



LITTLE BEARS' WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

In the news...

Our theme this year is "**The Adventure Begins**," and I am so grateful for the Elementary and High School staff members who extended a grand warm welcome to our Preschool Teddy Bear neighbors as they started their adventure with a Bear Hunt through our campus! The children were welcomed with staff members handing out balloons, teddy bears, bubbles, and teddy-graham cookies! We enjoyed the smiles and excitement so much as they discovered hidden teddy bears all over the entire campus!

We encourage Community Members to hide teddy bears in windows around town for all of our students to "find," during walkabout adventures in coming weeks! We have worked hard to prepare and are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our Little Bears, so that our Adventures can begin, too! -Ms. McCormick



Principal's Corner

Dear Little Bear Families,

We are excited for our **Adventure to Begin with YOU!!!** Please enjoy this linked [Little Bears' The Adventure Begins](https://youtu.be/T2O2OVx1HG8) welcome video! You can also access it via this url: <https://youtu.be/T2O2OVx1HG8>

I greatly appreciate the kind warm welcome into the Dolores community, and I hope to extend the same to you and your children as they return to school this year on August 31st! Unfortunately, due to health mandates and restrictions, things are going to look a lot different for our Little Bears, and I wanted to warn you about some big changes with our processes and procedures for safety. Please read about them in the "**Important Updates**" area below.

I know these will be difficult changes, but please know that the loving hearts in this building have **not** changed! We intend to be as warm and welcoming as possible while implementing protocols to ensure safe learning environments in order to remain open to serve our families with **in-person** learning as long as possible. Please, please forgive any protocol that might be offensive to you, or appears standoffish, or unwelcoming. We are heartbroken about some of these policies ourselves, but we will do our best to work with them and honor and respect each other while doing so.

I greatly appreciate your respect, forgiveness, compliance, and support with our protocols and regulations. Please let me know if you have any questions about anything. We are so excited to have the Little Bears start school, and thank you in advance for your understanding!

Warmly,
Lurleen McCormick





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Upcoming events:

- Now until Oct. 1st – Community Teddy Bear Hunt
As our adventure begins at the elementary school, please join the fun by "hiding" bears in windows for students to "find" during field trips and outdoor learning activities throughout the town.
- August 31 – 1st day of school
- Sept. 4th– Teacher work day– students off
- Sept. 7th No school – Happy Labor Day!

IMPORTANT UPDATES:

Arrival and Dismissal procedures:

- Stay in vehicle and drive through the Hug & Go zone to drop students off or pick them up at the curb, and exit "hug & go" line immediately to keep traffic flowing.
- Park in parking lot if you need to park.
- Only buses will be allowed in the bus area.
- Call the office ASAP to have bus students pulled from the bus for different transportation home. Students will be sent to the Hug & Go zone for pick-up.

Volunteers and Visitors:

- Volunteers and visitors are welcomed for **outside activities only** like recess visits, outdoor lunches, outdoor learning labs, and field trips.
- You will enter the building, sanitize hands, and submit your required ID for our Raptor security system.
- You'll get your visitors pass, and then exit the front doors to meet students outside.



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Counselor's Corner

Hello Little Bear Families!

I am your new Elementary School Counselor. I thought I would give you an overview of what a professional school counselor does. Our role is primarily preventative in nature. School Counselors:

- Work with ALL students by teaching Guidance Curriculum Lessons in every class.
- Facilitate small group sessions that will help students with such issues as grief, family issues, friendships, bullying, anxiety, school avoidance, attention and impulsivity struggles, leadership, etc.)
- Meet individually with students for immediate needs.
- Collaborate with parents, teachers, and other school team members to help students succeed.
- Help the students explore and set goals for their future education and career paths! (Yes! Elementary is a great time for them to start dreaming and planning.)

Feel free to contact me at smiller@dolores.k12.co.us, or call me at the school number. I am happy to meet with you in person, via zoom, or by phone or email. Just let me know what you are most comfortable with. Thanks and I hope to meet you . . . one way or another . . . soon!

Sincerely,
Susan Leavitt Miller

Other Announcements



- **Mrs. Elder – P.E. Announcement:**
How excited I am to be back in person with our staff and students—I have missed you all! Physical education this fall will likely be outside a lot, including getting over to the Riverside park for some movement in the shade! While a few things may be a bit different, our goals for our time together will remain the same: learning about how to be healthier people by the habits and choices we make, and following the Golden Sneaker rules of safety, sportsmanship, listening, teamwork, respect, self-control, effort, and enthusiasm! We will focus on how to improve the five components of fitness (muscular endurance, flexibility, muscular strength, cardio-respiratory endurance, and body composition) through games and exercise throughout the year.

Thank you ahead of time for **sending in PE shoes** for your child to keep at school (even early in the school year, weather may drive us inside). They don't have to be new, just clean and very grippy on the bottom. See you soon and remember kids—"NO Gwouchies!"



- The Dolores Elementary PTA is so excited for the new school year! We want to welcome all our little bears and their families.
The PTA would like to invite ALL to become a member and join us in enriching our school. Please print and complete this linked membership form and return it to us soon.
With the COVID restrictions this year, we will not be able to hold many fundraisers, and your membership dues will be a great help to our school community.
The official Bear Wear sale will begin SOON. Please look for more information in the next issue of the Goose. WE ARE SUPER PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT ONLINE SALES WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS YEAR.