

**April  
2023**



**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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# Kinard Middle School



## Mustang News

### Science Olympiad Teams Heading to State

Congratulations to all our Mustangs who participate in Science Olympiad! All of our teams placed in the regional competition in early March and are headed to the state Sci O competition on April 1. Thank you to all the coaches and families who support these amazing students, especially Coach McGonagil and Coach Yaaminy. Go Mustangs!



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## Kinard Middle School

### Recent GT Celebrations

Mrs. Grigg, our GT Coordinator, has been working tirelessly to find unique opportunities for our GT students to pursue through their Advanced Learning Plans, including career mentorships, onsite visits, and more. See below for some recent highlights!

In March, one of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade students with a career mentorship in GT chose a goal to explore pathways towards a career in professional women's soccer. Moriah had the special opportunity to hold a video interview with Ms. Estelle Johnson, a Rocky Mountain High School graduate who got her start in Fort Collins and has gone on to play professional women's soccer (currently with the North Carolina Courage) and in the World Cup! Estelle shared much wisdom with Moriah on several topics that she now has as key takeaways for moving forward in soccer and in life. We thank Ms. Johnson for pouring herself into the lives of young women and aspiring professional athletes everywhere!



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Ads in this  
Newsletter

...to learn more about  
these great companies!

**We understand the stress  
of caring for a sick child.**

Our providers are here to help get  
your family on the fast track to healthy.



**The Youth Clinic**  
caring for our future generations



**Pediatric  
Urgent Care**  
OF NORTHERN COLORADO





## Kinard Middle School

### Recent GT Celebrations

*continued*

In March, some students in our GT program experienced an amazing day of hands-on learning at CSU's Computer Engineering Labs. Students were given a "behind the scenes tour" and interacted with the seniors at work building their design projects. Our students shared that the foam graphite room, where sound waves could not travel, was stunning to the senses. By having a session with one of the doctoral students, our middle schoolers walked away with increased knowledge on how to utilize an education in computer engineering and steps to take towards their career aspirations such as aerospace. Kinard students were the very first field trip group to use the new ECE CreatorSpace! The AI object recognition was a favorite activity for the students. What an incredible opportunity for our students!



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## Kinard Middle School

### Recent GT Celebrations

A couple other GT students experienced a day-in-the-life of their career mentor, Nargiza Murat, French pastry chef at Le Creperie. Brooke and Erin were able to learn about and help prepare some of Le Creperie's famous macaron cookies. The experience was insightful, motivating, and delicious!



*continued*

### Orchestra and Band Celebrations

It's been a busy month for both our band and orchestra programs with festivals galore! We want to congratulate our Symphony Orchestra and Mrs. Griffey on their SUPERIOR rating at the CASTA festival just before Spring Break! Their achievement also means that they are one of only three middle school orchestras in the entire state to be invited to the State Festival in April! At the same time, Mr. Perez and our Honors and Symphonic Bands earned perfect SUPERIOR scores at the CBA Middle School Festival at Mountain View High School! Our band performed in front of a panel of judges and other middle school bands and performed beautifully. Then, it was off to the Winter Park Ski-Music Festival for some fun and more music-making for both groups. What a month it has been!

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### Reach Parents in Larimer County through our mobile-ready newsletters

Market your business in both Poudre and Thompson school districts.

You gain visibility and targeted, increased awareness; schools gain funds from advertising revenue.

Advertise with The School Newsletter Company  
Joe Mivshek 970-420-7163 | SchoolNewsletterCompanyCO@gmail.com



# Kinard Middle School

## Orchestra and Band Celebrations

*continued*



## Supporting our Schools



**Joe Mivshek**

[Joe.Mivshek@KW.com](mailto:Joe.Mivshek@KW.com)

**kW** NORTHERN  
COLORADO  
KELLERWILLIAMS.

**970.420.7163**





## Kinard Middle School

### Updates from the World of Choir

- 1) Congratulations to Anna Thompson, Henry Peterson, Eva Mills, Chase Bassett, Leah Chen, Mariana Batan, Julia Heath, Adelyn Warren, & Ashley Shultz for being selected to sing in the Poudre School District Middle School Honor Choir on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations also go to Davin Anderson and Ria Rajasekehran for being selected to perform at the Colorado Middle All State Choir on March 10<sup>th</sup>. The PSD Honor Choir brings together the best singers from around Poudre School District to join together in song with the Elementary Honor Choir – quite an accomplishment. Davin and Ria were selected amongst 1200 auditionees to join the All State Choir at the Bellco Theatre in Denver – an amazing achievement.
- 2) GO ROCKIES! The Mustang Chorale will be performing *The National Anthem* at the Colorado Rockies game on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> (Colorado Rockies vs. Sand Diego Padres – game time 1:10). The Rockies will donate part of the proceeds from ticket sales back to Kinard using this link: <https://www.mlb.com/rockies/tickets/specials/national-anthem>. Come support both the Kinard Mustang Chorale and the Colorado Rockies by telling everyone you know to get a ticket (or LOTS more 😊) and enjoy some baseball on April 19<sup>th</sup>!
- 3) Mark Your Calendars! Tickets to the following Kinard performances will be sold through the Lincoln Center Box Office ([www.lctix.com](http://www.lctix.com)):
  - Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> – All Choir Concert: Fort Collins Lincoln Center – 7:00pm
  - Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> & Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – *Newsies Jr*: Lincoln Center Magnolia Theatre – 7:00pm



## Kinard Middle School

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English Debates

7<sup>th</sup> Grade English Lab hosted a debate on March 9<sup>th</sup> for a live audience of peers and teachers!

Teams worked together to prepare and present their arguments on whether or not screentime should be limited. They used each other and their research to respond to the counter argument in real time. They did an excellent job of providing compelling arguments and expanding their comfort zone by speaking in front of an audience. Congrats, English Lab!



### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade PE Presenters

6<sup>th</sup> grade PE students got the opportunity to learn table tennis from some amazing guest presenters. Antonino Barbaras and Francesca Vargas came out from Table Tennis Connections, a local table tennis organization, to teach 6<sup>th</sup> graders about the technique and rules of the game. Francesca Vargas is actually a National Champion table tennis player from Peru. Students had a great time being challenged, learning a new skill and improving upon knowledge they had coming into PE.

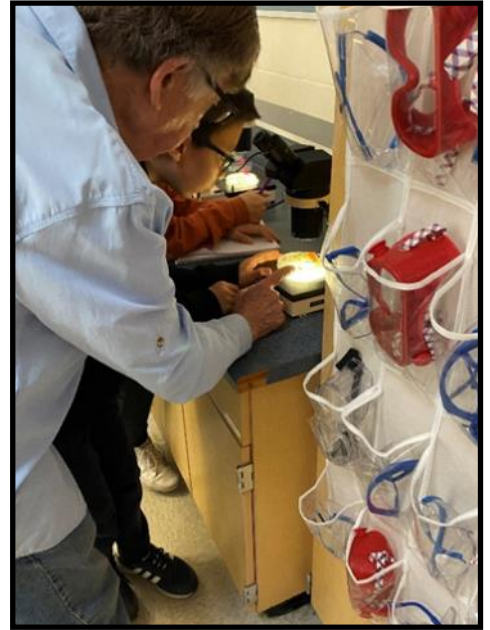
If your student is interested in getting more involved with table tennis outside of Kinard, please contact your student's PE teacher for more information!



## Kinard Middle School

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Guest Presenter

CSU professor, Steve Wallner, recently visited our 7<sup>th</sup> grade science classrooms to share his expertise of plants with our students. He taught them about plants' adaptations and had students set up experiments to test their learning.



### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Fly Fishing Unit

7<sup>th</sup> Grade PE students spent 4 class periods learning about the basics of fly fishing including how to put together a fly-fishing rod, tie knots, cast along with bug and fish identification. At the end of the unit, students got to walk to Lady Moon Pond and fly fish in a real pond for actual fish! Students did a great job with this unit! If you are interested in getting your student more involved with fly fishing outside of school, please contact your student's PE teacher!





## 2023 CMAS Assessments

We are so impressed and proud of the incredible work and effort our students have demonstrated this year. Both in and out of the classroom, Kinard students are excelling due to their dedication and hard work. We congratulate and thank our students for their progress thus far!

We will soon begin the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) state standardized assessments. All students in Poudre School District and the state of Colorado take the CMAS assessments. Please continue reading for scheduling details and more information about how our school community uses CMAS results to help ensure high levels of learning for all students and how preparation for and completion of CMAS assessments benefits students. We are proud of our students and our culture of positivity surrounding these assessments.

Our students will be taking the following required assessments for middle school grades this year:

- All grades will take the **English/Language Arts** and the **Math** CMAS assessments.
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade will also take the **Science** CMAS assessments.

**All CMAS assessments are computer-based, therefore it is critical that students bring their PSD assigned laptop and charger to school each testing day.** Please help your child to remember to charge his/her computer **every night** and bring the charging cord to school along with the laptop on CMAS days.

At Kinard, CMAS assessments will take place on the following days/times:

Date	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Monday, April 3rd	8:15 – 9:50 Math #1	8:15 – 9:50 Math #1	8:15 – 9:50 Math #1
Tuesday, April 4 <sup>th</sup>	8:15 – 9:50 Math #2	8:15 – 9:50 Math #2	8:15 – 9:50 Math #2
Wednesday, April 5 <sup>th</sup>	8:15 – 9:50 Math #3	8:15 – 9:50 Math #3	8:15 – 9:50 Math #3
Monday, April 10 <sup>th</sup>	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #1	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #1	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #1
Tuesday, April 11 <sup>th</sup>	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #2	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #2	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #2
Wednesday, April 12 <sup>th</sup>	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #3	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #3	8:15 – 10:35 ELA #3
Thursday, April 13 <sup>th</sup>			8:15 – 9:55 Science #1 10:05–11:45 Science #2
Friday, April 14 <sup>th</sup>			8:15 – 9:55 Science #3

For detailed daily student schedules, click [here](#) for math testing days and [here](#) for ELA and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science testing days. These schedules also include modified times for each class period. Students will also receive a printed copy of the CMAS assessment schedule during ELO on Thursday, March 30th.

### Additional CMAS Notes:

The CMAS assessment 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, including both workforce readiness and

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**2023 CMAS Assessments***continued*

21st century skills. These tests provide valuable information for our school and teachers, who use the data to understand where students are in their learning and tailor instruction accordingly. The district also uses these results to measure overall student academic progress and identify opportunities for improvement.

Furthermore, *the state assessments are a great opportunity for students to practice test taking skills, including how to approach an important test with a mindset that is calm, productive, and focused. We recognize that how adults talk about the assessments greatly influences how students view taking them, and we appreciate you joining us in talking about these assessments as a positive learning opportunity.*

These assessments also provide us with excellent information about your child's individual growth in each content area. Ultimately, CMAS is another very important way we, Kinard staff, get better. The data is invaluable. Our school is an amazing place and we want to continue to see it grow and improve.

- On CMAS assessment days, students will still go to their regular classes but on an alternate schedule.
- Students may bring reading material (sorry, no e-books) as they will be allowed to read or rest quietly after completing each assessment.
- For a successful CMAS experience, please encourage your child to get plenty of rest the night before, eat a healthy breakfast to fuel his/her brain, and bring a positive attitude to show what he/she knows.
- If your child is ill on a testing day, they should not come to school. Please continue to follow the [How Sick is Too Sick](#) guidelines, and contact our assessment coordinator to discuss make-up options.

**Opting out of tests:**

To excuse your student from state assessments, you may complete a Parent Excusal form digitally by logging into [ParentVUE](#) and accessing Services Tracker. Instructions and screenshots on how to do this can be found [here](#). Please note that you will need to indicate you are opting your child out for each subject area. You may also print a [PDF version](#) of the form and return it to the Kinard main office. If you scroll to the second page on these documents, you will also find them available in [Spanish](#) and [Arabic](#).

*If you decide to opt out, you may keep your student home during our scheduled grade level testing times, and absences will be excused. We will also provide a study hall where students may sit quietly or read a book, according to state guidelines.*

For more information about state assessments, visit the Colorado Department of Education [website here](#) or visit the [PSD District and State Assessments web page](#). If you have questions about the CMAS assessments, please contact Cecilia Bonertz, School Assessment Coordinator, at [cbonertz@psdschools.org](mailto:cbonertz@psdschools.org) or (970) 488-5407. Thank you for your support!

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration**

Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, please save the date of Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> for our traditional 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:elarue@psdschools.org) if you have specific questions about the event.





## Kinard Middle School

### Last Day of School

Friday, May 26, the last day of school for 2022-2023, will be a half day for students. **Kinard students will be released at 11:40 a.m. on May 26**, and no lunch will be served on that day. It will be a full day for staff. The last day for meals to be provided to students will be Thursday, May 25.

### Important Yearbook Information

The yearbook is just about finished! As communicated, only a limited number of extra copies were ordered. We expect to be sold out by yearbook distribution. BUY NOW while supplies last at [Jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com). If you have already bought a book, thank you!



### Summer School Option for 8<sup>th</sup> graders

Registration for Session 1 of Poudre School District's summer school program is now open, and Session 2 will open in May. Classes are free for current 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 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](https://summer.psdschools.org)

#### Summer School will be offered in two sessions.

- Monday, April 3 - 8:00 am - Thursday, May 25 – 3:00 pm
  - Thursday, June 1 - 8:00 am - Thursday, June 29 - 3:00 pm
- \*Math classes remain grade replacement only.

All classes will be online with a teacher for support, monitoring, and grading. There are no mandatory class meetings, but students must have high-speed Internet access. Students will keep their current school computers and MiFi devices to complete summer school classes.

If you have any questions, you can contact Kinard's school counselors:  
Patti Young (last names A-G) at [pyoung@psdschools.org](mailto:pyoung@psdschools.org) or 970-488-5406  
or Karen Irvine (last names H-Z) at [kirvine@psdschools.org](mailto:kirvine@psdschools.org) or 970-488-5408

## **Project Homeless Connect**

Project Homeless Connect is a one-day event from CSU's Student Leadership, Involvement & Community Engagement that provides individuals and families currently experiencing homelessness or a risk of experiencing homelessness with access to vital services such as rapid housing and employment support, basic medical exams, ID/legal service, and much more. This year's event will take place **on Friday, April 14, from 10 am-2 pm at the Aztlan Community Center** (112 E Willow Street, Fort Collins, CO). Visit <https://lsc.colostate.edu/slice/community-engagement/project-homeless-connect/> for more information.

## **High School Athletic Opportunities**

See the flyers below for some upcoming informational and welcome sessions for some athletic programs at various PSD high schools.



### **Fossil Ridge High School Girls Basketball**

Interested in learning more about our basketball program or getting setup to receive information on our summer activities (open gym, camps, tournaments, etc.).

Then contact me to connect with our program or if you have questions. Please provide name and contact information in your email.

- Randy Levendofsky – Assistant Coach (C Team)
  - o [rlevendofsky@gmail.com](mailto:rlevendofsky@gmail.com)

I look forward to hearing from you soon....

Coach Levendofsky

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## High School Athletic Opportunities

*continued*



Future Sabercats that are interested in playing football at Fossil Ridge HS

*Welcome to the Fossil Ridge Football Family*

*We are so excited for the 2023 Football Season.*

*Please join us on May 1, 2023, 6:00 - 7:00pm at Fossil Ridge  
High School Roundhouse (date change).*

Come meet the Coaches, find out about summer football, volunteer opportunities and ask any questions you have about Fossil football. This meeting will be for all players and families, incoming 9th graders, and new and current players of the program. *Please invite your friends*. If you know someone that would like to be added to our newsletters, that intends to play, please have them fill out the player profile or email [fossilridgefootball@gmail.com](mailto:fossilridgefootball@gmail.com).

### ALL PLAYERS

PLEASE FILL OUT THE 2023 PLAYER PROFILE  
or go to [fossilridgefootball.com](http://fossilridgefootball.com)

**Come join us for our Annual 2023 Casino Night Fundraiser -  
March 24, 6:00-11:00 pm Hilton Fort Collins. [Tickets - Fossil Ridge  
Football Casino Night Fundraiser 2023 | Mobile Silent Auction | Find an Event  
Near You | Handbid](#)**  
[Casino Night Fundraiser Events, Prices and Timeline Link](#)

### SAVE THE DATES

INCOMING 9TH GRADERS (CURRENT 8TH GRADERS)  
SPRING FOOTBALL CAMP

**MAY 22, 23, 24, 25- 4:15-6:15 PM** on the East side of Fossil on the  
Football Field

PLAYERS NEED TO HAVE ATHLETIC CLOTHES, CLEATS (IF POSSIBLE)  
AND WATER BOTTLE

GO RIDGE!!

Questions email FRHS Booster Club at  
[fossilridgefootball@gmail.com](mailto:fossilridgefootball@gmail.com)

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**High School Athletic Opportunities**

*continued*



April 17 – 20, 2023, 4:30 pm || FCHS Gym 2

# FCHS CHEER TRYOUTS

*Do you have school spirit?*

Join a great athletic program, become a leader of FoCo traditions, and meet new friends!

**PARENT MEETING  
APRIL 6, 6:30PM:**

Join us in the FCHS commons with a parent or guardian to learn more about our team and the tryout process!

**4/6**  
Information Meeting

**4/17-19**  
Tryout Practice

**4/20**  
Tryout Day

 VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFO AND UPDATES!  
[fchscheer.wixsite.com/spirit](https://fchscheer.wixsite.com/spirit)

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**High School Athletic Opportunities**

*continued*

**Timnath Volleyball**



**YOUTH SPORTS CAMP**

**Cubbies Elementary Camp**

**May 13th, 2023**

**9AM-12PM**



\$35 SchoolPay

**Ursas Middle School Camp**

**May 22-23rd, 2023**

**4:30-7PM**



\$70 SchoolPay



Registration Form

Hosted at Timnath  
Middle-High School  
Main Gym & Aux Gym



**REGISTER BY  
MAY 1ST FOR  
A CAMP TEE**

**You will learn volleyball basics:**

- Serving
- Passing
- Defense
- Life Skills
- Setting
- Hitting
- Blocking
- Game Play



TimanthHSVB



amcgee@psdschools.org



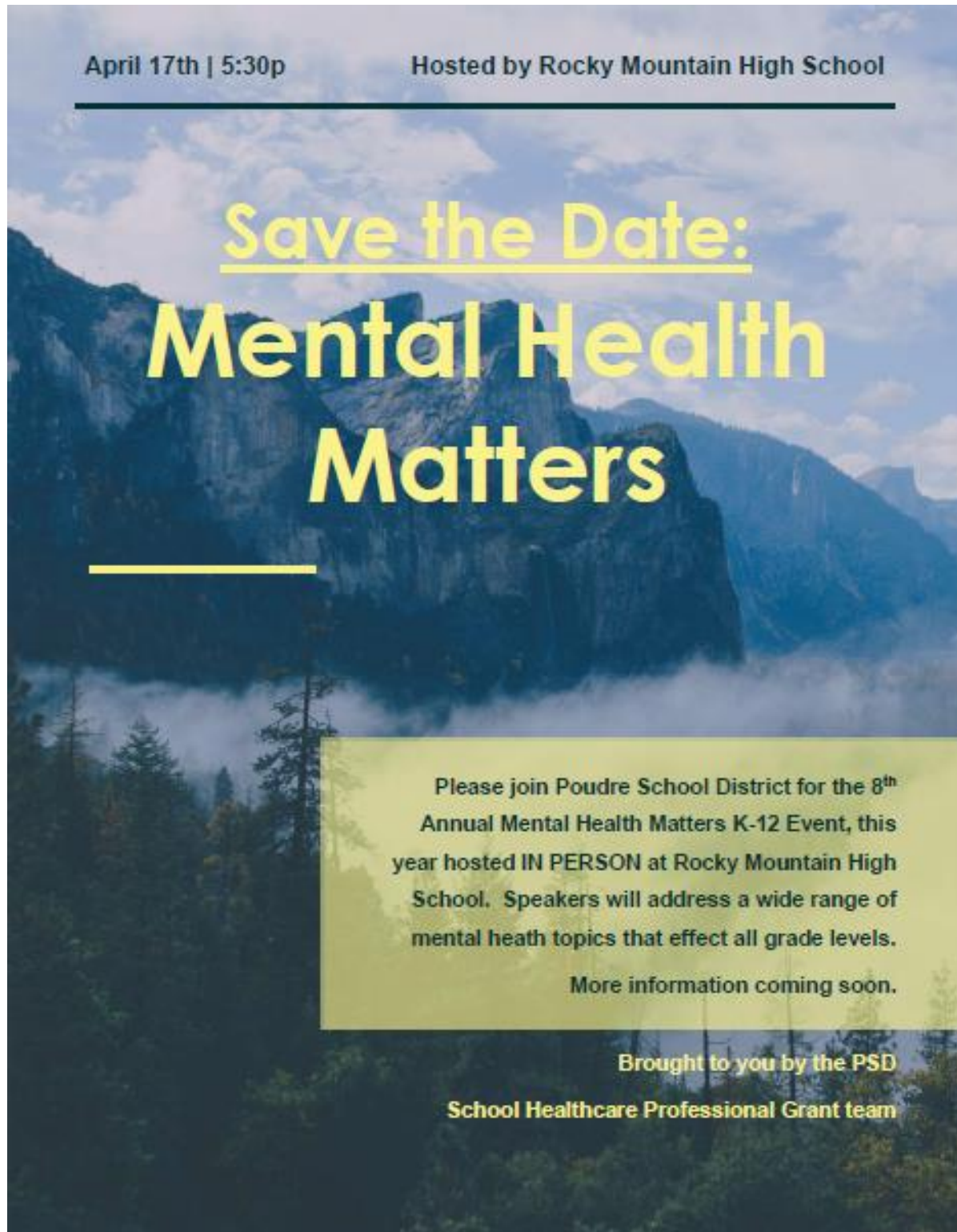
@timnathhsvolley

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## **PSD Mental Health Matters Event**

See the flyer below for details on PSD's Mental Health Matters event.

The flyer features a background image of a majestic mountain range with snow-capped peaks and dense evergreen forests. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The text is overlaid on this scenic image. At the top, the date and time 'April 17th | 5:30p' are on the left, and the host 'Hosted by Rocky Mountain High School' is on the right, separated by a thin horizontal line. The main title 'Save the Date: Mental Health Matters' is centered in large, bold, yellow font, with 'Save the Date:' underlined. Below the title is another thin horizontal line. A semi-transparent yellow box in the lower right contains the event details in black text. At the bottom right, outside the box, is the text 'Brought to you by the PSD School Healthcare Professional Grant team' in yellow.

April 17th | 5:30p      Hosted by Rocky Mountain High School

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Save the Date:  
**Mental Health Matters**

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Please join Poudre School District for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Mental Health Matters K-12 Event, this year hosted IN PERSON at Rocky Mountain High School. Speakers will address a wide range of mental health topics that effect all grade levels.

More information coming soon.

Brought to you by the PSD  
School Healthcare Professional Grant team



## Help Plan Juneteenth Events in Fort Collins

See the flyer below from CSU's Black/African American Cultural Center if you're interested in having your voice heard and planning this cultural event for our community.



The flyer features a colorful sunburst logo on the left with the text "FORT COLLINS JUNE TEENTH 2023". The background has a large, stylized chevron pattern in shades of green, yellow, and orange. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with bold headings and clear paragraphs.

**Fort Collins** **June 16-18 2023**  
**JUNETEENTH**

**What is Juneteenth**  
Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday. On June 17, 2021, it officially became a federal holiday. The holiday is observed on June 19th.

**Who We Are**  
We are current students of Colorado State University. We are employees of the Black/African American Cultural Center at CSU's campus as the Juneteenth Youth Night Planning Coordinators. We are seeking to gather voices of the Northern Colorado Youth that will be able to participate and enjoy the Juneteenth youth night festivities.

**Your Voice Matters**  
Our goal is to make sure the NoCo youth are heard. We want to connect with students ages 13-17 to plan events and activities for Juneteenth youth night that interest them and that they would thoroughly enjoy. Youth night will be held on June 16th, time and location pending. We are simply facilitating the conversations but ultimately want students involved as much as possible in this process.

**Stay Connected**  
We have created a Youth Night GroupMe for the students to stay connected and talk about ideas with all the other BSU's that we will be meeting with. As we get closer to the event we hope to host all the students involved in the planning along with their families for a gathering at the Black/African American Culture Center at CSU.

**Contact Us**  
Parents and student advisors please feel free to reach out if you have any questions at all regarding this process or the event itself!

**Alexis Works**  
Alexis.Works@Colostate.Edu

**Lexi Johnson**  
Alexis.Monet.Johnson@Colostate.Edu

  
Scan to join the GroupMe

 **BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER**  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

## **PSD Appreciation Day @ the Colorado Rockies**

PSD's Appreciation Days with the Rockies will be Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup> against the Phillies! Have Mother's Day plans already? Then check out our SECOND opportunity to see the Rockies against the Nationals on April 9<sup>th</sup>!

For more information about prices and seating, or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.rockies.com/PSD](http://www.rockies.com/PSD). If you have any questions, please reach out to Ryan Tapp at (303) 312-2443 or [Ryan.Tapp@rockies.com](mailto:Ryan.Tapp@rockies.com).



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

# APPRECIATION NIGHT

SATURDAY, APRIL 29 - 6:10PM

 VS 

ADDITIONAL GAME CHOICES  
JUEGOS ADICIONALES DISPONIBLES

Sun. April 9	Sun. May 14	Sat. June 10
		

**TICKETS STARTING AT \$15**

Only available at [Rockies.com/PSD](http://Rockies.com/PSD):



BOLETOS A PARTIR DE \$15 | DISPONIBLE SOLO EN LÍNEA [Rockies.com/PSD](http://Rockies.com/PSD)



## **PSD Is Hiring!**

PSD is hiring school nutrition professionals and many other positions for next school year. Visit [www.psdschools.org](http://www.psdschools.org) for more information.



There's a meaningful connection between school nutrition professionals and our amazing students. Being a school nutrition professional means being at the leading edge of taste, science, and health, and you're invited to join the movement.

<https://psdschools.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=6190> or

call the Child Nutrition Office at 970-490-3557 for more information