

May
2024

Kinard Middle School



Mustang News

Principal
Lindsey Matkin

Assistant Principals
Kyle Healy
Erin LaRue

Main Line
970-488-5400

Attendance Line
970-488-5401

Visit our
[website](#)
to learn more about
Kinard.



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Science O State Competition

Our Science Olympiad teams had great performances at the state competition last month! The teams competed in 23 different events, and our gold team took 3rd place and our blue team finished 15th out of 30 teams who qualified and competed at UC Colorado Springs. Please join us in congratulating our amazing Science O students and our incredible coaches who helped them all season!



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Kinard Middle School

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Orchestra State Festival

Our Symphony Orchestra was one of only two middle school orchestras to be invited to this year's CASTA State Festival in mid-April. They performed beautifully, listened to some amazing orchestras, and learned a lot in their clinics. Congratulations, Mrs. Griffey and our Mustang musicians!



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Kinard Middle School

Is it just a phase?



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Health District
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY

CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND YOUNG ADULT CONNECTIONS

970-221-3308

Student Leadership: Kinard C.A.R.E.S. Service-Learning Adventure Trip

In April, our Kinard C.A.R.E.S. semester-long classes traveled to Catalina Island to participate in an environmental program off the coast of California. Kinard shares a vision of raising environmental awareness while making a difference in their local community. The aim of this class trip is to provide students with authentic and engaging learning experiences that reflect the civic responsibilities that the students will face as citizens in the real world.

While on the island, students engaged in an experiential-based outdoor learning curriculum that taught them important principles about the environment. Using one of the most diverse ecosystems on the planet as their classroom, students explored a local watershed and cove and climbed high mountain peaks to learn about healthy ecosystems and to develop interpersonal leadership skills.

While the trip was filled with recreation and adventure, it was far from a vacation. Students participated in a variety of service-learning projects to enhance the Catalina Island community. The primary objective of the service-learning component was an ongoing ecological restoration project designed to help protect the biodiversity on the island. Students removed invasive species and planted new native plants as a part of the regenerative process that Kinard students have been a part of for the past 15 years on the island. Another service project taught students about healthy food choices and composting principles while working in the organic garden on the island.

In addition to learning about sustainable environmental practices, students enhanced their leadership skills and personal growth through team-building activities that included ocean kayaking, hiking to and exploring Parsons Landing, and night snorkeling.

continued on next page

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Market your business in Poudre School District.

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Joe Mivshek 970-420-7163 | SchoolNewsletterCompanyCO@gmail.com

Kinard Middle School

Student Leadership: Kinard C.A.R.E.S. Service-Learning Adventure Trip *continued*

To learn more about Kinard C.A.R.E.S., visit www.kinardcares.org.



Supporting our Schools



Joe Mivshek

Joe.Mivshek@KW.com

KW NORTHERN COLORADO
KELLERWILLIAMS.

970.420.7163



Kinard Middle School

Staff Recognitions

April was a month of honoring some deserving Kinard staff members! PE teacher, Bre Jordan and counselor, Karen Irvine were both recognized as nominees at the PSD Celebrates event last month. And 7th Grade Science teacher, Melissa Perricone was honored as the Rotary Teacher of the month at a breakfast in mid-April as well. We are so proud of these incredible Mustangs! They represent the amazing things that our staff does each and every day to support our students and ensure high levels of learning for all!



Music Award

A celebration is in order! Our school's dedication to music education has earned us the Best Communities for Music Education award from The NAMM Foundation. Our collective efforts- teachers, administrators, parents, students, and community leaders- have been instrumental in making music part of a well-rounded education for every child. They especially recognized our community's unwavering commitment to creating an environment where each child can learn and grow with music.



Kinard Middle School

Get into the Guts Field Trip

Last month, Mrs. Grigg and almost 30 Kinard students participated in the “Get Into The Guts” field trip where they were able to tour behind-the-scenes of Front Range Community College’s new medical training facility and hear from a variety of medical professionals about the occupations available today and in the future. Students learned about the day-to-day work duties of different medical professionals through hands-on activities and gained information to support future career decisions.



Kinard Middle School

8th Grade Career Fair

Thank you to the over 35 career presenters that joined us Friday, April 26th to give our 8th graders a chance to tap into real world knowledge, learn about a variety of career paths, and gain insights to what they might pursue in high school to continue exploring their interests. Thank you to the teachers and administrators for giving the students time to explore during the school day and to Mrs. Irvine for coordinating the event.



Give Next Awards Ceremony

The Give Next class formed their mission this year to support youth living in poverty who are suffering with mental health challenges. The Kinard students reviewed more than 30 grant applications from local nonprofits and collaborated by using a consensus decision-making process similar to Kinard's PLC model. The students raised an additional \$1,354.17 to meet a goal to fund the three nonprofits that they decided best align to their mission statement. With a total of \$6354.17, they awarded grant funding to Alternatives to Violence, Childsafe Colorado and Turning Point. The grant money will go directly to providing therapeutic services to children and teens in poverty who have mental health concerns from trauma, abuse, addiction and/or neglect.

At a ceremony in late April, the students honored each nonprofit by giving speeches about the importance of their work and then awarded the grant funds with oversized checks.

Kinard Middle School

Give Next Awards Ceremony

continued



High School Visit

On May 1st, our 8th graders took another step toward transitioning to 9th grade when they traveled to their high schools for a visit. There, they heard about courses, clubs, and athletics, took a tour, and gained some insights on making their first steps into high school the very best.

Spring Food Truck and Student Social: May 2, 5:00-7:00 PM

We are excited to invite Kinard's students, families, and staff to come together to build connections and community during our Kinard Spring Food Truck & Student Social on Thursday, May 2, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Because we want YOU to enjoy this event, we are not asking for volunteers to sign-up. However, we always appreciate when adults see a need and step up to help! Specifically, please feel free to come grab a trash bag and wander amongst the students for an extra level of supervision. Please bring your own blankets, chairs, and sun and/or rain covers and plan to enjoy a plethora of food trucks, a DJ, and a luau themed dance party. We plan to gather in the Kinard courtyard and athletic fields and celebrate with music, snacks, and general fun! This event is only open to Kinard students and families. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Cecilia Bonertz, Academic Dean, at 970-488-5407. See you there!



Kinard Middle School

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6-10

Let's celebrate our hardworking teachers! The theme for the week is "You Make Us Bloom!" Please sign up [here](#) to help celebrate our teachers during the week of May 6th.

- **Monday, May 6: Coffee cart and breakfast items**

In addition to a coffee cart provided by the school, we are asking for volunteers to help us provide grab and go breakfast items. Please bring items to the main office by 7:00 AM on May 6.

- **Thursday, May 8: Staff Luncheon**

We would like to celebrate our teachers with delicious food to keep them blooming. Please bring your favorite feel-good dishes (HOMEMADE OR STORE BOUGHT) for the staff to enjoy. We will need to have luncheon food dropped off in the main office by 10 AM so everything can be set up in time for the first lunch!

If you need to arrange other drop off details or have questions, please contact Virginia Chevalier (virginia@summit-hm.com) or Adria Peterson (adriapeterson@gmail.com).

Technology Check-In: May 22 & 23

We will be checking in district devices and materials from students on May 22 and 23. Please remind your students to bring the following equipment to school on Wednesday, May 22, and Thursday, May 23:

- laptop
- laptop charger (if lost, please purchase a charger on [SchoolPay](#))
- laptop case (if assigned)
- MiFi (if assigned)

If your student will not be here on the scheduled collection days, they must return their equipment on their last day of attendance. Thank you for helping your students with this responsibility. Please remind your students to remove any stickers from their laptop and save files to either a thumb drive or as a Google doc prior to turning in technology equipment. Files saved locally on laptops will be wiped over the summer.

Kinard Middle School

8th Grade Celebration

Parents of 8th graders, please save the date of Wednesday, May 29th for our traditional 8th Grade Celebration event this year. This is one of our most anticipated events of the year! Please join us as we recognize the accomplishments of our 8th graders and celebrate their contributions to Kinard as they transition to high school. Please note, we will host the event in the gymnasium of Fossil Ridge High School to allow for more space and seating.

Thank you for your continued time and effort to make this a special event for all! Please contact Erin LaRue, Assistant Principal, at elarue@psdschools.org if you have specific questions about the event.



Kinard Middle School

Kinard Library Books Due Back to the Media Center on Friday, May 17th

Kinard has many big readers under our roof! Please help your student to remember to bring back books they have checked out from the Kinard media center. All media center books are due back by May 17th.

Last Day of School

It's hard to believe, but our last day of school for the 2023-24 year is quickly approaching! Thursday, May 30th is the last day of school for PSD this year. The 30th will have a modified schedule for students, and school will dismiss at 11:40 a.m.

On the last day, we will focus on transitioning our 6th and 7th grade students to the next grade level with some intentional activities. Our 8th grade students' culminating event will be the 8th Grade Celebration, hosted at Fossil Ridge High School the evening before (Wednesday, May 29th at 6:30 p.m.). Therefore, we do not require 8th graders to attend school on May 30th. If any 8th grade students choose to attend school on the last half day, they will be expected to remain at school and participate with our 6th and 7th graders until school dismisses at 11:40.

We will conclude the day with our annual schoolwide outdoor celebration. At that time, students will be able to sign yearbooks, enjoy a snack, and play games on the field (weather permitting). Please make arrangements to pick your child up at 11:40 a.m., and then let the summer begin!

Important Yearbook Information

There is still a limited number of 2023-2024 Kinard yearbooks available for purchase! Make sure that your student doesn't miss out on our yearbook tradition. It's the only book that captures the year's events, activities, friendships, experiences, and memories from Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School. You may place your order for the yearbook at jostens.com. If you have already purchased a book, thank you! If you are unsure, please contact Ally Lonac, Yearbook Advisor, by email at alonac@psdschools.org. This year's book is one you won't want to miss!

Yearbook Preparation and Distribution: The Kinard yearbook team has prepared a wonderful book for us to remember the 2023-2024 school year. We would love your help inserting our spring activities supplement into the yearbook on Thursday, May 23. Please sign up [here](#) to help us complete the preparation of these amazing yearbooks.

Looking Ahead to August Registration

For those families returning to Kinard in the fall, please mark your calendars with the following August Registration dates. Please note, Skillman Photography will not be taking student photos during registration this year. We will have student photos taken later in the month of August during the school day.

Monday, August 5th:	7 th and 8 th grades	7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 6th:	6 th grade	7:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, August 13th:	Make-up registration, all grades	7:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Lost & Found Items

Please note, all unclaimed lost and found items will be donated to a local charity after school ends on Thursday, May 30. If your child has misplaced any belongings at school, be sure they stop by the main office prior to the last day of school to claim them from the lost & found. We currently have quite the collection of water bottles, jackets, and special items, such as earbuds, glasses, phones, and jewelry!

Summer School Option for 8th graders

Registration for Poudre School District’s summer school program is now open. Classes are free for current 8th - 12th grade PSD students. Students can take multiple courses but will complete one at a time. Information about this year's PSD HS Summer School offerings can be found here: summer.psdschools.org

Summer School will be offered in two sessions.

- Monday, April 1 - 8:00 am - Thursday, May 23 – 3:00 pm
- Thursday, June 3 - 8:00 am - Friday, June 28 - 3:00 pm

Students should notify their home school and use home school laptops for summer school. Students who plan to take Physical Education should register for this class first (students who complete all of the online work with a passing grade and are working on their 40 hours of physical fitness logs will be allowed to start a second class early).

If you have any questions, you can contact Kinard’s school counselors:

Patti Young (last names A-G) at pyoung@psdschools.org or 970-488-5406

or Karen Irvine (last names H-Z) at kirvine@psdschools.org or 970-488-5408

Kinard Middle School

SRO Corner

As the weather starts getting nicer, we probably all want to get in our cars and enjoy the open roads. Here are some safety tips to remember when doing so:

- **Always wear a seat belt.** Why wouldn't you? Seat belts are the #1 lifesaving piece of equipment built into vehicles today. **They save lives!** Make sure that those riding in the car, including young children, are properly installed and secured by their belts.
- **Always travel within the speed limit** and if the road conditions are hazardous, then go slower. Speed is involved in approximately 30% of all traffic crashes resulting in fatal and serious injuries.
- **Set-up your infotainment systems before leaving on a trip.** Technology is great, and every time we turn around, manufacturers are adding more to our vehicles. Be sure to set up your GPS, radio stations or other techy gadgets before you begin driving. That goes for your mobile device too. Turn on your **"Do Not Disturb While Driving"** setting to avoid using your phone when driving.
- **Make sure your car is in tip top shape for traveling.** There is nothing worse nor more dangerous than a breakdown on the road or a flat tire. If there is a breakdown, get away from the car. It is much safer.
- **NEVER, and I mean NEVER, drive when you are impaired by alcohol or other drugs.** Most people know when they have had too much to drink and if you don't, then always have a "sober" designated driver or an Uber ready. Much easier and cheaper than paying fines, lawyers, and increased insurance rates if you are caught. It is also safer than risking your life and someone else's because you decided to drive when you knew you shouldn't.
- **Stay a safe distance behind the car in front of you no matter how many people cut in.** The general rule is now a 3-second gap. During inclement weather, allow more time to safely stop for the conditions in which you're driving. The most important thing is that **YOU DO NOT TAILGATE.** You risk multiple car pile ups among other dangerous scenarios, so stay

Kinard Middle School

SRO Corner

continued

as far back as you can. Of course, if you are using your mobile device, it doesn't matter how far you are behind that car, you are courting disaster.

- **Pull into a safe place if you are tired.** Late night? Not enough sleep? *Drowsy driving is just as dangerous as drunk, drugged, and distracted driving.* The car is not your bedroom and you will be a much better driver if you keep them separate.

Kinard Health Office: End-of-Year Medication and Health Office Supplies Pick-Up

Parents/guardians, please stop by the health office to pick up medications/health office supplies that have been stored during this school year. Medications cannot be sent home with your student. This policy is important to safeguard all students against improper or accidental ingestion of medication.

All medications & health office supplies need to be picked up before 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 30th.

Due to the number of medications in the health office and the process to sign meds out, please come in any time before May 30th to pick up medications. If medications are picked up before the last day of school, the needed number of daily pills can be counted out and kept in the original container at school or students that also self-carry can continue to self-carry only. **If your student stored any health supplies in classrooms, please remind them to gather those from staff by the last day of school.**

If you choose not to pick up the medication, our school nurse, Jena Gilbert, will follow state health department procedures and medications will be properly destroyed and disposed of after 11:00 a.m. on the last day of school. This includes ALL medications (Rx, EpiPens, all epinephrine injectors, asthma inhalers, baqsimi, diabetic supplies, etc.) not picked up before 11:00 a.m. on the last day of school. Medications & forms cannot be saved in the health office over summer break. Thank you for understanding.

Kinard Middle School

Kinard Health Office: End-of-Year Medication and Health Office Supplies Pick-Up *continued*

If new medication forms are needed for the **2024-2025** school year, you may obtain new forms from the PSD website at any time. New forms are needed every school year and do not carry over. You can visit the newly updated PSD website for more information and for new forms: <https://www.psdschools.org/programs-services/medications-health-action-plans>

High school has a different self-carry form (also located on the PSD website) and you can self-carry more than emergency meds. Please contact the high school you are attending for more information.

Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

Notes for Retiring Kruse Teachers

Did your child attend Kruse Elementary? If so, please read on for a request to help honor some amazing retiring educators!

The following teachers are retiring from Kruse this spring:

- Mrs. Mary Carter - Reading Specialist
- Mrs. Sheila Katzman - 2nd Grade Teacher
- Mrs. Debbie Lukkes - 2nd Grade Teacher

The Kruse PTO will be honoring their dedication to our students with a small gift. We would love your help in honoring them by sending in personal notes/cards. There will be a collection box at the front of Kruse, or you can drop them off in the Kinard main office and we will get them to Kruse.

Mrs. Lukkes and Mrs. Katzman have been with Kruse for many years and a lot of their students have moved onto new schools. Feel free to pass along this request to any former students/families you know of any of these amazing teachers.

Please try to have notes/cards dropped off by Friday, May 10. Thanks for your help!

Kinard Middle School

Summer Meals Outreach Resource

Save your family time and money with free summer meals for your kids this summer! No application or registration needed, just stop by and enjoy. To find meal sites near you, visit <https://foodbanklarimer.org/the-lunch-lab/> . You can also call The Lunch Lab at 970-530-3109 for more information.



Incoming Fossil Freshman

Do you have an 8th grader planning to attend Fossil Ridge High School next year? If so, please read on to complete a brief survey to help them plan their Back to School Night. *The link shared in last month's newsletter did not allow everyone to access it, so please use the link below if it didn't work for you previously!*

FRHS is planning to offer brief (15-20 minute) informational sessions as an option for families during their Back to School Night on Wednesday, August 21st. In an effort to provide the most meaningful experience possible, They are asking for stakeholder feedback. Please help Fossil out by taking a moment to complete a short survey at the following link: [2024 BTSN Survey](#). Thank you!

Summer Camp Opportunities

See the fliers below for upcoming opportunities for students to participate in various camps for different interests and sports.



Kinard Summer Running!

This summer, Coach Hebert, the Kinard Cross Country Coach, is working to build a network of all Kinard students who are interested in running and fitness. Students who participate in any summer activities will need to be enrolled at Kinard for the 2024-2025 school year.

Kinard Cross Country will meet at **The Harmony Park and Ride**, which is located on Harmony Road just west of I-25. Workouts will start at 6:30pm and last for an hour. Workouts will be designated for a variety of running abilities, from new beginners who have run very little before, to high level runners. Workouts are free of charge and optional! No athlete evaluation will be conducted at these workouts and there will be no impact on placement for any team sport.

These workouts are intended to be **FUN** and **Social!** This will be a good time to hang out with your friends and meet some new friends that will be fellow Mustangs in the fall, while remaining fit for the fall sports season.

WORKOUT DATES:

Every Thursday evening June 6 through August 8.

To be notified of our weekly training schedule and all updates related to cross country, email Coach Hebert to be added to the distribution list or you can check the Kinard website under Cross Country for an update.

Please check the Kinard Website under CROSS COUNTRY for any additional information. For questions, email Coach Hebert thebert@psdschools.org or 970-566-1111!!



You can visit our website for more information from the Kinard homepage under Athletics, Cross Country and our Official Page

GIRLS BASKETBALL CAMP

**SATURDAY
JUNE 8TH**

8:30am - 11:30am 1st-4th Grade
12:30pm - 3:30pm 5th-8th Grade

\$40 T-Shirt Included
@FCHS Gymnasium

Join the Fort Collins High School Girls Basketball Coaches & Players for 3 hours of Instruction, Competition, Scrimmaging, Prizes and Fun!



**REGISTER
HERE**



Summer Dance Camp!
June 24-26, 2024

PRE K - 8TH GRADE

JR DANCE CAMP

Fossil Ridge Dance Team



K-8 Monday-Wednesday*, June 24-26 9:00-2:00pm

*9:00-12:30 on Wednesday with a final performance

Pre-K Wednesday, June 26 9:00-12:30pm

Camp at Fossil Ridge High School

\$200 PER DANCER
\$20 OFF PER SIBLING
\$65 PRE-K DANCER

Registration and details: Frhsdance.com



MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 6-7 FOOTBALL CAMP



WORKOUT PROGRAMS :

- June 17th & 18th 5 - 7:30 pm
- Non Padded Camp
- Coached by TMHS Staff/Players
- Free TShirt
- Questions Email: jrobinso@psdschools.org

REGISTER NOW



QR Code
for
School Pay

Field Hockey

Beginners

Camp



ANY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS!
Come learn how to play
field hockey!

EQUIPMENT

PROVIDED



CAMP DATES:

June 4th, 5th, & 6th

6 - 7:30 PM

Fossil Ridge Turf

Pre-Register:

<https://forms.gle/THUouFkxN4rKgqnx8>





FOSSIL RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP

JUNE 3-5TH - 9:30 - 12PM

**FREE FOSSIL
BASKETBALL
SHIRT**

REC - ELITE YOUTH BOYS / GIRLS
(4TH-8TH GRADE)

\$125 PER ATHLETE
(MULTIPLE CHILD DISCOUNT AVAILABLE)
(\$140 DAY OF CAMP REGISTRATION COST)

Join former CSU basketball legends and FRHS Girls' Basketball coaches Heather Haanen-Roark and Jacque Morgan and FRHS Boys' Basketball coach Matt Johannsen and their Fossil Ridge teams for an elite camp experience.

This three-day skills camp is designed to teach and enhance the fundamentals of basketball through games, competitions, and drills.

Join us and see what's happening at Fossil.



Free STEM Camp

PSD, in partnership with CSU, is offering a free, week-long STEM camp for middle school students in computer programming this summer. No prior experience is necessary. See the flier or visit the [website](http://swift.cs.colostate.edu) for more info.

SWiFT | 2024
<http://swift.cs.colostate.edu>

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code.earth
Exploring Computer Science and Planet Earth

WHO?
Students who are currently in 7th and 8th grade
Students who are interested in exploring Computer Science and STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Math) majors
No programming experience required

WHEN + WHERE?
June 5 – June 9, 2023
Sessions: 9AM-3PM
Help Sessions: 8-9AM and 3-4PM (Optional)
Where: Lab 315 in the Computer Science Building at Colorado State University
Cost: No registration fee or tuition
Lunch will be provided

WHAT + HOW?
Since 2016, the SWiFT STEM camp has been organized by the Computer Science Department @CSU. SWiFT provides an active learning environment using the Python programming language to introduce Computer Science topics to students in Fort Collins and Northern Colorado. This summer, students will learn about the basics of computer programming and meet computer scientists and earth scientists.
Application
Contact Maya Wylie (mayaw@psdschools.org)
or visit web site: <http://swift.cs.colostate.edu>

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