Bella Romero Wellness Festival

Bella Romero Academy, Greeley-Evans School District 6

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Bella Romero Academy is located in an area of Greeley that falls between the geographical cracks of the recreation, outdoor, and general youth and family programs in the community. After two years of hosting a smaller-scale wellness-themed night, staff members decided to host an open-house and resource-fair-style event. This initiative grew into the Bella Wellness Festival.



The two Bella Parent Family Advocates, under the direction of the principal, began the planning process by reaching out to community partners. They then looped in other district and school staff. District 6 Nutrition Services and Wellness, several teachers, and many volunteers were all involved. The team created flyers, designed social media posts, and added a daily countdown to the morning classroom announcements. They mapped out areas of the school to be used for different activities and collected information from community partners in order to provide appropriate space and layout.

The Wellness Festival took place in March 2026. In the Learning Lab, families visited approximately 20 booths featuring mental health professionals, mentorship organizations, city Parks & Recreation, wilderness camps, sports programs, the High Plains Library District, and the Weld County Health Department. The event took place during Ramadan, and out of respect for their Muslim population, all music, food, and dance activities were held in a separate space in the cafeteria. There, D6 Nutrition staff provided house-made hummus and black bean and corn salsa samples. Volunteers from a local high school helped students blend healthy treats on the school's smoothie bikes. Bella staff members provided snacks and a fourth-grade teacher led families in a dance party.

The School Resource Officer hosted a "Fit For The Force" obstacle training course. The seventh-grade science teacher hosted a "Garden-In-A-Glove" activity where everyone planted a starter salsa garden in the fingers of a latex glove, which could later be transferred into the ground at home. In the art room, families picked up information about art therapy and left their mark on a community mural designed specifically for this event. The Gear Up tutor hosted chair yoga while teaching about aromatherapy and plants. Finally, the fifth-grade teacher/coach and the PE teacher/coach held a session in the gym on athlete wellness. Families got to know each other, students introduced their teachers and friends to their parents, families enrolled in community programs, and students who had not historically shown interest in after-school events had a great time.

Feedback included expressions of gratitude for hosting an active event. Parents appreciated that each organization provided literature or instant QR codes for sign-ups and additional information. A primary challenge involved determining whether the team had marketed the event well enough to secure a large turnout.

Advice from the Bella staff is to remain professional, organized, and prepared. They recommend committing to excellent communication. Following the event, they advise thanking the community partners, providing them with statistics and pictures, and sharing overall outcomes and successes with them.