



## Dr. Alissa Kendall: “The 5 Pillars”

Welcome to Traut Core Knowledge School (TCKS). We are honored that you have chosen our school for your child. As you become involved with us, you will find five concepts, or pillars, that underlie our school’s philosophy. The concepts being implemented at TCKS are built upon five foundational pillars. They are:

1. **A content-rich curriculum built upon the Core Knowledge Sequence**

We believe that both skills and knowledge are important, and that the best way to teach the necessary skills of reading, writing, and thinking is in the context of a rich, interesting, knowledge-based curriculum. The knowledge is not an end in itself, but rather a means to the end goal of an excellent grasp of information and the ability to use that information thoughtfully.

2. **Parent Partnership**

At TCKS, our parents are involved and engaged in a full partnership of the decision-making and operation of the school. We believe that every child’s first and most important teachers are his or her parents, and that our school exists to supplement and support the learning that is started in the home.

3. **Character Education**

We believe that learning to act in a respectful and responsible way is crucial, and we have identified twelve-character traits that are incorporated into classroom instruction. These are: Respect, Responsibility, Citizenship, Self-Control, Honesty, Patience, Kindness, Humility, Integrity, Perseverance, Cooperation, and Appreciation of Individual Strengths and Cultural Backgrounds.

4. **Student Responsibility for Learning**

Our students are key partners in our education goals and will obtain the desired success as they recognize and accept their responsibility for their own learning. There is a cost for our students to attend TCKS, and that is the requirement to behave and to work to the best of their ability both at school and at home.

5. **Mature Literacy**

Since reading is the most critical skill acquired by elementary students, our primary focus is the development of literacy abilities. Literacy skills begin with teaching our students to read (primary literacy) using a phonics-based approach, and then advancing to reading to learn and for enjoyment (mature literacy) through the use of excellent contemporary and classical literature.

Traut Core Knowledge School provides an excellent and unique educational experience. Your choice to enroll your child in TCKS is just the beginning. In keeping with our commitment to partner with parents, we look forward to working in cooperation with you to provide the best possible education for your child.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### DAILY SCHEDULE

**First Bell - 8:25** Students enter the building and prepare for the day

**Second Bell – 8:30** Students should be in their seats, ready to start the day. Those who are not in class by 8:30 will be marked tardy.

**End of the Day - 3:05** Students are dismissed to their parents.

Students should not arrive until 8:10 a.m. because there is no supervision prior to that time. There will be adult monitors located at the front entrances to the building after 8:10 a.m.

No students are allowed to be inside the building without the company of an adult before school begins.

### OFFICE HOURS

The school office is open from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

School address: 2515 Timberwood Drive  
Fort Collins, CO 80528

School phone: 970.488.7500

Fax number: 970.488.7504

Absence line: 970.488.7503

Library number: 970.488.7570

Health Office: 970-488-7506

### BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND SNACK

Breakfast and Lunch are available through PSD's Child Nutrition Department. Breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m. Students may order lunch at school or bring lunch from home.

Each kindergarten teacher will share the protocol for snacks in the classroom.

### HEALTH

It is advised that parents inform the health office and necessary staff members of any special conditions or procedures regarding the health of their child.

### MORE INFORMATION

For additional information about Traut, please take a moment to check out the information on our website!

<https://tra.psdschools.org/all-about-traut/new-traut-families>

## **TEACHERS**

### **From the Kindergarten Teachers**

Welcome to the Traut Core Knowledge Family!

We look forward to working with you throughout the coming school year. It is our hope that you will find the kindergarten year to be fulfilling and memorable.

We believe that you are the child's first and most important teacher. Consequently, we value and encourage your participation in the education of your child. You will have the opportunity to choose from a variety of ways in which to be actively involved in school.

The kindergarten program is based on the Core Knowledge sequence. We also focus on phonics instruction while integrating quality children's literature and poetry into all subject areas. In addition to academic preparation, kindergarten students will mature developmentally and socially as well as acquire and practice character qualities.

It is our goal to meet students at their individual learning level in an effort to maximize each child's potential. We hope to instill in each student a positive attitude toward school, a life-long love for learning, a responsibility for one's own learning, and an appreciation for academic excellence.

Further information will be provided at a parent night and you will also meet with your child's teacher at an individual conference in the fall. However, please feel free to contact us at any time if necessary.

If you are interested in information regarding transportation, please contact Belinda Nygaard in the school office at 488.7500. She can provide names and telephone numbers that will be helpful in establishing or joining a carpool.

Again, we look forward to working with you and appreciate the opportunity to share in the education of your child. Thank you in advance for your support of our programs, for your partnership, and your entrusting us with your child's education.

Sincerely,

The Kindergarten Teachers

**THE FOLLOWING SUPPLIES CAN BE DONATED TO YOUR  
CHILD'S CLASSROOM**

**Box of Tissues**

**Play-Doh (no tiny cans, please)**

**Paper Plates for projects**

**Paper Cups**

**Sharpie Markers**

**Baby Wipes**

**Thank you for your generosity and support!**