

# BEAR ESSENTIALS

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

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## Remote Learning

Any families who wish to remain home during this time, please see page 9 for options available.



**Preschool: August 24**  
**K - 12th: August 31**

## Kindergarten - Eighth Grades Adopts New Learning Program



Last spring, our school board approved the adoption of the Core Knowledge Sequence of Learning for our kindergarten through the eighth grade. The implementation of this program begins in the upcoming school year. It will take some time to fully implement the program, but this is an exciting venture for all.

In 2018, our district conducted a curriculum audit of the entire K-12 academic program. One of the major findings of that audit was the need for an aligned program. Our teachers and administration have been working diligently to align our programs both vertically and to state standards. One of the benefits of adopting the Core Knowledge Sequence is the manner in which it is so purposefully vertically aligned.

This premiere learning model is used widely in public, charter, and private schools. The success rate in schools is very impressive. There is extensive research on the program that will be available for view on the school district website.



The Core Knowledge Sequence is a detailed outline of recommended content knowledge and skills to be taught in language arts, history and geography, visual arts, music, mathematics, and science from preschool through grade eight.

**Continued on next page**

## Warm Welcome to New Elementary Principal

Our new Elementary Principal is Lurleen McCormick. Lurleen grew up in Recovery, Georgia and has enjoyed 15 years of service in educational settings while living in Littleton, Colorado. She started as a parent volunteer in 2005 at Red Rocks Elementary School and has enjoyed being an administrator at Sobesky Academy for the last two years. She is excited to join the team at Dolores Elementary School, and she hopes to continue to inspire academic excellence and an enjoyment of learning! Lurleen enjoys hiking, kayaking, horseback riding, and renovating houses, and she's looking forward to exploring our area and enjoying new outdoor adventures!

Lurleen studied Agriculture and Animal Science while at Florida A & M University and the University of Georgia, and then she taught sustainable animal production while in the Peace Corps serving Ecuadorians in South America. During her PC service, she discovered her love of teaching. She went on to receive her Masters in Education studies at Regis University. She also completed her Education Specialist degree in Administrative Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of Colorado. Lurleen is honored and humbled to have an opportunity to put her years of experience and education to use to serve to our community.



The Sequence complements the general skills and objectives typically found in state and local curriculum guides.

The Core Knowledge Sequence provides the blueprint for knowledge-based schooling.

Knowledge-based schooling puts the emphasis of early education on teaching and learning an enabling core of broadly shared knowledge—enabling because it builds strong foundations for later learning and opens doors to effective participation and mutual understanding in the wider society. Learn more about the thinking behind [knowledge-based schooling](#).

The Core Knowledge approach puts knowledge at the heart of schooling.

**Specific and Sequenced:** Most curriculum standards provide general goals and objectives but offer teachers little guidance about the specific knowledge students should learn in each grade. In contrast, the Core Knowledge approach is to specify, in a clear grade-by-grade sequence, what students need to know.

**Excellence and Equity:** Only by specifying the knowledge and skills that all children should share can we guarantee equal access to that knowledge. Educational excellence and equity require that every child in a democracy have access to important shared knowledge and language.

**Starting Early:** It's important to begin building strong foundations of knowledge in the early years. The Core Knowledge approach focuses on preschool through grade eight. In these early years, especially the preschool and elementary grades, schools can do the most to help children lay the groundwork for language development and future success.

# DSD BOARD UPDATES

Mission and Vision Driven for our Stakeholders

## Current School Board

### Kay Phelps - President

Term Expires: November 2021

### Casey McClellan - Vice President

Term Expires: November 2021

### Lenetta Shull - Treasurer

Term Expires: November 2023

### Maegan Crowley - Secretary

Term Expires: November 2023

### Clay Tallmadge - Director

Term Expires: November 2023  
BOCES Representative

**School Board Meetings**  
**2nd Thursday of Each**  
**Month at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Virtual Attendance at:**  
**[www.doloresschools.org](http://www.doloresschools.org)**

## Start off the school year informed and heard!

Ways to  
Connect

The Dolores School Board has not rested over the summer. They have been busy with work sessions, budget meetings, collaboration, and plannings. These members are dedicated to the success of this district.

It is the desire of the school board to work diligently to provide avenues to inform and listen to their constituents, staff, parents, and students. The following are some ways to interact or contact the school board:



**Board Email:** [board@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:board@dolores.k12.co.us)



Beginning in September, board members will share their location at certain times to informally visit with community and parents.

These will be on Tuesday and Thursdays. There is also a tab on the website to submit any thoughts. It is found at: <https://doloresschools.org/talk-to-the-board/?scrlybrkr=25e4f1b7>. Anyone who submits input to the board through this tab, may do so anonymously or provide your contact information.

Town Halls will also be scheduled throughout the year. These will be focused on specific topics and provide a time for questions and answers. In addition, the board looks forward to more Community Conversation events. In these times, the board wishes to listen and learn from the community.

Linkages are events for the school staff and students to talk with the board. These are scheduled for next year as well.

Watch the newsletter and website for more ways to connect with your school board.

# Important Dates to Note



## HOME VISITS



- ✦ Preschool teachers will visit their children.
- ✦ August 19 and 20
- ✦ Wednesday - Thursday
- ✦ Times will be prearranged.



## Elementary Families May Tour the School

- ✦ August 25 - 26
- ✦ 8:30 a.m. - Noon
- ✦ Call the office to set appointment
- ✦ 970.882.4688



**Preschool: August 24**  
**K - 12th: August 31**



## Middle School Orientation for Students:

- ✦ August 24, 9:00 a.m. for 6th Grade, staggered times following for 7th and 8th. See school information on website.

## High School Orientation for Students:

- ✦ August 25, 9:00 a.m. for 9th Grade, staggered times following.
- ✦ Students will receive important information including: schedules, athletic information, meet teachers, and more!
- ✦ 970.882.7288



**Bring supplies and meet teachers!**



## Open House Staggered Schedule - August 28

- |                         |                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  | Kindergarten and Fourth Grade     |
| 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | 1st and 5th Grade                 |
| 11:00 a.m. - Noon       | Second Grade                      |
| 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.   | Third Grade                       |
| 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.   | Virtual Elementary Parent Welcome |
| 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.   | Break for All                     |
| 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.   | Elementary Make Up Visits         |
|                         | Virtual Secondary Parent Welcome  |
| 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.   | Middle School Parent Meeting      |
| 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.   | Secondary Parent Meeting          |



## 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](mailto:larnett@dolores.k12.co.us).



Home of the Bears

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

**District Office  
970-882-7255  
[www.doloresschools.org](http://www.doloresschools.org)**

## School App Used for Screening

*Download Today*

One of the new requirements for the district in this COVID environment is that we screen anyone entering our buildings. In order to maintain privacy, we are asking parents and staff to assist this process by completing the daily screening through our school app. The screener will be opened on the app soon and made available to anyone who downloads and is in our school system.

The screener will ask only yes or no questions and will be quick and easy. There will be a brief set up process the very first time. Parents will need to identify their students and the school building they attend. Once this process is done, the daily process is seamless.

The screening may be done on the app between 6:00 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. Any students who are not screened will need to go through screening prior to entering their buildings. There will be a designated space for this in each school.

One of the questions will be in regard to temperature. If any family cannot afford to buy a thermometer, simply call the school office and we will arrange for you to receive one for your family. It is a privilege to help in this area.

The app is completely free. This is an invaluable tool of communication for the district. Please allow for the app to send push notifications. This will notify you of needed communications and even emergency notices.

**I've always loved  
the first day of  
school better than  
the last day of  
school. Firsts are best  
because they  
are beginnings.**



# BEAR FACTS

## Monthly Blog by Superintendent Lis Richard

### Why are we offering in-person learning?

Our community's health is of the utmost importance. When we had to move to emergency remote learning, our community moved into action. However, emergency remote learning magnified several challenges:

- **An Increase in Inequities:** Students who had caregivers at home to support learning engaged much better in remote learning than those that came from homes that are currently involved with two or more agencies, students on IEPs, or students who have caregivers that cannot work remotely.
- **Students' Mental Health:** Many caregivers expressed concerns about their child's social emotional or mental health from remaining in isolation.
- **Child Abuse:** Our county's DHS reported a drop in the number of reports of child abuse. There is a great concern that child abuse could still be happening, but intervention has dramatically dropped.
- **Economic & Child Care:** If our schools remain closed to in-person learning, many caregivers are unable to work and provide for their families. This has serious consequences for families and for our local economy.
- **Safe Socialization:** Our schools can model, teach, and put into place procedures to socialize safe ways (i.e., social distancing). If schools are not in person, students will find other ways to socialize that may not be practicing health precautions (i.e., meeting at a park or a friend's home).

#### • **Academics:**

Many DSD students need the support that classrooms teachers provide. Some students do not engage and learn well through online learning. If students are not allowed to be in-person the implications on their learning could be drastic.

In the Dolores School District, we honor our parent's choice in educating their child. We intend to be a supportive mechanism in the process of education.

### *What do some experts say?*

"Being isolated at home for months is a very different prospect for an 8-year-old than it is for an 18-year-old. Even kids of the same age have different interests, needs, and personalities, and their responses to quarantine will be different too. Some children who dealt with bullying or social anxiety prior to the pandemic might have found social distancing to be a relief. Not everyone actually wanted to go to prom. But others with mental-health issues or a less-than-happy home environment are more likely to suffer from being out of school or camp. "It's age-dependent, but more so it depends on what actually happens to kids when they are at home," Stephanie Jones, a developmental psychologist at Harvard, told me. "Little kids, in particular, are barometers of family stress." <https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2020/06/how-quarantine-will-affect-kids-social-development/613381/>

### *What about parent choice?*

In the Dolores School District, we honor our parent's choice in educating their child. We intend to be a supportive mechanism in the process of education. Ultimately, the child belongs to their parent and parents are responsible for the choices they make for their child's education.

Continued on next page

Because of this, we have made other options available to our families. It is our desire to assist in online learning or to provide a way to livestream the classrooms.

Some families may choose to move away from their local public district. As much as we want to serve each family, we honor this choice.

The home is actually the greatest classroom with the largest effect upon a child. One parent who I greatly respect in our district, often signs emails with this tag line: "Racial justice starts in the home." The first time I read that it nearly brought tears to my eyes. I have spent the last 20 years of my career in public education. There have been occasion during that time when I have personally felt so disrespected for honest and sincere attempts made for helping a student or family. I have been taken back by the accosting nature of some adults for blaming the school for their child's failures or issues. Any sense of justice, equity, education, and morality I believe starts in the home. As a school district, we are to help the efforts that are taking place in the home. We are to continue to partner with the great efforts of moms and dads.

### *What are the plans going forward?*

Beginning in person was a decision made by many. It is with sincerity and intentionality that we believe this is the right decision. There are other options for those who chose this. All indications are showing the overwhelming majority of parents are ready for their children to return to school in person.

We plan to stay abreast of the latest health and safety precautions and do our due diligence to protect our staff and students. We cannot predict the future; however, we have contingency and back up plans if things change. It is our hope that we can continue in our in-person model and slowly lift the different safety protocols as the corona virus subsides. Until then, our plans are posted online.

Looking forward to a great year!

### *Lis Richard*

Superintendent of Dolores School District  
[lrichard@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:lrichard@dolores.k12.co.us)  
 970.882.7255



## Athletics Calendar



[CLICK HERE FOR ALL SCHEDULES](#)

## HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL SPORTS PARENT INFORMATION

There will be parent information for fall sports provided on August 4th. The Athletic Director, Jeromie Schumacher will be placing a video online with all of the details parents need for this fall.

### SPORTS PHYSICALS FOR 2020-21

Free sports physicals will be offered at Dolores High School Aux Gym on Wednesday, August 5, 2020 from 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. All of the proper distancing protocol will be honored. Please bring a completed physical form.

### ATHLETIC CONTACTS:

Athletic Director: Jeromie Schumacher

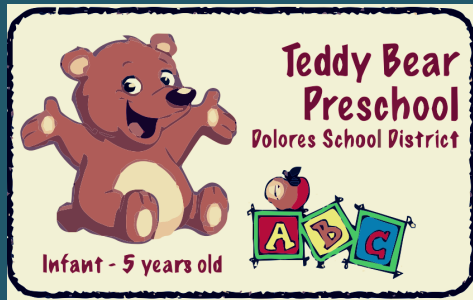
[jschumacher@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:jschumacher@dolores.k12.co.us)

970.729.8140

Assistant Athletic Director: John McHenry

[jmchenry@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:jmchenry@dolores.k12.co.us)





# PRESCHOOL RE-ENTRY PLANS

HEALTHY CHILD CARE COLORADO HAS DEVELOPED A TEMPORARY HEALTH AND SAFETY TOOLKIT FOR LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS, FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES, AND SCHOOL-AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS IN COLORADO IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED FOR DOLORES TEDDY BEAR PRESCHOOL AND INCLUDES GUIDANCE REQUIRED BY COLORADO LICENSING RULES, COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS, NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BEST PRACTICES DURING THIS HEALTH EMERGENCY.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- **Masks are required for staff** caring for children and interacting with parents to the extent possible and as long as it does not impact the health of the adult.
- Masks for children over 3 who are not napping are recommended but not required.
- **Children under 3 years of age should never wear a face covering.**
- Only staff and children can enter the classrooms.
- Children are dropped off curbside, not inside the building. Staff will escort the children to their classroom. The week BEFORE school starts each parent and their child, will be contacted and a time scheduled to come in to meet the child's teacher and visit the classroom for a little one-on-one time.
- 6-foot spacing marked on floor and/or sidewalk when walking in a line.
- Parents are asked to wear face masks at drop-off and pick-up.
- Children must be screened daily. Parents are asked to screen prior to drop-off. Any student not screened will receive a health screening upon arrival.
  - **Exclusion Criteria:**
    - Cough
    - Sore Throat
    - Fever (100.4 degrees or more) If temperature is 99.2 - 100.3 - monitor throughout the day
    - If child has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 or symptoms follow local health department guidance
- All staff will receive health screening upon entering the preschool building.
- Alternate sign in/out procedure is implemented so parents do not have to share pens and clipboards.
- Teachers will remain with their cohort (class) of students throughout the day.
- Limited staff will interact with cohorts for staff and student breaks.
- Group ratios will be strictly maintained.
- Toys that cannot easily be disinfected and sanitized will be removed.
- NO food or toys brought from home.
- Family-style meals will be discontinued and all students will be served their meals.
- Proper spacing of six feet between mats and cots during naps. Children are arranged in a head-to-foot configuration. Bedding is not shared and is washed weekly and dried using high heat.

### Other Information

- All onsite tours are discontinued.
- Non-essential visitors are not allowed in the facility.
- No special events/guests are scheduled for the program at this time.

Call 970.739.4244



# LEARNING OPTIONS FOR DOLORES STUDENTS

1

**In-Person Learning** for all grades K-12 will be fully operational with all safeguards in place.



2

## Elementary - Edgenuity.

(For more information: <http://www.virtualschoolresourcecenter.com/running-your-program/student-success/>)

The district will **cover the cost of enrolling** and also provide a connection to the school through making staff available to the online learner.

3

## Secondary: Southwest E-School

This option provides a local resource through our BOCES and also has better flexibility with our program. Students who meet the qualifications may also choose online concurrent enrollment classes with our partner colleges and universities.

4

## K-12: Live-streaming Dolores Classroom Instruction from Home

A remote option for staying home. It is interacting all day with the actual class of students. (For more information on the "OWL" please see: <https://www.owllabs.com/meeting-owl/>)

Here is a **checklist** when considering the options available:

### Live-Streaming (K-12)

- High-speed, reliable and non-limited internet access
- Adult supervision
- Commitment for pick up and drop off of school resources bi-weekly
- Commitment following the daily class schedule

### Edgenuity (Elementary)

- High-speed, reliable internet access
- Adult supervision
- Parent is the primary learning coach at home with access to support
- 3-hour commitment of academic work online (may vary by grade)

### Southwest E-School (Secondary)

- High-speed internet access
- Adult involved in the progress monitoring process
- Self-motivated and able to follow the online teacher's expectations
- Commitment to 5-6 hours per day





## Dolores Elementary School Supply List

### Kindergarten

2 Boxes of Tissues  
Full size school pack (with child's name)  
2 Boxes small size crayons  
2 Packs of baby wipes  
2 boxes Dixie cups  
Healthy snacks to share w class monthly

### 1st Grade

2 – 24 count boxes of crayons  
1 box of CLASSIC water-based markers: 10 ct  
1 – 12 count colored pencils  
1 – 4 pack dry erase markers - THICK  
1 – 4 pack dry erase markers – THIN  
2 dozen #2 Ticonderoga pencils or USA all wood only  
1 box of 3oz paper cups  
1 box of tissues  
1 pkg. of baby wipes  
1 pair of headphones

### 2nd Grade Supply List

2 spiral bound 1 subject notebook  
2 plastic folders  
2 boxes of tissue  
1 box of pencils (no mechanical pencils)  
2 big erasers  
1 box of Dixie cups  
2 boxes of baby wipes



Home of the Little Bears

### 3rd Grade Supply List

1 box of Ticonderoga wooden pencils  
1 pair of scissors  
1 spiral bound notebook  
1 composition notebook  
4 plastic folders with brads  
1 package dry erase markers  
Earbuds/headphones  
1 pencil bag/box  
1 package of washable markers (optional)  
1 box of tissues – GIRLS  
1 package of wet wipes – BOYS  
Clean tennis shoes for PE

### 4th Grade

1 package fine tip expo dry erase markers  
3 – 3 ring spiral bound notebooks  
2 boxes of pencils  
Clorox wipes  
2 boxes tissues  
Pencil top erasers  
Red pens  
Pencil box

### 5th Grade

1 – 1" binder  
Notebook dividers  
2 – 3 subject spiral notebook  
2 – 1 subject spiral notebook  
1 – 4 pack expo markers – low odor  
Earbuds  
2 Boxes of Kleenex (plain due to allergies)  
1 Baby wipes

**ALL GRADES:** Clean, non-slippery tennis shoes for PE.

Dolores School District RE-4A

100 North 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Dolores, CO 81323 \* 970.882.7255 \* [www.doloresschools.org](http://www.doloresschools.org)



## District Food Service

Our school offers a free or reduced price lunch program for those who qualify. Students who qualify also receive free breakfast. Please take time to fill out the application at the bottom. Many qualify who do not realize they do.

The Dolores School District maintains a cafeteria during the school year. Breakfast is served from 8 to 8:25 a.m. Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ala carte snacks are available to Middle School and High School students during meal times. The actual location of eating is yet to be determined.

We are very fortunate to have a quality and caring staff in our cafeteria. Our Food Service Director is Chuck Soukup, who is a graduate of the California Culinary Academy. Contact him with any questions or suggestions.

Food services include hot lunches and breakfasts, through participation in the National School Lunch Program. An approved lunch is made available for students to meet at least one-third of their daily food requirements.

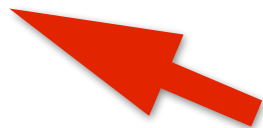
Food service programs are operated on a nonprofit basis.

Detailed food analysis of each day's menu includes: calories, cholesterol, sodium, fiber, iron, calcium, vitamins and more. This information is produced automatically when our Food Service Director plans menus.

[Information on the Cafeteria's Updated Point of Sale System](#)

<https://www.k12paymentcenter.com> Payment Information

<https://www.lunchapplication.com> Reduced Price Lunch Application



### Elementary

- Breakfast - \$1.50
- Lunch - \$2.50

### Adult Visitor/Staff

- Breakfast - \$1.50
- Lunch - \$4.00

### Secondary

- Breakfast - \$1.50
- Lunch - \$2.75

### Reduced Eligibility

- Is FREE K-12th grade
- Breakfast is FREE K-12th grade



## Employment:

Dolores School District is seeking an elementary school paraprofessional. This person must enjoy working with teachers and children. If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Dolores Secondary School is accepting applications for an interventionist. 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 Elementary School is seeking a special education teacher. If interested and qualified, please email the district secretary, Laurie Arnett at: [larnett@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:larnett@dolores.k12.co.us)

## Volunteer Opportunities:

Community Members, Parents, Business Owners for the **District Accountability Committee:** If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

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

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.