R5 High School

Phoenix Gazette

Hello R5 Community,

We have great news to share and report as we head into fall and conclude the first quarter of the school year. The first piece of great news to share with you is our R5 High School Performance rating. For the second year in a row, R5 High School has been given the highest rating of Performance on the School Performance Framework from the Colorado Department of Education. Each year, all schools and districts are provided a rating that is based on academic performance, growth, and post-secondary readiness. The highest rating a school can obtain is the Performance level. This rating is evidence of the incredible hard work that the R5 staff and learners are putting forth on a daily basis. Please congratulate your children and our staff when you see them.

In addition to our performance rating, we want to thank all of you for attending our first Student Spotlight of the school year on September 11th. We had a great turn out and thank you all for coming to check-in with our team on your child's progress. Those of you who attended were able to see your child's personalized graduation plan and learn about how they are working towards earning their diploma. Our R5 team believes the implementation of these plans and the ownership of them by each learner are contributing to the success of your child and our school. Establishing and maintaining plans is a key skill in life and we are striving to help all learners gain these skills through their time with us at R5.

As we wrap up the quarter, we will be holding our Quarter 1 Exhibitions on Wednesday, October 8th from 10-10:30am. Please come by to see the amazing projects learners have created this quarter, they have some amazing projects to share. There will be no school on October 9th, 10th, and 13th as we wrap up the first quarter. We ask that you encourage your children to finish strong to ensure they are earning the credits they deserve for their hard work. Quarter 2 begins on Tuesday, October 14th. Thank you for your continued support in helping students succeed

NS

D51F
SCHOOL DISTRICT 51
FOUNDATION

WHAT IS THE DISTRICT 51 FOUNDATION?

The D51 Foundation (D51F) raises money to support our local schools, prioritizing funding for professional learning, technology and innovation, and staff and student wellness. Our mission is to raise funds for academic growth and achievement while promoting outreach to benefit kids and our community.

WWW.D51FOUNDATION.ORG

YOU'RE INVITED

RESPONSIBILITY • REFLECTION • READINESS • RELATIONSHIPS • RESPECT

1st Quarter Exhibitions

Wednesday, October 8th
10:00 am - 10:30 am

Harry Butler Board Room @ R5



upcoming

October 8th - 2nd Quarter Exhibitions

October 9th - Teacher Workday - No School

October 10th - Teacher Inservice Day - No School

October 13th - Conference Exchange Day - No School

October 14th - Beginning of 2nd Quarter

October 14th - New Student Orientation

STAFF HIGHLIGHT



KASSIE HEIT
YPP Director

I am the Director of the Young Parent Program Child Care Center at R-5 High School. This is my 4th full year as the YPP Director. In February 2026 I will be with R-5 High School for 7 years. I have been in the Early Childhood field since Oct 2016, in which I graduated in May 2019 from CMU with 2 of my Early Childhood Certificates and in December 2024 I graduated with the last 2 Early Childhood Certificates CMU has to offer.

My family and I have lived in the Grand Junction area for 12 ½ years. We came from Houston, TX. I have been married to my wonderful husband for 13 ½ years. I have 2 children. I have 2 grandsons, a 3 ½ year old & a newborn and they are my everything.

I volunteer with my church in multiple children's groups, on Sundays working in the church nursery during morning service and Impact Girls during evening services and Wednesdays I am helping the infant/toddlers children's ministries.

In my free time, I love hanging out with my family, binge watching all different shows and movies, and I enjoy photography, crafting, and traveling when I can.

R5 ROCKSTAR

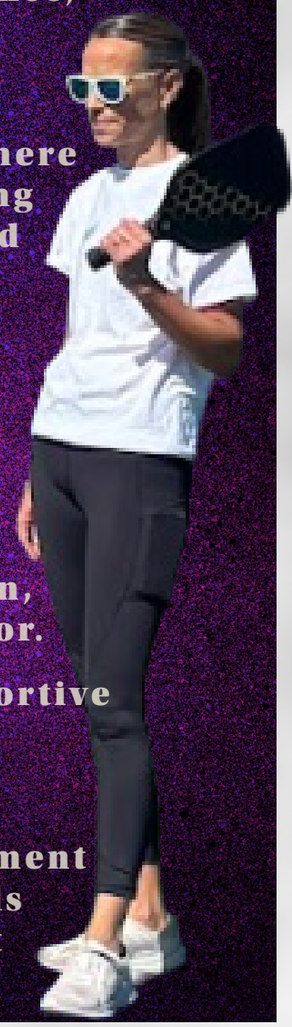
AMY HRUBES

is our Rockstar because she. . .

Demonstrates patience, kindness, and professionalism by listening deeply, meeting students where they are, and treating all with empathy and compassion.

Approaches challenges with positivity and creativity, solving problems intentionally and modeling dedication, optimism, and humor.

Builds strong, supportive connections with students and staff, fostering a safe and welcoming environment where everyone feels valued by being just plain "rad-ish"



STUDENT OF THE MONTH

NATE HARMAN



The Student of the Month award goes to Nate Harman because he. . .

Shows social awareness and maturity by caring for his peers and teachers.

Builds numerous positive relationships at R-5.

Always willing to solve problems and communicate truthfully and respectfully.

R-5 is a warmer place because Nathanil Harman is here.



'25-'26 EUREKA! & R-5 Program Calendar

Regular Program Day: ***Tues-Thurs 1pm-4:00pm***

Special Event - see notes | No School | No Program

AUGUST 2025

Theme -

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	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						

NOTES:

Aug 7: R-5 Intensive at Highline Lake

Regular Program Schedule:

Tues: 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Wed: 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Thur: 1:00pm - 4:00pm

SEPTEMBER 2025

Theme -

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	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				

NOTES:

Sept 1 No school - Adventure Day! 8:30am-3:30pm
Sept 2 No Programming, but still school
-4
Sept 11 Student Spotlight at R-5

Sept 29 No School Day

OCTOBER 2025

Theme -

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	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	

NOTES:

Oct 6-8 No Programming, but still school
Oct 9- Overnight Expedition!
-Oct 10 Thursday - Friday

Oct 13 No School Day
Oct 14 Quarter 2 begins

McConnell Science Museum EUREKA!

STAFF HIGHLIGHT



Aloha!

My name is Kierra Barba but everyone calls me Kia!

I work in the Young Parents Program as a teacher in the toddler room. I have been working in a daycare for about 10 years now and I Love my job.

I was born and raised on the Island of Kauai. I moved to Grand Junction in 2009 for college and fell in love with the outdoors that Colorado has to offer.

I love any type of food, I especially love surfing and the outdoors. I am a mother to a beautiful 3 year old boy and two dogs. They are my world.

Mahalo Nui Loa =)



If you need help outside of regular school hours and this is a crisis situation, please use one of the following resources:

- Call 9-1-1 Emergency Line
- Safe2Tell - call 1-877-542-SAFE to submit an anonymous report to law enforcement and school administration
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline @ 988lifeline.org or call 1-800-273-TALK
- Colorado Crisis: 1-844-493-8255 or Text: 38255

Spirit Week

October 27 - 31























FIND YOUR FUTURE AT THE FAIR

COLLEGE OUTREACH
SERVING THE STUDENTS OF WESTERN COLORADO
COLORADO WESTERN SLOPE COLLEGE FAIR

The Colorado Western Slope College Fair

Sunday, October 5th, 2025

10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.



250+ Colleges & Universities:
- Tents open at 11 a.m.
- Priority access for 11th-12th graders

30+ Career & Technical Education Programs:
- Tent opens at 10 a.m.

35+ Helpful Workshops:
- Sessions begin at 10 a.m.

Find us on

Resources available in Spanish

Hosted by: ASPEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

The 21st annual Colorado Western Slope College Fair is a free and interactive college and career planning event geared for 7th-12th grade students, their families, school counselors, and educators across all 82+ Colorado Western Slope high schools.

Visit 250+ college tables and explore 30+ career & tech programs:
- Engage face-to-face with colleges
- Ask admissions reps your questions
- Explore community colleges, trade schools, certificate programs, and apprenticeships
- Enjoy a day in Aspen

Attend 35+ interactive workshops on:
- Financial aid
- Student athletic recruiting
- Essays for the college application
- STEM and the arts in college
- More useful topics

ASPEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Aspen School District Campus
235 High School Road, Aspen, CO

Free parking | Food trucks

Learn more and register in advance for this free event

www.cwscollegeoutreach.org

Proudly supported by:

Alpine Bank · AEF Aspen Education Foundation · Colorado Mountain College · Denver Broncos Foundation · Elks USA · Melony & Adam Lewis Advised Fund

ENCUENTRA TU FUTURO EN LA FERIA

COLLEGE OUTREACH
FERIA UNIVERSITARIA DEL COLORADO WESTERN SLOPE

La Feria Universitaria del Western Slope de Colorado

Domingo, 5 de octubre de 2025

10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.



Más de 250 universidades:
- Las carpas abren a las 11 a.m.
- Acceso prioritario para estudiantes de 11-12 grados

Más de 30 programas de educación técnica y profesional:
- La carpa abre a las 10 a.m.

Más de 35 talleres útiles:
- Las sesiones comienzan a las 10 a.m.

Encuéntranos en

Ofrecemos recursos en español

Organizado por: EL DISTRITO ESCOLAR DE ASPEN

La 21ª Feria Anual de Colegios y Universidades del Western Slope de Colorado es un evento gratuito e interactivo de planificación universitaria y profesional dirigido a estudiantes de 7-12 grados, sus familias, consejeros, y educadores de las más de 82 escuelas secundarias del Western Slope de Colorado.

Visita más de 250 mesas de universidades y explora más de 30 programas técnicos y profesionales:
- Interactúa cara a cara con representantes universitarios
- Haz tus preguntas a los representantes de admisiones
- Explora colegios comunitarios, escuelas técnicas, programas de certificación y aprendizajes
- Disfruta de un día en Aspen

Asiste a más de 35 talleres interactivos sobre:
- Ayuda financiera
- Reclutamiento para estudiantes atletas
- Ensayos para la admisión a la universidad
- STEM y las artes en la universidad
- Otros temas útiles

EL DISTRITO ESCOLAR DE ASPEN
Campus del Distrito Escolar de Aspen
235 High School Road, Aspen, CO

Estacionamiento gratis | Camiones de comida

Obtén más información y regístrate con anticipación para este evento gratuito

www.cwscollegeoutreach.org

Respaldado por:

Alpine Bank · AEF Aspen Education Foundation · Colorado Mountain College · Denver Broncos Foundation · Elks USA · Melony & Adam Lewis Advised Fund



STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Maria Castillo



This is my 2nd year at R-5 High School with the Young Parents Program. I was born in Chihuahua Mexico, lived in Clifton Co for 17 years, and married for 27 years. My husband is originally from Cuba. My two children Jennifer and Carlos, born in Glenwood Springs Co, 3 Pitbull dogs (Rocco, Mika & Chula).

I love my job and I am blessed because it gives me the opportunity to be around wonderful people like children. Every day I learn a lot from them, they are persevering, transparent, loving and with a big heart.
I enjoy fishing, camping, karaoke nights with family and friends, and cooking for my family. I consider myself good at listening to people.

I obtained by CDA Certification, (Child Development Associate Credential) at Red Rocks College in Glenwood Springs, Co.

Este es mi segundo año en la escuela secundaria R-5 con el Programa de Padres Jóvenes. Nací en Chihuahua México, viví en Clifton Co durante 17 años y estuve casado durante 27 años. Mi marido es originario de Cuba. Mis dos hijos Jennifer y Carlos, nacidos en Glenwood Springs Co, 3 perros Pitbull (Rocco, Mika y Chula).
Amo mi trabajo y me siento bendecido porque me da la oportunidad de estar rodeado de personas maravillosas como los niños. Cada día aprendo mucho de ellos, son perseverantes, transparentes, cariñosos y de gran corazón.
Disfruto pescar, acampar, noches de karaoke con familiares y amigos, cocinar para mi familia. Me considero bueno escuchando a la gente.
Obtuve mediante Certificación CDA, (Credencial de Asociado en Desarrollo Infantil) en Red Rocks College en Glenwood Springs, Co.

If you need assistance with anything at R5, please visit the R5 website or call the main office at 970-254-6880 between the hours of 8:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. M-F

OUR STAFF IS COMMITTED EACH AND EVERY DAY TO THEIR WORK, OUR MISSION:
R5 USES RESTORATIVE PRACTICES AND PROJECT-BASED LEARNING TO SUPPORT LEARNERS IN BECOMING THRIVING CITIZENS. R5 IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING ALL LEARNERS WILL DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS, CULTURAL AND SELF-AWARENESS, AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP THROUGH AN INDIVIDUALIZED WHOLE-PERSON APPROACH, COMMANDING HIGH EXPECTATIONS AND PROVIDING MASTERY LEARNING WITH A COMPASSIONATE, RESPONSIVE, AND COLLABORATIVE ENVIRONMENT. . . .
TO GUARANTEE THAT 100% OF OUR GRADUATES WILL BE POST-SECONDARY READY.