



# Dwight D. Eisenhower School

700 N. Schoenbeck Rd.  
Prospect Heights IL, 60070  
www.d23.org/IKE

(847) 870-3875

August 10, 2018

Dear Eisenhower Families,

Eisenhower staff will be practicing an alternative classroom birthday treat celebration as a way to promote a love of literacy as well as making a healthy choice over eating sugary snacks. In celebrating our little Eagle's birthdays, we ask that you please send your child to school with a special story he/she enjoys. On your child's birthday, the story will be read during his/her class time. Alternative dates will be chosen for summer birthdays. Please bring or send in your child's favorite story to school. If you are unable to send in the story, the teacher will have a selection of stories your child may choose from. We will not be celebrating with food items or toy/treat bag items anymore. Celebrating your child's birthday with a special time of reading his/her favorite story with his/her classmates is a wonderful way in which your child can share their interests and extend to their classmates a conversation about what is special in his/her life. Moreover, we are able to establish a culture that celebrates learning and honors your child rather than simply handing out food, which will be part of their own familial celebrations. It is our endeavor to create a special occasion where your child is able to share about him/herself while being celebrated by his/her classmates.

On your child's birthday, we will continue to read his/her birthday during morning announcements. We will also continue to have our Library Birthday Book Club where you may donate a book to our school library. Our school media specialist, Ms. Herzog, will then place your child's name in the book and add it to our library collection. Also, the monthly birthday lunch celebration for full day kindergarten and first grade will continue with your child being honored with a special seat among his/her classmates who share a birthday during the same month. During this celebration, students will be invited to play games or take turns at the microphone in our very own "Birthday Idol Celebration Singing Event". All classroom teachers will continue with an all class rendition of "Happy Birthday" and provide a "keepsake" commemorating your child's birthday on their very special day.

It is of the utmost importance to us that the students learn celebrations are a time of sharing with one another. More importantly, these social conversations develop our ability to share with others at celebrations over the course of our lives. Promoting literacy is an added benefit of developing a classroom celebration that nurtures social-emotional skills. Please remember, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at (847) 870-5040 or llambatos@d23.org

Sincerely,

Luke Lambatos, Ed.D. Ed.S.  
Principal