



# Coyote Ridge PTO CRE FAQ

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! To help you and your incoming student prepare for a successful year, the PTO has put together this document with some of the questions we've been asked. If you have a question that's not on the list, send it our way: [coyoteridgepto@gmail.com](mailto:coyoteridgepto@gmail.com) and we'll do our best to answer, and add your question to this document!

## **PTO General Meetings**

The first thing to know about PTO is that you can be involved as much or as little as you want. There are meetings that you can attend, but don't have to be available for all of them and you can volunteer without coming to the meetings. There will always be information on volunteer opportunities sent through PTO's weekly email on Wednesdays, as well as through your classroom room parents.

These meetings are a really great way to stay connected to other CRE families, PTO events and volunteer opportunities, and the school as a whole. Dr. Mike always gives a report and a teacher will always give a rundown of what each grade is learning.

### **Meeting Dates (all in the CRE Cafeteria):**

Tuesday, August 29th, 8:00 am

Thursday, November 2nd, 8:00 am

Thursday, January 18th, 8:00 am

Wednesday, March 13th, 8:00 am

Wednesday, May 8th, 8:00 am

## **General School Links & Tips**

### **Printable 2023-24 School Calendar**

Download or print a copy of the Adams 12 School District calendar [at this link](#). You'll see school breaks, teacher workdays, and other district-level notifications or closures.

## **FREE School Breakfasts & Lunches**

Thanks to the generous voters of Colorado, school breakfasts AND lunches will be free for **all** students beginning in the 2023 academic year. But, just because meals are free *doesn't* mean your student will eat them... [Visit this link each month](#) and click on "Coyote Ridge Elementary" to print a monthly calendar of meals that will be served, so you can plan accordingly for hot lunch and packed lunch days for your student.

## **Riding the Bus**

To learn whether a school bus is offered in your neighborhood and to find the bus stop and pick-up/drop-off time, [visit the Adams 12 Transportation website](#). (NOTE: We will update this document once the 2023 bus route link has been re-added to the Adams 12 site.)

Your student will receive a school bus pass from their bus driver within the first few days of the school year. Your student will scan their bus pass when they step on the bus, and when they exit the bus. **IMPORTANT:** Kindergarten bus riders will only be released from the school bus if an adult is present to pick them up at the bus stop.

## **Is your student too sick to go to school?**

[Click here](#) to view Adams 12 School District guidance on determining whether your student is too sick for school. If your child *is* sick, call the CRE Attendance Line by 8am the day your student is sick, and leave a message at (720) 972-5797 to let the school know your student will be absent.

## **Parent Portal - Infinite Campus or "IC"**

We know - there are a lot of links and A TON of forms asking for information. But for future reference, you will hear from CRE and the district that certain activities are ready for you in "Infinite Campus" or the "IC Portal" or the "Parent Portal." All of those names are meant to direct you to one website, [this one](#).

This is the website where you'll submit student re-registration info required each year, where you'll find your student's grades and attendance, set or approve gifted and talented and other education plans, learn who their teacher is each fall, and more. It's clunky, but if you follow the school's instructions on how to find the information you're looking for, you'll find it. The portal can be frustrating, but if you carefully follow school instructions, you should be able to find what you need.

## **Gifted and Talented Students**

Coyote Ridge is lucky to have a full time GT Coordinator on staff. Students from Kindergarten - 5th grade participate in GT once each week. All students are tested in

2nd grade. If you wish to have your student tested in Kindergarten or 1st grade, speak to your child's teacher directly about the testing process.

### **Teacher Gifting**

What's the gifting etiquette at CRE? We're happy to help you decode! In the fall, the room parent for your classroom will circulate a document of "teacher favorites" - favorite flowers, candy, restaurants, etc. to help guide your gift giving to gifts your teacher will actually use and appreciate. (Ahem...this is our nice way of advising you to skip the cheap mugs and cheesy store bought holiday ornaments! Art or a note from your student is always the most appreciated, followed by anything on the Teacher Favorites document you'll receive!)

It's a nice idea to send your student's teacher a holiday gift in December. In May, please plan to send a gift or letter/art recognition for Teacher Appreciation Week. PTO coordinates appreciation days and often needs specific donated items or extra hands to help deliver presents or set up lunches during Teacher Appreciation Week. And of course, it's a nice idea to thank your teacher with a nice card (or a gift if you wish) on the last day of school.

### **Sync your Calendar with the All-School Calendar**

Don't miss a single school event! In order to sync the CRE all-school calendar with your calendar, go to your calendar settings, click "Add Calendar by URL" and paste this link: [https://coyote.adams12.org/cf\\_calendar/feed.cfm?type=ical&feedID=B7FADF29967442918215FACE52C82D1D&isgmt=1](https://coyote.adams12.org/cf_calendar/feed.cfm?type=ical&feedID=B7FADF29967442918215FACE52C82D1D&isgmt=1) Events on the school calendar should auto-populate to your calendar.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

**FIRST VOLUNTEERS NEEDS OF THE YEAR:** [Click here to sign up for available volunteer dates/times](#)

- [FALL FUNDRAISER KICK OFF](#) -Wednesday, August 30th from 5:30-7:30

Volunteers needed to help manage the In and Out Truck

-[HEARING AND VISION SCREENING](#)- Thursday, September 7th from 8-12

There will probably be two time slots for volunteers unless you can do the whole block.

-[PICTURE DAY](#)- Thursday, August 24, time slots: 8-10, 10-12, 12-2

There are lots of opportunities to volunteer over the course of the year. PTO events would not be possible without our volunteers - we depend on and deeply appreciate you! Typically, volunteering for an event includes set-up and clean-up crews, working

the door, helping with ticket distribution or collection, managing food tables and cash payments, and much, much more. Be on the lookout for sign ups when an event is happening to grab a spot to volunteer.

Classroom teachers will send out their needs for volunteers on their own or via their room parent. Each class will need a room parent or two, and you will find information about this at Open House (Aug. 10) and Back to School Night (Aug. 22). Room parents are an easy way to get involved. They are the liaison between PTO and the classroom. They are also there as a resource for the classroom teacher.

## **Fundraisers**

PTO has two major fundraisers during the year: the Fall Fundraiser that happens at the very beginning of the year, and also Boosterthon which happens in March.

### **FALL FUNDRAISER: KICK-OFF WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30TH FROM 5:30 TO 7:30**

Formally known as the “Check Drive”, this is one of PTO’s largest fundraisers and our most important event of the year. The funds we raise at the beginning of the year help ensure we have the income for all upcoming events throughout the year. We call this our “no fuss fundraiser” because we don’t ask students to sell anything (no popcorn, cookies, or butter braids here!), we simply ask for a cash donation. We will start this 3-week fundraiser with a fun evening Aug. 30 for families that will include an inflatable obstacle course, DJ, and In-N-Out Burger Truck ([pre-orders for burgers only, order at this link!](#)). This will be a great way for families to gather before the year starts and also DONATE:)

### **BOOSTERTHON- MARCH 19TH THROUGH 28TH**

Boosterthon is a great fundraiser that gets students involved. For 10 days, students collect donations from family and friends both near and far based on how many laps that student predicts they will run. Culminating in a “Fun Run” outdoors if the weather permits, families can come watch and cheer on their students. The organization who organizes this event makes it a really fun 10 days for students. They come to school with fun activities for the student body, bring prizes for donations, and make the Fun Run super fun with music and announcements. Each student will get a Coyote Ridge T-Shirt that corresponds to their grade. Although some of the money raised goes back to the Boosterthon organization, they make this event super fun and easy to collect donations. Plus, the students get to have all the fun and still don’t have to sell anything!

## **OTHER WAYS TO HELP**

**-Connect your personal [King Soopers account](#) to Coyote Ridge.** Our school receives a percentage of sales from everyone who registers - at no cost to you!

**Just follow these 5 steps to donate directly to CRE PTO when you shop:**

1. Log into your King Soopers or City Market account.
2. Click "My Account"
3. Scroll down the page and click on the "Community Rewards" box at bottom left.
4. Search for CRE PTO in Broomfield (not Fort Collins!) by name or by our NPO Number, **DE257**.
5. Click enroll, and you're done!

**-Spirit Wear sale.** When you purchase CRE spirit wear through PTO provided links, a portion of sales is donated back to the school.

## **PTO Sponsored Events**

Over the course of the year, PTO sponsors CRE community events at school. Although some events might ask for small donations from families, most funding comes directly from PTO.

### **AUGUST 30th - 5:30 TO 7:30 - FALL FUNDRAISER KICK OFF**

Every fall, PTO has a fall fundraiser (formally known as the check drive). This year, to both welcome everyone back to school and start the fundraiser, we will host a simple evening at CRE as a chance for families to get together. There will be a DJ and an inflatable bouncy house to enjoy as well as In-N-Out Burger truck. [Burger truck meals are available by pre-order by Aug. 29 only and can be ordered at this link.](#)

### **OCTOBER 27TH - 6:00 TO 8:00 - FALLOWEEN**

Our annual Halloween event, this a fun evening that is available to all families. To help ensure enough candy and non-candy treats, PTO asks for a donation of \$5 per student or one bag of candy or non-candy treats. All are welcome to attend and enjoy Trunk-or-Treat, music, food, costumes, and much more. If you are interested in decorating a trunk, be on the lookout for a sign up as spots fill up really fast!

### FEBRUARY 1ST - Time TBD - TALENT SHOW

Our annual Talent Show will take place in the CRE Cafeteria. Students will submit an act of their choosing and perform it on the music room stage. The act can be but is limited to singing, dancing, gymnastics, magic, playing an instrument...anything your kiddo wants to show their fellow coyotes! Please note that there will be a dress rehearsal the day before on **January 31st**.

### FEBRUARY 9TH - 6:00 TO 8:00 - SCHOOL DANCE

An evening to come together and have some fun. There is dancing, food, photo booth, and more. You can dress up fancy or just come and hang out with friends.

### MARCH 7TH - 6:00 TO 8:00 - FESTIVAL OF NATIONS

Anyone who wants to create a table from a country of their choosing can sign up. The table can have anything you want on it- native foods, pictures, art, activities...anything from that country. Families will be able to visit the tables and also enjoy a dance performance. This is a really fun way to share your ancestry, a county you love and want to learn more about, or even a vacation.

### MARCH 28TH - BOOSTERTHON AND FUN RUN

This fundraiser culminates in a Fun Run that family and friends can come watch and cheer on their student if the weather permits.

### MAY 17TH - 6:00 TO 8:00 - SPRING CARNIVAL

A great way to finish up the year, this community event is tons of fun. There are lots of activities from carnival games, balloon making, bouncy house, music, and if the weather permits, dunking teachers and staff in a carnival dunk tank! This event is free, but if you or your student wishes to play carnival games and earn prizes, a wristband can be purchased for unlimited game play (cost is typically \$10).

## **Important Dates and School Events**

AUGUST 14TH 7:50 to 2:35- First day of school!!!

AUGUST 15TH from 8:00 to 8:45 - Kinder Coffee with Dr. Mike.

AUGUST 22ND- Back to School Night

Start in the gym before going to your respective classrooms. Preferably adults only.

4:50-6:00 Kinder through 2nd grade

6:00-7:15 3rd grade through 5th grade

OCTOBER 3RD AND 5TH from 3:00 to 5:00; OCTOBER 11TH from 3:00 to 7:00  
Parent/Teacher Conferences

Sign ups for a time slot will be available closer to these dates.

FEBRUARY 7TH from 3:00 to 7:00; FEBRUARY 13TH AND 15TH from 3:00 to 6:00

APRIL 18TH from 8:00 to 9:00 am - Coffee with Dr. Mike

MAY 6TH - 10TH - Staff Appreciation Week

MAY - DATE TBD - Field Day

MAY 30TH - Last day of school picnic  
Families invited to enjoy the fun!

## **Coyote Cart**

Your classroom teacher will probably explain in more detail at Back to School Night, but throughout the year, students can earn “coyote cash”. They are awarded coyote cash when they demonstrate one of CRE’s pack traits- perseverance, accountability, courage, and kindness. Once a month (this might change), they get to go shopping at the coyote card and purchase whatever they have the coyote cash for. It is a great way for them to learn about money, it encourages them to keep showing their pack traits, and it’s fun! This is also a great way to volunteer as parents help run the cart.

## **Student of the Month**

Every month starting in September, classroom teachers choose a student of the month. This is a student who has demonstrated one of the pack traits and who the teacher feels should be recognized.

## **From the District**

**FREE MEALS FOR ALL STUDENTS:** Beginning this fall, all students will have access to FREE breakfast AND lunch every day.

**IMPORTANT:** Even though meals are free, it is still important to fill out the Free and Reduced Benefits Application. You can potentially receive additional assistance and have to reapply every year. **APPLY NOW**

## **2023-2024 Calendar**

The district has a **new calendar format** for the 2023-2024 school year. Review it for all key dates and breaks.

## **Helpful Links**

PTO Website:

<https://coyoteridgepto.membershiptoolkit.com/>

Make sure to create a Membership Toolkit account. This will give you access to many things including the school director and a way to make online donations!

<https://coyote.adams12.org/our-school/frequently-asked-questions>