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The Memo

November 14, 2025

Welcome to your one-stop shop for November's key staff announcements, updates, and resources! This month is light on announcements but heavy on events, so **scroll down to see all the fun, free events coming up.** Scroll down further to see how to submit announcements and feedback.

If The Memo ever gets lost in your inbox, bookmark [this](#) page to find prior and current issues. This page can also be found on the PSD Staff homepage, under "Quick Links".

District Updates, Staff Announcements, Reminders

Food Resources:

If you or anyone you know is struggling to access adequate food, **whether a recipient of federal assistance or not**, the following resources are available:

- Local [food banks](#)
- [Hunger Free Colorado](#)'s Food Resource Hotline: 855-855-4626
- [Colorado 211](#): Call 211 for the resource line
- [Feeding Colorado](#)
- [Food Not Bombs Fort Collins](#) distributes free meals on the following schedule:
 - Wednesdays: 5-7 p.m. at the Fort Collins Mennonite Fellowship
 - Thursdays: 12:30 p.m. at Creekside Park
 - Fridays: 4-5 p.m. at Scrimshaw Tattoo
 - Saturdays: 8:30-9:30 p.m. at the Mennonite Fellowship
 - Sunday: 2:15-3:30 p.m. at the Mennonite Fellowship
- [FoCo Cafe](#) serves entirely donation-based, pay-what-you-can meals

See additional food resources [here](#). School meals will continue to be available and free of cost, as usual.

ChoosePSD Website:

PSD now has a one-stop-shop [website](#) where families can get to know our schools, find registration and open house details, learn about the School of Choice process, and more!

School Choice Applications:

The first-round school choice application period for the 2026-27 school year opened **Monday, November 3 at 8**

Election Results:

Karla Baise, Andrew Spain, and Coronda Ziegler have been elected to serve as PSD Board Directors for Districts C, D, and E. These results, alongside all election results in

Check out our [School Profiles](#) or our [FAQ](#) pages that help to make important information clearer and easier for our community to access.

The page will be redesigned when the new PSD website launches early next school year, but for now we hope it serves as a helpful resource. If you stumble upon something incorrect or missing on this site, [let the Communications team know](#). If you like what you see, spread the word to your community!

Microphones:

For anyone teaching or presenting at PSD, make sure you're using a microphone! Every standard PSD classroom and conference room has a lanyard and handheld microphone option.

Even if you think you're loud enough on your own, it makes a huge difference in terms of accessibility. Just make sure to plug the mic in to charge when you're done! Click [here](#) for a tutorial on how to use the microphones.

New Grants Administration Manager:

Join the Finance department in welcoming [Maria Ortiz](#) into the role of Grants Administration Manager!

a.m. and closes Monday, December 15 at 4 p.m. A second round will open in mid-January.

Per PSD policy, staff members must meet eligibility requirements to qualify for the school choice employee benefit or priority ranking. See school choice policy [GE](#) for more information. **See the 10/31 email titled "Registration and School Choice Information for 2026-27 School Year" for more information.**

Feel free to use the QR code below, which links directly to PSD School of Choice application, for use on social media/web pages/marketing materials.



PSD Celebrates:

Mark your calendars — the 2026 PSD Celebrates will take place on May 4 at Lincoln Center. More info coming soon!

our region, are pending final confirmation from Larimer County elections officials.

Discounted Master's Degree Opportunity:

Colorado licensed teachers have the opportunity to earn a Master of Arts in Equity, Bilingualism & Biliteracy with an Endorsement in Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Education via CU Boulder's [BUENO](#) program! This is an **all-virtual program offered at half the standard cost**. You do not have to be bilingual/biliterate to apply.

If you're interested, you must attend the mandatory [info session](#) on Thursday, November 20 from 5-6 p.m. Sign up soon, as the new cohort starts Fall 2026. Learn more [here](#).

November School Finance Scoop:

The School Finance Scoop is now a part of the Memo! [Click here](#) to get November's Finance updates including:

- Our new Grants Administration Manager!
- November Finance Deadlines
- Employee Mileage Reimbursement Webform Updates

Take a look!

HELP SUPPORT FAMILIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

DONATE ❤️

The **LCE Resource Room** supports Poudre School District students and families in need by providing clothing, bedding, hygiene items, household supplies, and school supplies. Your donation helps us stay open and stocked year-round!

SUPPORT BY DONATING:

Purchase items from our Amazon Wish List and have them shipped to the gift address provided!

amazon



Scan to view our
Amazon List



Department of **Language,
Culture & Equity**
POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

You can also donate funds directly to our District's McKinney-Vento fund to support students and families experiencing housing instability.



Access the School
Pay Donation Page

Wellness

Holiday Reset: Mind, Body, and Plate

Starting November 17, Lifestyle Health will be offering a wellness reset! If you struggle to keep yourself on track with healthy habits over the holiday season, this class may be for you. Join Registered Dietitian Sarah Morales for tips, support, accountability, and so much more. This challenge is free for all PSD employees, whether covered by PSD insurance or not, and dependents can join for a fee.

[Find out more and sign up here.](#)

Ramp Health Data Privacy:

We hope you've been having fun with PSD's new wellness portal, [Ramp Health](#)! If you'd like to request that your personal data from use of this platform not be shared or sold, click [here](#) to submit that request.

If you haven't signed up yet, check your inbox for an email from support@ramphealth.com with your verification. If you still have the Wellworks app, feel free to delete it (and to request that your data be deleted from Wellworks, email privacy@wellworksforyou.com.) For questions, contact [Connor O'Rourke](#).

Ramp Health Engagement Contest:

These are the final days to [sign up](#) for the Ramp Health Engagement Contest!

- Each day as you engage with the activities, your engagement score changes. Locate your score on the right side of your dashboard or under the profile icon on mobile.
 - Keep engaging to average an engagement score of 70 to earn 100 points toward the end-of-year drawing!
 - Sign up **closes on November 16**, and the challenge will start on November 17.
-

Biometric Screenings:

Sign up for an optional Biometric Screening [here](#)! These are free for benefited staff and great for learning about your health risk status.

A completed screening **plus** a completed Health Risk Assessment in [Ramp Health](#) earns you a \$25 monthly discount on your PSD health insurance premium. **To get that discount for the 2026-2027 plan year, your biometric screening will need to happen anytime between 8/1/2025-6/30/2026.**

Upcoming Events

[Creative Endeavors Art Show:](#)

Come see a beautiful display of PSD student artwork from December 4-January 26 at the Foothills Mall, 215 E Foothills Pkwy, Fort Collins.

[Opening Reception:](#) 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, December 4th.

Upcoming Board Meetings:

November 18 and December 9 in Johannsen Support Services Center Boardroom.

The November 18 board meeting will have a dinner Session at 5, meeting at 5:30.

The December 9 meeting will have a Dinner Session will be at 5, meeting at 5:45.

To speak during community comment at a board meeting, please sign up before 5 p.m. on the Monday preceding the meeting.

Employee Assistance,

Inclusion Week:

Please join Integrated Services in celebrating Inclusion Week, November 17-21, in alignment with the 50th anniversary of The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)! IDEA guarantees that all children with disabilities have the right to a free public education. Click [here](#) for ways to participate!

[Tour de Turkey:](#)

This year more than ever, many of our friends and neighbors are in need of help filling their pantries and sharing a warm meal with their loved ones. If you're able, please consider donating a **frozen turkey, chicken, or ham**. We will also be collecting **nonperishable dry and canned goods**.

Food Donation Roundup: Thursday, November 20 in the Parking Lot between ITC and JSSC 7:30 – 9 a.m. OR for site-based staff, your school will have a designated turkey wrangler who will gather donations.

Accessibility Lunch & Learn:

Join us for monthly Lunch & Learn sessions to deepen your understanding of accessibility — the first three sessions are available to [watch anytime](#). The next live session, talking about all things **alt text**, is Thursday, November 20, 12–12:30 p.m. on Teams — [add it to your calendar](#)!

Spoiler alert: **alt text** is a descriptive text that conveys the meaning of an image in digital content, meaning that a person using assistive tech like a screen reader can get a description of the image. Join us on 11/20 to learn more!

Support and Empowerment (EASE) Group:

Each Wednesday for six weeks, 5-6 p.m., at EAS's new address: 3350 Eastbrook Drive, Suite 200 Fort Collins CO 80525

Attend one of the following sessions:

Session 1: Jan 21-Feb 25

Session 2: March 25-April 29

Register in the [Professional Development Catalog](#)

(Course #20327) for FREE or pay for credits

This is a support group for employees struggling with anxiety, exhaustion, and overwhelm, drawing on evidence-based strategies to foster well-being, resilience and hope.

[Winter Wonderland](#) at Elevations:

December 29, 1-3 p.m. at Elevations Credit Union 221 E. Mountain Ave Second Floor

Elevations Credit Union is hosting a free family winter event full of games, crafts, treats, and a movie!

Accessibility Office Hours:

Looking for personalized support in making your work accessible to the full spectrum of different needs and abilities in your community? Drop by the next Accessibility Office Hours on **Tuesday, December 2, from 9–10 a.m.** in the ITC Building, Greyrock Conference Room.

Alternatively, [site-based training is available](#) ; email [Jessica Palin](#) or 970-490-3507 to coordinate training delivered to your staff at your site!

Discover how PSD is advancing accessibility through the above opportunities, and more, in our [Accessibility in Action Plan](#). Accessibility is a journey, not a destination. Let's make progress together!



Screenagers Film Screening & Panel Discussion:

The PSD Board of Education is sponsoring showings of the updated [Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age \(2025\)](#) film. The film identifies ways schools and caregivers can help young people navigate technology use and overuse. The audience for the film is primarily parents and their pre-teen to teenage children.

The screenings will be organized by combining schools together, but staff and community members can attend any, regardless of school affiliation.

Dates:

- 11/19 at Poudre High School, 6–8:30 p.m.
- 1/28 at Rocky Mountain High School, 6–8:30 p.m.



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Open Community Conversations with Superintendent Brian Kingsley

Evenings from 5:30-7:00pm

Tuesday, September 30: Lincoln MS
Tuesday, October 28: Leshner MS
Thursday, November 13: Webber MS
Wednesday, January 21: Wellington MHS
Tuesday, February 17: Bethke
Wednesday, April 22: McGraw



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

Thursdays from 5:30-7:00pm

Oct. 2: Olander & Werner
Oct. 16: Linton & Eyestone
Nov. 6: Timnath Elementary & Irish
Feb. 19: Laurel & Tavelli
March 5: Bauder & Zach
April 16: Bamford & Rice

Superintendent and Board of Education Listening Sessions:

Superintendent Kingsley and the Board of Education will host **Community Engagement Sessions** throughout the 2025-26 school year. The next Board session will be held on February 19 from 5:30-7 p.m. at Laurel & Tavelli Elementary Schools, and the next Superintendent session will be held on Wednesday, January 21 from 5:30-7 p.m. at Wellington Middle-High School.

HELP RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT CHILDREN AND YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOUSING AND FOOD INSTABILITY

Housing Instability Can Come in Many Different Forms

The **McKinney-Vento program** supports students and families in a variety of living situations including:

- Sharing housing with friends or relatives due to loss of housing or economic need
- Living in motels, RVs, or camp grounds
- Shelters or transitional housing programs
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, or abandoned buildings
- Substandard housing, i.e. mold, infestations, or without utilities



Visit the McKinney-Vento
Page on the PSD website
to learn more



Housing Instability in Our Community

- The **McKinney-Vento program** supports students and families experiencing housing instability or homelessness by helping them access resources, meet basic needs, and overcome barriers to education.
- At the end of the 2024-25 school year, **1,429 students** in PSD were enrolled in the McKinney-Vento program
- This represents almost **5%** of our entire student population
- This number has **increased by 18% in the last 6 years**

SAVE THE DATE AND SPREAD THE WORD

- November is National Homeless Awareness Month
- November 18-26 is National Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week
- Wear green to help raise awareness
- [Please reference our comprehensive Family Resource Page to learn more about resources in our community.](#)

Resources

- [2025-2026 Staff Calendar](#): view all contract length dates for all employees for the upcoming year
- [2025-2026 Multifaith Observance Calendar](#): view major holiday dates for the upcoming year
- [PSD Presentation Templates](#): For anyone who gives presentations at PSD, these new templates are up-to-date with accessibility guidelines. There are two options each for PowerPoint and Google Slides, featuring easy-to-use accessibility recommendations and instructions.
- [Elevations Credit Union](#) runs special offers and benefits for PSD employees
- [Employee Special Offers](#): Several businesses offer special rates and discounts to PSD employees. Special offers are updated online seasonally or when new offers are added to the list



**Check Out All of
Our Deals at**

psdschools.org/staff/employee-special-offers

Feedback & Contributions



Have an announcement, event, or resource you want featured in a future newsletter?

Or sign into ServiceNow, click "Request", select "Communications" from the menu on the far left, then "Communications General Request", and put "Newsletter Submission" in the Short Description. Please try to have these requests in by the 10th of each month. The Memo goes out on the 14th of each month to admin and the 15th of each month to all staff.

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