

BEAR ESSENTIALS

Monthly Publication | Dolores School District RE-4A | 970-882-7255

In this issue:

School Board News	p. 2
Upcoming Events	p. 4
Senior Spotlight	p. 4
Bear Facts	p. 6
Elementary News	p. 7
Preschool News	p. 7
Census	p. 8
Classifieds	p. 9

No School February 7 for Teacher Work Day



No School February 17

Presidents' Day for the year 2020 is observed on Monday, **February** 17th. Presidents' Day, also known as Washington's Birthday, is on the third Monday of **February** each year and is a federal holiday in the United States.

Dolores High Art Students Earn Prestigious Awards



Creative Piece by Nadya Erlandson, Gold Key Recipient

Senior Nadya Erlandson and Sophomore Shiloh Burger have been recognized for their artwork submitted to the Colorado Scholastic Art Program. They are the only two from the region who have earned recognition. Nadya has earned two Gold Key Awards and Shiloh received an Honorable Mention. The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards are the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in grades 7-12, ages 13+.

In 2019, Colorado had over 6,000 pieces of art from approximately 2,200 students in the program. Submissions are adjudicated and selected works will go on display at the History Colorado Center, Colleen Fanning Art Advisory's Chancery Building, and the Sie Center. Judges look for work that best exemplify originality, technical skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision. Students receiving Gold Keys, Silver Keys, Honorable Mentions, American Visions & Voices Nominations in the spring of 2020 will be

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

MEETING UPDATES AND HIGHLIGHTS

School Board Members:

Kay Phelps - President

Term Expires: November 2021

kphelps@dolores.k12.co.us

Casey McClellan - Vice President

Term Expires: November 2021

cmcclellan@dolores.k12.co.us

Lenetta Shull - Treasurer

Term Expires: November 2023

lsnull@dolores.k12.co.us

Maegan Crowley - Secretary

Term Expires: November 2023

mcrowley@dolores.k12.co.us

**Clay Tallmadge - Director
(BOCES representative)**

Term Expires: November 2023

ctallmadge@dolores.k12.co.us

January Meeting Highlights

The Dolores School Board approved the final budget for the 2019-2020 school year. The final budget of over thirteen million dollars will be submitted to the Colorado Department of Education and submitted on the district website.

The date for graduation was previously changed to better accommodate the needs of the many seniors involved in final competitions. Due to this change, the board voted to revise the current-year calendar. A vote passed to add the Monday following Easter, April 13, back into the calendar rather than taking the day off. The Friday following graduation will be a day off for all students. This date is May 15, 2020. These changes are now reflected on the district website calendar.

The board also approved a donation to Operation Graduation for \$750.00. This program has been established by parents to provide a safe option for their students after graduation.

The board approved the proposed student fees for next year. These fees will be finalized and posted on the website. The only new fees will be for certain Career and Technical Education classes and electives that are offered next year.

Board Celebrates the First Grade

First grade students and teachers presented their project on community.

The students shared what they learned from the experience and the teachers presented the standard-based unit and the activities in which the students were able to participate. This was a grand moment.



Board Meeting February Dates:

February 4, 2020 5:00 p.m.
Policy Work Session - Board Room

February 13, 2020 6:00 p.m.
District Administration - Board Room

Continued from page 1

celebrated at the regional exhibition and spring awards ceremonies.

Gold Key works are then judged nationally by an impressive panel of creative-industry experts to receive National Medals, including Gold, Silver, American Visions & Voices, Portfolio Silver with Distinction or Portfolio Gold Medals and Special Awards. National Medalists will be recognized at the National Ceremony at Carnegie Hall in New York City in June 2020.

Sculpture done by

Shiloh Burger

Honorable Mention Recipient



FFA Hits the Denver National Stock Show



Design and artwork by Nadya Erlandson, Gold Key Recipient

Home of the Bears

Fourteen of DHS FFA students and their sponsor, Katy Meyer traveled to Denver to attend the National Stock Show. They toured Double J Meatpacking plant and Morning Fresh Dairy which is one of the oldest dairies in the nation and supplier all of the milk for Noosa Yogurt. Day two they toured Lift Chocolates and tasted high-end cocoa from all over the world. The students also visited Celestial Seasonings Tea Company. They ended their trip at the Stock Show grounds where they watched a Pro Rodeo, the sale, talked with industry leaders and colleges and walked through the many vendors.

Upcoming Events

- 2/1 MS Girls B-ball - Home
SnowComing Dance
- 2/2 Ski Club Session 1 Day 3
- 2/3 MS Boys B-ball Banquet
- 2/4 Local NHD Competition
HS Girls B-ball - Cortez
HS Boys B-ball - Away
- 2/5 MS Girls B-ball - Home
- 2/6 Curriculum Team Mtg.
MS Wrestling - Bayfield
- 2/7 **No School** - PD
- 2/8 MS Wrestling - Durango
HS Basketball - Away
- 2/9 Ski Club Session 2 Day 1
- 2/10 MS Track&Field Parent
Athlete Meeting - Library
- 2/11 HS Basketball - Mancos
HS Track Pre-Season
Parent Meeting - Library
- 2/12 MS Girls B-ball - Home
- 2/13 MS Girls B-ball - Away
MS Valentines Day Dance
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Board Meeting - 6:00 pm
- 2/15 MS Girls B-ball - Away
HS B-ball - Home
- 2/17 **No School**
President's Day
- 2/18 HS Winter Sports Pictures
MS Girls B-ball - Home
- 2/19 MS Girls B-ball - Away
- 2/22 MS Girls B-ball League
Championships - TBA
HS B-ball - Away
- 2/23 Ski Club Session 2 Day 2
- 2/25 Blood Drive - Aux Gyn
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
- 2/27 HS Basketball Districts
TBD - Cortez
MS Wrestling SJBL Finals



In the
Spotlight

DHS Senior Jessica Lopez



by Jordan Elder

DHS senior Jessica Lopez is a student-athlete who is involved in numerous clubs and organizations throughout the school. She has attended Dolores since 1st grade, and has positively impacted the school community ever since. Her involvement reaches throughout multiple sports teams, including basketball and volleyball which she has participated in since her freshman year. Her leadership is displayed across campus with her roles in FCA and student government. She is the president of the senior class and doesn't shy away from her responsibilities. Academically, she has been a part of the honor roll and has excelled in many advanced classes.

After graduation, Jessica plans on attending the University of Colorado Denver, where she will pursue a degree in medicine. She hopes to work towards a career as a surgeon due to her love of the sciences (throughout high school, Jessica's favorite classes have been Biology and Mathematics).

When Jessica was asked what she'll miss most about high school, her response was, "I'll miss being around all my friends and being a part of a team where all my teammates make a sport seem like a second family."

Dolores School District

Download our Mobile App for Free!
Stay in touch with Dolores School District while on the go.



APP FEATURES:

- ✓ News
- ✓ Notifications
- ✓ Calendar
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Portal
- ✓ Parent Resources



Apps by: bluetreeapps

Bear Essentials Newsletter is edited and published from the Dolores School District RE-4A Administrative Office.

Suggestions and comments are welcome. Please email larnett@dolores.k12.co.us.

Dolores School
District RE-4
100 N. 6th Street
Dolores, CO 81323

District Office
970-882-7255
www.dolores.k12.co.us

Wood Shop Students Compete

Local Competition

Skills USA members Shane Potter, Joey Nielson, and Skylar Zernik will be competing at the Region 8 Skills Competition on February 14 in Durango. They will compete in the cabinetry division . Competition is against Durango, Pagosa Springs, Bayfield, Ignacio, and Cortez cabinet making classes in construction of a set of plans given the night before the competition. Good luck guys!

Elementary Student Council Votes to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle



Our students love learning about ways to help the environment. It was brought to the attention of staff that the students who have an allergy to milk get to have water in a small plastic water bottle. This is creating waste in landfills if the water bottles do not get recycled. A few years ago, our student council purchased more trays for the cafeteria so they did not have to use paper trays. Our current student council have continued the initiative in finding ways to allow students to have water, but reduce the number of plastic water bottles that end up in the landfill. Student Council has asked the kitchen staff to fill up a five gallon water jug and use paper cups for the water. This has been a great way to help reduce the amount of plastic being thrown away. They have decided to take this process a step further. Student Council will be buying plastic cups for the cafeteria that can be washed with the trays to further reduce paper waste. **THANK YOU** Mr. Soukup and the kitchen staff for allowing our students to brainstorm and implement ways to help the environment.

BEAR FACTS

Monthly Blog by Superintendent Lis Richard

Thoughts on Education

“Our children are children for such a small season of life. Let their laughter ring out, their imaginations soar, their feet stomp in puddles, their hands clap for joy. Too soon they will grow up and out of their youthful exuberance and zest and settle into the life and routine of adulthood.” –L.R. Knost

We are living in a time when children are robbed of their childhood and most concerning, their creativity. More than ever, our society needs creativity. We need our young people to think and dream. Our youth are the future entrepreneurs, business owners, civic leaders, teachers, doctors, lawyers, mothers and fathers. They are the engineers and scientist who will develop new and exciting means for living. How will they choose to live out their passion?

Every aspect of their lives should be a focus of our collective purpose. As parents and educators partner together, the task is monumental. Looking around our classrooms and programs one sees young people who are unmotivated and unmoved with the current system. How can we breathe life back into our academic programs? How can we re-energize our teachers and students?

These are the thoughts and questions that often plague my mind. Day in and day out, I watch students and staff. Many are discouraged and searching. Some are passionate and willing to keep giving everything they have to a system that is suffering. Is there a solution?

In our state of Colorado, teachers are

compensated less for their work than in any other state in our nation. Can you fathom that? The very individuals we entrust with our children’s education receive less in pay and qualify for government assistance in many cases.

Recently, a respected gentleman said to me, “It is not about teachers, it is about what is best for students.” In theory this sounds good, but in reality, it is very counterintuitive. Teachers are vitally important to the entire function of education. Whether one chooses to home school or send their student to a traditional school, the adults who invest in their knowledge experience are essential in their success. Teachers who are valued, value children. Teachers who are respected, respect students. Teachers who are able to share their passion, ignite a passion within students. Teachers who are creative, open the eyes of possibility in their students. Not holding a teacher in the appropriate light jeopardizes the future of education. It is no wonder that the top-performing educational system in our world compensates their educators better than any other profession.

I propose that we demonstrate value and respect in our educators and cherish our students. Is it possible to work in partnership with our families to see amazing possibilities in our young people? These precious souls walking the halls are the very future of our existence.

Passionately Pursuing Excellence,

Mrs. Lis Richard

Superintendent



The NED Show is Coming to Dolores Elementary



by Amanda Hill

The NED Show: Mindset Mission Assembly will be coming to Dolores Elementary on February 10, at 2:30 p.m. NED stands for Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best. Ned is a lovable cartoon character that is learning about the power of YET. The power of YET is a character building mindset lesson that helps kids see that learning is on-going, and just because they can't do something right now, they can learn to do it in time by never giving up. The NED Show performers use yo-yos to help NED find his mindset of never giving up and complete his mission. The yo-yo is a simple toy, but demonstrates how learning something new can be challenging. Learning to do tricks with the yo-yo can show students that learning anything can be challenging, but practice and perseverance can lead to great success.

The NED Show: Mindset Mission ties directly into our 7 mindsets social/emotional, character education. The month of February, we at the Elementary, will be learning about the mindset of Everything is Possible. During this mindset we will learn how to Dream Big, Embrace Creativity, Think Positive, and Act & Adjust. The power of YET is taught in this mindset when students try to accomplish their dreams. They may not get there the first time they try, so they need to keep practicing and try a new way to succeed. This is our third year in the implementation of the mindset lessons. We have seen great improvement in the perseverance of the students and it has helped lower our behavior incidences because students are learning more strategies to be successful at school. They have learned tools that help them to be **NED; Never give up, Encourage others, and Do their best.**

Lastly, The NED Show is coming to our school because of a pay-it-forward initiative. The way this works, is another school sold yo-yos and raised enough money to pay for the assembly to come to our school. Our student council voted to bring this assembly to our school to help our students continue learning ways to be positive and work hard. We will be selling yo-yos to pay-it-forward for another school. Our student council will use some of their funds to purchase some yo-yos for the school to use. This will help in raising enough money to pay-it-forward. This is such a great way to encourage our students to be kind and share the learning of the mindsets. Please join us on February 10, at 2:30 p.m. to see this great learning opportunity with the students.

Home of the Bears



Updates from our Preschool

STEM in the Toddler Classrooms

In the toddler classroom students talked about the New Year and how different people celebrate this momentous time. Toddlers looked at pictures of fireworks and watched some displays.

The toddlers were able to make their own fireworks using baking soda, vinegar, food dye and confetti. All the children took turns adding the baking soda to the dyed vinegar with a spoon. Each child was given baking soda and vinegar to explore on their own (with supervision).

This activity is part of the cause and effect standard, physical properties of matter, colors, and the scientific method of prediction and observation.



Shape our children's future. Start with the 2020 Census.



What is the census and when does it happen?

Every 10 years, everyone living in the United States is asked to complete a simple but very important constitutional task: respond to the census. The 2020 Census is a questionnaire that asks a few basic questions, like the age, sex and number of people who live or stay in your home, including young children and newborn babies. The next decennial census starts in March of 2020 and responding is easy, safe, and important.



Why is counting young children important?

Newborn babies and young children under five are often missed in the census. The 2020 Census helps determine which areas qualify for the critical resources that children and families depend on for the next 10 years—basically, an entire childhood! Examples of resources that could be impacted include food assistance, Head Start, childcare, housing support, public schools, early intervention services for children with special needs, children's health insurance, and more. Knowing how many children there are and where they live is essential to getting those services and programs to them. That's why it's so important that every child be counted, even newborn babies.

Learn more at
[2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov).

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States
Census
2020

Your responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics—they cannot be used against you in any way. By law, all responses to U.S. Census Bureau household and business surveys are kept completely confidential.

Respond to the 2020 Census to shape the future.

Responding to the census helps communities get the funding they need and helps businesses make data-driven decisions that grow the economy. Census data impact our daily lives, informing important decisions about funding for services and infrastructure in your community, including health care, senior centers, jobs, political representation, roads, schools, and businesses. More than \$675 billion in federal funding flows back to states and local communities each year based on census data.



Your census responses are safe and secure.

The Census Bureau is required by law to protect any personal information we collect and keep it strictly confidential. The Census Bureau can only use your answers to produce statistics. In fact, every Census Bureau employee takes an oath to protect your personal information for life. Your answers cannot be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine your personal eligibility for government benefits.

By law, your responses cannot be used against you.

By law, your census responses cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way—not by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), not by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), not by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and not by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The law requires the Census Bureau to keep your information confidential and use your responses only to produce statistics.

Home of the Bears



The law is clear—no personal information can be shared.

Under Title 13 of the U.S. Code, the Census Bureau cannot release any identifiable information about individuals, households, or businesses, even to law enforcement agencies.

The law states that the information collected may only be used for statistical purposes and no other purpose.

To support historical research, Title 44 of the U.S. Code allows the National Archives and Records Administration to release census records only after 72 years.

All Census Bureau staff take a lifetime oath to protect your personal information, and any violation comes with a penalty of up to \$250,000 and/or up to 5 years in prison.

Visit Interactive Questionnaire

Visitors to the 2020 Census website can now use an interactive version of the 2020 Census questionnaire to explore the questions. With both slideshow and list views, you'll find tips for responding and information on how the Census Bureau will use answers here: <https://2020census.gov/en/about-questions.html>.

You Can Be a Bear Backer

The Dolores Bears Booster Club is a Colorado non-profit corporation that was developed to support academic **and** athletic activities at the Dolores High School and Middle School students by seeking donations, financial support, and volunteers from individuals, businesses, and community organizations. We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides financial assistance for students to have opportunities beyond what our local school can supply.

School Organizations receiving contributions 2018-2019:

- * Operation Graduation - Financial Support
- * Teacher Appreciation - Dinner
- * Staff Meal for Parent Teacher Conferences
- * Homecoming Week Spirit Contest
- * Hope Montezuma
- * Knowledge Bowl (HS & MS) Financial Support
- * Sports Banquets (HS & MS) (Drinks, Dinnerware)
- * High School Baseball Warm Ups
- * NHD State
- * Weight Room Benches Re-Covered
- * High School Football - Traveling Team Food
- * Destination Imagination-Globals Support
- * Middle School Student Government - Water Fountain
- * Sponsor of the "Just Because" scholarship given to graduating seniors
- * Dolores Chamber - Bear Wear Gift Box

The Dolores Booster Club can do all this because of **YOU**, our Bear Backer supporters!

New This Year:

Please consider a Dolores Bears Booster Club "Active" Membership! By joining as an "active" member, we will call on you to help with various Booster events and needs. **You don't have to hold an office to help!** We need help with the following: Baking, cooking, organizing, concessions, community outreach, and parent outreach, just to name a few!

For more information contact: Leah Boyd 970-759-5597, Brenda Spurlock 970-739-1925, Laurel Schafer 970-318-1341 or Shelly Purkat 970-759-3101.

Want to get involved?

<u>Level</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Gym Sign and Business Card Ad in Athletic Programs Sign (\$250 Level):</u>
Platinum	\$250	
Gold	\$100	Business Card Size Ad in Athletic/Activity Programs
Silver	\$50	Recognition in Athletic/Activity Programs
Bronze	\$25	Recognition in Athletic/Activity Programs
Be A Bear	\$10	Recognition in Athletic/Activity Programs

"Active" Membership

\$30 - Sign up to help with various needs. This is a way to share your time and skills in ways that work for you! (Includes T-shirt)



Employment:

Preschool full-time Para Needed: Training is available. If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Dolores School District is seeking an elementary school counselor. This person must have the required certification. If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Dolores Secondary School is accepting applications for a principal. Please see the website for additional information.

Substitute Bus Drivers Needed: Training is available. If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Substitute Teachers Needed: If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Dolores Athletic Department is seeking individuals who will help with the clock and other duties at home basketball games. Please contact John McHenry at: jmchenry@dolores.k12.co.us

Booster Club is seeking volunteers for concessions and other activities. For more information contact: Leah Boyd 970-759-5597, Brenda Spurlock 970-739-1925, Laurel Schafer 970-318-1341 or Shelly Purkat 970-759-3101.

PTA - Do you want to be involved in your child's education and provide support to the school? Call the elementary school office for more information.

Note: There will be openings for the next school year. Please look on the district website in February for more information.