

December
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

Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School – December Newsletter 2023

Turkey Round-up: A Huge Success!

Kinard Community, thank you so much for your generosity and giving spirit during our Turkey Round-up in November! Together, we donated over 70 frozen turkeys, chickens, and hams to the Larimer County Food Bank.

Thank you to everyone who participated. Great job, Kinard! And we want to send a special thank you to our turkey wrangling team: Mrs. Darrow, Mrs. Hergenreder, and all the NJHS students who helped collect the turkeys. You're the best, Mustangs!



continued on next page

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MEDICAL = PEDIATRICS = DENTAL = BEHAVIORAL [saludclinic.org](#)

Kinard Middle School

Is it just a phase?



CAYAC

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Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School – December Newsletter 2023

continued



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...to learn more about these great companies!

Well Care Visits are Time Well Spent

Join The Youth Clinic Family for Year-Round Comprehensive Care



The Youth Clinic
caring for our future generations



Pediatric Urgent Care
OF NORTHERN COLORADO



Kinard Middle School

Start Your Child's Climbing Journey Today!

Our Youth Clubs are the perfect way to explore the world of climbing, learn new skills, and get active!

4 Week Long Sessions:
August 28 - September 22
September 25 - October 20
October 23 - November 17
November 27 - December 22

Starting as young as 3 years old!

CLICK THE AD TO LEARN MORE & BOOK A SESSION TODAY!

970.999.5596
2150 Joseph Allen Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80525

ASCENT STUDIO

Lego Robotics

Our Lego Robotics team represented Kinard with character and excellence at the First Lego League Poudre Qualifier Tournament last month! Our team placed 6th out of 40 teams and will advance to the state championship at UC Denver on December 9. Congratulations to all of our Kinard Robotics competitors, and a huge thank you to Mr. Berthold, and all the staff and parent volunteers, who helped to make this experience possible for our students! Great job, Mustangs!



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Health District
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY

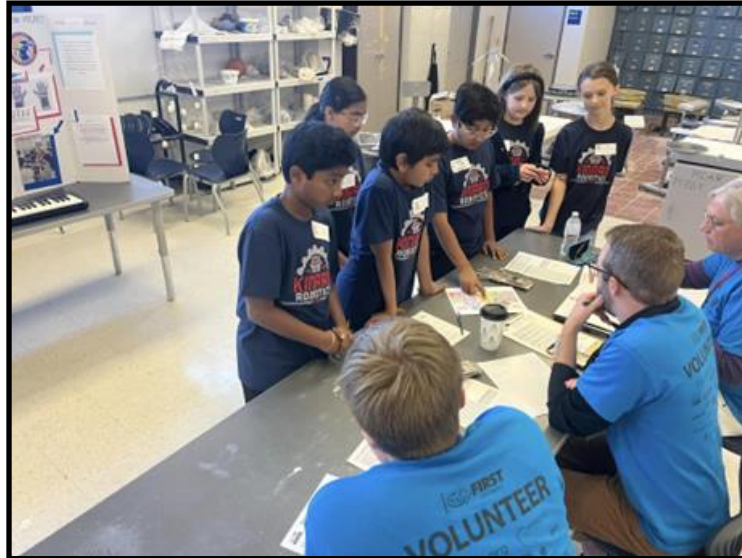
CHECK IN to affordable health coverage options.

Visit **HealthDistrict.org**
or call **Larimer Health Connect**
at **970-472-0444**.

Kinard Middle School

Lego Robotics

continued



Supporting our Schools



Joe Mivshek

Joe.Mivshek@KW.com

kw NORTHERN
COLORADO
KELLERWILLIAMS.

970.420.7163



Kinard Middle School

Student Essay Contest Winner!

7th grader, Amelia Gold was one of the essay winners of the Fort Collins Reads contest this year! She was recognized at an award ceremony last month at the Council Tree library for this honor. Thanks to Mr. Yacobucci for supporting her and helping her to grow her writing skills. We are proud of you, Amelia!



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

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

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

While the trip was filled with recreation and adventure, it was far from a vacation. Students participated in a variety of service-learning projects to enhance the Catalina Island community. Students built trails and planted

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

new native plants as a part of an on-going project which Kinard students have been a part of for the past 13 years. Another service project taught students about healthy food choices and composting principles.

In addition to learning about sustainable environmental practices, students enhanced their leadership skills and personal growth through team-building activities that included ocean kayaking, a high ropes course, and night snorkeling.

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

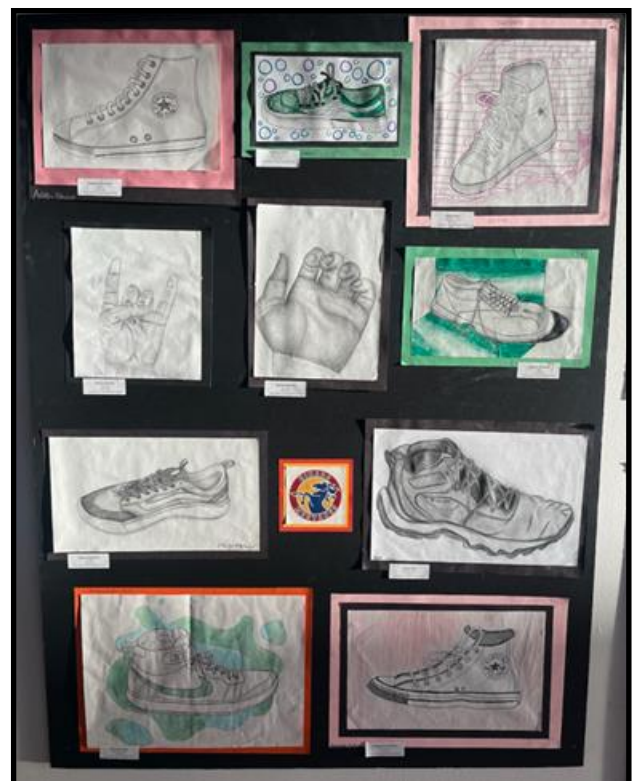


PSD Art Show

Great news! 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 10th. 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 Ms. Urban and Mr. Vizzini for all the hard work and support of our students to create such beautiful pieces. Stop by to check out the amazing artwork from our Mustang artists!

23-24 Creative Endeavors
PSD K-12 Art Show
Foothills | 215 E. Foothills Pkwy 80525
November 16th-January 10th
Community Reception
Thursday, November 16th 5-7pm

FOUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Kinard Middle School

8th Grade Transition to High School

Positive transitions are a large part of a successful middle school experience. Thus, Poudre School District intentionally creates opportunities to assist students as they move from one level to the next. Please review the information below regarding the transition events for our high schools in PSD.

- All students have an assigned home high school based on their home address.
- If you are planning to have your child attend a high school other than their designated feeder school, the PSD School Choice application must be completed by **Friday, December 15, 2023 at noon**. Please visit the [PSD School Options and Choice](#) website for more details.
- The comprehensive high schools in PSD are offering evening informational nights for incoming freshman and prospective students. See below for a list of dates or visit each school's website for more details. We will also update 8th grade families as we learn of other registration events from the various PSD high schools.
- In late January, high school counselors will visit Kinard to help students with the registration process for 9th grade courses.

You can also visit the [PSD website](#) to view the PSD High School Planning Guide. The High School Planning Guide presents the options and choices available in PSD schools to help students and families plan their own unique high school experience. The guide covers:

- Graduation requirements
- Credit and course planning
- Exploring career pathways
- Earning college credit in high school
- Career readiness and work experiences

If you have any questions about high school transitions, please contact Patti Young, Counselor (student last names A-G), at pyoung@psdschools.org or (970)488-5406 or Karen Irvine, Counselor (student last names H-Z), at kirvine@psdschools.org or (970)488-5408.

8th Grade Transition to High School

continued

Fort Collins High School	8th Grade Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday, December 6th 6:00-8:00pm Registration Q & A
Fossil Ridge High School	Fossil Ridge Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday, December 5th, 6-8pm 9th Grade Registration Q & A Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday, January 31st, 2024, 6-7pm
Poudre Global Academy	PGA K-12 School Tours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10-11am Nov 17, Dec 15, Feb 16, Mar 22, April 24 Link to Register: PGA Tour Registration Link
Poudre High School	Poudre Preview Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 28th - 5:30-7:30PM IB Information Nights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 9th - 5:30-6:30PM @CLP and Lincoln November 14th - 5:30-6:30PM @Leshner
Rocky Mountain High School	8th Grade Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 4th 6:00-8:00pm 8th Grade Registration Q&A Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 29th 6:00-7:00pm
Timnath Middle-High School	Timnath Middle-High School Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 29 - 6-8:30PM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6PM: 6th Grade Presentation/9th Grade Tours 7:15PM: 9th Grade Presentation/6th Grade Tours Curriculum Fair: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 31 6:00-8:00PM Elementary School Presentations: 6:30-7:30 PM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 5th Timnath Elementary December 6th Bethke Elementary December 7th Bamford Elementary Evening Tours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 11: 4:30-6:30 December 13: 6:30-8:00
Centennial High School	Orientation Sessions 1:30 or 5:30 PM on... <ul style="list-style-type: none">
Polaris	Middle & High School Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 6th, 5:00-5:45 Middle & High School Celebration of Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 6th, 5:45-7:30
Poudre Community Academy	Middle School 8th grade Orientation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All grade Orientation to enroll for 2022/2023 School Year <ul style="list-style-type: none">
Wellington Middle-High School	5th Grade Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday November 29th, 5pm-7pm
Futures Lab	Info Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuesday, November 28th 6:00 - 7:30 Open House Thursday, January 18th 5:30 - 6:30 and 6:30 - 7:30 Info Night

Kinard Middle School

Volunteer Opportunities

We need your help to ensure our end-of-the-semester celebrations are **successful!** In December, we are looking for some help from our valued parent community to help make upcoming celebrations and events special. We appreciate the time, dedication, and energy our parents put into supporting our staff and students in so many different ways! Please read below and consider signing up using the provided links if you are willing and able. If you are signing up for an opportunity that requires any interaction with students (cookie boxes, incoming 6th grade night, book fair, musical events), you must be a [registered volunteer](#). Please contact us if you need help with that process.

- **Staff Celebration Breakfast:** The Kinard staff will spend their last staff meeting on December 20 celebrating and reflecting upon the first semester. If you would like to help with setting up and decorating on December 19, serving or cleaning up on December 20, or by contributing food or other items to support this celebration breakfast, please [sign up here](#). Non-perishable items can be dropped off on or before December 19 and all other food items will need to be dropped off by 6:30 a.m. on December 20.
- **Gift Cards for Staff:** As part of the staff celebration breakfast, all staff members will receive a small gift and a gift card. If you would like to donate a gift card to a local restaurant or store, please [sign up here](#) and bring it to the main office by 1:00 p.m. on December 19.
- **Cookie Boxes for the Staff:** [Sign up here](#) if you would like to contribute to our traditional staff holiday cookie boxes. This is always a staff favorite, and we welcome some great bakers (or buyers) to help us provide the cookies! You can also sign up to bring ribbon to decorate the boxes. Please deliver cookies to Kinard by 1:00 p.m. on December 19.
- **Book Fair:** The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way on December 13 - 16! Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them on their journey to becoming lifelong readers. If you would like to help inspire and motivate our students through the joy of books, please [sign up here](#). In addition to the days of the fair, we also have volunteer opportunities for setup on December 12.

Kinard Middle School

Volunteer Opportunities

continued

- **Musical Events:** December is a season full of music! We ask our staff to help supervise multiple music performances in the evenings, and we have a few remaining spots where we would love parent support. If you are able to help supervise students at any of these events, please contact Cecilia Bonertz, Academic Dean, at cbonertz@psdschools.org or (970)488-5407.
 - ◇ All Choir Concert, December 8
 - ◆ At Kinard
 - ◆ 6:15 - 8:30 PM
 - ◇ Madrigal Dinner, December 15
 - ◆ At Kinard
 - ◆ 3:15 - 6:00 PM Set-Up
 - ◆ 6:30 - 9:30 PM Supervise
 - ◇ Madrigal Dinner, December 16
 - ◆ At Kinard
 - ◆ 7:30 - 9:00 PM Tear-Down
 - ◇ Philharmonia and Symphony Orchestras Concert, December 20
 - ◆ Location not yet confirmed
 - ◆ 6:15 - 8:30 PM

If you have questions about any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact Adria Peterson, Parent Volunteer, at adria.peterson@gmail.com, or Cecilia Bonertz, Academic Dean, at cbonertz@psdschools.org or (970)488-5407.

Book Fair

We are so excited to have the Scholastic Book Fair back at Kinard this year. See the letter below for details!

If you have any questions about the Scholastic Book Fair, please contact Marnie Arnold, Media Specialist, at marniea@psdschools.org or (970)488-5462.

Kinard Middle School

Book Fair

continued



Dear Families:

Get ready! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way (YAY!). Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them on their journey to becoming lifelong readers. AND—as always – every purchase at the Fair benefits our school.

The big event will take place in the Kinard Media Center Wednesday, December 13th through Saturday, December 16th.

Wednesday, December 13th open 8am-4pm

Thursday, December 14th open 8am-4pm

Friday, December 15th open 8am-4pm & 5pm-7pm at the Madrigal Dinner Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, December 16th open 3pm-5pm at the Madrigal Dinner Holiday Bazaar

Say goodbye to cash and hello to eWallet—your child’s digital payment account. Before the Fair, set up eWallet for worry-free, cash-free purchases. Anyone can contribute! Share each child’s eWallet so friends and family can add funds and give your kids more books to enjoy.

If you can’t make it to the Fair, then shop at our school’s Book Fair online. All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Every online purchase will also benefit our school. Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping: [KinardBookFair](#)

For students, it’s one of the most anticipated events of the school year—but we need volunteers to make it happen. We hope that you can offer your time and talents to help students experience Bookjoy firsthand! Sign up here: [BookFairVolunteerSignUp](#)

The countdown to more BOOKJOY is on! Catch you at the Fair!

Kinard Middle School

8th Grade “Find Your Future” College & Career Day

In partnership with Colorado State University, Poudre School District’s Career & Innovation Team is hosting the first annual college and career expo for all 8th grade PSD students. The goal of this event is to support 8th grade students in learning about options and careers in high school and beyond.

Date: Kinard 8th graders will be attending Friday, January 19th. Permission forms will be distributed January 10th and will be due back January 17th.

On January 19th, students will depart Kinard at 9 a.m. and return at 2 p.m. While at the event, they will attend two self-selected breakout sessions, hear from organizers, and be provided lunch.

Our 8th grade students have taken a survey to indicate their top breakout session choices. Choices included:

1. Business/Marketing - Rockwell Hall College of Business Auditorium
2. Agriculture/Natural Resources - Nutrien Agricultural Sciences
3. Engineering - Walter Scott Engineering Building
4. Computer Sci - Computer Science
5. Skilled Trades - Construction Management
6. Health Science - Behavioral Sciences
7. Education and Human Services - Education Building or Morgan Library
8. Law Enforcement and Public Safety - Green Hall (Possibly stay in ballroom)
9. Media/Visual Arts - Nancy Richardson Design Center

Contact Patti Young (last names A-G) at (970)488-5406/pyoung@psdschools.org or Karen Irvine (970)488-5408/kirvine@psdschools.org with questions.

Please Label Student Belongings

As the weather gets colder and students bring more jackets, gloves, hats, etc. to school, our lost and found becomes overflowing! Please help us to ensure your student gets any misplaced items returned to them by labeling all belongings, such as jackets, lunchboxes, water bottles, hats, etc. with their name.

Kinard Middle School

Vision & Hearing Screening

Our annual **Vision and Hearing Screening** will be on **Friday, January 26**, and we could use your help that morning!

All 7th graders will be screened during 1st 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=>
2. When logged in, click on Events within the Navigation Menu (Kinard is on Friday, Jan. 26th)
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 Heather Julian, Health Tech, at hjulian@psdschools.org if you have any questions about the screening and volunteers@psdschools.org if you have any questions on signing up.

SRO Corner

Season’s Greetings! Let’s delve into the important topic of cell phone safety, especially relevant if your student is either about to get a cell phone or already has one. Parents often wonder about monitoring their child’s phone, and here are some key points to discuss with your child:

1. **Digital Permanence:** Emphasize that everything they write or post online remains accessible forever, including on social media platforms.
2. **Cyberbullying:** In case of cyberbullying or encountering inappropriate content, advise your child to confide in a trusted adult. Have continuing conversations!
3. **Caution with Unknown Contacts:** Instruct them not to add unfamiliar individuals on social media and to be cautious about answering calls or texts from unknown numbers.

Kinard Middle School

SRO Corner

continued

4. **Parental Involvement:** Communicate! Establish a regular schedule, perhaps weekly, to go through the phone together. This provides an opportunity to discuss any concerns and check for signs of cyberbullying, grooming behavior, inappropriate content, or unfamiliar apps.

For additional safety measures:

- **Social Media Settings:** Explore and implement the parental supervision available on various social media platforms.
- **Parent Control Apps:** Consider using parental control apps that allow you to block content and monitor your child's activities directly from your own device.

While we cannot shield our children entirely from technology and social media, **we can empower them with the tools to navigate these platforms safely and responsibly.** If you have further questions, feel free to reach out. We are here to support you and your students!

Also, if you are interested in enhancing your knowledge about Cyber Safety and Social Media Platforms as Parents, mark your calendar for February 6th. Stay tuned for more details and information to follow.

Warm Regards,
SRO Kate Garcia

Important Yearbook Information

The 2023-2024 Kinard yearbook is still 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 if you've already purchased a yearbook or have questions, please contact Ally Lonac, Yearbook Advisor, by email at alonac@psdschools.org. This year's book is one you won't want to miss!

Kinard Middle School

Final Student Picture Make-Up Opportunity

Did your child miss having his/her picture taken for school portraits and the yearbook at Kinard this fall? If so, Skillman Photography is offering one final opportunity for school pictures this year!

You can attend a School Portrait Make-Up Day on either Friday, December 1 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. or Saturday, December 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Skillman Photography, 818 E. Elizabeth Street, Fort Collins, CO. If you have questions, contact Skillman at (970) 484-3403 or email staff@skillmanphotography.com. Skillman will email a portrait package flier for those requesting one. All packages carry a money back guarantee and will be back in 2 weeks or less- just in time for the holidays!

Bring in your Box Tops!

Join us in earning cash for Kinard by using the Box Tops app. It's an easy way to make a difference! All you have to do is buy Box Tops participating products (like Cheerios!) and scan your grocery receipt. Box Tops are worth \$.10 each, and they add up fast! Twice a year, our school receives a check to help pay for equipment, supplies, or books the kids love! Would you like more information about Box Tops for Education? Simply go to BTFE.com.

Kinard Athletics

Our boys basketball teams are off to a terrific start! Our student athletes are competing with character while demonstrating sportsmanship and hard work. We look forward to seeing them continue their winning ways throughout December and into the district tournament. Good luck, Mustangs!

Looking ahead, girls basketball for 7th and 8th grade students and wrestling for all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students will start in January. If your child plans to participate, now is the time to register, get an up-to-date physical with a physician, and to pay the associated fee. For all information regarding sports registration, [please visit our Kinard Athletics page](#).

Calling all coaches! Our wrestling program is still seeking a head coach for the upcoming season! If you or someone you know is interested, click [here](#) to apply.

Questions? Contact our Athletic Director, Kyle Healy at (970) 488-5415 or khealy@psdschools.org.

Kinard Middle School

Kinard Athletics

continued

**LOVE
WRESTLING?
KNOW SOMEONE THAT
DOES?**



**Kinard is looking for a
Head Wrestling Coach!**



Kinard Middle School

Kinard Give Next: Kickoff Day and Class Fundraiser to Support Local Nonprofits!

On October 10, students in the Give Next class went to CSU for “Kickoff Day.” These Kinard students did an excellent job representing our school at nonprofit workshops and interacting with local community leaders to learn more about philanthropy and their opportunity to improve the lives of those in need in our community. With over 20 other schools in the Give Next program attending Kick Off, this was an inspirational day to set the stage for the rest of the Give Next experience.



After attending Kickoff Day, the class surveyed the Kinard school community for gaining feedback on the top concerns in our area. In honoring the community’s voice and through a consensus decision, the students wrote a mission statement to guide their work for the 2023-2024 school year:

We, the Give Next class at Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School, are concerned for children and families living in poverty that need support for mental health challenges.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Can you join us in helping to make a bigger impact? **The class has set a fundraising goal of \$1,500, and 100% of the funds raised will be awarded to local nonprofits who provide mental health support to children and families living in poverty in Larimer County.**

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to donate to our class 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!

Kinard Middle School

Kinard Give Next: Kickoff Day and Class Fundraiser to Support Local Nonprofits! *continued*

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 Bohemian Foundation and the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado.

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

Anne Flemming, aflemming@psdschools.org

Wendi Grigg, wgrigg@psdschools.org

FCHS Girls Basketball Camp

Looking for a fun opportunity for your daughter to be active and a part of our community over winter break? Check out the details in the flier below for FCHS's Girls Basketball Camp, December 28 and 29.

**Fort Collins High School
Girls Basketball Camp**
1st – 8th grade girls
\$55.00



**December
28th & 29th**
4:00PM – 6:00PM



**Join The Fort Collins High School Girls Basketball
Coaches & Players for basketball instruction,
competition, prizes & fun!**



Register Now!
<https://forms.gle/XeGvs9FttZDFa>



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