



December 16, 2022

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

Dear Wolverines,

Happy Friday! It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the first semester. While I am sure I've said this before, time seems to be moving *very* fast this year. Before we know it, I will be wishing you a safe Spring Break, and then we will be off for the summer.

In between these breaks, there is amazing learning happening at our school. It has been a treat to see many culminating events across grade levels, like Castle Day in kindergarten, Star Lab for first grade, Roman In-formances for third grade, last week's Medieval Festival, and more. I love watching the hard work and content of the Core Knowledge sequence come to life. Thank you to our hard-working teachers and parent partners who make these events possible.



As you know, I have been sharing portions of our [Hand-in-Hand Guidebook](#), highlighting the importance of our Parent Partnership pillar.

So far, we've looked at "Step 1" – Unity in a shared mission and vision, "Step 2" – The fundamental importance of mutual respect, and "Step 3" – The essential element of communication.

This week, I present Step 4 – The power of shared responsibilities.

From the guidebook:

"More can be accomplished in the school and classrooms through delegation of tasks among the teacher and parent partners. This is a powerful strategy that elevates the quality of the students' educational experience."

I firmly believe that Traut students experience a depth of learning that is unparalleled because of our unique partnership model. Your support is crucial to our success, and more importantly, to our student's success.

Thank you for choosing Traut and for choosing to partner with us every day.

Hat & Mitten Tree

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, we have already delivered a giant bag of winter gear to Realities for Children! Your kindness will help hundreds of children stay warm this winter.

Our Student Advisory Board will continue to collect new hats, gloves, scarves, mittens, or other winter weather gear all the way through December 21st.

Spelling Bee Information

On **Thursday, January 5th**, Mrs. Whitcomb will host our annual TCKS Spelling Bee! Winners of the contest will move on to the district-level Spelling Bee.

This contest is open to all **3rd through 5th-grade** students.

Contestants will meet in Mrs. Whitcomb's room (room 219) at 3:15 on January 5th. If a winner is not determined, the contest will continue each afternoon until the winner is crowned. (Jan. 6, 9, and 10 if needed)

You can find the spelling list here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tTsGiLrg5JtcRzlvE0-LjB-BPyA1fkqa/view?usp=sharing>

Lego Robotics Winners!



The Traut Lego Robotic Challenge teams competed at the state tournament at the CU Denver campus on 12/10. They went head-to-head with 51 other 4th-8th grade teams from across the state. The Lego Princesses won the Innovation Project 3rd place trophy and Robot Performance 3rd place trophy. The Energy Hounds won the Innovation Project 2nd place trophy and came in 5th in the robot performance category. We couldn't be more proud of these kids for having such a strong showing at the state tournament. It's again a testament to the students and committed parent partners who work together to help make this happen. We have a strong legacy of Lego Robotics at Traut, and we look forward to it continuing for years to come.

The tournament director had this to say about our teams:

"On behalf of the University of Colorado Denver and Colorado FIRST, I want to again congratulate Energy Hounds for making the State Championship, and for such a great performance in the event! I had many positive comments from volunteers about all the teams participating. The common theme was that they were so impressed on well behaved and gracious the students were, and by how innovative, creative, and talented all the Traut students were at this tournament. Please extend these thanks to your team for this. I definitely had a fun day Saturday, and I hope that you all did as well! Again, congratulations and thank you Energy Hounds and Lego Princesses! I hope to see you again next year at the state championship!"

FRHS Soccer Clinic 2023

The Fossil Ridge High School Girls Soccer Team is offering a training camp for 1st-5th grade boys and girls on February 25th from 4:30-6:30 in the Fossil Ridge gym. The cost is \$45 and includes dinner.

Kindergarten and 1st graders are invited to the Mini Camp which is also on February 25 from 4:00-5:00 pm. Cost is \$20 and dinner is not included.

For additional information and to register, please go to:

<https://frhs.soccer/fundraising/>

Important Dates

Dec. 22 – Jan. 4	WINTER BREAK – No School
January 5	First Day of 2 nd Semester
January 6	Report Cards go home in Friday Folders

January 16

MLK, Jr. Day – No School

February 20

Collaboration Day – No School

Time is free, but it's priceless. You can't own it. But you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it. Once you've lost it you can never get it back.

— *Marvey Mackat*

I won't send a Friday Note next week, so I will share my well wishes with you today.

I hope that your break progresses more slowly than this first semester has; enjoy this time with your children and family. If you're traveling, please be safe, and have a wonderful time. If you're staying at home, I hope it is peaceful and full of joy. I look forward to hearing about your students' adventures in the new year!

With gratitude,

Dr. Kendall