

DEER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

9201 W Columbine Dr, Littleton, CO 80128 Phone 303-982-3820 | Fax 303-982-3821 | Attendance: 303-982-3809

Deer Creek Newsletter

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the mountaineer

Helpful Links

Deer Creek Website

Jeffco Public Schools





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



A Word From the Principal

CMAS Testing

On April 9th, 10th and 11th, students will be taking the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS), a state mandated assessment that determines a student's achievement and academic growth in relation to the Colorado Academic Standards, which are aimed at preparing students for college and career success.

Students will take the assessments on the following dates:

ELA and Math (All Grades)

- All grades will take the Math and ELA sessions throughout the day on April 9, April 10, and April 11
- On the testing dates of April 9, 10, and 11, students will have an early release from school at 1:20 pm. Buses will pick up students at the early release time and drop off students 2 hours and 45 minutes earlier than usual drop off times.**
- **Students who will receive extended time for their assessments will need to stay longer in the day. If they use all of their testing time, they will be finished by 3:00 pm. The students can call for a ride when they are finished or they can stay until 4:05 pm for a bus ride home. Families will be receiving communication if your student is receiving extended time.
- SSN students will be released at 1:20 and will depart on their regular bus routes, arriving to their stop 2 hours and 45 minutes earlier than usual.

Science (8th Grade ONLY)

- 8th graders will take the Science assessments on Wednesday, April 16. 8th grade students will take 3 sessions of science on April 16. They will not have regular classes on this day. No early dismissal.
- 6th & 7th grade students will attend all classes following a typical schedule on April 16.

Deer Creek is committed to using a body of evidence to inform us about instruction and students' learning and progress. The data generated from a variety of measures, including CMAS, helps us meet the needs of all of our students and allows us to make decisions to improve student learning and growth.

continued...

A Word From the Principal, continued...

Here are some additional important facts about the CMAS assessments:

- Please ensure that your student is attending school on testing dates. Please avoid late arrivals and early dismissals, as they
 might interrupt your child's testing session.
- Student Chromebooks must be fully charged and brought to school daily.
- Lunch will be served for all students before dismissal. Students may continue to bring a water bottle to testing, but should not bring an snacks or food items.
- Students who miss a testing session will make up that session. Make-up testing ends April 24.

At Deer Creek, we are committed to preparing students for a promising future full of choices. We value CMAS and other performance and growth data to make instructional decisions, while at the same time preserving instructional time in the classroom.

We hope that this information is helpful to you and answers questions that you may have about the CMAS assessments. Please contact Molly Law at 303-982-3820 or molly.law@jeffco.k12.co.us with any questions you may have. Our teachers dedicate themselves to providing your student with the highest quality education.

Thank you for being a supportive member of our community of learning.

Sincerely,
Brandon Hall
Principal
Deer Creek Middle School

View and Print 2nd Trimester Report Cards

2nd trimester report cards will be available in the Campus Portal on March 4.

- 1. Log in to the Campus Portal.
- 2. Select the student's name from the drop down menu (if you have more than one student in Jeffco).
- 3. elect the Documents tab to view and print the report card from the reports list.









4-Course special. \$45 per person.
Not combinable with other specials.

Mountaineers of the Month - February 2025

Each of these students has demonstrated PEAK (Prepared, Engaged, Accountable, and Kind and Respectful) behavior and in doing so, is being recognized as our top Mountaineers for February 2025.

6th Grade

Emma Deal

Emma is always kind, hardworking, and helpful. She shows great respect to adults and peers and is very mature. She exemplifies PEAK behavior.

Joey Knowles

Joey is kind and respectful. He is always on task. He is always prepared. He has been stepping up as a leader for his group and is very collaborative. He'll always do what is best for his group.

7th Grade

Sophia Villasenor-Eckhert

Sophia is incredibly hard working and always submits quality work. She is always willing to help out her peers and is incredibly positive.

Grace Moyer

Grace is doing amazing in class, she works so hard and does a great job with staying on top of her work, even when she is not at school. She is kind to her classmates and respectful to everybody!

8th Grade

Estella Lezama

Estella goes above and beyond in class. Last week in FACS she made sure she brought in all of her work into school for her group project even though she was not there. She is always working hard and thinking about others.

Brielle Kosik

Brielle stays on top of her work, advocates for herself, is dependable for her peers, and aims to do her best work.

the **mountaineer** OF THE MONTH



L-R Brandon Hall, Principal, Emma Deal, Sophia Villasenor-Eckert, Grace Moyer, Estella Lezama, Joey Knowles



Principal Brandon Hall, Brielle Kosik

CASTLER

When you buy a vehicle from Castle Rock we make a donation to the Children's Fund, which helps the hospital address the greatest needs of patients and their families.

3 Convenient Locations:

Castle Rock Ford Castle Rock Chevy Buick GMC Castle Rock Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram













Children's Hospital Colorado

Benefiting



Day Without Hate 2025: Promote Peace and Unity!

Join Deer Creek Middle School in supporting a Day Without Hate!

Day Without Hate is a student-led, grassroots organization promoting nonviolence, respect, and unity in our schools. Help your child join students district-wide to end school violence and promote peace. By encouraging tolerance, kindness, and non-violent problem-solving, we can build a better world together. Proceeds from shirt sales directly support the Day Without Hate organization and its scholarship program for graduating seniors who champion peace in their schools and communities.

Order Your Day Without Hate T-Shirt Today!

Wear Your Shirt: Encourage your student to wear their Day Without Hate shirt on Thursday, April 24th, 2025.

Online Ordering (New Ordering Method):

Order Deadline: March 14, 2025

Website: www.daywithouthatejeffco.com
 Shirt Prices: \$6 (S-XL), \$8 (2XL), \$10 (3XL-5XL)

Shipping Options:

Free: Delivery to Deer Creek Middle School

Paid: Direct shipping to your address (calculated at checkout)

Click here for more ordering information and details





Mental Health Update

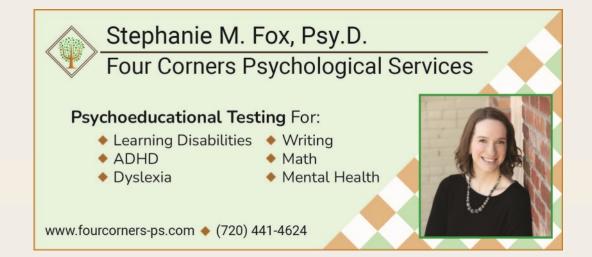
Daylight savings is March 9th, which means Spring Is Here!

While the transition from winter to spring can trigger a range of emotions, including anxiety related to academic pressures and social expectations, the longer, sunnier days naturally boost moods and energy levels, creating a more positive and vibrant school atmosphere.

Students often feel more motivated to engage in activities, both academically and socially. The return of nature provides a wonderful opportunity for outdoor learning and play, which are fantastic for stress reduction and overall well-being.

Increased exposure to sunlight helps regulate sleep patterns, leading to improved concentration and focus. It's also important to remember that spring's arrival can bring unique challenges for some students, such as disrupted sleep or seasonal depression. Therefore, carefully observing any changes in your child's sleep patterns or mood can be very helpful.

Denise Bettcher Social Worker Deer Creek Middle School 303-982-3820





CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION (303) 915-4306

ZENDOGGIELLC.COM

From the Dean

Mountaineer Families:

After 29 years living in Colorado, I am always disappointed when spring is not here in March. Every year my husband has to remind me that I need to wait fill my flowerpots as there will likely be another snowstorm. As we begin to have more sun and some warmer days, we can't forget that colder weather is still very possible. Students should be prepared for outside recess time each day. This is also the time of year when students start to get excited as the end of the year will be here soon. Please talk with your kiddo about balancing their excitement with good decision-making at school. We still have plenty of time for learning, both academic and otherwise, and want to get students as prepared as possible for the next school year. We appreciate all your support of the kids and our school.

Mrs. Skillern

Inclusion Week

Inclusion Week - March 10-14

Deer Creek will be celebrating Inclusion Week **March 10-14** with our SSN (Significant Support Needs) teachers and students. During this week, students will have opportunities to participate in a variety of activities that celebrate inclusion and extend kindness to people around us.

Monday, March 10 - Mismatch Day

We may look different, but we all belong! Just like our mismatched outfits, everyone is unique, but we all fit together in a supportive community.

Tuesday, March 11 - Crazy Socks and Crazy Hair

While we're celebrating a little early, World Down Syndrome Day is March 21. Around the world, people celebrate by wearing brightly colored, mismatched socks (which resemble chromosomes and our friends with Down Syndrome have an extra chromosome). We'll also celebrate our uniqueness with crazy hair.

Wednesday, March 12 – Wear Inclusion Shirts OR Wear Red

If you purchased an inclusion shirt, please wear it. You can also wear red to support our very own SSN program. Students and teachers will have a banner available to sign during lunch as we commit to inclusion and kindness. We'll also have a raffle for some cool prizes.

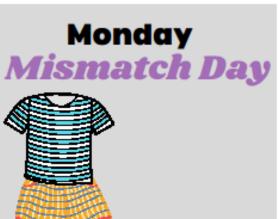
Thursday, March 13 – Sports Day (including hats if they are part of your sports attire) We'll be hosting the Middle School SSN Sports Basketball game, so wear your favorite sports gear. Be sure to welcome students from Creighton, Ken Caryl, West Jeff, and Carmody as they come to play.

Friday, March 15 – Zoom Chic

Just like a Zoom call, sometimes things aren't what they seem! Dress fancy on top (button-up shirt, tie, blazer, fancy blouse, etc.) and keep it comfy on bottom (pajamas, sweatpants, fuzzy socks). Let's celebrate the balance between looking professional and staying comfortable—because inclusion means embracing everyone just as they are!

Please note that dress code guidelines still apply (with the exception of hats that are part of spirit day outfits).

INCLUSIVN





Dress code still applies during Spirit Week.

Tuesday Crazy Hair Crazy Socks









Deer Creek Middle School PTO News

Greetings! We had a busy February filled with our 6th grade social, conference meals, Modern Market spirit night, and Penny Wars! A big thank you to all of the families who supported these events through your donations, purchases and/or volunteering efforts. You make each of these events a success for the students and staff, and we so appreciate you!



Read on for more info, and please join us at our next PTO meeting on **Monday, April 7th!** You can also visit our website at **Deer Creek PTO!**

Mark your Calendars!

- March 14: Nella's Frozen Yogurt spirit night (4-7pm)
- April 7: PTO meeting
- April 30: Skate City spirit night

Looking Forward: Deer Creek PTO in 2025-2026

As we start the third and final trimester of the year, we must look ahead to who will support the students and teachers through PTO in the future. The PTO at Deer Creek supports teachers in the classroom, raises funds for educational materials and experiences, fosters school and family engagement, and provides a neutral platform for discussing issues that impact our children.

Some key volunteers have students who are moving on to high school which creates opportunities for new people to join and make an impact. Below is a listing of the team for next year with current open opportunities. You can visit the 2025-2026 DCMS
PTO ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES for more detailed descriptions. Feel free to email deercreekpto1@gmail.com if you would like to know more!

- President open position, incoming 7th or 8th grade parent
- Vice President open position, incoming 7th or 8th grade parent
- Co-Treasurer open position, incoming 6th or 7th grade parent to work alongside current Treasurer
- Secretary Mandy Grosh
- Spirit Night & Ongoing Fundraiser Coordinator Jennifer Mays-Krimmer
- Penny Wars Coordinator Angie Walcher
- Teacher Appreciation Coordinators
 - Holiday & Teacher Appreciation Week (2 people) -- Lacey Alesch & Barb Meyer
 - Conference Meals & Snack Shack (2 people) -- 1 open position for 6th, 7th, or 8th grade parent to work alongside Angie
 Walcher
- Social Coordinators
 - 6th Grade (2 people) -- 1 open position for incoming 6th grade parent to work alongside Angie Walcher
 - □ 7th Grade (2 people) -- open positions, incoming 7th grade parents
 - 8th Grade (2 people) -- Amanda Cruser; could use an additional person!
- 8th Grade Continuation Coordinators (4 people) 3 open positions, incoming 8th grade parents to work alongside Lisa Perkins

Stock the Snack Shack!

The DCMS staff LOVES the Snack Shack, and 8th grade families will support the Shack for Trimester 3! **8th grade families**, please consider making a donation to keep fueling the amazing staff through the remainder of the school year! You can sign up here to donate: **8th Grade Snack Shack Sign-up**

Deer Creek Middle School PTO News, continued...

Frost & Flannel 6th Grade Social

It was a great night with lots of beautiful, sparkling dresses and cozy flannel shirts! The 6th graders enjoyed dancing to DJ Infinity's music, winning cupcakes in the cakewalk, tossing beanbags to vote for their charity of choice, playing cornhole, and hopping across the hopscotch. The kids voted to divide the proceeds (\$1 from each ticket) evenly to the following three charities: American Red Cross, Denver Rescue Mission, and National Mill Dog Rescue. Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who helped decorate and clean up, school staff who stayed late, parent chaperones, and families who donated food. We can't do it without you!







Conference Meals

The PTO provided dinner for our DCMS teachers and staff during Parent/Teacher conferences on February 12th and 13th. On the 13th, we hosted a "Nacho Average Teacher" meal with an impressive spread for teachers to build their nacho creations from. A big thank you to everyone who donated food, helped set up, and cleaned up afterwards.







Milk Caps for Moola



Milk Caps for Mooola is a program sponsored by Longmont Dairy that helps students earn money for their schools. Longmont Dairy milk caps are worth 5¢ each and are redeemable for cash!

How does the program work?

- 1. Drink Longmont Dairy products
- 2. (Eligible cap products include: Milk, Chocolate Milk, Strawberry Milk, Half & Half, Whipping Cream, Orange Juice, Lemonade, Raspberry Lemonade, and Classic and Cinnamon Eggnog.)
- 3. Save the bottle caps. Save as many as you can—from your bottles, or collect them from your family and neighbors.
- 4. Bring your milk caps to school and put them into the collection box in the school office.



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.



Longmont Dairy's "Milk Caps for Mooola" Program Reaches Milestone

15 million milk caps collected total more than \$750,000 in donations to local schools

Longmont Dairy announced that it has donated more than \$750,000 to local schools through its "Milk Caps for Mooola" program. Through the fundraiser program, participating schools collect Longmont Dairy bottle caps and the dairy donates money to the school. Vista Ridge Academy, in Erie, Colo., was the lucky school to turn in the 15 millionth cap and earn a bonus above their regular donation for redeemed bottle caps.



Schools encourage students, families, neighbors and educators to collect caps from all Longmont Dairy bottles, including milk, cold brew, lemonade, orange juice and eggnog bottles. Schools then receive five cents for each cap, and many schools use their "Mooola" for field trips, sports or playground equipment, art supplies, tablets and computers.

Longmont Dairy started the Milk Caps for Mooola program in November 2012 to help local schools earn much-needed extra funding for supplies, programs and activities as well as teach students about recycling and sustainability. Today more than 400 schools participate and donate around 40,000 caps per week.

"Our family loves collecting milk caps! The kids get so excited to drop them off and see how many caps are in the bin each week. This is a great program for kids to learn the value of raising funds for their school," said Alyce Carron, a parent of two students at Meiklejohn Elementary School in Arvada, Colo., which has used "Mooola" to purchase additional school supplies for students and classroom materials for teachers.

For 60 years, three generations of the family-owned business have processed milk fresh from their 600 cows and delivered it to customers across the Front Range. Longmont Dairy's offerings have expanded to include cold brew coffee, flavored milk and protein milks, meal kits, eggs and fresh fruit among other products. The dairy continues to use recyclable glass bottles for the freshest taste, which are picked-up from the customers, sanitized and re-used when empty.

"Milk Caps for Mooola is a program very dear to our mission at Longmont Dairy," said Katie Copeland, Longmont Dairy coowner. "As a parent, I recognize that schools often lack financial resources to provide additional services to their educators and students. We are proud to contribute to participating schools in a meaningful way."

Visit Longmont Dairy's website to find out if your school participates in Milk Caps for Mooola. If your school is interested in signing up for the program, please visit https://longmontdairy.com/mooola.html.

About Longmont Dairy

Longmont Dairy is one of Colorado's last remaining family-owned and operated dairy farms delivering fresh milk to homes around the Denver Metro Area and along the Front Range. Milk from the dairy's cows is sent from the farm in Loveland, Colo. to the processing plant, bottled and delivered right to customers' doorsteps. Today Longmont Dairy offers milk and flavored milk, cream and creamers, eggnog, cold brew coffee, tea and juice as well as partners with local companies to provide a variety of other fresh products. Visit Longmont Dairy's website to learn more about or sign up for milk delivery.



Upcoming Events

March				
3	PTO Meeting 6:00 pm - Library			
4-5	Band Field Trip 9:15 am-1:15 pm			
13	Last day to order Day Without Hate Shirts			
10-14	Inclusion Week - Spirit Week			
10	Mismatch Day			
11	Crazy Socks and Crazy Hair Day			
12	Wear Inclusion Shirt or Wear Red Day			
13	Sports Day			
14	Zoom Chic Day			
14	PTO Spirit Night - Nella's Yogurt			
17-21	Spring Break - School Closed			
24	No School for Students - Staff Development Day			
27-28	Band Field Trip 9:00 am - 1:15 pm			

March 2025									
Su	Мо	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat			
						1			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
30	31								

April					
1-4	6th Grade to Outdoor Lab				
7	PTO Meeting 6:00 pm - Library				
9	CMAS - ELA/Math Early Release 1:20 pm*				
10	CMAS - ELA/Math Early Release 1:20 pm*				
11	CMAS - ELA/Math Early Release 1:20 pm*				
15	Battle of the Books				
16	CMAS - 8th Grade - Science				
17	School Accountability Meeting 6:00 pm - Library				
17-19	FCCLA State Conference				
24	Day Without Hate				
25	No School for Students - Staff Development Day				
30	PTO Spirit Night - Skate City 6 - 8 pm				

April 2025									
Su	Мо	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat			
		1	2	3	4	5			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
27	28	29	30						

^{*}Students who will receive extended time for their assessments will be released at the regularly scheduled end of day at 4:05 pm.

JOIN THE CREW!









REQUIREMENTS

- Between 14–18 years old (on June 10, 2025)
- Able to legally work in the United States
- Able to provide and carry all personal gear and provided tools and equipment

EXPECTATIONS

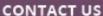
- Be on time at Jeffco Open Space headquarters, with equipment and in uniform each workday
- · No more than three absences
- Able to hike 4–6 miles/day in extreme weather
- Safely use hand tools to move heavy rocks, branches, and dirt
- Able to stoop, bend, push, pull, lift and perform all manners of motion related to outdoor labor

Earn \$15/hr

2025 DATES

- Applications Open: March 1–March 31
- Info Night: March 18
- Interviews: April 19 & 26
- Orientation: June 10
- Program: June 17–July 31
 Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday
 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

(No more than three absences permitted)



kandrews@jeffco.us | 303.271.5932 www.jeffco.us/3327/Trail-Stewardship-Team







WHY STUDENTS SHOULD EAT BREAKFAST AT SCHOOL?



No Cost to Students

Jeffco students can have a breakfast at no cost! A free breakfast could look like:

- Breakfast Sandwich
- · Apple
- · Orange Juice
- . Milk



Better Academics

Research suggests that eating breakfast every day has a significant effect on the cognitive development of students.

Consuming breakfast at school, provides a greater variety of food groups and adequate energy, which is positively related to school performance.



Support Teffco

Students eating breakfast at school provides economical growth to Jeffco communities and local farmers/industries.



JEFFCO FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES

SOUTH JEFFCO COYOTES FOOTBALL EVALUATIONS FOR CURRENT 6TH GRADERS ONLY (7th Graders in the Fall of 2025)

DATE: March 9th, 2025

> Time: 2:30-4:00 pm

Location: Foothills Indoor Arena 3608 S Kipling St. Denver, CO 80235

Equipment: Helmets, shoulder pads, mouthguard, and cleats are encouraged.

Participants MUST be registered for evaluations...no walk-ups.

Please contact C.J. Cain at 720-229-6551 with any questions.

For more information and to register please visit: https://www.southieff.org/



FÚTBOL COYOTES DEL SUR JEFFCO EVALUACIONES SOLO PARA ESTUDIANTES ACTUALES DE 6TO GRADO (Estudiantes de séptimo grado en el otoño de 2025)

FECHA:

9 de marzo de 2025

Tiempo: 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Ubicación:

Estadio cubierto de las estribaciones 3608 S Kipling St. Denver, CO 80235

Equipo: Se recomienda el uso de cascos, hombreras, protectores bucales y zapatos.

Los participantes DEBEN estar registrados para las evaluaciones... no se permiten visitas sin cita previa.

Comuníquese con C.J. Cain al 720-229-6551 si tiene alguna pregunta.

Para obtener más información y registrarse, visite: https://www.southjeff.org/



