



Excel Academy Eagle Update

April 12, 2024

UPDATES FROM THE SCHOOL

Sign-up: May Lunch & Breakfast

Sign-up now for May Meals. The last month to order meals before summer break! Have a great weekend!

Click [HERE](#) to order.



Talent Show Extravaganza!

Announcing Excel's 20th Annual School Wide Talent Show Extravaganza

Join us: Friday, April 19, 2024, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Click [HERE](#) for details.



Spring Explorations Expo - You're Invited!



You're Invited!

Our students have been working hard on their Explorations projects and will be finishing up with final touches on Wednesday. We invite the Excel community to come to our Expo on Wednesday, April 24 to view the creativity and effort that our students have put forth. The Expo is set up similar to a gallery walk where students will be showing and discussing their projects and what they've learned. Please connect with your 2nd - 8th grade student to find out who their Explorations teacher is and if they will be presenting their project in the first or second half of the Expo (their class will determine that next Wednesday and there will not be a schedule of presenters). All visitors must check-in at the front office with a driver's license or state issued ID to receive a visitor's badge. Please plan to arrive early. Check-in will begin at 1:15 p.m. and doors will open for guests at 1:40 p.m.

Please do not plan to check your student out early as there is a lot of movement on this day. Additionally, younger students cannot be removed from class to tour through the upper grades with their parents. These protocols are put in place for the safety of all students. Thank you for your cooperation.

Explorations EXPO Schedule, Wednesday, April 24

K/1 Schedule:

First half begins 8:45 am

Second half begins 9:06 am

Expo ends 9:25 am

Grades 2 - 8 Schedule:

First half begins 1:35 pm

Second half begins 2:30 pm

Expo ends 3:15 pm

Dismissal 3:30 pm

A Day Without Hate is coming on April 25th!

Please join our Excel community in celebrating A Day Without Hate on April 25th. **Students are encouraged to wear white and come prepared to spread extra positivity and kindness while connecting with others throughout the school!**

For more information regarding this student-driven initiative originating in Arvada to promote peace and positive mental health in our schools and communities, please visit the following website:

[Day Without Hate.](#)

We look forward to celebrating this exciting day with your students!



Field Day Schedule



Join Us for Field Day

Wednesday, May 22nd

Kinder, 1st, & 2nd: 8:30-10:00

6th Grade: 10:40-11:30

7th & 8th Grade: 11:15-12:10

3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade: 1:30-3:00

All visitors will need to sign in with the front office and get a badge. Be sure to bring your drivers license.



Excel Athletic Update from Coach Miller

GIRLS SOCCER: Monday April 8th saw the Eagles take on the Lincoln Leopards at Stenger Field. As has been the case all season long, the Eagles scraped just enough players to field a full team at kickoff time. The Leopards scored shortly after the game

began with a rocket right in front of the goal. At that point the Eagle defense stepped up and held the Leopards in check for the rest of the first half. With no replacement players, it was just a matter of time until the Eagles wore down and the Leopards scored two second half goals near the end of the game. The effort was there but the legs were worn out. The final tally was 3-0.

The coming week is jammed-packed with action beginning on Monday, April 15th with Girls Soccer vs WWA at Stenger Field, a Cross Country home meet in Michael Northey Park on Tuesday, April 16th, Girls Soccer at Lincoln on Wednesday, April 17th, and Boys Volleyball at home vs Excel/Lincoln (round robin) on Thursday, April 18th. All games begin at 4:15 pm. Wear your teal and come cheer on our Eagle Athletes!

Solar Eclipse Fun

Solar Eclipse Fun!

On April 8th Excel Academy staff and students were treated to an amazing viewing of the partial solar eclipse. We were lucky enough to have an Excel parent (and scientist), Mr. Dankers, volunteer his time and specialized equipment so we could glimpse an up-close view of the moon moving in front of the sun. We were even able to see sunspots! In addition to that amazing experience, NCAR (National Center for Atmospheric Research) donated enough solar eclipse glasses so that every student and staff member could go outside and experience this incredible event.



SOAR Winners

Congratulations to this week's SOAR drawing winners!

Self-Discipline

Outstanding Effort

Acceptance of Others

Resilience

1st- H.McIntosh, 2nd-M.Dunn, 3rd-K.Schaefer, 4th-M.Stephens,

5th-R.Gerace, 6th-M.Houser, 7th-none, 8th E.Stonebraker.

Classroom Soars Winner: Mrs. Criswell's 2nd Grade Class



UPDATES FROM THE EXCEL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Excel Academy Board of Directors Election Ahead

JOIN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If you've been looking for a meaningful way to contribute to Excel, this is an outstanding opportunity that will allow you to have a direct impact on our school's short-term and long-term strategy and viability.

We are looking for a parent or community member who is passionate about the long term sustainability of Excel Academy. The board supports the "business" of the school and experience in law, finance, technology, facility planning, data analysis, strategic

planning, human resources, or education is beneficial, but not required.



WHAT DOES THE BOARD DO?

Some of our primary roles include financial oversight and decision-making relative to Excel's annual budget, establishing policies and procedures consistent with the schools mission and vision, long-term strategic planning, hiring and oversight of the school's Executive Director, school facilities development, and oversight and participation on school committees. [Click here](#) to learn more about charter schools and board governance.

WHAT IS THE COMMITMENT?

Board members are asked to prepare for and join the monthly board meetings and participate on one of the [school committees](#). Additional commitments may include meeting with the PTO or education team and representing the board within our community. The time commitment is about 4-6 hours per month throughout the school year. Board terms are three years. **If elected, the term would extend from Fall 2024-Spring 2027.**

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?

See the board in action. Join our next board meeting via zoom on April 16, 2024 at 6pm.

Candidates are required to join at least one board meeting before applying.

Join our board virtual open house on April 23, 2024 from 6-7pm. The current board will be hosting an informal discussion with interested candidates to learn more about joining the board and the process for applying. Link to join is included in the [Election Calendar](#).

READY TO APPLY, NOW WHAT?

Details on the process and next steps can be found in the following links.

- Next steps are detailed in the [2024 Board Election Calendar of Events](#) document linked.
- **Apply by completing [this application form](#) by 4pm on Friday, April 26, 2024.**

UPDATES FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE



**Children's Hospital
Colorado**

Children's Hospital: Town Hall

Virtual Mental Health Town Hall Join us for a conversation on important and timely youth mental health topics. Our experts will discuss anxiety, stress management and mental health crisis management. Participants will also learn about community resources and will have the opportunity to ask questions. We encourage those interested in youth mental health to join the discussion. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Everything you Need to Know About Pediatric Eye Care

Parenting resources are full of information on wellness visits, milestones and parenting advice, but when it comes to eye care, many parents and caregivers aren't sure when vision screenings happen, whether they need to schedule an eye doctor visit or how to keep children's eyes safe during sports, eclipses and more. Children's Hospital Colorado ophthalmologist Becca Edwards, MD, shares her expertise.

[Article](#)



**Children's Hospital
Colorado**

UPDATES FROM THE PTO



Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week

Save the Date! Staff Appreciation Week is April 28th - May 3rd! Each day the PTO is planning something special for all staff. Click [HERE](#) to see what is planned for each day with ideas how your child can show staff how much they appreciate them!

S.O.A.R. Sprint Fun Run!

Save The Date

On May 7th students will run in the annual PTO Fun Run. More Information to come.

[FUN RUN FLYER](#)



Donations Fund the Excel PTO
PTO sponsors Community Nights, Winter Carnival, Scholarships for Field Study Trips, Staff Appreciation Gifts, and much more!
Individual, Classroom, and School Wide

PTO Links

[Excel Academy PTO Website](#)

[Track it Forward Volunteer Opportunities & Hours Tracking Site](#)



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Mountain Bike Club: 7th-11th



Are you currently in 7th - 11th grade and interested in learning more about the Ralston Valley & Arvada West HS Mountain Bike Teams? Bring your curiosity and learn about our practice schedule, race season, team philosophy, and about how much fun you can have! All rider levels welcome.

Click [HERE](#) for details. Wednesday, April 10th 6:00 PM

New Music Classes with Mrs. Boyd & Rising Stars

Click [HERE](#) to see all the fun Summer Music Classes.



Arvada West Summer Programs

Arvada West Summer Track Program

Arvada West Summer Fast Cats Program is back. Register through the following link: [Fast Cats Information](#) or through their website: <https://fastcatstrack.com/>



Arvada West Summer Youth Wrestling

Arvada West summer youth wrestling starts May 2nd. Register through the following link: [Wildcats Youth Wrestling](#) or through their website: <https://catswrestling.teampages.com/>

Stanford Mentors Summer Program: 6th-12th Grade

Organized by Stanford University undergraduate and graduate students, Qualia Global Scholars is a selective pre-collegiate virtual summer mentorship program matching talented students in grades 6-12 with Stanford mentors. The program features personalized mentorship, interdisciplinary research, project-based learning, and guidance on college applications. The program aims to empower students to become future global leaders by teaching them about leadership & problem solving, emerging areas in STEM & liberal arts, critical thinking & communication skills, and real-world impact through research & innovation. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Need-based financial aid is available for the program. [Flyer](#)



Arvada Center Summer Camp

The Arvada Center offers summer camp opportunities for children age 3-18. Check out all of their offerings on their website at <https://arvadacenter.org/education/summer-camps>.

YMCA Drop In Care & Summer Camp

AM and PM Drop-In Care is available with the YMCA OST program at Excel. For more information or to request a drop-in date, please email: LWolfe@denverymca.org.

YMCA Summer Day Camp! Registration now open for the Excel location!

www.DenverYMCA.org

Ages: 5-12

Cost: \$230/week for members, \$280/week for non-members

Hours: 8:00 AM- 5:30 PM

Summer Camp [FLYER](#)



Skate City: FREE Membership



Skate City is offering **students and parents FREE membership to the Skate City Family Freebies Club!** Click on the link below to see the amazing perks of our Family Freebies Club Membership. We currently have over *6000 families in our FFC* and the free year of membership has a value of \$5 for each guest.

[Skate City Flyer](#)

Helpful Links & Resources

[Order Breakfast or Lunch:](#) (due a week before the week of meals)

[Excel Academy Standards-Based Grading Scale](#)

[Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#) (Check grades, missing assignments, attendance, pay fees)

[Infinite Campus Parent Directions](#)

[Log Volunteer Hours](#) and sign-up for volunteer opportunities

[2023-24 Excel Academy School Year Calendar](#)

[2024-25 Excel Academy School Year Calendar](#)

Ideas for thanking a staff member: [Treats and Deets](#)

Yearbook Photo Submission Folders: [Kindergarten Pictures](#) | [1st Grade Pictures](#) | [2nd Grade Pictures](#) | [3rd Grade Pictures](#) | [4th Grade pictures](#) | [5th Grade photos](#) | [6th Grade photos](#) | [7th Grade Photos](#) | [8th Grade Photos](#) | [All Sports](#) | [School Events & Activities](#) | [Candid Pictures](#) | [Excel Families & Community](#) | [Electives](#) | [8th Grade Then and Now \(kinder & recent\) Pictures](#)

Excel Academy K-8 Charter School

Email: Julie.Smith@jeffco.k12.co.us

Website: <https://excel-academy.jeffcopublicschools.org/>

Location: [11500 West 84th Avenue, Arvada, CO, USA](#)

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ExcelAcademyK8>



Julie Smith

Julie is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

