



April 8, 2022

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

Dear Wolverines,

Happy Friday! I hope none of your worldly possessions were lost or destroyed in the wind this week. I am so happy that the air is calmer today. It seems to have helped the energy in the building settle down a bit. The wind seems to whip things up inside as much as it does outside!

Core Knowledge Podcast

E.D. Hirsch, the founder of Core Knowledge, turned 94 on March 22. As part of his celebration, the Core Knowledge Foundation created a podcast with Hirsch. He explains what Core Knowledge is "in his own words."

I encourage you to check out this 20-minute podcast and learn more about Core Knowledge from the man who invented the idea. <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1958129/10288295>

Parent Advisory Board (PAB) Elections

Do you want to learn more about the Parent Advisory Board? Follow this link to watch a video about what we do.

[PAB Video](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ey3JzzPyOvPb86zR-sPaXAV6L7awjudn/view) (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ey3JzzPyOvPb86zR-sPaXAV6L7awjudn/view>)

There are three positions open in PAB for the 2022-2023 school year.

Submit nominations with a short bio including your connection to Traut and the reason you wish to join the PAB to trautpab@gmail.com by Monday, April 11, at 11:59pm.

You can also learn more by visiting our website at www.tckspab.org.

Thank you for partnering with us to help accomplish our vision of educational excellence in knowledge, skills, and character!

Outdoor Classroom – Work Day!

Wolverines, join Mr. Langford and the TCKS Garden Club for a workday on **Saturday, April 30** from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (weather permitting.) Jobs for the day include refreshing our mulch, sweeping paths, refreshing paver sand, weeding, general clean up, and more. We would love to see you there!

Equipment to bring:

Rakes (metal and plastic), brooms, shovels, weeding tools, gardening hand tools.

We need two rototillers (and operators!) for the garden mounds. Please contact Rob Langford (rlangfor@psdschools.org)

We need 8-12 additional stumps (seating). Please contact Rob Langford (rlangfor@psdschools.org)

Spring Fling Fiesta!

Today is the last day for 1st Annual Spring Fling Fiesta tickets! We are so excited for a night of fun, community, prizes, and Silent Auction to raise money for our great school.

If you still need a ticket for our April 23rd event please click the link below or buy them in the front office.

<https://psdschools.school-pay.com/pay/for/Traut-Fiesta-Dinner-Ticket/ScaBgdz>

We are also extending our “Bid it Now” items through next Thursday so please check these basket items out in our front lobby!

Environmental Request Forms

Per our Traut Class Placement policy:

“Parents/guardians are welcome to submit written input describing the *exceptional* placement needs of your student. Forms for this purpose are available in the office and must be turned in to your student's current teacher by the last school day of April. Each form will be carefully considered.”

Forms are available now and must be returned before the end of the day, April 29.

Required Lockdown Drill

We will have a lockdown drill on Tuesday, April 12 in the afternoon. Teachers will make sure that students understand this is only a drill, and that will also be stated over the intercom when the drill starts.

During a lockdown drill, students, staff, and all volunteers must go to the nearest classroom. All doors and windows are locked, lights are turned off, and students must sit quietly. Because we are still being mindful of COVID, and we have so many sick kiddos right now, students will stay in their seats at their desks during the lockdown, rather than moving out of sight.

Please know that we approach these drills with care and consideration of students' emotions and do our best to avoid making anyone feel frightened. This is not a surprise drill, so students will know beforehand that this is happening.

United Way and the Larimer Child Care Fund

United Way of Larimer County has launched the [Larimer Child Care Fund](https://www.larimerchildcare.org/pages/larimerchildcarefund) and is accepting applications from now until April 25th.

The Larimer Child Care Fund helps low- and moderate-income families afford high-quality care for their children at the licensed providers of their choice. The fund is structured to complement the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP), by providing scholarships to CCCAP-ineligible families. This includes families who cannot access CCCAP due to income, mixed immigration status, or other factors. Recipients of the fund will not have to pay more than 15% of their income on child care for an entire year.

To apply go to: <https://www.larimerchildcare.org/pages/larimerchildcarefund>

Applications can be submitted in English and Spanish.

Please don't delay in sharing or applying. Applications are reviewed and approved on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, please visit: [Larimer Child Care Fund Press Release](#).

Class Photos

On **Thursday, April 21**, Skillman Photography will be at Traut to take pictures of each class. If you would like to order a group photo, you can purchase online at: www.skillmanphotography.com. Click on "order prepaid school portraits" and use access code: **TRAUT2021G**

For those who tried to pre-order last week – the access code is now working! Sorry about the glitch last Friday!

For additional details including how to pay by check, please click [here](#).

Save the Date! FIELD DAY 2022

Parents, we are thrilled to invite you to help with Field Day 2022! Kindergarten through 2nd grade will participate in the morning and 3rd-5th will get their turn in the afternoon. We are going to need YOUR help to make this happen for our kids. Mark your calendar for **Monday, May 23** (rain date: May 24).

If you are interested in volunteering for Field Day, please go [here](#) to add your name, email, and phone number. Mrs. Dorlac will reach out with details soon!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdBd-OZeMU9_hT7nfVKtn8hmNJkjNfl_ZmRWNUvgqOFPwHlQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

“By staying calm, you increase your resistance against any kind of storms.” – Mehmet Murat ildan

There are mornings when I arrive at school, look at my calendar, and start to feel panicked. This morning was a little bit like that. It doesn't happen all the time, but it is a bad habit that I have worked hard to break now that I am in my 40s. I spent much of my 30s in a state of worry and angst. I worried about work, I worried about politics, I worried about my babies, I worried about my parents. If my mind was ever idle, it went straight to worry. It had become a very bad habit and I had to consciously knock it off.

Now and again, I feel that tightness in my chest and rapid heartbeat, but now I recognize it and I intervene. This morning, the light was hitting the tree right outside my office window and I could see the tiny new buds of green starting to show. By Monday, they will probably be nearly full leaves. Instead of letting myself get stuck in anxious worry, I looked at the tree and the new buds for probably a full minute. It brought me back to calm.

It was a dramatically busy day, and lots of unexpected things happened, but it was a beautiful day. If I had let myself get spun up, I would have accomplished less and probably got a headache. I am going to try to take my calm with me into the weekend – my kids deserve that, and I guess I do too.

I hope you are all able to enjoy a beautiful weekend with family and friends.

Dr. Kendall