

Welcoming Tours

Eastridge Elementary School, Cherry Creek School District

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At Eastridge Elementary School in Cherry Creek School District, Welcoming Tours play a vital role in building strong connections between families and schools. These tours are more than just a walk through the hallways: they are an immersive experience designed to showcase the school's culture, values, and educational environment. By welcoming new families to tour the school, Eastridge is creating an inviting atmosphere that fosters trust and collaboration.

Due to the rising numbers of students who joined the school throughout the year, the Assistant Principal, Registrar, and Community Liaison collaborated on a way to welcome new families to the school before their students' first day. The school designated two days a week for families to come in and meet staff; finish paperwork; learn about school times, expectations, and bus schedules; tour the building; and receive backpacks and school supplies if needed. Students typically started school the day after the tour.

The Welcoming Tours served as a platform for the school to welcome new families to the community that created an inviting atmosphere and built trusting relationships. The biggest challenge was getting a hold of families to schedule the Welcoming Tours and arranging a time that works for them.

For those looking to replicate this practice, work closely with school staff to ensure there is enough time to answer questions and support the new families during this transition.