



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

the mountaineer

Helpful Links

[Deer Creek Website](#)

[Jeffco Public Schools](#)

[Deer Creek PTO](#)

[Deer Creek Facebook](#)

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

A Word From the Principal

Dear Mountaineer Community,

As we approach the end of another school year, I find myself pausing to reflect on a significant personal and professional milestone. This week marks the successful completion of my second year as the Principal for Deer Creek Middle School. While the 2024–2025 school year laid our foundation, seeing our vision come to life throughout this 2025–2026 school year has been truly rewarding. Leading Deer Creek Middle School is an immense privilege, and I am more energized than ever to continue this journey with you for many years to come.

The "vibrant energy" of this building isn't just a phrase—it is a tangible force I feel every morning. I am constantly inspired by our incredible students. Watching their resilience, curiosity, and kindness reach new heights this year has been the highlight of my career. Whether they are navigating the rigors of the classroom or supporting one another in the hallways, they represent the very best of what it means to be a Mountaineer.

Our faculty and staff are the bedrock of Deer Creek. Their passion and tireless efforts ensure that every student feels seen, valued, and empowered. I am deeply proud to lead a team that doesn't just "teach," but fosters a truly inclusive environment where students can thrive. Thank you for your partnership and collaboration with our staff and for the countless hours you've invested in making this current school year our best one yet.

Thank you for an unforgettable second year. I am honored to be your Principal, and I am already looking forward to everything we will achieve together in the many years to follow.

With Mountaineer Pride,

Brandon Hall
Principal
Deer Creek Middle School

CLICK IT

Click on the
Ads in this
Newsletter



...to learn more about
these great companies!

2026-2027 Family Calendar

Attached here, our 2026-27 family calendar is also posted on our [website](#) - if there are changes or additions to the calendar, it will be updated on the website and communicated to families.

[2026-2027 Family Calendar](#)

End of Year Information

End-of-Year Information

Important dates and events for the end of the school year:

Friday, May 22

- Due date for all graded work
- Locker Clean out - all students. (students will still have locker access until the last day of school)

Wednesday, May 27

- Regular 3:50 PM 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)

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

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

Thursday, May 28

- 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



Kids 10 & Under Eat Free

One child enjoys all four courses per regular-priced adult 4-course meal ordered. Not offered on holidays.

Tuesdays: 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
(Our house magician is here!)

Sundays: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.



**Melting
Pot**
Littleton

Mountaineers of the Month - April 2026

Each of these students has demonstrated **PEAK** (Prepared, Engaged, Accountable, Kind and Respectful) behavior and in doing so, is being recognized as our top Mountaineers for April 2026.

6th Grade

Ainsley Runyan

Ainsley is motivated, collaborative, and kind to peers and adults. In addition to approaching learning thoughtfully and with steady effort, she brings a positive attitude to class each day and consistently shows respect, responsibility, and care for the people around her.

Justin Lowicki

Justin is always respectful. He is kind and friendly, works well with others, and always completes high quality work. He is able to work with anyone.

7th Grade

Lyla Stark

Lyla takes on tasks in the library with a good, hard-working attitude. She can be trusted with larger projects and does them with accuracy. She is a quiet leader who is always working to make the most of her learning.

Kelsie Lee

Kelsie is always on task, trying her best, asking questions when needed, and striving for understanding.

8th Grade

Max Sherris

Max consistently demonstrates PEAK expectations. He shows leadership in Mountain Guides and is able to work with many students to help improve their experience.

Adele Frisch

Adele is a really fantastic student. Super responsible for herself, inclusive of others, and respectful and kind. Adele is awesome.



(L-R Molly Law-Assistant Principal, Max Sherris, Lyla Stark, Ainsley Runyan, Kelsie Lee, Adele Frisch, Justin Lowicki, Brandon Hall-Principal)

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

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.

Lori Saueracker - 7th Grade Science. 26 years with Jeffco Schools and 26 years at Deer Creek Middle School
lori.saueracker@jeffco.k12.co.us

Molly Law - Assistant Principal. 28 years with Jeffco Schools and 15 years at Deer Creek Middle School
molly.law@jeffco.k12.co.us

Patsy Gilgenbach - Paraprofessional. 10 years with Jeffco Schools and 4 years at Deer Creek Middle School
patsy.gilgenbach@jeffco.k12.co.us

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 \$45 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 \$45.

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



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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.

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Library and Technology Update

Battle of the Books:

On Monday April 13th, 10 teams 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, Midnight Munchies, took home the gold. [Midnight Munchies](#) will represent Deer Creek at the district battle on May 11th.** A big congratulations to all of our teams for a job well done.

Library Books Due Date:

All library books are due on May 7, 2026. 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 of the fine. MOST of the time, books are found by the end of the year - usually during locker clean out.

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 karrie.zanetti@jeffco.k12.co.us if you'd like the library to store your student's device over the summer.

End of 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 28, 2026.

All medications left in the school health room on May 29th 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

lisa.schalla@jeffco.k12.co.us

720-315-3855

Outdoor Lab Fees Update

6th Grade Families - 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 Info@OutdoorLabFoundation.org 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

Chatty Camps - Chatfield High School Summer Sports/Athletic Camps

Chatfield High School Chatty Camps is the longest running sports camp in the south metro area. These camps are offered to provide students in the south area an opportunity to grow in a safe, positive, challenging, competitive, and fun environment.. Whether that be through speed training, weight lifting, flexibility, conditioning, or sports specific work.

Please see flyer for details and how to register.



SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS 2026



- Youth Speed Camp (1st - 4th grade)
- Youth Speed Camp (5th - 8th grade)
- Middle School Lifting (5th - 8th grade)
- High School Preseason Sports Camps
- Female Athlete Training Camps
- Youth Basketball Camps
- Youth Baseball Camps
- Youth Football Camps
- Youth Soccer Camps

Led by CSH Head Football Coach Kris Rosholt, Chatty Camps are intended to give athletes a leg up on the competition in a safe, positive, challenging, competitive, and fun environment. These camps are offered to provide athletes an opportunity to grow in the sport they love through speed training, weight lifting, flexibility, conditioning, or sports specific work

REGISTER TODAY USING THE QR CODE OR VISIT
CHATTYCAMP.COM

Questions? Email us at chattycamps@gmail.com

Chatfield Robotics Summer Camp

Students who will be in grades 7 - 9 next school year are invited to join the Chatfield Robotics team for a week of fun robotics this summer.

Two sessions - July 6 - 10 or July 13 - 27.

More information and registration info is on the flyer below.

Mark your Calendars!



Build. Code. Compete.

July 6-10 from 8-4
OR
July 13-17 from 8-4



Join us for a week of robotics! Get advice from our team members, have fun, build and code your own robots!

Interested? Fill out this form!



Incoming 7th-9th graders only



Chatfield Senior High School

7227 S Sims St.
Littleton CO

Contact us at chatfieldrobotics@gmail.com
Learn more about us on our website: chatfieldrobotics.org

Chatfield High School Marching Band and Color Guard

Current 7th & 8th Graders!

If you love to perform or play music, there's a great opportunity for you! You are invited to join or audition for the Chatfield High School Marching Band and Color Guard!

Color Guard does not require a dance background. If you're interested in joining a winning team — Chatfield's Marching Band recently placed 6th at State! — please attend one of the informational sessions on Wednesday, May 6th, Wednesday, May 13th, and Tuesday, May 19th.

Meet in Chatfield's band room from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

A parent information meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19th at 6:00 p.m.
See flyer for more details!

JOIN THE 2026 CHATFIELD MARCHING CHARGERS

Woodwind/Brass – Percussion – Color Guard/Dance

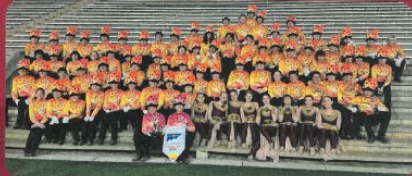
Musicians and performers are invited to join our celebrated state-finalist CSH Marching Band and Color Guard. A music or dance background is helpful, but it's not required—everyone is welcome!


Spring Training Dates

- Current 8th graders through Juniors should attend our Spring Training events.
- 7th graders interested in marching next year should talk to their band, orchestra, or choir director, or email Mr. Ford.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 29TH, WEDNESDAY MAY 6TH,
WEDNESDAY MAY 13TH, TUESDAY MAY 19TH
4:30PM - 6:00PM, MEET IN CSH BAND ROOM
WEAR ATHLETIC CLOTHING/SHOES

Mandatory Parent/Guardian Meeting
6PM-6:45PM Tuesday May 19th





WHY JOIN BAND/COLOR GUARD?

- Make amazing friends
- Have fun performing
- Stay active & be part of a team
- Earn your P.E. credit

QUESTIONS?

- Email Mr. Ford, Band Director
o Dylan.Ford@joffco.k12.co.us
- Join the CSH MB/CG Google Classroom – Code: **gd3gnujm**

Deer Creek Spring Break Travel 2027

Deer Creek students had a wonderful time exploring Europe during spring break this year. They explored FIVE countries in 10 days and made memories to last a lifetime. In 2026 DCMS students went to Belize! Would you like to travel with DCMS on a hands-on educational trip in the upcoming school year? We are headed to Costa Rica during spring break of 2027 and spots are still available! Here are just a few things that we will be doing:

- Explore the rainforest via zipline
- Whitewater rafting
- Hiking in the Arenal Volcano National Park
- Snorkeling in Guanacaste
- Enjoying local cuisine and learning about Costa Rican culture by locals

Please email Ms. Goecks (agoecks@jeffcoschools.us) or visit our tour enrollment page for more information! www.eftours.com/3017220YY



Mental Health

As the final countdown to summer begins, the energy in our hallways is electric! It's totally natural for students to feel that end-of-year "spring fever," but I want to encourage everyone to keep their focus sharp for these last few weeks. Finishing the semester strong isn't just about grades; it's about the pride that comes from seeing a commitment through to the very end. So channel all that restless excitement into final projects and classroom activities so we can head into the break feeling accomplished and ready to relax.

Speaking of the break, let's challenge our kiddos to trade the video games for some sunshine this summer - nothing beats the mental and physical boost of getting outside! Whether it's a neighborhood bike ride, a trip to the park, or just sitting in the grass, that fresh air is vital for recharging after a long school year. I also encourage you to help your kids stay connected with their school friends. Maintaining those social bonds over the summer prevents feelings of isolation and ensures our students return in August feeling happy, refreshed, and socially confident.

Have a wonderful summer!

Denise Bettcher
Social Worker
Deer Creek Middle School

Engineering at Deer Creek Middle School

Students are working hard in Trimester 3 Engineering classes

Engineering 1: Students are learning about what it takes to fly in space and what engineers and astronauts go through to be prepared for space

Engineering 2: Students are finishing their toys for patients that suffer with a specific disability, from cerebral palsy. They will be moving into CO2 car designs next

Engineering 3: Students are working on two projects concurrently. First, kids are working as a team to frame a mini shed with four walls, one with a door and one with a window. Also making trusses for a roof. The second project is our community work and the students, with the help our advisor Nate Mencini, are building animal homes for local rescue centers and Hudson Gardens.

Nick Cataldo
Engineering Teacher
Deer Creek Middle School

Deer Creek Middle School PTO News - April 2026

It's hard to believe that the last month of school is here! Thanks to all who supported the Skate City spirit night or Snack Shack last month, as well as those who contributed to Teacher Appreciation week.



And, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to, or volunteered time at, any of our PTO initiatives and events this school year. We would not be able to provide these for our students and staff without the amazing support of the Deer Creek community!

Dates to Remember!

- May 4: Final PTO Meeting of the school year, 6pm in the library
- May 4-8: Staff Appreciation Week
- May 27: 8th grade Continuation Celebration (6pm)
- May 28: 6th/7th grade End-of-Year BBQ Lunch

Attention 8th Grade Parents! 8th Grade Continuation Party

The PTO is busy planning the 8th grade Continuation Party, as we celebrate the middle school accomplishments of our 8th graders and their transition to high school! The student celebration will be on Wednesday, May 27, from 6–8 PM, and we could really use your help!



Below are sign-up links for chaperones and setup, as well as a link if you'd like to donate prizes for the student raffle:

- To chaperone or help with set up/tear down, please click [HERE](#).
- To donate gift cards for the Student Raffle, please click [HERE](#).

Calling all 6th & 7th Grade Parents! 6th & 7th Grade Last Day BBQ Lunch

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 on Thursday, May 28. We're seeking lunch supply donations and parent volunteers. If you'd like to donate items or volunteer, please sign up [HERE](#).



Deer Creek Middle School PTO News, continued...

Help Needed for the 26/27 Deer Creek PTO!

As we begin the final trimester of the school year, we're looking ahead to fill open PTO positions for the 2026–2027 school year. 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.

Several current PTO volunteers have students moving on to high school, creating opportunities for new volunteers to step in and make an impact. Below is a list of the team for next year with current open opportunities. You can visit the [2026-27 DCMS PTO Roles and Responsibilities](#) for more detailed descriptions. Feel free to email deercreekpto1@gmail.com if you would like to know more!

Executive Board

- **President:** Heather Burgbacher
- **Co- Vice President:** Alicia Pucci
- **Co- Vice President:** Aaron Bilyeu
- **Treasurer:** Sara Nesmith
- **Co- Treasurer:** *Open position*
- **Secretary:** *Open position*
- **Co- Secretary:** *Open position*

Fundraising Committee

- **POP Fundraiser Coordinators (2 people):** Janet Webster, *1 open position*
- **Spirit Night & Ongoing Fundraiser Coordinator:** Jennifer Mays-Krimmer
- **Penny Wars Coordinator:** Angie Walcher

Social Committee

- **6th Grade (2 people):** *2 open positions for incoming 6th grade parents*
- **7th Grade (2 people):** Aaron Bilyeu, *1 open position for incoming 7th grade parents*
- **8th Grade (2 people):** Alicia Pucci & Jen Forsha
- **8th Grade Continuation Coordinators (4 people):** Tara Roberts, *3 open positions for incoming 8th grade parents*
- **6th and 7th Grade Last Day BBQ Coordinators (2 people):** Aubrey Kroll, *1 open position for incoming 6th & 7th grade parents*

Staff Appreciation Committee

- **Holiday & Staff/ Teacher Appreciation Week (2 people):** Renee Hubble, Jennifer Mays-Krimmer
- **Conference Meals & Snack Shack (2 people):** Angie Walcher, Renee Hubble

Stock the Shake Shack

6th grade families are supporting the Snack Shack for Trimester 3! Sixth grade families, please consider making a donation to help us keep the Snack Shack stocked for the remainder of the year. Click here to donate: [6th Grade Snack Shack Signup](#).



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.



American Furniture Warehouse

American Furniture Warehouse—up to 4% of your purchase anytime supports Deer Creek Middle School. During check-out, mention our school or **ID: DCMS60**

Deer Creek - Campus Supervisor position opportunity

Deer Creek Middle School is excited to announce that there will be a Campus Supervisor hired for the 2026-27 school year. The Campus Supervisor will partner closely with Deer Creek's Admin team to support students and build strong connections with staff and the community.

Recruiting for this position will start this summer.

NOW HIRING



JOIN OUR CAMPUS SECURITY TEAM

Make a lasting impact by helping keep our schools safe, supporting students, and building strong connections with staff and the community. As a trusted presence on campus, you'll play a vital role in shaping a positive, secure environment where students can thrive—today and into the future.

Starting Rate \$23-25 per Hour

Email: Jimmy.Guss@jeffco.k12.co.us

**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.**

Sponsor This School!



Rob Mangelson
(720) 878-4107
Rob@tscacolorado.com

The School Communications Agency
Supporting Schools & Local Businesses



Upcoming Events

May

1-2	Instrumental Music Festival Competition - Arvada High School/Elitch's
4-8	Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
4	MAP Testing
4	PTO Meeting 6:00 pm
5	MAP Testing
9	Choir Festival Competition - Arvada High School/Elitch's
14	DCMS Theatre Club Variety Show 6:30 pm
20	DCMS Spring Instrumental Music Concert 6:30 pm
21	DCMS Spring Choir/Theatre Showcase 6:30 pm
22	Last Day for Graded Work to be turned in
22	Locker Clean out - all students (students will continue to have locker access until the last day of school)
25	School Closed - Memorial Day Holiday
27	Last Day of School for 8th Grade (regular release time 3:50 pm)
27	8th Grade Celebration 6:00 - 8:00 pm
28	Last Day of School for 6th & 7th Grade-Early Release 1:35 pm End of Year Picnic Lunch (PTO)

June

5	Deer Creek Office Closes for Summer Break
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July

14	Deer Creek Office Opens for 2026-27 School Year
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August

7	New Beginnings 9 am - 2 pm (Incoming 6th grade students)
10	New Beginnings 9 am - 2 pm (Incoming 6th and new 7th/8th grade)
18	Locker Set Up 4:00- 6:00 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
20	First Day of School - All Students
21	School Pictures
25	6th Grade Outdoor Lab Parent Meeting 6:00 pm

May 2026

Su	Mo	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						