

## Coal Creek Elementary

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Louisville, CO 80027

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**Website**

<http://bvsd.org/schools/coalcreek>



## Calendar

**January 17**

Martin Luther King Day  
No School

**January 17 – 30**

Conference Sign Up Window

**January 24**

Kindergarten Registration  
Evening – 6PM



Hello Coal Creek Community,

We are beyond thankful for the outpouring of support for those impacted in our community and staff. As many of you know, we have a large number of families who have lost their homes completely or have severe damage. We also have families who have been impacted with being displaced while the logistics and restoration process gets set up. Please continue to give grace and keep our school community in your thoughts as everyone is finding housing, developing routines, new travel routes and the new normal.

As I was talking with the students on the morning announcements to start school on Wednesday morning, one of the things I shared was a lesson from Mister Rogers. He famously said he was always comforted by something his mother would tell him during times of disaster. "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping." Well, I am in awe and inspired by the positive impact from the efforts of our helpers....the first responders, our PTA, parent leaders/volunteers, businesses both local and global, CCE & BVSD staff, neighboring school districts, houses of worship and our local community combined with those from around the world. The connections, donations, offerings of words of support, volunteering time/energy and tremendous resources to meet the physical and emotional needs of our community, combined is what makes a difference. I hear time and time again that these acts of kindness and generous donations are incredibly appreciated by our families and beyond. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

The BVSD Trauma Response Team are our helpers too as has been a strong support for our students and staff this week at CCE and across our impacted community. They began providing support on Monday/Tuesday at the Education Center and joined our efforts on Wednesday at Coal Creek. The team will also be back at CCE on Monday, January 10th. Students and staff have an open door policy and can access this counseling support at any point needed during the school day.

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In preparation for required emergency drills, I wanted to let you all know that the Fire Marshals in both jurisdictions are giving BVSD an exemption from having physical fire drills in all Superior and Louisville schools for January. In absence of doing an evacuation and full drill, our staff and Emergency Response Team will be having discussions, covering logistics, reviewing the evacuation points and understanding everyone's responsibilities during the event (communication, student safety, accountability/attendance, securing their rooms etc.)

If you are impacted in anyway, I am including the following information related to the new **Disaster Assistance Center** (NOW OPEN) and ongoing recovery websites:

The Boulder County Disaster Assistance Center, located at the Boulder County Southeast County Hub at [1755 South Public Road in Lafayette](#), will operate from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week, and will include specialists from Boulder County Housing and Human Services, Public Health, Community Services and Community Planning & Permitting, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Mental Health Partners, many other area government and nonprofit organizations, and insurers.

Help Available at the Disaster Assistance Center:

- Consultation on property loss and filing claims for assistance
- Gift cards for replacement of food and transportation costs
- Information about short- and long-term housing
- Help with vital records
- Referrals to emergency shelter
- Food assistance
- Mental health services
- COVID-19 tests
- Transportation vouchers
- Referrals for personal finance planning

Those impacted by the Marshall Fire are encouraged to visit [www.boco.org/MarshallFire](http://www.boco.org/MarshallFire) and [www.boco.org/MarshallFireEspanol](http://www.boco.org/MarshallFireEspanol) to learn about the recovery process and find out about available resources for which they may qualify. Opportunities for making donations or volunteering to help the community recover are also available on these pages.

I also want to reshare a great resource through Conscious Alliance, a national nonprofit organization, committed to supporting communities in crisis through hunger relief and youth empowerment. They are ready to support and meet the needs of those directly impacted in our school community. Please complete this form as soon as you are able to and share with those impacted within our school community.

Conscious Alliance is here to support our community. If you'd like access to ready-to-eat meals and/or gift cards for meal delivery service or other essentials, please fill out this 30 second survey to let them know what you need: <https://forms.gle/6UY6XHBoDSyzTkXZ8>

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Free Bikes for those affected by Marshall Fire:

Community Cycles will be offering FREE bikes for transportation to people who suffered losses in the Marshall Fire. The bikes offered are best suited for everyday transportation. "The bikes Community Cycles sells and provides to the public are mostly bikes for getting around town. We won't be able to replace the high-end mountain, road, or gravel bike you train on, but we can help you get around town on a sturdy used bike." If you are in need, apply for a bike by contacting: [firebikes@communitycycles.org](mailto:firebikes@communitycycles.org). Please provide your height, address, and a brief explanation of how you will be using the bike. The bikes will be distributed based on need. Not all sizes or styles may be available, as Community Cycles begins with bikes donated by the community and then refurbishes them with a team of professional and volunteer mechanics.

Last but not least, please know that due to the recent wildfires, BVSD has extended the timeline for 1st semester report cards and SpEd progress reports to February 4th. In regards to Spring Conferences, please look for an email from HelpAtSchool on January 17th at 9am. The registration window ends on January 30th at 11pm. Our Parent/Teacher conference nights will be 2/8, 2/10 and 2/16.

~Coal Creek Strong, Brian Muñoz

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## Counselor's Corner

Hello Coal Creek Families,

Let me start this letter by offering my thoughts and wishes for this community. Students have come back only a few days and yet it is clear how resilient, cohesive, empathetic, and caring this community is for each other. Those skills are learned through modeling from their families, and you should take a massive amount of pride in yourselves for the compassion and resilience these children have shown in their return to learning at Coal Creek. I hope to share some current happenings going on here at Coal Creek for this month, along with some resources that I hope will help you in continuing to support your Puma's social-emotional well-being outside of school.

Current Happenings at Coal Creek

Much like last semester, Zones of Regulation curriculum will be continued in the classrooms. The recent fire and evacuation had and will have an emotional toll for ourselves, and our students. Our students may not be able to put words to the emotions they are feeling, but even by just saying the color they are in, they will be able to identify where they are at. The benefit of these colored zones gives teachers, me, and you as parents the opportunity to check-in, and, based on the color, offer support or tools to give your child as they continue on with their current day-to-day situations. With this information, Coal Creek will continue to push the Zones terminology and give students multiple opportunities through the day to "check their temperature" based on the Zones. If you would like to check for resources from Zones of Regulation, their website can be found [here](#).

The No Place for Hate Art Contest is also still ongoing here at Coal Creek. There have been some beautiful pieces created thus far and I'm excited to see them as they continue. You can find more information on the Art Contest [here](#).

## Resources and Support

It would be remiss of me to not share some of the incredible resources on how to talk with your students

about the recent events and the trauma associated with it. Below you will find multiple links, some that you may have already seen in prior e-mails and some that I have collected from colleagues from across the country who reached out wanting to offer some support. I also will place a link for my counseling referral form. Please feel free to use this link to get in touch with me, or to let me know that you have concerns around your child, or if you would like to chat with me in general. Of course my contact information will be at the end of this as well, so please don't hesitate to reach out to me at any point.

One thing to keep an eye out for either this week or next week will be a book from Ahava River. It is a coloring/social-emotional book that we will be providing for all of our students here. It has directions in the book on how activities you can do with your child along with fun coloring activities. The pages are beautifully created and we were generously donated these books by Ahava River. The website for the book is [here](#).

## How to Talk With Your Child:

- [Parent Guidelines for Helping Children Impacted by Wildfires \(En Español\)](#)
- [Preparing Children After a Wildfire Damages Your Community](#)
- [Wildfires: Tips for Parents on Media Coverage \(En Español\)](#)
- [Simple Activities for Children and Adolescents](#)
- [Trinka and Sam: The Big Fire - e-book for young children. \(En Español\)](#)
- [After a Crisis: Helping Young Children Heal](#)
- [Age-Related Reactions to a Traumatic Event](#)
- [Helping Young Children with Traumatic Grief: Tips for Caregivers](#)
- [Helping School-Age Children with Traumatic Grief: Tips for Caregivers](#)
- [Helping Teens with Traumatic Grief: Tips for Caregivers](#)
- [Childhood Traumatic Grief: Youth Information Sheet](#)

## Mental Health Supports

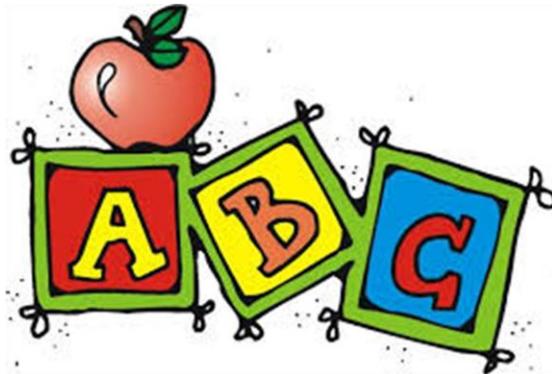
- Call [Colorado Crisis Services](#) at 1-844-493-8255 or text "TALK" to 38255
- Call the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) at 1-800-273-8255
- ["I Matter" program - 3 free sessions](#)
- [Mental Health Partners](#): Call (303) 443-8500. MHP outpatient services are closed Monday, Jan. 3rd and will re open 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 4th
- [JFS Boulder County Crisis Counseling](#): In response to multiple tragic events over the last year, Jewish Family Service and Community Foundation Boulder County have partnered to offer counseling services to Boulder County residents. The program offers up to \$500 towards five individual counseling sessions (a maximum of \$100 per session), or up to \$875 towards five family counseling sessions (a maximum of \$175 per session) and provides a pool of licensed providers from which to choose.

My thoughts and wishes are with you, Coal Creek Community, as we work to grow from this terrible tragedy. I am always an e-mail or phone call away. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns or would like to speak.

In solidarity,  
Rob Dorr

*Do you have a Kindergartner for the 2022/23 School Year?*

If you have a child that will be attending KG at Coal Creek in August 2022, please attend our KG Registration Evening on January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. This will be an in-person event for adults only. Masks are required. You will have an opportunity to meet the Principal and KG teachers. The registrar will be present to guide you through the registration process. If you are aware of any new neighborhood kindergarten aged children, please inform their parents about this event.



*Incoming kindergartens will have an opportunity on May 4<sup>th</sup> to attend orientation.*

# PTA News

Hello Pumas,

Our hearts go out to all Coal Creek families affected by the horrible Marshall fire last week. Please know you have our entire community here to help and support you. As many of you are aware we have set a donation POD in our parking lot. This is a free, convenient location for you to come 'shop' and get whatever items your family needs.

## **POD hours of operation:**

Shopping- Friday January 7; 8-3:30pm

Saturday January 8th; 9-3:30pm. Open to LMS families as well

Donations- Friday January 7th; 9-12pm. At this time we are only accepting new items. We do have a need/request for long underwear of all sizes; Women's XL and XXL, snow boots especially men's and women's.

If you are able to volunteer at the POD or interested in purchasing specific items, please sign up at [help at school](#).

## **Pop-up Mobile Food Distribution - Today(Jan. 7)**

You're invited to visit a pop-up mobile food distribution at Douglass Elementary, today, Friday,

Jan 7, from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Lots of fresh, tasty produce and ready-to-eat snacks and food will be

available for pick up via a COVID-safe drive-thru format.

**WHERE::** Douglass Elementary School **NORTH** parking lot - 840 N 75th Street in Boulder

**WHEN:** Friday, Jan. 7 from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

**WHO:** Anyone looking for supplemental food, especially those impacted by the recent Marshall Fire

**WHY:** Community Food Share is sponsoring this event with the support of many incredible fresh produce donations from Whole Foods Market and Costco

## **Save the Date**

Parents night out at Premier Martial Arts in Lafayette! Drop your kids off on Saturday January 22 from 5:30-10pm for a night of pizza, martial arts, crafts, movie and fun while you have some free time. \$26/per child and \$20 gets donated back to the PTA. Registration link to follow.

Sending our entire community strong positive vibes,

Your PTA Board  
#coalcreekstrong