



## **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...**

#### **Calendar Items:**

**May 6th** - Spring Fling Parent/Child Dance- 6 to 8:30

**May 6-** No Friday activities

**May 11th-** 6:00 pm -Elementary music performance

**May 12th** - 2nd grade Core Knowledge Day - Historical figures in the U.S. History

**May 12th** - \$1 Pickles & \$1 Popcorn from PTA

**May 23rd-** Kindergarten Core Knowledge Day- Taking care of our Earth

**May 24th-** PTA's 5th grade continuation parade (after school)

**May 24th-** Award Assembly- 8:30 am- parents of award winners will be invited

**May 25th-** Report cards sent home

**May 25th-** Field day- 9:00-11:00 (3-5) and 12:30-2:30 (K-2)

**May 26-** ½ day- **Students will be dismissed at 1:00 PM - Last Day of School**

**May 26-** Talent show (5th grade performers only)- all grades in the audience and 5th grade parents will be invited.

**May 27th-** First day of summer for students! We will miss you Little Bears and hope your summer is P'awesome!!!

### **Principal's Message**

Dear Little Bear Families,

I am so excited for all of our upcoming events this month! Please see our Calendar Items in the column on the left and feel free to call our office if you have any questions! Ms. Debbie will be happy to help at 970-882-4688. Please make note that **our last day will be a half day with students being dismissed at 1:00pm on May 26th.**

I have so enjoyed another year working with a united, collaborative, joyful team, and witnessing our students blossom with character development lessons, celebrations of good behavior, and reflective restorative practices for discipline. Thanks to our team's excellent implementation of behavioral development processes, our school went from 467 behavioral office referrals in the 2019-2020 school year (which ended in March) to only 134 in the whole 2020-2021 school year; and, now, only 92 this year with less than 40 from our general education population.

We also managed the worst two years of the pandemic with very little disruption to the learning opportunities for our students; and, thus, successfully implemented our new CKLA curriculum with "above" expected progress as reported by a national CKLA coach as a result of our teacher's hard work. Even with the unprecedented number of student absences, our students are also showing academic improvement, and we are eagerly awaiting our final end of the year NWEA/MAPs scores!

I am very grateful for our Board and Superintendent's dedicated efforts to increase salaries for staff members and for the bonus pay they've worked hard to bless us all with during financially tough times. In all my experiences in education and the corporate world, I have never seen such a dedicated team of highly skilled, professional, hard working employees in one building. I'm often overwhelmed with gratitude for their continued service to our students and families no matter the circumstances. I pray they feel treasured, valued, and applauded!

With such a team, of course we are ending the year with a lot of excitement about all of our end of the year events! Yesterday, May 5th, students got to wear a Hat all day with a \$1 donation to support our



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### Student Council:



**Student Council:** We want to recognize our student council who has served the school diligently this year.

- They have donated from their budget: Alternative seating and fancy fidgets for rental in the bear store and . . . a drinking fountain and new equipment for P.E.!
- They have taken care of putting up and taking down our flags
- Given up class and play time to go to meetings and do service
- They made announcements
- They made "good example" videos
- Helped with assemblies and our fundraiser
- Rewarded our character card kids
- Planned spirit weeks and prizes
- Done publicity
- Helped manage bear store rentals
- They even gave up an evening to attend the Lion's club meeting to deliver the eyeglasses they helped collect for people who can't afford them.

Congratulations and thank you to this year's 2021-22 Student Council Members:

- Isaac Samulski, President
  - Marshal Wickstron, Vice President
  - Asher Marcell, Treasurer
  - Haylee Hanson, Secretary
  - Stella Reiningger, Student Representative
  - Sam Lindus, Student Representative
  - Dorian Westover, Student Representative
  - Hailey Gee, Student Representative
- You have done a great job and will make amazing future leaders!

-Ms. Susan Miller  
Counselor and Student Council Advisor

**We thank Ms. Miller for all her hard work supporting our Student Council Members, too!**

Teddy Bear friend, Axel Durr's Cancer Fund. Our Little Bears raised \$500 which was very much appreciated by the Durr family! Special thanks to Jenna and Patty Nielson for organizing this "Act of Kindness" for our school! We are hoping our other activities go just as well and are excited to finally have the opportunity to welcome families to our school's indoor events!

We hope to see most of you at some of our events soon, and we all wish you a P'awesome summer full of adventures!

With Much Love,  
Lurleen McCormick

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### Counselor's Corner

Dear Little Bear Families,

As we wind up the school year and head into summer, I'd like to share the link of fun activities the students helped me put together. The number one reason kids get into trouble, do drugs, have drama, etc. is BOREDOM! It's our job to help them get in the habit, while they are young, of always planning out fun activities, practicing useful skills, and learning new things. They need to know how much fun there is to be had in life! Then they will have no need to resort to dysfunctional and harmful behaviors. Of course, you can research these yourself and there is a whole world more to be discovered, but since I've previewed these and know they are good and appropriate, if you need it . . . this is a start.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Dlv6Fwf1pOQtBOxrHhmvUYfU8J2iJ\\_az7WUfbo11XE8/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Dlv6Fwf1pOQtBOxrHhmvUYfU8J2iJ_az7WUfbo11XE8/edit?usp=sharing)

I also wanted to point out a few things about our "Passive" fundraiser we have started with "School Store".

1. Please remember that our main goal is to have you shopping at the stores you normally would shop at online and buying items you would normally buy . . . so we are getting kickback money without it costing you anything extra! Just access those websites through the school store link . . . or schoolstore.com and there will be a tab at the top "Vendors." On the left there will be categorized tabs for online stores like



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### PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

It is that time of year again when Mrs. Elder starts planning our annual Field Day fun for K-5th grades! **May 25** will be the big day with 3-5 graders attending from 8:30-11:00 and K-2nd graders from 12:30-3:00 out on the football field. Please send your student with a hat, water bottle, and sunscreen (maybe a light jacket for the morning session). Everything else will be provided, including a snack!

In order to pull this exciting event off, Mrs. Elder will need at least **18 adult volunteers** for both the morning session as well as the afternoon. If you are able to help with either or both, could you please email Mrs. Elder at [belder@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:belder@dolores.k12.co.us) by May 18? Please include your full name, student's name, which session you are volunteering for, and homeroom teacher.

When arriving to help that day, please check in with Debbie at the elementary office before coming out to the field. Let's celebrate the end of a fantastic school year together at field day! Thank you so very much,  
-Mrs. Elder , PE Teacher

\*\*\*\*\*  
This summer, [Generation Wild](#) invites Colorado kids to join [Wilder](#) as he wanders through the wonderful outdoors on an epic adventure across our great state, from its mountain peaks and urban parks to breathtaking plains and rugged canyonlands. For our 2022 summer campaign, 99 Days Outdoors - A Wilder Summer, we're providing parents and guardians with ideas to get kids outside, every day, for 99 days! Check out our [100 Things to Do List](#) and [20 Ideas List](#) for outdoor activities that families can fit into their busy schedules at any budget!



Walmart, Home Depot, Kohls, Verizon, Auto stores, Bass Pro, even Turbo Tax is there . . . over 400+ online stores! But we need to make sure we get the kickback . . . so be sure to access the online websites through their links. We really appreciate it!

2. As you have seen, they market their "Family Bookstore" heavily to our kids with prizes etc. So many of you have been so very generous in donating gift cards to the teachers. They have all been floored by your generosity. **Thank you, thank you!** But from now on . . . please do not feel pressure to do so. If the items in their store are something you want anyway and there is no price difference, it can't hurt. If you want to donate to the teachers that way, it will earn your student prizes. But no worries or pressure to shop there if a price discrepancy exists. We are discovering that the shipping time is also lengthy. I have explained to the students and I hope you do too . . . not to get their hopes up about all the prizes for shopping at the Family Bookstore, that (as well as the gift cards) is the only store that counts toward their "Prize Thermometer."

3. And thirdly I just want to repeat #1. Our main goal is the passive income that costs you nothing. Please . . . over the summer . . . as well as for back to school shopping, if you are doing it online, access the stores you normally shop at through the [schoolstore.com](#). We will get a kick back if you do and it will cost you nothing extra.

Hopefully we won't have to do any other fundraisers this way! We'll give it a year and see if it is working. Any feedback you want to give us would also be appreciated!

Sincerely,  
Susan Leavitt Miller





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Approved by the Dolores School Board March 10, 2022



## DOLORES SCHOOL DISTRICT 2022-2023 CALENDAR

4th-8th District Office Closed  
18th -21st New Student Registration

2022 July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

2023 January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2nd On Campus Staff Day  
3rd Students Return  
13th On Campus Staff day

5th NEW teacher orientation ONLY  
8th-12th Staff Inservice  
9th MS Student/Parent Orientation  
11th HS Student/parent Orientation  
15th First Day of School

2022 August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

2023 February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

10th On Campus Staff Day

5th Labor Day  
9th On Campus Staff Day

2022 September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

2023 March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2nd End of Quarter 3  
10th On Campus Staff Day (Grades)  
Parent Teacher Conferences  
days and times to be announced  
20th-24th Spring Break

13th End of Quarter 1  
14th On Campus Staff Day (Grades)  
Parent Teacher Conferences  
days and times to be announced

2022 October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

2023 April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

14th On Campus Staff Day

11th On Campus Staff Day  
21st-25th Thanksgiving Break

2022 November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

2023 May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

12th On Campus Staff Day  
20th Graduation  
25th last day of school  
26th On Campus Staff Day (Grades)  
29th Memorial Day

9th On Campus Staff Day  
15th End Semester 1  
16th On Campus Staff Day (Grades)  
Dec 19th - Jan 2nd Winter Break

2022 December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**KEY**  
Closed for Holiday  
Student Days  
On Campus Staff Day

# Student days 146 + 2 PTC Days  
# Teacher days 165

Elementary School  
8:00 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.  
Secondary School  
7:45 a.m. to 3:55 p.m.  
Dolores School District  
100 North 6th Street  
Dolores CO 81323  
970-882-7255

All Holidays, not otherwise noted, are celebrated on Friday.



## **LITTLE BEARS' WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**

[About | FIRST LEGO League](#)



### **LEGO ROBOTICS exciting opportunity coming!**

The Pinhead Institute came to Dolores and offered the district supplies and support to start up a Lego League Robotics team!

Check out the documentary on Disney Plus - **"More Than Robots" all about FLL**

**\*Pinhead will cover registration, robots, supplies, mission kits, supplemental coaching costs**

#### **Leaders:**

- Need **one parent/ or a parent pair** to lead a group
- Robotics background is not important; parent would be there more for support and the parent doesn't need robotics background; training is available
- Pinhead representative can come every once in a while to support leaders
- Need one school representative (TBA) = order kits by August, arrange facility use etc.

#### **Teams:**

- 4th through 7th grade students welcome
- 10 student maximum and the minimum is 2; can have more involved on a team alternates

#### **Time Logistics:**

- Dolores schools will offer this league as a free program on Friday Mornings 4hrs, but the meeting schedule may be flexible per the parent leaders' schedules

#### **Competitions:**

- Kids start meeting in August when school starts; first competition in December or January
- Starts Statewide, then country Regional, then Nationals

**\*Pinhead will help pay for transportation, lodging, food stipend**  
(tournament has been in Durango in the past; this year it was Front Range)

Cut below and return to Mrs Baer (MS) or give it to your school's office secretary.

**Student's name** \_\_\_\_\_, grade \_\_\_\_\_ wants to join the Lego Robotics Team beginning in August, 2022.

**Parent signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Printed name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to be a team leader \_\_\_\_\_ (check here) phone \_\_\_\_\_