



## LITTLE BEARS' WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The vision of Dolores Elementary School is to provide an educational foundation that fosters personal success through an innovative and positive learning environment.

### In the news...

The District Accountability Committee (DAC) is made up of representatives from each school in the district, community/business members, parents, and administration. The committee receives an annual charge, or list of duties and activities, from the Board of Education. The committee meets monthly to discuss district issues, activities, and programs. The District Accountability Committee serves as the link between the school and the Board of Education. Please feel free to contact them via the email address or comment box link below:

**Contact email:** [DAC@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:DAC@dolores.k12.co.us)

#### COMMENT BOX

**DAC meetings** will be held on the last Monday of each month at 5:30 PM currently using Google Meet due to COVID-19. With our next meeting on March 22 due to Spring Break. You can join us via the below link for Google Meet virtual meeting:

<https://meet.google.com/dqu-rsmh-dgv?hs=224>



### Interested in being one of our WATCH D.O.G.S.?

What is Watch D.O.G.S.? **D**ads **O**f **G**reat **S**tudents- Fathers, grandfathers, step-fathers, uncles, and other father figures. Our Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer to serve at school at least one or one 1/2 day a year in a variety of activities with their elementary age children. Activities might include **outdoor** classroom learning activities, games, field trips, recess, and outdoor lunches with your child, etc. Make a positive impact on your child as well as other students through this amazing one-of-a-kind program. Please ask our Secretary, Ms. Debbie Hite for an application!

### Principal's Corner

Dear Little Bear Families,

We are so grateful for a chance to see some of you in person during parent teacher conferences! I love all the family support in this community and hope we can get to know each other better and increase our parent involvement opportunities as Covid restrictions lift in our area!

I am beyond thrilled to share the following exciting news about our 5th grade archery team! Below are the results of the **Colorado State Virtual Archery Tournament** sponsored by National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW):

Elementary boys entered: 83  
total for CO (4-5th grades)  
Elementary girls entered: 76 for CO (4-5th grades)



#### State Team standings for CO elementary teams:

- 1st place=Mrs. Forse's team (receives a trophy)
- 2nd place=Mr. Werner's team (receives a trophy)
- 4th place=Mrs. Jones' team

#### Individual STATE Placings for Boys:

- 1-Lane Johnson (receives a medal and wins a Genesis bow from CPW)
- 2-Branson Lee (receives a medal)
- 3-Dalon Peterson (receives a medal)
- 5-Nathan Gaddis (receives a medal)
- 6-Rylan Maloney
- 9-Mason Hill
- 10-Donte Riffle

#### Individual STATE Placings for Girls:

- 1-Jocelyn Hofman (receives a medal and wins a Genesis bow from CPW)
- 3-Keeleigh Adams (receives a medal)
- 4-Ellisia Winter (receives a medal)
- 5-Megan Condon (receives a medal)
- 6-Hunter Buchanan
- 7-Aurelia Garcia
- 10-Kadence Bragg



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PTA's Virtual Book Fair continues through March 12th. Please order books with your student very soon!

PTA's Book Swap is COMING March 25th! Disinfection guidelines of quarantining books for no less than 14 days in a plastic bag will be strictly enforced.

Students may bring up to 3 gently used books to trade. BOOKS MUST BE TURNED IN ON OR BEFORE March 10th to be eligible to trade.

Book swap will happen on March 25th for Spring Break reading. Chapter books are needed.

*Link to our district's approved  
[2021-2022 Calendar](#)*

All awards are being mailed from the Denver CPW headquarters, so we will let you know when they arrive.

Congratulations 5th graders! We are so proud of you! We also want to thank our amazing PE teacher, **Brooke Elder**, for organizing the tournament and making this opportunity possible! We are thrilled to have such an outdoor enthusiast and outdoor learning advocate on our team! You can read more about Ms. Elder and her contributions in Outdoor education at DES in this linked article in The Journal: <https://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/News-Release-Details.aspx?NewsID=7716>, and you can read even more about her in [this CPW article](#) from Joe Lewandowski at Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

We hope you enjoy a safe and fun weekend!

Warmly,  
Lurleen McCormick

### Upcoming events:

- **March 1st-12th** - Elementary PTA Virtual Book Fair
- **March 10th** - Last day to turn in 3 books for PTA's upcoming Book Swap
- **March 11** - End of Third Quarter
- **March 11** - School Board Meeting: Work Session at 5:00pm and Meeting at 6:00.
- **March 12** - No School - Professional Development for Teachers
- **March 15th** - 4th grade Colonial dress-up day
- **March 16th** - Town Hall Meeting at 6:00 PM
- **March 17th** - 4th grade Colonial dress-up day
- **March 24** - Class Picture Day
- **March 25th** - Elementary PTA's Book Swap
- **March 26th** - No School - First day of Spring Break
- **April 5th** - First day back after Spring Break

### **IMPORTANT UPDATES:**

- We will be reducing the publication of the Galloping Goose Elementary News letter to bi-weekly rather than weekly in order to prevent too much repetitive information going out to parents via teacher communications and the district newsletter, [Bear Essentials](#). Thank you for your understanding.
- **Safe to Tell** - **Anonymously report anything that concerns or threatens you, your friends, your family or your community. Open 24/7, 365 to take reports at 1-877-542-7233.**
- Please make sure your students are coming straight to you after school during dismissal if they are not riding the bus. We do not have supervision available after hours and hope that all staff can leave on time at 3:45 instead of waiting with students for parents to arrive. Thank you very much for your assistance with this!



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## Town Hall - March 16 2021-22 Calendar



### Town Hall Meeting

Recently the school board approved the four-day calendar for next school year (see link). The administration and others offer their time to answer any questions or concerns parents may have. There will be a brief presentation similar to what is shared on March 11th to the board and then a time of questions and answers. Please make a point to attend and hear about the following:

- ▶ Friday Programming Plans
- ▶ Food Service Opportunities
- ▶ Extra-Curricular Opportunities
- ▶ Process and Policies for Calendar Planning

When: March 16, 2021

Where: Virtual Meeting with *limited* in person attendance in board room. (100 N. 6th St. Dolores)

Time: 6:00 p.m.

District website will have a link to the Zoom meeting.

[2021-22 Calendar](#)

[FAQ on Calendar](#)

- Please download our district app for up to the minute updates and information at your fingertips!

## Dolores School District

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## Counselor's Corner

Hello Little Bear Families!

This week we will continue working on the higher level social skills, in particular, Resisting Negative Peer Pressure! The steps are:

### #1. Name the wrong.

- Oh, that's stealing.
- That would be mean.
- That's against the rules.
- I'll get grounded; my mom doesn't allow that.

### #2. Name something ELSE to do that's BEST.

- Let's go bake some cookies instead.
- Let's write a secret nice note to them instead.
- I learned a new game -or skill - . . . let me teach it to you!
- I'd rather build a fort in the snow instead!

A majority of the time, those doing the pressuring will go along with the new alternative activity! If they don't then . . .

## Other Announcements

PE students are posting a new "Food Detective" wall for analyzing packaged food ingredient lists. Students are bringing in packages to investigate if they have "naughty words" or is it a healthy food?





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**#3. Say No and Walk away.** Leave the door open (not the literal door, just make it easy for them to still change their mind and still come back and be your friend)!

- I hope you change your mind. See you later!
- No. I'm going to go ahead and write the nice note. You should try it sometime. It's super awesome to see how happy and confused they get. Let me know if you change your mind.
- No. Come play with us when you're ready. It's super fun.
- No. You won't be able to play with me if you go through with that and I could use your help. Let me know if you change your mind.

Make sure they don't linger and try to explain why they don't want to do the wrong thing. They will have to moralize and back their friend into a corner where they will feel they can't change their mind. But, if they follow the 3 short steps, most of the time the friend pressuring them will actually change their mind. Some right at first. Others will take the time to think and will change their minds as well. Help your kids practice. Practice times they already have been pressured to do something wrong. Help them practice scenarios from your own life as well.

Remember the "Just Say No!" method of resisting peer pressure has decades of evidence that proves it very rarely works. Why? Because the fear of not belonging trumps the sense of right and wrong almost every time. It's why events like the holocaust can happen. If we teach them to understand this fear, it becomes easier for them to be brave. And, if we teach them to "positive pressure" a few other friends to be brave with them, now they have their own "safe" group where they do belong. And quite often they will be rescuing the original perpetrator of the negative peer pressure from also making a mistake!

Sincerely,  
Susan Leavitt Miller  
Elementary School Counselor

Teddy Bears visit Mr. Vega's Tech Classroom and learn to build a digital cookie during their tour:





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## MSTFP Kids Weekly Update!

Hello friends of MSTFP! We are excited to announce that this week's lesson will be celebrating Black History Month, which takes place in February. Check out some of our favorite lessons highlighted below.

Please share with whoever you think would appreciate it, and we always welcome your feedback! Also, if you do any of the activities or crafts, we would love to see your creations!

Next week our lessons will be celebrating Women's History Month, which takes place in March!

## MSTFPkids Weekly Updates!

Read on to learn about this week's lessons

We're back in the garden this week! We are so excited to see all the smiling faces in our garden classes and be back together in person. But we are also still rolling out lessons for MSTFPkids.org!

After this week, we will be reducing our online lesson creation to twice a month, to lessen the load on our garden teachers and put our focus where it belongs: in the garden!

But we are excited to start this month out strong with our Women's History Month lessons!

During Dr. Seuss week, the elementary students listened to *The Lorax* for story time in the library with Ms. Jensen and made Truffula Trees using recycled paper:

