



March 24, 2023

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

Happy Friday, Wolverines! I hope you had a wonderful Spring Break last week. It was fun to hear some of our students' stories about their adventures.

## Fundraising Committee Updates

The **Spring Fling** is almost a week away and tickets are going fast! Some of the favorite Silent Auction Items are **TEACHER EXPERIENCES!** Your kiddos have an opportunity to make fun memories with their favorite TCKS Staff Members.

All the fun experiences are listed [here](#) so you can chat with your kiddos about what they would like you to bid on.

Remember you can only bid on it at our 2nd Annual Spring Fling BBQ Bling fundraiser event! **Saturday, April 1** at the Ptarmigan Country Club from 6-9 pm. Tickets are \$30 each or \$50 for two. Get your tickets today! <https://psdschools.schoolpay.com/parent/mip/Me1r>

I hope you can join us for this evening of fun, community-building, and laughter!

**Class Placement Policy**

Next Friday, March 31, is the deadline for submitting a [Specific Learning Environment form](#) for consideration.

If there is a circumstance with a peer, another adult, or a staff member that the current teacher needs to be aware of, please complete this form. Your responses will remain confidential.

Please know that completion of this form does not guarantee a specific class placement!

### Superart! Art Show

I had the incredible honor of attending the *Superart!* Art Show at the JSSC last night. Student artists from across PSD were honored for their talent. Our own Kaylee C. (4th Grade) was selected to have her art displayed at the Johanssen Support Services Complex for the year.

Please join me in sharing congratulations to Kaylee!



### CMAS

Starting next week, our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be demonstrating their knowledge of the state-mandated CMAS (Colorado Measures of Academic Success) assessments. Students will take the English Language Arts and Math tests, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders also take a Science test.

For a detailed schedule of testing, please reach out to your student's teacher.

It is important that students get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast all the time, and especially important on testing days. We will also ask that all student computers remain at school during testing so that they are charged and ready to go.

If you have any questions regarding testing, including opting your child out, please contact Caity Sahimi ([csahimi@psdschools.org](mailto:csahimi@psdschools.org)).

For more information about state assessments, visit the Colorado Department of Education [website here](https://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents). (<https://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/resourcesforparents>)

### TCKS 2022-23 Yearbooks

We are excited to offer a school yearbook this year! Be on the lookout for flyers around school and in Friday Notes, or purchase at the link below before April 14th!

<https://psdschools.schoolpay.com/pay/for/Traut-Yearbook/SUMTU>

### Book Fair – Coming Soon!

**Jump into Spring with a New Book!** Please mark your calendar for the TCKS Spring Book Fair! The fair starts on Monday after school on March 27th. Please consider signing up to **volunteer** at the **book fair** here: <https://signup.com/go/PKzaxag>.

We plan to have the fair open before school (8:15-9a) and after school (3p - 4:30pm) Tuesday, March 28th through Friday, March 31st. We're hoping to have a few volunteers during school hours to allow students to visit during school (if we have enough volunteers). We are encouraging the use of scholastic e-wallets, credit cards, checks, or gift certificates and discouraging the use of cash. Please be on the lookout for an e-wallet invite from your classroom teacher or a wish list for their classroom library. I

If you have any questions please reach out to our book fair chair: Laura Eaton at [tcksbooks@gmail.com](mailto:tcksbooks@gmail.com).

### PlayWell Lego Club for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

We need one more student to register for our PlayWell program for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students or this session will have to be canceled. Check out this fun STEM opportunity!

Grades 3-5: Fridays from 3:10-4:40, starting March 24 through May 12

Registration: <https://play-well-registration.com/registration/new/97539>

### **Principal Survey**

Parents, please be sure to complete PAB's annual Principal Survey. This is an important opportunity for me to get feedback from you, and I take this information very seriously. The last day to participate is Sunday, March 26. Thanks for taking the time to let me know what I can do to make sure Traut is meeting your and your student's needs.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1zHhwPA5xu7UIg52cNjyIpEKPqQ17qcNg\\_L0\\_VnuCuQ/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1zHhwPA5xu7UIg52cNjyIpEKPqQ17qcNg_L0_VnuCuQ/viewform?edit_requested=true)

### **Important Dates**

Friday, March 31 - Last day to submit a Learning Environment Form

Saturday, April 1 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spring Fling Fundraiser

Friday, April 21 - NO SCHOOL, Professional Development Day

Monday, May 15 - NO SCHOOL, Teacher Work Day

Friday, May 26 - Last Day of School. Please note - this is a ½ day. Lunch will not be served, and students will be dismissed at 11:30.

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“Suffering is completely optional. Our suffering doesn't come from our reality, it comes from the story we make up about our reality.”

~Cy Wakeman

Change is hard. I know this is not news, but at this time of year, as we start thinking and planning for the next school year, there are always changes that must be made. Sometimes there

are new rules or regulations that we must address. Sometimes a beloved colleague decides it is time to retire. Sometimes we get a new literacy curriculum. Sometimes we need to change to be able to do what's best for our students.

I am guilty of letting suffering get in my way when it comes to change, but a friend and fellow principal shared the quote, above, with me on Thursday and it really got me thinking. Change is inevitable but suffering is optional. If we (or if I) change the way I think about the situation, it can transform from something hard/unpleasant into something positive. As I think about some of the changes we have had to make over the last few years, there are innovative solutions that came from each. We are able to do things more efficiently now than before, and this would not be the case if we hadn't had to make some changes. We have made instructional shifts that have propelled student growth, and that would not have happened without change.

As the season changes to spring, and we begin to think about the changes that will happen next year, I encourage all of us to focus on what we can innovate rather than our potential suffering or the discomfort that comes from a change in our routines. If nothing else, it will help us feel better about what we are facing, and I think we can all agree that less suffering is better than more.

With gratitude,

Dr. Kendall