



Welcome Back Centennial Students and Parents,

September 14, 2017

With the first three weeks of school behind us, I wanted to take the time to welcome everyone back to Centennial. Our whole school staff has been very busy getting ready to make this school year one of the best! Centennial is the top school in Montrose and a top middle school in the State of Colorado.

Our students are excited for the new playground that they helped research and design last year. The Colorado Health Foundation was generous with awarding a \$187,500.00 grant that made the playground possible. We served over 1,100 hot dogs at our ribbon cutting and back to school night making it one of our biggest events to date. Our State Governor selected Centennial Middle School to be a National Champion School, receiving one of three Don't Quite Fitness rooms in Colorado. \$100,000.00 worth of new fitness equipment, was granted and has been installed and our PE Teachers will be getting professional training on how to use the new fitness room with their students. On October 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a ribbon cutting ceremony with Jake Steinfeld (AKA – Body by Jake) and possibly our State Governor.

Centennial was also designated as a Trail Blazing Middle School and a School to Watch in the State of Colorado. This is due to our student's and staff's hard work and focus on more than learning but also on the Head, Heart, and Hands. Centennial was also designated as a Performance School in Colorado for the 7<sup>th</sup> year a row. The only middle school in our District that has reached the State's highest ranking every year since Colorado has started publishing the School Performance Frameworks (SPF's) in 2010. SPF's measure student achievement and student growth on State Assessments. Centennial has been focusing on student growth making sure students are getting a year's worth of knowledge or more in a year's time. This hard work has been paying off with **ALL** students growing and learning at Centennial! Please go to our school's website at [www.ctms.mcsd.org](http://www.ctms.mcsd.org) to see our school's growth report and SPF for this past year or stop by the office to request a copy.

This school year, we introduced a new bell schedule and we added a 7<sup>th</sup> class called WIN (What I Need). Students are placed in a WIN class for either enrichment or reteach opportunities based off classroom assessments and student needs. Centennial has a WIN Math, Win ELA, and a WIN PBL class that is fluid and can change each quarter based off of student's progress and mastery of their subjects.

With the new bell schedule students attend 6 class periods a day at 56 minutes each class period and drop 1 class daily. This rotation allows students to see their teachers at different times of the day and student don't always miss the last two hours for sports or school activities. The "wheel" schedule also provides more learning time for every class period, over going to a 7 period day, 40-minutes per class schedule. The new schedule is saving 56 minutes per class period in every 7-day rotation. This equals a lot of instructional time that would have been lost otherwise. Students have learned the new schedule very quickly and are really enjoying it. Centennial is very excited about the amazing new opportunities and quality instruction your students will experience this year.

Sincerely your partner in education,

Joe Simo  
Principal