

BEAR ESSENTIALS

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

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School's Out!
Spring Break 2021

March 26 - April 2

Dolores Art Students Showing their Stuff



***Award Winning Mixed Media:
"7 Shades of Grey"***

"I found I could say things in color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way-- things I had no words for." Georgia O'Keeffe

Eleventh grader, Shiloh Burger was awarded an Honorable Mention in the Colorado State Scholastic Art and Writing Awards for her mixed piece of artwork she did in her college art class at Dolores

High School. Shiloh has been a consistent winner in this prestigious art show starting in eighth grade.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards were founded in 1923 and, for nearly a century, have inspired bold ideas in creative teens throughout the country. Shiloh was competing against all the various divisions of schools in Colorado, not just 2A schools. Next year she will have the opportunity to compete for a wide range of art scholarships.

Her piece she created this year explored enlarged portions of the human face, breaking them down into simple values and cutting paint chips into those corresponding values to complete an intriguing composite composition. It was an idea she came up with that she discussed with her teacher Kimberley Sheek. She works independently. Sheek said of Shiloh, "She is an awesome student. She is incredibly talented and diverse as an artist. Very few students have the inner drive I see in Shiloh. I really enjoy having her in my class."

This piece is currently hanging in the Boardroom along with another piece completed by Burger. A small high school art show is also in the boardroom at this time.

DSD BOARD UPDATES

Mission and Vision Driven for our Stakeholders

School Board Members

Maegan Crowley - President

Term Expires: November 2023

Casey McClellan - Vice President

Term Expires: November 2021

Lenetta Shull - Treasurer

Term Expires: November 2023

Clay Tallmadge - Secretary

Term Expires: November 2023

Kay Phelps - Director

Term Expires: November 2021

BOCES Representative

board@dolores.k12.co.us

**BOARD MEETING
SCHEDULE FOR
APRIL:**

**April 8, 6:00
REGULAR
MONTHLY
MEETING**

March Meetings Update

The Dolores School Board met for an early work session in the March regular meeting. The purpose of the work session was to discuss future building plans which included whether the district continue to repair buildings, remodel, or look at other options. The board also discussed having some experts from CDE and financial advisors come in and talk to the board about the different options facing these important decisions. No decisions were made in the work session.

- The elementary student council members were recognized in the meeting. Each one read a description of their office and the sponsor gave a few words. Their principal awarded them all with a certificate. Following the elementary student council, the secondary students of the month were recognized.
- The Director of Curriculum and Assessment presented the mid-year achievement report. This followed the NWEA Maps testing and the DIBELS assessments which were given in the schools. The report showed that the overall affects of the COVID regulations had the greatest impact on the secondary students. The math scores were also noted as an area to target needed strength.
- The superintendent presented the preliminary work that has gone into a plan for Fridays next year. These will again be shared at a Town Hall on March 16th. Also, a comprehensive plan for compensating the employees was also presented.
- Operation Graduation, a committee who plans and prepares for an after-graduation event for our seniors, presented to the school board. Seniors representing their class also gave a plea for the board's help in raising money for this event. The board committed to give Operation Graduation \$1,500 toward this wonderful event.
- The board also discussed some of their concerns with administrators serving as coaches. The direct policy relating to this is now under review and revision and will be open for public review in the district offices shortly.
- The board approved the staff proposals as well as the certified contracts with a step raise.
- The Town of Dolores is asking the district to consider annexing all of their property into the Town boundaries. Currently, part of the property actually sits in the county. The board moved to have additional work done on clarifying and specifying that request.

Other important items were also discussed. For a more detailed account of the meeting, please see the minutes once they are approved. Also, the district office or the superintendent are always available to our public.



March 26-April 2	Spring Break
April 1	HS Volleyball vs. Del Norte - Away at 4:00 p.m.
April 5	Booster Club Meeting - Dolores District Library at 5:00 p.m.
April 6	HS Volleyball vs. Ignacio - Home at 4:00 p.m.
April 8	Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
April 9	Elementary Dress Up Day - Backwards Clothing Day HS Volleyball vs. Pagosa - Home at 4:00 p.m.
April 10	HS Volleyball vs. Ridgway - Home at 4:00 p.m.
April 12	NWEA Maps Testing Grades K-11
April 14	PSAT, SAT Testing (9th - 11th grades)
April 15	HS Movie Night in the Commons - 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
April 16	No School Teacher Professional Development Day HS Volleyball vs. Nucla - Away at 4:00 p.m.
April 20	HS Volleyball vs. Ignacio - Away at 4:00 p.m.
April 23	HS Volleyball vs. Ouray - Home at 4:00 p.m.
April 24	HS Prom at West View RV Park - 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
April 26	DIBELS Testing in Elementary
April 27	PSAT Spring Testing Make Up
April 30	No School



[CLICK HERE FOR ALL SCHEDULES](#)



FCA-MS and HS bring your lunch every Monday to the Auxiliary Gym.

FREE DESSERT!

Come hang out with some friendly people while you eat lunch, do activities, and learn about what the Bible is all about. Anyone is welcome. Hope to see you there!

Continued from page 1

Secondary Art Students on the GO



The Painting Class at the Dolores High School is creating a mural for the Dolores Elementary School. Kimberley Sheek was asked by Elementary Counselor, Stephanie Armento if she had a class that would be interested in painting a mural in her classroom last fall. Sheek talked to her painting class about the possibility. The class was definitely interested in taking on this project. After the winter break, all the students in the class began working on plans for the mural. At the end of two weeks, the students gave their proposals for the class as to why their proposal should be selected as the final mural. The team of Akima Edwards, Ashaunee Begay, Aubree Alcon and Sharma-Jean Chaffee submitted the winning design.

Since that time, the class has walked to the elementary school every day during second hour and has been working on the mural. It began with the layout, measuring, taping off and penciling in the design and has continued with daily acrylic painting. It is quite large and encompasses an entire wall. The class is hoping to be finished within the next three weeks. It has been a long term project but it is coming along really well. Final pictures will be published when it is finished.

High School Knowledge Bowl Team Advances

On March 15-16, 2021, the Dolores High School Knowledge Bowl team took part in a two day state tournament. This tournament featured 62 teams from around Colorado, which included 1A to 5A schools. There were 7 schools in Dolores's division of 2A. With some luck and answers out of their rolodex brains, they were able to place 3rd at the State tournament for our division. The students' success is a result of hard work and great teachers. Ken Blehm, Colorado Knowledge Bowl Tournament Director, is planning on presenting us our 3rd place trophy on April 8th at 9:30 a.m.

This year there are plans of a first ever Tri-State Nationals. This would include Colorado, Washington and Minnesota. If this does work out it would be held the first week of May. The top three teams from all five divisions in Colorado would be asked to participate. This would include our own Dolores Bears. We have not received an official invite, however the students and coach are on the edge of their seats in anticipation, waiting to see if an official invite does arrive. We hope to receive official word by the first or second week in April. Meanwhile, students are anxiously trying to remain patient.



Pictured left to right: Coach Tyler Nielson, Nayana Wilderson, Hailey Melvin, Gabe Allred, and Shiloh Burger

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.

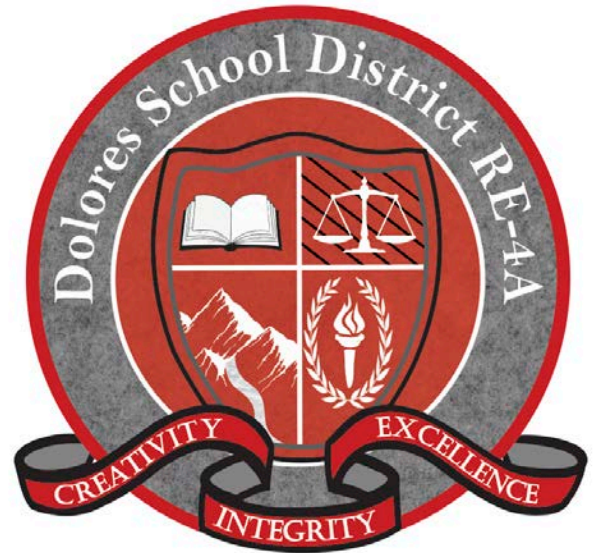
Suggestions and comments are welcome. Please email larnett@dolores.k12.co.us.



Home of the Bears

Academic Crest

for Dolores School District



An Explanation of our Academic Crest:

- ♦ Books Represent Academic Focus
- ♦ Scale Represents a Balanced Approach to Education
- ♦ Mountain and River Symbolize the Appreciation and Integration of our Resources and Community
- ♦ Torch is Significant for Character Development, Scholarship, Leadership and Service
- ♦ The Three Words: **Creativity** Signifies honoring all students and their passions, **Integrity** was chosen as the pursuit of every facet of our district, and **Excellence** reminds one to never settle for less than the best in all we offer.

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

District Office
970-882-7255
www.doloresschools.org

BEAR FACTS

Monthly Blog by Superintendent Lis Richard

Focus on the “Why?”

Contemporary author, Simon Senek, is known for his book entitled, *Start With the Why*. He states, “Knowing your WHY is not the only way to be successful, but it is the only way to maintain a lasting success and have a greater blend of innovation and flexibility. When a WHY goes fuzzy, it becomes much more difficult to maintain the growth, loyalty and inspiration that helped drive the original success. By difficult, I mean that manipulation rather than inspiration fast becomes the strategy of choice to motivate behavior. This is effective in the short term but comes at a high cost in the long term. (2009). As I relate this to education, it is concerning to see how many have lost the focus on WHY we educate.

At the very heart of education is learning. But WHY learn if it is not applied? The WHY of education is to develop strong independent and creative thinkers who can go out into society and contribute in a productive way for themselves, their loved ones, and their community.

We tend to focus all of our attention on the HOW in education. Everyone wants to be a resident expert on inserting their opinion on the HOW but too often, this distracts from the WHY. We even limit the freedom of thoughts and methods of our own professionals by trying to dictate every aspect of their professional existence.

This does not discount how important methods are in the learning process; however, the point is to keep our focus on WHY we are engaging in each subject. Reading is a prime example. There is a complete and effective science to teaching reading. Children do not acquire reading as they

do oral language. Reading must be taught. WHY do we teach children to read? It is so they can develop their own independent thought and learn to find primary source of information. Too many in our society do not read, study, think. In reality, we have a current generation of young people with very low abilities in reading. They simply believe what is told to them on a screen and do not develop their own thoughts. We have forgotten the WHY.

Math, Science, and Arts are taught to develop the innovation and creativity desperately needed in our world. Students grounded in these areas are more apt to lead and create. Creativity is actually the highest level of education. It is one of the greatest “WHY’s” we have. The partner of creativity is innovation. Our students are not competitive in the areas of math and science because we have forgotten the WHY.



Photo taken from travels in Thailand.

Starbucks is everywhere! Traveling around Asia, I have witnessed this firsthand. Recently, I finished the book *Onward* by Howard Schultz the founder and innovator of the company. Throughout the book he comments, “The proof is in the cup.” He doesn’t explicitly say the WHY

but it is implied in the constant drive for innovation to provide the best *cup* for each experience in coffee drinks. In education, the proof should be in our graduates. Are they strong, independent, creative thinkers who are ready to change the world? They should be. They can do this if we continue to focus on the WHY.

Lis Richard, Superintendent

Kindergarten Celebrates 100 Days of School!



Mrs. Wade's Kindergarten Class



Students engaged in math exercises designed around counting to 100.



Students are nearly two-thirds through their school year.

PBIS Bear PAWS ticket winner enjoys lunch at Depot with a friend and Principal McCormick:



Home of the Bears

Elementary Students Honor our Graduating Class of 2021



We are so grateful for all of our staff members contributing funds to help make our HS Seniors feel valued and honored on St. Patrick's Day! Ms. Debbie Hite organized and filled a "Bag o' Golden Treats" for each senior with special tokens of appreciation and notes from their sponsoring students. We are over the rainbow proud of these future graduates for persevering during a pandemic and hope the little golden treat bag brightened their day!



Trips to Medicine Horse

Students are shown reading to furry friends at Medicine Horse in Mancos.



April 22

Kindergarten

ROUNDUP

**Enroll Your Kindergartener
In Dolores Elementary School
April 22 - 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.**

*Giddy up for the most exciting
program in the West!*

- Meet the Teachers!
- See our Amazing Curriculum
www.coreknowledge.com
- Meet the Principal!
- Meet some Furry Friends!
- Have some Snacks!

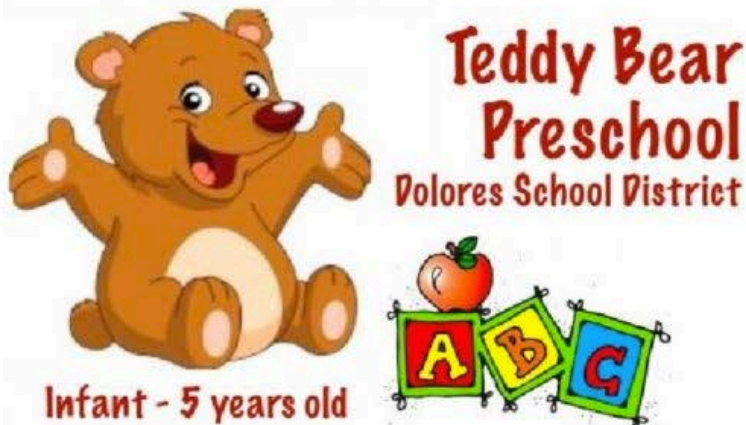
**(Parents: Please bring birth certificate,
proof of residency and immunization
record.)**



Each child
receives a
cowboy hat!



For more information:
Dolores Elementary School
12th and Hillside in Dolores
Call - 970.882.4688



Thinking About Elementary School...Just Around the Corner

Dolores Elementary School invites our preschool parents to attend the Kindergarten Round Up on April 22, 2021. It will be from noon to 6:00 p.m. There will be activities for children and information for parents. If your child is entering kindergarten next fall, we ask that you bring a copy of your child's birth certificate, proof of your residency, and immunization records. This will ensure a quick registration for your child into our program.

Why consider Dolores Elementary?

The Dolores Elementary School (DES) features an amazing curriculum and wonderfully dedicated staff. Many elementary schools do not have a comprehensive and vertically aligned academic program.

The Core Knowledge Sequence is a detailed outline of specific content and skills to be taught in language arts, history, geography, mathematics, science, and the fine arts. As the core of a school's curriculum, it is intended to provide a coherent, content specific foundation of learning, while allowing flexibility to meet individual student needs.

The *Sequence* represents an effort to describe and state the *specific* core of shared knowledge that all children should learn in U.S. schools, and that speakers and writers assume their audience knows.

It should be emphasized that the *Core Knowledge Sequence* is not a list of facts to be memorized. Rather, it is a guide to *coherent content* from grade to grade, designed to encourage *cumulative* academic progress as children build their *knowledge and skills* from one year to the next.

The *Core Knowledge Sequence* is distinguished by its specificity. While other standards provide general guidelines concerning what students should be able to do, they typically offer little help to teachers in detailing specific content or skills. The *Sequence* provides a solid foundation on which to build instruction. Moreover, because the *Sequence* offers a coherent plan that builds year by year, it helps prevent the many repetitions and gaps in instruction that often result from vague curricular guidelines.



Special Learning for our Preschool

Incredible Years social-emotional curriculum has been used at Teddy Bear Preschool for about 15 years. Din School is implemented twice a week. This is one of the puppets

Wally and Maggie

in the Dina School Curriculum. The puppets come in and help the children solve any social/emotional problems they may be dealing with in their lives.



Snow Biye with Wally





Classifieds

District Classifieds

Employment:

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

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

Temporary PT Special Ed Para: Elementary position now available. Call the elementary office for more information.

Employment for 2021-22 School Year:

District Nurse: Must possess a current RN and willing to obtain a Colorado Department of Education Specialist Certification. Please call 970-882-7255.

Librarian/Media Specialist: Must have a Bachelor's Degree and preferred experience. Please call 970-882-7255 for an interview.

MS Special Education Teacher: Must have certification to teach with proper endorsements. Call the district office for more information.

www.doloresschools.org

HS Spanish Teacher: Must have a Colorado Teaching License with a secondary Spanish endorsement.

MS Language Arts Teacher: Must have a Colorado Teaching License with an endorsement in Secondary English. See the district website for more information.

Elementary Paraprofessional: This is a full-time position with benefits. Call 970.882.7255

Home of the Bears



First
“Promposal”
for this
school year!
Students are
so excited.



Students
SAFE2TELL
COLORADO is
designed to help
YOU anonymously
report any
threatening
behavior that
endangers you, your

friends, your family, or your community. The Student Section is meant for you - the students. It is intended to be a place where you can find information that you are interested in and provide ways to get help for a friend who might be struggling.

Safe2Tell CO is for students who need to report threats to themselves or others in a way that keeps them SAFE.

Safe2Tell CO is ANONYMOUS - this means your identity is UNKNOWN.

The Toll-Free number is: 1-877-542-7233 (SAFE). Save the number as a contact in your cell phone, in case you ever need it!

Anonymous web reports can be made by clicking the Submit a Tip Button.

Reports also may be made using the anonymous Safe2Tell Colorado mobile app available on the Apple Store and Google Play.

Safe2Tell CO is for serious reports only. It is NOT for pranks or hang-up calls.