May 2025



Principal Lindsey Matkin

Assistant Principals
Kyle Healy
Erin LaRue

Main Line 970-488-5400

Attendance Line 970-488-5401

Visit our

website

to learn more about

Kinard.



Page 1



Mustang News

Science O State Competition

This year, our incredible Kinard Science Olympiad students poured their hearts and minds into competing at high levels! With dedication, determination, and countless hours of preparation, our teams pushed themselves further than ever before.

At the Colorado State Science Olympiad Tournament in early April, Kinard's Gold Team earned an impressive 3rd place overall. The Gold Team didn't just place—they dominated, finishing in the top three in 10 out of 23 events, with an incredible FIVE 1st place finishes! Their success was a testament to their perseverance, teamwork, and passion for science. Our Blue Team also made waves, finishing 4th overall and placing in four events, showcasing Kinard's depth of talent and the strength of our entire program.

We could not be prouder of our Mustangs. Their resilience, sportsmanship, and relentless pursuit of excellence represent everything we value at

Kinard. Please join us in congratulating every Science O student who competed this year and our incredible coaches who helped them all season! Your hard work has inspired us all, and we cannot wait to see what you'll achieve next.



continued on next page

Is it just a phase?



CAYAC
Child, Adolescent, and
Young Adult Connections

Helping youth and families find answers, options and support.



CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND YOUNG ADULT CONNECTIONS

970-221-3308

Science O State Competition



continued





Page 2



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.



Science Bowl National Competition

Mrs. Eitsert, Mr. Furtner, and our five-student Science Bowl team traveled to the National Competition in Washington, D.C. recently. It was an unforgettable trip for these young scientists as they competed with quality, toured the US Department of Energy, and even met with Chris Wright, a native Coloradoan and the current Secretary of Energy. Way to go, Mustangs!





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your local realtor

1 1



Page 3

970-800-1166 | SarahTyler@Kentwood.com | SarahTylerHomes.com

Kentwood

Orchestra News

Symphony Orchestra performed beautifully at Metropolitan State University's King Center in Denver on April 10 at the CASTA State Festival! Their clinician, Dr. Brenda Brenner from Jacobs School of Music in Indiana, said they were "one of the finest middle school orchestras (she's) ever heard"! After the festival, the Symphony skipped their way through downtown Denver on a lovely evening for a celebratory dinner at a local restaurant.

The Orchestra also held our annual Solo & Ensemble Festival on Saturday, April 12 with nearly 70 separate performances involving nearly 120 student musicians! The three judges commented on how well-prepared students were and were especially pleased with how responsive the students were to

the feedback and how quickly they learned.
Mrs. Griffey is very proud of the students who showed their developing musical skills by performing solos and ensembles with greater independence!

Congratulations, Mrs.
Griffey and our Mustang
musicians!



continued on next page



Orchestra News











The School Communications Agency Supporting Schools & Local Businesses



Give Next Grant Awards

Our Give Next students hosted their Grant Awards Ceremony recently where they honored the following non-profits that are concerned with improving the lives of children with disabilities: Loveland Youth Gardeners, Respite
Care Inc. and NoCo Down Syndrome Association. It was an amazing celebration of our students' hard work and a great summary of how they developed their mission statement this year and worked through a

collaborative decision-making process to determine how to award the funds they raised and received. We are very proud of these young philanthropists and appreciative of Mrs. Flemming and Mrs. Grigg for supporting them through this year-long process.



Kinard's Global Leadership Travels to Costa Rica!

In late March, Kinard's 8th grade Global Leadership class traveled to Costa Rica for a service learning and adventure trip. The group of 31 traveled to various locations throughout the country including San José, Sarapiquí, Arenal, and Guanacaste. During the journey, they took part in several different activities such as learning about the history of chocolate in the Tirimbina Reserve, white water rafting on the Sarapiquí river, snorkeling, visiting some geothermal pools, and much more. Students had the chance to serve the community by coordinating the construction of a new bathroom for students with disabilities at the Tortuguero elementary school. The students also cleaned up trash, painted walls, cleaned up a beach, and played hours of soccer with the local kids. This taught students the importance of giving when you can, and that "we" is more important than "me." The students also got to try many local foods and learned about the vibrant Costa Rican culture and the basics of Spanish. The students were a little hesitant at first, but once they got comfortable, they almost became fluent. All in all, the Global Leadership class learned important lessons about culture, sustainability, "we" first and, thanks to the trip, they became a true family.

Kinard's Global Leadership Travels to Costa Rica!











Page 7

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

In April, our Kinard C.A.R.E.S. semester-long classes traveled to Catalina Island to participate in an environmental program off the coast of California. Kinard shares a vision of raising environmental awareness while making a difference in our local community. The aim of this class trip 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 climbed high mountain peaks to learn about healthy ecosystems and to develop interpersonal leadership skills.

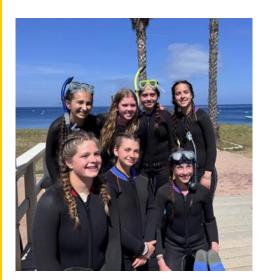
While the trip was filled with recreation and adventure, it was far from a vacation. Students participated in a variety of service-learning projects to enhance the Catalina Island community. The primary objective of the service-learning component was an ongoing ecological restoration project designed to help protect the biodiversity on the island. Students removed invasive species and planted new native plants as a part of the regenerative process that Kinard students have been a part of for the past 16 years on the island. Another service project taught students about healthy food choices and composting principles while working in the organic garden on the island.

In addition to learning about sustainable environmental practices, students enhanced their leadership skills and personal growth through team-building activities that included ocean kayaking, hiking to and exploring Parsons Landing, and night snorkeling.

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

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









Staff Recognitions

April was a month of honoring some deserving Kinard staff members!
Social Studies teacher Nicole Darrow and Assistant Principal Erin LaRue were both recognized as nominees at the PSD Celebrates event in late April. And Spanish teacher Leslie Husted was honored as the Rotary Teacher of the month at a breakfast last month as well. We are so proud of these incredible Mustangs! They represent the amazing things that our staff does each and every day to support our students and ensure high levels of learning for all!





8th Grade Career Fair

Thank you to the over 35 career presenters that joined us Tuesday, April 29th to give our 8th graders a chance to tap into real world knowledge, learn about a variety of career paths, and gain insights to what they might pursue in high school to continue exploring their interests. Thank you to the teachers and administrators for giving the students time to explore during the school day and to Mrs. Irvine and the Student Services team for coordinating the event.



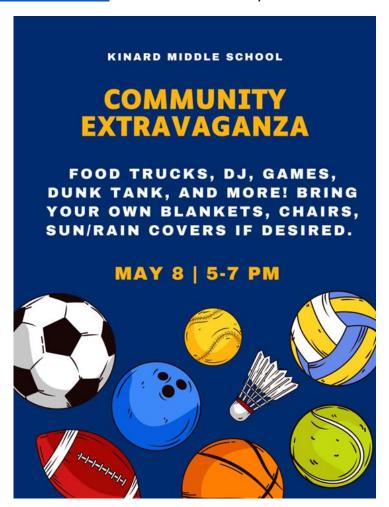


Spring Community Extravaganza: May 8, 5:00-7:00 PM

We are excited to invite Kinard's students, families, and staff to come together to build connections and community during our **Kinard Spring Food Truck & Student Social on Thursday, May 8, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM**.

Because we want YOLL to enjoy this event, we are only asking for limited

Because we want YOU to enjoy this event, we are only asking for limited volunteers who can sign up here. In addition, we always appreciate when adults see a need and step up to help! Specifically, please feel free to come grab a trash bag and wander amongst the students for an extra level of supervision. Please bring your own blankets, chairs, and sun and/or rain covers and plan to enjoy a plethora of food trucks, a DJ, a student organized dance party, a fundraiser featuring a dunk tank and pies in the face, and a space to create and/or drop off cards for Teacher Appreciation Week. We plan to gather in the Kinard courtyard and athletic fields and celebrate with music, snacks, and general fun! This event is only open to Kinard students and families. If you have any questions, please contact Cecilia Bonertz at cbonertz@psdschools.org or 970-488-5407. See you there!



Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6-10

Let's celebrate our hardworking teachers! Please sign up here to help celebrate our teachers during the week of May 5th.

- Monday, May 5: Coffee cart and yogurt bar
 - ♦ Thanks to everyone who donated and helped to coordinate the yummy yogurt bar to kick off a great week of appreciation!
- Thursday, May 8: Card creation and drop off station
 - As part of our Community Extravaganza, we will have a space set up for parents and students to create and/or drop off notes of appreciation. Rather than finding undelivered cards in your child's backpack on the last day of school, you are welcome to drop them off and we will deliver them to staff on Friday, May 9.
- Friday, May 9: Taco Bar Lunch
 - We would like to celebrate our teachers with a delicious taco bar! We will need to have luncheon food dropped off in the main office by 10 AM so everything can be set up in time for the first lunch!
- If you need to arrange other drop off details or have questions, please contact Virginia Chevalier virginia@summit-hm.com.

8th Grade Celebration

Parents of 8th graders, please save the date of Wednesday, May 28th for our traditional 8th 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 8th 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 if you have specific questions about the event.



Technology Check-In: May 22 & 23

We will be checking in district devices and materials from students on May 22 and 23. Please remind your students to bring the following equipment to school on Wednesday, May 22, and Thursday, May 23:

- laptop (if lost, please pay the \$499 replacement fee to Theresa Varntvarn@psdschools.org or 970-488-5405)
- laptop charger (if lost, please pay the \$26 replacement fee to Theresa Varn-tvarn@psdschools.org or 970-488-5405)
- laptop case (if assigned)
- MiFi (if assigned)

Please remind your students to remove any stickers from their laptop and save files to either a thumb drive or as a Google doc prior to turning in technology equipment. Files saved locally on laptops will be wiped over the summer. If your student will not be here on the scheduled collection days, they must return their equipment on their last day of attendance. Thank you for helping your students with this responsibility.

Kinard Library Books Due Back to the Media Center on Thursday, May 15th

Kinard has many big readers under our roof! Please help your student to remember to bring back books they have checked out from the Kinard media center. All media center books are due back by May 15th.

Last Day of School

It's hard to believe, but our last day of school for the 2024-25 year is quickly approaching! Thursday, May 29th is the last day of school for PSD this year. The 29th will have a modified schedule for students, and school will dismiss at 11:40 a.m.

On the last day, we will focus on transitioning our 6th and 7th grade students to the next grade level with some intentional activities. Our 8th grade students' culminating event will be the 8th Grade Celebration, hosted at

Last Day of School

continued

Fossil Ridge High School the evening before (Wednesday, May 28^{th} at 6:30 p.m.). Therefore, we do not require 8^{th} graders to attend school on May 29^{th} . If any 8^{th} grade students choose to attend school on the last half day, they will be expected to remain at school and participate with our 6^{th} and 7^{th} graders until school dismisses at 11:40.

We will conclude the day with our annual schoolwide outdoor celebration. At that time, students will be able to sign yearbooks, enjoy a snack, and play games on the field (weather permitting). Please make arrangements to pick your child up at 11:40 a.m., and then let the summer begin!

Important Yearbook Information

There is still a limited number of 2024-2025 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 <u>jostens.com</u>. If you have already purchased a book, thank you! If you are unsure, please contact Ally Lonac, Yearbook Advisor, by email at <u>alonac@psdschools.org</u>. This year's book is one you won't want to miss!

Yearbook Preparation and Distribution: The Kinard yearbook team has prepared a wonderful book for us to remember the 2024-2025 school year. If you like singing the alphabet to yourself over and over and over again, come join the Yearbook Staff to sort yearbooks for distribution! No special skills needed. We'll start at 2:30 on Friday, May 23, and it will take 1-2 hours to complete. Any help is greatly appreciated. Please sign up here.

Looking Ahead to August Registration

For those families returning to Kinard in the fall, please mark your calendars with the following August Registration dates. Please note, Skillman Photography will not be taking student photos during registration this year. We will have student photos taken later in the month of August during the school day.

Monday, August 4 th :	7 th and 8 th grades	7:30 a.m12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 5 th :	6 th grade	7:30 a.m11:30 a.m.
Tuesday, August 12 th :	Make-up registration, all grades	7:30 a.m10:30 a.m.

School Supplies for 2025-26

As we look ahead to next school year, we've posted grade-level supply lists for the 2025-26 school year on our website. Families can purchase these supplies from any retailer using the list linked above.

For added convenience, supply lists are also available on Amazon.com, facilitating an easy shopping experience for families who chose this option. Click here for the Amazon.com shopping guide and each grade level list.

Lost & Found Items

Please note, all unclaimed lost and found items will be donated to a local charity after school ends on Thursday, May 29. If your child has misplaced any belongings at school, be sure they stop by the main office prior to the last day of school to claim them from the lost & found. We currently have quite the collection of water bottles, jackets, and special items, such as earbuds, glasses, phones, and jewelry!

Summer School Option for 8th graders

PSD Online HS Summer School is almost here and will remain **free** to all PSD graduating 8th graders to seniors. This includes students entering PSD in the 25-26 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.

- Tuesday, April 1 8:00 am Thursday, May 22 3:00 pm (Registration open March 3)
- Monday, June 2 8:00 am Friday, June 27 3:00 pm (Registration open May 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

SRO Corner: Summer Resources

Summer is almost here! This year has flown by! First and foremost, we would like to thank all the PSD families for such an excellent year! With summer approaching, there are several resources available for PSD families and students. This month we wanted to give PSD families the available resources for the summer months.

TAC212

- ♦ Website: https://tac212.com/about Phone: 970-495-0084
- TAC212 offers a variety of programs, activities, and mental health resources free of charge. TAC212'S mission is to provide a safe space for teens outside of school or their home to feel supported, gain experiences, and make lasting connections. They provide access to art supplies, computers, gaming consoles, movies, games, puzzles, and more!

SRO Corner: Summer Resources

continued

Safe2Tell

♦ Website: https://safe2tellco.org Phone: 1-877-542-7233

♦ This program offers students, parents, and community members an anonymous reporting system to law enforcement. Safe2Tell promotes school and student safety through prevention and early intervention. Safe2Tell encourages reporting by all, and a Safe2Tell can be submitted through the website, by calling them, through their mobile app, or by texting S2TCO to 738477. Safe2Tell is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Center for Family Outreach

Website: https://www.tcffo.org Phone: 970-495-0084

This program's mission is to strengthen families by providing education, prevention, and early intervention. The Center for Family Outreach offers substance abuse counseling and therapy, mental health support, conflict resolution, support navigating the tough teen years, and parent resources. The Center for Family Outreach offers classes for teens and parents to help families create positive lifelong change.

Summit Stone

♦ Website: https://www.summitstone.org Phone: 970-494-4200

Summit Stone offers a wide variety of mental health support. Summit Stone is the largest behavioral health provider in Larimer County. They offer peer support, crisis services, withdrawal management, telehealth, group therapy, and several other forms of support.

For additional information on the resources listed above, please visit the websites. We hope you have a great summer and enjoy the sunshine. Remember to wear your sunscreen!

See you next school year,

SRO Kate Garcia

Kinard Health Office: End-of-Year Medication and Health Office Supplies Pick-Up

Parents/guardians, please stop by the health office to pick up medications/ health office supplies that have been stored during this school year. Medications <u>cannot</u> be sent home with your student. This policy is important to safeguard all students against improper or accidental ingestion of medication.

All medications & health office supplies need to be picked up before 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 29th.

Due to the number of medications in the health office and the process to sign meds out, please come in any time before May 29th to pick up medications. If daily medications are picked up before the last day of school, the number of pills needed for the rest of the year can be counted out and kept in the original container at school. Students that also self-carry can continue to self-carry only. If your student stored any health supplies in classrooms, please remind them to gather those from staff <u>before</u> the last day of school.

If you choose not to pick up the medication, our school nurse, Jena Gilbert, will follow state health department procedures and medications will be properly disposed of and destroyed after 11:40 a.m., which is the dismissal time on the last day of school. This includes ALL medications (prescriptions, as needed medications, EpiPens, all epinephrine injectors, asthma inhalers, Baqsimi, diabetic supplies, etc.). Medications & forms cannot be saved in the health office over summer break. Thank you for understanding.

If **new medication forms** are needed for the 2025-2026 school year, you may obtain new forms from the PSD website at any time. **New forms are needed every school year and do not carry over.** You can visit the PSD website for more information and for new forms: https://www.psdschools.org/programs-services/medications-health-action-plans

High school has a different self-carry form (also located on the PSD website) and you can self-carry more than emergency meds. Please contact the high school you are attending for more information.

For questions, contact Kinard Health Tech Abbie Tusing at (970)488-5441 or atusing@psdschools.org. Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

Kinard Middle School

Kinard 2025-26 Athletic Seasons

Now is the time to start thinking ahead to next school year. If your child plans to participate in Kinard athletics, take a look at the year-long sports timelines below and plan ahead for tryouts, practices and games. All athletes must have an up to date physical on file with the school. Summer is a great time to get those appointments in. Kinard will offer optional summer workouts for select sports - an email with information regarding dates and times will be sent later this month.



PSD Middle School Sports Seasons

2025 FALL SPORTS

Sport	Grades	Level	Optional Camp	Official Practice	Scrimmage	Contest	Bracket	Championship
Football	7,8	VAR/JV	8/7/2025 (Acclimation Period Starts)	8/14/2025 (Pads Allowed)	8/20/2025 (optional	8/26/2025	9/30/2025	10/7/2025 Tues
Boys Tennis *	6,7,8	VAR	8/7/2025	8/13/2025	8/25/2025	9/27/2025	10/1/2025	10/1/2025 Wed
Girls Tennis *	6,7,8	VAR	8/7/2025	8/13/2025	8/26/2025	8/28/2025	9/30/2025	9/30/2025 Tues
Volleyball*	7,8	VAR/JV, C1/2	8/7/2025	8/13/2025	8/25/2025	8/27/2025	10/6/2025	10/8/2025 Wed
Cross Country (B&G)	6,7,8	n/a	8/14/2025	8/21/2025	n/a	8/30/2025	n/a	10/9/2025 Thurs

2025-2026 WINTER SPORTS

Sport	Grades	Level	Optional Camp	Official Practice	Scrimmage	Contest	Bracket	Championship
Boys Basketball *	7,8	VAR/JV, C1/2	10/13/2025	10/21/2025	10/29/2025	11/3/2025	12/15/2025	11/17/2025 Wed
Girls Basketball *	7,8	VAR/JV, C1/2	1/6/2026	1/12/2026	1/21/2026	1/26/2026	3/2/2026	3/4/2026 Wed
Wrestling	6,7,8	VAR/JV	1/6/2026	1/12/2026	n/a	1/22/2026	n/a	3/7/2026 Sat

2026 SPRING SPORTS

Sport	Grades	Level	Optional Camp	Official Practice	Scrimmage	Contest	Bracket	Championship
Softball	7,8	VAR/JV1, JV2	3/9/2026	3/23/2026	4/2/2026	4/7/2026	5/12/2026	5/14/2026 Thur
Boys Golf *	6,7,8	VAR	3/9/2026	3/23/2026	n/a	4/2/2026	n/a	5/12/2026 Tues
Girls Golf *	6,7,8	VAR	3/9/2026	3/23/2026	n/a	4/1/2026	n/a	5/12/2026 Tues
Unified Basketball	6,7,8,	n/a	n/a	3/30/2026	n/a	4/7/2026	n/a	n/a
Track & Field (B&G)	6,7,8	n/a	3/23/2026	3/30/2026	n/a	4/15/2026	n/a	5/10/2026 Tues

*cut sport

Created 4/24/25



Kinard Middle School

PSD Health & Wellness Centers

The Health & Wellness Centers are OPEN this summer and appointments are AVAILABLE for ANY PSD student for **physicals**, medical care, counseling, and more!



The Health and Wellness Centers Supporting Kid's Physical & Mental Health

The Health and Wellness Centers provide high quality, medical and mental health care to PSD kids!

Operated by Every Child Pediatrics, we are **OPEN YEAR-ROUND inside Lincoln Middle and Centennial High Schools.**

NOW and early summer are GREAT times to get your student's annual physical ~ call 970.488.4900!

No co-pays/deductibles required. We accept most commercial insurances, including Medicaid/CHP+. We offer fee-for-service and a deeply discounted sliding-fee-scale for qualifying families. No student enrolled for our care is ever turned away for an inability to pay for services provided at the Centers.

Services include -

- · Full primary medical care
 - Annual well-child exams/sports physicals
 - Immunizations and health screenings
 - o Diagnosis/treatment for colds/flu, infections, sprains, wounds, rashes, asthma
 - In-house lab tests
 - Prescriptions, etc.
- Mental health services
 - o Counseling for mental health issues
 - Skill development and resiliency building
 - validated screenings and treatment for depression, anxiety, substance use and more...

Appointments must be scheduled in advance. Call 970.488.4900 &/or log on to hwcenters.org for information & enrollment forms.

Kinard Middle School

Summer Meals Outreach Resource

Save your family time and money with free summer meals for your kids this summer! No application or registration needed, just stop by and enjoy. To find meal sites near you, visit https://foodbanklarimer.org/the-lunch-lab/. You can also call The Lunch Lab at 970-530-3109 for more information. Poudre School District also offers free lunch for children under 18 and \$5 lunches for adults. See the flyer below for details and locations.





Summer Camp Opportunities

See the flyers below for upcoming opportunities for students to participate in various camps for different interests and sports.



Kinard Middle School

Summer Camp Opportunities

continued

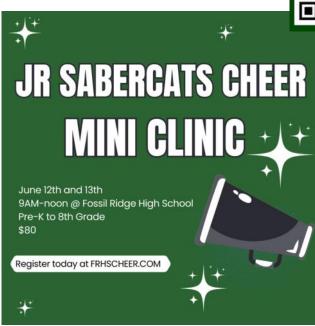


THIS THREE-DAY SKILLS CAMP IS DESIGNED TO TEACH AND ENHANCE THE FUNDAMENTALS OF BASKETBALL THROUGH GAMES, COMPETITIONS, AND DRILLS.



REGISTER NOW!





High School Girls Athletic Opportunities

For current 8th grade girls entering high school next year, see the flyers below for some awesome opportunities to join high school sports teams.



High School Girls Athletic Opportunities continued

GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL

PSD STARS GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL INTEREST MEETING LAUNCH: FALL OF 2025, HOSTED AT FORT COLLINS HIGH SCHOOL (FCHS)



LOCATION: FORT COLLINS HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
ENTRANCE: USE THE MAIN ENTRANCE
ATHLETES AND PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

ALL INTERESTED STUDENTS ARE WELCOME FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT COACH AARON WATERS AARONW@PSDSCHOOLS.ORG

INTEREST MEETING