

December
2024



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

Kinard Middle School



Mustang News

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 nearly 80 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: Mr. and Mrs. Darrow and all the NJHS students who helped collect the turkeys. You're the best, Mustangs!



Kinard Middle School

Caring for Future Generations Since 1964



Join The Youth Clinic, your child's ultimate partner in health and wellness.



Lego Robotics

Our Lego Robotics teams represented Kinard with character and excellence at the First Lego League Poudre Qualifier Tournament last month! One of our teams even took home a third place win for the Innovation Award. Congratulations to all of our Kinard Robotics competitors, and a huge thank you to Mr. Berthold, Mrs. Grigg, and all the staff and parent volunteers, who helped to make this experience possible for our students! Great job, Mustangs!

Additionally, leading up to the competition, one of our teams consulted virtually with Texas A&M professors who provided them with helpful feedback and were very impressed with their innovative ideas. See the full story [here](#).



continued on next page

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...to learn more about these great companies!

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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.

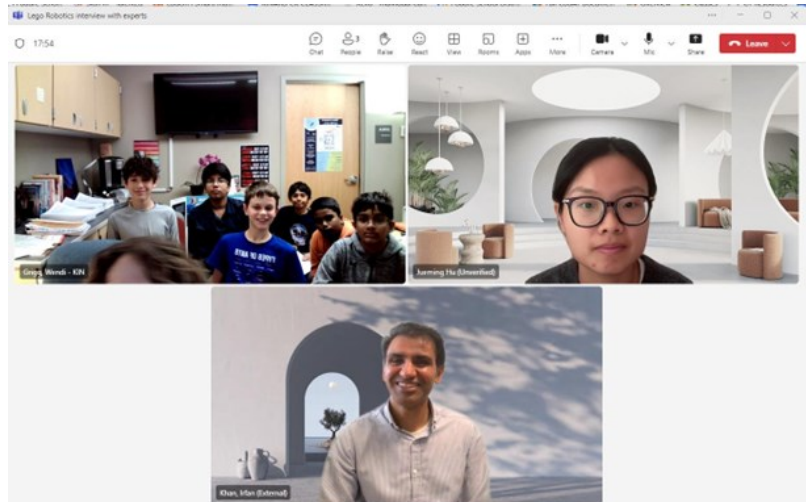
Health District
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY

CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND YOUNG ADULT CONNECTIONS

970-221-3308

Lego Robotics

continued



CHECK IN

Medicaid Renewal Requires Your Action. We Can Help!

HealthDistrict.org

Health District
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY
970-472-0444

Se Habla Español

The Women's Clinic
of Northern Colorado

You have choices.

Since the inception of the Women's Clinic of Northern Colorado in 1965 our mission has been to Care for All Women. Always. We stay true to that mission by providing comprehensive care at all life stages, whether a person needs our care for their contraception choices, menopause care, high risk pregnancy or reproductive health options, we strive to provide compassionate and empowering care.

1107 South Lemay Ave., Suite 300 | 2500 Rocky Mountain Ave., Suite 150
Fort Collins, CO 80524 | Loveland, CO 80538

womensclinicnoco.com • 970.493.7442

Kinard Middle School

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

In November, the year-long 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 new native plants as a part of an on-going project which Kinard students have been a part of for the past 15 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.

continued on next page

We are here for you and your child's health!
¡Estamos aquí para la salud de su hijo!

Schedule your school or sport physical today!
¡Programe hoy su examen físico para la escuela o deporte!



Salud (303) 697-2583
Family Health (303) MYSALUD

1635 BLUE SPRUCE DR | FORT COLLINS < CO
OUR CARE IS DINO-MITE!
MEDICAL • PEDIATRICS • DENTAL • BEHAVIORAL saludclinic.org

Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school!

Want to sponsor this school?

Please contact Rob Mangelson at Rob@tscacolorado.com or (720) 878-4107.

Kinard Middle School

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



Sponsor This School!

YOUR NAME HERE

Click [HERE](#)
Contact Us
Today!

Rob Mangelson
(720) 878-4107

Rob@tscacolorado.com

The School Communications Agency
Supporting Schools & Local Businesses



Kinard Middle School

Orchestra Students Perform at Boettcher Concert Hall

While most of us were beginning our fall break, over 60 orchestra students from all grade levels had the incredible opportunity to attend a performance by the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and Grammy-award-winning group *Time for Three* at Boettcher Concert Hall at the Denver Performing Arts Complex. And a select number of our Kinard Symphony Orchestra students were even invited to **perform** with *Time for Three* on their encore piece, "Joy." What an amazing experience for these talented orchestra students and their fabulous teacher, Mrs. Griffey!



Kinard Middle School

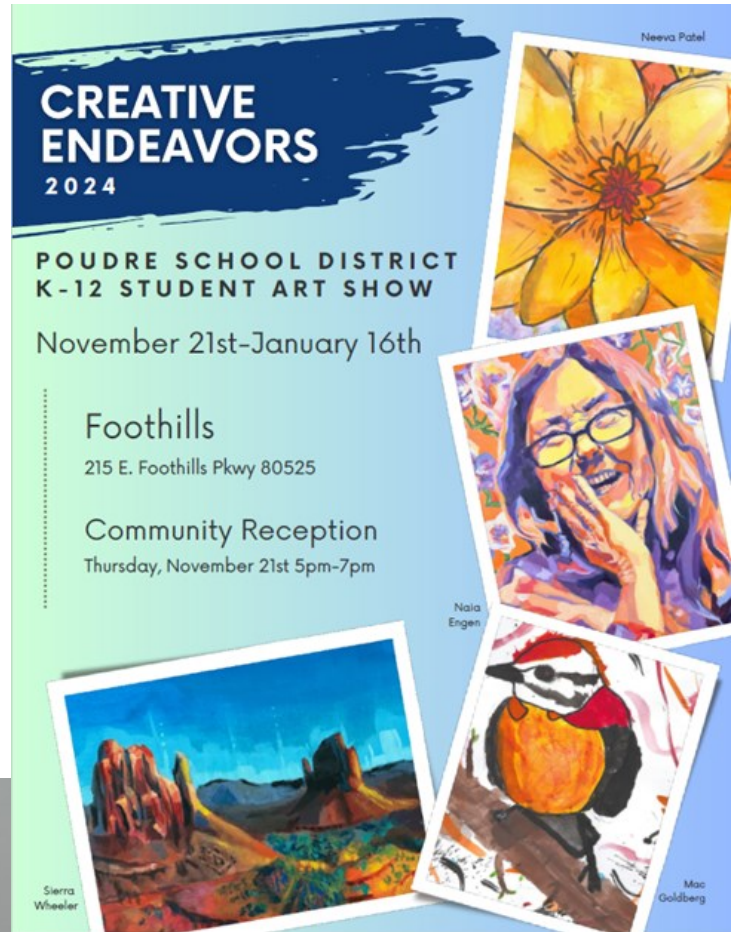
Grand Re-Opening of Fitness Center

Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the CrossFit Foundation, we have a brand new, state-of-the-art fitness center! Our Pe/Health teachers have been hard at work all fall redesigning the space and purchasing amazing equipment to support our students and staff and their physical and mental health and well-being. The Fitness Center is now open and ready for use! Students in PE classes and our Fitness Club will be trained to use the equipment safely and appropriately and can look forward to trying out some new exercise routines soon.



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 16th. 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 Mrs. Houston 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!



Kinard Middle School

PSD STEM Event

In early November, a group of 6th grade female students had the awesome opportunity to attend PSD's "STEMfinity and Beyond" event at the Foothills Mall. At the event, they explored hands-on exhibits, visited with female leaders in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields, and learned about STEM-related classes and career paths in PSD and beyond.



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, 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 18 celebrating and reflecting upon the first semester. If you would like to help with setting up and decorating on December 17, serving or cleaning up on December 18, or by contributing food or other items to support this celebration breakfast, please [sign up here](#). We have recently added slots for borrowing a holiday tree (bring on 12/16) and wrapping staff gifts (can be done at home from 12/13 - 12/16). Non-perishable items can be dropped off on or before December 13 and all other food items will need to be dropped off by 6:30 a.m. on December 18.
- **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 16.
- **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 17.
- **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 an open spot helping out at our Madrigal Dinner on December 14. If you would like to help with tear-down from 7:30–9:30 PM, please contact Cecilia Bonertz, Academic Dean, at cbonertz@psdschools.org or (970) 488-5407.

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

December Calendar of Performing Arts Events

December is a busy month for many of us, and this is definitely true in the performing arts world! See the helpful calendar below to keep all of our rehearsals, concerts, and events coordinated for your family. Looking forward to seeing you there and watching our many Mustang musicians and thespians shine!



Seeking Digital Camera Donations

Do you have old digital cameras that are collecting dust in your home? 7th Grade Technology will take them off your hands! We are looking for any digital cameras, with or without batteries and memory cards, to use in our Photography and Photoshop unit. The cameras will be used by students to practice photography around the school! You can drop them off in the main office and say they are for Mr. Lardner in our the tech department. Thank you!

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 **December 16, 2024 at 4 PM**. 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.

Fort Collins High School	<p>8th Grade Open House</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, Nov. 20th, 2024, 6:00-7:30 pm <p>Registration Q & A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, Jan. 30th 2025, 6:30-7:30
Fossil Ridge High School	<p>Fossil Ridge Open House</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, December 5th, 2024 6-8pm <p>9th Grade Registration Q & A Night</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, January 29th, 2025 6-7 p.m.
Poudre Global Academy	<p>Information sessions instead of open house - Every Tuesdays at 9 am PGA's South Building, RSVP on Website. Link to Register: PGA Tour Registration Link</p>

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8th Grade Transition to High School

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Poudre High School	Poudre Preview Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12/4/24 6-8pm IB Information Nights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 4th - 5:30-6:30PM @Lesher • November 7th - 5:30-6:30PM @CLP • November 13th-5:30-6:30PM @ Lincoln
Rocky Mountain High School	8th Grade Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 9th 6:00-7:00 8th Grade Registration Q&A Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday, January 27 6:00-7:00
Timnath Middle-High School	Timnath High School Incoming 9th Grade Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 4 - 6-8:00PM Curriculum Fair: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 23 6:00-8:00PM Evening Tours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 3: 6:30-8:00 • December 5: 4:30-6:00 Morning Tours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 3: 9:30-11:00 • December 13: 9:30-11:00
Centennial High School	Orientation Sessions 1:30 or 5:30 PM on... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Polaris	Middle & High School Open House December 10th 5:00 – 7:00 PM
Poudre Community Academy	Quarterly Orientations: 12/5 3:45 2/26 3:45 5/13 3:45
Wellington Middle-High School	Open House <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12/4/24, 5pm-7pm
Career Tech Center	Information Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dec 16th

Kinard Middle School

Vision & Hearing Screening

Our annual **Vision and Hearing Screening** will be on **Friday, February 7**, 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, Feb. 7th)
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 Tisha Crossan, Health Tech, at tcrossan@psdschools.org if you have any questions about the screening and volunteers@psdschools.org if you have any questions on signing up.

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

Important Yearbook Information

The 2024-2025 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!

Parents of 8th Graders- Send in Your Baby Photos!

We are excited to start planning our annual 8th grade celebratory activities, including our 8th Grade Celebration that is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2025. As part of these festivities, we will be sharing a slideshow that will include pictures of all our incredible 8th graders. We would like to include **ONE** photo in the slideshow of your child when he/she was younger! The slideshow is always one of the most memorable moments of the celebration for all our students.

Please complete the following steps by Friday, December 13, to ensure the photo of your child is included in the slideshow during the 8th grade celebratory activities during the last week of school.

- All photos should be sent **via email to Ally Lonac, our yearbook advisor**, at alonac@psdschools.org.
- The photo should be a picture when your child was younger (between 6 months to 5 years). It can be silly or serious. The kids like to guess who it is!
- Please include your **child's first and last name** in the email with the digital image attached.
- If you are not able to send a digital photo of your child, we will include a current school photo.

Kinard Middle School

Parents of 8th Graders- Send in Your Baby Photos!

continued

- If you or your child prefer we don't include a photo of them, please email **Erin LaRue, Assistant Principal**, at elarue@psdschools.org with that request. Letting us know this preference will ensure we don't personally remind or ask your student about the photo. You may still get group email reminders, but you can ignore them if you let us know your preference.
- So that we can create a quality slideshow, **all photos are due by Friday, December 13, at 3:30 p.m.**

Thank you for your time and effort to make this a special celebration for all! Please contact Erin LaRue at elarue@psdschools.org if you have specific questions about the photo request or our 8th grade celebration events. More information will be coming about all the celebratory activities for our 8th graders later this school year!

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 6 from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. or Saturday, December 7 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!

Orchestra Silent Auction

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Kinard families, please join us for our first ever Silent Auction!

All proceeds will help fund our Symphony Orchestra's trip to the National Orchestra Festival in Atlanta, GA this spring.

We have over 60+ items to bid on! Treat yourself or find that perfect gift just in time for the holidays.

Auction runs Dec 10th-Dec 18th

Make a bid for a great cause!
Donations are tax deductible, plus you get a great item to enjoy!

Just scan the QR code on the Silent Auction flyer or visit <https://www.32auctions.com/kinard> to get started.

Please share the flyer with family and friends far and wide!
There is something for everyone including events and activities in the Denver area and more!

Supporters who are out-of-state or just prefer to donate can do so by clicking the cash donation button on the auction website.

THANK YOU, Mustang families for supporting us and making our Silent Auction a success!



SILENT AUCTION
ORCHESTRA FUNDRAISER
Dec 10th - Dec 18th

SCAN NOW

Scan the QR Code to join the Symphony Orchestra's Silent Auction
Over 60 items to bid on
Find the perfect gift for a great cause!!!



FUELING MUSIC
One Bid at a Time

Donations are tax deductible

All proceeds go to assist in funding the Symphony Orchestra's Trip to Nationals

Kinard Middle School

Kinard Holiday Bazaar

Attention all Kinard business owners and creators! The Kinard Madrigal Dinner is seeking sponsors and Holiday Bazaar participants! Again this year, our traditional Madrigal Dinner will be performed **2 nights** on December 13 & 14, and based on the great success last year, we're once again organizing a ***Holiday Bazaar*** each night for 2 hours before the performance. Local businesses and creators can set up a booth at the Bazaar to sell their products to the Kinard community for a tax-deductible booth fee. Businesses can also sponsor the Bazaar with a tax-deductible donation for inclusion in our sponsor board and the Madrigal Dinner program.

We'd love to have your business and product join our Second Annual Holiday Bazaar and our 19th Annual Madrigal Dinner. See the flier below or contact Mr. Scott Wheeler at swheeler@psdschools.org or call (970) 488-5488 for more details.



Kinard Middle School

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](#).

Questions? Contact our Athletic Secretary, Holly Garcia at (970) 488-5414 or hgarcia@psdschools.org or our Athletic Director, Kyle Healy at (970) 488-5415 or khealy@psdschools.org.

Kinard Middle School

Kinard Give Next: Kickoff Day and Supporting Children With Physical and Learning Disabilities

[This announcement was drafted by the 2024-2025 Give Next students.]

On October 4th, our Give Next club went on a field trip to CSU for “Kickoff Day” and we learned about many nonprofits for needs that they support. With many other schools who participated in “Kickoff Day”, this was a powerful experience for our Give Next group. Some of the nonprofits we talked with are focused on supporting people with learning and/or physical diversity, food and shelter insecurity, and healing from abuse. We learned that many people are not as fortunate, and we have started our work in learning what we can do to help local nonprofits that support people with these needs.



After “Kickoff Day”, we had a lot of discussion in our group to narrow down these many options to focus our support, and eventually, with every voice heard and considered, we voted on a mission statement for the highest concerns our group sees right now:

We, the Give Next group at Kinard Middle School are concerned and committed to making a difference to improve the lives of Larimer County youth with physical and learning disabilities.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Can you join us to help make a difference? **The Give Next group has set a fundraising goal of \$1,750, and 100% of the funds raised will be awarded to local nonprofits that support children with physical and learning disabilities such as: Respite Care, Hearts and Horses, Northern Colorado Down Syndrome Association, and Foothills Gateway.**

Kinard Middle School

Kinard Give Next: Kickoff Day and Supporting Children With Physical and Learning Disabilities *continued*

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

****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 the Bohemian Foundation and the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado.



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

Anne Flemming, aflemming@psdschools.org

Wendi Grigg, wgrigg@psdschools.org

Kinard Middle School

FRHS Jr Dance Clinic

Is your student interested in dance? Check out the details in the flier below for FRHS's Dance Team.

Come Dance With Us!
December 17th and 19th, 2024

PRE K - 8TH GRADE

JR DANCE CLINIC

Fossil Ridge Dance Team



K-8 December 17th 4:30pm-6:45pm

**Halftime performance at the FRHS Varsity Basketball Game
on Thursday, December 19th at Fossil Ridge*

Clinic held at Fossil Ridge High School
Halftime Performance at Fossil Ridge High School

\$50 PER DANCER
\$30 PER SIBLING

Registration and details: Frhsdance.com