

# BEAR ESSENTIALS

Monthly Publication | Dolores School District RE-4A | 970-882-7255

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## Want to get involved?

Our district is seeking individuals who would like to serve on the District Accountability Committee. For more information, please call the district office. You may also find a handbook for this committee on the Colorado Department of Education website at: [https://www.cde.state.co.us/uip/sac\\_dac](https://www.cde.state.co.us/uip/sac_dac)

## Board Meetings

The Dolores School Board of Education meets every second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Anyone in the community is welcome to attend the meetings. As we strive to bring Dolores School District back into the forefront of achievement, your input is important.



## School Board Votes on Master Plan

Dolores School Board met on August 15, 2019, in their regular board meeting and approved the Master Plan for the new campus design created by RATIO/HPA with support from Goff Engineering and Surveying, and Jaynes Corporation of Colorado. This decision now launches the leadership into forward momentum on applying for the Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) Grant with the Colorado Department of Education. This grant is due in January of 2020. Once the result of the application is given, next steps for the district will be determined.

Also in the meeting, the board approved their strategic plan. This plan remains in effect through this school year. See page 7 for details.



## THIS IS THE GREATEST SCHOOL

The theme this year in the elementary is "This is the greatest school!" It is founded on the ideas in the movie *The Greatest Showman* based on the life of P.T. Barnum and the beginnings of the Barnum and Bailey Circus.

Mrs. Howerton said, "So this particular movie-inspired theme is about overcoming adversity in pursuit of your dreams. I felt that we as a staff, could relate to the theme and use it to help us grow and focus on what is important—the students. I wanted them to see we are an amazing staff, in an amazing community, and we are the GREATEST because of what we do everyday for kids."

- The theme will be used throughout the school year to bring students and staff together over a positive theme.
- It will be integrated into Accelerated Reader contests, Khan Academy pursuits, and the character program.

### About the Movie:

Orphaned, penniless but ambitious and with a mind crammed with imagination and fresh ideas, the American Phineas Taylor Barnum will always be remembered as the man with the gift to effortlessly blur the line between reality and fiction. Thirsty for innovation and hungry for success, the son of a tailor manages to open a wax museum but soon shifts focus to the unique and peculiar, introducing extraordinary, never-seen-before live acts on the circus stage.

### *Elementary Principal, Kelly Howerton*

Mrs. Howerton serves as the principal of the elementary school. She has been in education for over 20 years. She has taught everything from kindergarten through fifth grade, Title I, and for the last four years the Elementary Dean of Students in Dolores.



Kelly is married and has two daughters. Her oldest daughter graduated from Dolores High School and is now a teacher in San Antonio, Texas. Her youngest daughter will graduate from Dolores in May 2020. She is dedicated to creating a safe, engaging, welcoming and rigorous learning environment for all her students.

### *Elementary Dean of Students,*

Mrs. Hill has been working as an elementary teacher for the past ten years. She gained a wonderful reputation as a teacher and colleague. Amanda was chosen this year to be the new Dean of Students.



Amanda has a bachelor's degree in education as well as a Master's of Education in Teacher Leadership from Fort Lewis College. When asked what she felt the most important part of her job, she stated, "Developing strong relationships with our students and their families is very important to me."

Outside of school she enjoys gardening, watching her children play soccer, and spending time with her family in the mountains.

*Secondary Dean of Students,  
Justin Schmitt*



Mr. Schmitt is a career educator who began his career as a middle school teacher and a high school boys basketball

coach. Schmitt is a Colorado native and a graduate of Dolores High School. After high school he earned his BA in US History and Secondary Education and went on to receive his MA from Grand Canyon University in Educational Administration. For the past 8 years Mr. Schmitt has worked in the new school development, operations, and administration of online and blended charter schools in numerous states throughout the country.

Justin and his wife Erin have been blessed with three very active children and they spend the majority of their time coaching and cheering them on at their various sporting events. They also enjoy traveling and spending time in the beautiful outdoors of Southwest Colorado. Justin is excited to return to Dolores Secondary and is looking forward to supporting its staff and students as they continue to work toward making Dolores Secondary a school of distinction.



## You Can Be a Bear Backer

The Dolores Bears Booster Club is a Colorado non-profit corporation that was developed to support academic **and** athletic activities at the Dolores High School and Middle School students by seeking donations, financial support, and volunteers from individuals, businesses, and community organizations. We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides financial assistance for students to have opportunities beyond what our local school can supply. The Dolores Booster Club can do all this because of you...our Bear Backer support! Please consider a Dolores Bears Booster Club Membership!!! Together we can accomplish so much. Even the smallest of Donations can help build our funds to help serve our kids.

For more information contact: Leah Boyd 970-759-5597, Brenda Spurlock 970-739-1925, Laurel Schafer 970-318-1341 or Shelly Purkat 1-970-759-3101.

### Want to get involved?

<u>Level</u>	<u>Cost</u>	
<b>Platinum</b>	<b>\$250</b>	<b>Gym Sign</b> and <b>Business Card Ad</b> in Athletic Programs
<b>Gold</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>Business Card Size Ad</b> in Athletic/Activity Programs
<b>Silver</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>Recognition</b> in Athletic/Activity Programs
<b>Bronze</b>	<b>\$25</b>	<b>Recognition</b> in Athletic/Activity Programs
<b>Be A Bear</b>	<b>\$10</b>	<b>Recognition</b> in Athletic/Activity Programs

#### School Organizations receiving contributions 2018-2019:

- \* Operation Graduation - Financial Support
- \* Teacher Appreciation - Dinner
- \* Staff Meal for Parent Teacher Conferences
- \* Homecoming Week Spirit Contest
- \* Hope Montezuma
- \* Knowledge Bowl (HS & MS) Financial Support
- \* Sports Banquets (HS & MS) (Drinks, Dinnerware)
- \* High School Baseball Warm Ups
- \* NHD State
- \* Weight Room Benches Re-Covered
- \* High School Football - Traveling Team Food
- \* Destination Imagination-Globals Support
- \* Middle School Student Government - Water Fountain
- \* Scholarship of "Just Because" for graduating seniors
- \* Dolores Chamber - Bear Wear Gift Box

# Dolores School District

**Download our Mobile App for Free!**  
Stay in touch with Dolores School District while on the go.



**APP FEATURES:**

- ✓ News
- ✓ Notifications
- ✓ Calendar
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Portal
- ✓ Parent Resources



Apps by: bluetreeapps

**Bear Essentials** Newsletter is edited and published from the District Office.

Suggestions and comments are welcome. Please email [larnett@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:larnett@dolores.k12.co.us).

[Lis Richard](#) - Superintendent

[Valiena Rosenkrance](#) - Preschool Director

[Kelly Howerton](#) - Elementary Principal

[Jen Huffman](#) - Secondary Principal

Amanda Hill - Elementary Dean

Justin Schmitt - Secondary Dean

## DSD App and New Website

In early September you will be able to take a look online at [www.dolores.k12.co.us](http://www.dolores.k12.co.us) to view our new website. We are still working on it and will do all we can to keep it user friendly. We are also adding an additional feature that will enhance communication. Our school app **will soon be available** for all to use. It is free to download and will connect you to valuable information. One of the outstanding features is the notifications. When there is an important message, we can send it to the app right away.

Some of the features on the app are:

- ✦ Notifications
- ✦ Menus
- ✦ Calendar Events
- ✦ Absence Notification
- ✦ Portal Access into Power School

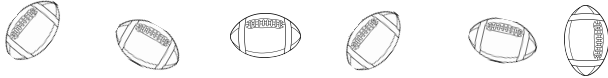
We value your feedback and look forward to hearing about the website. Feel free to send a message!

Dolores School  
District RE-4  
100 N. 6th Street  
Dolores, CO 81321

District Office  
970-882-7255  
[www.dolores.k12.co.us](http://www.dolores.k12.co.us)



# Dolores High School BEARS FOOTBALL



DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Aug. 30	Monticello	Away	7:00
Sept. 5	Cortez JV	Home	7:00
Sept. 13	Whitehorse	Away	7:00
Sept. 20	Monument Valley (Homecoming)	Home	7:00
Sept. 27	Newcomb	Away	7:00
Oct. 4	Monte Vista	Away	TBA
Oct. 11	Rye	Home	7:00
Oct. 18	Centauri	Home	7:00
Oct. 25	Ignacio	Home	7:00
Nov. 1	Center	Away	7:00

## Athletic News:

This year our athletic director position was split. John McHenry will be the high school AD and Jeromie Schumacher will cover the middle school responsibilities. This will be a benefit to the athletes as they will have someone focusing on their specific teams and competitions. Both men have excellent attitudes and look forward to moving the program in a positive direction.

Mark your calendar for **HOME COMING EVENTS:**



**September 20  
Dolores High**

vs.

**Monument Valley**

**Game Time 7:00 p.m.**

**DOLORES BEARS HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL  
SCHEDULE FALL 2019**

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Aug. 27	Cortez C/JV/Var	Home	4:00
Aug. 31	John Mall	Away	9:00
Sept. 6	Caprock Academy	Away	3:00
Sept. 7	DeBeQue	Away	3:00/4:00
Sept. 10	Dove Creek	Home	4:00
Sept. 12	Telluride	Home	4:00
Sept. 19	Mancos	Home	4:00
Sept. 21	Ridgeway	Home	11:00
Sept. 24	Ignacio	Home	4:00
Sept. 26	Norwood	Away	4:00
Sept. 28	Nucla	Home	11:00
Oct. 4	Ridgeway	Away	4:00
Oct. 5	Creede	Home	1:00
Oct. 15	Mancos	Away	5:00
Oct. 19	Ouray (V)	Away	4:00
Oct. 22	Ignacio	Away	4:00
Oct. 26	Telluride	Away	4:00
Nov. 2	Gunnison Tour (V)	Away	9:00
Nov. 9	Regionals (V)	Away	TBA
Nov. 14-16	State (V)	TBA	TBA



## Dolores Middle School Football Schedule 2019

Date	Opponent	Home/ Away	Time
Aug 29	Nucla	Away	5:00
Sept 5	Monticello	Away	5:00
Sept 12	Dove Creek	Home	5:00
Sept 17	Cortez B	Away	5:00
Sept 26	Blanding, UT/ AR Lyman MS	Away	5:00
Oct 1	Ignacio MS	Home	5:00
Oct 10	Monticello	Home	5:00
Oct 15	Mancos	Home	5:00

## Dolores Cross Country Schedule 2019

Sept. 6	Window Rock Invitational	Window Rock, AZ	10:00 AM
Sept. 14	Bayfield XC Invitational	Bayfield	10:00 AM
Sept. 20	Ramble at the Reservoir	Ridgeway	4:15 PM
Sept. 25	John Thornton Invitational	Blanding, UT	3:00 PM
Sept. 28	Chicken Creek Challenge	Mancos	9:00 AM
Oct. 4	Ancient Trails Invitational	Cortez	4:00 PM
Oct. 11	Bloomfield CC Invite	Bloomfield, NM	2:00 PM
Oct. 18	Region 4 Meet	Delta	TBD
Oct. 19	MS State Championships	Denver	9:30 AM
Oct. 26	2A State Championships	Colorado Springs	TBD

**Middle School Girls  
Volleyball  
Schedule on page 9.**



# BEAR FACTS

## Monthly Blog by Superintendent Lis Richard

Students we serve in 2019 are far different from the days when many of us sat in our school desks. Today's student communicates differently, nearly 50% come from a non-traditional family setting, have more grandparents than siblings, and have never sat at a family dinner on a nightly basis.

Think about some of the obvious differences comparing 1990's vs. 2019:

(Okay, so I wasn't in a school desk in the 90's but most of you were!)

- Flatscreen TVs were very expensive and rare, so being a baller meant having a TV VCR combo in our rooms (which was usually a 13-inch screen)
- If you had your own personal landline you were it! (because we didn't mind talking on the phone with each other back then)
- Headphones were the AirPods of the time!
- There was no Wiki so we had no choice but to use Encarta to do research papers. (The other option was to look things up in the encyclopedia—imagine that!)
- Obviously there were no streaming services like Netflix, therefore watching movies at home meant renting them from Blockbuster (also, going to the video store and looking around was a fun way to pass the time).
- Everyone wanted the oh-so-cool-looking iMacs (like wanting an iPhone XS Max today).
- DVD players were expensive, so only our rich friend(s) would have one. Everyone else still watched things on VCRs.
- VCRs were important because it was the only way we could record something from TV. (There was no Hulu, so we had to do this if we

weren't going to be home to see a new episode of something.)

- Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace was the most-anticipated movie of all time (there hadn't been a new Star Wars movie in 16 years at the time).
- Wide-leg carpenter jeans and cargo pants were FASHION.
- You couldn't play video games online so we had to split screen games like Super Smash Bros., GoldenEye, and Mario Kart 64 on Nintendo 64 to play against our friends.
- Using the internet meant AOL.
- Texting...what was that?
- Remember Y2K?
- If we wanted to reach someone and they weren't home then we would have to page them (cell phones were expensive and few teens had them).

This generation is called the “i-gen.” They are the generation of the internet. With everything, there are positive and negative aspects. One realization is that adults are no longer the source of important information for children and teens. They are less dependent upon us and often manifest this in misunderstood ways.

Rather than fearing this generation of students, we choose to embrace them. We will focus on their individual abilities and creativities. They must have their foundational skills in place and from there, we must let them soar! We are dedicated to watching each student reach their full potential.

Passionately Pursuing Excellence,

*Mrs. Lis Richard*

Superintendent



## Strategic Plan for 2019-20

### Dolores School District RE-4A Board of Education

**Academic Goal: Curriculum and Instruction**

Maintain vertical alignment in English/Language Arts and add the Math alignment in accordance with the 2019 audit. This will be complete by end of the fiscal year.

**Trajectory of Curriculum Alignment:**

Subject	Focus Work	Implementation	Notes
English Language Arts (ELA)	2019	2019-20	Focus work will continue as only half of the year was given to ELA
Mathematics	2019-20	2020-21	
Science	2020-21	2021-22	Already ongoing with the change in NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) adopted by the State.
History	2021-22	2022-23	
Arts	2022-23	2023-24	Visual, Performance, Fine Arts
Industrial Sciences and Other	2023-24	2024-25	Ongoing partnership with area colleges

**Performance Goals: Academic Achievement (Student Performance)**

- Maintain District Performance Framework at or above current state ranking
- 65% of our students, K-11 show projected annual growth on NWEA testing fall to spring and the district performs above national norm in all subjects (average of all grades)
- 85% meeting end-of-year (EOY) benchmark on Reading mean in K-3
- Reaching a 90% or better graduation rate

**Social/Emotional Goals: Overall Student Well-Being**

- Expand the Seven Mindsets to parents and community through social media and district publications
- Expand the two-way communication with community through website feedback tabs
- Reduce recidivism and the overall referrals (conflicts) by 25% in 2019-20
- Increase number of conflicts self-resolved demonstrating student implementation of program

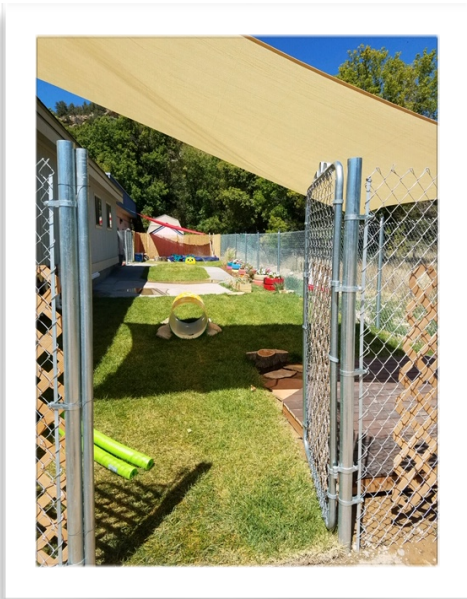
**Financial Stability Goals: Fiscal Sustainability Over the Next Five Years**

- Maintain or increase student enrollment every year for the next five years
- Establish a plan to pursue the most important priority to increase student interest and enrollment (i.e. programs, recreation). Present plan by April 2020
- Increase the beginning fund balance for next fiscal year and establish a closer margin to balance budget between revenue and expenses for 2020-21

**Facility and Maintenance Goals:**

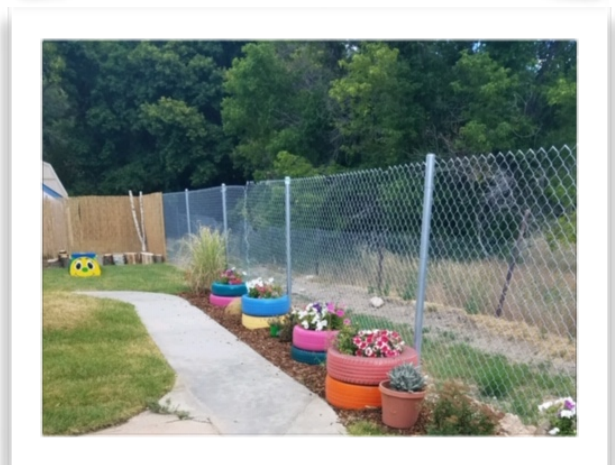
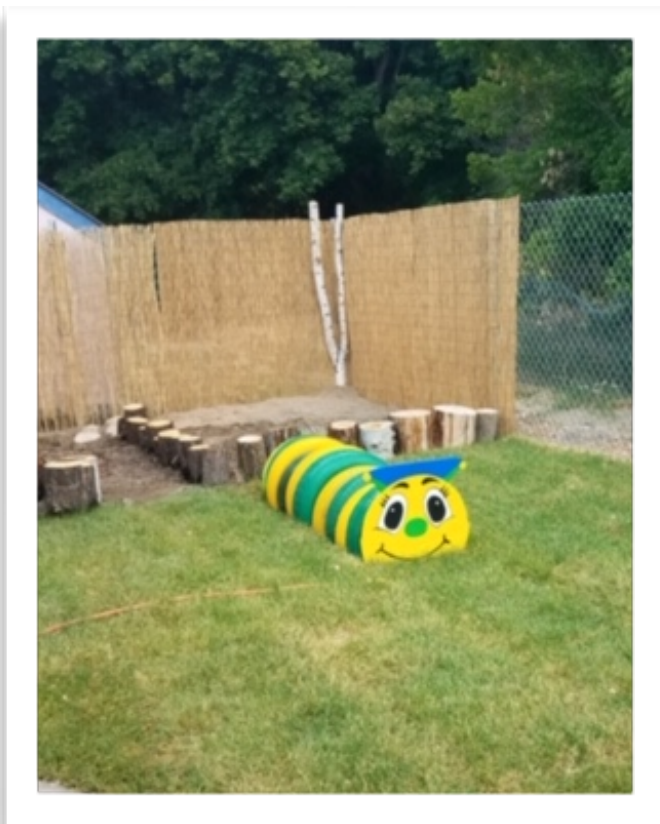
- Due to safety and security concerns for students and staff, aging facilities, and flood plane issues, make commitment in 2019 to move forward with a master plan.
- Secure a commitment or denial from the Town of Dolores Trustees to move forward on the Joe Rowell Park project in order to move the master plan to a BEST Grant.
- Through the RFP process, select the architect and contractor for the building project.
- Set a plan in place by March of 2020 for disseminating information to all stakeholders and possible bond or mill levy. Plan two Town Hall Meetings by June 2020.
- Establish a maintenance and replacement plan for the district fleet.

# Preschool Adds New Infant-Toddler Playground



Thanks to the valiant efforts of Valiena Rosenkrance, Preschool Director, our infants and toddlers now have a beautiful new playground space. The playground was completed just before school began. The project was made possible by the donations of the preschool parents and award of a preschool grant. The grant came from Early Childhood Health Outdoors sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation in the amount of \$5,000. These resources will also be used for upgrades to the preschool playground and a new storage shed for infant-toddler playground.

Mrs. Rosenkrance loves the preschool and spent countless hours working this summer. She ran the bobcat, painted, put in sod, and more. A special thanks is owed to the maintenance crew and Alfonso Goad for their support in this effort.







## Dolores Middle School Volleyball Schedule 2019



### *District Classifieds*

**Employment:**

Dolores School District is seeking an elementary school counselor. This person must have the required certification. If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Substitute Bus Drivers Needed: Training is available. If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Substitute Teachers Needed: If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Boys Basketball Coaches:

Dolores Athletic Department is seeking a head coach and assistant coach for the varsity and JV teams. If interested, please email the athletic director, John McHenry at:

[jmchenry@dolores.k12.co.us](mailto:jmchenry@dolores.k12.co.us)

Date	Opponent	Home/away	Time	Teams
Aug 22	Mancos	Home	4:00	A,B,C
Aug 27	Koogler MS (Aztec MS)	Away	4:00	A,B,C
Aug 29	Telluride	Away	4:00	A & B
Sept 3	Dove Creek	Home	4:00	A & B
Sept 5	St. Columba	Home	4:00	A & B
Sept 10	Mancos	Away	4:30	A & B
Sept 12	St. Columba	Away	4:00	A & B
Sept 14	Nucla	Home	10:00 AM	A & B
Sept 19	Dove Creek	Away	5:00	A & B
Sept 21	Tri (Ridgway, Telluride)	Telluride	10:00 AM	A only
Sept 24	Monticello	Away	4:00	A,B,C
Sept 28	Nucla/Norwood/ St. Columba	St. Columba	10:00 AM	A only
Oct 1st	Telluride	Home	4:00	A & B
Oct 5th	SJBL Championship	TBD	10:00 AM	A only

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

Community Members, Parents, Business Owners for the District Accountability Committee: If interested, please call 970-882-7255.

Booster Club is seeking volunteers for concessions and other activities. For more information contact: Leah Boyd 970-759-5597, Brenda Spurlock

970-739-1925, Laurel Schafer 970-318-1341 or Shelly Purkat 970-759-3101.

PTA - Do you want to be involved in your child's education and provide support to the school? Call the elementary school office for more information.

