

FALCON BLUFFS MIDDLE SCHOOL

JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

8449 S. Garrison Street, Littleton, CO 80128
Phone 303-982-9900 | Fax 303-982-9901



the Falcon Files

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Helpful Links

[Falcon Bluffs Website](#)

[Jeffco Public Schools](#)



[Falcon Bluffs PTO](#)



[Falcon Bluffs Facebook](#)



[Falcon Bluffs Instagram](#)

FBMS Collective Commitments:

Grit, Growth Mindset,
Intellectual Curiosity,
Relationships,
Collaboration
and Professionalism

*Advertising in this newsletter
does not imply endorsement
by the school or district.*

A Word From the Principal

Hello Falcon Bluffs Families,

Aside from the huge shifts in weather, April also brings our annual state assessments. Students will participate in the Colorado Measures of Academic Success on April 9-11 and 8th graders will complete the Science portion on April 16th. All details can be found on our website in the communication archive located under the Family Resources tab. We are excited for students to demonstrate another year of high growth. You might recall last year FBMS was **NUMBER ONE IN CMAS GROWTH** in both Language Arts and Mathematics among all 25 neighborhood Jeffco Middle Schools. We know this is a collaborative effort from all stakeholders and we appreciate your support! Please take a moment to review April updates below and do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Thank you,
Tom Burns



Calendar of Events

SAVE *the* DATE

APR 6	Falcon Bluffs annual craft fair 9 am – 3 pm
APR 9	CMAS testing early release at 12:35 pm
APR 10	CMAS testing early release at 12:35 pm
APR 11	PTO Meeting 8:00 am
APR 11	CMAS testing early release at 12:35 pm
APR 16	CMAS testing 8th grade only (regular school hours for all grades)
APR 18	Spirit Day at Speckled Tea 3 – 9 pm (Mention FBMS)
APR 26	Staff Development day – no school for students

Earn cash for your school! Save Longmont Dairy Milk Caps.

Longmont Dairy Farm will donate 5¢ per LDF produced product bottle cap. Schools are free to spend these funds as they wish to benefit students.



To sign up, use this QR code or go to LongmontDairy.com/mooola.html

Students of the Week and Month

We are excited to recognize students who exhibit our 6 Commitments throughout each week. Our process includes: Teachers nominate students for the Commitment of the Week. Of those students nominated, one student per grade-level is chosen as student of the week based on the number of nominations received. Our students of the month are those who received the most nominations throughout the entire month.



Congratulations to our Students of the Month!



Brooklyn Nettles
6th grade



Tatum Scott
7th grade



Camilla Ruiz
8th grade

Teachers of the Month



Ms. Martin
ELA



Mr. Weibel
Math



BREAN SMALL

DREAM BIG, CALL SMALL

303-717-6201



PTO Events and Information

SPONSORED BY FALCON BLUFFS PTO & THE HORNBUCKLE FOUNDATION

Falcon Bluffs is going back to Chick-Fil-A!

FALCON FRIDAYS AT Chick-fil-A

Dates: 2/9, 2/23, 3/8
3/29, 4/12, 5/3, 5/17

Time: 4:15-5:30pm

Location: C-470 and Kipling

WIN A \$10 GIFT CARD!

Chick-Fil-A is welcoming Falcon Bluffs students for FALCON FRIDAYS!! On the dates and times above, students are welcome to come dine, socialize with friends and enjoy time with peers outside of school. Each date will host 1-2 parent chaperones for staff support and friendly reminders of public property use and respect. Several students who showcase respect and leadership have the chance to earn a \$10 gift card.

PARENT CHAPERONE SIGN-UP →




CLICK IT

Click on the Ads in this Newsletter



...to learn more about these great companies!

Sponsor This School!

YOUR NAME HERE

Click [HERE](#) Contact Us Today!

Rob Mangelson
(720) 878-4107

Rob@tscacolorado.com



Supporting Schools & Local Businesses

Please check this [link](#) throughout the year for volunteer opportunities.

Falcon Bluffs receives fundraising percentages from American Furniture Warehouse purchases! Please click [here](#) for details.

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community and a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school! Want to sponsor this school?

Please contact Rob Mangelson at Rob@tscacolorado.com or (720) 878-4107.

Falcon Bluffs PTO News



PTO MEETINGS:
All Meetings are in the Main Entry
Conference Room
2nd Thursday of the month at 8 am

Fundraising

As you know, we did NOT host our auction fundraiser this year. In order to recoup some of those funds, we will be bringing a few select items for a Silent Auction at this year's craft fair. In ORDER to help raise those funds, we need MORE HANDS on deck to help with this event! If you can come support our efforts on Friday 4/5 (5-9pm) or Saturday 4/6 (9-4pm) for even just an hour, it will help! Here is a link to our volunteer sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4FAEA92BA1FC1-47919979-2024#/>

Craft Fair

The PTO proudly presents the 3rd annual Spring Craft Fair. **Saturday, April 6, 9a-3pm.** We will have 60 vendors and 6 food trucks...**yes 6 food trucks!! We are also bringing in a silent auction!!** Come check out large baskets and items we will have available, including Mountain condo, 1 month FREE Karate, Orthodontic work. Bidding opens at 10am and closes at 2pm, so winners can pick up their items before the event closes. Come support your neighbors, friends and other local artists as they share and sell their creations. There will be candles, jewelry, crocheted items, hand sewn, bath & beauty products, clothes, unique art, a 3D printer ON SITE, and so much more!! Admission \$2, Kids 12& under FREE. We will also be hosting a **FREE kids craft table-Swiftie Bracelets!** See the flyer for more details and our full food truck list! Come fill your belly, buy some special pieces for yourself or others and support your local community.

Teacher Appreciation

Teacher Appreciation is coming!! April 29-May3. Please be on the lookout for ways to contribute! This year's theme: School TV Shows (ie: Freaks & Geeks, Saved By The Bell, My So Called Life) If you have ideas or suggestions for themed days, let us know We would love the support.



Falcon Bluffs PTO News, continued...

8th Grade Continuation Picnic

8th Grade Continuation Picnic: May 23rd, 5-7pm. Food trucks, yard games, music and more! Want to help plan it??

Email us to let us know falconbluffspresident@gmail.com

Board Members 2024-2025

If you would like to be more involved in the support of Falcon's students and staff...JOIN THE PTO!!! Now accepting interested persons to fill in our board. Email falconbluffspresident@gmail.com



School Policies



Dress Code:

As we move into 2nd semester, we would like to take a moment to remind families about our school's dress code policies. Our school dress code was designed to promote self expression while also ensuring professionalism as we focus on a positive learning environment for all students. As partners in your child's education, please take a moment to discuss these reminders with your student.

Here are some key points to keep in mind regarding our school dress code: Our full dress code policy [can be found here](#).

Pajamas: Over the holidays, many students receive a wide variety of sleepwear including PJ tops, bottoms, and slippers. In many cases, these are the colorful, flannel PJ's. Please remind student not to wear these items to school. No slippers, blankets, or pillows.

Appropriate graphics/language: Please ensure that your child's clothing is appropriate for a learning environment. Avoid clothing with offensive language or graphics including weapons.

Hats: Hats are not to be worn inside the school building. Examples include, but are not limited to baseball caps, bandanas, beanies, cowboys hats, hoodies pulled over head and any other head covering.

FBMS values and supports our diverse student perspectives as a form of self-expression, and we strive to balance individuality with the shared responsibility of maintaining a professional and positive school environment. Your support in reinforcing these guidelines with your child is greatly appreciated.

Student ID's at lunches:

As you may recall from our beginning of the year communication, this year all students in Jeffco are required to bring their ID to lunch in order to enjoy district breakfast/lunch items. Unfortunately, we have many students who regularly forget their student ID. This slows down the process considerably as it takes additional time for cafeteria staff to look up and type in ID numbers in our system. To expedite the lunch line, beginning in January, students without ID's will be called to the line after all other students have picked up their items. If your student has lost their ID, please have them [complete this request form](#). This form is also located in their Advise google classroom.

Thank you for your support.

Transportation:

Due to driver shortages and combined bus routes for Falcon Bluffs, any student needing to ride a different bus other than their assigned bus MUST get this approved by transportation first. The buses to and from our school are at capacity. Please call transportation at 303-982-9057 to get this approved prior to your student riding a friend's bus. Once approved, please send a note with your student giving permission to ride the non-assigned bus. Your student will need to bring the note to the office and have it signed by office staff. Once signed by someone in the office, your student will give the note to the bus driver.

I N S P I R E
O R T H O D O N T I C S

From the Counseling Office

Dear Falcon Families,

Over the next several weeks, your child will be discussing bullying as part of Second Step® Middle School. Bullying is at its peak in middle school, and research indicates that taking proactive steps to address bullying will help reduce occurrences of it in our school. Second Step Middle School is designed to support your child in developing the knowledge and skills to help stop bullying. Students will learn how to recognize bullying in various contexts, how to use strategies to stand up safely to bullying, and how to seek help if they or someone they know is being bullied.

Here are some key definitions your child will be learning:

6th Grade

- Bullying: intentional physical, verbal, or social aggression. It's often repeated over time and occurs when there's a real or perceived power imbalance.
- Bystander: anyone who's aware that bullying is happening
- Online bullying: the use of technology to harass, threaten, or intimidate another person
- Physical bullying: hurting someone's body or possessions
- Relational bullying: hurting someone's reputation or relationships, such as by excluding them
- Upstander: someone who stands up for a person being bullied
- Verbal bullying: saying or writing mean things about someone

7th Grade

- Bullying: intentional physical, verbal, or social aggression. It's often repeated over time and occurs when there's a real or perceived power imbalance.
- Gender-based harassment: aggression against someone based on their sex. This also includes aggression against someone because they do not conform to male or female stereotypes.
- Harassment: aggression against someone based on a real or perceived characteristic they have, such as their race, religion, sex, or gender. It's serious enough to create an unsafe environment and is a form of discrimination.
- Sexual harassment: when someone bothers someone else with words, actions, or pictures of a sexual nature.

8th Grade:

- Bullying: intentional physical, verbal, or social aggression. It's often repeated over time and occurs when there's a real or perceived power imbalance.
- Environmental factors: the physical space and any rules and regulations that apply within an area
- Harassment: aggression against someone based on a real or perceived characteristic they have, such as their race, religion, sex, or gender. It's serious enough to create an unsafe environment and is a form of discrimination.
- Social factors: common beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of a particular group or community

We encourage students to report any instances of bullying they witness or experience to you and to trusted adults at our school. Additionally, if you have any questions about Second Step Middle School, please don't hesitate to contact our Administrative Team and/or Counseling Team for more information. Thank you for your support as we work together to build a bullying-free community.

Sincerely,

Your Administrative Team and Counseling Team

Kevin Hostetler, School Counselor (6th grade Green & 8th grade) Monica Mitchell, School Counselor (6th grade Blue & 7th grade) Jessica Riley, Social Emotional Learning Specialist
Halle Gerash, Social Worker

ALP Questions:

Please contact Melissa Berry at melissa.berry@jeffco.k12.co.us

Travel Opportunities

Sign up today for Falcon Bluffs Travel in 2025. It is only \$95 to enroll and reserve your spot. There is risk free enrollment for the first 14 days of enrollment - money back for any reason.



Italy - Spring Break 2025

6 spots remaining: [Italy 2025 Sign Up Here](#)



DC/Gettysburg - end of the year 2025

4 spots remaining: [DC/Gettysburg 2025 Sign Up Here](#)

Any questions: email Mrs. Hill - kahill@jeffco.k12.co.us

Snow Days and Late Starts

Inclement weather may influence Jeffco to utilize our late start policy. In those situations, FBMS will operate on a 2 hour late start with school beginning at 10:50am. The full schedule [can be found on our web site](#). For more information on Jeffco's late start policy [click here](#).

Emergency Procedures

Please take a look at the following link with regard to emergency situations at school - Information for Families, published by Jeffco Schools:

[Jeffco Student Safety and School Emergencies for Families](#)

Student Insights

Introducing Student Insights

Last spring we introduced [School Insights](#), a web-based resource that offers information about Jeffco schools to help you stay informed and engaged in school quality and improvement efforts. Now, we're excited to share the new [Student Insights](#), which provides information about each student's learning progress.

Student Insights makes it easy to access information about each student's district and state tests and their individual learning plan goals. It is a helpful way to check in on learning progress, review academic goals, and identify issues to talk about with teachers. Student Insights is confidential and may only be accessed by Jeffco students and their parents or guardians using the log-in name and password you use for other district tools, such as Infinite Campus.

You can learn more by watching [this short video](#), reading the [Frequently Asked Questions](#), or by talking with your student's teacher or the school principal. Please check out this new resource and let us know what you think!

Community Events

Brasher Box-Shaffer's Principal, Mr Brasher, is heading to Outdoor Lab! As he prepares for his new role and says farewell to Shaffer, a memory box is being created to collect letters, pictures, and other notes or cards from students and families that would like to wish him well. Items can be dropped at Shaffer's front office with Ms Marlo Moret. Deadline May 3, 2024. **Shhh...he doesn't know about the box...yet!!**

Library Survey

Please complete this [survey](#) regarding our library. We value your input!

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures

Hello Falcon Bluffs Families,

My name is Kameron Strunk, and I am the new SRO (School Resource Officer) for Falcon Bluffs. I graduated from Falcon in 2007 and have spent most of my life living in Jefferson County. It is an honor to be a part of the Falcon Bluffs family and I look forward to meeting you in the months ahead. I am proactively reaching out to parents for support on a few items. I have observed numerous unsafe driving incidents over the past few weeks during student drop-off and pick-up. These incidents include illegal U-turns, speeding, and trespassing. Some vehicles are making U-turns in front of moving traffic on the north side of the school, and in some cases, have even run over caution signs while doing so. We have had several "close calls" where drivers have almost hit our crossing guards due to lack of attention and/or speeding. Lastly, many drivers have ignored the private property signs of the small private community located to the north of the school and chosen to drive through despite the action resulting in trespassing.



It is my number one goal as the SRO for Falcon Bluffs to ensure your children are safe from all threats while attending school and it is a responsibility I take very seriously. As a parent myself I know it is easy to feel rushed during our pick-up/ drop-off times, yet we all need to plan a few extra minutes for this process in support of student/staff safety. I am asking for your help, your patience, and your understanding during these times. Please be extra vigilant and build more time into your routine.

In an attempt to make drop-off and pick-up a safer environment for all the children crossing the busy streets, I will be monitoring traffic during those times, noting violations/unsafe driving. Starting next week, I will conduct traffic stops with the hope that a verbal warning is enough to affect a positive change in driving behavior. After next week I will take a zero-tolerance stance, resulting in citations. If I observe or learn of inappropriate behavior toward our crossing guards, I will issue a summons for care-less/reckless driving which carries a mandatory court appearance and a misdemeanor penalty if convicted.

Again, it is my desire to affect a positive change in the driving habits around the school in a manner that does not involve traffic citations, however, we need to work together to create immediate and lasting change in support of our children's safety.

Respectfully,
Deputy Kameron Strunk
Badge #21-07