



From Dr. Lopez

Our 2017-2018 school year has started! You have attended training, tried to prepare for our students, welcomed a new interim superintendent, reconnected with former teammates and met new teammates, ushered new students into your classrooms, buses, lunchrooms, and offices. You have patiently endured our new technology transitions. Whew! You have done great work!

Many of you returned to a school with upgrades, reconfigured spaces or in progress construction. It's exciting to see how much progress was made this summer and to envision the exciting buildings and redesigns we will see next fall. We are preparing for the new bus pass system and have begun lunch service for our hungry students and staff. Oh and let's not forget that we have experienced our first eclipse in 26 years! And just think...this is only, barely, our third week of school!

This is the year of transition and great adventure for Eagle County Schools! As they say, "Embrace the journey." As we begin this year in our ever changing lives, let's all enjoy the bumps and smooth sailing along the way.

Please take a few minutes to read this first Communique and let us know if it continues to be a valuable source of communication for you. I look forward to hearing from you and getting your feedback. See you soon!! ~Maggie

CONGRATULATIONS!

The results are in and Eagle County Schools has moved from Improvement to Performance! We have much to celebrate! A heartfelt congratulations to all

staff for your hard work last year – let's keep the momentum going and our students growing!

Hurricane Harvey Help

Donations are being accepted through Saturday, September 2nd at 1pm and can be dropped off at the Eagle River Presbyterian Church located at 455 Nottingham Ranch Road, Avon.

All donations will be driven to St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Houston and distributed to local shelters to help Hurricane Harvey Victims.

The items that shelters need most are:

Wheelchairs

First Aid Items including OTC Pain Relievers

Diapers

Baby clothes

Baby food and Formula

New socks for men, women, and children

New bras for women/ underwear for men, women, and children

Bedding, blankets, sheets and pillows

Towels

Toiletries (Ex: shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, face wipes, etc.)

Feminine hygiene products

Coloring books or other toys for children

Air mattresses

Paper plates

Napkins

Nonperishable food items

Prepackaged snacks

Clothing Items are No Longer Needed

If you prefer to donate monetarily, it is suggested to give to JJ Watt's campaign, which promises to give directly to Houstonians.

Certified Employee and Principal Evaluation Process

Please follow the links below to find information on the evaluation process that will be implemented in the 2017-18 school year.

Certified Employee Evaluation:

<https://drive.google.com/a/eagleschools.net/file/d/0ByP5O5arhXo5Y00yN0tIN1Z5ZIE/view?usp=sharing>

Principal Evaluation:

<https://drive.google.com/a/eagleschools.net/file/d/0ByP5O5arhXo5bEQyYTVmdlhZeTQ/view?usp=sharing>

Insider's Academy

Insider's Academy provides community members with an opportunity to learn about our district and dive deep into understanding our strategic plan, curriculum and instruction strategies, special programs, school finance, operations, and more. The goal of Insider's Academy is to encourage all community members to become advocates for our schools and learn where their skills and experience may be most helpful. New for this year, we're offering this program as a full-day single session on Saturday, October 21. If you know someone outside of ECS (parents, community members) who may be interested, please invite them to enroll. Space is limited to 25. Visit www.eagleschools.net/Insiders for more information.

Learning Services Newsletter

Find out all of the latest happenings in the Learning Services Department in their newsletter.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BzGlsSzyJnwwek9PRF80WHp6Mzg/view?ts=59a48dc0>

Solar Eclipse Success

The day that marked the first total solar eclipse in the past 26 years was a bit extra special for Avon Elementary School students. Avon Elementary partnered with Walking Mountains Science Center and The Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa to engage in a day of learning and viewing. After enjoying a quick walk from

the school to The Westin, students were greeted by Walking Mountains staff who provided students not only with viewing glasses, but a whole host of educational activities aimed at the science behind the eclipse and other components of our solar system. The viewing area provided by The Westin was second to none, where students gathered on the grass to witness the spectacular event. How lucky we are to be part of a community that embraces each other in times like this to provide a once in a lifetime learning experience for students. Thanks go out to Walking Mountains and The Westin for the wonderful experience, as well as the teachers and staff from Avon Elementary for helping students see that learning is all around us – especially beyond the school walls.



Picture Courtesy of John-Ryan Lockman

Bond Projects

Many items are being completed and ribbon cutting celebrations are happening! Below are a few pictures to enjoy from the Eagle Valley Elementary event.



Save the Dates – these are just a few highlights. See our ECS Community Events webpage for more:

September 6, 5:30 pm at Four Seasons Resort. Alyse Nelson - Vital Voices: The power of women leading change around the world.

http://vailsymposium.org/th_event/vital-voices/ Vail Symposium offers discounted tickets for ECS staff and students to all their programs.

September 9th: ERYC Valley Tastings

The 11th Annual Valley Tastings is Eagle River Youth Coalition's largest fundraiser of the year on September 9th at the Lundgren Amphitheater in Gypsum. Valley Tastings, presented by Kaiser Permanente and Town of Gypsum, provides guests sumptuous samples from over a dozen local restaurants. Community and youth awards, live music by Hardscrabble, free lawn games, and bouncy houses for kids will be present for this family event! To purchase tickets, follow this link: <http://bit.ly/2vdUSgt>

September 24, 10 am. Wild West Days – Efec's annual fundraiser for our elementary schools

November 2, 5:30 pm at BMHS: Educate! 2017 Equity and Deeper Learning - Featuring a keynote address by Dr. Pedro Noguera. A limited number of free tickets will be available to ECS staff beginning Oct. 1 on first come basis until gone. Discounted tickets are available in advance through vailsymposium.org.