

September
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

Welcome back, Mustangs!

We've had a great first few weeks with our new and returning Mustangs! We are proud of our Kinard community and happy that each of you is a part of the incredible things happening at our school. Our dedicated staff, hard-working and enthusiastic students, and supportive parents make Kinard a school of excellence. View the pictures below for a peek into our first days kicking off the 2023-24 school year.



continued on next page

Well Care Visits are
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OF NORTHERN COLORADO

Kinard Middle School

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Dr. Aric Murphy, DDS, MD
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hablamos español

Welcome back, Mustangs!

continued



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Health District

OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY

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970-472-0444

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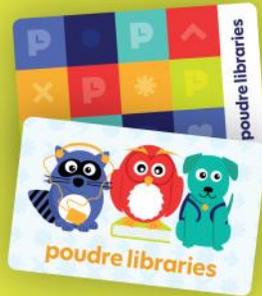
DOCTOR OWNED & OPERATED

The Women's Clinic
of Northern Colorado

Kinard Middle School

8th Grade Tech Challenge

8th grade students are being introduced to the "Engineering Design Process," by designing marshmallow spaghetti towers. Students have developed solutions that have resulted in towers standing freely at over 37 inches! In addition to learning about the "Engineering Design Process," students are learning about team building and collaboration. Want to learn more about this exercise? Check out [Tom Wujec's TED TALK - "Build a Tower, Build a Team"](#).



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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

Quick Reference Guide and Standards-Based Instruction, Assessment, and Reporting Practices

During the first weeks of school, students reviewed the policies and practices outlined in our Kinard Quick Reference Guide in their classes. [Click here](#) to read and review our Quick Reference Guide, which contains very important school-wide information including:

- Student/Teacher Communication Practices and Strategies
- Behavioral Expectations
- Academic Expectations
- Standards-Based Grading Practices and Synergy Information
- PSD Work Habits Rubric
- Dress Policy
- And much more...

In addition, students have been introduced to many aspects of our Standards-Based Instruction, Assessment, and Reporting practices as summarized [here](#). Both these documents are also available on our website.

Supporting our Schools



Joe Mivshek

Joe.Mivshek@KW.com

kw NORTHERN
COLORADO
KELLERWILLIAMS.

970.420.7163



Kinard Middle School

Student Pictures Make-up Day

If your child was unable to have his/her individual student photo taken during registration, we are offering an alternate time to complete 2023-24 student pictures. Skillman Photography will be at Kinard beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 5 for any students who still need a photo taken for this year. If possible, please drop your child at school by 7:45 a.m. to ensure we can get photos completed by the beginning of classes. Skillman order forms are available in the main office or by clicking [here](#).

Please note:

- We will also have a picture retake day on Tuesday, October 17. The make-up day on September 5 is only for students who did not have photos taken at registration.
- Students may enter the main doors between 7:30-8:00 a.m. to go to the Media Center for photos. Once their photo is complete, they will head back outside to wait until 8:00 a.m. for our regular building entry process.

If you have any questions, please contact the main office at 488-5400.

Parent/Community Partnership

We held our initial community partnership meeting on August 22. The community partnership is a group of Kinard parents, family, and community members helping to foster a school community of appreciation and fun. They work closely with the Kinard staff to organize and support various events and activities for both students and staff. In addition to discussing the purpose of the parent partnership, we reviewed volunteer opportunities and events. If you were unable to attend but want more information, please view the presentation [here](#), contact our volunteer coordinators, Adria Peterson at adriapeterson@gmail.com or Virginia Chevalier at virgie56@hotmail.com, or contact our academic dean, Cecilia Bonertz, at cbonertz@psdschools.org.

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Kinard Middle School

Student Absences and Early Pick-ups

If your child is ill and will not be attending school on a given day, please be sure to call in to our 24-hour attendance line at (970)488-5401. Please leave us your name, your child's name, and his/her student ID number. Even if you contact your child's individual teachers to notify them of the absence or to request make-up work, you still need to call the attendance line to confirm the absence with our office staff. You can also report an absence for your child via [ParentVUE](#).

Additionally, if you plan to pick your child up for an appointment or early dismissal, please call our main office at (970)488-5400 as early in the day as possible. It can be more difficult to get your child to you quickly if you wait to call until you are in the parking lot or immediately needing your student for dismissal.

Welcome Wagon(s) and Wellness Fair!

Mark your calendars for an evening of fun, food, and wellness! 🍌 On Thursday, September 7, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, we're hosting our annual Welcome Wagon(s) and Wellness Fair. In addition to coming together as a community and enjoying each other and music from Sound of the Rockies, we will have:

🍌 ****Food Trucks****: Indulge in a variety of delectable dishes from food trucks that will be parked on-site. There will be plenty of options for everyone's taste buds!

🌿 ****Wellness Fair****: Take a break from the delicious treats and explore our wellness fair, where you can learn about maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Engage in interactive activities, get valuable health tips, and discover resources that promote physical and mental well-being.

This event is not just about food and fun—it's about coming together as a community to enjoy a memorable evening together. Bring your family and friends, lawn chairs or blankets, and we'll see you in the Kinard courtyard and athletic fields on September 7 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Cecilia Bonertz, Academic Dean, at (970)488-5407 or cbonertz@psdschools.org. 🗺️📍

Kinard Middle School

Welcome Wagon(s) and Wellness Fair!

continued

KINARD WELCOME WAGONS & WELLNESS FAIR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023
5 PM - 7 PM
KINARD'S NORTH FIELD

Mary's Mountain cookies
MOMMA PEREZ BURRITOS
Est. Limonah, Colorado
Fork Yeah! Food Truck
DJ by Sounds of the Rockies
FAT TOMATO INC.
BROWN BUTTER BAKESHOP
Farmhouse Soda
Charlotte's lil Kitchen
MADE WITH LOVE

BRING YOUR OWN BLANKETS, CHAIRS, SUN COVERS

Kinard Middle School

Counselors' Corner

Greetings to all of our new families and those returning! There are two counselors to support students and families at Kinard, and we divide our caseload by last name:

- Mrs. Patti Young - students with the last names starting with A-G; pyoung@psdschools.org; 970-488-5406
- Ms. Karen Irvine - students with last names starting with H-Z; kirvine@psdschools.org; 970-488-5408

Our offices are located in Kinard's Student Services office. You can easily connect with us and the Student Services department online via Kinard's homepage (under "School Info" and "Contacts"), or by clicking on these links:

[School Counseling Learning Page](#)

[Kinard Student Services](#)

With the assistance of our amazing 8th grade WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Leaders, we welcomed nearly 300 6th graders on August 16. We will be visiting 6th grade ELOs in September to share how students can connect with us at school and online, as well as our role as school counselors and how we support students. Later this quarter, we will teach our SEL (Social & Emotional Learning) curriculum in 6th grade classrooms to support students' development of healthy relationship skills, and additionally how to handle conflict or bullying situations. Visits to 7th and 8th grade classrooms will happen later this fall.

Please reach out with any needs or questions you have.



Kinard Middle School

Student Laptops and Chargers

Exciting news! Your student's PSD-issued laptop and charger are now labeled and barcoded. Your child will find their name and their graduation date labeled on their assigned equipment. These labels assist your student and our staff in keeping the correct technology with the correct student. The barcodes on each item have been used to check out the equipment to your child.



The labels are color coded by grade level/graduation year. The codes represent **RED for 6th grade**, **YELLOW for 7th grade**, and **BLUE for 8th grade**.

At the end of this school year, students will return their labeled laptop and charger. Returning Kinard students will use the **same** laptop and charger next school year. If you notice that your child is using a non-labeled laptop or charger, please have them see Mrs. Louk or Mrs. Arnold in the Media Center.

Please encourage students to take good care of their laptop and charger as they will use the same ones every year they attend Kinard. [Click here](#) for tips on how students can safely take care of their school laptops and [here](#) for the district equipment use and acknowledgement form.

For questions about student laptops and equipment, please contact Dianne Louk, Building Technology Coordinator, at dlouk@psdschools.org.

Kinard Middle School

7th Grade Field Trip to Colorado Youth Outdoors

The PE department is excited to continue the annual Colorado Youth Outdoors (CYO) field trip for our 7th graders. This is an exciting field trip opportunity and partnership with the Colorado Youth Outdoors Program. 7th graders will go on the field trip for the whole day on October 2nd (½ of 7th grade PE students) or October 3rd (the second ½ of 7th grade PE students). Colorado Youth Outdoors exists to build relationships through traditional outdoor recreation. All students will have the opportunity to rotate through four stations taught by trained professionals. At each station, students will learn about safety and will need to follow the instructor's guidelines in order to participate in the following activities:

Archery- on a professional range

Fishing- at various ponds on the property

BB gun- on safe gun range using one pump BB guns

Survival Skills- learning outdoor survival skills

This field trip is to not only give our students an incredible opportunity to experience outdoor recreation, but also to introduce our upcoming archery and fishing units in the spring semester. This will meet many P.E. and Health Standards in the area of Prevention and Risk Management and Emotional and Social Wellness.

More information will be coming soon from your student's PE teacher. If you would like to be a parent volunteer for this trip, please make sure you are a PSD registered volunteer by following this link <http://tinyurl.com/psdvol> then email Mrs. Jordan (bjordan@psdschools.org) or Mr. Benson (jbenson@psdschools.org).

Kinard Middle School

Gifted and Talented Program Info

Kinard GT Program Information Night, Tuesday, September 12, 6-7 pm

Parents and guardians of students with GT identification(s), please look for an email from Kinard's GT Program Coordinator, Wendi Grigg, for a RSVP invitation to attend Kinard's GT Program Information Night. This presentation supports parents who are new to GT and/or Kinard or any other parents who are seeking an overview of gifted and talented education in PSD. Topics will include how to provide support for your child's Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) and how students grow in their GT education at Kinard. This is also a great opportunity to learn more about upcoming GT related events and resources for parents. Please contact Wendi Grigg at wgrigg@psdschools.org for questions.

Helpful links for parents new to gifted and talented education in PSD

- [An Overview of Gifted Identification in PSD](#)
- [An Overview of PSD Advanced Learning Plans \(ALPs\)](#)
- [CDE Twice-Exceptional document with Resources for Parents](#)
- [FAQs about the Gifted Program in PSD](#)

2023-24 Parent GT Nights on Zoom

Parents and guardians are invited to join others from around Northern Colorado for Zoom GT Parent Nights on October 23 and January 24. Andi McNair, October 23, and Brian Housand, January 24, will be presenting and are nationally known speakers in gifted education.

Kinard Middle School

Gifted and Talented Program Info

continued

Brought to you by the North Central Gifted Education Region in Colorado



ONLINE EVENT FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

2023-2024 School Year

GT PARENT NIGHTS ON ZOOM

NATIONALLY KNOWN SPEAKERS IN GIFTED EDUCATION!

Andi and Brian are passionate, engaging educators who believe in serving gifted learners in the most meaningful ways.



ANDI MCNAIR
Guest Speaker
October 24, 2023
PM time TBD



BRIAN HOUSAND
Guest Speaker
January 23, 2024
PM time TBD

 **MORE INFO TO COME!**
Zoom link will be available later this fall.

Kinard Middle School

Important Yearbook Information

The 2023-24 Kinard yearbook is available for purchase! Make sure that your child 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!

8th Grade Parents/Guardians:

Parents of 8th grade students also have the opportunity to celebrate and honor your child by buying a baby ad. You can order a baby ad for the yearbook at theyearbookcompany.com. There is an early-bird discount for ads submitted (photos, message, & payment) by October 27!

Kinard Middle School

**ORDER A 2023-2024
YEARBOOK**



Your memories. Your moments. Your year.

OUR YEARBOOK



Kinard Middle School

School Accountability Committee

We are reaching out to all parents/guardians to extend an invitation to serve on our 2023-2024 School Accountability Committee (SAC). **Our first SAC meeting for the year will be held on Monday, September 18 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Kinard Media Center.** The Kinard School Accountability Committee meets four times per year, approximately quarterly.

The SAC is a wonderful opportunity to enhance our partnership with parents/guardians through an organized group composed of both parents/guardians and teachers at Kinard. The SAC has a very specific focus, established by the Colorado Department of Education and Poudre School District. Primary topics for analysis and discussion will include budget allocation and Kinard's Unified Improvement Plan (UIP). Other topics that may be discussed in this committee include but are not limited to: parent involvement, student transitions, curriculum, instruction, assessment, systems for support, communication, technology, leadership, decision-making, positive behavior support, and school-wide capacity building.

We are also seeking parents/guardians who are interested in serving as the Kinard representative on the **District Advisory Board (DAB)**. The DAB provides family engagement by connecting schools with our District through collaboration and conversation on current topics as directed by the Superintendent and the Board. The DAB shall represent the interests and communicate with the Board of Education and Superintendent on behalf of current school district students and their parents/guardians in a cooperative effort to help improve and support Poudre School District programs and operations. **If you are interested in serving in this role for Kinard, please contact Principal Lindsey Matkin (lmarkin@psdschools.org).**

Additionally, anyone interested in learning more about the school accountability process, is invited to attend a community information session. See the flier below for more details.

Kinard Middle School

School Accountability Committee

continued

School Performance Framework Sessions: Informational sessions are open to all PSD staff and community members to learn about accountability for the 2023-2024 school year, including changes for the performance frameworks, request to reconsider process, and the unified improvement planning timeline.



school



performance



frameworks

6:30-7:30 p.m.

Sessions:

-JSSC Boardroom, 2407 LaPorte Avenue, Thursday, September 14th

-Future Ready Event Center (located in the Foothills Malls), 215 E. Foothills Parkway, Suite 510, Tuesday, September 26th

For more information

 Call: (970) 490-3124

 Email: stthomas@psdschools.org

Kinard Middle School

Save the Date for an Upcoming Parent Night - Wednesday, September 27

We are planning a parent information night for Wednesday, September 27, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. This evening is being designed for parents to help support the developmental needs of your middle school students and to introduce our standards based instruction and grading practices. More information will be communicated soon.

Standardized Assessment Results

If your child took CMAS in a PSD school last spring, he/she will soon be bringing home hard-copy reports of his/her ELA and math results. In addition, parents/guardians of 6th graders will soon receive reports for students who took science assessments in a PSD school last spring.

We also want to remind you that standardized assessment results are available through ParentVUE. After logging into ParentVUE, please use the following options from the menu of icons:

CMAS: PSD Documents (bottom row of icons) → All assessment documents → CMAS 2023 results are currently not included but should be available soon.

- CMAS_2023 (or other year) - These reports provide information about your student's mastery of skills and concepts in the stated subject area.
- CMASGrowth - These reports show growth as measured by the ELA and math assessments. Growth data is only available for students who took assessments in both the current and previous years.

MAP: Student Information → Scroll all the way to the bottom to view graphs of your student's percentile rank on CMAS and MAP assessments. For more information on MAP assessments, please see the family guide [here](#).

If you have questions about interpreting your child's assessment results, please contact his/her teachers. You may also contact Cecilia Bonertz, Academic Dean, at 970-488-5407 or cbonertz@psdschools.org.

Kinard Middle School

Mustang Music 5K

The Mustang Music 5K is a fundraiser to provide additional instruments, instruction and experiences for our wonderful Kinard band students.

DATE: Saturday, October 14

LOCATION: Kinard Middle School

SCHEDULE: 8:30am Reverse Parade and Fun Run
9:00am 5K Race

5K DETAILS: The 5K features a chip-timed race designed to show the beauty of the neighborhoods by Kinard Middle School. Enjoy the music along the course provided by the Kinard and Fossil Ridge bands.

REVERSE PARADE/FUN RUN DETAILS (10 and younger): Perfect for children 10 and younger, the Reverse Parade is a Fun Run in which participants will walk or run 1 mile (4 laps) around the Kinard Track. Musical groups will surround the track playing music while YOU parade around them!

Mustang Music ZEROK: Not a runner? Don't like mornings? Can't attend in person? Just want the shirt and to support the band? Well you can do this from home or even out-of-state by signing up for the ZEROK! This entry includes a shirt and all proceeds go to the band, but you don't have to lift a foot!

Sign-up by September 22 to be guaranteed a tech t-shirt for the race!

continued on next page

In Honor of Hal Kinard

We Can and We Will

Kinard Middle School

Mustang Music 5K

continued

Saturday October 14th
9:00am

Kinard Middle School Band

MUSTANG MUSIC 5K
2023

Register online at
www.kinardband.com/5k
or scan the QR code

Come enjoy a morning of music and running!

Schedule

7:30am - Late Registration & Packet Pick-Up
8:30am - Reverse Parade & Fun Run
9:00am - 5k Run/Walk!

Registration & Fees

5K Run/Walk Individual: \$30, after 9-22-23 \$30
5K Run/Walk Family of 4: \$80, after 9-22-23 \$100
5K Run/Walk Team of 6-10: \$150, after 9-22-23 \$200
Reverse Parade/Fun Run (ages 10 and under): \$15, after 9-22-23 \$20
Includes Mustang 5K Tech shirt (register by 9-22-23 to receive shirt by race day)
Register online or through your favorite band student
No Refunds



SCAN ME

Location

Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School
3002 E. Trilby Road
Ft. Collins, CO 80528

Perks

Aid station & live music along the race course!!
Mustang 5K tech shirt guaranteed for all!
Chip timed
Fun and unique prizes for overall winners and by age group

All proceeds benefit the Kinard Middle School Band

PSD Community Classic

Save the date for this year's Poudre School District Community Classic at CSU's Canvas Stadium! Four PSD high schools will play games against each other. All PSD students get free admission!

OCTOBER 6TH, 2023

CANVAS STADIUM

2023
canvas credit union

COMMUNITY CLASSIC

FOSSIL RIDGE VS FORT COLLINS
4:30

ROCKY MOUNTAIN VS POUDBRE
7:00

**RAMTOWN INFLATABLES
PARADE OF SCHOOLS
MASCOT RACES
AND MORE!**

FREE ADMISSION TO ALL PSD STUDENTS AND STAFF
ADULT TICKETS \$12

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Kinard Middle School

Helpful Procedures & Expectations

As we start the school year, we wanted to share some helpful reminders to ensure a school environment focused on learning and student growth. We appreciate the support of families and our community to establish the conditions that help students feel safe and able to learn every day.

Appropriate Dress

Responsibility for the dress and appearance of students generally rests with the individual students and their parents/guardians. Student appearance should reflect pride in themselves when attending school and school-sponsored events. As stated in district policy, students must wear: a shirt (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides underneath the arms); pants or the equivalent (e.g. a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress, or shorts); and shoes (e.g. sandals, boots, or athletic shoes).

- Clothing choices need to allow for the participation in all school-related activities (e.g. flip flops, Crocs, and sandals are okay for school, but students should bring athletic shoes when they participate in P.E. and health classes due to the activity level).
- Students who wear shirts with inappropriate statements or pictures that cause or have the potential to cause disruption to the learning of others will be asked to wear the shirt inside out or will be provided with another shirt if one is available. They may also call home and ask their parents/guardians to bring a different shirt or top.
- Hats or hoods that do not obscure a student's face or ears are permitted.

Drinks in Halls/Classrooms

We have noticed some students bringing "fancy" drinks, such as coffees and smoothies, with them to school in the morning and carrying them in the halls, taking them to class, or storing them in lockers. It is our policy that students consume these beverages prior to entering the building and to not bring them to lockers, the hallways, or classrooms to ensure the cleanliness of our building and a continued focus on learning in classes. Water is always permitted throughout the building. We appreciate your support in keeping our building looking its best!

Food Deliveries

We are also experiencing an increase in the number of students who are ordering lunch for delivery each day at school. We frequently have

Kinard Middle School

Helpful Procedures & Expectations *continued*

GrubHub, DoorDash, etc. deliveries to students throughout the day. While we realize these deliveries may happen on occasion for a special event, we ask that students do not regularly order food for delivery to the school. Deliveries often do not arrive on time for the student's lunch period, which then causes disruption to classes and student learning. Also, the frequency of deliveries places a burden on our front office staff who are already working hard to support students, staff, and families throughout the school day. Please encourage your student to pack a lunch from home or get a healthy, balanced meal from our cafeteria instead of ordering in food from local restaurants. Thank you for your consideration!

Student Clubs & Extra-Curricular Activities

We have a variety of clubs and extracurricular opportunities that promote student involvement and cater to many different student interest areas. Below is a list of the current clubs we offer at Kinard. If your child is interested in participating in some of these wonderful activities, please see [our website](#) for specific meeting times, dates, and locations. *Please note: Specific dates and times are subject to change and some club sponsors are still solidifying start dates. Additional communication about Kinard clubs and activities will be sent through subsequent newsletters, emails, and updates on our [activity calendar](#). Be on the lookout for all our amazing student opportunities!

School-Sponsored Clubs:

- Fitness Club (starting now)
- Lego Robotics (starting now)
- MathCounts: Calling all mathematicians! MathCounts (our math competition and problem-solving club) will start meeting on September 12 after school in the Media Center. We will meet on Tuesdays from 3:15 to 4:15 PM in the Media Center to practice problem solving. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Williams (awilliams@psdschools.org). Hope to see you there!
- National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) (starting soon)
- STEM Club (starting soon)
- Science Olympiad (starting soon)
- Yearbook (starting now)

Kinard Middle School

Student Clubs & Extra-Curricular Activities

continued

Student Initiated and Led Clubs:

If a student has an interest that lies outside of the listed school-sponsored clubs, they are welcome to explore starting their own club. Student initiated and led clubs are open to all students and can happen before or after school. Students interested in starting a student initiated and led organization must first meet with Mrs. LaRue to start the application process and to understand PSD policy around student initiated and led organizations. Students should come to that meeting with a general idea or proposal for their club - a description of the club, purpose of the club, when and where they would like the club to meet, as well as how frequently and for how long each meeting will run. Students will also need to find a staff sponsor who agrees to monitor and supervise the club.

SRO Corner

Hi from your friendly SRO Kate Garcia! Most kids call me Officer Kate. I am the SRO at Kinard, Bacon, Werner, and Zach Elementary Schools. Within Fort Collins Police Services, I am also a Crisis/Hostage Negotiator, on the Peer Support Team and on the Bike Team. Before I was a Police Officer, I was an EMT and got my BS in Kinesiology from the University of Rhode Island. In my free time, I love spending time with my family, playing hockey, fly fishing and coaching softball at Kinard! Go Mustangs!!



This year, your School Resource Officer team is going to be sharing topics monthly in school newsletters to engage with parents and send home some tips for safety both at school and home. This month we are going to be discussing the role of the School Resource Officer within Poudre School District.

Your Fort Collins Police School Resource Officers are certified police officers who have all received basic and advanced police training through the Fort Collins Police, as well as a nationally accredited Police Academy. We all come from

continued on next page

Kinard Middle School

SRO Corner

continued

different walks of life, but all have the same basic skills and abilities. Many of us have advanced skills in things like Crime Scene Investigation, Traffic Accident Reconstruction, Forensic Investigations, Crisis Negotiation, Bicycle Safety and Operation, Medical Skills, SWAT operations, Firearms, Arrest Control, and other specialized skills. We all then have been through a School Resource Officer school which is a national certification from National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) to become SROs and work within the schools.

Your SROs are taught the concept of “The Triad” during our NASRO School which is the foundation for In School Policing. The Triad concept explains that an SRO should be Three Things:

First and foremost, we are Law Enforcement Officers, meaning we are Sworn Peace Officers capable of investigating crimes, traffic accidents, responding to emergency situations, writing traffic tickets, and of course providing security, safety, and officer presence at all our schools and school events.

The second component of The Triad is, Mentor. We all have chosen to become SROs not to write tickets but to mentor the youth of our community. We want to help in building high quality young adults and recognize that the better the foundation, the stronger the individual. We mentor students in all manners of life, from good decision making to conflict resolution, as well as mental health and wellbeing. We often counsel on the dangers of drug and alcohol use as well as help students navigate peer conflict. We have found that for students to be successful in their schooling often the only thing missing is one trusted adult. Students have a whole list of adults in the building they can trust for mentoring or counseling, and your SRO offers a new and unique lens for students on how to develop mentally, relationally, scholastically, and socially.

The third component of The Triad is Teaching & Guest Speaking. Often SROs are asked by teachers to come to class and lend our expertise to certain lessons. With all the SROs on the team, that expertise varies greatly from school to school, but often we teach lessons on the Bill of Rights, Traffic Safety, Bicycle Safety, Internet Safety (for both students and parents), Cyber Bullying, or School Safety. SROs have also found themselves teaching on a multitude of other topics as well from photography to physical education, reading to elementary students or giving “Stranger Danger” presentations,

Kinard Middle School

SRO Corner

continued

helping with mock trials in English or Social Studies classes, the list is endless. We love the opportunity to impact the youth in our community and any chance we are presented to interact in healthy and helpful ways, we are going to jump at the chance!

We are looking forward to a safe and incredible year in Poudre School District and please if you ever have questions, reach out to your SRO! We are on the same PSD schedule as our schools and are always available to help wherever we can!

Keep an eye out for next month's SRO Corner!

Mental Health Matters in PSD

Everyone struggles, even if it doesn't seem like it. It's OK to not be OK. Here at Kinard and in PSD, we care about ourselves and each other. We strive to communicate to our students that we all belong here, and they are never alone. We urge them to remember that if it just feels like too much and they don't know what to do, they have options here at school to complement the support they have at home:

- If students need support in school, they can connect with a trusted adult or a counselor. Counselors will help connect students with help.
- If someone they know needs help, we encourage students to ask how they're doing, listen to them, and connect them to a trusted adult or a counselor. If they're not in school, they can talk to a family member or call or text 988.



Kinard Middle School

Kinard Health Office News

Poudre School District's health services website has been updated over the summer for families to visit regarding any health support your student may need while in PSD.

Within the health services website you can view valuable information on:

[Health Services for Students](#)

- About School Nurses
- About Health Technicians

[Nurses and Health Techs at Schools](#)

[Medications and Health Care Action Plans](#)

- Procedures for Medications
- Medication Forms
- Health Conditions, Plans and Medications
 - ◇ Allergies/Anaphylaxis
 - ◆ HCAP & Self-carry form
 - ◇ Asthma
 - ◆ HCAP & Self-carry form
 - ◇ Diabetes
 - ◆ HCAP & more
 - ◇ Headaches & Migraines
 - ◆ HCAP & Self-carry form
 - ◇ Seizures
 - ◆ HCAP

[Illness Guidelines](#)

Illness and Returning to School Guidelines

If your student is experiencing any illness symptoms, please refer to these return-to-learn guidelines from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Education (CDPHE):

- ["How Sick is Too Sick" Guidelines](#)
- [¿Qué tan enfermo es demasiado enfermo?](#)

Kinard Middle School

Kinard Health Office News

continued

If your student is experiencing fever, diarrhea, and/or vomiting they must be 24-hours symptom free without medication from their last episode to return to school. If symptoms are explained by a specific illness please see criteria for exclusion from school in the CDPHE [Infectious Disease Guidelines in Childcare and School Settings](#).

[Immunizations](#)

- Required Vaccines
- Immunization Exemptions
 - ◊ Nonmedical and Medical forms

Here are other pages within the health services website:

[COVID-19 Protocols](#)

[Lice and Bed Bugs](#)

[School-Based Health and Wellness Centers](#)

[Stock Medications](#)

[Vision and Hearing Screenings](#)

[504 and IEP Services](#)

School Meals and Food Allergies/Intolerances

Returning the completed Meal Modification form to the PSD Child Nutrition Office or your student's health office, is an important step for the development of safe meal modifications for your child. Determinations on if a student has a disability that restricts their diet are to be made by a licensed physician. Adjusted meals cost the same as regular meals. The school, school nurse, family, student, and physician will work together to best meet the student's needs. For questions, please contact PSD Nutrition Coordinator Becky Wiggins, rwiggins@psdschools.org.

To apply for a medical disability alternative (Meal Modification), please fill out this [Medical Statement for Dietary Disability Form](#).

For more information, please visit the Special Food Needs section within the School Meals section on the PSD website: [Special Food Needs](#)