THRIVE TIMES

October 2026

Show & Stroll

Show and Stroll: A Night of Student-Led Discovery at Thrive!

Our annual Show & Stroll was a wonderful opportunity for students and families to come together and show their families the spaces they enjoy on their day at Thrive. Students proudly shared projects, classroom activities, and examples of the learning that is taking place across our school. The halls were filled with excitement as students guided family members through classrooms, showcased their accomplishments and introduced their families to teachers and friends.

"I liked showing my family all the things we've been working on and how much fun we have here," shared one student. Another student added, "My favorite part was taking my parents around the school and showing them my desk."

Families enjoyed the opportunity to connect with teachers, explore learning spaces, and celebrate the accomplishments of students. Events like Show & Stroll help strengthen the partnership between home and Thrive while highlighting the incredible things happening each day.

To make the evening even more special, we partnered with Chipotle for a fundraiser benefiting our Thrive clubs. Thanks to the support of our families and community members, we raised $414.59 to help provide supplies, experiences, and opportunities for students participating in our school clubs. Thank you to everyone who attended, supported our fundraiser, and helped make this year's Show & Stroll a success. We are grateful for our amazing Thrive community and look forward to many more opportunities to learn, connect, and celebrate together!







OCTOBER EVENT ROUND UP

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THRIVE

Welcome to October at Thrive, where the leaves are crisp, the pumpkins are plump, and the calendar is packed with exciting events! 🍂 Whether you're sipping cider or going on a fall color ride, we've got all the updates you need to stay in the loop this fall.



📸 **Sept 30th - Oct 6** - **Say Cheese! Picture Days -** are scheduled by grade level based on student attendance. This year they will run Wed, Sep 30th - Tuesday October 6th and will include both individual student pictures and class pictures.

❎**Oct 2nd - Best of the Springs Nominations Open -** We need your help! The Gazette's Best of the Springs will determine Colorado Springs' favorite businesses and more. Last year Thrive was awared bronze for "Best Homeschool Program". We would love your vote in the nomination process again. You can vote October 2nd through November 8th at www.thebestofthesprings.com.

🛼**Oct 5th 4:00-6:00pm - Skate City Community Event-** Come join Thrive at Skate City on Academy for a Glow Skate Party. Admission is $7.00 per skater; rentals are $5.00 per student if needed. Skate City has also agreed to give a percentage of the proceeds back to Thrive for the event. If we have 200 or more skaters, they will donate $1000. So invite a friend and come out to join the fun! (Please note: Thrive staff will not be providing supervision during this event. Families are responsible for ensuring appropriate supervision for their children).

👩‍🏫**Oct 12th- Teacher Work Day-** Teacher workday! Backstage, Theater and Yearbook are **NOT** meeting today. Middle & High School Band & Percussion will still be meeting at their regularly scheduled times.

🥪 **October 13–15th – Bring Your Own Lunch Week** - Heads up! No school-provided lunch this week. Please send your student with a bag lunch on their attendance day. Think sandwiches, fruit, and a little autumn treat!

🚑 **Oct 13th & 14th - Emergency 9-1-1 -** During the school day our K, 1st and 3rd graders will be joined by El Paso County 9-1-1 and their mobile unit to learn all about how 9-1-1 works, when and how to use it, and go through some interactive demonstrations.

🚫 **Oct 16th – District Closed** - No classes or clubs will be held. Enjoy the day off and maybe a little leaf-peeping!

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🌴 **Oct. 20th -23rd THEME DAY: Tacky Tourist & Tropical Vacation! -** All students and staff are invited to dress up on their day of attendance for our first theme day: Tacky Tourist & Tropical Vacation Day! Whether you're pretending to relax on a beach, explore a famous landmark, or embark on a tropical adventure, this is your chance to get creative and have some fun! Think white socks pulled up to your knees, binoculars, sunglasses, Hawaiian shirts, bucket hats, cameras, fanny packs, or a t-shirt featuring your favorite travel destination. The sillier, the better! So grab your vacation gear, embrace your inner tourist, and let's turn our school into the hottest vacation spot around!

🎵**Oct 22nd - EPIC Concert- 11am-12pm -**Epic brings its world-renowned classical musicians to local schools, and we are excited to welcome them to Thrive! All Thrive students and their families are invited to attend this special performance. We will have limited seating available for adults who would like to attend, all children will be asked to sit on the floor. Because this is a live musical performance, we kindly ask that any younger children attending are able to sit quietly and enjoy the concert for its duration. If you plan to join us, please complete the form so we can prepare accordingly. **RSVP FORM**

🎉 **Oct 22 – 3:30–5:30 PM | Middle School Social** -Grades 7–8 - No clubs this day, but we're trading clubs for dancing! Join us for music, games, and good times. Pizza, snacks, and drinks provided. Don't miss it!

Oct 22 - ALL DAY | Papa John's Fundraiser - How about pizza for dinner tonight? The Papa John's located at 6556 S Academy Blvd (near Academy & Hwy 115) is having a great deal for everyone! If you order from this location using the code **DOUGH** you will get 30% off your order and Thrive will receive 20% back from the sales as well.

👩‍🏫 **Oct 30th – 8:30-9:30 AM | Concurrent Enrollment & Transcripts -** This is an informational parent meeting to discuss Concurrent Enrollment, CLEP Testing, and high school transcripts for our high school families.



Thrive Updates & Reminders

Crafts & Goodies Holiday Market

Calling all crafters, bakers, and makers! Last year's Crafts & Goodies sale was a huge success, giving our Thrive families the opportunity to showcase their talents, support one another, and even check a few items off their holiday shopping lists. We're excited to bring this favorite event back again this year!

Families are invited to set up and sell handmade crafts, baked goods, and other unique items during our holiday market. Interested in being a vendor? Please complete the Vendor Form below.

📅 **December 8 & 9**

⏰ **2:30 - 4:00 PM**

VENDOR SIGN UP

Library Resources

We want to remind our families about some of the amazing resources in our Library! Next time you have a few moments come and check them out! We have everything from how-to guides and curriculum galore to books for all ages and interests. Come take advantage of this great resource!

Holiday Shoppe

A big thank you for all the donations that have come in so far! If you would like to help, we still need dad gifts (best dad ever, car detailing items, dad jokes, etc...) and wrapping supplies (gift bags, tissue paper, labels etc...).

A huge thank you to everyone that has already contributed!

Holiday Assistance Program

As the holiday season approaches, we are reminded of the importance of care and community. Once again, Thrive is offering our Holiday Assistance Program to support families in need within our school community.

If you or someone you know could benefit from this program, please reach out to Shannon Riker at sriker@hsd2.org. All requests will be handled with compassion and confidentiality.

Families receiving assistance will receive all the fixings for a traditional meal.

🦃 **Thanksgiving dinner kit** – (pick up the week of November 16)

🎄 **Winter holiday dinner kit** – (pick up the week of December 14)

Want to help? Families and friends of Thrive are invited to donate food through this link for our **Holiday Meal Donations**. The donation list will continue to be updated as we finalize the number of participating families, so please check back for additional opportunities to contribute. Together, we can help make the holiday season a little brighter for one another.



Please check the lost and found in the front lobby to see if your kiddo has left anything here! Also please label items so we can help get items back to their owners.

The Chameleon Chronicle

Come take a look at Thrive's community, where Petunia the Chameleon tracks and shares the colorful highlights of student and staff's journeys at Thrive- one fun story at a time.

Staff | Students | Events

Staff Spotlight

Student Spotlight

In this month's edition of Staff & Student Spotlight: meet Mrs. Cobb our Art Teacher and Sariah one of our 11th grade students.



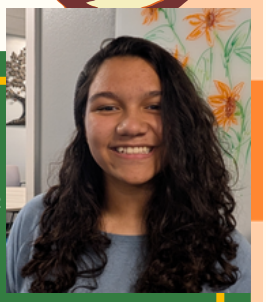
Meet Mrs. Cobb! She has been teaching Art with us since 2020. We spent a few minutes catching up with her to find out what makes her tick!

☕ Fuel of Choice: Coffee... but only because she likes the taste of the creamer!
🏔️ Mountains or Beach? Mountains.
🌅 Sunrise or Sunset? Sunrise.
🎹 Theme Song: Unstoppable by Sia. A fitting anthem for someone who encourages creativity and confidence every day!
🚒 Childhood Dream Job: Firefighter. Saving the day has always been in her nature.
🦸 Superhero Name: The Locomotive... always moving forward and impossible to stop!
🍀 What is a hidden talent most students don't know you have? She can make a clover shape with her tongue!

When we asked Mrs. Cobb if she could step inside any famous painting for a day, she said she would choose Andy Warhol's - Marilyn Monroe. She loves the vibrant colors and playful style of the Pop Art movement and she thinks it would be fun to spend the day surrounded by the iconic figures of that era.

When asked, "What's the funniest thing that has happened during one of your art classes?" she said that one student accidentally drank from their paint water cup instead of their water bottle (which was sitting next to it). It created a moment nobody in the classroom will soon forget!

💙 Thank you, Mrs. Cobb, for bringing creativity, color, and plenty of memorable moments to our school every day! 🎨



Say hello to Sariah, one of our new 11th-grade students this year! We're excited to have her as part of the Thrive family. A few of her favorite things:

🥨🥤 Fuel of Choice: Pretzels and smoothies.
🏔️ Mountains or Beach? A tough choice, but the mountains take the win.
🌅 Sunrise or Sunset? Sunrise.
🎹 Theme Song:"Party Rock Anthem"
🚀 Childhood Dream Job: Astronaut! While she's not sure that's still the path she'll follow, reaching for the stars definitely sounds fitting.
🦸 Superhero Name for Mrs. Cobb: Steampunk
❤️ Superhero Name for Herself: The Cardinal because cardinals are bright, beautiful, vibrant red birds with a beautiful singing voice. We think she would look amazing in a red costume!
🎨 Favorite Class: Art (although she says she enjoys all of her classes and loves her schedule at Thrive!)

If Sariah could give any advice to younger students it would be to "figure out who you are before jumping into things you aren't comfortable with. Don't compare yourself to other people. Just be YOU!"

The funniest thing she has experienced at Thrive so far has been her time in Sports Broadcasting with Mrs. Anderson, where she's had a front-row seat to what she affectionately calls the "M.A.L.E. Squad"... a group of rambunctious boys that Mrs. Anderson somehow keeps in line with her quick wit and ability to outlast their shenanigans.

We're so glad Sariah chose Thrive and can't wait to see all the friendships, accomplishments, and adventures that her junior year brings.

Teacher Updates

Come see all the fun things we will learn at Thrive this month!

Kinder with Mrs. Paige

October 6th/7th
Eric Carle Books
A-Eric Carle Cats
S-Seed Dispersal
Writing to 30
Rhyming, beginning sound,

October 13th/14th
A-Bats
S-5 senses (smell)
E-Making apple sauce
Writing to 30
Rhyming, Beginning sound, Ending sound

October 20th/21st
Itsy Bitsy Spider
A-Making Spiders
S-Arachnids
E-Catapults (Simple Machines)
Writing to 30
Rhyming, Beginning Sound, Ending Sound

October 27th/28th
Fall
Pumpkin Math
S-Living-non-living
A- Pumpkin
Writing to 30
Rhyming, Beginning Sound, Ending Sound

1st Grade with Mrs. Stamos

Oct. 6/7
Theme: Ryan Higgins
Reading: Drawing conclusions
Writing: Ff
Math: Ten frames
Social Studies: Map keys

Oct. 13/14
Theme: Community helpers
Reading: Details
Writing: Hh
Math: Greater than and less than
Social Studies: Me on the map

Oct. 20/21
Theme: Spiders
Reading: Details in non-fiction
Writing: Tt
Math: Double digits
Science: How do spiders eat their prey?

Oct. 27/28
Theme: Bats
Reading: Main idea and details
Writing: C and topic sentences
Math: Greater than and less than
Science: Bat's scent

2nd Grade with Mrs. Brunk

Language Arts
Phonics/Phonemic Awareness: Review of vowel sounds, vowel teams, and consonant blends

Comprehension: Main Idea, Supporting Details, Text Features

Math-
Addition Fluency
Place Value to 100s Place

Social Studies-
My Classroom Community- Respect

Science
States of Matter- Various experiments



Classes with Mrs. Meredith

Theater 3rd – 8th – Body Language and Movement

Theater High School – Different approaches to acting: Spolin, Stanislavski, and Boal

Speech and Debate:

- Present first speeches
- Introduce debate rules and concepts

Shakespeare:

- Complete scene studies from Much Ado About Nothing
- Begin study of Macbeth

Live @ Thrive:

- Begin filming and graphic design work.

ART with Mrs. Cobb

3rd & 4th grade: Acrylic Paint
5th & 6th grade: Acrylic Paint
7th & 8th: Drawing & Acrylic Paint
Art I: Drawing & Wire Sculptures
Advanced Art: Painting & Pottery

SOCIAL STUDIES with Mr. Grady

Grades 3-4

The mystery of Mesa Verde will be the focus of the third and fourth grade studies this October. Students will learn about:
-Location and significance of Mesa Verde
- Ancestral Puebloan people
-Explore historical and cultural resources
-Cultural heritage
-Theories to the disappearance of its inhabitants

Grades 5-6

Students will continue to investigate several specific contributing factors and theories to the sinking of the Titanic which includes:
-Making and plotting icebergs
-creating and testing facsimiles of “good v “bad” rivets that held the Titanic together
-Understanding the purpose of watertight bulkheads and how they allow a damaged ship to float

SCIENCE with Mr. Redd

3rd & 4th grade: Human Senses

Students will explore how our five senses help us understand and interact with the world around us. Through hands-on activities and experiments, they'll investigate how the eyes, ears, nose, tongue, and skin gather information and send it to the brain.

5th & 6th grade: Botony

Students will be researching and growing plants, learning about photosynthesis and other plant specfic biology.

7th & 8th grade: Photosynthesis

Students will be taking a deeper look at photosynthesis and the chemistry behind it.

High School Biology: Introduction and Cell Theory

Students will kick off the year studying the cell as the basic unit of life, from single-celled organisms up through multicellular systems. This sets the foundation for the semester's progression toward more complex living organisms.

P.E.: Calisthenics and Teambuilding

Students will continue building strength and body-awareness through calisthenics, paired with activities designed to build communication and teamwork. It's a great way to kick off the year building both fitness habits and a strong class community.

MUSIC K-6 with Mrs. Grady

Kindergarten and 1st Grade

Students will continue to practice steady beat by movement, listening, and playing classroom instruments. Students will also sing, play, and identify high sounds vs low sounds.

2nd Grade

Students will focus on quarter and eighth notes by reading icons and traditional notation. Students will also explore musical sounds moving upward and downward.

3rd-4th Grade

Students will spend the next two weeks continuing to learn about American patriotic music, accompanying one song using bucket drums. The last half of the month will be all about seasonal music.

5th -6th Grade

Students will spend the next two weeks continuing to learn about American patriotic music, accompanying a medley of songs using bucket drums. The last half of the month will be all about seasonal music.

MUSIC & PFL 7 - 12 with Mr. Mattingly

Middle & High School Music Appreciation

Music supervisors are the people in movies and TV shows that choose that special song that fits the script perfectly. In middle and high school music appreciation students, the students will be acting as the music supervisor to their own life - finding key moments from their experiences and researching the best song for those moments and relationships. High schoolers will be challenged to provide musical, experiential and inductive reasoning to support their choices and all students will be using several different tech tools to help create a final project - a Google slides presentation that includes their soundtrack.

MUSIC PRODUCTION

Music production students have been working their way through the different instruments that are included with Garageband and will continue to do so while working to finish several mini-projects along the way. As we learn more about each instrument group we will also be discussing how to combine individual instruments to create a cohesive song.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Personal finance students will be finishing up a unit we started in September covering the basics of checking and savings accounts along with the challenges and rewards of saving money. We will next dive into investing, the stock market, and long-term savings plans.



Band with Mr. Williams

Beginner Band (5th-6th)
Develop foundational technical skills on chosen instruments.
Establish basic rehearsal etiquette and ensemble participation.
Focus on essential technique and beginning note reading.

Middle School Band
Focus on foundational technical skills and essential ensemble techniques.
Begin exploring intermediate developmental concert literature.
Improve ensemble blend and collaborative rehearsal skills.

Wind Ensemble
Perform a diverse range of concert literature.
Emphasize the development of core musical skills, ensemble blend, and technical growth.
Engage with advanced concert repertoire.

English Language Arts with Mrs. Anderson

3rd Grade
10/6-10/28: Tall Tales

4th Grade
10/6-10/7: Pioneer Journal- Rough Draft
10/13-10/14: Pioneer Journal- Final Draft
10/20-10/28: Elements of Nonfiction Text

5th/6th Grade
10/6-10/7: Poster for a Short Story
10/13-10/14: Descriptive Writing
10/20-10/28: Fall Poem

7th/8th Grade
10/6-10/7 Poster for "I Have a Dream"
10/13-10/28: Roman Mythology

Senior Seminar
10/9: College and Trade Options
10/16: No School
10/23: Cover Letters and Resumes
10/30: Professional Decorum and Communication

E.L.A.
10/9: Marcus Aurelius
10/16: No School
10/23: Marcus Aurelius
10/30: Song Analysis

Creative Writing
10/9: Partner and Group Poetry Composition
10/16: No School
10/23: Figurative Language
10/30: Perspective Writing

Sports Broadcasting
10/9: Analyzing Football Plays
10/16: No School
10/23: The Role of Sports Analysts
10/30: Great Athletes Expose