



# Good News

Coronado High School  
Home of the Cougars

OCTOBER 2023

## Polis/CDE Grant Awards

Colorado Governor Polis, Colorado Department of Education, and DonorsChoose reinstated a grant program in Colorado worth \$7.1 million that was aimed at helping kids make up for lost instruction during COVID. Launched in August and augmented in September, the program accepted grant applications for \$1000 on a first come, first serve basis, for classroom supplies, learning tools, and materials. Four Coronado teachers applied and received \$1000 each for use in their classrooms.

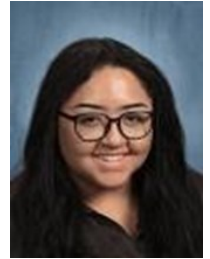
ELL teacher, **Becky McCully**, received funds to create a library for the new books she introduced to the curriculum this year to engage her students in many languages, and understand their culture and needs.



English teacher **Brittany Dziak** was also successful, requesting resources to help her students with creative applications of their learning. She purchased art supplies, clipboards, some alternative seating, and even a cricut® which students can use to print, cut, create stickers, shirts, posters, and so

much more. These things will be used for projects and for hands-on creative learning that takes the themes students are reading about to the next level.

**Tatiana McDowell** was quick to apply for the grant. As a first-year English teacher, the financial stress weighed heavily on her and she wanted to be able to create and establish a classroom where students feel comfortable and welcomed, obtaining materials for her students' use in and outside the classroom; notebooks, folders, pencils, paper, etc., ensuring that ALL students were set up for success. To make the classroom environment feel more welcoming she purchased lamps to reduce the harsh LED lights, snacks for students that need a bit of a recharge, a document camera to use as a one-on-one guide through examples, and tons of art supplies for the students so she can incorporate different modes of learning.



**Tyler Philipsen** focused his wish list on his AP Language curriculum and ordered several nonfiction books from several different subject areas. The goal was to get them excited about reading nonfiction with more modern books. Tyler believes the nostalgia of book orders is real, and students will be excited to receive a book that is theirs to keep! A few of the titles are *The Sports Gene* by David Epstein, *Talking to Strangers* by Malcolm Gladwell, and Bill Bryson's *The Body*.



## Elevation Celebration

On behalf of the Board of Education, Superintendent Gaal and the CSSD11 Leadership Team treated Coronado to grab 'n go breakfast on Wednesday, October 4. With a choice of cinnamon roll with yogurt and granola, veggie quiche with muffin, or ham and cheese croissant, staff enjoyed the breakfast bags. Coronado English teacher **Christopher Hartman** was recognized by Gaal with the **Elevation Celebration** award for his hard work and commitment to D11. Ms. Arnell nominated Chris for his dedication to his profession, teaching new courses, and taking on responsibilities and reimagining lessons to engage his students. A well deserved shout out!



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## College Fair

### Coronado students

attended the Career Council College Fair at Colorado College September 29 with College & Career Counselor **Cody Eden**.



Students have the opportunity to meet representatives from a variety of college and university admissions officers and financial aid advisors to learn more about schools that interest them and discover schools they may have never considered.

## Quiz Kids

Fox21 News is a half-hour television game show that airs exclusively on FOX21. Rocky Mountain Quiz Kids features students from 30 area high schools that go head-to-head in a single elimination tournament-style format to test their knowledge. The Coronado Quiz Team competed on Saturday, October 14, 2023, against Sargent High School in Alamosa. Coronado WON in an amazing contest! These kids moved on to the next round the weekend of October 21, but were eliminated. Season champions earn \$5000. What a team!



Back row from left: Tommy Broderick, Ivan Skaggs, Charlie Zook, Zaid Momani. Front row: Chiara Garcia, Advisor Ms. Rather, Avery Packer. Not pictured: Lucy Berumen and Christian Moro.

## Rotary Courage Award

Coronado SRO Vern Thomson nominated Coronado freshman **Kasey Miller** for the North Colorado Springs Rotary Club

Courage Award for his bravery



and level head. While working at Trails End Kasey's co-worker was stabbed during a confrontation outside the restaurant. Kasey called 911. Unable to reach an operator, Kasey hailed a bystander who applied pressure to the injury while Kasey ran to the nearest Fire Station to get help. He received a formal acknowledgement, gift card, and lunch at Patty Jewett with the Rotary members on October 18, 2023.

## National Honor Society

The National Honor Society is built on four pillars and all NHS members are expected to uphold the qualities of 1) Character by maintaining the principles of morality, ethics, cooperation, honesty, reliability, courtesy, concern, and respect for others, 2) Scholarship by maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, 3) Leadership by proving resourceful, being a positive role model, are dependable, and participate in school activities, and 4) Service by voluntarily contributing to the school and community. **Twenty-five Coronado students** celebrated their inducted the evening of October 18, 2023.





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## Unified Bowling

Unified Sports programs were organized to create a positive public outlook toward Special Education, promoting athletic leadership, empowering students with special needs, social inclusion, and meaningful involvement with positive role models. D11 launched the program in January 2023 and the kids were eager to compete again this year. **Coronado's team** made up of 8 students with disabilities and 2 student helpers is presently in 1<sup>st</sup> position for all D11 teams.

## Boys' Golf

Coronado senior **Parker Shirola's** finish at Regionals qualified him for the 4A State Golf tournament in Montrose at The Bridges Golf Course Monday and Tuesday, October 2 and 3, 2023. Parker finished the tournament tied for 52nd.



## Alumni News

Coronado Class of 2000 **Jessika Stratton Caldwell** was inducted into the 2023 Colorado Springs Sports Hall of Fame on October 24 at The Broadmoor World Arena. Competing and earning four varsity letters in cross country, basketball, tennis, and track and field while at Coronado, she excelled at basketball and went on to play at Baylor University, then professionally in the Czech Republic. She returned to Colorado to coach the UCCS Women's basketball team, Colorado Christian University, and Valor Christian, winning numerous honors and championships. Read more [here!](#)



## Girls' Flag Football

Coronado High School was one of ten girls' Flag Football teams to attend Denver Broncos' Justin Simmons' award banquet and receive \$1000 to grow and support the program. There to accept the contribution was girls' flag football **Coach White and his daughter Kennah.**

Three-time Walter Payton Man of the Year Nominee, Denver Broncos' safety Justin Simmons hosted his annual Foundation event at Empower Field at Mile High Stadium in Denver on Friday, October 13.

The Justin Simmons Foundation is dedicated to mentoring young people, promoting the benefits of youth sports, supporting youth initiatives including health education, hunger relief, and helping others in need. It was established in 2020 by Denver Broncos safety Justin Simmons and his wife Taryn.





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## KRDO News 13 Spirit Award

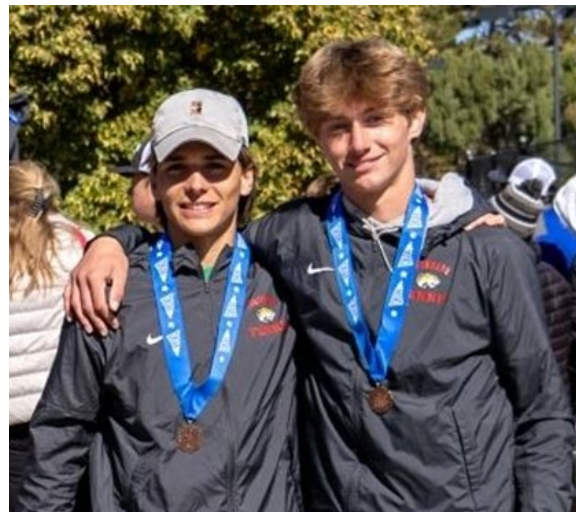
On a weekly search for area teams with the most school spirit, KRDO News Channel 13 Sports presented **Coronado Cheer** with the Friday Night Blitz Spirit Award for week 4, September 16, 2023. Easy enough after leading the Cougar fans in hand clapping, foot stomping cheers at the Homecoming football game that Saturday. Danny Mata was personally on hand to record the Cheer team for his newscast. Read more [here!](#)



## Boys' Tennis

Colorado fielded all seven positions for the state tennis tournament October 12-14, 2023 at Pueblo City Park, but only No.

1 singles player **Miles Hoover** and No. 2 singles player **Thomas Stewart** advanced to their bracket's semi-finals,



ultimately placing 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, respectively. **Coach Lovato** reports, "These are the first individual tennis placers Coronado has fielded since Bill Davis back in '78 and '79. Our entire team qualified for state and played with heart and determination."





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## Cross Country

**Coronado boys' XC** reigned supreme on October 11 as CSML League champions at the Widefield Parks and Rec Center. The girls placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. What a way to represent the Red and Gold!!

On October 18, the XC team took on Regional competition and came out on top! The boys' team as a whole qualified for state by placing 5 athletes in the top 10 and coming in 1<sup>st</sup> place. Out of the 100 runners participating, all 9 of the Cougars were in the top 25. The Girls' team battled to a 6<sup>th</sup> place finish with senior Macy White qualifying for state individually by earning 13<sup>th</sup> place. A stellar performance all around.

Illness plagued the team and upset their bid for state domination on Saturday, October 28, at the Norris Penrose Event Center and Bear Creak Park, coming away in 4<sup>th</sup> place overall highlighted by freshman **Oliver Horton's 9th place individual finish. He was followed by Boston Potts in 18th, Xzavier Campos in 37th, Bridger Steiner-Smith in 47th, Parker Davidson in 53rd, Eisen Dacus in 57th, and Ryan Slater in 64th. Macy White represented the girls' team with her individual finish in 99th. Congrats Cougars!**

Colorado High School Athletic Association (CHSAA) announces All-State teams based on results at the state championships. **Oliver Horton** was named CHSAA Second Team. **Boston Potts** was named to Honorable Mention.



## KOAA Athlete of the Week

Coronado freshman **Oliver Horton** was named KOAA Athlete of the Week October 12, 2023, for his stellar performances in cross country.



Already making his mark in the hearts

of his teammates and the Colorado state record books, Oliver broke the long standing time of 15:10 in the 5k, beating it by 8 seconds! Coronado Coach Lisa Rainsberger, a 1985 Boston Marathon winner, reports that Oliver is averaging a 4:56 mile. "Oliver is our team mascot and brings such joy to each workout. The upperclassmen love him." Horton's running aptitude is bigger than just talent, bringing positive attitude and hard work to every run he consistently completes 6 days per week.

