

January 2025



Dolores School District

Newsletter

Superintendent Alesa Reed

Dolores School District RE-4A



Dear Dolores Community,
Happy New Year! As we welcome 2025, I want to reflect on our achievements, share upcoming initiatives, and express my gratitude for the collaboration and dedication that make our schools a thriving place for learning and growth.



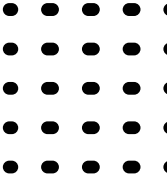
Reflections on 2024

The past year was filled with incredible successes, from academic achievements to athletic victories and artistic triumphs. I'm incredibly proud of our students, teachers, and staff's resilience and innovation as they tackled challenges with creativity and determination.

Superintendent (continued)

We published our state performance frameworks earlier this year and wanted to showcase our campuses again. This is the first time since 2019 that our district has been fully Accredited. Our percentages that make up the accreditation are not as high as in 2019. Nevertheless, we are seeing the upward trajectory for which we have worked so hard.

We again want to thank our Dolores Community for supporting us so diligently through the request to continue the Mill Levy Override and the BOND passing 2 years ago to support the building of some new facilities.



Focus for the New Year

As we enter January, our focus remains on:

- **Student Success:** Continuing to provide high-quality education that meets the needs of every learner.
- **Wellness and Safety:** Expanding mental health resources and ensuring safe environments for all.
- **Community Engagement:** Strengthening connections between families, educators, and community partners.

Building Update

- We had interested architects on campus on December 10th, walking the campus in preparation for their bid submissions.
- We will hire an architect and engineer soon, and then the general contractor will be hired.
- We are working with the BOND attorneys in preparation for selling bonds for the building project. Our two main funding sources are the BEST grant and the selling of BONDS.

Stay Connected

We value your input and involvement. Please watch our [district website](#), [events calendar](#), social media channels, and newsletters for updates. Together, we can ensure every student reaches their full potential.

Thank you for your continued partnership. Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

• • • •
 • • • • Sincerely,
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 • • • • Alesa Reed
 • • • • Superintendent

Director Valiena Rosenkrance

Teddy Bear Preschool



Welcome back from Winter Break!

I hope everyone had a wonderful restful break with family and friends!

I am asking everyone to send their children with snow gear daily. We are required by state licensing to take our children



out daily for 1 hour of playtime (unless the temperature and wind are extreme). Children love to be outdoors in the snow and it makes for more fun when they are warm and bundled.



The snow should be coming any day now and with it will be delayed starts or “No School” days due to danger with ice on the roads. Teddy Bear has the same schedule as the Dolores School District, therefore when they have delayed starts to the morning or school cancellations, we will too. If either of these should need to happen, please expect a call from the school district informing you of such. I also will post immediately on facebook.

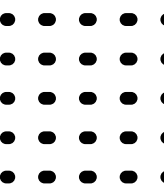
The preschool Parent Group’s next meeting is scheduled for January 9th at 6:00 p.m. at the preschool. Everyone is welcome, come and help make decisions for your child's school. Childcare and snacks are provided.

Teddy Bear is now patiently waiting for our NAEYC accreditation review any day now. NAEYC accreditation is achieved by less than 10 percent of early childhood education centers in the country. This is a voluntary process that we have chosen that ensures your child is in a safe, nurturing environment; their teachers are qualified, highly-trained, and have access to the latest research, and use the best practices in the early learning field. We strive to always do our best for you, your child, and our community.

Principal Amanda Hill Dolores Elementary School



Welcome back! I hope that each and everyone of you had the best holiday season. My hope is that you were able to rest, rejuvenate, and spend much needed time with friends and family. I am looking forward to 2025. I was so excited to see the students on Tuesday! The energy was buzzing and the students and teachers' excitement was contagious.

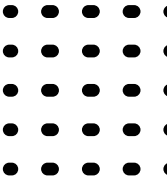


I believe we can carry that momentum through the spring semester and have the greatest achievements with all the hard work that the students and teachers put into teaching and learning!

Thank you to all the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and many others for attending our winter concert, "Winter In Space." The students did a truly remarkable job. I appreciate all the support that our families give to all of us here at the elementary school. If you have any suggestions, compliments, or comments regarding the show, please email me. I am always looking for input from our stakeholders and always devoted to making aspects of our school better and better each time.



Dolores Elementary School (continued)



As we return to school please remember that attendance is key to success. Even just a few minutes late or leaving early has an impact on students' learning. A quick reminder that our tardy bell rings at 8:00am and our dismissal for K-2 students is at 3:45 and 3-5 students at 3:50. Teachers will be teaching important concepts bell to bell so please ensure your child is in attendance and on time.

We will continue to follow the behavior expectations outlined in our PBIS system. This system allows us to be very consistent with student expectations. It also allows the students to know what to expect in each area of the school. We are focusing on increasing the number of positive behaviors being noticed by giving more "bear paws". We are also recognizing several students each month with character cards for showing high expectations and focusing on the greater good of the school.

An important safety concern around our campus is the crosswalks. The crosswalk on the south end of our campus on Central and 12th is being blocked with our "hug and go zone" lane. If there is no room in the "hug and go zone" please circle the block or find parking in other areas. We cannot block the crosswalk east to west across 12th or the crosswalk north to south across Central. Please help us ensure the safety of all our students by making it easy for them to see the crosswalk as well as not having the need to step into the street to see around cars. Thank you in advance for adhering to this safety concern.

Looking forward to the spring semester will begin with NWEA testing on January 14th and 15th. I am excited to see the growth of our students at this point in the year. Having students attend and take the test with their peers allows them to feel confident and comfortable. It also allows them to not miss any instruction by a pull out session to make up the test. We look forward to 100% attendance! Family reports will come home as soon as testing wraps up.

Dolores Elementary School (continued)

We will also be taking our iReady diagnostic test January 13-23rd. This test will measure our new math curriculum and let us know the skills students are still needing to master. This test takes about 45 minutes to complete and is done in small chunks of time in the classroom.

There will also be many opportunities for grade level presentations this spring. Stay tuned for all our communication regarding events happening in and around our school.

As always, we value your opinion! Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher at any time! They would love to hear from you! Also, I am always available to hear from you! Here's to a successful, fun, and inspiring spring semester!

Amanda Hill-Principal

District Nurse Brandy Dunn Health and Wellness



HAPPY NEW YEAR and welcome back to school! I hope everyone had a wonderful restful break!

FUN FACT:

January 24th is National Compliment Day. What a great opportunity to spread kindness and positivity by simply giving compliments. I encourage you all to make this a whole month of compliments!

Helpful reminders from the nurse:

- **WHEN TO STAY HOME:** If your student has ANY illness that makes them unable to eat/drink/sleep or otherwise carry out their normal activities without pain, discomfort, or fatigue, please keep them home until the illness has passed. Here's a link from CDPHE with more information.

[How sick is too sick?](#)

- **WINTER CLOTHING:** Please send your student to school with appropriate warm winter clothing so they can enjoy their time outside during recess. We have a few clean extra winter coats/pants/boots/etc. available to use in the Nurse's office should you need to borrow them (mostly for the elementary age group).
- **ECZEMA:** As temperatures drop and the air becomes drier, many people experience flare-ups of eczema (atopic dermatitis) a common chronic skin condition that causes itchy, scaly patches of inflamed, dry skin which can be very uncomfortable. Genetics, environmental triggers, diet, and an overactive immune response are linked to what causes eczema. Some considerations are: keep skin hydrated and use a thicker lotion during the winter months, humidify your home, take warm -NOT HOT- showers/baths, and identify triggers and try to avoid them.

Principal Mary Weiss

Dolores Middle School



Happy New Year and welcome back as we continue our exciting and successful school year! We hope that you and your family had a restful and enjoyable holiday season.

As we begin this new term, we are enthusiastic about the opportunities and experiences that lie ahead for our students.

Our dedicated staff is ready to support each child's learning and development, ensuring they thrive both academically and personally.

We encourage you to stay connected with us through regular communication, as we believe that working together as a team—school and home—helps foster the best possible environment for your child's growth.

- A few **schedules** have changed for the new school year and will be handed out the 1st day back.
- **NWEA Testing** - Will take place Jan. 13th - 16th. We will have the students take the tests during their regular scheduled English and Math classes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Your involvement and support are greatly appreciated as we work to make this term a positive and productive one for all our students.

Thank you for entrusting us with the education of your children. We look forward to another year of growth, learning, and success!



Cell Phone Policy

The policy of restricting cell phones in middle schools is motivated by a combination of educational, social, and safety concerns. Here are the main reasons why the middle school chooses to have students keep their cell phones in their lockers throughout the day.

Minimize Distractions

- **Focus on Learning:** Cell phones can easily distract students during class. Texting, social media, games, and internet browsing can take attention away from lessons and reduce academic performance.
- **Classroom Disruption:** Even if phones are on silent, the temptation to check them can lead to disruptions, and ringing phones or notifications can interrupt the flow of instruction.

Dolores Middle School (continued)

Prevent Cyberbullying

- Harassment and Bullying: With the rise of social media and messaging apps, cell phones can facilitate cyberbullying. Middle school is a critical age for social development, and many schools try to minimize the opportunities for bullying by restricting phone use.
- Privacy Concerns: Without supervision, students can misuse their phones to take photos, videos, or share content that could harm others or invade privacy.

Encourage Social Interaction

- Building Social Skills: One of the goals in middle school is to help students develop communication and social skills, and excessive phone use can hinder face-to-face interactions.
- Building Friendships: Students are more likely to engage in meaningful conversations and activities without the distraction of texting or social media.

December - Advisory Door Decoration Contest Winners:

Congratulations to the winners of the Middle School Christmas Door Decoration Contest! The creativity, hard work, and festive spirit have truly shone through in all of the designs. Keep up the amazing work, and thank you for making the season even brighter with your festive decorations.

6th Grade Mrs. Harris



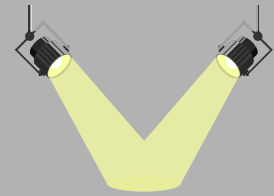
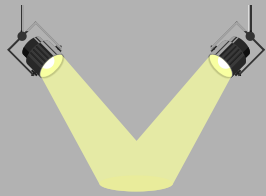
7th Grade Mrs. Kiddoo



8th Grade Mrs. Bailey



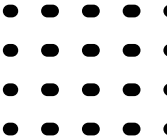
Dolores Middle School (continued)



Congratulations to our December Middle School Students Spotlights

Criteria to be selected for Student of the Month:

Academic Excellence, Positive Attitude, Good Behavior (active participation, responsibility, supportive to peers, personal growth, attendance and Punctuality



The 6th grade team has chosen **Amelia Daniel** as the student of the month. This student gives it her all and we are all so proud of her! Not only does she try, Millie wants to excel at everything she accomplishes. Miss Daniel asks in-depth questions and contributes highly to the discussion in order to grow her own learning. When she finishes those assignments, she jumps right in and wants to help her peers as well. She is a friend to everyone and is a great attribute to this 6th-grade class. Congratulations Millie!



7th Grade
Elijah Smith
E--Excellent
L--Loyal
I--Intelligent
J--Joyful
A--Admirable
H--Honorable



8th Grade
Fiona McGuire has become a hardworking and organized student. She works hard in class and is also willing to help her peers (and even teachers!) with any task or assignment. She has a great sense of humor and is proactive in her studies. Fiona has a great mind and heart; she manages her school life with grace and enjoys her life and activities outside of school. She is a fierce friend willing to support those that she loves. Fiona has shown great maturity and growth this semester. We are all proud of her.

★★★★★ **Academic Achievement** ★★★★★

Congratulations to the following students for their academic achievements during the 2nd Quarter of the 2024-2025 school year. The middle school staff is honored to recognize these students.

Principal's Honor Roll - All A's

8th Grade

Zane Brown, Arthur Lein, TRUE Loomis, Isaac Samulski, Hagen Schamp, Kooper Thomas

7th Grade

Brody Conrad, Randon Hooper, Ripley Lamkins, Isaac Marty, Hayes Robinson, Sean Tarpey, Callista Vaughn

6th Grade

Paisly Andrews, Amelia Daniel, Nyah Gorsuch, Marissa Hill, Cambri Hooper, Abigail Hurst, Bronson Jensen, Zoey Kennedy, Ophelia Pietruszka, Parker Pribble, Vann Robinson, Jaxx Robson, MacKenzie Stowe, Kyndal Winter, Kinlea Wright,

A and B Honor Roll

8th Grade

Cooper Dettloff, Dustin Johnson, Chloe Lockhoff, Evangaline Martinez, Stella Reininger, Bryson Schmitt, Kyler Shoopman, Keylie Stevens, Marshal Wickstrom, Traevan Yoder, Everly Young

7th Grade

Kennedy Erautt, Gabriella Hollen, Cedar Hunt, Alexis Lewis, Ryatt Loomis, Tatum Otteson, Isaiah Perez, Leif Rowan, Atticus Smith, Jack Stanley

6th Grade

MaKayla Beaudoin, Brian Boniface, Hannah Huston, Alanna Lindsay, Josephine Nichols, Jenna Nielson, Temperance Pyle, Jax Rantz, Lamijo Salt, Tessa Schamp, Blake Schmitt, Avery Shoopman, Rowan Smith, Aylan Warren

Principal Matt Walker

Dolores High School



Welcome Back! We hope that the break fulfilled those needs that were desired and you are ready for an exciting year ahead. Grades for the first semester will be finalized January 10th to accommodate students that may have missed the mid-year exams and will be conveyed on students' transcripts.

This means that January is a fresh beginning and we are excited to kick off the year with a variety of academic, extracurricular, and community events.

We will recognize our outstanding students participating in winter sports and our students that earned classroom honors at our first pep assembly (the student award winners will be published in next month's newsletter).

Other reminders at this time:

Attendance - We have 75 school days in the spring. When students miss more than 20% of a class period (15 days/instances) they will need to make up the hours required by the Dolores School District's attendance policy.

Weather Alerts - Make sure your contact information is up to date so that you may receive the automated alerts that are sent by 6 AM.

Alma Information - Alma, our student information system, is where grades, contact information, and attendance is held. Alma will be significant when we begin registration this spring for next school year.

Graduation 2025 - May 23rd at 3:00 PM in the Main Gym.

Please check out the [DSD Calendar](#) and the Athletics page [DoloresBears.com](#) for event information and even watch home athletic events live.

We look forward to seeing you this semester!

High School Journalism

Happy New Year! The Journalism Class is excited to report on issues and events happening in Dolores High School during the spring semester! Keep an eye out for new articles!

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.

A Special Dolores Bear Thank You



On behalf of Dolores Schools, I want to express our deepest gratitude to the following individuals and entities. Your support demonstrates a profound commitment to education and student activities and will have a direct impact on our students' experience.

The generosity of community members like you enables us to maintain our educational offerings. Your investment in our school community truly makes a difference.

Please feel free to visit our campus at your convenience.

Again, Thank you for your remarkable support of our school and students' future.

Dolores High School Debate Team \$750 - Kiwanis Club

Dolores FFA \$200 - Cortez Elks Charity Funds

Dolores FFA \$100 - Gallup Welders Supply

Dolores Ski Club \$300 - Town of Dolores

Dolores High School Girls Golf \$4000 - Scott Tipton

Dolores HS Debate \$2000 - Scott Tipton

Dolores HS Drama \$1000 - Scott Tipton

Dolores MS Girls Basketball \$1500 - Scott Tipton

Dolores MS Girls Volleyball \$1500 - Scott Tipton

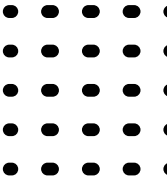
Thank You

Food Service Director Joshalynn Hicks

Nutrition Services



Happy New Year!! So excited for the new year. Happy to see the kids in the cafeteria enjoying the food and the new variety of food we offer.



Contact the Dolores School District

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Dolores School District Calendars

[Events Calendar](#)

[2024-2025 Yearly Calendar](#)

Download the Dolores SD App

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