



**Collins Elementary School**  
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Dear CUBS and our CUB Community-

September 12, 2024

Our school year is off and running and I would like to celebrate our success as a community. We have seen individual successes to share, classroom successes to recognize, and school-wide goals have already been achieved. Well done, CUBS!

As we embark on our fourth week in the 2024-2025 school year, it is important to share with all our families the proactive approaches regarding Positive Behavior Support Systems that our team here at Collins Elementary have completed thus far. We would also like to take this time to share with our families the future plans and/or activities that we plan to complete with all our CUBS. Each activity/event will ultimately help to support, encourage, and celebrate our CUBS' positive behavior displayed, known as *P.A.W.S: Positive Choices, Act Responsibly, Will be Respectful, Show Integrity.*

### **PAWS-itive BEHAVIOR ACTIVITIES ALREADY COMPLETED:**

**1. BEHAVIOR STATIONS:** During the first week of school, students had the opportunity to move through fun behavior stations to demonstrate the appropriate ways to show our P.A.W.S in the hallways, the bathrooms, the cafeteria, the playground, and in specials. This was completed with our grades 2-6 and we will be meeting with grades K-1 at a separate time.

**2. P.A.W.S. BEHAVIOR BOOKLET STORY:** Students were allowed to create a special booklet to showcase their creativity and illustrate how they show their P.A.W.S. at school. These were sent home recently and were meant to be shared with their families. We hope you enjoyed seeing their illustrations and narrative texts in grades 2-6!

**3. P.A.W.S. POSITIVE BEHAVIOR CONTRACT:** Students had the opportunity to achieve their first P.A.W.S ticket by setting academic, learning, and behavior goals by completing and returning their signed Behavior Contract agreement during the first two weeks of school. This contract helps our CUBS to continue to strive to build a positive mindset towards behavior expectations within our school. All grades 2-6 completed these and grades K-2 will complete after their behavior rotations.

**4. P.A.W.S. BEHAVIOR VIDEO:** This was a fun and special video created and shared with our students to demonstrate how to properly show our PAWS in school. It was created by a stellar team of Teaching staff and even featured staff members in the fun video! Students had a great laugh with this one! All grades K-6 completed.

**5. PRINCIPAL MORNING MESSAGES:** Each day, students will have special video announcements from their principal focusing on various topics to support social/emotional well-being, positive behavior, celebrations of success, and various other issues/topics that may arise at Collins and/or that we would like to address together. This is an opportunity to advance our cultural awareness, diversity and inclusion with one another, and celebrate successes in a PAWS-itive manner. We are ALL CUBS and PROUD OF IT! These video messages allow us an opportunity to advance kindness, respect, and understanding to build a culture of equitable practices within our CUB Community.

- **Mindful Mondays:** focus is on tips and strategies to reduce stress, anxiety, and handle big emotions.
- **Talk to Me Tuesdays:** focus is on establishing relationships and building restorative connections amongst our students to stop and chat with a friend, adult, or peer!
- **Writing Wednesdays:** focus centers on a fun top to share and work on our ELA with one another and discuss in a restorative circle or grade level/class meeting.
- **Thoughtful Thursdays:** focus is on supporting our Character Strong traits and curriculum including topics like Respect, Kindness, and many others in the Character Strong curriculum content.
- **Friendship Fridays:** focus is on building restorative relationships with peers to work through conflict resolution, peacefully and respectfully.

### **UPCOMING PAWS-itive BEHAVIOR ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:**

- **GRADE LEVEL CODE OF CONDUCT/BEHAVIOR MEETINGS:** Beginning this week, students in grades 3-6 will earn a special grade level restorative team meeting with their principal to review and discuss UCS Student Code of Conduct and Policies regarding appropriate behaviors and conduct in our schools. We began with our 4<sup>th</sup> grade students today and will work through 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> in the next few weeks.
- **LUNCHROOM GRADE LEVEL TEAM MEETINGS:** To review and celebrate behavior expectations in the classroom to recognize success and goal-set together.
- **CARING CUB AWARDS:** Each class has the opportunity to be celebrated with an earned extra recess! These come from nominations, wonderful language choice, showing our P.A.W.S, tallies in the lunchroom, and successes displayed. An award is displayed in their classroom and front office and they have the opportunity to host one of two Caring Cub trophies this year to display it proudly in their classroom for the week!
- **CARING CUB SHOUT-OUTS:** These are an opportunity to publicly recognize staff and students through nominations of individual success. Phone calls may be made, special PAWS-itive notes sent home, certificates written, pizza lunches, or shopping in our PAWS box!
- **P.A.W.S. Assemblies:** These are put together by our P.A.W.S committee and include lots of celebrations and prizes!

As we continue our learning journey at Collins Elementary, we look forward to extending opportunities to our students to PAWS-itive move them forward in a successful manner. Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work through celebrating our differences and embracing our community commitment to one another in partnership. As our Collins Mission statement states: "Our mission at Collins, with the help of the community, is to foster a caring and enriching environment that enables all students to grow academically and socially, to reach their individual potential as they become lifelong learners." We are committed to our CUBS and their future endeavors.

Yours in partnership,

*Mrs. Ciacchella*

Mrs. Meghan Ciacchella, Ed.S

Principal Collins Elementary School