

# Thunder Mountain Elementary School

Office Hours: 8:00-4:30 | 3063 F1/2 Road GJ, CO 81504  
 Main Office: (970) 254-5870 | Call in Absences Before 9am  
 School Hours: M, Tu, Th, F: 8:50-3:50, Wed: 8:50-1:50  
[tmtn.mesa.k12.co.us](http://tmtn.mesa.k12.co.us)



Diane Carver, Principal | Shawn Wilson, Asst. Principal | Mary Gorsuch, Secretary | Jackie DiThomas, Secretary

August 2014

## Back to School Night Dates

### Kindergarten

Thursday, July 31, 2014  
5:30-6:00

### 1st Grade

Thursday, July 31, 2014  
5:30-6:00

### 2nd Grade

Thursday, July 31, 2014  
6:00-6:30

### 3rd Grade

Tuesday August 5, 2014  
5:30-6:30

### 4th Grade

Thursday, July 31, 2014  
6:30-7:15

### 5th Grade

Thursday, July 31, 2014  
5:00-5:30

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## A Message From the Principal:

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Thunder Mountain for the 2014-2015 school year! What a great 2013-2014 our Thunder Mountain community had! Thanks so much to students, parents, and staff for your part in making it a successful year. We are looking forward to an equally successful 2014-2015.

Start and end times will remain the same. School will start at 8:50 and end at 3:50. On Wednesdays school will start at 8:50 and end at 1:50.

Kindergarten times are:

A.M. start 8:50	Wednesday A.M. start 8:50
A.M. release 11:50	Wednesday A.M. release 10:50
P.M. start 12:50	Wednesday P.M. start 11:50
P.M. release 3:50	Wednesday P.M. release 1:50

Students should not arrive at school before 8:20 if they are eating breakfast or 8:30 if they are going to the playground. Supervision on the playground will start at 8:30 each morning. If children are dropped off earlier than the above times, they would need to go to K-Kids unless it is for something teachers have scheduled with the students. Students need to be picked up by 4:05 (2:05 on Wednesdays) or they would need to go to K-Kids. We don't allow the children to be unsupervised around the building. These procedures are for the safety of the children.

If you need before or after school child care you may make arrangements with K-Kids at 254-5887. Attendance and promptness are so important to a student's learning that I want to remind you about the district school board policy which Thunder Mt. follows. When students have accumulated 5 tardies they will be counted as 1 day unexcused absence. According to school board policy, after the 4th unexcused absence parents are notified to come in and make an attendance plan with the principal. After the 6th unexcused absence the District Director of Attendance is to receive a copy of the letter sent to parents and a habitual truancy referral form. After the 10th unexcused absence, the Director of Attendance may consult with the school attorney about serving a Summons to Appear. Absences are only excused for illness or other dire circumstances for which prior arrangements have been made with the principal. Absences for vacations are not excused. Documentation from a doctor may be required for illness absences. If you would like a copy of the entire district policy, they are available on line. It is also not acceptable to pick students up early before 3:50. Teachers use every moment of the day to help your child grow. These procedures are used to ensure that students have the best opportunities for learning.

Electronics and cell phones have at times been a concern. Students are allowed to have cell phones to keep in their backpacks and may use them when they get off of school grounds. They may not use them on school grounds. Phones will be taken up by the office if they are out of backpacks during the day. Please understand if students do bring cell phones or electronics they could very easily get broken, stolen, or lost. They would probably not be recovered. We are not able to take teacher or administrator time to deal with this issue. If they are brought, understand there is this risk.

Please keep in mind as you are making clothing and shoe purchases items that would be acceptable, appropriate, and safe for school attire. When students wear clothing with inappropriate words or pictures we have them turn the clothing inside out or put another piece of clothing over it. Shoes with heeles are not allowed. We have had children sustain injuries from running in flip-flops or high heels. Tennis shoes would be safest.

We encourage parents to become involved in our Thunder Mountain community by participating in PTA and by volunteering in the building. Of course, the most important way you can help is by being sure your child comes to school ready to learn and by helping with their reading and other homework at home.

We are so appreciative of your parent support and involvement at Thunder Mountain. We want to be partners with you to make the best educational experience possible for your child.

*Diane Carver, Principal*

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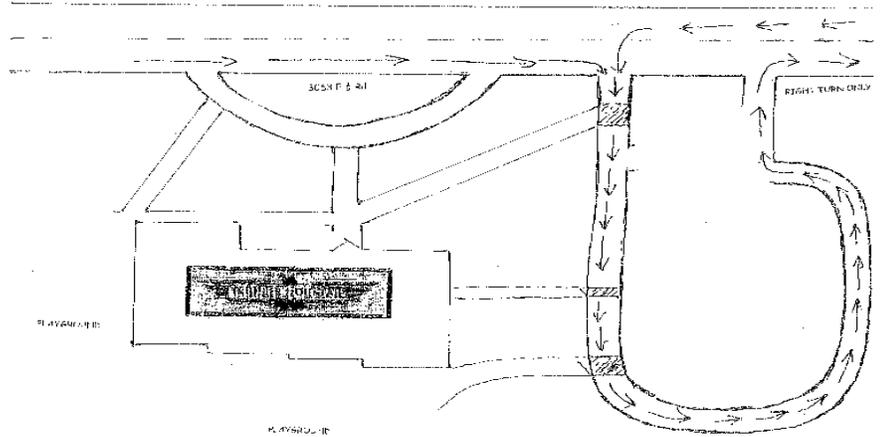
# Procedures For The First Day of School

Monday, August 4, school starts at 8:50. When your children arrive at school they will go to the playground area and play until the 8:50 bell rings. Please do not arrive before 8:30, or 8:15 if going to breakfast. Students will enter their teachers' exterior doors from the playground. The only reason anyone would need to come into the building would be if they have a question for the secretaries or need to go to breakfast. If you need to pay for lunches you may do that in the cafeteria before school, pay at the welcome table outside at the entrance to the building, or pay on-line.

At dismissal time Kindergarten parents will park in the parking lot and walk across at the crossing guard position to go to the kindergarten room to pick up their students.

At dismissal time 1st-5th grade parents will wait in the parking lot or wait in your car in the parent pick-up line for the teachers to bring the children to the parent pick-up area. If students ride bikes, walk, or ride the bus, teachers will explain that procedure to the students.

Please see the pick-up map to the right.



## New Faces At Thunder Mt.

We will be seeing some new faces at Thunder Mt. this year. We are excited to have these new staff members with us. Several of our teachers retired last year: Counselor – Mrs. Mendenhall, Music – Ms. Marye, Kindergarten – Mrs. Brooks. We appreciate all they did to make such a positive difference for our students and our whole Thunder Mt. community.

### New staff members:

- Counselor – Lori Hammond
- Assistant Principal - Shawn Wilson
- Music – Angela Booher
- K – Nickki Del-Pizzo
- 1st – Shelbi Lebsock
- 4th – Jessica Evans
- 5th – Lindsay Anderson

## Meet The Office Staff



**Diane Carver**  
Principal



**Shawn Wilson**  
Assistant Principal



**Mary Gorsuch**  
Secretary



**Jackie DiThomas**  
Secretary

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