



Mountain News

JANUARY 2021

Mountain Schools Principal

Tom Schachet

970-488-6553



Livermore Elementary
970-488-6520



Red Feather Lakes
Elementary
970-488-6550



Stove Prairie Elementary
970-488-6575

Mountain Schools Website

click [HERE](#)

Visit us on Twitter



From Principal Schachet

Dear Mountain School Families,

Enthusiasm: a strong excitement or feeling, something inspiring, zeal (Merriam-Webster).

It is hard to describe the feelings that a new year brings, but we all feel it. There is hope for what is to come in the next year. Enthusiasm about new beginnings and excitement about new opportunities. The same is true in a school environment. Spring semester brings joy, excitement, and enthusiasm for the new materials to be taught and helping students climb in their growth and reach new levels of understanding.

This year the inspiration to dive into the new year seems to be greater. Understandably so after 2020. The enthusiasm of our staff is contagious and the excitement for spring semester is refreshing. We are all excited for new opportunities in 2021.

continued...



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From Principal Schachet, continued...

Students Return to In-Person Learning January 19th

I know that part of the elevated enthusiasm for the new year is the return of students to in-person learning. Students will continue to learn in Phase 1 (remote learning) until January 15th. Starting January 19th, Kindergarten through 5th grade will go to school five days a week, in Phase 4, following health protocols.

Staff are diligently working to prepare for students in the building. In-person lesson plans are being formulated and building safety measures are being ensured. I know that school will still look different, but nonetheless we are ready to embrace the changes, push ahead, and strive forward in providing your student with the highest level of education.

Report Cards

Report Cards for fall semester will be available in ParentVue on Monday, January 11th. Report cards will look differently this year as PSD has updated elementary report cards to provide additional consistency among schools, consistency across grade levels, and to better align with the academic and personal development skills contained within our Colorado standards. If you have any questions or need help accessing ParentVue please contact your school secretary.

Looking Ahead

I would like to applaud our students of the month for demonstrating enthusiasm and for being a beacon of positivity to those around them. Included in this month's newsletter is the January calendar, information about Kindergarten registration, students of the month, as well as the "Meet the Staff" section.

As we move closer to in-person learning we will keep you informed of safety protocols, materials they will need to bring, and daily schedules.

We thank you for your continued support as you have become experts and ideal models in flexibility, change, and transitioning. We also look forward to seeing the versatility of our students in the future, their ability to conquer difficult situations, and how these past experiences will lead them to be extraordinary innovators and visionaries. We are proud to be walking through this journey with our families and students and thank you for standing by our side as we continue to push through. We are enthusiastic about 2021 and cannot wait to see the new opportunities that the new year will bring.

Thank you,
Principal Schachet



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INSPIRE KIDS TO DO



4-H OPEN HOUSE

Jan 14th | 5:30 - 6:30pm
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LarimerExtension.org

Looking Ahead

January 5th to January 15th Phase 1, Remote Learning	January 19th In-Person Learning Begins
January 8th Online Registration/Kindergarten Registration for 2021-2022 begins.	January 28th School Pictures by Skillman More information coming soon.
January 18th No School K-12, MLK Day	February 15th No School K-12

dates to Remember



KINDERGARTEN

The Adventure Starts Here!

2021-2022

5 years old by October 1st, 2021?

REGISTER

psdschools.org/onlineregistration

Beginning January 8th, 2021



Have questions? Contact the school to speak with the Kindergarten teacher or send them an email directly.

Livermore 970-488-6520 nbeck@psdschools.org	Red Feather 970-488-6550 kjayroe@psdschools.org	Stove Prairie 970-488-6575 rzawadzki@psdschools.org	Learn more about the Mountain Schools at mtn.psdschools.org
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January Calendar's



RED FEATHER

January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Grades K-5 begin Phase 4 learning on Tuesday, January 19 th .				Winter Break	
3 Winter Break	4 	5 Remote Learning LIFE SKILLS	6 Remote Learning ART	7 Remote Learning P.E.	8 Remote Learning Morning Meeting Asynchronous Work	9
10	11 Remote Learning MUSIC	12 Remote Learning LIFE SKILLS	13 Remote Learning ART	14 Remote Learning P.E.	15 Remote Learning Morning Meeting Asynchronous Work	16
17	18 No School 	19 Phase 4 Begins Afternoon Special P.E.	20 Afternoon Special Life Skills	21 Afternoon Special MakerSpace/Tech	22 Happy Bday Lilly O. Afternoon Special P.E.	23 Happy Bday Waylon M.
24/31	25 Morning Special Virtual Music	26 Afternoon Special P.E.	27 Afternoon Special Life Skills	28 Afternoon Special MakerSpace/Tech	29 Happy Bday Zak M. Afternoon Special P.E.	30

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continued...



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Health District
LARIMER HEALTH CONNECT
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larimerhealthconnect.org

January Calendar's, continued...



LIVERMORE

January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Grades K-5 Start Phase 4 Learning on Tuesday, January 19 th .					Winter Break	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Winter Break		Return from Winter Break Remote Learning LIFE SKILLS	Remote Learning ART	Remote Learning P.E.	Remote Learning Morning Meeting Asynchronous Work	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Remote Learning MUSIC Happy Birthday Chase H. (LIV)	Remote Learning LIFE SKILLS	Remote Learning ART	Remote Learning P.E.	Remote Learning Morning Meeting Asynchronous Work	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	No School	Afternoon Specials: Music	Morning Special: Art Virtual	Afternoon Specials: Maker/Tech	Afternoon Specials: Life Skills	
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Afternoon Specials: Music	Afternoon Specials: Music	Morning Special: Art Virtual	Afternoon Specials: Maker/Tech	Afternoon Specials: Life Skills	

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January Calendar's, continued...



STOVE PRAIRIE

January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
Grades K-5 Start Phase 4 Learning on Tuesday, January 19 th .					Winter Break	
3 Happy Birthday Robert M. (STO)	4 Winter Break	5 Return from Winter Break Remote Learning LIFE SKILLS	6 Remote Learning ART	7 Remote Learning P.E.	8 Remote Learning Morning Meeting Asynchronous Work	9
10	11 Remote Learning MUSIC	12 Remote Learning LIFE SKILLS	13 Remote Learning ART	14 Remote Learning P.E.	15 Remote Learning Morning Meeting Asynchronous Work	16 Happy Birthday Eligh S. (STO)
17	18 No School	19 Afternoon Specials: <i>Life Skills</i>	20 Afternoon Specials: <i>Art</i>	21 Afternoon Specials: <i>Maker/Tech</i>	22 Morning Special: <i>P.E. Virtual</i>	23
24/31	25 Afternoon Specials: <i>Art</i>	26 Afternoon Specials: <i>Life Skills</i>	27 Afternoon Specials: <i>Art</i>	28 Afternoon Specials: <i>Maker/Tech</i>	29 Morning Special: <i>P.E. Virtual</i>	30



Happy New Year



McKinney-Vento Program

McKinney-Vento focuses on helping those with housing insecurities and their goal is to remove barriers so students can have equal access to education. This program may be of assistance to those needing additional help after the Cameron Peak Fire. Please contact your school secretary if you are interested in learning more about the program.

Report Cards

We are pleased to announce report cards will be available to you electronically in [ParentVUE](#), by 4PM, Monday, January 11th. If you have forgotten your password click 'Forgot Password' on the Account Access page. Note, PVUE can be accessed through a secure login using the web portal (<http://www.psdschools.org/pvue>) or app which can be downloaded from the [iTunes Store](#) for Apple (iPhone) devices or [Google Play](#) for Android devices. For additional information please see ParentVUE section found on the [PSD website](#).

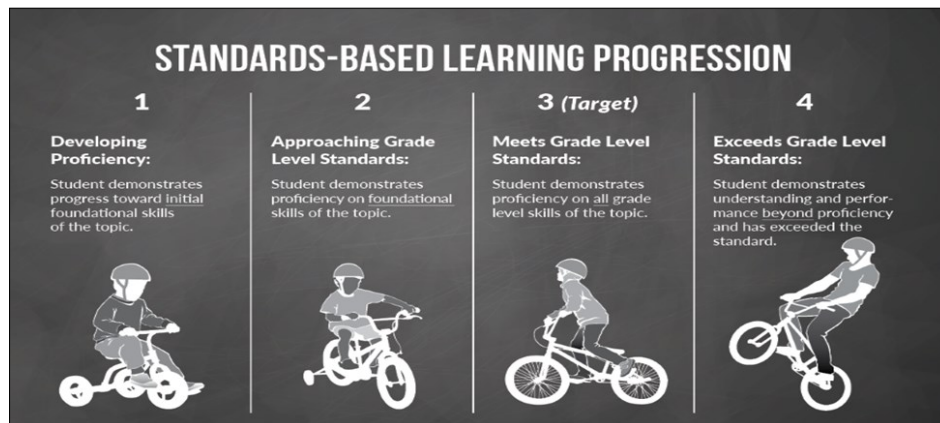
Switch to Standards Based Report Cards

PSD has updated elementary report cards and moved to a standards-based system. If you have a child in middle school, you are familiar with this system. The new report cards align with how they are mastering grade level standards, and not simply a percentage. Teachers are able to provide more specific feedback on the actual skill or task and what the student needs to practice in order to improve.

Your students will now receive a mark of 1, 2, 3, or 4. **A mark of 3 indicates they are exactly where we expect them to be at this time.**

Effort & Personal Development	<i>Explanation of Marks</i>	Achievement
	Consistently shows a thorough understanding of the concepts or skills and extends understanding beyond the requirements of the standards.	4 = Exceeding Expectations
3 = Meeting Expectations	Shows a complete and correct understanding of the concepts or the ability to perform the skills as articulated in the standards.	3 = Meeting Expectations
2 = Approaching Expectations	Shows partial mastery of prerequisite knowledge and limited or incomplete understanding of the concepts or skills as articulated in the standards.	2 = Approaching Expectations
1 = Beginning Expectations	Shows a beginning understanding of the concepts or performance of the skills as articulated in the standards.	1 = Beginning Expectations
NA = Not Applicable		NA = Not Applicable

This representation, from Clear Creek Independent School District in Texas, is a great visual.



Please understand it will take some time for everyone to adjust to this new system. This includes shifting our classroom practices and assessments, training students, and providing more standards information to families. For example, previous progress reports this semester may not align directly with this new grading scale, as teachers are working to adjust their own grading practices”.

Families will be able to access report cards in ParentVUE at the end of each semester in both January and June.

Want more information on standards-based grading?

http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational_leadership/oct08/vol66/num02/Seven_Reasons_for_Standards-Based_Grading.aspx

<http://standardslearning.pbworks.com/f/Seven+Reasons+for+Standards+Based+Grading.pdf>

<https://www.schoolgy.com/blog/standards-based-grading>

Meals during Remote Learning

Breakfast and lunches are still available for pick up at your school location.

Where: Your Neighborhood Mountain School
Days: Monday through Friday
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Details:

Breakfasts and lunches will still be available for pick up from your neighborhood mountain school, but they will now be served directly from the school (not from the bus). If you would like to receive breakfasts and lunches, please come to the school between 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and come to the front door. We will provide breakfasts and lunches from there. Please call your school secretary if you have any questions.

Once we transition to Phase 4 on January 19th, meals will be available for students.

Mountain Schools SAC (School Accountability Committee)

If you would like to participate in the Spring meetings for the Mountain School SAC please contact your mountain school secretary for additional details.

December Students of the Month

Each month we will recognize a student from each class for the Student of the Month. We have chosen certain character traits that we will highlight for each month. December's character trait is enthusiasm.

CONGRATULATIONS

DECEMBER

Students of the Month

December's Students of the Month demonstrated enthusiasm with their excitement to always learn, their zeal for school, and for being a beacon of positivity to those around them.

DECEMBER'S CHARACTER TRAIT IS ENTHUSIASM

Enthusiasm : 1. A strong excitement or feeling, something inspiring zeal (Merriam-Webster)

Livermore

K/1 – Dezmond C.
 2/3 – Quinton P.
 4/5 – Ryan G.

Red Feather

K/1 – Chance D.
 2/3 – Grace R.
 4/5 – Hezekiah T.

Stove Prairie

K/1 – Oliver B.
 2/3 – Marcus L.
 4/5 – Zuhrah H.



Your Mountain Schools Team

Each month we will highlight several Mountain Schools team members. This is a fun way to help us stay connected, to help you learn who your children interact with on a daily basis, and to learn a few new fun facts about each other!

YOUR Mountain Schools TEAM

MS. KRESS



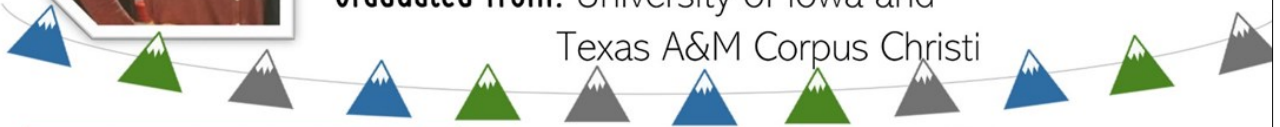
School: All Mountain Schools

Position: Counselor

Years in the Mountain Schools: 2

Years in the Education Profession: 5

Graduated from: University of Iowa and Texas A&M Corpus Christi



Favorites

School Subject: Reading

Book: Love that Dog
(when I was in Elementary School!)

Music: Country

Color: Red

Food: Mac n Cheese!



If you could take students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you go?



The Beach!

What is one of your hidden talents?

I can cook just about anything



Words of Encouragement for Students

You guys impress me every single day with your positive attitudes. I encourage you all to go into the world with these same attitudes and you will be able to conquer anything!



Your Mountain Schools Team, continued...

YOUR *Mountain Schools* TEAM

MS. SPANOS



School: All Mountain Schools

Position: Integrated Services

Years in the Mountain Schools: 1.5

Years in the Education Profession: 3.5

Graduated from: University of Wyoming

Favorites

School Subject: Literacy

Book: The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

Music: Classical and R&B, Love Bill Withers

Color: Blue

Food: Pad Thai

If you could take students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you go?



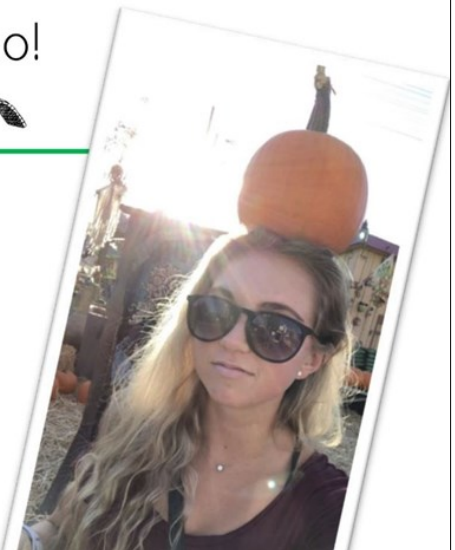
Balboa Park in San Diego

What is one of your hidden talents? Gymnastics, back handspring! Play the Piano!



Words of Encouragement for Students

Be yourself! You must be willing to look silly in order for great things to happen to you!



Your Mountain Schools Team, continued...

YOUR *Mountain Schools* TEAM

MS. WEST



School: All Mountain Schools

Position: Art Teacher

Years in the Mountain Schools: 17 →

Graduated from: University of Minnesota
Go Gophers!

1 year integrated services para
10 years P.E. Teacher
(2 years I did both P.E. and Art Teacher combo)
6 years Art Teacher



Favorites

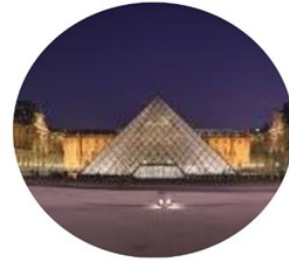
School Subject: Art

Book: Life of Pi

Music: Grateful Dead – I am a Hippy Deadhead at heart

Color: All 12 on the color wheel

If you could take students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you go?



Paris, France
The Louvre!

What is one of your hidden talents?

Flip my eyelids inside out!



Words of Encouragement for Students

Get busy getting messy and make the world a more beautiful place with your art



Your Mountain Schools Team, continued...

YOUR Mountain Schools TEAM

MRS. RICHARDSON



School: Red Feather Lakes Elementary

Position: Secretary

Years in the Mountain Schools: 1.5

Years in the Education Profession: 1.5

Graduated from: Colorado State University



Favorites

School Subject: Math

Book: Trout, Trout, Trout

Music: Christian, Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, Country

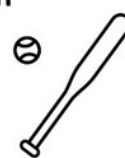
Color: Forest Green

If you could take students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you go?



Yellowstone

What is one of your hidden talents?



Fast Pitch Softball,

Laughing &

Juggling 😊




Words of Encouragement for Students

Always find a positive moment throughout your day and do not forget how amazing you are!



Friendly Health Safety Reminders

Friendly Health Safety Reminders for when we return to in-person learning on January 19th. As we move closer to in-person learning we will keep you informed of safety protocols, materials they will need to bring, and daily schedules.



2020-2021 Poudre School District

Return to Learn

Protocols following critical, major or minor symptoms

When can staff, students return to work and school in PSD following a positive COVID-19 symptom screen?

Note: This guidance is NOT intended for cases or close contacts of COVID-19. A confirmed COVID-19 case or close contact should follow public health isolation or quarantine instructions for return to school/work.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recently released new guidance for K-12 schools to guide response to the COVID-19 pandemic. A group of nurses and PSD staff evaluated the new guidance, which is now in effect and outlines when staff and students can return to work and school. Please note that PSD's adopted guidance has been reviewed by the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment and is in some ways stricter than the state's guidelines. As a reminder: PSD staff and students are required to wear a mask on school grounds.

Critical Symptom:
Loss of taste or smell

↓

Critical Symptom Response:
Follow home isolation for **10 days** following symptom onset AND be **24 hours** fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school. COVID-19 test recommended.

Major Symptoms:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4° F or greater 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New or worsening cough 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
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↓

Major Symptom Response:

1. If symptoms resolve within 24 hours of onset and stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (48 hours total)
2. If symptoms DO NOT resolve within 24 hours, either:
 - Follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.
 - Get a polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, COVID-19 test. If test is negative, return to school once symptom-free for 24 hours. If positive, follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.

PSD Superintendent Search Survey, Forums

PSD superintendent search online survey, forums:

The Board of Education would like to hear input as it searches for the next Poudre School District superintendent. Parents/guardians, students, staff and other members of the PSD community are invited to complete a survey.

- The survey takes about 10 minutes and must be completed by Jan. 22.
- English survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PSDsearch>
- Spanish survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PSDbusqueda>
- Hazard Young Attea & Associates, a search firm hired by the Board of Education, will compile input gathered from the survey, forums and invite-only focus groups and create a leadership profile report that will be presented at the board's public Feb. 9 meeting.

The school board will also solicit diverse ideas from numerous stakeholder groups, including parents/guardians and students, through a series of facilitated, invitation-only, online January forums. Event information is posted on the [PSD Superintendent Search web page](#), which is the primary source of information for the hiring search. We encourage everyone to share their voices as part of this important process.

Once on the [PSD Superintendent Search web page](#) users can translate the content. Click on the word "Translate" along the top, green navigation bar and select your desired language from the list displayed.

