



New Emerson STEAM School
2660 Unaweep Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81503
970-254-6500

We Visualize! We Believe! We Achieve!

July 26, 2021

Dear New Emerson Families:

I would like to welcome our returning and new families. As the start of another school year approaches, feelings of excitement and possibility are in the air. I have no doubt that all of the students and teachers are ready to return to school and share their summer adventures. For me this was enjoying the high mountain hikes and climbs around Colorado. I am ready to begin an exciting new year.

To ground us all, New Emerson is a District 51 magnet school focusing on the integration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM). We strive to create and sustain an inclusive, supportive, safe, and nondiscriminatory community for all students. We recognize that every child is unique and honor that they have the right to decide who they are as an individual. As part of the D51 social and emotional framework, our learning community will focus on self-awareness, self-management and social and emotional traits. The staff will continue to provide a learner-centered environment and school culture where student voice and choice are valued and encouraged.

New Emerson School staff is excited to move forward with Problem Based Learning (PBL) and continue our journey of creating learners with a growth mindset. Our partnership with Eureka Math and Science Museum will continue. Science activities will begin the second semester for K-5 and the NEST Preschool <https://eureka-science-museum.org/next/> is located at our site.

To begin our year together, I would like to invite you to meet and visit with our awesome staff at our Open House on August 4, beginning at 5:00 p.m. and ending at 6:00 pm. Join me in welcoming Alyson Platt (second grade teacher), Tasia Martinez, New Emerson Alum, (fourth grade teacher), and Christena Nelson (gifted and talented teacher) to our staff.

Early Bird Reading will once again be a significant part of New Emerson School. EBR will be from 7:45 to 8:15 each morning. Also, there will not be a drop off zone in the mornings. All students will enter from the west entrance. Parking areas are available around the school.

I look forward to seeing everyone. It is always exciting to be back together. Enjoy your remaining vacation time. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. I look forward to working with you and your child throughout the school year to provide a productive and safe learning environment that supports student success. Thank you in advance for your partnership in your student's education. Please contact me at 254-6500 or via email at terry.schmalz@d51schools.org, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Terry Schmalz

Terry Schmalz
New Emerson School Principal