

March
2026



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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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Kinard Middle School



Mustang News

Thank You, Volunteers!

February was a month of celebration as we recognized our counselors during *National School Counseling Week*, our classified staff during *Classified Appreciation Week*, and Officer Garcia for *School Resource Officer Appreciation Day*. We are very thankful to our parent community for helping show our gratitude to our staff with festivities, food, and words of affirmation all week long. Most significantly, many generous and helpful parents provided and served food at our luncheon for all staff on February 4. Our staff always have rave reviews of these events, and we are so grateful to have the support of our community.



Kinard Middle School

Health District

Support for kids carrying more than they should.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

conflict at home

pressure to fit in

bullying



healthdistrict.org

MathCounts Team and Individual Competitors Headed to State Competition

At the Northern Colorado Chapter Competition, six MathCounts members qualified for the state competition in March! Our team of Joey Luo, Michael Luo, Alysha Celli, and Sammy Meng placed first in the competition. The first-place team members along with Rhonda Yan and Isabella Sabia will be traveling to Denver for the state competition in March. Joey ranked second, Michael ranked third, and Alysha ranked sixth overall in the competition after a challenging head-to-head battle in the countdown round. Congratulations to all our mathematicians who competed, including Jeremy Yang, Allison Scansen, Olivia Shin, Nikhil Ganta, Mohammad Chitsaz, and Keita Kushiyaama!

Join us in congratulating these amazing students and their coach Mrs. Williams!



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...to learn more about these great companies!



Questions about Health Coverage? We Can Help!

LarimerHealthConnect.org • 970-472-0444

Se Habla Español



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 or (720) 878-4107.

Kinard Middle School

Sci O Invitational

Last month, our Science Olympiad students attended an invitational competition at Thompson Valley High School. Our three teams did an amazing job, earning a total of 24 medals across the board. Students are continuing to prepare for the regional competition on March 7th, where we can hopefully secure a spot in the State Tournament slated for April 7th. Go, Ms. Blumberg and our Sci O students!



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your local realtor



Kinard Middle School

Rotary Teacher of the Month

We are excited to celebrate an amazing Kinard staff member, Mrs. Katie Ashe! Mrs. Ashe was honored as the Rotary Teacher of the month at their breakfast in February. We are so proud of her and the many ways she contributes to our learning community.



Sponsor This School!

YOUR NAME HERE

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Contact Us
Today!

Rob Mangelson
(720) 878-4107

Rob@tscacolorado.com

The School Communications Agency
Supporting Schools & Local Businesses



3rd Annual Kinard Dodgeball Tournament

The third annual Kinard Dodgeball fundraiser is coming up this month on Thursday, March 12th from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Last year, we had 306 Kinard students participate with a ton of team spirit, great costumes and awesome sportsmanship. Sign-ups are currently live where students can register as a team of 6 or as a free agent. To register for a team, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/kinarddodgeball>. Team registration fees are \$30 per team and can be paid to the Kinard front office with cash or check or on [SchoolPay](#).

Families and friends can come cheer on their student and watch dodgeball games throughout the night. There will be concessions available for purchase, including main dinner entrees, and can be purchased with cash or card.

Please check out our website for more information by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/kinarddodgeball>.



DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY
MARCH 12TH
3:30PM-7:30PM

\$30 TO ENTER A TEAM OF 6

DRESS TO IMPRESS!
IN THE KINARD GYMS

REGISTER NOW:
TINYURL.COM/KINARDDOGEBALL

Kinard Middle School

8th Grade Career Fair- Volunteers Needed!

We will host our annual 8th Grade Career Fair on Friday, May 1st and are hoping to utilize some of the expertise in our community.

We are looking for professionals from a variety of careers who are willing to speak with 8th grade students over the course of 80 minutes in a fair-style event. Students will ask questions about what got you interested in your profession, your pathway, and possible courses to explore in high school.

At this time, we are still hoping to add variety to our fair. Based on ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan) surveys, students have interest in the following areas: Interior Design, Actor, Professional Athlete, Marine Biologist, Animator, Veterinarian, Fashion Designer, Dentist, Photographer, Singer, Dancer, Chef, Physical Therapist, and Radiologist. We truly appreciate volunteers from many areas.

If you are interested and available from 7:55-9:40 a.m. on May 1st, please fill out this survey: [Parent Career Survey](#) or contact Karen Irvine at kirvine@psdschools.org or (970)488-5408.

If you have any questions, contact Karen Irvine, (970)488-5408 or kirvine@psdschools.org. Thank you!

2026 CMAS Assessment Window

Please mark your calendars! The 2026 CMAS Assessment window is April 6th - 23rd. All students will take 3 English Language Arts assessments and 3 Mathematics assessments. Additionally, 8th graders will take 3 Science assessments. Please see the calendar below for a tentative schedule for when each of these assessments will occur. As you plan ahead, we would greatly appreciate you doing your best to avoid appointments or other student absences on these days.

The state assessment system, Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS), is designed to measure student mastery of Colorado's academic content standards. Colorado's academic content standards indicate skills and knowledge necessary to prepare students for success from early school readiness to postsecondary competencies, reflective of both workforce readiness and 21st century skills. Student progress toward these outcomes is measured through CMAS, which provides information to teachers as they incorporate the content standards in their daily instruction. CMAS results are also used for school and district accountability.

continued on next page

2026 CMAS Assessment Window

continued

We will send a more detailed and specific calendar of testing days as we get nearer to the assessment window. If you have questions about the CMAS assessments, please contact Cecilia Bonertz, School Assessment Coordinator, at cbonertz@psdschools.org or (970) 488-5407.

Kinard CMAS Calendar

APRIL 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 Even	2 Odd	3 Even
6 Odd	7 Even	8 Odd	9 Even	10 Odd
Science (2 tests, 8th grade only)		Math (1 test, 8th grade only)		
13 Even	14 Odd	15 Even	16 Odd	17 Even
ELA			Make-Up Testing	
20 Odd	21 Even	22 Odd	23 Even	24
Make-Up Testing				No School

Spring Sports

Our spring sports season is just around the corner. Our spring sports consist of girls softball, boys and girls golf, boys and girls track and field, girls soccer, and boys and girls unified basketball. *We are excited about the addition of girls soccer to the middle school offerings and we are interested to see how it impacts our other offerings. If your child plans to participate in a spring sport, please register them through [SportsEngine](#) as soon as you are able so that we have preliminary roster sizes and can start planning ahead.*

To participate in any sport, all student athletes must be registered through [SportsEngine](#), must have a current physical on file at Kinard, and must have paid the \$150 registration fee per sport (\$75 for unified basketball) through [SchoolPay](#). For detailed information on each sport, please see the email from our athletic director, Kyle Healy, which was sent on 2/16/26. For information on how to complete each registration step, [please visit our registration page by clicking here.](#)

Kinard Middle School

Student Supplies

As we enter the last quarter of the year, we tend to notice that some students begin to run low on school supplies. Please check with your child to ensure they have sufficient school supplies left to help them finish the year successfully prepared for classes each day. The supplies we often notice dwindling include pencils, graph paper, and dry-erase markers. A quick check of your child's locker may even uncover some supplies they didn't even know they had!

Summer Music Information

For Band and Orchestra students, see the info below about PSD's Summer Music Program.

Attention 6th and 7th graders in Band and Orchestra:

Beginning/Intermediate Program (for students who will be in middle school next year)

- Monday, July 20 to Friday, August 7 (Monday-Friday)
- Locations will be in various places around PSD (north, east, south, west and central)
- Class times are typically between 8am and noon
- Watch for registration links and more information at

<https://sites.google.com/a/psdschools.org/psd-summer-music/home>



Attention 8th graders in Band and Orchestra:

Advanced Program (for students who will be in high school, or just graduated)

- Monday, June 1 to Friday, June 12 (Monday-Friday)
- Orchestra is typically held at one site and Bands are typically held at two sites
- Class times are typically 9am to 10:30am
- Watch for registration links and more information at

<https://sites.google.com/a/psdschools.org/psd-summer-music/home>



Kinard Middle School

Important Yearbook Information

There is still a limited number of 2025-2026 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!

Summer School Option for 8th graders

PSD offers an Online HS Summer School option for all PSD graduating 8th graders to seniors. This includes students entering PSD in the 26-27 school year. 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.

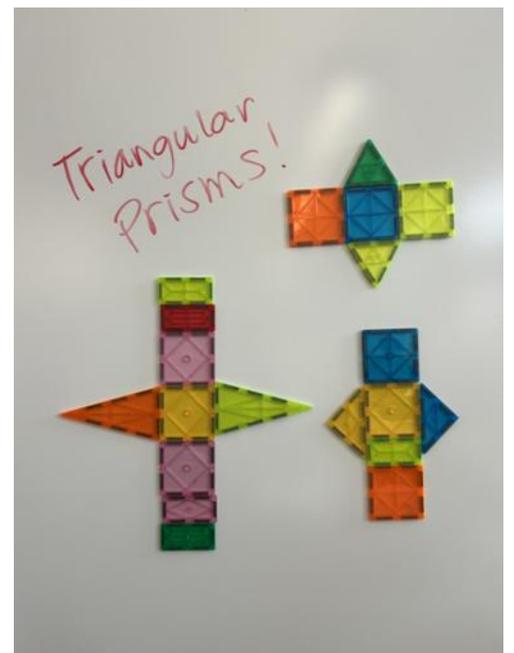
- Monday, June 1 - 8:00 a.m. - Friday, June 26 – 3:00 p.m.
(Registration open May 2)
- Monday, June 29 - 8:00 a.m. - Friday, July 24 - 3:00 p.m.
(Registration open June 20)

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

Fun in 6th Grade Math!

In 6th grade math, students are learning about how to find the surface area of 3-D shapes. Students enjoyed making all different types of 3-D shapes with magna-tiles, including a tower taller than all of them!



Kinard Middle School

SRO Corner

Firearms Safety: Protecting Our Kids in all Homes

This month, I want to remind Poudre School District families about the importance of secure firearm storage. Under Colorado law C.R.S. 18-12-114, it states that firearms must be responsibly and securely stored in a locked gun safe or gun lock when they are not in use to prevent access by unsupervised juveniles and other unauthorized users. To support this, FREE GUN LOCKS are available to any family that needs them. Please reach out to your school administrators, counselors, or SRO, as locks are readily available. You can also contact the [Larimer County Juvenile Gun Safety Coalition](#) to retrieve one, no questions asked. In a survey, one in four Larimer County students reported they would be able to get a loaded gun without an adult's permission. The Coalition's mission is to protect the youth from gun violence through education, intervention, community engagement, and promotion of safe and secure gun storage.

Beyond the law, the most powerful tool we have is conversation with our kids. This isn't a one-time conversation, but is ongoing and everchanging. Even if you do not own a firearm, your child may visit a home that does own firearms. Curiosity is natural for kids of all ages, so please talk to them about what to do if they ever see an unattended firearm. Phrases that are important to address are: Stop, don't touch, leave the area, and tell an adult immediately. For parents, do not hesitate to ask about storage before a playdate. It is okay to ask, just like you would ask about a pool or tell them about a peanut allergy. The Coalition's recent Public Service Announcement is titled [Be Awkward](#), reminding parents that we need to have important conversations about guns. By removing the "mystery" around firearms with conversations, we can ensure our students stay safe – no matter whose home they are in.

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Safety is a collaborative effort, and your partnership is necessary in keeping our schools safe!

-Officer Kate Garcia, Kinard's School Resource Officer

Kinard Middle School

Health Office News

Have a Shamrockin' Spring, Mustangs!

Happy March, everyone- out with the cold and in with the new spring allergens! The changing of seasons comes with a change in health needs. The warmer weather brings new flowers, fresh air, animals, and.... **allergies**. Here are some small things that can help your student reduce the effects of these allergens:

- Monitor pollen levels
- Practice personal hygiene (showers, changing clothes, handwashing, etc.)
- Keep your environment clean
- Wear sunglasses to protect the eyes

Spring is also best known for **Spring Cleaning!** With the end of the year in sight, we may begin to see stress, mental overload, and some anxieties with this as well. When we have a cluttered space, this leads to a cluttered mind. Here are some ways your students can declutter their spaces and clear their minds.

- **Clean out their backpack:** throw out trash from the very bottom of the bag, old papers, food, broken items, crushed permission forms that were due last week, etc.
- **Clean out the locker:** recycle old paper, wipe it down, remove the 4-day old sandwich.
- **Clean your living space:** spend 15 minutes a day cleaning something in your space, set a timer, turn up some music, and crank it out.

"Physical clutter competes for your attention, decreasing cognitive performance and limiting your ability to focus."

"A messy environment keeps the brain on high alert, causing anxiety and a sense of chaos. Organizing your space creates a sense of calm and control."

"Tasks are done 20% faster in a tidy, organized space."

-Blue Cross Blue Shield

Let's finish this year strong, healthy, and happy, Mustangs!

Kinard Middle School

Bethke Elementary Spring Social

Calling all former Bobcats! All families and former Bethke students and community members are invited to attend Bethke's Spring Social and the Celebration of Mrs. Alfonso's Retirement. See the flyer below for details.



Kinard Middle School

CSU's Introduce a Girl to Engineering

Visit <https://coloradostate.swe.org/outreach/> or see the flyer below for an awesome opportunity for girls interested in STEM and Science fields.

