

November 2025



Dolores School District

Newsletter

Superintendent Alesa Reed

Dolores School District RE-4A



Dear Dolores Families and Community Members,
As we move into November and approach the season of gratitude, I've been reflecting on the many reasons we have to be thankful in our school district. The spirit of collaboration between our schools and community continues to strengthen, creating new opportunities for our students and demonstrating what we can achieve when we work together.

This month, I'm especially grateful for partnerships that enhance student safety, well-being, and opportunities for healthy, active lifestyles. Two recent developments exemplify the power of community working together for our children.

Thank You for the New Bike Park!

On behalf of the Dolores School District RE-4A, I extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Town of Dolores and those who worked tirelessly to build the incredible new bike park! This outstanding community asset provides our students with a safe, engaging space to develop physical skills, build confidence, and enjoy outdoor recreation right here in our community.

The bike park represents more than just a place to ride—it's an investment in youth health, an opportunity for family recreation, and a testament to our community's commitment to providing quality amenities for our young people. We've already seen students excitedly using the park after school and on weekends, and the smiles on their faces say it all.

A huge shout-out to the welding and woodworking classes at Dolores High School, led by Jonas Weiss and Tyson Atwell. They created the signage for the new bike park. The skill and craftsmanship displayed are a wonderful tribute to our community and school district.

Student Safety Initiative: Wednesday Library Bus Service

Student safety is always our top priority, and we're excited to announce a new service that provides safe transportation and enriching after-school opportunities for our students.

Superintendent (continued)

Starting this month, the Dolores School District will provide bus drop-off service to the Dolores Public Library on Wednesdays.

This initiative emerged from conversations with families and town officials about transportation challenges and our commitment to ensuring that all students have safe after-school options. We recognized that some students need alternative transportation arrangements, and the library provides a secure, supervised, enriching environment.

How It Works:

- **Every Wednesday** after school dismissal
- Students need to have a signed Transportation Code of Conduct before riding the bus
- The bus will transport students directly to the Dolores Public Library
- Students can be picked up by families at the library
- Library staff will be aware of student arrivals
- Service is available to all students who need it

How to Use This Service:

Parents who would like their children to use the Wednesday library bus service should:

1. Contact your child's school office to register
2. Complete a Code of Conduct form [Bus Code of Conduct](#)
3. Discuss the plan with your child
4. Arrange a pickup time at the library

We encourage families to take advantage of this opportunity, especially on days when transportation may be challenging or when students could benefit from additional study time and library resources. We may provide additional transportation on other days if our students need it.

Construction Updates

Our building improvement projects are progressing well. We appreciate the community's ongoing patience as we navigate temporary adjustments to traffic patterns and campus access.

Take a look at our new Information Signs. It may take some time for our staff to navigate the latest messaging, but we are very excited to have up-to-date signage for our community.

Veterans Day Celebration - November 12

On November 12th, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the main gym, students will honor our community veterans. We want to express our deepest gratitude to all veterans in our community. Veterans Day is an important opportunity to recognize the men and women who have served our country with courage, dedication, and sacrifice.

Superintendent (continued)

Season of Gratitude

As we approach Thanksgiving, I want to express my deep gratitude to our entire school community:

To Our Students: Thank you for bringing energy, curiosity, and joy to our classrooms every day. Your resilience and growth inspire us.

To Our Families: Thank you for trusting us with your children and partnering with us in their education. Your support makes all the difference.

To Our Staff: Thank you for your dedication, creativity, and unwavering commitment to student success. You go above and beyond every single day.

To Our Community: Thank you for investing in our schools through your time, resources, and advocacy. The bike park and countless other contributions demonstrate your commitment to our youth.

To Town Leadership: Thank you for collaborating with us on initiatives like the bike park and being responsive to the needs of students and families.

To Our Board of Education: Thank you for your service, leadership, and dedication to ensuring quality education for all students.

Wishing you a November filled with gratitude, connection, and joy.

Alesa Reed

Dolores School District RE-4A

Dolores School District Important Dates and Information

November 10: Swearing in of new board members, District Office Board Room, 6:00 p.m.

November 10: Board of Education Meeting, District Office Board Room, 6:30 p.m.

November 12: Veterans Day Celebration - Main Gym, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

November 24-27: Thanksgiving Break - No School

Emergency Closures

Monitor local media and check our website and social media for weather-related closure announcements.

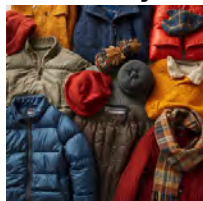
Director Valiena Rosenkrance

Teddy Bear Preschool



Dear families,

Fall is here and so are the chilly mornings! We go outdoors everyday for an hour and it gets pretty chilly in that amount of time. Please send your children dressed for the cold weather. .



Teddy Bear Preschool (continued)

Parent Teacher Conferences

Teddy Bear is hosting Parent Teacher Conferences the evenings of November 5th and 6th from 4:30-8:00 p.m. If you have missed the sign ups and/or have not spoken to your child's teacher yet, please do not hesitate to contact them for your appointment. This is a great opportunity for you to ask questions and get to know your child's teachers.



NAEYC Evaluation

NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) made their appearance last month for our site visit. We have been waiting several months for this visit. The assessor flew in from New Hampshire. The site visit is an in-person evaluation of our program's quality. The assessor observes classrooms and evaluates evidence against over 400 criteria. The results will be released in 1-3 months. We are keeping our fingers crossed. If we achieve accreditation again this year, it will make 15 years that we have been honored with this distinction.

A Bright Start to a Great Day!

Our engaging school day begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. To ensure your child gets the most out of every moment, please plan for arrival before 8:00 a.m.

The 30 minutes before breakfast known as Large Group, is a truly special time focused on building community and responsibility. It's when we choose our daily classroom helpers, which is a role that brings enormous pride and joy to our students!

This time is crucial for social and academic growth, too! Your child joins their friends to share the Morning Message, practice an important Social Skill, and take Attendance. Getting to school on time guarantees they are fully included in these enriching foundational activities, setting a positive, successful tone for everything else they'll achieve throughout their day!

Teddy Bear Preschool (continued)

Family Meal Event

All classrooms will be hosting a Family meal on the 20th for the families of our children. The school provides the main dish and families volunteer to provide the side dishes. This is a wonderful opportunity for our families to get together and meet other families.



Thank You

A tremendous Thank You, to our parent volunteers. Our Fall Carnival was so amazing because of you: Hope, Amber, Tracy, Chelsea, Daniella, Devon, Gisele, Monica, Brittney, CJ & Whitney, Krystal, Matthew, Elaine and to anyone I have regretfully missed!



Teddy Bear Preschool Important Dates

November 5-6: Parent Teacher Conferences, 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

November 13: Picture Retakes, 8:00 a.m.

November 20: Family Meals

Preschool Classrooms, 11:30 a.m.

Toddler Classroom, 3:00 p.m.

November 24- 27: Thanksgiving Break, No School

Principal Amanda Hill

Dolores Elementary School



Dear Families,

As we enter the holiday season, our hearts are full of gratitude. There are so many reasons to be thankful—our amazing teachers, wonderful students, supportive families, and our caring community.



Each day, our teachers continue to inspire students with their creativity, dedication, and love for teaching. Their commitment to providing high-quality education for every child is truly top-notch.

One of my favorite parts of each day is greeting students as they arrive. Their smiles, energy, and eagerness to learn remind me why our school is such a special place.

To our incredible **families**—thank you for your continued partnership and support. Nearly every family attended Parent-Teacher Conferences, showing once again how deeply you value your child's education. We also had a fantastic turnout for our Halloween festivities! Families came ready to help, hand out candy, and make sure every child had a wonderful time. Your involvement means so much to all of us.

We are also deeply grateful for our **community partners**. Many of you supported our PTA Bingo Night, and a special thank-you goes to the Kiwanis Club for their generous donation of money for STEM supplies. Your support helps us bring engaging learning experiences to our students every day.

We are thankful for our hardworking students and teachers who continue to focus on great attendance and engaging instruction. As we approach the middle of the school year, we are preparing for important assessments. Our **DIBELS Reading Test** will take place **December 8–18**, and **NWEA testing** is scheduled for **January 13–14**. Thank you for helping your child arrive on time and ready to learn each day—it truly makes a difference!

A big thank-you goes to our **Student Council**, who is sponsoring a **Food Drive** from now until **November 18**. All donations will help support our own families during the holiday season. Each grade level will compete to see who can collect the most food items—let's make this a fun and meaningful event for all!

Our **PBIS Team** is also hard at work planning a **Read-A-Thon Fundraiser** to support our **Bear Store**. Students will be collecting pledges for the event, which will take place on **November 20**, along with a **Pajama Day** to celebrate reading and school spirit! Look for more information coming home soon.

Dolores Elementary School (continued)

This month—and always—we have so much to be thankful for. Thank you for being an essential part of our school community. Together, we continue to make our school a place where every student can learn, grow, and shine.

Partners in Learning,

Amanda Hill – Principal

DOLORES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HALLOWEEN FUN!



Dolores Elementary School Important Dates

November 10: Board of Education Meeting, District Office Board Room, 6:00 p.m.

November 18: Now through November 18, Student Council Food Drive

November 20: Read-A-Thon Fundraiser

November 24-27: Thanksgiving Break, No School

Principal Mary Weiss

Dolores Middle School



Dear Dolores Families,

We want to extend our sincere appreciation to all who attended the middle school parent-teacher conferences and celebrated the outstanding work of our students. Your continued support helps strengthen the home and school connection that leads to student success.



The Importance of being on time

We want to take a moment to emphasize the importance of students arriving to school and to each class on time. Being punctual helps students start the day ready to learn, stay engaged, and avoid missing valuable instruction.

Lately, we've noticed an increase in students arriving late to school and to class during passing periods. These tardies can cause distractions and interruptions to both teaching and learning.

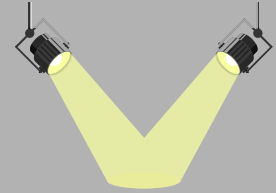
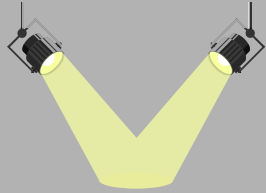
To help reinforce the importance of responsibility and respect for instructional time, we will begin assigning a detention for every 4 tardies a student accumulates. Our goal is not to punish, but to encourage positive habits that will help students succeed now and in the future.

We appreciate your support in reminding your child about the importance of being on time each day and transitioning quickly between classes. Together, we can help create a focused and productive learning environment for all students.

Safety During School Activities

During school activities, it's important to keep everyone safe by ensuring students are supervised at all times. Please make sure that when attending events, your students sit with you or remain in the stands to watch the games or programs. This helps everyone enjoy the activities while maintaining a safe and orderly environment.

Dolores Middle School (continued)



September Middle School Students of the Month



The 6th grade team would like to recognize Miss **Aspen Brafford** as your student of the month. Aspen is a phenomenal student, both inside and out of the classroom. In the class, Miss Brafford is engaging, always on task, and is always eager to share in discussions. She maintains straight As and cares for her grades. Outside the classroom, Aspen is involved in many different things. She is always one to say “Hello” and has the personality to be noticed. We, as her teachers, appreciate her creativity and work ethic.

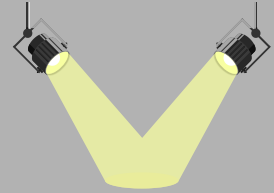
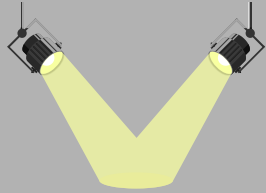


7th grade student **Sara Halcomb** is a conscientious and hardworking student who consistently puts forth her best effort in everything she does. She is dedicated to her studies and demonstrates kindness and respect toward both her peers and her teachers. Sara’s positive attitude, reliability, and caring nature make her a true role model for others.



Congratulations to 8th grade student **Easton Goodall**, our Student of the Month! Easton has shown tremendous growth and determination in his learning. His impressive improvement on his most recent NWEA assessments reflects Easton’s commitment to working hard, staying focused, and challenging himself to do his best. His dedication sets a positive example for his peers and demonstrates the power of perseverance. We are proud to celebrate Easton’s success and look forward to seeing him continue to shine!

Dolores Middle School (continued)



October Middle School Students of the Month



The 6th grade team would like to acknowledge **LeRoy Keim** as this month's student of the month. LeRoy is an excellent student in and out of the classroom. He tries so hard in his classwork and participates in every discussion. Outside of the classroom, LeRoy is polite and always has a story and a kind word to share.



7th Grade Student of the Month **Amelia Daniel** is a phenomenal student whose participation and enthusiasm make a lasting impact in the classroom. She consistently offers thoughtful interpretations during discussions and demonstrates a strong desire to keep improving. Her curiosity drives her to ask insightful questions and make meaningful inferences that deepen class conversations. Amelia is a model of engagement and academic excellence—truly deserving of Student of the Month!



Gabby Hollen is our 8th Grade October Student of the Month. She is a dedicated and hardworking student who is well-spoken and organized. She consistently stays focused on her grades while actively participating in multiple sports as well as FFA. Gabby pays close attention to details in her assignments and is always willing to help her classmates, making her a valuable and well-rounded team member. Congratulations Gabby.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FIRST QUARTER PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARDS

6TH GRADE

WILLIAM CHUBBOCK
LEROY KEIM
JOHANNA LAROSE
JACKSON MCGEE
RYLEE OTTESON
HAILEY PATTERSON
CONNOR PRIBBLE
FINN TARPEY

7TH GRADE

FYNN ANDERSON
PAISLY ANDREWS
MAKAYLA BEAUDOIN
NYAH GORSUCH
HANNAH HUSTON
DUDLEY MORRIS
VIOLET PORTER
PARKER PRIBBLE
JAX RANTZ
VANN ROBINSON
JAXX ROBSON
AVERY SHOOPMAN
MACKENZIE STOWE
KYNDAL WINTER

8TH GRADE

OLIVIA ELDER
EASTON GOODALL
ELLIE GREGORY
RANDON HOOPER
HAYES ROBINSON
HUNTER STURDEVANT
SEAN TARPEY



Academic Achievement



Congratulations to the following students for their academic achievements during the 1st Quarter of the 2025-2026 school year. The middle school staff is honored to recognize these students.

Principal's Honor Roll - All A's

8th Grade

**Kennedy Erautt, Gabriella Hollen, Randon Hooper, Cedar Hunt,
Ripley Lamkins, Isaac Marty, Chloe Paine, Atticus Smith,
Sean Tarpey, Callista Vaughn**

7th Grade

**Paisly Andrews, Amelia Daniel, Brantley Frans, Cambri Hooper,
Zoey Kennedy, Alanna Lindsay, Ophelia Pietruszka, Parker Pribble,
Vann Robinson, Aylan Warren, Kinlea Wright**

6th Grade

**Aspen Brafford, William Chubbuck, Annalise Cunningham,
Johanna LaRose, Patricia Nielson, Idris Pietruszka, Daisy Williford**

A and B Honor Roll

8th Grade

**Adriana Dorsey, Olivia Elder, Owen Elder, Ellie Gregory, Aleiah Grove,
Keara Keene, Isabel Lockhoff, Ryatt Loomis, Tatum Otteson, Kora Rantz,
Hayes Robinson, Leif Rowan, Sage Scott, Jack Stanley, Vincent Westover**

7th Grade

**Fynn Anderson, MaKayla Beaudoin, Brian Boniface, Nyah Gorsuch,
Marissa Hill, Abigail Hurst, Hannah Huston, Bronson Jensen,
Jax Rantz, Jaxx Robson, Lamijo Salt, Avery Shoopman,
MacKenzie Stowe, Micah Unrein, Kyndal Winter**

6th Grade

**Soren Beckman, Leighton Clah, Lyle Dalzell, Eviana Domagata, Peyton
Erautt, Nya Holgate, LeRoy Keim, Desiree Kitley, Isabella Maez, Brealyn
Mortimer, Hailey Patterson, Connor Pribble, Tresden Rennert, Matix Smith,
Olivia Stanley, Finn Tarpey, Jamya Tolbert, Lilliana Walker, Ileana Willden**



Dolores Middle School (continued)

Dolores Middle School Important Dates

November 24-27: Thanksgiving Break, No School

District Nurse Brandy Dunn Health and Wellness



This November, let's give thanks!

Did you know, people who practice being thankful are healthier, happier, more optimistic? They make progress towards their goals, have a better sense of well-being, and are helpful to others. Being grateful is a choice we make.

There is always something to be thankful for. One way to practice an attitude of gratitude: Write down 3 things you are thankful for everyday.

- **Important Reminders:**

- [School-required Vaccines](#)
- [Vaccine Exemptions](#)
- [How Sick is too Sick?](#)
- [Student Health Form](#)
- Is it [Cold or Flu?](#)

Signs and Symptoms	Cold	Flu
Symptom onset	Gradual	Abrupt
Fever	Rare	Usual
Aches	Slight	Usual
Chills	Uncommon	Fairly common
Fatigue, weakness	Sometimes	Usual
Sneezing	Common	Sometimes
Chest discomfort, cough	Mild to moderate	Common
Stuffy nose	Common	Sometimes
Sore throat	Common	Sometimes
Headache	Rare	Common

Food Service Director Joshalynn Hicks Nutrition Services



The state and the school remain in contact with each other and so far this is what we know: Due to the federal government shutdown, SNAP benefits for November may be delayed. School meals are still available.

If you need additional food before your SNAP benefits are available, there are local resources that can help:

- Colorado 211: Call 2-1-1- or 866-760-6489 or visit www.211colorado.org.
- Feeding Colorado: Visit www.feedingcolorado.org/find-food or email info@feedingcolorado.org
- Hunger Free Colorado Food Resource Hotline: 855-855-4626

Principal Matt Walker

Dolores High School



The end of October has brought a lot more than candy bars to DHS! It's been a busy month full of hard work, celebrations, and plenty to be proud of. We've had some great accomplishments among our staff. Alison Brown wrapped up her Master's in Agricultural Education – way to go, Alison! Ed Miller had another piece published, *In the Shadow of Eagles*, and our shop teachers, Jonas Weiss and Tyson Atwell, spent time training high school teachers from all across Southwest Colorado. We're lucky to have such a talented crew here at DHS.

Homecoming Week was a big hit. The school spirit from our students, staff, and families was incredible, and we can't wait to build on that energy next year. We also hosted the annual Halloween Carnival on the elementary playground, and it was a blast with lots of smiles, costumes, and fun for everyone who came out.

Our Boys Cross Country team made it to State this year, along with our standout female runner, Emilyynn Hill. Joseph Padilla placed 27th overall, earning All-State honors and helping the boys team take 11th place. Rounding out the team were Bodie Fischer, Orin Samulski, Nathan Gaddis, Corvin Smith (58th), and Owen Lowe (57th). Emilyynn ran her best time yet in the 5K, finishing in the top 50 and earning All-State honors of her own. What an awesome showing all around!

Our Volleyball team finished the regular season with an impressive 22–1 record, avenging their only loss in three straight sets. They'll host the regional round-robin tournament here in Dolores, with the winner moving on to State – go Bears!

Around fifteen of our students have tried out or will soon audition for All-State Choir and Band, and our Cheerleaders are gearing up for regional competition this month. Several of our students took the UNC Math qualifying test, a statewide competition, preliminary results show DHS having five students qualify for the in-person state competition this spring. We are excited to see how they do!

Football wrapped up its season against Norwood, and for the first time since 2010, Dolores Football finished with at least half their games in the win column. That's a big step forward for the program and something to celebrate. All of the successes, challenges, and growth are reasons to be thankful for our Dolores community moving into the Holiday Season.

Athletic Director Travis Rantz

Athletics/Activities



Dolores Athletics Update

It's been a fantastic month for Dolores Athletics, with our student-athletes showing incredible effort, sportsmanship, and Bear pride across all levels!

Middle School Highlights

- **Cross Country:** The middle school cross country team finished strong at every meet this season, placing second overall at the final league competition. Great job, runners!
- **Football:** The Bears had an excellent season, advancing all the way to the league championship game and finishing as league runner-up. Congratulations on a hard-fought season!
- **Volleyball:** Dolores hosted the Middle School Volleyball Championship—and came out on top! The team earned the title of Middle School League Champions. Way to go, Bears!

High School Highlights

- **Cross Country:** What a day at the Colorado XC State Championships!
 - Emilyynn Hill ran a personal record (PR) with a sub-22-minute time, finishing 50th and earning 2A All-State honors.
 - The boys' team placed 11th overall, with Joseph finishing 27th and also earning All-State honors.
 - Every runner achieved a course PR, and Owen and Corvin narrowly missed All-State recognition, finishing 57th and 58th. Outstanding performances all around!
- **Football:** The Bears celebrated their best season in over a decade, winning their first league game and finishing with a .500 record—the first time in 12 years! The team played tough, competitive football all season long.
- **Volleyball:** With only one loss all season, the girls' volleyball team is currently ranked third in the state and will be hosting regionals. The Bears have shown dominance on the court and are ready to make a strong run in the state tournament. Go Bears!

Athletics/Activities (continued)

Winter Sports Preview

As we kick off the winter season, please ensure all paperwork, physicals, and fees are completed.

- **High School:** The first official day of practice for boys and girls basketball and wrestling begins November 17.
- **Middle School:** Boys basketball is already underway with a strong start, battling for top positions in the league. Girls basketball and wrestling will begin after the Christmas break.

A huge thank you to all the parents, fans, and community members who continue to support our student-athletes. Your energy and pride make a difference every game and every season.

Go Bears!



Contact the Dolores School District

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Dolores School District Calendars

[Events Calendar](#)

[2025 - 2026 Yearly Calendar](#)

Download the Dolores SD App

Download the updated Dolores SD App, available for free on both Android and iOS platforms. Allow push notifications!



Safe2Tell Colorado Initiative

