

October 2024



Dolores School District

Newsletter

Superintendent Alesa Reed

Dolores School District RE-4A

Welcome October!



Our homecoming week was a tremendous success, and it's all thanks to you! The campus was alive with school spirit and fun as we welcomed back our alumni, and our current students put in a lot of effort to plan and prepare for the festivities. We're genuinely grateful to everyone who made this a Dolores Favorite.

October Count

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) conducts an annual student count in October to determine the number of students in each school district. CDE collects data on the number of students actively enrolled and attending classes on the count day. **This data is used to determine school funding.** We face funding challenges in education, and continued challenges are coming. October count is one way to ensure that Dolores School District RE-4A receives the appropriate funding amount for our students. As a district, we have worked hard to increase attendance. This is not only because of numbers and student count but also because attendance is important for student academic growth, building relationships, and social-emotional wellness. For the purpose of funding from the state, we would like to accurately report the number of students enrolled at the Dolores District. Please make attendance a priority, including minimizing tardiness and early pick-ups.

October 17th and 18th are Parent-Teacher Conferences. We appreciate your effort to attend your child's conference and strengthen family-school relationships. Teachers will share student scores from spring CMAS, PSAT/SAT, and fall NWEA testing with you. We hope to see you there.

I'd like to introduce our new finance director Melissa Thomas. She and her husband Korey moved here from Oklahoma in July. They have two middle school children and have settled nicely into our community. Melissa comes to us with a wealth of knowledge in finance, she is working with our retired finance director Doreen Jones to incorporate school finance into her repertoire. Welcome Melissa.

Director Valiena Rosenkrance

Teddy Bear Preschool



We just had a fabulous field trip to the Canyon of the Ancients Museum at the top of the hill! The children learned what the word Respect means, what the Ancients' clothing looked like, what food was eaten, hunting tools used, drinking vessels and dippers, etc. They all also made the 1/2 mile hike to the lookout at the top of the hill. Amala Monk did a fantastic job modifying the activities for our age groups. We had many children say

this was the "Best Day Ever".



The Montezuma County Public Health Department/Montezuma County SmileMakers will be visiting our preschool on Oct 1st to provide dental screening, oral hygiene education and fluoride varnish for those families who want to participate. We try our best to provide as much education for the children/families as possible at this early age. The children love to brush their teeth at this age.

The preschool will also be visiting Vista Grande Nursing Home for our annual Fall festivities on Oct 31st. The children will make small gifts for the residents, sing songs and trick or treat on their way out to the bus. The residents are thrilled for the visit and the children enjoy giving gifts and singing.

The Teddy Bear Preschool parent group will have a planning meeting on October 3rd to set the details for the Fall Festival. Join us at the preschool, the meeting starts at 6:00 p.m.

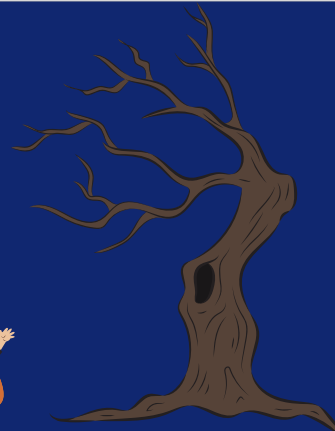
Teddy Bear Preschool Important Dates

October 1st. Dental screening, fluoride treatment and hygiene education

October 3 Teddy Bear Parent Meeting 6:00 p.m.

October 31st Vista Grande Nursing Home visit

Late October Fall Festival

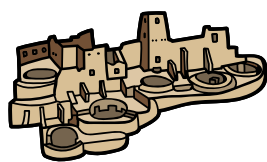


Principal Amanda Hill

Dolores Elementary School



Education is the passport to the future, and attendance is the stamp that gets you there. Our teachers are hard at work preparing engaging lessons and ensuring that all standards are being met for this year. Attendance matters for many reasons. First, it ensures that your child will not have gaps in their learning. Second, it allows them to build strong peer relationships. Third, regular attendance allows students to build routines which are important to reduce stress and anxiety around school. Fourth, attendance is important because it determines the eligibility for school funding. Last and most important reason for great attendance is that our teachers love to see, engage with, and educate the students.



We have a couple of field trips planned this month. 4th grade will be visiting [Crow Canyon](#). They will be able to take a deep dive into experiential hands-on learning. They will study archeology and Ancestral Pueblo history. This field trip is always one the students look forward to and are so excited for. Our Kindergarten students will be going to Transfer Park to study nature and the change in colors to indicate a change in season. They are very excited as well.



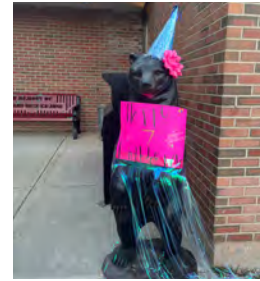
Our character trait that we are working on this month is **Teamwork**. Mrs. Domagata is teaching this in every classroom this month. Along with teamwork she is teaching conflict resolution and helping our youngsters learn to handle conflict in appropriate and kind ways. We also have the NED show returning to us this year. This assembly promotes academic achievement through character development. It is a very exciting assembly for all students.

Dolores Elementary School (continued)

Some important events coming up this month are our character assembly and Parent Teacher Conferences. Our character assembly is scheduled for October 10th at 8:10am. I hope to see you all there to help us celebrate our students. Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for October 17th from 4-7 and October 18th from 8-12. This is a great opportunity for all parents to join us at school and talk about your child's learning.



Home Coming Spirit Week
Rainbow Colors Day



PTA Fundraiser: Rent a Bear for \$10. Decorate it for a special occasion or to promote an activity!

Dolores Elementary School Important Dates

October 10th Character Assembly 8:10 a.m.

October 17th Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

October 18th Parent Teacher Conferences 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

District Nurse Brandi Dunn Health and Wellness



IT'S FALL Y'ALL! 🍂🍂🍂 And we know what that means... That's right! Beautiful leaves🍂, Trick or Treat🎃👻🥳, pumpkin spice everything and so much more!

This time of year also brings some not-so-welcome visitors, aka GERMS🦠! Cold and flu season is already upon us. Just this past week I had a noticeable increase in the number of

“sick” 🤧🤒 young people in and out of my office, lots of stuffy noses and upset tummies.

Here are some very important reminders for everyone:

- WASH YOUR HANDS 🧼 OFTEN WITH SOAP 🍷 AND WATER
- MAKE SURE YOUR IMMUNIZATIONS ARE UP TO DATE (FLU etc.)💉
- COVER YOUR COUGH 🤧
- AVOID TOUCHING YOUR FACE
- AVOID CONTACT WITH PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK 🤒
- STAY ACTIVE 🏃🚴

Health and Wellness (continued)

If you do get sick, remember to:

EAT NUTRITIOUS MEALS to keep your bodies healthy and strong in order to fight any illnesses. The more colors 🍏🍌🍋🍇🍆🥑🍓 on your plate, the better!

Get plenty of REST 🛌😴 and FLUIDS 💧

Stay HOME 🏠 if necessary

HOW SICK IS TOO SICK? There are 4 main reasons for children and adults to stay home, according to the CO Department of Public Health and Environment:

- The child or staff member could infect others with a contagious illness, either because of symptoms, a diagnosis, or recent exposure to a contagious illness.
- The child or staff member does not feel well enough to take part in usual activities. For example, a child is overly tired, fussy, or will not stop crying.
- A child needs more care than teachers and staff can give while still caring for the other children.
- The child or staff member has symptoms or an illness on this list, and staying home is required. [How Sick is Too Sick?](#)

Some others include, but are not limited to:

- Severe or new cough
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Temperature of 100.4°F or greater. Babies who are 3 months or younger need to see a health care provider right away for a fever of 100°F or higher. Call your health care provider for any fever in an infant aged 6 months or younger.

WHERE TO GET IMMUNIZATIONS: any pharmacy or doctor's office and at the Montezuma County Health Department Vaccine Clinic on Wednesdays, by appointment only.

The Pinon Project Family Resource Center is offering a low and no-cost vaccine clinic on Friday October 4, 2024 from 10am-2pm. Click the links below for more information.

[Pinon Project Vaccine Clinic \(English\)](#)

[Pinon Project Vaccine Clinic \(Spanish\)](#)

Here's to health and hay rides!

♥️🧑🏻♥️ Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns ♥️🧑🏻♥️



Principal Mary Weiss

Dolores Middle School



Dolores Middle School Important Dates

- October 1st** 7th grade field trip - Montezuma Orchard Restoration
- October 10th** End of first quarter
- October 17th** Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 p.m - 6:30 p.m.
- October 18th** Parent Teacher Conferences 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- October 28-31** Red Ribbon Week

Parent Support

Supporting middle school students in their academic journey is crucial for their development and success. Here are some strategies for parents to help their student's thrive during these formative years:

Help with Time Management

- Teach your child how to prioritize tasks and set realistic deadlines for assignments.
- Use planners or digital calendars to help track assignments and important dates.

Promote Reading Habits

- Encourage reading for pleasure as well as for school assignments. Discuss books together.
- Set aside time for family reading or visits to the library.

Encourage Independence

- Allow your child to take responsibility for their education by managing their homework and projects.
- Avoid doing tasks for them but offer guidance when needed.

Foster Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills

- Engage in discussions about current events or topics of interest, encouraging them to think critically.
- Challenge them with puzzles or problems to solve together.

By actively participating in your middle school student's education and supporting them through the challenges they may face, you can foster a positive learning environment that encourages academic success and personal growth.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent teacher conferences play a crucial role in a child's education. Come join us so that we can establish and improve the following:

- Communication - PTCs provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss a child's progress, strengths, and areas for improvement, fostering a collaborative approach to learning.

Dolores Middle School (continued)

- Building Relationships - These meetings help establish a strong relationship between parents and teachers, which can lead to better understanding and support for the child's educational journey.
- Identifying Challenges - Teachers can share insights about a child's behavior and performance in the classroom, helping parents understand any challenges their child may be facing.
- Setting Goals - Conferences allow for the setting of academic and behavioral goals, ensuring that both parents and teachers are aligned in their expectations and strategies.
- Support Resources - Teachers can provide information about resources or programs that may benefit the child, such as tutoring, counseling, or extracurricular activities.
- Involvement - They encourage parental involvement in the educational process, which is linked to better student outcomes.
- Feedback Loop - Parents can share their insights and concerns about their child, creating a two-way communication channel that enhances the overall support system for the student.

Parent teacher conferences are vital for creating a supportive learning environment that fosters a child's growth and development.

Red Ribbon Week

We will be focusing on Red Ribbon Week by having activities and dress up days. Red Ribbon Week is an important initiative that raises awareness about drug prevention and promotes healthy lifestyles among youth.



Dolores Middle School (continued)

The Importance of Educational Field Trips:

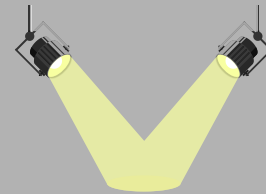
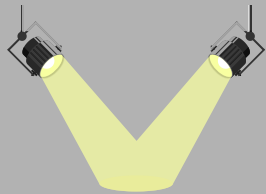
We are planning to enhance our learning by providing more field trips throughout the school year.

Hands-on field trips are incredibly valuable for middle school students. They enrich the educational experience by making learning dynamic, relevant, and enjoyable. They play a crucial role in fostering a well-rounded education that prepares students for future challenges.

This year, middle school students have already experiences field trips to the Dolores River (6th), Bradfield Bridge (6th), the Cortez Cultural Center (7th), Montezuma Orchard Restoration (7th grade), and Fort Lews College (8th)



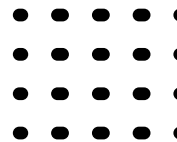
Dolores Middle School (continued)



Congratulations to our April Middle School Students Spotlights

We look for the following to be chosen for Students Spotlight:

Effort, Character, Behavior, and Attendance



The 6th grade team chose **Ophelia Pietruszka** as your student of the month. Ophelia is a student who excels at everything in and out of the classroom. She is one that earns straight As in class, helps other students with assignments, and participates in discussions. She is never a worry in class and the other students follow her lead. Outside of class, she works hard in Cross Country and collaborates well with her team. Ophelia ensures her assignments are turned in and exceptional quality. Keep up the tremendous work!



Riegan Hofmann has been awarded our August Student of the Month because she exudes:

Responsibility
Intelligent
Eloquent
Gracious
Awesome
Noble



The 8th grade team would like to acknowledge **Mayci Garver** as our Student of Month. Mayci is a hard working student who has shown so much growth this year. Her classwork is always neat, organized and on point. She takes pride in being a good student. Mayci is always kind and respectful to her classmates, teachers and others. Mayci is a fantastic example of what it means to be a Dolores Bear!

Principal Matt Walker Dolores High School



Homecoming week is a big event every year. Our students participate in activities throughout the week from the powderpuff game, parade or the dance. Throughout these activities many of our students are able to display leadership, cooperation, and learn how to work as a team. Some of these activities, students have prior experience, but

others allow them to shine in areas they are not familiar with. We did ask staff and students to complete a survey about their homecoming experience and there were some common trends between the two groups, such as making good use of time. We will continue to dive into the data with the help of the student government because both staff and students value the homecoming experience. As parents and possibly alumni know that we always welcome your input.

Parents of sophomore students you may be aware that October is the month for you and your student to meet with the academic advisor to check in and/or discuss your student's progress toward graduation and plan for after high school (Please use this [link](#) to schedule). Freshman meetings will take place next month.

Dolores High School Important Dates

- October 10th** End of first quarter
- October 17th** Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 p.m - 6:30 p.m.
- October 18th** Parent Teacher Conferences 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- October 28-31** Red Ribbon Week



Industrial Arts

We have had a lot of investment in our Industrial Arts, recently our CAD class (Computer Aided Design) received new workstations to begin investigating 2-D and 3-D designing.

High School Journalism

Journalism is back at Dolores High School! The Journalism class is an elective offered to all students. The purpose of the Journalism class is to allow students to have a voice on issues of students' interests in and outside of school. [CLICK HERE](#) to view High School Journalism articles.

Athletic Director Curtis Carver

Athletics



Dolores Bears Celebrate a Successful Homecoming

The Dolores Bears made this year's Homecoming one for the record books, filled with victories, excitement, and a powerful display of school spirit. From thrilling finishes in cross country to dominating performances on the football field, the Bears showed why they're a force to be reckoned with.

Strong Showing in Cross Country

The Homecoming festivities kicked off with an inspiring performance from the Dolores High School cross country team. Competing on their home turf, The Bears put up an impressive showing, securing a strong second-place finish. Though the top spot eluded them, the runners displayed heart and resilience, pushing themselves to the limit and making the Dolores community proud. Their performance was a testament to the dedication and hard work they've put in all season long.



High School Football: A Dramatic Victory Over Whitehorse

The highlight of the Homecoming celebrations was undoubtedly the Dolores Bears' high school football team, who faced off against the Whitehorse Raiders in a game that will be remembered for years to come. From the start, excitement filled the air—quite literally. In a spectacular moment before the game, the Dolores Bear mascot arrived by helicopter, carrying the game ball, sending the crowd into a frenzy. Once the game began, the Bears quickly took control, delivering a commanding performance on both sides of the ball. With strong plays, teamwork, and a never-give-up attitude, they secured a thrilling win against Whitehorse. The Bears' defense held firm, while their offense capitalized on key opportunities, leading to a decisive victory. The roar of the home crowd only grew louder as the final whistle blew, confirming their triumph and setting the tone for the rest of the weekend.

Athletics (continued)

Middle School Football: Victory Over Nucla

Not to be outdone, the Dolores Middle School football team added to the Homecoming excitement by taking on the Nucla Mustangs in a hard-fought game. The young Bears showcased their developing skills and determination, delivering an impressive performance. By the time the dust settled, the middle school team had notched a well-earned victory over Nucla, further highlighting the bright future of Dolores athletics.

Dolores High School and Middle School Teams Shine at Norwood Knowledge Bowl

On Monday, September 23, both the Dolores High School and Middle School teams achieved impressive results at the Knowledge Bowl contest in Norwood. Competing against schools from across the region, both teams demonstrated strong critical thinking, teamwork, and academic prowess, ultimately finishing in 2nd place in their respective divisions.

Their 2nd place finishes reflect the dedication and hard work of both the students and their coaches, who have been preparing for weeks leading up to the contest. Dolores continues to build a tradition of academic excellence, and their performance at the Norwood event highlights the talent and commitment within the school community.

This strong showing sets the stage for future competitions as both teams look forward to more success in upcoming Knowledge Bowl events.

Congratulations to the Dolores High School and Middle School teams for their outstanding achievements!

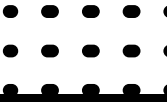
A Community United

Homecoming is always a special time in Dolores, but this year's events were especially memorable. The mix of athletic success, thrilling moments like the mascot's helicopter arrival, and the electric energy from the crowd created a weekend that the Bears community won't soon forget. From the cross country team's grit to the football teams' victories, the Dolores Bears showed that their spirit and strength are unmatched.

With a victorious Homecoming in the books, the Bears now look ahead to the rest of their seasons with momentum, determination, and the continued support of their proud community. Go Bears!

Contact the Dolores School District

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Dolores School District Calendars

[Events Calendar](#)

[2024 - 2025 Yearly Calendar](#)

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