

January  
2025



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.



Page 1

# Kinard Middle School



## Mustang News

### Thank You, Parents!

We are so appreciative of the incredible support that our parents show for our school community on a daily basis. From supporting your children with their schoolwork to navigating the traffic oval twice a day for pick-up and drop-off to contributing time and energy to help with our events and programs, we are so privileged to work alongside you!

Words cannot express our sincere gratitude for all the appreciation you show us as well! We would like to take a moment to specifically thank all the parents that contributed to our winter staff celebration at the end of December. Our staff genuinely felt your love and appreciation in every detail. The food was absolutely delicious, and the cookie boxes and gift cards were the icing on the cake to ring in the holiday season.

We want to thank you so very much for the incredible amount of time, effort, and resources you put into making our school such a unique and special place!



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# Kinard Middle School

Is it just a phase?



**CAYAC**

Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult Connections

Helping youth and families find answers, options and support.

**Health District**  
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY

CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND YOUNG ADULT CONNECTIONS

970-221-3308

## Thank You, Parents!

*continued*



**CLICK IT**

Click on the Ads in this Newsletter



...to learn more about these great companies!

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school!

Want to sponsor this school?

Please contact Rob Mangelson at [Rob@tscacolorado.com](mailto:Rob@tscacolorado.com) or (720) 878-4107.

**CHECK IN**

**Medicaid Renewal Requires Your Action. We Can Help!**

[HealthDistrict.org](http://HealthDistrict.org)

**Health District**  
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY  
970-472-0444

Se Habla Español

# Kinard Middle School

Caring for Future Generations Since 1964



Join The Youth Clinic, your child's ultimate partner in health and wellness.



## Winter Music Concerts

We ended the semester with an impressive series of music concerts and events from our choir, band, and orchestra students! What a fabulous way to celebrate the dedication and hard work from our students who are committed to the performing arts at Kinard.



Choir- Directed by Mr. Scott Wheeler

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### Your Family's Future Starts Here

WORK WITH SARAH TYLER

*your local realtor*



# Kinard Middle School

## Winter Music Concerts

*continued*



Orchestra- Directed by Mrs. Leanne Griffey



Band- Directed by Mr. Mike Perez

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## *Sponsor This School!*



### YOUR NAME HERE

Rob Mangelson  
(720) 878-4107

[Rob@tscacolorado.com](mailto:Rob@tscacolorado.com)

# Kinard Middle School

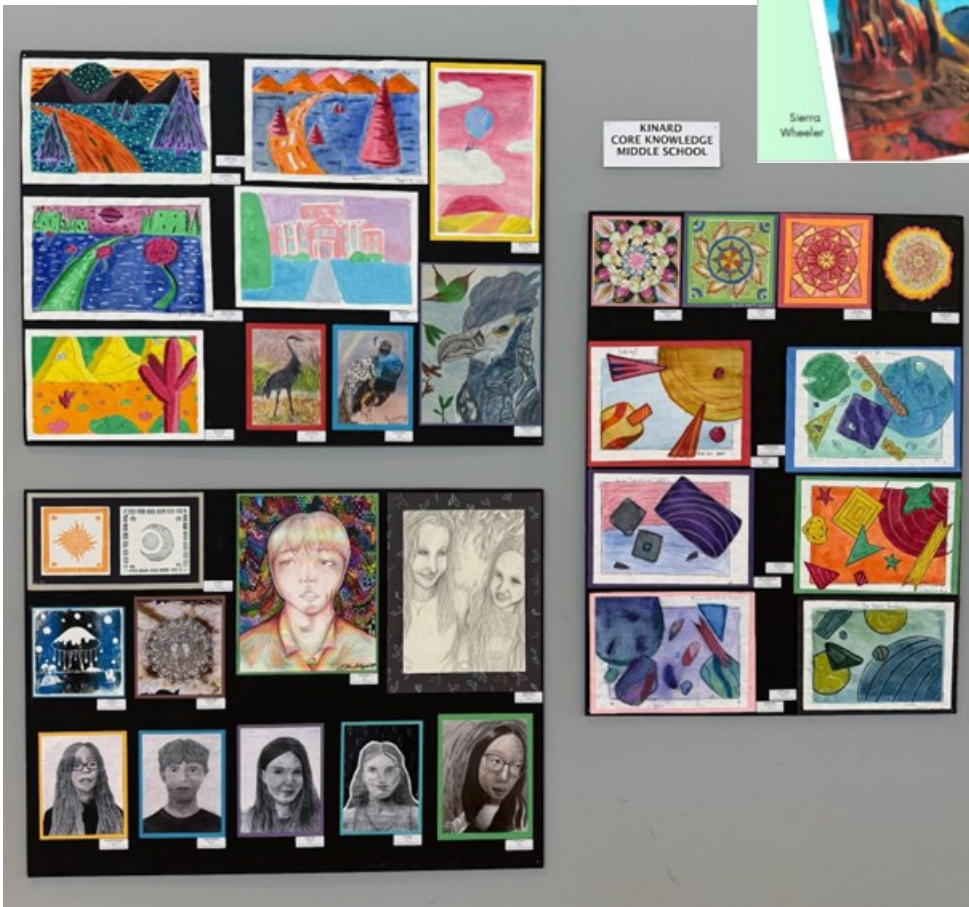
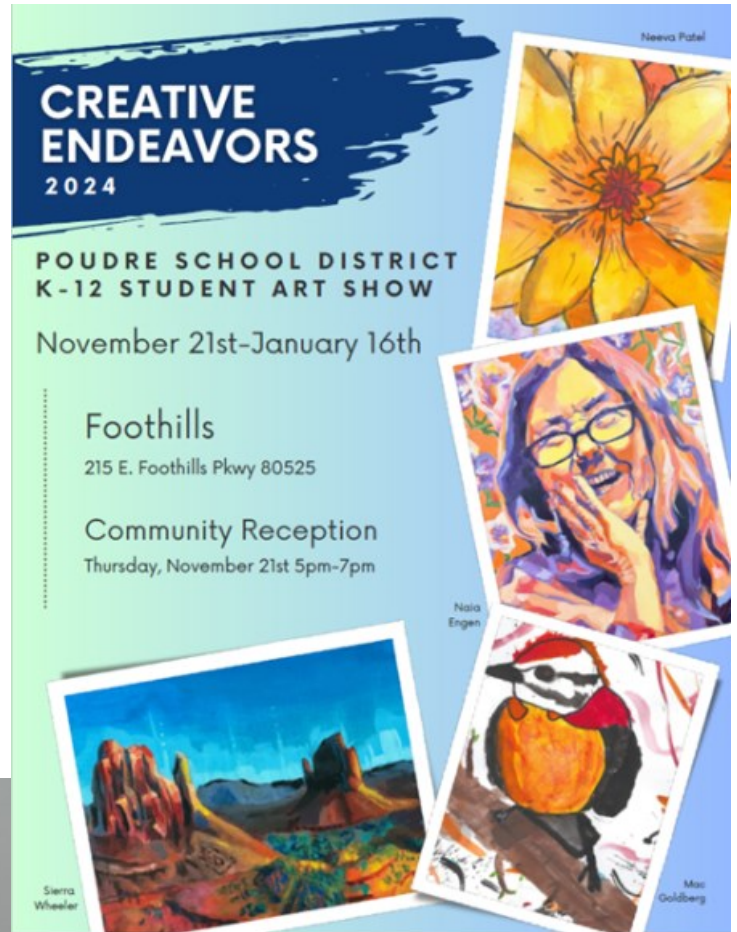
## **CHAMP Awards**

Three of our outstanding 8th graders, Wilson Hillyer, Jillian Wind, and Lillian White were presented with the CHAMP award for exemplary character in athletics in late December. They were surprised by their parents and coaches at lunch and celebrated by their peers. Join us in congratulating these amazing student athletes!



**PSD Art Show**

A friendly reminder: The Creative Endeavors Art Show, showcasing selected student artwork from all of PSD's schools, will be on display at The Shops at Foothills through January 16<sup>th</sup>. This show recognizes students' achievements in the visual arts and features a diverse mix of art mediums from painting and sculpture to collage and digital arts. Thanks to Mrs. Houston and Mr. Vizzini for all the hard work and support of our students to create such beautiful pieces. Stop by soon to check out the amazing artwork from our Mustang artists!



## Kinard Middle School

### Registration for 2025-26 School Year

Current 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be receiving their registration materials for next year's courses between January 17-24. Parents will also be sent an email with registration resources by the end of that timeframe. **Course selection forms are due January 30 to the Student Services Office.**

Current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be listening to presentations from our PSD comprehensive high schools on **January 23**. If your 8<sup>th</sup> grader is not going to one of PSD's comprehensive high schools, you may want to contact their high school for registration information. High school registration forms are to be **completed by February 6 when high school counselors will be here at Kinard to talk with students individually and collect those completed and signed forms.** 8<sup>th</sup> grade families received an informational email on November 16 that had additional information regarding transition to high school.

When the course selection materials come home for all grade levels, please encourage your student to read the course descriptions thoroughly. Registering for classes is a commitment and influences the development of the master schedule both here and at the high school. Making changes in the fall can be problematic.

Please feel free to contact or Patti Young (students with last names A-G) at 970-488-5406 or [pyoung@psdschools.org](mailto:pyoung@psdschools.org) or Karen Irvine (students with last name H-Z) at 970-488-5408 or [kirvine@psdschools.org](mailto:kirvine@psdschools.org) with any questions.

### Vision & Hearing Screening

Our annual **Vision and Hearing Screening will be on Friday, February 7**, and we could use your help that morning!

All 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be screened during 1<sup>st</sup> period, and we need about 16 volunteers that morning from 7:45 – 10:30 a.m. to ensure a smooth and efficient screening. No prior experience is necessary; a quick training will be provided that morning.

If interested, please follow the below instructions:

1. Login to your Volunteer Portal through this link: <https://apps.raptortech.com/Volunteer/Login/NjA0MzpWb2x1bnRlZXI6ZW4tVVM=>



## Kinard Middle School

### **Vision & Hearing Screening**

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2. When logged in, click on Events within the Navigation Menu (Kinard is on Friday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>)
3. Review the details of the Event you wish to sign up for and click "Sign-Up".

If you have never volunteered in PSD, please visit <https://www.psdschools.org/community/volunteers> to register. Please email Tisha Crossan, Health Tech, at [tcrossan@psdschools.org](mailto:tcrossan@psdschools.org) and Jena Gilbert, Nurse, at [jgilbert@psdschools.org](mailto:jgilbert@psdschools.org) if you have any questions about the screening and [volunteers@psdschools.org](mailto:volunteers@psdschools.org) if you have any questions on signing up.

### **Kinard Yearbook**

If you haven't ordered a copy of our award-winning Kinard yearbook for the 2024-2025 school year, you still can! Click [here](#) to complete the order form online. If you are unsure if you ordered a yearbook, please contact Ally Lonac, Yearbook Adviser, at [alonac@psdschools.org](mailto:alonac@psdschools.org).



Last Chance to Guarantee a Yearbook and Order Personalization.

**ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK TODAY!**

DEADLINE IS JANUARY 31ST



## Kinard Middle School

### **Join NJHS in January!**

Our Kinard chapter of National Junior Honor Society will be accepting applications for new members to join the club in January. In NJHS, students focus their leadership skills on planning and implementing community service projects for various nonprofits and charitable organizations. The application to join NJHS will be available in rooms 505 and 508 starting on January 15, and all applications will be due no later than January 23. For more information, students can stay tuned to announcements in early January or see Mrs. Darrow or Mrs. Hergenreder with questions.

### **Seeking Digital Camera Donations**

Do you have old digital cameras that are collecting dust in your home? 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Technology will take them off your hands! We are looking for any digital cameras, with or without batteries and memory cards, to use in our Photography and Photoshop unit. The cameras will be used by students to practice photography around the school! You can drop them off in the main office and say they are for Mr. Lardner in our tech department. Thank you!

### **SRO Corner: The Impact of School Threats**

A school threat can have a significant impact on students, teachers, and families. Although most do not materialize into actual danger, it can cause disruptions in the school day for those involved. Kinard uses a collaborative effort when handling a real or perceived school threat. Although Kinard works to investigate a threat as fast as possible, it could potentially lead to substantial disruptions such as school closures or other strains on education.

#### **What do we do?**

- **Education and Awareness:** Kinard educates students on the seriousness of making threats and the potential consequences. Poudre School District uses the [Standard Response Protocol](#) provided by the 'I Love you Guys Foundation'. All schools in Poudre School District complete three lockdown drills within a school year and one fire drill each month. There are Standard Response Protocols posted around the school and in every classroom. Staff

## Kinard Middle School

### **SRO Corner: The Impact of School Threats**

*continued*

members are also educated on the different Standard Response Protocols.

- **Preparedness and Protocols:** Schools, including Kinard, have clear emergency response protocols in place. We practice regular drills, update safety plans as needed, and partner with School Resource Officers to help ensure that all staff and students know how to respond in the event of a real threat.
- **Encourage Reporting:** A crucial step in preventing threats from escalating is encouraging students, teachers, and parents to report suspicious activity immediately. Whenever possible, we encourage reporting directly to a trusted adult at school, such as a counselor, teacher, or administrator to ensure the fastest and most complete response. However, Poudre School District also utilizes [Safe2Tell](#) for students to make anonymous reports. School Resource Officers and Administrators work with students and staff on any concerns or questions that might arise.
- **Support Systems:** Poudre School District provides mental health resources and counseling to all students, including those who may feel isolated or are struggling. There are also resources for staff members. Proactive mental health initiatives can reduce the likelihood of violence. Guardians are encouraged to check in on students, be active in monitoring internet use, and routinely check rooms, backpacks, and electronic devices for concerning content.

While threats to schools remain a concern, the collaborative effort between school officials, law enforcement, and the community is key in ensuring safety. Everyone plays a role in fostering a culture of awareness, respect, and accountability to protect our schools and keep our children safe.

## Kinard Middle School

### **Seal of Biliteracy**

Did you know that PSD offers a Seal of Biliteracy for students studying World Languages?

Poudre School District honors students who speak more than one language by awarding them a Seal of Biliteracy on their high school diplomas. The PSD Seal of Biliteracy is a prestigious credential for graduating high school seniors who can read, speak, listen, and write at a high level in another language, as well as in English. The endorsement honors students who have studied another language, as well as those who have grown up speaking a language other than English.

Qualified seniors will also be recognized with an honor cord to wear at their graduation ceremony. The PSD Seal of Biliteracy endorsement will be documented on their official PSD transcript.

Kinard students who begin studying a World Language in either 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grade may earn this award by their senior year in high school if they continue their World Language studies in high school. Students who speak a second language at home can also qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy. For more details about qualifying for this award go to <https://sites.google.com/psdschools.org/psdsealofbiliteracy/home>.

### **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Monday, January 20, 2025. Click [here](#) for more information and to join the community events.



## Kinard Middle School

### **Kinard Give Next: Kickoff Day and Supporting Children With Physical and Learning Disabilities**

*[This announcement was drafted by the 2024-2025 Give Next students.]*

On October 4th, our Give Next club went on a field trip to CSU for “Kickoff Day” and we learned about many nonprofits for needs that they support. With many other schools who participated in “Kickoff Day”, this was a powerful experience for our Give Next group. Some of the nonprofits we talked with are focused on supporting people with learning and/or physical diversity, food and shelter insecurity, and healing from abuse. We learned that many people are not as fortunate, and we have started our work in learning what we can do to help local nonprofits that support people with these needs.



After “Kickoff Day”, we had a lot of discussion in our group to narrow down these many options to focus our support, and eventually, with every voice heard and considered, we voted on a mission statement for the highest concerns our group sees right now:

*We, the Give Next group at Kinard Middle School are concerned and committed to making a difference to improve the lives of Larimer County youth with physical and learning disabilities.*



#### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Can you join us to help make a difference? **The Give Next group has set a fundraising goal of \$1,750, and 100% of the funds raised will be awarded to local nonprofits that support children with physical and learning disabilities such as: Respite Care, Hearts and Horses, Northern Colorado Down Syndrome Association, and Foothills Gateway.**

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## Kinard Middle School

### **Kinard Give Next: Kickoff Day and Supporting Children With Physical and Learning Disabilities** *continued*

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to donate to our club fundraiser at the Give Next page of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado. This is a secure site where you can enter any donation amount. Follow the directions on the website and please be sure to designate KINARD as your school. Thank you for your consideration and support of this Kinard Give Next fundraiser!

#### ***\*What is Give Next?***

Give Next is a school-based youth grantmaking program for middle and high school students in Larimer County. Each class receives funding from private donors in the Give Next program for grant-making to award to local nonprofits. The students are also encouraged to participate in fundraising to make a larger positive impact in their community. The year-long program begins with Give Next Kickoff Day, a day of information and inspiration. Back at their schools, students work together to identify community needs, choose a focus area, create a mission statement, research nonprofits, volunteer, conduct site visits, review grant applications, and make funding decisions. At the end of the school year, students award grants to selected nonprofits. Give Next is made possible through the support of many community partners. Primary program implementation partners are the Bohemian Foundation and the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado .



For questions or more information, please contact Kinard Give Next Teachers:

Anne Flemming, [aflemming@psdschools.org](mailto:aflemming@psdschools.org)

Wendi Grigg, [wgrigg@psdschools.org](mailto:wgrigg@psdschools.org)

# Kinard Middle School

## Winter Athletics

Congratulations to our boys basketball team on a successful season! All four of our teams battled hard throughout the season and showed tremendous growth. Our varsity team finished fourth place in the gold bracket of the district championship. Congratulations to Coach Giusti, his assistant coaches, and all the players for a strong season. Great job, Mustang athletes!



We look forward to cheering on our girls basketball team and our wrestlers in the coming weeks. See details below to register for these upcoming winter athletic opportunities. Reach out to Holly Garcia, Athletic Secretary, at 970-488-5414 or [hgarcia@psdschools.org](mailto:hgarcia@psdschools.org), or Kyle Healy, Athletic Director, at 970-488-5415 or [khealy@psdschools.org](mailto:khealy@psdschools.org) with any questions.

# Kinard Middle School

## **Winter Athletics**

*continued*

For all middle school sports, there are three things families must do to register their student for sports.

1. Student athletes must be registered through [SportsEngine](#),
2. Students must have a current sports physical on file at Kinard.
3. Families must have paid the \$140 registration fee through [SchoolPay](#).

Coaches will not be able to let student athletes participate in tryouts or practice without these three steps completed. For detailed information on how to complete each step, [please visit our registration page by clicking here](#).

### **Sport Specific Information:**

#### **Girls Basketball - 7th and 8th grade girls**

Team structure: Varsity, JV, C1 and C2 teams (limited roster/cut sport - up to 36 total players)

Preseason camp: Tuesday, 1/7 - Friday 1/10, 3:30 - 5:30 PM in the Kinard Gym

\*Tryouts: Monday 1/13 - Wednesday 1/15, 3:30 - 5:30 PM in the Kinard Gym

Team practice: Starting Thursday, 1/16, 3:30 - 5:30 PM in the Kinard Gym

*\*Players must have a current physical on file, be registered through SportsEngine, and have paid the \$140 fee to participate in tryouts. For those players who do not make the team, the registration fee will be refunded.*

#### **Wrestling - 6th, 7th and 8th grade students**

Team structure: Open to all students, non-cut sport

Preseason camp: Monday, 1/13 - Friday, 1/17

Team practice: Starting Tuesday, 1/21, 3:30 - 5:30 PM in the Kinard Auxiliary gym

## **Kinard Middle School**

### **Drop-off & Pick-up Traffic Safety Reminders**

As the weather is colder and chances of snowy days are upon us, we wanted to raise your level of awareness as it pertains to drop-off and pick-up procedures. **Please remember that the traffic queue on Trilby Road is a moving lane. Please do not attempt to stop and wait for your child on Trilby Rd., as it blocks cars from entering the oval.**

In addition, read the list below for recommendations for dropping your child(ren) off in the mornings. You can also review our comprehensive [Kinard Traffic Guidelines](#) that outline safe practices during the drop-off/pick-up process.

- Leave a little earlier to help avoid congestion on icy roads.
- Please always use **the drop-off lane next to the curb only.**
- **No u-turns on Trilby-** Please proceed westbound and utilize the round-a-bout if you need to turn back towards Ziegler Rd.
- Pull your car as far forward along the drop-off and pick-up lane before stopping your vehicle.
- Students should get out along the entire curb area. If you have come to the concrete sidewalk area in the oval, have your child get out and walk along the sidewalk.
- Please have your students ready to exit the car promptly. If your child is not ready to get out of the car, please pull into a parking stall. You can then use the crosswalk and walk your child in when they are ready.
- Students are to exit their vehicle only on the passenger side.
- Parents are to remain inside their cars- please do not leave your car unattended. Parking is not allowed in the drop-off/pick-up lane.

As always, we appreciate your attention to these matters and for helping us to create a safe and positive school environment. We need your help to keep the flow of traffic moving and our families safe in the parking lot. Every child's safety is important to us. It remains our highest priority to ensure that students enter and exit cars in a safe and organized way.



Drop-off & Pick-up Traffic Safety Reminders

continued

