

# 2023-2024 Cottage School Program

Weekly News--Week of February 12

To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

With the proliferation of online media and entertainment over the last five to ten years, who and what influences us has changed from the days of our youth. We are bombarded, especially our children, with messaging on social media, streaming services, and television that encourages indulgence, promotes materialism, and provokes comparison. While we may be aware of these negative influences, we are not always immune to the illusion of good feelings they create. More important than ever is the need to stay grounded in sound principles and convicted by the values and truths that have stood the test of time. This begins in the home and is reinforced here at TCA. We are grateful for your continued partnership as we stay focused on our commitment to the mission and Core Values that have endured at TCA since 1997.

In Partnership,

Justin Peterson

Cottage School Program and College Pathways Principal

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(719) 487-2000

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## CSP Parent Survey!

Each year, CSP gathers valuable input from our families through our annual parent survey. **This year's parent survey is available [HERE](#) and open through Thursday, February 29.** We appreciate you taking time to provide feedback that will help us serve and partner with our families in the most effective way possible. Thank you!

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## 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR CLASS SCHEDULES

- On Thursday, February 1, the Registrar's Office will send out class request emails for the 2024-2025 school year to ***rising*** 1st - 6th grade students (current Kinder - 5th grade students).
- You will have until Thursday, February 8, to respond, and the Registrar's Office will inform you on Friday, February 9, which class your student has been assigned to.
- Rising 7th grade students (current 6th grade students) will be emailed a link to request a College Pathways 7th grade class schedule on Thursday, Feb. 15.
- Offers for ***NEW*** CSP Kinder - 6th graders will begin in late February/early March.
- Be on the lookout! TCA's Registrar's Office highly encourages you to submit your child's class request *as soon as you receive the email with the link to the request form*. CSP seats fill up fast!

**FOR RISING 7th GRADERS:** We recommend have your student's schedule for the next school year planned out ahead of time. A blank schedule worksheet can be found [here](#), course descriptions can be found [here](#), the weekly course list can be found [here](#), and the weekly course schedule can be found [here](#).

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## A MESSAGE FROM PPSC POLICE REGARDING CARPOOL

Last week, a PPSC officer observed our carpool processes at TCA East Campus. He observed the following:

1. Cars in the K-2 line driving down the PPSC road and bypassing the line. These cars end up stuck at the stop sign and block PPSC students from getting through.
2. Cars in the K-2 line pulling into the intersection and blocking it.
3. Children in cars not buckled and climbing around in the cars while the cars are in motion.
4. Some parents being rude and disrespectful when stopped by a police officer and/or a TCA East staff member.

Many thanks to all in our CSP community for all you're already doing to help carpool be as smooth as possible. We will continue to "Be our best, do our best, and give our best" as Titans--and be good neighbors to our PPSC counterparts. Should you ever have any concerns about carpool, please don't hesitate to reach out CSP administration (Justin Peterson or Stef Hille).

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## LIBRARY NEWS!

Hello CSP Families!

Did you know that you have access to the East Campus Library and not just your students? You can come and check out materials (4 items per account) and have them for 2 weeks! Parents are welcome as soon as 8:00am until 8:20am. If you are here during school hours, feel free to stop by, however, if Mrs. Hinkin has a class with her in the library then we ask that you wait until after school or come back when she isn't with a class. The library is also open from 3:30pm-4:00pm.

Your student is also welcome to come by and checkout books! Without a parent, your student(s) can come in at 8:05am until 8:15am OR at the end of the day. However, we do ask that your student spends no more than 5min as we have to make sure the library isn't a "holding" area for late carpoolers, but rather an environment of finding great books and interacting with the library staff to help them find great books!

You also have online access to audio books and e-books. Checkout our library page <https://co50010872.schoolwires.net/Page/83> for more information. If you have any questions, contact the East Campus Librarian: Mrs. Hinkin, [ahinkin@asd20.org](mailto:ahinkin@asd20.org)

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## Announcements

### **NEW and STILL IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

**SPECIAL NOTE: We are noticing many students who are out of uniform compliance. Please take the time to review the TCA Elementary Uniform Policy [here](#). A pictorial guide can be found [here](#).**

**1. THIS WEEK! TALENT SHOW AUDITIONS, FEBRUARY 12 AND 15** - The annual Talent Show is approaching! Students from 2nd through 6th grade are welcome to audition. A student from CSP must be in the act, but CSP students may include Mom, Dad, siblings, or friends in the act with them. Auditions will be held in room 126, Gold Hallway. Parents, please sign your student up for an audition on Signup using this link: <https://signup.com/go/LYkdwsY> Contact Mrs. Socolofsky with any questions ([jsocolofsky@asd20.org](mailto:jsocolofsky@asd20.org)).

**2. THIS WEEK! Our next SAC (School Accountability Committee) meeting** will be on Tuesday, February 13, 10 - 11 AM in the TCA East Conference Room (childcare not provided). Meetings are held each quarter throughout the year with the purpose of discussing budget priorities, safety, the school improvement plan, and other items pertaining to the operation of both CSP and CP. Anyone is welcome to attend.

**3. FEBRUARY LUNCH MENU** can be found [here](#).

**4. UPCOMING FRIDAY MAKE-UP DAY for CSP MONDAY STUDENTS - Friday, February 23rd**

Due to the Presidents' Day holiday on Monday, February 19th, all Monday students will attend school on Friday, February 23rd, that week. Students may wear denim bottoms and a uniform top. All students need to bring a lunch from home as no hot lunch is served on Fridays.

**5. TITAN OF THE YEAR** – The call for nominations is coming February 22nd! Be thinking about that special teacher or staff member to nominate for Titan of the Year 2023-24, someone who embodies the mission, values, and spirit of TCA.

**6. CSP ART NEEDS** - Parents, if you have an extra skein of yarn and would like to donate it to the art room, we would be grateful.

**7. LANDSHARKS REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 1** - CSP students have two options for participating in Landsharks. There is a homeschool-specific team, the Homeschool Hammerheads (see flier below for dates and coach contact info). as well as a team with TCA East Elementary

students. To register, please go to [www.landsharksrunningclub.com](http://www.landsharksrunningclub.com). Other dates specific to the TCA East team are as follows:

1/30 – Financial Aid closes

2/1 – Spring track registration opens

3/17 – Registration price increase

3/27 – Registration closes

4/9 – First practice begins at 7:10am on the east turf field

4/21, 4/28, 5/5 – 3:00 meets at Chinook Middle School

5/7 – Final practice/season celebration

Please contact Mandy Souder (719-258-7786) if you have any questions.

**8. CSP OPTIONAL STANDARDIZED TESTING FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 3 AND 5** - All students in grades 3 and 5 will be sent home with information this week about upcoming standardized testing options. The state of Colorado requires that home school students complete a nationally standardized test in the "odd" numbered grades beginning with third grade. The information being sent home provides details about the testing offered at CSP as well other testing options should you choose not to test through CSP. (An electronic version of this information will also be emailed to all 3rd and 5th grade families by the end of the week.) A practice test packet will be made available to any families who request it (whether a student tests with us or not). These packets may be requested from your child's teacher starting the week of January 22nd. The option to pay through Infinite Campus is now available. To pay online, log into IC, navigate to the Fees tab and choose "Optional Payments" (make sure the correct child is selected from the dropdown in the top right corner); add the testing fee to the cart and pay. Cash or check payments may be turned in at any time. Cost of testing is \$16.

**9. D20 Choice Information** - Each year, D20 offers choice enrollment opportunities beginning in January for the upcoming school year. TCA is not a D20 choice option. We are a waitlist school and currently enrolled students automatically move on to the next grade level each year. **If your child is enrolled at TCA, and you want to remain at TCA, do NOT** submit a D20 Choice application for another school. If you apply and receive the choice, your child will be automatically withdrawn from TCA. Per policy, you will not be able to change your mind about staying at TCA.

*If you submit a choice application to D20 and change your mind, you must notify D20 before enrollment notifications are sent out. Questions? Please email [TCARegistrar@asd20.org](mailto:TCARegistrar@asd20.org).*

**10. ALL TCA Elementary Sock Hop** - Friday, March 8, 2024, 4:00pm – 5:30pm, North Campus  
Tickets can be purchased at [www.payschoolsevents.com/events/details/29611](http://www.payschoolsevents.com/events/details/29611) Cost is \$18.00 per Elementary Student / \$5 per Parent. Elementary students must be accompanied by a ticketed ADULT/Parent. **Discount expires on Thursday, February 15.** Purchase your tickets now to receive \$5.00 off Student tickets.

More info at link. <https://www.payschoolsevents.com/events/details/29611> Use discount code: **SOCK24** when checking out.

**11. Our SilverGraphics Online Art Shop is Still Open!** Find the perfect gift for any special occasion, preserve a memory of your child's school year, and proudly display your child's art on beautiful keepsakes. You can still order beautiful personalized products featuring your child's artwork through our SilverGraphics Art Fundraiser. Our **ONLINE ART SHOP** is open through **June 30th**. Now's your chance to place additional orders. You can also **UPLOAD NEW ART & PHOTOGRAPHS!**

Products will ship direct to you (or whatever address you enter at Checkout), with shipping fees added. Your order will continue to support our school.

To place your order:

1. Go to: [www.silvergraphics.com/shop](http://www.silvergraphics.com/shop)

2. Enter our School Access Code: ArtCottage23

Contact Michelle Dalrymple at [mdalrymple@asd20.org](mailto:mdalrymple@asd20.org) if you have any questions.

## 12. TCA SUBSTITUTES NEEDED!

Types of jobs available: Teacher, Tutor, Office/Kiosk/Health Room, Test Proctoring  
Requirements--

- TEACHER: Bachelor's degree in any subject **or** HS Diploma + CDE Substitute Teacher Authorization
- PARAPROFESSIONAL: High School Diploma or GED
- Office/Kiosk/Health Room/: High School Diploma/GED and additional training in the specific area
- Proctoring: Bachelor's degree in any subject and additional training in the specific area

To apply, please visit TCA's employment site at [here](#) and submit an application for Substitute.

**13. Looking for ways to bless our staff? Food is always welcome!** We have a "Sunshine Cabinet" in the Staff Lounge that we like to keep stocked with snacks and goodies for staff members to enjoy throughout the week. If ever you want to contribute a treat to the cabinet (whether store bought or homemade, savory or sweet), items can be dropped off in the CSP/CP office.



Homeschool Hammerheads  
Landsharks Running Club  
Spring Track Series

We offer a non-competitive youth program to introduce running to young athletes in a safe and fun environment. The focus is on self-improvement, being an encouraging teammate, and making new friends. The Spring Track Series is a fun running program led by a teacher, parent or coach and is open to students in kindergarten through 6th grade. Please remember to purchase a team race shirt if this is your first season running.

**FIRST PRACTICE:** WEEK OF APRIL 8, 2024

**PRACTICE DAYS:** TUESDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS, 4:45-5:30PM

**PRACTICE TIMES AND LOCATION:** TUESDAYS: GREEN SPACE BY TRAILS AT FOREST MEADOWS PARK, FRIDAYS: TRAILHEAD WEST OF FRANK CASTELLO PARK IN FAIRFAX

**RACES:** Meets are tentatively scheduled at Lewis Palmer High School on the following Sunday afternoons at 3:00 pm: April 21<sup>st</sup>, April 28<sup>th</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Meet #1- All runners will run the 50m dash, followed by either the 400 or 800m  
Meet #2- All runners will run the 100m dash, followed by either the 400 or 800m  
Meet #3- All runners will run the 200m dash, followed by either the 400 or 1600m

**Registration opens February 1, 2023 at 9am and closes March 27, 2024**

Runners must be registered prior to their first practice  
Please register online at [www.landsharksrunningclub.com](http://www.landsharksrunningclub.com)  
(\$68 registration fee until March 17, 2024 when \$15 late fees apply)

We look forward to working with your athletes. If you have any questions, please contact us!

Coaches Danny & Leah Wicks

[Leahanddanny05@gmail.com](mailto:Leahanddanny05@gmail.com)

## ***SNOW DAY AND 2-HOUR DELAY POLICY***

Winter weather will undoubtedly impact the school week at some point in the coming months, so I wanted to send out CSP's snow day and 2-hour delay policy. As a reminder, TCA follows D20's delay and closure status.

### **SNOW DAYS**

CSP will follow Academy School District 20 closure status. When ASD20 administration cancels school due to inclement weather, several radio/TV stations will be contacted to broadcast the closure or delay. TCA uses the Blackboard Connect™ service to notify the TCA community in the event of a delay or closure COTTAGE SCHOOL PROGRAM DOES NOT MAKE UP SNOW DAYS.

### **2-HOUR DELAYS**

Periodically throughout the winter, school will be delayed two hours due to inclement weather. Students may wear blue denim on these days. Hot lunch will still be available on delay days, or students may bring a sack lunch. All students should bring a snack and water bottle. Carpool as usual.

2-Hour Delay Schedule:

**Grades 1-6:** 10:15 - 3:30 pm

**Kindergarten:** AM class—10:15 - 12:30 pm

## ***Typing Pal Log-In Instructions (Grades 3-6)***

Typing Pal is a learn-to-type program that we offer at no charge to all of our upper elementary students. There is no requirement to participate; it's simply something families may use as part of their home school curricula if students desire to learn/master basic typing skills. Log-in instructions are below.

1. Go to <https://clascott.typingpal.com>
2. Each student's **user name** is the first letter of his/her first name (as given in Infinite Campus; not a nickname) followed by the student's last name (i.e. shille would be the username for Stefani Hille).
3. The **password** is identical for each student—*titans*—UNLESS a student was with us previously and changed his/her account to a unique password. Once students are logged in, they may change their password to something unique to them.
4. Questions or trouble logging in? Contact Stef Hille at [shille@asd20.org](mailto:shille@asd20.org).



### **TCA Cottage School Program**

**Website:** [tcatitans.org](http://tcatitans.org)

**Location:** [12201 Cross Peak View, Colorado Springs, CO, USA](#)

**Phone:** (719) 487-2000



# College Pathways

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