



Harris Bilingual Immersion School

Escuela Bilingüe Harris

501 E. Elizabeth Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Principal: Norma Huerta-Kelley
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News from Principal Norma Huerta-Kelley

Dear Parents/Guardians:

What a fantastic first trimester we have had – your children are growing by leaps and bounds in English and Spanish! I am so amazed when I visit with them in their class and even the little ones, can tell me what their Learning Targets are and what they need to do to meet them.

As many of you know, a team of teachers and I attended a Dual Language conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico in November. Additionally, this summer, a team of teachers and I attended a Dual Language Symposium in Washington DC. Both opportunities have validated our work at Harris! We have attended sessions from government policies to PreK curriculum. For example, we have learned new information that will help us refine our Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for struggling students as well as how to utilize technology in new ways for our students. We want to ensure that we are utilizing best practices in research while we keep the integrity of our instructional model. Attending conferences like these will help keep us informed.

Congratulations to Ms. Petty, Ms. Suazo and the Wellness Committee for writing and receiving a \$5000.00 grant!! This grant will go to purchasing new “movement” furniture for the library – including writable tables, wiggly chairs, new carpet squares and a water feature. We hope this new area will feel more comfortable so that our children can read, read, read! We are renaming the library to the Community Wellness Center. We can't wait to have it ready for parent meetings and for our kids to enjoy!

As we prepare for the holiday break, I want to thank you for your support. I am amazed at your tireless efforts to ensure that our Harris community is loved. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Holiday concert this month. I also want to thank you for ensuring that your children are here at school on time, rested and ready to learn. While I realize that the holiday time is upon us and you may be planning your travel schedule – we want and need your children to be at school every day, so they do not miss important instructional time. With that said, please try to coordinate your travelling after the 21st of December and before January 7th.

Finally, just a reminder that School of Choice season is upon us! January 18th by noon is the deadline for incoming Kindergarten students to apply for a SOC spot at Harris for the 2019-20 school year! Please spread the word and tell your friends and family how wonderful our community is!!! Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Norma Huerta-Kelley. PhD.

News from the Office

Visitors and volunteers sign-in at the office

Please remember that if you are visiting the school for any reason other than volunteering (i.e. an assembly, lunch, etc.) you need to register as a visitor, take a batch and leave your keys in the front office. If you are at school to volunteer, you need to register as a volunteer, take your volunteer batch and leave your keys in the front office.

Is your student going to be absent or tardy?



Parents, please remember **to call our attendance line, 488-5205**, when your child is going to be absent or tardy. **If possible, call before 9 a.m.**, but you can also leave a message on the attendance line 24 hours a day.

If your child arrives late, **please accompany him/her inside the building and sign-in at the office.** Your child may then proceed with a tardy pass to the classroom.

After School Arrangements and Last-Minute Messages for Students

Due to the large volume of calls at the end of the day and to minimize interruptions in the classroom during instruction time throughout the day, **we ask that you make any changes to your child's after school routine prior to the start of the school day and that you send him/her to school already aware of the changes.** Should you need to call the school with a change of plans for your child for after school, we ask that you please **call BEFORE 2:30 P.M.** Students **MAY NOT** use the phone after school to make last minute arrangements.

School Choice Application Process

DEADLINE FOR SCHOOL OF CHOICE APPLICATION HAS CHANGED! If you have a child ready for kindergarten next year and would like him/her to attend Harris, you must apply on-line by **Friday, January 18, 2019 before 12:00 PM**. Siblings receive priority. Parents must complete and submit a separate application form for each child. After completing an application, parents will receive a confirmation email. This email is proof of submission. There will be a computer set up in the office if you'd like to come to Harris to apply.



Parents must also register students entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2019 at their neighborhood school, even if an application is pending for school of choice by **Thursday, January 17, 2019**.

There will be two informational nights about Harris: **for English speaking parents on Wednesday, January 9, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. and for Spanish speaking parents on Thursday, January 10, 2019, at 5:30 p.m.**

We will have student guided tours of Harris on **Wednesday, January 16, 2019 and Thursday, January 17, 2019, from 9:00-11:00 a.m.** Please tell anyone interested in our program about these informational nights and the school tours.

Middle school students!

If you have a child attending middle school next year and you would like him/her to attend a school of choice, you must also **apply on-line by Friday, January 18, 2019**. Remember that many of the open house dates for middle schools begin this week.

LOST AND FOUND



Our Lost & Found is growing exponentially! We need your help keeping label all your child's belongings with their names. We will donate everything away on **Wednesday, Dec 19th**, right before our Winter Break.

Please stop by Harris and pick up your child's belongings.

Thank you!

News from Madeline Armour - Music Specialist

The Kindergarten, 1st, & 2nd grade Winter Music Program time and date have been changed.

It will now be on Thursday, December 13, 2018, from 9:15 to 10:00 a.m. in the Harris gymnasium. Thank you for being flexible with this change. All parents are invited to come and enjoy this special event! I'm looking forward to seeing you there.



We will be having our annual all-school holiday sing along on December 19th. If you do not want your student to participate in this activity for religious reasons, please contact me and/or your student's homeroom teacher so that an alternate activity can be provided.

News from Martha Petty - Media Specialist

Subscription to the World Book Web:

We want to remind you that our school district subscribes to the World Book Web. The World Book Web includes:

- * World Book Kids—developed especially for younger users.
- * World Book Online Reference Center—includes all articles from the 22-volume World Book Encyclopedia, plus thousands of additional articles and more than 20,000 pictures, maps, videos, and sounds, and a Spanish-language encyclopedia.
- * World Book Advanced—tailored for the needs of older students.

We hope your children will use the World Book Web often to help with their homework, special projects, and at-home learning.

To access the World Book Web, follow these simple steps:

1. Go to the World Book web site: <http://www.worldbookonline.com>
2. In the Login ID box, type in: poudre
3. In the Password box, type in: poudre

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Please remember that login and password information is for students and their families only, and extending this information to people who do not live within the school district could result in loss of at-home access for our students.

News from Josh Gomez and Michelle Mueller, P.E. Specialists.



Come one, come all! Everyone is welcome to join in the first ever Rollerland Rollerskating party on Friday, December 14th from 4:00 - 7:00. It is guaranteed to be a really fun evening for our Harris families and friends.

5th Grade “Ski Passports” and Annual Winter Break Ski Trip are coming!

We will be having our annual 5th grade winter break ski trip again **Wednesday, January 2nd to Eldora**. If your 5th grader has not registered online for his/her passports, please do so as soon as possible. A unique registration code is needed and can be found on the brochures that Mr. Gomez has at school if your student has not received theirs. Also, Mr. Gomez can help students register at school if they are not able to do so at home. This passport will allow your **5th grader to ski all mountains in Colorado up to three times for FREE!** More information will follow.



Harris Running Club Will Start Again on February 2019

The Harris Running Club will be taking a winter break but will start back up in February 2019. We will be meeting every Tuesday and Wednesday immediately after school until 4:30pm. This is a great way to get exercise and make new friends. No experience needed, just the desire to be outside and stretch those legs. Awards are given for miles that are run. More details to follow.

Morning PE Program - Tuesdays and some Wednesdays, 8-8:45 a.m.!

We are continuing the morning PE program as we move into winter. We have had a solid group of 30 or more students every Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. **The weather is getting cooler so please remember to send your student with warm clothing and hat.** Please encourage your kids to give it a try, it is a fantastic way to start the day and there is no sign up necessary. Just drop them off **no earlier than 8:00 a.m.** and let the fun and healthy exercise begin! Feel free to text/call 970-566-7887 with questions or confirm if there is morning PE on a specific day due to weather.



***There will be no morning PE on the following dates (other dates might be added throughout the year)**

1st Semester

Wednesday, December 5, 2018	
Wednesday, December 12, 2018	Wednesday, December 19, 2018

2nd Semester

January 9,16,23, 2019	February 6, 13, 20, 2019
March 6, 13, 27, 2019	April 3, 10, 17, 2019
May 1, 8, 2019	

***Wednesday, May 8, 2019 Will be the LAST DAY OF MORNING PE & RUNNING CLUB.**

News from the Health Office

With the arrival of December, winter is officially here! Students still go outside at recess, even when the temperature dips down, so please be sure your child is appropriately dressed. **Hats, coats, and mittens should be worn, as well as boots when there is snow, for outside playtime.** The school is kept at a reasonable temperature, but not warm enough for shorts and sandals!



During winter kids are more prone to colds and flu. Some guidelines for when to keep your child at home are found on the Poudre School District website. A few things to keep in mind:

- If the child has a temperature of 100° F (37.8° C), or higher, she should be kept home until the temp is normal for 24 hours without the help of fever reducing medicine.
- If a child is vomiting in the night or in the morning before school, he should be kept home.
- If the child has diarrhea, they should be kept home.
- Any sore throat, accompanied by swollen glands, hoarse voice, or white spots in their throat.
- A cough, large amounts of nasal discharge, or sneezing.
- If your child looks pale, tired, or seems too sick to be able to concentrate in school.

Remember, **if your child is sick in school, it will be difficult for them to concentrate and learn.** They may also spread their cold or cough to the rest of the class. We will send children home from school if they have a temperature, are vomiting, or have a bad cough, cold, or sore throat. Please check the District website for more information about when to keep your sick child home.

Have a fun-filled, healthy December!

News from the Parent Teacher Organization

The Harris Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) supports the students of Harris Bilingual Immersion School through community building, fundraising, and financial and volunteer assistance.



PTO Meetings

Next PTO Meeting will be Thursday, December 13, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

All parents are invited to the next PTO meeting. **Pizza and childcare will be provided.**

Upcoming dates:

PTO Meetings Schedule – Thursdays, 6:00-7:00 p.m.	
January 10, 2019	February 7, 2019

Harris Holiday Gift Basket Program



The Harris PTO is once again creating Holiday Gift Baskets for our families in need. The baskets will include toiletries (instead of food) and gifts for family members.

Our Giving Tree is set up in the school entrance hall. Parents (and other adults) may choose a tag from the tree, which shows gender, age, and possible gift items. Sign out the tag. There is a binder with directions on how to check out a tag located near the tree.

Bring the wrapped gifts, with tag attached, to the school office any time before Dec 7th.

Toiletry collection boxes will be in each classroom. Please bring in toiletry items before Dec 10th. Thank you for supporting our families in need!



Volunteer for the Gift Preparation Party on December 10th right after school. We need help from Harris parents to organize the gifts and assemble the baskets. Students accompanied by an adult are welcome to help put together baskets.

We hope you will participate in this year's Holiday Gift Basket project. For more information or to volunteer sign-up at <https://www.myschoolanywhere.com/directory-volunteer.a5w>, or, contact **Jeanette Diaz-Bozek** at rjbozek@comcast.net or **970-218-1160**.

KEY DATES

Dec. 7: Deadline to return wrapped gifts or food to Harris
Dec. 10: Assemble gift baskets at Harris

This year we will be collecting gently used (clean and un-torn) snow pants, waterproof gloves, and snow boots for children within our school community. Please bring these items to school and place in the marked box in the lobby area now until Christmas break (Dec 20th). If you are in need of any of these items, please contact our family liaison, Mari Lu Velez at 970-889-3791 or at mvelez@psdschools.org.

Harris Teacher & Staff Appreciation

We have the best teachers and staff at our school and this year we have decided to show our appreciation all year long! Each class helps one month during the year to bring lunch and breakfast to show how much we love our teachers and staff. The 2nd grade families helped in November. In December 3rd grade families will bring in a dish for our teachers and staff. If you can help and wish to bring in a side, entree, drink or disposable plates/silverware, please call or email Martha Sarmiento at (970) 402-7217 or at martha_sar@yahoo.com

Date	Activities for Teachers	Class
November 13, 2018	Breakfast and lunch	Thanks to 2 nd Grade!
December 12, 2018	Breakfast and lunch	3rd Grade Parents/Guardians bring in a dish to share!

Fall Festival

We had a wonderful turnout for the second annual Fall Festival on November 9th. We enjoyed chili, cornbread and dessert along with s'mores by the firepits while playing outside. Thanks to all our volunteers and staff for making this happen especially our Wellness Team: Karin Wangberg-Rogers, Brenna Brooks-Larson, Mary Lou Devlin, Josh Gomez, Sarah Fonte

Scholarships Available!

Did you know that the Harris PTO offers \$25 scholarships for extracurricular activities? For more information and to apply please see the front office or contact Irma Gonzales at ijcas88@gmail.com or (970) 689-0762.

Friendship Dinner & Dance/Book Fair kick-off in February 2019!

Save the Date for Friday, Feb 1, Friendship Dinner & Dance and Book Fair kickoff.

Other ways to help Harris when you do your holiday shopping:

King Soopers Reloadable Gift



Cards

To use the KING SOOPERS Reloadable Gift Cards is an easy way to support Harris without spending extra money! Here is how it works:

- Buy a gift card from PTO for \$5. This card is pre-loaded with \$5 on it.
- Stop by the customer service desk at your local King Soopers before you do your shopping.
- Load your card with any amount up to \$500, using your normal payment method (cash, check, credit, or debit card).
- Use your card when you do your shopping. Reload whenever you needed to.



Shoparoo is an app that allows you to take pictures of your receipts to earn money for Harris. The smart phone app is available at Google Play or the App Store. Download Shoparoo and sign up for Harris with code YAT24804.

Box Tops



Look for Box Top coupons on hundreds of products. Clip them and send them in with your child.

Morning Fresh Dairy Bottle Caps



Morning Fresh Dairy contributes \$.05 for every bottle cap with their logo on it. Collect them and send them in with your child.

NOTE: When a class' collection of box tops and bottle caps reaches 125, students receive an extra 15 minutes of recess or free time.

Sign up for PTO eNews!

Get timely information, news, and events about the Harris community via email. If you haven't been receiving our eNews, please sign up: <http://eepurl.com/M4MLz>

Important Dates to Remember

December 7, 2017	Deadline to return wrapped gifts or food to Harris	
December 10, 2018	Assembly of Harris Holiday Gift Baskets	4:00-6:00 p.m.
December 10, 2018	SAC meeting	8:00-8:45 a.m.
December 12, 2018	Winter Music Program rehearsal for students only	3:00-3:45 p.m.
December 12, 2018	Breakfast/Lunch for teachers & staff (3 rd grade parents)	
December 13, 2018	K-2nd grade Winter Music Program – Harris Gymnasium at	9:15 a.m.
December 13, 2018	PTO Meeting–Pizza and childcare provided	6:00-7:00 p.m.
December 14, 2018	Rollerland	4:00-7:00 p.m.
December 19, 2018	Annual Holiday Sing Along	9:15-10:00 a.m.
Dec. 21, 2018-Jan. 6, 2019	Winter Break	No school

Looking Ahead

January 2, 2019	Winter Break Ski Trip for -5 th grade.	
January 7, 2019	School starts after winter break	
January 9, 2019	Harris Informational night for English speaking parents	5:30 p.m.
January 10, 2019	Harris Informational night for Spanish speaking parents	5:30 p.m.
January 10, 2019	PTO meeting. Pizza and child care provided	6:00-7:00 p.m.
January 11, 2019	AR assembly. Folkloric Dance performance	9:15-10:15 a.m.
January 14, 2019	PSD after 3:00 program begins	
January 16, 17, 2019	Student guided tours of Harris	9:00-11:00 a.m.
January 17, 2019	Register at neighborhood school	
January 18, 2019	School Choice Application Deadline – Elementary Schools	Noon
	School Choice Application Deadline –Secondary School (6 th -12 th)	Noon
January 21, 2019	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	No School
January 22, 2019	Lock Down Drill	
January 22-25, 2019	SOC lottery results are emailed	
January 31, 2019	“Triunfo” –CSU After School Program begins again	