



# POUDRE HIGH SCHOOL

POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

201 S. Impala Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80521

Phone 970-488-6000 | Attendance 970-488-6002

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I AM WHO I AM BECAUSE OF WHO WE ARE

## IMPALA PRIDE BULLETIN



Principal  
Carey Christensen

Assistant Principal  
Bryan Kiel

Assistant Principal  
Activities Director  
Kendall Wilson

Assistant Principal  
Athletic Director  
Will Cantwell

Assistant Principal  
IB Director  
Andy Liddle

Dean of Students  
Nick Holley

### MESSAGE FROM PHS ADMINISTRATION

Poudre families,

We are off to a great start to second semester and are in the process of looking at registration for the 2025-2026 school year! Counselors have been working with students on their course plans to build their schedule for next year. If you or your student have any questions about schedules for the upcoming school year, please reach out to your students' counselor. The week of February 2nd is National School Counselor Appreciation week if you want to send a note of appreciation to your students' counselor. The week of February 2<sup>nd</sup> is also classified employee week, we will be honoring all of our wonderful classified staff.

Winter sports are under way with boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' wrestling, girls's swim and Nordic ski. Our winter play is Lost Girl. Performances will be held on February 12th, 13th and 14th at 7:00 PM and February 15th at 2:30 PM. Come check out our athletic and theater events!

There will be no school on Monday, February 16th, this is a building workday for staff. Parent teacher conference will be held on Wednesday, February 4th from 4:30-7:30 PM at Poudre High School. We will also be having a senior parent meeting at 6:00 and an IB 10<sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting at 6:30 in the Events Center. This is a great time to check in with teachers before the end of the quarter.

Thank you for staying connected with us and supporting your student's education!

Sincerely,

PHS Administration



Advertising in this newsletter does not imply recommendation or endorsement by Poudre School District



Is it just a phase?



# CAYAC

Child, Adolescent, and  
Young Adult Connections

Helping youth and families find  
answers, options and support.

Health District  
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY

CHILD, ADOLESCENT, AND  
YOUNG ADULT CONNECTIONS

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## PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Spring Parent Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:30pm - 7:30pm, with a senior meeting breakout session from 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. and an IB 10<sup>th</sup> grade breakout session from 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

## GRADUATION INFORMATION

- ⇒ IB Convocation: Monday, May 18th, 2026 in the PHS Auditorium
- ⇒ PHS Graduation Rehearsal: Friday, May 22nd, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at CSU's Moby Arena
- ⇒ PHS Graduation: Friday, May 22nd, 3:00 p.m. at CSU's Moby Arena



Sponsorship space in this newsletter is extremely affordable!

Reach parents in your local community & a significant portion of your investment goes back to the school!

Want to sponsor this school?

Please contact  
Rob Mangelson at  
[Rob@tscacolorado.com](mailto:Rob@tscacolorado.com)  
or  
(720) 878-4107.

Happy  
VALENTINE'S  
DAY



## 2026 GRADUATES AND THEIR PARENTS

### Senior countdown to graduation May 22, 2026

If you (the student) are walking in the graduation ceremony on May 22, 2026, the following 2 items must be completed before March 12, 2026.

- 1) Use the following link or QR code to access the form to choose a staff member to hand you your diploma. Students may have completed this already, please do not fill out another one.

<https://tinyurl.com/2026-PHS-diploma>

OR use this QR code:



- 2) Order your graduation cap and gown here, this \$43 unit includes the tassel with the graduation year on it. This may have been ordered already by student or parent.

<https://tinyurl.com/3ctmx85m>

OR use this QR code to be taken to the cap, gown and tassel order page on Jostens.com:



Questions regarding these requests? Please email or call Jennifer Backurz  
[jbackurz@psdschools.org](mailto:jbackurz@psdschools.org), (970)488-6064



Health District

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If You FEEL Different You DRIVE Different

*Make the Call*  
Save a life



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**NODUI**  
NOCO

## SRO CORNER

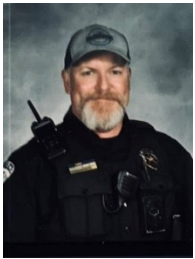
### School Threats: What to Do if Your Child Witnesses One

In this day in age, we unfortunately hear and see a lot of disturbing things, whether it is in person, on TV, or on social media. What we can sometimes forget is that our children often see these things as well. We wanted to remind parents on best-practices surrounding what to do if you hear or see something that isn't right, but more specifically school threats.

In most cases where there was a school shooting, there was some sort of warning that the suspect would give. In years past, it usually came through a social media post. Kids tend to engage on social media apps that some adults may not, giving them a unique way to view information that adults may not have. Because of this, it is important to talk with your kids and make sure they know it is safe to talk to you and other adults about these topics.

When we speak in your students' classrooms, the message we give is "See something, say something". We teach them that they need to tell an adult, and the sooner the better, so we can respond faster. Each student should know how to access Safe2Tell, which is an anonymous tipline. These tips come directly to your student's School Administrative team, SRO, and our 911 Dispatch Center. Because there can be a lag in time to respond to Safe2Tell, we ask that if it is emergent and there is an imminent threat to the school, tell the SRO immediately or any adult in the school. If it is outside of school hours, please call 911.

We take all threats to our schools very seriously, whether it is a joke or real. If your child happens to witness this, please talk with them about reporting and gathering as much information as possible. Taking screenshots or videos of the information is very helpful to SRO's in identifying and contacting the person posting. Keep in mind that if you choose to report on Safe2Tell, we cannot reach out for more information unless you provide it within the tip, as it is anonymous. Providing as much information as possible is key in preventing these catastrophes from happening. School safety is the responsibility of all of us; it takes a team. Thank you for your time and cooperation with keeping our kids safe.



PHS SRO Josh Golden

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Pursuing a  
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# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!



During the month of February  
we are celebrating

*Principled*

**ONE OF OUR IMPALA CHARACTER TRAITS!!!**

- I respect the dignity and rights of others
- I take responsibility for my actions and their consequences
- When something is wrong, I take action to make it right in a safe and responsible way

## **How Families Can Encourage their Student(s) to be *Principled* at Home:**

- **Model honesty and integrity by following through on commitments, admitting mistakes, and showing your student that doing the right thing matters—even when it's difficult.**
- **Encourage accountability by having your student take responsibility for their actions, such as completing chores, owning up to mistakes, and making things right when needed.**
- **Talk through real-life choices by discussing everyday situations (schoolwork, friendships, online behavior) and asking, "What would be the right or fair choice here?"**
- **Recognize principled behavior by praising moments when your student demonstrates honesty, fairness, or respect, reinforcing that these actions are valued at home and school**

## HEALTH OFFICE INFO

**Poudre High School vision and hearing screenings are scheduled for February 12th with a small number of students screened on the 13th.** This screening is for all 9th grade students, new students and those with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Please remind your student to wear their glasses or contacts to avoid rescreening at a later date.

**As always, please keep your child at home if they are experiencing symptoms such as fever, chills, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, or persistent (new) cough. A student must be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school. For additional information about "How Sick is Too Sick?" please click [here](#).**

If your student has a health condition or needs medication at school or field trips, please visit the PSD website for information about medications and health conditions click [here](#).

If you have questions, please call the health office at 970-488-6113. You may also email Elvia Proano, Secretary/Health Technician at [elviap@psdschools.org](mailto:elviap@psdschools.org) or Anna Krell, School Nurse at [akrell@psdschools.org](mailto:akrell@psdschools.org).

## POUDRE FFA

Tickets Now on Sale for Annual Farm to Fork Fundraiser

Tickets are now available for the annual Farm to Fork fundraiser hosted by the Poudre FFA Chapter. This highly anticipated event brings together community members, supporters, and students for an evening celebrating agriculture, education, and exceptional food.

The fundraiser will take place on February 20, 2026, at Poudre High School. Doors open at 4:30 p.m., with dinner served from 5:00–6:30 p.m. This year's event will feature catering by Brothers BBQ, offering guests a delicious meal while supporting Poudre FFA programs and activities. Tickets are \$20 per person, making it an affordable and meaningful way to give back to local agricultural education.

In addition to dinner, guests can participate in both a silent auction and a live auction, featuring a wide variety of donated items, experiences, and agriculture-themed packages. A highlight of the evening will be the popular Internship Auction, where FFA members auction off eight hours of their time to local businesses and community members. This unique opportunity allows buyers to support students while benefiting from motivated, hardworking FFA members.

Proceeds from the Farm to Fork fundraiser directly support FFA leadership development, career development events, scholarships, and hands-on agricultural learning opportunities for students throughout the year.

The Poudre FFA Chapter invites community members, families, and local businesses to attend and show their support for agricultural education. Tickets may be purchased from any FFA member or by contacting the Poudre FFA Chapter directly. Both paper and online ticket options are available.

Farm to Fork has become a valued annual tradition, highlighting the connection between local agriculture and the food on our tables while investing in the next generation of agricultural leaders.



# Valentine's Candygrams

**PHS STUDENT COUNCIL WILL BE  
SELLING CANDYGRAMS AS A  
FUNDRAISER AND TO SPREAD THE  
LOVE AT PHS!**

**COST: \$4**

**CASH OR CARD**

**PURCHASE IN THE FLAG HALLWAY DURING  
LUNCH FEB. 5TH-11TH**

**DELIVERY WILL TAKE PLACE FRIDAY FEB. 13TH**







Poudre High School Theatre

PRESENTS

# LOST GIRL



BY  
KIMBERLY BELFLOWER

THURSDAY  
**FEB 12**  
7:00 PM

FRIDAY  
**FEB 13**  
7:00 PM

SATURDAY  
**FEB 14**  
7:00 PM

SUNDAY  
**FEB 15**  
2:30 PM

For tickets and info visit us at  
**[www.poudretheatre.org](http://www.poudretheatre.org)**



Presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals ([concordtheatricals.com](http://concordtheatricals.com))



# Poudre High School Spring Sports

## 2026



**Orange Card** “Permit to Tryout & Participate” cards will be issued for the Spring season starting January 26<sup>th</sup> Monday through Friday 8:00am–4:00pm at the Athletics office.

**You must have an orange card to start tryouts and practice.**

To receive an **Orange Card**

1. Bring a paper copy of your current physical (if you don’t already have a current one on file in the Athletic office) **Make sure it is signed by a parent/guardian and athlete**
2. Complete the online registration through Sports Engine at [www.psdathletics.org](http://www.psdathletics.org)
  - a. Hover over High School
  - b. Click on HS Online Registration
  - c. Click on the blue box: Register Poudre High School on the right-hand side
  - d. Scroll to the bottom of the page, click *sign in* or *create an account*
  - e. When you have completed the form, it will say “WOOHOO! YOUR’RE ALL SET”
3. Payment on [www.schoolpay.com](http://www.schoolpay.com) (there is a credit card fee) or pay the cashier at Poudre.
4. **Check in with Cindy Smith so she can check your grades and classes for Eligibility.**

ALL four steps are required to receive an Orange Card. You will not be allowed to tryout or participate if all four steps are not completed.

Spring Online Registration opens January 26<sup>th</sup> and closes March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Please do not wait until the last minute to complete the four steps above.

Continued...

## POUDRE HIGH SCHOOL SPRING SPORTS

### **Athletic Participation Fee**

#### PHS Students

\$220.00 per sport, no family max

#### Charter/ Home or Private School Students

\$320.00 per sport, no family max

If a student athlete is not offered a spot on a team, the athletic fee will be reimbursed in full. Students who meet federal guidelines for the free or reduced lunch program will have the participation fee waived; you still have to complete the payment process online.

### **Eligibility**

Eligibility will be checked at the beginning of each season. Eligibility is determined based on previous semester grades earned. Athletes identified as failing two or more classes during the previous semester will be ineligible for sports until the regain date. All sports have different regain dates.

PHS checks athletic eligibility on a weekly basis. Athletes identified as failing two or more classes will be declared ineligible and will lose one week of eligibility, beginning on the following Monday through Saturday.

For any questions with regards to eligibility, contact Cindy Smith [cindys@psdschools.org](mailto:cindys@psdschools.org)

### **Communication**

You can check for sport schedules and updates at [www.frontrangeleague.org](http://www.frontrangeleague.org) and select Poudre. Follow us on Instagram: @runcacherun

We use social media for many updates and celebrations, so please follow us!

### **Baseball**

#### **Coach Joe Fontana**

Pre-Season camps/workouts: Winter Baseball work is going on right now.

If a player wants to join now, we will welcome them! Contact Joe Fontana

Mandatory Parent Meeting: February 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:00pm in the Event Center

Tryout dates: February 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6:30pm

First official day of practice: February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 4:30-6:30pm

Practice Monday through Friday, 4:30-6:30pm

For more information contact Coach Fontana: 970-566-3766, [coachfontana@gmail.com](mailto:coachfontana@gmail.com)

### **Girls Golf - Hosted by Rocky Mountain High School**

**Coach Kris Albrecht:** [kalbrecht@psdschools.org](mailto:kalbrecht@psdschools.org)

First official day of practice February 23<sup>rd</sup>

More information to come

## POUDRE HIGH SCHOOL SPRING SPORTS

### **Boys Lacrosse - Hosted by Timnath High School**

**Coach Patrick Sullivan:** [csulax24@gmail.com](mailto:csulax24@gmail.com)

First official day of practice: February 23<sup>rd</sup>

More information to come

### **Girls Lacrosse - Hosted by Rocky Mountain High School**

**Coach Libby Swanson:** [libbyraeswanson@gmail.com](mailto:libbyraeswanson@gmail.com)

First official day of practice: February 23<sup>rd</sup>

More information to come

### **Girls Soccer**

**Coach Kirstin Mortensen**

Pre-season training: currently on Tuesdays-Wednesdays-Thursdays, 4:30-6:00pm on the turf

\*Bring cleats, sneakers to run/lift weights in, shin guards, layers and water bottle

Parent Meeting: February 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-7:30pm in the Event Center

Tryouts February 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6:30pm

Practice: Monday through Friday, 4:30-6:30pm

Scrimmage: February 28<sup>th</sup>, time TBA

First game: March 3<sup>rd</sup>, away against Monarch

For more information contact Coach Mort: 208-720-9983, [kcutler@psdschools.org](mailto:kcutler@psdschools.org)

### **Unified Soccer**

**Coach Zach Bennett:** [zbennett@psdschools.org](mailto:zbennett@psdschools.org)

More information to come

### **Girls Tennis**

**Coach Laura Ecton**

Preseason meeting during lunch February 4<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-1:30pm in room 303/Pub Lab

No Preseason Camp at this time

First Official Day of Practice: February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 4:30-6:00pm at PHS

For More Information Contact Coach Ecton: [lecton@psdschools.org](mailto:lecton@psdschools.org)

### **Boys Swimming**

**Coach TBA**

Parent Meeting: TBA

First Official day of Practice: February 16<sup>th</sup>

More information to come

## POUDRE HIGH SCHOOL SPRING SPORTS

### Track & Field-Coed

#### **Coach Jeramie Thomas**

Pre-Season Track: currently on Mondays & Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30pm - Meet on the track.

Parent Meeting: February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00pm on the track

First Official Day of Practice: February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Practice: Monday through Friday, 4:30-6:00pm

For more Information contact Coach Thomas: 970-556-4942 or [iamlarry@live.com](mailto:iamlarry@live.com)

### Boys Volleyball

#### **Coach Matt Duran**

Parent and player meeting: February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00pm in the Main Gym.

Tryout Dates:

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6:30pm, PHS small gym

February 18<sup>th</sup>, 8:30-10:00pm, PHS main gym

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6:30pm, PHS main gym

First day of practice: Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 4:45-6:45pm at Poudre

Practices will be Monday through Friday, 4:45-6:45pm at Poudre

For more information contact Coach Duran: [matthewd@psdschools.org](mailto:matthewd@psdschools.org)

# GO POUDRE!

**Cindy Smith**

**Poudre High School Athletic Assistant**

**(970)488-6014 / [cindys@psdschools.org](mailto:cindys@psdschools.org)**

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Today!

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**(720) 878-4107**

**[Rob@tsccolorado.com](mailto:Rob@tsccolorado.com)**

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## COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

### Parents of Seniors!



Have you heard of the Colorado Opportunity Fund and the CSS profile? They may help with the cost of college!

The Colorado Opportunity Fund, created by the Colorado Legislature, provides a stipend to eligible undergraduate students. The stipend pays a portion of the total in-state tuition when attending a participating college. Eligible undergraduate students must apply, be admitted and enroll in classes at a participating college to receive this benefit. Both new and continuing students are eligible for the stipend. Qualifying students may use the stipend for eligible undergraduate classes. The stipend is paid on a per credit hour basis directly to the college at which the student is enrolled. The credit-hour amount is set annually by the General Assembly.

Here is the link to the application for the Colorado Opportunity Fund:

<https://cof.college-assist.org/>

The CSS Profile (College Scholarship Service Profile) is an online application by the College Board that collects detailed personal and family financial information from students applying for non-federal financial aid (grants, scholarships) at private colleges, universities, and scholarship programs, going deeper into assets, home equity, and business income than the FAFSA to help institutions determine eligibility for institutional aid. It's a crucial step for accessing institutional aid, often required alongside the FAFSA.

A list of qualifying schools:

<https://profile.collegeboard.org/PPI/participatingInstitutions.aspx>

You can access the application here:

<https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>

I am available during 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> periods Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday to help students with the college application process.

Gina Holley, [rholley@psdschools.org](mailto:rholley@psdschools.org)

English teacher and college admissions advisor



## PSD Career Tech Center

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

- Open to all 11th and 12th grade PSD High School Students
- 1/2 day semester-long Career Pathways
- Located on the Poudre HS Campus
- Transportation Provided
- Earn Graduation Credit, College Credit & Industry Certifications
- Application Opens: January 6th, 2026
- **Deadline: February 24, 2026**

**APPLY TODAY!**

[www.psdfutureready.org/ctc](http://www.psdfutureready.org/ctc)

## 2026 – 2027 PATHWAYS



### AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES

*Have you always thought about working on cars?* This pathway teaches vehicle diagnostics, repair, and maintenance and you can explore careers in automotive repair, service management, and vehicle inspection on real cars in a real auto bay.



### AVIATION

*Do you love flying drones or dream of becoming a pilot?* Build the skills to operate drones safely in the national airspace system while gaining the knowledge needed to pass both the FAA Part 107 and private pilot written exams.



### BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

*Are you a great listener with lots of compassion?* Learn everything from how to do a mental health assessment to therapeutic interventions using evidence-based practices and explore careers in counseling, social work, mental health services.



### CYBERSECURITY & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

*Are you an aspiring programmer?* This pathway includes programming, software development, and cybersecurity practices and you can explore careers in software engineering, cybersecurity analysis, ethical hacking, and IT management.



### CONSTRUCTION

*Do you love to build things?* Gain skills in project planning, construction techniques, and site management and explore careers in construction management, project coordination, site supervision, and building inspection.



### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

*Do you want to be a teacher?* Learn about child development, classroom management, and educational strategies and explore careers in early childhood education, childcare management and educational program coordination.



### MANUFACTURING

*Do you like working with your hands?* Learn skills in production processes, quality control, and equipment operation and explore careers in manufacturing, production management, quality assurance, and industrial maintenance.



### MEDICAL ASSISTANT

*Are you someone who likes to take care of people?* Experience hands-on in learning of patient care, basic medical procedures, and administrative tasks and explore careers in medical assisting, clinical support, healthcare administration, etc.

As provided in District Policy AC (Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity), PSD does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, veteran status, age or disability in access or admission to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. A lack of English speaking skills will not be a barrier to admission or participation.

