



January 17, 2020

"Our vision is educational excellence in knowledge, skills, and character with strong parent-teacher-student partnerships."

Dear Wolverines,

Happy Friday to each of you! I hope you have had a nice week and that you are looking forward to the long weekend. As always, we have been busy learning and growing, right alongside your beautiful children. Thanks for sharing them with us!

Fundraiser Updates

As I shared last week, we are all so excited about the purchase and receipt of our new VR Goggles. Several of you have approached me to ask why these might be exciting and beneficial to our students. The short answer is that they allow us to take students on a "virtual field trip" through places we wouldn't otherwise get to visit (like the inside of a volcano, or to the surface of the moon, or to the Louvre museum.) I am working with the Professional Development department to get a training in place for our work day in February. This will give teachers the opportunity to learn all about how these tools can enhance student learning.

Also, I want to update you about the status of some of the other projects for which we have raised funds. Adding additional instructional spaces is a priority for us, and we are just waiting for help from the facilities department to move forward. Due to the scope and nature of the construction, permits and bids will be required. I had been told that we could expect this work to happen over the summer of 2020. I am still hopeful that will be the case. I have been assured that we will get the concrete by the front entrance fixed some time in June.

Please know that I will continue to be a "squeaky wheel" with the hope that our projects can get started as soon as possible.

Girls in the Spotlight

Registration for Girls in the Spotlight is **open until midnight tonight**.

"Through the empowerment of self-expression and having outlets to voice passions and interests, confidence can blossom and grow. As confidence builds, anything becomes possible. Within the framework of small groups of girls, forming a sense of community, young girls can start to take initiative and explore leadership."

Programs are designed with purpose integrating:

1. Creative and Performing Arts (creative expression)
2. Leadership (team building & positive influence)
3. Entrepreneurship (solution oriented and growth mindset)

For additional information or to register, please visit:

<https://www.girlsinthespotlight.org/events/traut-girls-in-the-spotlight-club>

Learning Expo - Coming Soon!

Monday, March 9- Wednesday, March 11th at TCKS.

- opportunity for students to share their independent learning with the school community
- Not required unless your child has an ALP. If your child has an ALP they need to choose one of the seven options unless other arrangements have been made with Mrs. Spaeth.
- projects are completed in addition to regular school work
- students in all grades are welcome to participate
- six categories: Science Fair, Science Demonstration, Science Research, Invention, Wax Museum, Creative Writing and world fair.

Forms will be available next week in the front office.

For more information about any of the categories you can Kalvert Spaeth at kspaeth@psdschools.org.

Jr. Dance Clinic

Saturday, Jan. 25, 1:00 - 3:30 - join the Fossil Ridge High School dance team for a Jr. Dance Clinic at Fossil Ridge HS.

Any student, age K-8, is invited to attend. You can register online at www.frhsdance.com and you can find additional details by clicking [here](#).

Parent Engagement Survey

You have likely received an email from **Panorama Education Team** <support+poudre@panoramaed.com>. The email will contain a link for parents to provide feedback about your child's experience at Traut and other PSD schools. You may get an email for each student enrolled in PSD.

Often, these emails get filtered into your Junk or Spam folders. I want to ask that you PLEASE take a moment and find this email and respond to the survey. This is a critical piece of information for me and our teachers, and we do **use** this feedback to improve our performance. All responses are confidential, and parents are encouraged to share any accolades or concerns.

Thank you, in advance, for responding to this survey with your honest feedback!

Parenting and Child Development Class

Tue Jan 28, 2020 – Tue Apr 28, 2020

On January 28, we will be starting a class for parents to continue to fine-tune their parenting skills. The first two classes will be introductory and include an understanding of child development. The second two classes will apply your child development knowledge to everyday parenting and long-term success. January - Aspects of Child Development. February - Parenting Styles. March - Ages and Stages for Long-Term Success. April - Applying what you know.

Interested? Please sign up at <https://signup.com/go/aohRCfC>

Questions, please contact Gretchen Holland at gholland@psdschools.org

NO SCHOOL MONDAY, January 20 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Enjoy your three-day weekend!

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education." - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This is exactly what we believe here at Traut! Our obligation is to make sure our students are critical consumers of the enormous amount of information that they are bombarded with now and in the future. Furthermore, we want students to live a life with character. If we can help students achieve these skills, then we have succeeded.

Enjoy a wonderful LONG weekend with family and friends!

Dr. Kendall