

## 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** 

Page 1

# 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

Dear Mountaineer Community,

It's hard to believe another incredible year has drawn to a close, and as I reflect on the journey we've shared, my heart swells with pride for our students, appreciation for our dedicated staff, and thankfulness for the unwavering support of our families.

Being the Principal of Deer Creek Middle School is such a privilege and a constant source of inspiration. I've witnessed the incredible spirit of our Mountaineers — their resilience, their curiosity, their kindness, and their growth. From the energetic buzz in the hallways to the focused engagement in classrooms, you have filled this building with a vibrant energy that makes Deer Creek such a special place.

To our exceptional faculty and staff, thank you. Your passion, dedication, and tireless efforts are the bedrock of Deer Creek's success. You create engaging learning experiences, provide unwavering support, and go above and beyond to ensure every student feels seen, valued, and empowered. Your commitment to fostering a positive and inclusive environment is what makes Deer Creek a place where students can truly thrive. I am deeply grateful for your partnership and your unwavering commitment to our students.

To our Mountaineer Community, your partnership is invaluable. Your trust, your support, and your active involvement in your children's education make all the difference. Thank you for your collaboration, your understanding, and your shared commitment to the success of our Mountaineers.

As we look forward to the 2025-2026 School Year, I believe we will continue to thrive in a potentially evolving and ever changing environment. Please know that we are ready for whatever challenges lay ahead of us.

With heartfelt gratitude, Brandon Hall Principal Deer Creek Middle School

### **End-of-Year Information**

Here are the dates and events for the end of the school year:

#### Thursday, May 22

- Due date for all graded work
- Regular 4:05 release time for ALL students
- 6th and 7th Grade Students Regular class schedule
- 8th Grade Students End of the Year Breakfast, Grade-level activities, yearbook distribution and signing, student assembly for awards and class video (8th grade students only).



#### 6:30-8:00 PM 8th grade Continuation Dinner & Dance\*, sponsored by the PTO

Stay tuned for more information from the PTO about donations and volunteers for the 8th grade Dinner & Dance:

\*There will not be a Continuation Ceremony for parents/families to attend per consensus of student input.

#### Friday, May 23

6th and 7th Grade Students -

#### 8:50 AM- 1:35 PM

Grade-level activities, yearbook distribution and signing, picnic lunch provided by the PTO, and early dismissal

Watch for more information and sign up to help with the PTO picnic lunch

\*There will not be a Continuation Ceremony for parents/families to attend per consensus of student input.

## A Message From the Dean

Dear Deer Creek Community,

I want to share that I will be retiring from my position as Dean of Students at the end of this school year. I started teaching at Deer Creek twenty-one years ago and being a part of this school community has been a meaningful part of my life. This has been a difficult decision as I enjoy working with our students, but the time feels right to step away and begin a new chapter.

Serving as a teacher and then Dean at DCMS has been a rewarding and memorable experience. Every day, I've witnessed the energy, curiosity, and resilience of our students, and I've been honored to work alongside educators and families who are deeply committed to helping them grow into their best selves. Spending my career working with middle school students has give me experiences and relationships - along with a few extra wrinkles - that will always stay with me.

While I'll miss the daily energy of middle school life, I'm looking forward to new opportunities—and maybe a little more time to slow down. Thank you for your support, partnership, and placing your trust in me to guide your students through a unique and vulnerable time in their life.

Stepping into the Dean role for the school year 2025-26 is Kyle Kimberlin. Mr. Kimberlin has been a math teacher at Deer Creek

for nine years along with other teaching experience prior to arriving at our school. He is committed to our students and their growth and knows our school well. I have full confidence that Mr. Kimberlin will help our students learn and thrive in the years to come.

With appreciation and warmest regards, Julia Skillern Dean of Middle School



## **Mountaineers of the Month - April 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 April 2025.

#### 6th Grade

Alyssa Gagnier—Alyssa goes full peak everyday. She's attentive to detail, always on task, and very respectful. Alyssa also took the initiative to join both FCCLA and Battle of the Books and worked on these projects diligently outside of school all while managing missing school for Outdoor Lab and the State conference.

Mason Scott—Mason exemplifies all the PEAK expectations. He is always kind and respectful. Full PEAK all the time!

#### 7th Grade

Allen Miller—Allen is a shining star of a human and does really great things as a TA and mountaineer these days. He has been very kind to our new student. He has walked him to classes, helped him with his locker, invited him to the lunch table, and included him during recess activities. He is a wonderful role model for other students and exhibits PEAK expectations regularly.

**Dalton Myers** – Dalton is a great kid who shows maturity, is helpful, and has a positive attitude.

#### 8th Grade

Avery Eversman - Avery always pushes herself to do the best she can and is willing to help out with whatever is needed. Avery goes out of her way to help as TA and extends that level of courtesy to her classmates while always having a smile on her face.

Cole Norman - Cole is an all around great student both academically and behaviorally. Always willing to help out and is kind to his peers. He steps it up during Mountain Guides and is a good role model. Positive all the time.

Avery Ingalls - Avery is kind, respectful and hardworking in all classes. He is also a Mountain Guide who 6th grade students look forward to seeing.

## the **mountaineer** OF THE MONTH



(L-R) Dalton Myers, Allen Miller, Avery Eversman, Mason Scott, Avery Ingalls, Alyssa Gagnier, Principal Brandon Hall



(L-R) Cole Norman, Principal Brandon Hall

#### Kids 10 & Under Eat Free

Tuesdays: 4pm - 7pm Sundays 11am - 4pm

One child per person ordering a regularpriced 4-course meal (a \$25 savings!). Every Tuesday, our house magician is











Fondue Fairytales Lunch + Show June 29th/ July 13th & 27th/

August 3rd & 10th A perfect afternoon on our royal patio includes a 3-course lunch and charcuterie board, entertaining show with princesses, games, prizes, singing, and dancing! \$60 per person / \$30 kids ages 4-10 / \$20 kids 3 and under.

#### Retirements

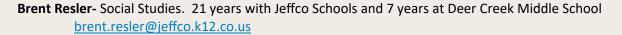
We wish the following Deer Creek staff members all the best in their retirement and the next chapter of their lives. We thank them for their dedication and years of service to Jeffco Schools and to the Deer Creek community. If you wish to send them a personal note, their email addresses are below.

**Mike Deeble -** English Language Arts. 24 years with Jeffco Schools and 4 years at Deer Creek Middle School

michael.deeble@jeffco.k12.co.us

**Patricia Jonas -** School Counselor. 15 years with Jeffco Schools and 9 years at Deer Creek Middle School

patricia.jonas@jeffco.k12.co.us



**Julia Skillern** - Dean of Students. 26 years with Jeffco Schools and 20 years at Deer Creek Middle School julia.skillern@jeffco.k12.co.us

**Gail Thompson** - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science. 18 years with Jeffco Schools and 2 years at Deer Creek Middle School gail.thompson@jeffco.k12.co.us

Molly Law
Assistant Principal
Deer Creek Middle School





## **End of the Year Medication Pick-up**

If your student has medication in the health room, the Jeffco District Board Policy JLCD, states:

Unused medication: It is the responsibility of the parent to obtain all unused medication from the school when the medication is expired, discontinued, the school year ends, or the family transfers to another district. All medication left in the school under these circumstances will be disposed of using district guidelines and monitoring by the district RN.

This includes all prescription and over-the-counter medications including but not limited to: cough drops, cough syrup, Tylenol, EpiPen, inhaler, insulin, and any other injectable medications.

If you cannot pick up the medication in person, please call your district RN, Lisa Schalla 720-315-3855, to discuss alternative arrangements.

#### Please pick up ALL medications by the last day of school which is May 23, 2025.

All medications left in the school health room on May 27th will be disposed of according to Jeffco's policy. If you have any questions feel free to call your school Health Aide at the following number: 303-982-3820.

Thank you and have a good summer! Lisa Schalla, RN School Nurse <u>lisa.schalla@jeffco.k12.co.us</u> 720-315-3855







MORE INFORMATION

(303) 915-4306

ZENDOGGIELLC.COM

## **Library and Technology Update**

#### **Battle of the Books:**

On Tuesday April 15th, students gathered in the library to go head-to-head for Deer Creek's ultimate Battle of the Books.

Once again it was a close match - with a good volley between five teams for the top position. **But in the end, a 6th grade team, Applesauce, took home the cup** - even being down 2 members! The competition was so fierce (and a little heart-breaking).

Applesauce will represent Deer Creek at the district battle on May 12th.

A big congratulations to all of our teams for a job well done.

#### **Library Books Due Date:**

**All library books are due on May 8, 2025.** The library will begin the inventory process on May 15th. All books that are not returned will be considered lost. A fine will be placed on your student's account. Your student will receive a hardcopy notice.

## **Technology at Deer Creek:**

### 8th grade Chromebooks:

If your student is attending a Jeffco High School, your student will be issued a new Jeffco Chromebook through the high school. Your student's incoming high school will provide information on their Chromebook deployment process. Please reach out to your student's incoming high school with questions.

Your student will keep their current Chromebook over the summer. They will turn in their current Chromebook (and charger) at the time they receive their new school device. For more information regarding the high school Chromebook program, please visit tinyurl.com/TechforEd

If your student is not attending a Jeffco High School, please fill out this form.

#### 6th and 7th grade students not returning to a Jeffco School:

If your student is leaving Deer Creek but attending another Jeffco middle school, your student should keep their Chromebook over the summer to be used in the fall.

If you know your student is leaving Deer Creek and attending a Jeffco Charter school or school in another district, please fill out this form. Their Chromebook is the property of Jeffco Public Schools and will need to be returned.

Please reach out to <a href="mailto:karrie.zanetti@jeffco.k12.co.us">karrie.zanetti@jeffco.k12.co.us</a> if you'd like the library to store your student's device over the summer.

Please see this Jeffco website for any Chromebook issues that occur over the summer.

### **Yearbook**

Have your student check the list on the glass case to make sure they've bought a yearbook. If they haven't, they can bring \$40 cash to the Financial Office to get on the waiting list for the surplus books. We only receive a limited number of surplus books, so we cannot guarantee that every student on the waitlist will receive a book. If we run out, students still on the list will be refunded their \$40.



Important! No Yearbooks will be given out before the last day of school. Students who are not present on the last day will need to call the school to make arrangements to pick it up during the summer.

Mme Lisa Walz Yearbook Director

## **Outdoor Lab Fees Update**

Outdoor Lab Fees are now due. If you raised money using the King Soopers program it has been credited to your students fee and the balance is now due.

You should have received an email from the system showing the new balance due.

If you have any questions regarding the amount credited, you will need to reach out to the Outdoor Lab Foundation at <a href="mailto:Info@OutdoorLabFoundation.org">Info@OutdoorLabFoundation.org</a> as Deer Creek Middle School does not get any information except for the amount to credit.

Please take a minute and review your student's account in Campus (under 'More/Student Fees') to see if you owe any fees.

Deer Creek Middle School relies on student fees to fund a variety of programs, opportunities, and services that are available to all students. Fees include supplies and consumables for elective classes, transportation for field trips, and many of the dozens of other benefits provided to students. Student fees are the only funds available to continue to provide these services for our students. If you have any questions, feel free to contact our Financial Secretary, Kathleen Dahl, at 303-982-8807 or Kathleen.dahl@jeffco.k12.co.us

## **Mental Health Update**

May marks Mental Health Awareness Month, a crucial time to focus on understanding, destigmatizing, and prioritizing our mental well-being.

Mental health is essential, and taking proactive steps for your own well-being can have a significant impact. Whether it's establishing healthy boundaries, seeking support when needed, or engaging in self-care, prioritizing yourself this month is key to building resilience and navigating life's challenges.

For summer Mental Health Support see the Hazel Mental Health Summer Flyer (at the end of this newsletter).

#### **Deer Creek Goes to Switzerland**

We're going to **Switzerland** in Spring 2026, and you're invited! This trip is open to ALL 6th-8th grade students who will be attending DCMS in the 2025-2026 school year.

We're excited to tell you more about the trip we're planning with EF Tours, our educational travel partner. We will be hosting an informational meeting on **Tuesday, May 6th at 5:30pm in the DCMS Library.** Please be sure to register for this info session to be considered for this opportunity: <a href="https://rsvp.eftours.com/6tr85ga">https://rsvp.eftours.com/6tr85ga</a>



When students travel, they expand their knowledge of the world around them, discover more about themselves, and grow more confident. These skills are critical for creating the global citizens of tomorrow, and we would love to have your student join us on this adventure.

In this info session, we'll talk about:

- How this opportunity will benefit your student
- What we'll see and do on our trip
- Everything that's included in this experience
- How your child can earn academic credit
- How we're keeping this safe and affordable
- How to enroll on this trip (before it fills up!) during EF's risk-free enrollment period

There are limited spots on this trip, so we would love to have you attend this meeting to learn more about this exciting opportunity!

Thanks,
Ali Goecks
FACS Teacher
ali.goecks@jeffco.k12.co.us

## **Chatfield High School Robotics Summer Camp**

Chatfield Robotics is holding a Summer Camp for students who will be in grades 6 - 8 in the 2025-2026 school year. There are 2 Sessions being held in July 2025. **See the flyer for more details.** You can also request more information by emailing <a href="mailto:chatfieldrobotics@gmail.com">chatfieldrobotics@gmail.com</a>.

Chatfield Robotics is a student-led organization working with FIRST Robotics, and is open to all high-school students. Students in this club work to raise funds, lead community outreach efforts, and design and program robotic systems. FIRST Robotics also builds a lasting culture, with many career paths and scholarships available in order to prepare the next generation of students for life after high school.



## Youth and Middle School Camps - "Chatty Camps"

Deer Creek Families -

My name is Andrei Gisetti and I am a teacher and coach at Chatfield Sr. High.

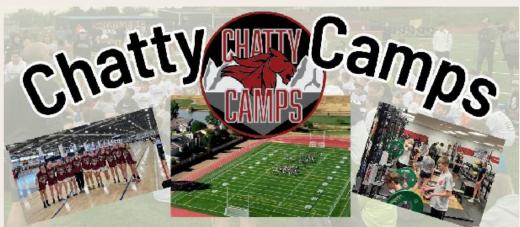
This past year we rebranded our summer camps from Charger Elite to **Chatty Camps**. This rebranding and retooling of our summer camps allows us to have more control over the summer camps and be able to offer a larger variety of camps than we have in the past. Camps are available for students from 1st grade through High School.

Summer Camps for Middle School students include:

Youth Speed Camp Middle School Lifting Youth Football Camp Youth Baseball Camp Youth Boys Basketball Youth Girls Basketball Youth Softball

Thank you very much, if you have any questions please feel free to contact myself <a href="mailto:chattycamps@gmail.com">chattycamps@gmail.com</a> or Coach Kris Rosholt at <a href="mailto:rosholtk@gmail.com">rosholtk@gmail.com</a>

Chatfield is also offering Youth Volleyball Camps this Summer. See the flyer for more details.





## The Golden Hour Festival - Warren Tech South Campus - Saturday May 10th

The Live Sound & Event Production class here at Warren Tech South has put together one final event this school year - The Golden Hour Festival on May 10th.

This event is a family friendly, student run music festival with 11 local artists, food trucks and vendors. We were hoping your school would be willing to help us market this event by adding our poster to your newsletters, on your social media accounts, or in your daily announcements.

#### **冷** GOLDEN HOUR FEST **冷**

The sun is setting on an unforgettable year at Warren Tech, and we're sending it off right.

#### 3 stages. 11 bands! Food trucks. Local vendors.

This is the Golden Hour Fest — a year-end celebration run almost entirely by our students in Live Sound & Event Production.

As part of our Career & Technical Education program, this festival is more than just a show — it's the culmination of a year of hard work, hands-on learning, and passion for live music.

Right before our seniors graduate, we're throwing one final blowout!

**Proceeds support local artists, the Dakota Ridge facilities team, and Warren Tech programs.** Come out, vibe, and support the future of the live events industry — still in high school.



### **Deer Creek Middle School PTO News**



Greetings! The last month of the school year is here, and summer break is within sight! Thank you to everyone who came out to support our spirit night at Skate City last month, as well as those who contributed to Teacher Appreciation week, the snack shack, American Furniture Warehouse rally. We appreciate you!

Read on for info regarding our spring happenings, as well as the 2025-26 PTO. And, please join us at our next meeting at **6pm on Monday, May 12th,** in the DCMS library!

### Mark your Calendars!

May 5-9: Staff Appreciation Week May 12: PTO meeting, 6-7pm

May 22: 8th grade Continuation Celebration 6:30 -8:00 pm

May 23: 6th/7th grade end-of-year BBQ lunch

## **Staff Appreciation Week - May 5-9**

#### **DCMS STAFF ROCKS!**

Thank you to everyone who donated gift cards in honor of the DCMS Staff for appreciation week, as well as those who took a moment to complete digital appreciation notes for DCMS staff. We couldn't do it without your support!

We still need 22 gifts cards if you are in a place that you can help with that please sign up here: <u>2025 Staff Appreciation Week Support</u>

You can still send a note to encourage staff at DCMS by using this link: 2025 Staff Appreciation Notes from Family

#### Appreciation Week Schedule:

Monday, May 5 - Popcorn and Candy Bar

Tuesday, May 6 - Mailbox delivery

Wednesday, May 7 - Families' Gift Cards

Thursday, May 8 - Travelin' Toms Coffee Truck and Cinnamon Rolls

Friday, May 9 - Appreciation Notes in collaboration with Student Council

### **Attention 8th Grade Parents**

#### **Help Celebrate 8th Graders**

As we approach the end of the school year, we're excited to celebrate our students' transition to high school with a special 8th Grade Continuation Party! This event is a long -standing tradition at Deer Creek and a memorable way for students to wrap up their middle school journey.

If you're able, we would deeply appreciate donations of money, entertainment services, or raffle prizes to help ensure this event is special for all our 8th graders. Every little bit helps us create an unforgettable experience.

To donate or get involved, got to the link below to sign up or reach out to Brooke Schmidt at <a href="mailto:brookeschmidt@gmail.com">brookeschmidt@gmail.com</a>.

CONGRATS.
8TH GRADE CONTINUATION PARTY!

CONGRATS.
8TH GRADE CONTINUATION PARTY!

Thursday, May 22nd, 6:30-8 pm
Pit Stop Dinner & Dessert, Games,
Music, & Prizes!
Cost: S5

## Deer Creek Middle School PTO News, continued...

### Last Day Partay - May 23



#### 6th & 7th Grade get their own special send-off

Calling all 6th and 7th Grade DCMS Parents!

Please help give our kids a great last day of school with a special lunch and time with friends Friday, May 23. We need donations of money or supplies and also parent volunteers. Donations should be turned into the office no later that Tuesday, May 20 by 4pm.

#### **LAST DAY BBQ SIGN UP**

## Milk Caps for Mooola



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.

## **Shop American Furniture Warehouse**

4% of your purchases anytime supports Deer Creek Middle School. During checkout, mention our school ID: DCNS60.

## 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.



#### 7th and 8th Grade Band Families

Chatfield Marching Band mini camp is Saturday, May 10 from 9:00am to 1:00pm

- New parent orientation starts at 11:15am
- All Parent meeting starts at 12:00pm

Come try it out and meet Chatfield's Marching Chargers!

If you have any question, please reach out to Mr. Ford, Chatfield Band Director: <a href="mailto:dylan.ford@jeffco.k12.co.us">dylan.ford@jeffco.k12.co.us</a>



## **Upcoming Events**

May	
12	PTO Meeting 6:00 pm
14	Spring Choir Concert 6:30 pm
21	DCMS Spring Instrumental Music Concert 6:30 pm
21	PTO Spirit Day - Garbanzo's 12 pm - 8 pm
22	Last Day of School for 8th Grade (regular release time 4:05 pm)
22	8th Grade Celebration 6:00 - 8:00 pm
23	Last Day of School for 6th & 7th Grade-Early Release 1:35 pm End of Year Picnic Lunch (PTO)

May 2025										
Sun	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				

June				
5	Deer Creek Office Closes for Summer Break			
July				
14	Deer Creek Office Opens for 2025-26 School Year			
August				
7	New Beginnings 9 am - 2 pm (Incoming 6th grade students)			
8	New Beginnings 9 am - 2 pm (Incoming 6th and new 7th/8th grade students			
18	Locker Set Up and Decorating 4 - 6 pm			
19	6th Grade Students First Day/Orientation - Early Release 1:35 pm			
19	Back to School Night (Parents Only) 6:00-8:30 pm			

First Day of School - All Students

**School Pictures** 

20

20

August 2025									
Sun	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									





## CHATFIELD AREA SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

What: Come and learn a new instrument, a 2nd instrument, or boost your skills in band and orchestra!

When: May 27th - June 6th Tues. through Fri. the first week, then Mon. through Fri. the second week

Where: Deer Creek Middle School (9201 W. Columbine Drive, Littleton 80128)

Cost: \$125 flat rate—attend as many classes as you want! Cost includes all printed music. Payable with

Zelle, check made payable to Deer Creek Music Boosters, or cash, REGISTRATION INFO IS ON PAGE 2.

#### Beginning Band/Beginning Orchestra - 8:00-8:50 am

Come and learn a new instrument with us! Beginning band and orchestra are two separate classes and are for all students interested in starting a new instrument, or learning a secondary instrument. This class will start at step one with how to open the case, and will end with students showing off their skills on some new tunes!

<u>BEGINNING BAND SUPPLIES NEEDED:</u> INSTRUMENT, Tradition of Excellence book 1, pencil, water bottle BEGINNING ORCHESTRA: INSTRUMENT, Pencil, water bottle (Music Provided)

#### Smorgasbord Band and Orchestra Fun/Jazz band 9:00 - 9:50 am

Smorgasbord: Come and have fun playing music games, learning about music and sound effects in movies, and other fun activities! This class is after the beginning classes and before the advanced classes so no matter which classes your child is interested in taking, they can stay after or come prior to their class. No supplies needed for this session!

<u>Jazz Band</u>: Come and learn the basics of Jazz, swing, blues, rock, funk, and Latin Jazz! Instruments included in Jazz Band-Flute, Clarinet, all Saxophones, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Drum Set, Bass, Guitar.

SUPPLIES NEEDED: INSTRUMENT, pencil, folding music stand, water. (Music Provided)

#### Advanced Band/Advanced Orchestra - 10:00- 10:50 am

Learn various styles of concert band music including pop, rock, and movie music with us! These sessions are for all students that have played their instrument for at least one school year.

SUPPLIES NEEDED: Instrument, pencil, folding stand, water bottle

