! I enjoy reading, hiking, and writing. I live in Littleton with my wife, Teresa, and our dog Theo (a Shepherd/Husky mix).

Pick Up & Drop Off

Bell time for next year 8:15-3:15 BUT, students can enter the building at 8:10

Start of the Day

- Students can be dropped off at the playground at 8:05 without supervision, students must be with a guardian prior to this. This includes walkers, bikers and kiss and go.
- 8:10 is the first bell and 8:15 is the tardy bell. All students who come to school after 8:15 will need to get a pass from the front office.
- 4th and 5th grade will enter & exit through the south doors on the playground.

End of Day

- 3:15 Dismissal - students may not stay and play without an adult present.
- Supervision will end at 3:25 and all remaining students will be taken to the office to contact family.

Kiss and Go Reminders

- Please remember that all pick ups and drop off will be done on the NORTH side of Iowa.
- We do not want anyone crossing the street unless at a crosswalk.
- Safety for ALL is our priority.

Supplies

If you ordered supplies for your child, they should arrive on the first day of school. If you did not order a box, no worries, here is a [list of supplies](#) that we are requesting. We are asking that students bring school supplies on the first day of school instead of Back to School night. If your child needs any support in getting supplies or if you would like to donate extra supplies, please contact us directly and we will work to ensure all students have a successful start to the school year.

Snacks and Treats:

- *Birthday Celebrations:* Cory has a no-food policy for celebrating all birthdays. Students will enjoy their special day at school and will get to visit the office to receive a book to keep for their birthday treat! Please save special food treats for celebrations at home.

- Snacks: We will have an opportunity for a small snack every morning. If your child would like to have a snack, please send them to school with something that is healthy and easy to eat (no utensils required, etc). Cheese sticks, granola bars, or small bags of pretzels/goldfish are good options.
- Drinks: Please send your child with a water bottle that closes tightly. No other drinks (gatorade, iced tea, lemonade, etc) will be allowed in the classroom, but students can bring those types of beverages for lunch if they choose!

Parent Homework

Please write us an email introducing your child. This can be a brief note, a list, or something longer - whatever feels right to you. All we ask is to keep it under a million words! We are looking forward to getting to know your child both in person and through your eyes.

We would also love a family photo to hang up outside our classroom -- either a printed or emailed copy is fine!

Enjoy your last week of summer and know we will be working away to get ready for a successful year of learning and growing together.

Warm Regards,

Dawn Gibbs and John Egland

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