



ROADRUNNER EXPRESS

Foster Elementary
Jefferson County Public Schools

Office 303 982 1680

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**January
2020**

Principal's Page

Dear Foster Families,

It is amazing to look back at the last year and think about how much has changed and how far we have come. Our first round of choice enrollment after the decision for us to become a dual language option K-8 has just been completed and, offers for spots sent out. Most of those invited to Foster next year will be for kindergarten spots, but we are also beginning to gain interest from students in other dual language schools who either want to continue through middle school or would like to join our amazing community. I have no doubt that we will grow to be the premier dual language school in the state of Colorado.

Our first meeting of the Building Design Advisory Group was held in January where representatives of the staff, parents, and community came together with the district representatives, project manager and architects. to dream big dreams of what is possible.

This is the first of many meetings and I am very grateful to the members of our community for showing up to help in the vision of what this building can become. We have two more meetings set for February. Once we have some solid ideas, I will share those with the community. The plan is that construction will begin next school year and that is exciting!

Congrats to our amazing Foster robotics teams! They have been to two competitions so far and have had teams in the finals both times. We are incredibly proud of their work under the leadership of Ms. Brie Montoya who gives time after school and on Saturdays to make this happen. Thank you also to Tracie and Project Prepare for creating a structure and financial support to make this a reality for our students.

Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up this month. Please be sure to make time to meet with the teachers to learn more about the progress of your student(s). They will take place February 4th and 6th. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this way.

February can be a rough month in our community. Please remember to take care of yourself as you take care of others.

In Peace, Leigh

Accountability Committee

We hope you will join us for our Accountability meeting which will be on Thursday, February 20th at 3:00 in Leigh's office. We will give you some updates on our school UIP, building committee, and more. Please join us!

**February
2020**

3-7 . . . Book Fair

4 & 6. Parent/Teacher Conf. 4-8PM

7 . . PTA Mtg. 9-10AM

10 . . PTA Mtg. 6-7PM

14 . . NO SCHOOL Prof.Learning

17 . . NO SCHOOL Pres. Day

18 . . STEM Night / 2nd Rnd
Choice

28 . . Report Cards go Home



Kindergarten

Hello Kindergarten Families,

January has been a great month. We especially enjoyed watching all of our learners show off their growing abilities during our presentation night. We also celebrated our 100th Day of school !!

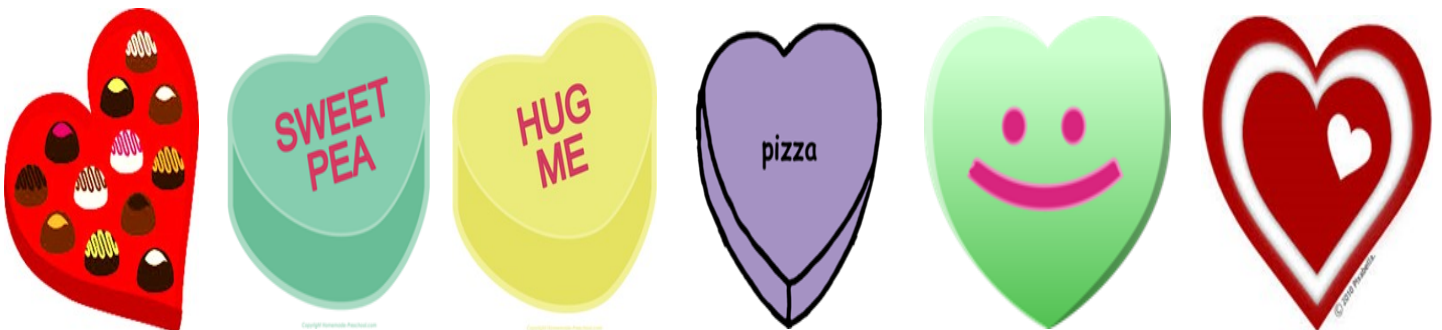
Next month is looking like another busy and fun time of learning. We will celebrate Valentine's Day on Wednesday, February 13th with a party in our classrooms starting at 2:45pm. We will be sending home more information about the celebration. Friday February 14th is a learning day for teachers, there will be no school for students.

Reminder: Parent/teacher conferences will be held on;

Tuesday, February 4th and Thursday, February 6th.

As always, thank you so much for your continued support of your child's learning!

Ms. Melissa, Ms. Shannon, and Ms. Alma





First grade has been working hard learning how to edit their writing and adding using tens and ones during math.

We are also really enjoying reading non-fiction books.

In economics, students are working very hard to earn money for our class Flea Market and setting goals.

Be on the lookout for our upcoming PBL information (Project Based Learning) at the end of February.

Thanks for all that you do!

Miss Brie, Sra. Rosa and Ms. Melissa



2ND GRADE

Dear Second Grade Families,

It was really nice to get back to our routines the first week of January. Students did a wonderful job our first week back remembering their Peace Promises, practicing procedures and following expectations in our classrooms, and school. We are really proud to see how much they have grown since the beginning of the school year!

- During reading we have been learning about expressing our opinions of a story. We learned that our opinions sometimes change as we read and that we need evidence to support our opinion. At the end of the month we started reading non-fiction, paying attention to the features of the text, and investigating about a topic related to weather and climate for our PBL.
- In writing students started the year writing their opinions about different stories books and topics. We learned that we state an opinion but then back it up with reasons why we have that opinion. We also started writing about a topic related to weather and climate. Students guide their research through questioning, using multiple sources, pictures, bulleted lists and using graphic organizers. These investigations will be ready for you to enjoy, during our **2nd grade program on March 12th**.
- In math we practiced skip counting with money (5,10,25 cents), using values up to \$1.00. We then used this knowledge to help us subtract two-digit numbers. It is expected that all students can add and subtract two and three-digit numbers by the end of the year. We will continue working on these concepts as the year progresses.
- During social studies students are learning about economics. We discussed topics like saving, spending, goods and services, taking financial decisions, especially when there is scarcity of goods and services. Students are also earning "Dojo money" in the classroom when they are following the peace promises. In the following weeks we will have a market where students can use their money, and practice making decisions when choosing goods and services. On February 4th and 6th we will have parent teacher conferences, please sign-up for a spot. On March 3rd we will have our field trip to Arvada Center (thanks for volunteering). March 12th is our PBL, "A Weather Showcase" and 2nd grade program.

Thanks for your support at home making sure your student knows the importance of having an environment full of respect and responsibility towards learning.

Your 2nd grade teachers,

Ms. Hollie and Ms. Elena





Dear third grade families,

We hope this note finds you well in the new year!

We HEAVILY rely on iPads to get our work done! Please remind your child to bring their iPad charged daily. It is an extreme interruption to student learning when their iPad is inaccessible, either because it is not at school or not charged. Make sure that your student is bringing the hard cover for their iPad, which is expected in order to keep the iPad safe when in transit. Make sure your child has a warm jacket, as well as a sweatshirt daily. Temperatures change dramatically throughout the day and we want to ensure students are comfortable inside and outside.

Reading and Writing: We have focused on summarizing fiction text using different strategies. We have also learned how to summarize the information of a nonfiction text by using the text features. Applying the reading and writing strategies we have learned throughout the year, students will also learn about re-searching, note taking, and citing sources to publish a nonfiction animal lapbook. Our upcoming reading unit will ask students to compare and contrast multiple articles on the same topic.

Math: In Math we finished our unit on measurement and data. Our new unit has us working on writing and solving word problems using all four operations. This includes one step and two step operations per problem. Next we will jump into geometry. This unit includes 2D shapes and discovering what the area and perimeter of a quadrilateral are.

Social Studies: students have been hard at work during our Economic Marketplace unit. Students have created and submitted a business proposal to open their own business at Foster Elementary. Throughout this process, students are understanding the value of money in the role of both a producer and consumer within our classroom Mini- Society. In addition, they have created financial goals for their businesses. Students will create a business sign with name and logo. They have been earning pretend money for attending school, bringing iPads daily, and having iPads charged. Students purchased all of the necessary materials for their business from the teacher store. They have been working very hard to create their good or plan the service they will provide at the market. The market for Dual 3rd grade will take place on Friday, February 21 @ 2 p.m. During Market Day, your students will participate as both a producer and a consumer.

Upcoming Events (More information coming soon!):

Tuesday, February 4 and Thursday, February 6: Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thursday, February 13: Valentine's Day Party @ 2

Friday, February 14 and Monday February 17: No School

Tuesday, February 18: STEM night

Friday, February 28: Report Cards go home

Thank you,

The third grade team





4TH GRADE

January has been quite an eventful month for us. We launched our biggest Social Studies unit with a field trip to the History of Colorado Museum. The students had a great time. We also got to rent a giant floor sized map of Colorado and learned all of the different regions, rivers, and animals. Students loved coding with the Spheros and creating salt dough maps.

In reading, we are learning about the different text structures. In writing, we are focusing on informational text and researching.

In Math, Students are learning algebraic equations, multi-step word problems, and unknown variables.

We finished up learning how to blog with Ms. Carla and hope to incorporate it our reading and writing.

Students at home can continue working on the mastery of multiplication tables.

Feb 18th- STEM Night

Feb 21st- Field trip The Fort-(Tesoro Cultural Center) 9:30-12:45

Feb 27th -Golden History Museum Visit in our classrooms



5th Grade

Hello 5th grade families,

Our students are growing a lot this year!

In math, we are going to be working on area and volume and word problems. Although we do not have required homework, please ask your students to practice their multiplication (and division) facts daily. They should be able to do math facts up to 12 quickly.

In reading and writing, we have started a chapter book titled “Esperanza Rising” and students are exploring a variety of literary techniques and using a variety of comprehension strategies. Please ask your student about their learning!

In science, we will be exploring renewable energy.

As always, please reach out with any questions, suggestions or ideas!

A few reminders:

Parent/Teacher conferences are Tuesday, 2/4 and Thursday, 2/6. We will be sending home information about who needs to attend so keep your eyes out in Friday Folders.

Stem Night is Tuesday, 2/18 from 5:30-7. Please plan to come! Look for more information in Friday Folders.

Band and Orchestra concerts at the end February... please look out for information from music teachers.

CMAS testing will be coming up. We will send home dates once they're confirmed.

Tiffany Alvarez (Traditional) - tiffany.alvarez@jeffco.k12.co.us

Kristin Steele (Dual - English) - kristin.steele@jeffco.k12.co.us

Julie Cole (Dual - Spanish) - julie.cole@jeffco.k12.co.us





English Language Arts

Mrs. Vanessa Gonzalez

vagonzal@jeffco.k12.co.us

Happy February! Here is what we are up to in English Language Arts!

6th Grade:

We are reading Tuck Everlasting (a Common Core recommended book) and our unit is called "Creating Meaning: Tracking Specific Sentences, Chapters, Scenes and Sections". We are also going to be watching the movie afterwards. Please opt out before February 29th, if you do not wish for your student to watch the movie. A choice board will be assigned at the beginning of the unit and is due on Feb. 29th. 6th Graders have an opportunity to submit an essay for the "great Women in Engineering and Science" contest. If your student chooses to enter, they do not have to do the choice boards. If they decide to do both they will receive extra credit.

7th Grade:

We are reading Number the Stars (a connection to Social Studies). Our unit is called "Constructing Interpretation: Analyzing Genre and Structure". I am not sure which movie we will watch yet, please keep your eye out for the option to opt out. A choice board will be assigned at the beginning of the unit and is due on Feb. 29th.

Please follow Campus for grades and updates. I often put notes and feedback into campus, so please be sure to check those too!

I hope to see you all for conferences in February!

All the best, Mrs. V

Spanish Language Arts

Ms. Valentina Lowitsch

vlowitsc@jeffco.k12.co.us

Happy Holidays,

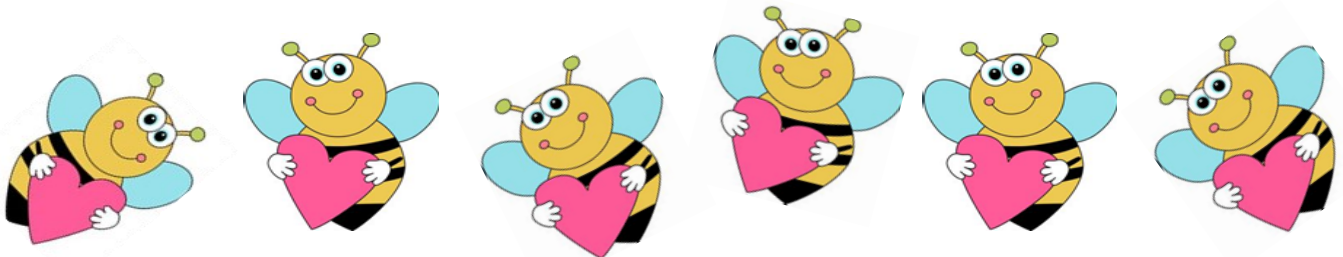
3rd quarter of the year.

6th Grade: Our unit is about Taking Care of Myself (self-awareness and self-care) How does what I do impact the world? Students will Research (Non-fiction) + create a Self improvement plan using implications from their research.

7th Grade: Our unit is about Technology Innovation where students will be able to understand that Research involves analyzing and selecting relevant information and to monitor the sources that are selected and check the credibility of the author or the source before it is used in their work.

Campus is a great way to monitor how your student is doing in class. Please take a moment and try to check regularly.

Remember: "Parents are the ultimate role model for children. Every word, movement and action has an effect. No other person or outside force has a greater influence on a child than the parent." By Bob Keeshan



middle SCHOOL

Math Michael Chavez michael.chavez@jeffco.k12.co.us

It's time to rock the 3rd quarter, and with your support, students will do well.

Your limitation—it's only your imagination.

- Push yourself, because no one else is going to do it for you.
- Sometimes later becomes never. ...
- Great things never come from comfort zones.
- Dream it. ...
- Success doesn't just find you. ...

The harder you work for something, the greater you'll feel when you achieve it.

We will be having conferences in February and look forward to meeting with you to discuss how your son/daughter have been progressing in math.

Thanks a lot for all your help Mr. C:)

Social Studies Mrs. Carissa Soto Rodriguez carissa.sotorodriguez@jeffco.k12co.us
<https://tinyurl.com/MsCarissa> (Quick link to my website)

Happy New Year! Our 3rd quarter will go from 1/6/20-3/11/20.

What are we learning in Social Studies?

6th Grade: We will be continuing our second unit of the year, ***Economic Success and Political Change***. In this unit we will be focusing on the purpose of government, policy and opportunity cost.

7th Grade: We are finishing up our second unit on ***Civic Relationships in a Global Community***. Students have been learning about the different forms of government and the relationship with their citizens in the Eastern Hemisphere

Please make sure your child is completing his/her current event homework assignments every other week (check IC for specific dates).



middle SCHOOL

Science Ms. Nidya Caviedes

nidya.caviedes@jeffco.k12.co.us

Happy February! One more step in this year, we will continue with our third quarter in the wonderful world of science.

6th: We will begin everything related to the care we should have with our environment, moving from basic to more complex processes, emphasizing not contaminating our planet.

7th: After having learned the functioning of some systems of the human body we will emphasize in learning the care that we must have to avoid diseases.

I hope to see you all for conferences in February!
Ms. Nidya

Counseling Center Ms. Nicole nicole.head@jeffco.k12.co.us

Happy New Year!

I continue to be amazed at how wonderful it is to work with our middle school community. Hopefully your students are all having great success with staying organized. The teachers are supporting your students by checking on planner and binder organization, and it would be great to have your support in asking your student about these things as well.

In Wellness Wednesdays, we just finished discussions on reflection and goal setting. We will be diving into basic resume building and interviewing skills to help your student consider opportunities that are available to them as well as building their view of themselves as professionals with lots of different motivating opportunities to help them make positive choices as they picture themselves being successful in school and as professionals.

Please note that your teachers have all agreed to have all grades current, including late/redo work, on Tuesdays, so that is a great day to check Infinite Campus.

Thank you for your support!



From the Library



Digital Citizenship topics will be addressed throughout the year to support students in the safe use of technology. The topic for January was Media Balance and Well-Being. Students explored and discussed how to manage digital use in a balanced, healthy way. The digital citizenship topic for February is Relationships and Communication.

February Family Letter/English: Relationships and Communication

February Family Letter/Spanish: Relationships and Communication (this needs to be linked when available)

January Family Letter/English: Media Balance and Well-Being

January Family Letter/Spanish: Media Balance and Well-Being

Foster Book Fair will be the week of February 3 in the library. Proceeds from the fair support technology purchases as well as other resources for the library. Because our fair is near Valentine's Day, patrons will have the opportunity to purchase a special book for a student or teacher; these special gifts will be delivered on February 13 along with a special valentine from the purchaser. Book Fair hours are as follows:

Monday, February 3	8:30am-4:30pm
Tuesday, February 4	8:30am-7:45pm
Wednesday, February 5	8:30am-4:30pm
Thursday, February 6	8:30am-7:45pm
Friday, February 7	8:30am-NOON

Online shopping is available as well @ <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/fosterelementaryschool10>

If you are interested in purchasing an extended warranty for the school assigned Chromebook your child is using, please review the information linked below. The warranty provides coverage for accidental damage to devices that are otherwise the responsibility of families. The cost of an extended warranty is less than the cost of repairing one cracked screen!

Chromebook Warranty (English)

Chromebook Warranty (Spanish)

Teacher will be progress monitoring ALP goals in January. Families will receive information related to how goals are being addressed in the classroom. This may also be discussed at Parent Teacher conferences in early February. If you are wondering how interventions are progressing, please talk with your child's teacher(s).

To find out more about Jefferson County Public Schools Gifted Education programming, visit their website at https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/programs/gifted_talented. You will find information related to the Gifted Center application process, parent information nights, and a wealth of other resources to support and encourage your family.



Music Notes

Honor choir information coming soon! This year it will be open to 4th and 5th graders. Space is limited. I will be sending home information with interested students. Students and families must be able to commit to all rehearsals and concert. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience a large multi-age choir!

In music classes we will continue to develop student musicianship.

Kinder- steady beat, rhythm, ensemble work, head voice, explore musical ideas.

1st grade: beat/rhythm, 4 beat melodic/rhythmic patterns, conducting cues, exploring musical ideas, changing tempo, introduction, pitched/non-pitched instruments, phrase.

2nd grade: 1 chord accompaniments, 4/8 beat patterns, solfege, follow dynamics and tempo changes, verse/refrain, theory of music and explore musical ideas.

3rd grade: Solfege, theory, dynamics/tempo/meter, largo and allegro, treble clef, rondo form, vocal/instrumental techniques.

4th grade: 3 part canons, Accelerando/ritardando, solfege, D.C.al fine/D.S., theory, dynamics/tempo/meter, major/minor, Mezzo piano/mezzo forte, recorder, vocal/instrumental techniques.

5th grade: accidentals, diatonic scale patterns, conductor cues, Improvisation, recorders, slur, vocal/instrumental techniques.

Ms. Allison Bequette



Fit Bits: News from the Foster P.E. Department!

Our annual Jump Rope for Heart health day and fundraiser (now known as the Kids Heart Challenge) is coming at the end of February and will continue through the month of March! Elementary students will begin this fun event with a kick-off assembly on Friday, February 21st.

From the 21st until Spring Break, students have the opportunity to raise funds for the American Heart Association by collecting donations from friends and family (this is totally voluntary and all students will get to participate in our fun activities either way). Students who raise funds will receive thank you gifts from the AHA, and our school has a chance to earn extra money for PE equipment.

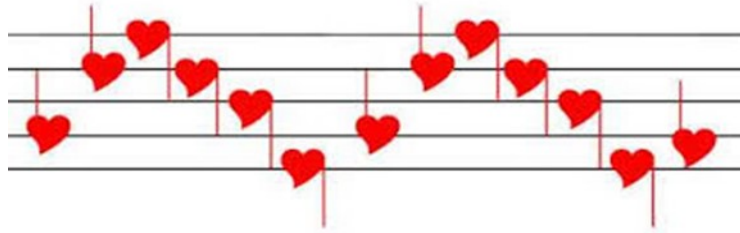
This year we will also be hosting our second annual fifth grade nutrition art contest and displaying the winner's work in the cafeteria and lobby for the remainder of the school year. For more information, contact Ms. Sammy or visit www.heart.org.

Middle school fitness has just begun and 6th and 7th grade students are beginning their exploration of the health enhancing fitness components, goal setting and assessment and maintaining a healthy lifestyle during third quarter. Middle school students will have the opportunity to join before school circus arts club through project prepare starting February 3rd (look out for sign up forms soon!).

Stay healthy, stay happy!

Ms. Sammy Chumacero





Orchestra Announcements

Festival Concert:

February 25, 2020 Orchestra Festival 5th - 12th Grade

**5th - 12th Grade Orchestra Concert at 7:00pm at Arvada High School in the Gym
Students need to arrive for rehearsal at 6:00pm with their music stand, instrument, and music. Students need to wear white on top and black on bottom.**

5th Grade Festival Concert Songs- Mary Had a Little Lamb #55, Can - Can #68, Oats, Peas, and Beans #72, Lightly Row #83 Violins A Line Viola / Cello / Bass B Line, French Folk Song #88, Electronic Sinfonia - 5th -12th Grade Combined Piece

6th Grade Festival Concert Songs - Nightscapes I, II, and III, Electronic Sinfonia

7th Grade Festival Concert Songs - Midnight Tango, Storm, Electronic Sinfonia

Final 5th Grade Concert:

April 28th, 2020 at Arvada High School at 7:00pm

Final Foster Middle School 6th / 7th Band and Orchestra Concert:

May 13th, 2020 at Arvada High School at 6:00pm

**Please contact me at any time with questions or concerns!
Sincerely,**

Ruth Ann Coy

ruth.coy@jeffco.k12.co.us 303-982-0605

Website - <https://sites.google.com/jeffcoschools.us/arvada-area-band-and-orchestra/home>



Band Announcements

Festival Concert:

February 27th, 2020 Band Festival 5th - 12th Grade

5th - 12th Grade Band Concert at 7:00pm at Arvada High School in the Gym

5th grade- arrive at 6pm, 6/7th grade arrive at 5:45pm.

Students need to wear white on top and black on bottom.

5th Grade Festival Concert Songs- Lightly Row #25, Au Claire De La Lune #28, London Bridge #30, A Mozart Melody #31. Combined Piece-
Seven Nation Army

6th Grade Festival Concert Songs - Fields of Glory, Tribal Voices, Seven Nation Army

7th Grade Festival Concert Songs - Joy, Knights of Destiny, Seven Nation Army

Final 5th Grade Concert:

April 28th, 2020 at Arvada High School at 7:00pm

Final Foster Middle School 6th / 7th Band and Orchestra Concert:

May 13th, 2020 at Arvada High School at 6:00pm

Please contact me at any time with questions or concerns!

Sincerely,

Andrea Austin

andrea.austin@jeffco.k12.co.us 719-251-7483

Website - <https://sites.google.com/jeffcoschools.us/arvada-area-band-and-orchestra/home>



Reading Challenge Due: February 28th

Turn in your checklist by the due date for a chance to win a prize!

Find a book that rhymes and read it aloud. Use a silly voice!

Close your eyes and run your hands along a shelf in the library. Choose any book at random and read it.

Read the first book in a series that you have never tried.

Read a book with a delicious food in the title.

Read a book about a winter sport.

Read a book under the covers.

Read a book about friendship.

Student Name: _____

Grade/Teacher: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Foster's school spelling bee was held in the library on January 10.

Words were pronounced by Ms. Leigh.

Ms. Amanda (ESL teacher) and Ms. Ann (Instructional Coach) were our judges.

Participants in the school bee were selected through classroom bees and other spelling-related activities. Our school spelling bee participants, students in third through seventh grades, included:

Reagan Davis, Carter Head, Donny Gama, Ruby Hernandez, Gus Wood, Arody Rodriguez, Lina McDaniel, Reed Flores, Izzy Rice, Jason Gomez, Evelyn Estrada, Angelo Garcia, Brandt Benage, Violet Flores, Ericka Valerio, Paola Reyes, Michael Colvin, Julissa Martinez, Ronan Hubbard, Gianna Rizzo, Jaida Riley, Maya Burgos Van Woensel, Leilan Saldana, Gage Kowing, Edgar Cisneros, Charlize Plathi.

Our four students progressing to the Arvada Area Spelling Bee on February 3 at North Arvada Middle School are:
Reed Flores, Violet Flores, Gianna Rizzo, Izzy Rice.

Best of luck to our school champs!





Enjoy your evening while we entertain the kids!

When: Friday, February 28th from 3:40-8:30pm

Where: Foster PreK-8 gym, cafeteria and art room (check in at the gym)

Who: K-5 students (do not have to attend Foster but need to be elementary school aged)

What: games, movies, crafts, dinner and snacks provided; please let us know of any food allergies or other dietary restrictions

Why: Our Foster Middle School Travel Club is taking a language and service learning trip to Peru in January 2021! Your fee will help us pay to send club members on this life changing learning experience!

Cost: \$30 for first child, \$25 for each additional child (do not have to attend Foster but need to be in grades K-5). Checks or cash only, checks can be made payable to Foster Elementary.

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH
(NO DROP INS)**

Please return the sign up form below to Ms. Sammy's or your students' teacher.

Parent's Night Out Registration Form

Parent/Guardian name _____

Student name(s) _____

Email _____ phone # _____

Will your student be eating pizza for dinner (included)? _____

Any dietary restrictions or allergies? Any other health concerns we need to know about?

Who will be picking up your child(ren) at 8:30?

In consideration of my child's voluntary participating in the parent's night out program, I, _____, hereby release and discharge the Jefferson County School (Parent's name here) District No. R-1 and its directors, employees, representatives and Board of Education from any claim or cause of action, rights, damages and demands of any kind or nature, known or unknown, including claims for attorney's fees and costs arising out of the aforementioned activity in which I and my child have elected to voluntarily participate.

The District is committed to ensuring that all eligible students, including those with disabilities, have an equal opportunity to participate in non-academic and extracurricular programs and activities. If your student requires an accommodation to participate in the program(s) described above, please contact your

Building 504 Coordinator at 303-982-1660.

Parent/guardian signature

Date