



MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14

GO MUSTANGS!

MANITOU SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • UTE PASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • MANITOU SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL • MANITOU SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

Manitou Springs School District 14 Core Values

On Monday, Aug. 12, we had over 60 people participate in a community-engaged, facilitated process to arrive at our Core Values Statements. The group included students, staff, parents, grandparents, residents, community partners, business owners and our Board of Education. I want to thank all who participated in the collaborative process. In the upcoming



weeks/months and beyond, we will focus on how we will continue to "offer a 'small town' educational environment" where we are "driven by our core values of Relationships, Deep Learning, and Opportunity as we serve our children and our communities."

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Domangue, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

New and returning student registration is online!

<https://www.mssd14.org/cms/one.aspx?pagelid=164702>

Visit our website to register returning students, download Choice Applications or register new in-district students. Your school registrar is happy to help if you have any technical issues or need use of a computer. Please stop by your school for assistance!

MSES making final playground preparations!

At Manitou Springs Elementary School, the big news is, of course, our playground renovation, the first phase of which we are completing this summer.

Our main installation is a huge western town-themed play structure — directly reminiscent of Manitou's historic downtown storefronts — with multiple levels, dozens of play features and a capacity for more than 60 kids.

We've added an expanded woodchip play area and put down foundations for Austin's Garden and for a book nook to be built around a newly planted tree.

We've saved one of the old structure's wooden towers and will place it as an art installation in the shady northwest corner of the playground.

We are clearing a big room in our playground shed to store giant foam blocks and kid-safe building materials for our Loose Play area.



Finally, for this phase, we've rearranged Georgia's Jeep and the Gaga Ball Pit to make room for our next big play piece, a giant dragon made of used tires to be student/community built with Concrete Couch over the course of this year.

Ute Pass Elementary School celebrates 50th birthday!

The summer of 1969 saw a lot of amazing things: Woodstock, the landing on the Moon, and The Who released their album "Tommy." Perhaps the "grooviest" thing of all was that Anne Foster and her crew of teachers opened Ute Pass Elementary School!



Mrs. Foster (Stanley) and some of these original teachers graced the hallways again on Saturday night for a reunion picnic and celebration of something very, very special that they and our community began 50 years ago. As Mrs. Foster said during the dedication speech 50 years ago, "we are a small school, but we offer many exceptional special services." With those words and through the work of the founding teachers, parents, and community from then until today, UPES has established proof that you can do really big things when your school is really tiny.

So many traditions have evolved in amazing ways and continue to this day! Our annual Shakespeare plays descended directly from the incredible lineage of plays that have been put on at UPES for generations. Our focus on maximizing mountain living has evolved into our Mountain Academy for Arts and Sciences (and continues the tradition of UPES having a 6th grade starting the first year the school opened with Mr. Vaeth). Nutrition Day with Colonel Sanders evolved (mind-boggling) into our focus on health and wellness that has been a hallmark of our schools, leading to our

district-wide award of the Governor's Award for Health and Wellness. I guess the only thing that hasn't continued is Game Night. No, not board games, but rather an evening of good cooking utilizing what we all hunted in the woods around our school. We used to get together and eat it. And maybe that should come back too?

The photo above speaks of the incredible love, life-long commitments and friendships, and joy that 50 years of being a "Village School with a Global Reach" has brought to so many.

Get ready for the next 50 years, because they are going to build on that amazing legacy!

Our primary children will carry this torch as the ones who will be at the 100th anniversary with firsthand experience from the 50th.

And so, our beloved little school continues its tradition of transmittal of love and essential knowledge between mountains and plains, as the path upon which it stands has been doing for thousands of years.

Chris Briggs-Hale
UPES Principal

Connect14 online registration OPEN!

www.connect14.org

Connect14 fall term classes will run Sept. 9 through Dec. 13, 2019. All classes will be 13 weeks long to align with the semester schedule. There are several BOGO classes. We've added lots of new offerings like, Flamenco, Hip Hop, Cooking, Into the Woods, Mural Painting, Yoga, Robotics, Street Soccer as well as all your old favorites! In addition to our student offerings, there are classes open

to high school-age children through adult ... we'd love to see these classes become intergenerational. A lot of age-friendly rapport can grow from creative relationships between the generations in these classes! Refer to our website for updated change and cancellation policies.

Please visit our website or contact Connect14 Director Joye Levy at jlevy@mssd14.org with any questions!

Important dates

First Day of School — Aug. 23

- Aug. 19:** Mandatory MSHS Student Check-in & iPad Pickup
- Aug. 22:** UPES & MSES Meet Your Teacher, 3-4 p.m.; MSMS Back to School BBQ, 4:30-6 p.m.; MSHS Freshmen Orientation, 8 a.m.
- Aug. 23:** UPES Kindergarten Orientation, 8 a.m.
- Aug. 28:** MSHS Open House, 6:30-8 p.m.
- Sept. 2:** Labor Day, no school
- Sept. 10:** MSES Open House, 5-7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 13:** HOMECOMING!

Artist of the Week



Artist: Carys A., UPES

Stop by the District Administration Office to view works from the student collection!

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL — AUG. 23!



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(719) 685-2024 • WWW.MSSD14.ORG • WWW.FLASHALERT.NET (FOR SCHOOL CLOSINGS)

