



Inspire every mind.

D11 ENGAGE

D11 Engage has supported and enhanced the student and staff experience in District 11 for many years. We focus on the “public” in “public education” through the work of a variety of services. We engage the community as partners, guest speakers, classroom volunteers, tutors/mentors, volunteer leaders and family involvement. As our purpose statement says, we “Enable members of the community to become engaged in D11 schools as safe, qualified resources for student enrichment and staff support.”



Our Services



GrandFriends, a volunteer program in District 11, unites our elders and our youth – the wisdom and experiences of our past and the creativity and energy of our future – to improve the academic achievement of our students.

Today many children arrive at school without the experiences basic to the learning process and necessary for success in obtaining academic skills. Once in school, many students lack the support needed to give them the confidence and self-esteem important in achieving excellence.

GrandFriends are an integral part of the educational team preparing today's students for tomorrow's world. Our retired and senior citizens with their multiple and valuable skills serve as talented mentors to our students. The students benefit not only from the sharing of these skills but also from the relationships they develop with the GrandFriends.



D11 Engage, in collaboration with Communications and Community Relations, assists schools in the implementation and best practices of family engagement. Through a coordinated effort using the Family

Involvement Toolkit and acting as a resource for the F.I.T. (Family Involvement Toolkit) Coach at each school site, we help school communities strengthen their family engagement relationships.



All D11 volunteers must complete a **volunteer form** before they can volunteer at any D11 school or department. All Volunteer forms are maintained in the D11 Engage system. This system maintains a variety of information about each volunteer

which is easily accessible to every F.I.T. Coach assigned to each school location. The system also tracks volunteer hours and processes visitors and students coming in and out of the buildings.



Need volunteers for a school event, classroom assistance or extra help for a student? Contact D11 Engage with your request. We promote your volunteer needs to the greater Colorado Springs community including area colleges and universities,

military institutions, businesses and nonprofits. We can access our large data base – over 15,000 individuals – to recruit their service to accommodate your request. D11 Engage serves as a point of contact for businesses or organizations seeking volunteer opportunities for their employees or members.



For the safety of our D11 students and staff, all our volunteers submit to a background check. A preliminary background check is completed on every newly registered volunteer. This type of check will allow the person to volunteer

while supervised by a D11 staff member. An extensive background check is required when a volunteer is going to be unsupervised by a D11 staff member (i.e., overnight field trips, one-on-one tutoring). An extensive background check requests that the individual be fingerprinted. The cost of the extensive background check is borne by the volunteer.



Curriculum Enrichment

The Curriculum Enrichment Program provides a variety of ways for students and the community to exchange information and opportunities.

We help schools/teachers find, plan and schedule GUEST SPEAKERS for the following areas: Classroom Presentations | Field Trips – Career Exploration Events | Fairs | Panels | Site Visits.

A GUEST SPEAKER offers an excellent way to introduce or conclude a class unit. The words and experience of someone deeply familiar with the topic offers a fresh perspective from day-to-day classwork while putting a personal face on potentially broad and hard-to-understand concepts. Many local organizations offer free ongoing community outreach presentations and field trip opportunities.

All Curriculum Enrichment Community Presenters are registered as GUEST SPEAKERS by D11 Engage per D11 policy, and their presentations have been reviewed by the Curriculum Department Facilitator for the designated subject. The Presenter, requesting Teacher, and the school Administrative Assistant will receive an email confirmation document from D11 Engage upon the scheduled completion of the request. Schools do not need to perform any additional D11 volunteer registration for this confirmed GUEST SPEAKER.

D11 Engage can also register speakers that teachers have found and scheduled on their own. If a teacher schedules a presenter, he/she can register their speaker by completing an online form.



Awards Programs

D11 Engage assists community sponsors in the implementation of district-wide awards programs.

Colorado Youth Citizenship Awards – sponsored by North Colorado Springs Rotary Club to recognize middle school students for civic engagement in their community or school.

Crystal Apple Award – sponsored by El Paso Council PTA to honor and recognize School District 11 classroom teachers who demonstrate excellence in education by meeting the needs of their students.

Diamond Award – sponsored by The Colorado Springs Rotary to recognize high school teachers in both traditional and nontraditional D11 high schools through student nominations.



Court Ordered Community Service

For those instances when our students or their parents/guardians need to serve court ordered community service, Colorado Springs School District 11 is registered with Front Range Community Service Agency so members of the D11 community needing to complete community service can contact D11 Engage to set up a time and place to complete their court ordered service.



Community Partners

Partners in Education

The mission of the partnership program is to make meaningful connections between the Colorado Springs community and District 11 - in ways appropriate for all partners - in order to positively impact student achievement. Partnership options in District 11 are as many and as varied as the imaginations of the contributing partners.

Who are partners?

- Businesses - entire businesses, departments or individual employee representatives
- Not-for-profit organizations - entire groups of volunteers or individual representatives
- Government/military - departments, divisions and individual representatives
- Institutions of higher education - departments, programs, staff and students
- District 11-staff and students

Advertising Partners

Businesses and organizations who wish to engage with our families by promoting their products, services and events are encouraged to become an Advertising Partners. This is a fee-based program with a potential Advertising Partner completing a Corporate Advertising Agreement or by the business or organization representative contacting Peachjar, an electronic flyer distribution system to upload their flyer to be distributed throughout the district.



Fundraising

Individuals representing businesses/organizations wishing to promote their products or programs to administrators/staff must check in with D11 Engage. The Advertiser must complete a Fundraising Agreement form in order to receive approval to contact schools. D11 Engage will issue a Fundraising Privileges Memorandum. The vendor is responsible for providing a copy of the memo to the school, and a copy is also available online at the D11 Engage website. An invitation to engage with a specific school is always at the discretion of the principal.



Contact Us

LouAnn.Dekleva@d11.org
719-520-2203

Janit.Pollard@d11.org
719-520-2202

Joan.Sousa@d11.org
719-520-2302

Dawn.Enger@d11.org
719-520-2203



1115 N. El Paso Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903



<https://www.d11.org/D11Engage>

