Dear Bear Creek Community,

Welcome to the 1st edition of Bear Tracks for the 2018-2019 school year. Bear Tracks is a long standing communication platform used at Bear Creek to communicate about a variety of topics and upcoming events. We elect to send much of this information to you at once, as opposed to daily emails with different attachments. Please take the time to read each issue - lots of important information is contained in each issue.

As I have already shared, I am so proud and excited to be principal of Bear Creek Elementary. I believe that at the core of a high quality school there must exist a working partnership between the school and home. That partnership has many facets to it, but at the heart of it is the relationship that exists with you, your child, and the classroom teachers. It will be my intention to build on the partnerships that already exist and enhance them in whatever way we can. Please be on the look-out next week for details on upcoming Principal Listening Sessions so we can further develop these partnerships.

Lastly, remember that Back to School Night is on Wednesday, August 29th. Please join us to learn more about your child's teacher(s), the grade level curriculum, and how you can partner with your child's teacher(s) to ensure that 2018-2019 is a fantastic year. This is a parents only event. We expect a very busy evening, and encourage you to walk to school if you are able.

The grade-level schedule for Back to School Night is as follows:
Kindergarten and 5th grade - 5:00-5:40 p.m.
3rd and 4th grade - 5:45-6:25 p.m.
1st and 2nd grade - 6:30-7:10 p.m.

Mrs. Brockway (Library), Mrs. James (Music), Mr. Soole (P.E.), and Mrs. Wright (Art) will be available in their classrooms from 5:45-6:45 p.m. Mr. Dayhoff will be stationed near the Fishbowl throughout the night, and would love to greet as many of you as possible.

In partnership,

Tanner
BEAR CREEK CALENDAR

AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, August 29
Back To School Night

Monday, September 3
NO SCHOOL—Labor Day

Wednesday, September 5
Instrument Rental Night 4-7

Thursday, September 6
Southern Hills Family Picnic

Monday, September 10
Spotlights Begin!

Tuesday, September 11
1:30 PTO Meeting

Thursday, September 13
Intramurals Begin!
Bear Creek Carnival @ 4:00-6:30

Monday, September 17
NO SCHOOL - Professional Development

Tuesday, September 18
Jump Rope Club Begins
Picture Day

Friday, September 21
PTO Coffee @ 8:40 on Patio

 BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

As you are looking for activities for your children to participate in before and after school, I just wanted to give you a "heads-up" about where to look for activities that are happening at Bear Creek, and which ones are Bear Creek and BVSD sponsored.

*Starting today in Bear Tracks, you will see opportunities for your children to participate in school sponsored clubs such as intramural sports, jump rope, Spotlights, and drumming club. Bear Creek clubs are supervised by Bear Creek staff.

*Lifelong Learning, which is part of BVSD's Community Schools Program runs many wonderful activities for students in schools across the district. If you go to their web-page you can find great kid classes, many of which will happen right at our school! Lifelong Learning will send you mail alerts of activities that are happening at Bear Creek. You can sign up for classes at any location, but parents have found it particularly accommodating when classes happen right at Bear Creek. This fall at Bear Creek Lifelong Learning will offer at Bear Creek such things as chess, basketball, Spanish classes, and Lego building.

*Finally, please check the Community Board in our front hallway where other activities that are not sponsored by the school or Lifelong Learning can be posted. Oftentimes these activities happen at Bear Creek, as groups can rent some of our spaces after school.

LOST and FOUND

The lost and found is located at the end of the hallway by the gym between the inside and outside doors.

The Bear Creek Directory

I will send the directory link out via school messenger when I have completed making all the changes requested on the directory forms.

Back to School Night Schedule

Here is the schedule by grade level for Back-to-School Night next Wednesday (August 29):

K G and 5th Classroom Session: 5:00-5:40pm
3rd and 4th Classroom Session: 5:45-6:25pm
1st and 2nd Classroom Session: 6:30-7:10pm

You are also invited drop by the gym between 5:45 - 6:45pm to say hello to Mrs. Wright (art) Mr. Soole (PE), Mrs. James (Music), and Mrs. Brockway (Library).

This is a parent event only!
AS A NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS...
SOME HELPFUL HINTS FROM THE OFFICE

**School Hours:** School begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. Morning Kindergarten session is from 8:30 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. Afternoon Kindergarten session is from 12:10 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Playground Supervision:** The playground is supervised for 15 minutes before school starts and for 15 minutes after dismissal. Students should not arrive before 8:15 a.m., as there is no supervision prior to this time. Students should leave the school grounds promptly after dismissal at 3:00 p.m.

**Inclement Weather:** Students do not enter the building until the entrance bell, except in the event of bad weather. A red flag on the flag pole will signal that students may come inside before the morning bell, and a green flag will signal that students should remain on the playground until school begins.

**Bear Creek Bike Policy:** Students are permitted to ride bikes, skateboards, scooters and unicycles to school. All students are to wear a helmet. Please dismount on the edge of the Bear Creek property and walk your bike or scooter to the rack. Ride safely. Bike racks are located in 3 places on our campus and skateboards now have racks in the front.

**Tardiness:** We believe that regular school attendance and being on time is of the utmost importance. The warning bell will ring at 8:28 a.m. and the regular bell at 8:29 to allow students enough time to be seated, ready, and in class by the time announcements start at 8:33 a.m. A student not in their seat at 8:35 a.m. needs to report as tardy to the office.

**Early Dismissals:** If your child must be dismissed early or excused from school for a brief period of time, please see his/her teacher to determine the necessary arrangements. In addition, please stop by the office to sign your child out and back in (if applicable).

**Visitors/Volunteers:** All visitors are asked to stop by the school office, sign in, pick-up and wear a visitor or volunteer badge every time they visit. Please return the badge to the office and sign out upon leaving the building. We know many of you are here regularly to volunteer, but we ask that you still check in every time.

**Play Dates:** After-school arrangements should be made prior to the beginning of school. It is not always possible to get a message to a classroom during the last minutes of the day. We understand that emergencies come up and we will try to help when this happens.

**Absences:** Please call the office at 720-561-3502 by 8:45 a.m. if your child will be late or absent. If you know your child will miss the following day at school, please call and leave a message for the office staff on the Bear Creek voicemail.
Because we are all back to together and like to share everything, we want to remind parents of BVSD guidelines for keeping your student at home and good hygiene practices.

**Guidelines for Keeping Your Student Home**

- **Fever, vomiting, or diarrhea:** Your student should remain home for 24 hours after symptoms end.
- **Colds/respiratory viruses:** Keep your student home at the beginning of a cold. This is also the time when one is most infectious and least likely to feel well enough to participate in class. When he/she feels better and no longer has a persistent cough, it is permissible to return to school.
- **Strep throat:** Your student may return to school after taking the antibiotic for 24 hours, feeling better, and being free of symptoms.
  
  Your child will be sent home if he/she has a temperature of 101° or 100° accompanied by any other symptoms.

**Take everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs.** (taken from the CDC website on Flu Prevention)

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

- If you are sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (*Your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.*)

While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.

**Strep throat and Sore throat** (taken from the CDC website on Strep Throat in Kids)

Not all sore throats are strep throats. Most episodes of sore throat — which can be accompanied by a runny nose, cough, hoarseness, and red eyes — are caused by viruses and usually clear up on their own without medical treatment.

A child with strep throat will start to develop other symptoms within about 3 days, such as:

- red and white patches in the throat
- difficulty swallowing
- tender or swollen glands (lymph nodes) in the neck
- red and enlarged tonsils
- Headache
- lower stomach pain
- fever
- general discomfort, uneasiness, or ill feeling
- loss of appetite and nausea
- rash

**Strep throat usually requires treatment with antibiotics.** With the proper medical care — along with plenty of rest and fluids — a child should be back to school and play within a few days.

**What is the right way to wash your hands?**

- Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold) and apply soap.
- Rub your hands together to make a lather and scrub them well; be sure to scrub the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
- Continue rubbing your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
- Rinse your hands well under running water.
- Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.
**LUNCHROOM INFORMATION**

**Negative Balance:**

With all the new and exciting changes Nutrition Services is making, we will always feed our students and will allow their accounts to go in arrears. Nutrition Services staff will be generating letters from the QSP POS system and will have them distributed through homeroom teachers in Friday folders. We will also be making phone calls and sending emails to parents directly from Nutrition Services Dept.

**Food Allergies:**

BVSD is prohibited by USDA regulations to make any milk substitutions unless we have on file a disability form filled out and signed by a medical physician. If a child has a severe allergy that is considered a disability, parents can take the Disability Form to a medical physician (e.g. not a nurse practitioner).

The doctor must fill out Part B Prescribed Diet Order and detail what food to omit and what food to substitute. Parent needs to bring signed form back to school nurse and we need a copy at the Food Service office before we can make any substitutions.

If a parent does not wish to have the disability form filled out, we cannot make milk substitutions. However, the child always has the option to refuse the milk and take a minimum 3 of the 4 other meal components offered (fruit, veg, grain, protein), and drink water or purchase a juice.

Nutritional information as well as allergy information can be found at Health Services.

**Lunch Fees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Entrée Elementary</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Price</td>
<td>K-5 $0.00, 6-12 $0.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>(with qualification)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1% Milk</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Side salad - child</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juice</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Price</td>
<td>$5.00/milk (side salad $3.00)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Paying for Lunch:**

About Your Child's Cafeteria Meal Account:

- All students have a personal meal account. Students access their account using their six-digit student ID#.
- Putting money on your student’s account in advance eliminates the need for your child to remember to bring money to school daily. Having money in their account also helps keep lunch lines moving.
- Send cash or check in any dollar amount to be credited to your child's personal meal account, or go to MyPaymentsPlus.com to add money to their account. MyPaymentsPlus.com is fast, easy and very convenient to use.
- With MyPaymentsPlus.com you can set up a low-balance email reminder for when your student’s account gets below a level you choose. If you prefer, you can set up an auto-refill when your student’s account drops to zero. No money is ever charged to your credit card without your approval and there are no transaction fees.
- If using checks, please make payable to: Boulder Valley School District. Write your child’s first and last name and student ID# on the check to be sure the money is deposited in the correct account.
- When students bring a lunch from home, they may use their account to purchase milk, juice and side salad bar.
- Please contact the cafeteria or MyPaymentsPlus.com as needed to check on your child’s account balance before it gets too low.

Cash and Checks. Please make checks payable to BVSD and include your child’s full name and student ID #. With cash payments, please be sure the money is in a securely sealed envelope with full name and student ID number on the envelope. Money can be divided among siblings at the same school; please make a note if you would like to do this, and note the dollar amount per child.

**Free/Reduced Lunch Program.** Free and Reduced are online under Parent Portal

**Lunch Times:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>11:20 - 12:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Grade</td>
<td>12:15 - 12:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Grade</td>
<td>11:45 - 12:25</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Grade</td>
<td>12:00 - 12:40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade</td>
<td>11:30 - 12:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade</td>
<td>12:25 - 1:05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome back to our returning families. We would like to extend an especially warm welcome to new Bear Creek families!

Remember:

TLC Donation - Our school relies heavily on parent support to pay for our everyday operational budget. TLC is our one direct-ask fundraiser. Please stop by the office to drop off your donation.

www.helpatschool.org - Please sign up and visit this site regularly to find volunteer opportunities at school. The upcoming Carnival depends on many volunteers and positions are still open.

Cashback Cards - Free money for your school. Little effort makes a very large impact and with no cost to you. If you do not have a card, please stop by the office to get one.

Want to learn more about the PTO Budget, TLC Donation, Volunteering and/or Cashback Cards? Please visit the Bear Creek PTO Web Page

Welcome to the first PTO meeting of the year on September 11th at 1:30 pm. All parents are welcome!

TLC UPDATE:
Current donations $45,700
GOAL: $70,000

Your donation helps pay for things such as school supplies, field trips, and para-educator hours.

Next PTO Meeting:
Sept 11 @ 1:30
In the Flashbow

Back To School Night:
Aug 29th
Carnival:
Sept 13th
SPONSORED BY THE BEAR CREEK PTO AND THE 5TH GRADE CLASS

BEAR CREEK CARNIVAL

Thursday, September 13th
4:00 to 6:30 pm

Games, crafts and activities for the whole family!

$10 PER CHILD, ADULTS ARE FREE

Wrist bands will be sold before school on the day of the carnival and available to purchase at the event.

Some things to know before you go:

• Food trucks are back! Plan to buy dinner at the event; gluten-free options available.
• Wrist bands pay for all activities. Food not included in cost of admission.
• Bear Creek PTO accepts cash/check only for admission. Food trucks accept credit cards.
• This is NOT a drop-off event! All children must be accompanied by an adult.
• Questions? Contact Michelle Wellington at mmmwellington@yahoo.com
BEAR CREEK CARNIVAL
Thursday, Sept. 13th, 4:00 to 6:30 pm

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Bear Creek Carnival is on Thursday, September 13th! Wrist bands will be on sale before school on the day of the event and during the event. Each wristband is $10 and covers all of the activities (face painting, games, art, stuffie walk, photo booth, and more) The PTO accepts only cash or checks for wrist bands. All kiddos who are attending the carnival need a wristband, but adults are free! The wristbands do not cover the cost of food, so plan to bring some spending money for the food trucks! We have a great line up this year: Seb’s Pizza, French Twist, McDevitt’s Tacos, BVSD Munchie Mobile and Ripple Frozen Yogurt! So plan to bring the whole family and stay for dinner!

We have a ton of fun volunteer jobs on the day of the Carnival; something to fit every parent’s schedule. Please check out the Carnival listings at HelpAtSchool.org and sign up for a shift today!

As many of you know, the 5th grade class is involved in helping plan and host this event. If you have a 5th grader, please watch for a volunteer sign-up form coming home the week of Aug 27th. We need students to help with the booths at the Carnival, but they need to turn in the form with your signature, permitting them to volunteer at our event.

Also at HelpAtSchool.org is a sign-up to donate a Guessing Jar for the Guessing Jar booth at carnival. Guessing Jars can be any sized clear plastic jar with a screw top lid. You can fill it with a fun item that kids like (pennies, bouncy balls, jelly beans, legos, crayons, trading cards, etc). When you fill the jar, please count the items, write the number on a piece of paper and tape the paper to the inside of the lid. During the Carnival, kids guess the number of items in the jar. The child with the closest guess wins the jar and gets to take it home. This is an extremely popular booth, so thank you for your donation!! Please sign up now at HelpAtSchool.org and drop off your jar at the office by Tuesday, Sept. 11th.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Please bring your donations to the office by Tuesday, Sept. 11th!

Gently Used Books
We love to have books to use as prizes at the prize booth! We need gently used books for elementary school kids; from early readers to young adult chapter books. Some popular series include: Magic Tree House, Rainbow Magic Fairies, Harry Potter, Percy Jackson, and Magic School Bus. Any left over books are donated to our classroom libraries.

Gently Loved Stuffed Animals
The Stuffie Walk is a kid favorite! We will include a Stuffie Walk (like a cake walk, but with stuffed animals!) at the Carnival and we need any stuffed animals you are willing to donate. We like to see every child that participates in the event leave with a stuffed animal, so we need A LOT of stuffies! Please wash and dry your donations before bringing them to the office.
Please join us for our next PTO Coffee on Friday, September 21st.

Mr. Dayhoff Reads to Bear Creek Students

In an effort to get to know the students and for the students to get to know Mr. Dayhoff, he has spent time in all our classrooms reading books.

Bear Creek Learning is FUN!

Am I Pegasus or a Unicorn?
More Reading Time with Mr. Dayhoff
Be a part of your child's school day!

Food Services is looking for a Food Service Assistant for the Bear Creek Cafeteria
Monday - Friday
10:45 am - 1:15 pm
Contact Sarah @ 720-561-5049

Bear Creek fourth graders are starting off the year in social studies with Colorado geography. They have been busy using the district’s new interactive Colorado map to study map features such as elevation, watersheds, landmarks, population, etc. It is a great introduction to our state and is designed to encourage geographic learning through physical movement and games.
Graduating Class of 2031

We want to give a huge Bear Creek welcome to the children and parents in the graduating class of 2031!
Dear Parents,

Soon we will be starting our Intramural program for 4th and 5th grade students. The program is designed to give students extra time to further develop motor skills as well as enjoy a more competitive game environment. Good sportsmanship and safety will be first priority.

The sports students will be participating in are Flag Football, Floor Hockey, Basketball, Volleyball, kickball, and possibly others. I encourage students to participate in all sports; however students will be allowed to choose sports they want to participate in.

Intramurals will take place on Thursday and Friday mornings from 7:45 to 8:25, beginning in September and ending at the end of March. Our first day will be on Thursday, September 13th. Our first sport will be Flag Football. Drop off time is 7:40. Be on time, games start at 7:45.

Students wishing to participate need to pick up a permission form from the PE Office, or print a copy online. The bottom portion of the form must be returned to Mr. Soole before participation can begin. In order to offset the cost of providing equipment for Intramurals we are asking for an optional $20.00 dollar donation for the entire year.

Thank you,
Mr. Soole

Intramural Program Sign-up

If interested, please fill out and return just this bottom portion to Mr. Soole in the P.E office or my school mailbox.

Student’s name_________________________Donation $________

Parent Signature_______________________________________________

Emergency Phone Number _______________________________________

Parent email address___________________________________________
Bear Creek Jump Rope Club

Dear Parents,

Soon we will be starting our Jump Rope Club for all Bear Creek students, Kindergarten through 5th grade. Our objectives will be to increase cardiovascular endurance, improve coordination and agility, meet friends, have fun, and learn to be a great rope skipper.

Jump Rope Club will be held every Tuesday from 7:45 to 8:25 AM. We will start in September and end at the end of March. Our first day will be Tuesday, September 18th. Although we encourage students to come every Tuesday, students should feel welcome to come as often as they desire. Jump ropes will be provided.

Students wishing to participate will need to pick up a permission form from the PE Office, or print a copy online. After filling out the permission form, the bottom portion must be returned to Mr. Soole before participating. We will make sure that all students are safely transported to their classrooms at the end of each session.
Questions: james.soole@bvsd.org. We are asking for an optional donation of $10.00 for the year, to offset the cost of equipment used.

Thank you, Mr. Soole

Jump Rope Club Sign-up
If interested, please fill out and return just this bottom portion to the P.E office.

Student's name_________________________________________Donation?_______

Parent Signature__________________________________________

Emergency Phone Number___________________________________

Parent email address_______________________________________
Where Have All the Cell Phones Gone?

The EPA states that for every 1 million cell phones recycled we can reclaim:

- 35,274 pounds of copper
- 772 pounds of silver
- 75 pounds of gold
- 33 pounds of palladium

In fact, today, there are 327.5 million cell phones in use in the US alone... and 6.9 billion worldwide.

The Wireless Alliance is a cell phone and ink cartridge recycling company. We work with wireless retail stores, e-waste recyclers, schools, universities, state and local government, large corporations and non-profit organizations to collect and recycle cellular equipment and ink cartridges. All equipment is repurposed in a zero waste, environmentally-conscious manner. Since 2001, The Wireless Alliance has reclaimed over 500 tons of wireless equipment from landfills, contributing to a cleaner and safer environment.

Items we accept:

- All cell phones, smart phones, PDA’s, iPods, digital cameras, and iPads regardless of age or condition
- Chargers
- Rechargeable cell phone batteries
- All accessories including: Bluetooth, air cards, clips and cases
- Paper manuals and plastic packaging

**All ink cartridges**

Bear Creek receives a portion of the proceeds from the recycling of these products and has both a cell phone and ink cartridge container in the foyer of the school building.
Milk Caps for MOOOLA

What's the Program?
- Kids collect Longmont Dairy bottle caps, bring them to their classroom, and the school receives 5 cents per cap.
- There is no limit to the number of caps that can be collected.

Can My School Participate?
- Milk Caps for Mooola is open to schools that fall within the Longmont Dairy delivery area. If your school is in one of the following cities, please email or call to inquire if you are within the delivery area: Arvada, Aurora, Boulder, Brighton, Broomfield, Centennial, Commerce City, Denver, Erie, Firestone, Fredrick, Fort Lupton, Golden, Highlands Ranch, Lafayette, Lakewood, Littleton, Longmont, Louisville, Northglenn, Parker, Thornton, Westminster, and Wheat Ridge.
- Please contact Longmont Dairy to determine eligibility at 303-776-8466.
- What steps do we need to take to get started?
  - After we have confirmed your eligibility, we will provide you with the necessary information. You will need to complete an application and obtain your Principal's approval and signature.

Who do I contact if I have any questions?
- Contact Gary Schlager, our Community Service Director at 303-776-8466, or email him at garys@longmontdairy.com.
- Gary will help with the registration process, distribute collection boxes, coordinate cap collection and answer any other questions you may have.

How do we count the caps and get them to Longmont Dairy?
- We ask that you assign a person at your school who will be responsible for packing all of the caps in the bags and/or boxes provided.
- The school is responsible for verifying that the caps are from Longmont Dairy bottles, counting the caps, putting the school information on the form provided by Longmont Dairy and attaching it to the bag.
- Once at least 1,000 caps are ready, please contact Gary to coordinate a pick up: 303-776-8466.

How long is the program available?
- We are kicking off the inaugural year of this program for the 2012-2013 school year, ending on May 31, 2013.

How often can my school submit milk caps to receive Mooola?
- Please collect at least 1,000 caps before contacting Gary for a pick up.
- After your school's caps are verified, and within two weeks, we will send a check made out to the school. The Principal of your school will determine how to disperse the funds for the benefit of your school's students.

Which Longmont Dairy caps are eligible?
- Only caps that come from Longmont Dairy glass bottles are eligible: Milk, Chocolate Milk, Strawberry Milk, Half & Half, Whipping Cream, Orange Juice, Lemonade, Raspberry Lemonade, Classic Eggnog and Cinnamon Eggnog.
- Caps from Talbott's Apple Juice products are not eligible.
Welcome Bear Creek Families!
Walk and Bike to School in 2018-19
For fun! For health! For less traffic! For less pollution and greenhouse gases!

Trip Tracker
Trip Tracker is the Boulder Valley School District’s program to encourage kids to get to and from school without a car.

Kids report their car-free commutes each month and earn Trip Tracker dollars. These dollars can be redeemed like cash at participating local businesses. It’s a win-win! Sign up today!

Tracking starts September 4th. Download a Trip Tracker calendar for September at the TT website!

Read more and sign up at www.bvsd.org/tracker

Join our group! Parents, we need fresh members to replace those we’ve lost to middle school. Help encourage kids to get to school in a safe and healthy manner, improve the conditions for green commuting around our school, and reduce the cars on our roads. It’s a simple and easy way to get involved at Bear Creek! We don’t bite and it’s not a big commitment.
If interested, drop us a line at bear-creek-cfo-team@googlegroups.com

The Cruger Cup
Our former principal Mr Cruger continues to challenge us to a 100% car-free school year. All students who get to school without a car all year long will win the coveted Cruger Cup!

Got to drive? Park at least ¼ mile away and walk the rest of the way...you’re still in the running! Also, sick days do not count against your effort!

Students need to be signed up with Trip Tracker to be eligible for the Cruger Cup.

If your kiddo won the Cruger Cup last year, stop by the office to sign up for your chance to TAKE HOME THE CUP!
Bear Creek Elementary ---- Schoolpool Transportation Network

Parents – Are you interested in having your children carpool, walk, bike, or ride the RTD bus to and from school with students from other Bear Creek families? WayToGo – SCHOOLPOOL, a program of the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) is once again providing us with our own Transportation Network. It’s free and there is no obligation to participate.

Go to https://mywaytogo.org/s/under2500ncar to get started! For security reasons, this link is the only way to enter the system for Bear Creek.

- Using the secure website, parents register to find and contact interested Bear Creek families.

- Parents may register with their home intersection instead of home address.

- Way to Go’s only goal is to help reduce traffic congestion and pollution, so rest assured your information will only be shared with Foothill families--no third parties will ever see it. Optionally, you can elect to share your information with families at other schools.

- The following information of yours will be viewable by others: parent and student name, home location (address or intersection), and email. Optionally, parents may share student grade, gender and phone number.

- Comments can be added to indicate special requests or preferences (i.e., “looking for a walk buddy in the mornings,” “need someone to ride the RTD with after school,” “can provide morning rides,” “student is in afterschool activities,” “currently carpooling,” etc.).

- The service can be used for planning full-time, part-time or emergency trips.

- The more families that register the more likely parents are able to find good matches.

Contact Way to Go at 303-480-6772 or waytogo@drcog.org or Peter Hurst in BVSD Transportation 720-561-6116 (peter.hurst@bvsd.org) for assistance.

BVSD and Way to Go assume no responsibility, but provide this information for your use. BVSD and Way to Go do not run background checks, confirm valid drivers’ licenses or assess insurance coverage on participants. Potential users are advised to screen participants to their personal satisfaction and check their own insurance coverage for carpooling to assure they are covered under these voluntary arrangements. No drivers, vehicles or insurance are provided.
Car Free Community

Cruger Cup

If your child walked, biked, scootered, took public transportation, car-pooled, etc., to school every day that they attended school last year (at least 1 way) as you probably know, he/she has earned the right to bring home the CRUGER CUP for one week this year. If your child is one of the students who made it last year, stop by the office and talk to Carolyn and she can sign you up for a week to take the Cup home. We have 2 Cruger Cups this year so each child should get their own week.

Much like the Stanley Cup, the Cruger Cup has gone many places and has many stories to tell. We know that some people have even eaten their morning cereal out of the Cruger Cup (although we highly recommend a serious cleaning process before you do this) and we know it's been to top of at least one 14er! Don't forget to take a picture with the cup and send it to us.

TRIP TRACKER

This year, we are so happy to be partnering with BVSD’s Trip Tracker program, which rewards students for walking, biking, carpooling or riding the RTD to school. Students will earn Trip Tracker Dollars that they can spend like cash at local Boulder businesses like Glacier Ice Cream, Gateway fun Park and Play It Again Sports. Trip Tracker will begin the 2018-2019 School Year tracking trips on September 1 with first reward distribution the week of October 16. If you would like to register for the program you can check out the Trip Tracker Website for more program information.

Here is the September Trip Tracker Calendar.

Trip Tracker Accomplishments 2017-18:
- 4387 Students in 22 schools participated
- 482,264 green trips including 209,776 walk or bike trips reported
- $110,296 Trip Tracker dollars awarded
- Participants donated $7,757 to participating non-profits in Boulder County

In accordance with the BVSD policy on distribution/posting of non-curricular material-Bear Tracks will print curricular items about our school. Many outside opportunities available, (i.e. Science Matters, second language programs, parenting workshops, community sports, non-profit organizations, etc.) may be posted on the hall bulletin board with prior approval of the Principal, but may not be included in Bear Tracks. Be sure to check the Parent’s Board in the school for information regarding outside opportunities. All articles can be submitted to Carolyn Walker at carolyn.walker@bvsd.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
<th>Publication Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 13</td>
<td>September 14</td>
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<td>October 10</td>
<td>October 11</td>
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<td>November 8</td>
<td>November 9</td>
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Additional information about Bear Creek can be found on the website at http://www.bvsd.org/schools/bearcreek/.
PLEASE HELP AT BEAR CREEK
Volunteer your TIME
or bring FOOD

① go to HelpAtSchool.org

Welcome to HelpAtSchool.org
To get started, please select your school

I'm interested in helping. Show me the available jobs.

② Choose Bear Creek Elementary from the drop down menu

③ Click here to volunteer

④ Choose from either Up-Coming (once a year) or On-Going (continues throughout the year)

⑤ Click

Sign up

If you have questions, contact Kristin DeLorenzo at kristin.delorenzo@gmail.com
New BVSD Volunteer Procedures

What’s New!:

1. Volunteers now have the option to fill out BVSD volunteer forms through the BVSD Webstore found on BVSD website! You will be able to select from the following options:

   - **BVSD Volunteer Application** *(all new and returning volunteers must fill this out on an **ANNUAL** basis, free of charge, before volunteering in school in any capacity)*.
   
   - **CBI Background Check Application** *(this is a one-time application, the cost is $40, once that is approved it is valid for the remainder of the volunteer’s time at BVSD)*.
   
   - **Driver Volunteer Form** *(an additional form that must be completed **annually** for volunteers who want to be drivers, free of charge)*.

2. Volunteers can pay for their CBI Background check online with a credit card or your bank account information! You will be prompted to do so when filling out the online application. You can also choose to pay with cash or check when you come in to the Ed Center for your fingerprinting appointment (see below).

3. Volunteers can now come to Ed Center to get fingerprinted! After you have filled out the online CBI Background Check Application, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions on how to schedule an appointment. Applicants without charges on their record, will receive results within **3 business days** if you come to the Ed Center for fingerprinting.

What stays the same:

1. elsewhere, will still need to fill out a BVSD Volunteer Application online or use BVSD’s Paper Application and send in to the Ed Center with a check made out to BVSD for $40. The BVSD Paper Volunteer Application will still be available. We encourage volunteers to fill out the online application, however, we know some families still prefer paper formats. Please ask for a paper copy of the volunteer packet at school. If you want to get your fingerprints taken, but aren’t comfortable with filling out the CBI Background Check application online. Follow the directions for BVSD’s Paper Application.

2. TClogiq is still an option for volunteer background checks. Volunteers who prefer to do the annual TClogiq application can do so by visiting http://bit.ly/TCLogiQ. Volunteers will still need to fill out a BVSD Volunteer Application online or use BVSD’s Paper Application. All volunteers who are requesting fee waivers must use the TClogiq option (For details, see question 10 in our FAQs).

3. If volunteers prefer to get their fingerprints done elsewhere, they will still be able to do so. However, please note that the processing time for fingerprints done elsewhere will continue to be around 4-5 weeks (compared to 3 business days if they get their fingerprints done at the Ed Center). Volunteers who prefer to get fingerprinted

4. Board policy on which volunteers need background checks (and which don’t) remains the same. For more information, visit the [volunteer website](#). Version en Español, [presione aquí](#)
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<th>Sun</th>
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<td>Back to School Night</td>
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<td>KG &amp; 5 classroom Session: 5:00-5:40pm</td>
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<td>3 and 4 Classroom Session: 5:45-6:25pm</td>
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<td>1 and 2 Classroom Session: 6:30-7:10pm</td>
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<td>NO SCHOOL</td>
<td>Rental Fair @Platt 4-7PM</td>
<td>Southern Hills Event</td>
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<td>Labor Day</td>
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<td>Spotlights Begins - M&amp;W</td>
<td>PTO Meeting @ 1:30</td>
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<td>BEAR CREEK CARNIVAL 4:00-6:30</td>
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<td>Bear Tracks</td>
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<td>NO SCHOOL</td>
<td>Jump Rope Begins</td>
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<td>PTO Coffee @ 8:30</td>
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<td>Prof. Dev.</td>
<td>Picture Day</td>
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BVSD GT Parent Support Initiative

Supporting the needs of our parent community with training and information designed to help their GT-identified students prosper

1. GT in BVSD: what it looks like, ALPs, assessments, timeline
   September 27, 2018, 4-6 pm, BVSD Ed Center
   (6500 E. Arapahoe Road) Flagstaff Room

2. GT-Student Social Emotional Needs
   October 25, 2018, 4-6 pm, BVSD Ed Center
   Black Diamond Room

3. Twice Exceptional (2E) Students
   January 24, 2019, 4:50-6:50 pm, BVSD Ed Center
   Davidson Mesa Room

RSVP: marlys.lietze@bvsd.org

Parent Book Studies

"Embracing the Whole Gifted Child"
By Patricia Gatto-Walden, Ph. D.

1. Four-session, school-based discussion groups
   - Fall & Spring - Dates/Locations TBD
   - Contact your GT Advisor or the GT website

2. Two-session district discussion group
   - November 6 and 13, 6:50-8:50 pm, at the Ed Center
   - Contact marlys.lietze@bvsd.org

Contact michelle.dubois@bvsd.org to be added to our newsletter with updated GT district news, happenings and links to helpful articles.

Newsletters

Contact Us

Dr. Michelle DuBois, Instructional Specialist for Gifted Education: michelle.dubois@bvsd.org, 720-561-5067

Maia Jorgenson, Director of Student Success: maia.jorgensene@bvsd.org, 720-561-5087

Marlys Lietz, Administrative Assistant of Gifted & Talented: marlys.lietze@bvsd.org, 720-561-5149
Website: BVSD.org/Gifted
BVSD is working to improve air quality in our schools

Last year, BVSD began a long term initiative to collect indoor air quality data across the district to identify where we can make changes to improve it. Recognizing the proven role of good indoor air quality for student performance and health, BVSD hopes this work will have significant benefits for students and staff. There are a couple of ways parents are asked get involved and help with this effort:

**Provide information about reasons for absenteeism**
In addition to collecting data from school sites, we want to understand how air quality may be affecting student health and absenteeism. Beginning this school year, when parents call in to report a health-related absence from school, they will be asked to identify the nature of the illness. [Learn more.](#)

**Join the District-wide Air Quality Team**
The district is creating an [Indoor Air Quality Team](#) to work with us on this initiative. The team will include BVSD principals, teachers, parents and community members. Once convened, the team will determine meeting times and schedule. [Applications are due September 9.](#) Follow these links for [more information](#) and the [application](#).

For more information about the air quality initiative, go to: [bvsd.org/airquality](http://bvsd.org/airquality).

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**Student accident insurance 2016-2017**

Low-cost student accident insurance is again being offered by Markel this year. They have changed their enrollment method from paper to electronic and will not be providing print outs to schools to distribute to students. Attached is a PDF of their enrollment information. This information is also available on the district website at [http://www.bvsd.org/employees/AthleticsActivities/Athletic%20Insurance%20Information/Forms/AllItems.aspx](http://www.bvsd.org/employees/AthleticsActivities/Athletic%20Insurance%20Information/Forms/AllItems.aspx).

**Healthy Kids Initiative**

Another possible option for parents whose students need health insurance is the Boulder County Healthy Kids Initiative which helps families enroll in Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) and Medicaid. CHP+ and Medicaid are free and low-cost health insurance plans that provide dental, medical, prescription, mental health, and vision benefits. There are no monthly premiums, and co-pays range from $0 - $15 depending on family income. CHP+ has higher income eligibility limits than many public assistance programs, so many working families can qualify. Assets are not considered when determining eligibility for these programs. Some families who have not previously qualified may be able to qualify now due to new income guidelines.

Eligibility specialists are available to serve families at all BVSD schools. Call [720-515-1454](tel:720-515-1454) today to talk with a specialist or to make an appointment!

More information is available on the district website at [http://www.bvsd.org/healthykids](http://www.bvsd.org/healthykids). A link to this page is on the front page of the district site: Go to [www.bvsd.org](http://www.bvsd.org) and click the Healthy Kids Initiative logo at the bottom of the page.

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In compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, Colorado law and Board of Education Policy AC (Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity), Boulder Valley School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, national origin, religion, ancestry, need for special education services, age, marital status, genetic information, or physical characteristics in admissions, access to, treatment, or employment in educational programs or activities which it operates. Complaint procedures have been established for students, parents, employees and members of the public. The following person has been identified as the compliance officer for the district:

Superintendent, Boulder Valley School District6500 Arapahoe Rd. Boulder, CO 80301 720.561.5114 Superintendent@bvsd.org
School is in full swing, and your children have been bringing home library books. For new Bear Creek parents and those who need a review, library policies are as follows: Students in grades K-3 come to the library weekly with their class for a scheduled library time. (Teachers will let you know your child's scheduled day.) During this time, students will come for check out and a lesson, read aloud, or book talks. Students then choose books. Kindergartners check out one book, first graders two, and third three. Fourth and fifth grade students come weekly for check out and may check out three books in fourth and four books in fifth grade. These grades also come for library lessons in conjunction with classroom curriculum on a varying schedule. Students may also come to the library during the school day to check out with their teacher's permission. Parents are welcome to get library cards and check out books as well.

Patrons may keep their books for two weeks, but if they want to check out new books during their next library session, they need to return their books. Books are considered overdue if they have been checked out longer than two weeks, and patrons will receive an overdue notice. Students are not allowed to check out books until they return all overdue books. Please help your children remember to return their books on time so they do not miss library check out. If patrons want to keep books longer than two weeks, they can renew them. We do not charge fines for overdue books, but replacement costs are charged for lost or damaged materials. Students who did not pay for lost books from last year will be expected to pay for them before they can resume library privileges.

The library can always use volunteers to help shelve books. If you have 30 minutes or so one day a week and would like to help out in the library, please sign up at https://helpatschool.org/schools/1/events/148. If you would like to help out for special projects or on a less frequent basis, please contact Mrs. Brockway at laurie.brockway@bvsd.org. Bear Creek library volunteers really help keep the library running smoothly!!

The Newbery Club is open to students in grades 3-5. This club encourages students to read Newbery Medal and honor books (Newbery Medal books are recognized each year for outstanding children's fiction). Any interested student can pick up a review sheet in the library. To participate in the club, students must read at least five Newbery books during the course of the school year and complete book review sheets for each book, which they will return to Mrs. Brockway in the library. They will then have their picture taken for display on the Newbery Book Club board. They will also be invited to attend a party at the end of the school year where they will discuss their favorite Newbery books.

Join the Bear Creek Library Birthday Club!!! Celebrate your child's birthday with the gift of reading! Donate a new hardcover book in your child’s honor to the school library! A bookplate with your child's name and special occasion will be placed inside the book. A photo of your child holding the book will be posted on the library bulletin board, and the birthday child gets to be the first one to check it out of the library! (Please note that it can take a week or more before the books are ready for check-out.) Please see Mrs. Brockway for a list of suggested titles or search the library catalog to be sure that we don't already have a particular book. If you would rather donate a $20.00 check to the library, Mrs. Brockway will select a book in honor of your child.

Be sure to check the Bear Creek library website for library news and events!
I'm going on my 17th year teaching art. It is an honor to be back creating with our Bear Creek students. Last week, First through Fifth grade artists mixed their own color of summer. These watercolors will be on display in the front hallway art board. Check out what their inspirations are under the color.

-Brie Wright, art teacher

New Fundraiser! The art room budget this year will be earned through a new company, Original Works. Our previous company (Kidz Art Works) closed. I am excited about the new products available to order. We are looking forward to ordering the kitchen towels and pillowcases for our family! Look for a parent letter and code to use to order online. These letters should come home in the Friday Folders in October. Similar to past years, the products will be delivered to school before the winter break.