



# R5 High School Phoenix Gazette

Hello R5 Community,

We look forward to the month of November in sharing gratitude and Thanksgiving with all of you. We are very thankful for the amazing learners we get to work with each day and your partnership as a community to provide the very best for them. R5 High School is a place of love and giving. As always, we are offering Thanksgiving meals to those who need the extra support this year. Please see additional information in this newsletter for how to sign up if you are interested and want to enjoy a special time with friends and family. We are here to help and hope you reach out if you need it. Also a friendly reminder about the Thanksgiving Break from November 20th-24th where school is not in session. School will resume on Monday, November 27th as we work to finish out the second quarter.

The second quarter is off to a wonderful start at R5 High School and learners are engaging in amazing experiences through creative projects. This quarter we are proud to be offering projects that encompass the Science of Science Fiction, the History of the 1960's in the United States, a CEO Experience, the Chemistry of Toxins, learning about Africa, and even an exploration of Zombies through a Science, Math, and Literacy lens. The culture of learning and engagement continues to grow in great ways as learners are engaged in real-world learning and being empowered to make decisions about their paths to successful futures.

We appreciate all of you who were able to come by for our Fall Festival and enjoy the good food and games offered. It is always great to see our community come together and share in fun times. As we approach the holiday season, we continue to seek deep connections with all learners to support them throughout the season. We know that not all of our learners have love and giving in their lives so we seek to help them experience it with us. If you would like to be involved or would like to help in any way, please let us know. We once again thank you for your support and appreciate the teamwork to help our learners reach their full potential. I wish each and every one of you the happiest of Thanksgivings and hope you have much to be thankful for in your lives.



## WHAT IS THE DISTRICT 51 FOUNDATION?

The D51 Foundation (D51F) raises money to support our local schools, prioritizing funding for professional learning, technology and innovation, and staff and student wellness. Our mission is to raise funds for academic growth and achievement while promoting outreach to benefit kids and our community.

[WWW.D51FOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.D51FOUNDATION.ORG)

# Happy Thanksgiving!

The holiday season is fast approaching and, for some, can be a stressful time. In the spirit of giving, we would like to provide a Thanksgiving meal for those who might be struggling to provide for themselves and their families.

If you feel that you could use a boxed Thanksgiving meal that you can pick up from the school and prepare at home, we can help provide that to you. Please contact our counseling office to let us know if you could use this assistance. We will do our best to meet the needs of as many families as we can during the holiday.

Please call (970) 254-6880 as soon as possible so we can begin planning. We might not be able to meet all of your needs but will do our best to help out as many as we can.

\*If you would like to participate in helping to make Thanksgiving a special day for those in need, please contact the front office at 970-254-6880 to let us know how you would like to contribute!



## STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Mrs. Denae Nesbit *English, Language Arts*

Mrs. Nesbit prefers books to movies and biking to driving. She is afraid of bees and bad grammar. This is her 10th year at R5. She likes pasta, pizza, homemade bread, apples, peaches, chai tea, and whipped cream.

Outside of school, you'll probably find her at church, on a walk with her one-year-old daughter, or playing board games with her husband.

**FALL BREAK IS ALMOST HERE!**  
November 20th - November 24th



## R-5/EUREKA OUTDOOR PROGRAM

**Schedule**

Mon: 10:00pm - 11:00pm  
 Tues: 11:00pm - 12:00pm  
 Wed: 10:00pm - 11:00pm  
 Thurs: 10:00pm - 11:00pm  
 Quarterly weekend trips & overnights

**What to Expect Fall 2023**

- Outdoor Adventures
- Science, Art, & History
- Local Adventures
- Culinary Skills
- Credit Recovery
- Career Exploration

Rock Climbing  
 Hiking  
 Cooking  
 Exploring  
 Growing  
 Community!








CSU Kipling  
 Grip Bouldering Gym  
 Rifle Fall Gaves



## EUREKA! & R-5 Program Calendar Quarter 2

Regular Program Day: Mon & Wed 1pm-3:15pm, Tues 1pm-4:15pm, Thurs 1pm-5:15pm  
 Special Event - see notes No School No Program

### OCTOBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	NOTES:
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Oct 12 No School
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Oct 13 No School
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Oct 15-16 Days 1/2 Expedition -Oct 16 Sunday to Monday
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	17-19 No Programming, but still school
29	30	31					

### NOVEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	NOTES:
			1	2	3	4	Nov 12 Habb Adventure Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Nov 13-15 No Programming, but still school
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Nov 16 Student Showcase & Family Event 10:30 - 3:00 PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30			Nov 20-24 No School, Thanksgiving Break

### DECEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	NOTES:
						1	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Dec 22-Jan 1 No School - Winter Break
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Regular Program Schedule: Mon: 1:00pm - 3:15pm Tues: 1:00pm - 4:15pm Wed: 1:00pm - 3:15pm Thurs: 1:00pm - 5:15pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

## STAFF HIGHLIGHT

### Mr. Justo Headlee *Science*

I graduated from Texas A&M. This will be my twelfth year teaching science. I am a huge science nerd. My fascination with science ranges from the pioneers of science, to science future and science fiction. I'm an avid reader and read a wide variety of topics. I enjoy sports although I do not participate in them anymore. I also enjoy music, and have seen over 100 bands in concert. I have a fairly significant sock collection that ranges across a variety of topics and interests. I have a pair of socks for every day of October (I am a huge Halloween person) and one for every day of December.



## PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE QUARTERLY MEETINGS

CONNECT \* DISCUSS \* REFLECT  
11:30AM - 12:30PM

SEPTEMBER 7TH ~ NOVEMBER 2ND ~ FEBRUARY 8TH ~ APRIL 4TH

PLEASE EMAIL LINDSEY CHITWOOD AT LINDSEY.CHITWOOD@DS1SCHOOLS.ORG, IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING



## Thank You!

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Friends of Youth and Nature for the recent grant award that was provided to R5 High School for an all-expenses-paid field trip to Studt's Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze!

Between the pumpkin patch, the petting zoo, the corn maze, the animal barrel train, and so much more, we had a great time watching our learners become kids again and make great memories together!



Friends of Youth and Nature



## STAFF HIGHLIGHT

### Mrs. Sutton Casey *English, Language Arts*

"I am thrilled to be teaching at R-5 this year. I was raised in Grand Junction and attended Fruita Monument High School. After graduating from FMHS, I attended Mesa College and earned a BA in English and earned a MAT in Humanities from Colorado College. I began my teaching career at Central High School in 1987 where I taught English and directed the theater program. I transferred to FMHS and worked there from 1990-1994 teaching English and directing theater. In 1994, I transferred to Grand Junction High School. I taught English and Music Theater and was the Orange and Black adviser until 2018. In 2018, my husband and I moved to Galena, Alaska which is a small village on the Yukon River in interior Alaska.

I taught English and was the theater director, Drama, Debate and Forensics coach, Jr/Sr class adviser, National Honor Society Adviser and the Educators Rising adviser. In 2023, we moved back to Grand Junction in order to spend time with our six wonderful grand children and their parents. We have four grown sons and three terrific daughters-in-law. When I'm not teaching, I love to travel. I've been all over the world and have loved seeing many iconic places and learning about people and culture. In my spare time, I sew, crochet, read, hang out with my grand children and play with my new puppy, Pearle."



If you need help outside of regular school hours and this is a crisis situation, please use one of the following resources:

- Call 9-1-1 Emergency Line
- Safe2Tell - call 1-877-542-SAFE to submit an anonymous report to law enforcement and school administration
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline @ 988lifeline.org or call 1-800-273-TALK
- Colorado Crisis: 1-844-493-8255 or Text: 38255





## Thank You FOR YOUR DONATION

R-5 would like to thank all who donated towards our fishing club, allowing our students to experience the outdoors and learn about patience, self sufficiency, conservation, reflection, and grounding:

Chris Swedhin & Emily Duethman  
Sean Jones  
Amanda Hoffner  
Kylan Vice  
Mike Graham  
Melissa Menendez



R5 High School 23-24 Q2 Bell Schedule	
MONDAY-THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST	
8:00 - 10:00 BLOCK 1 Period 1-2	8:00 - 10:00 Graduation Proficiency Intensive
10:00 - 10:30 ADVISORY Period 3	report to advisory 3rd period on your schedule
10:30 - 12:30 BLOCK 2 Period 4-5	10:30 - 12:30 R5 CLUBS Period 8
12:30 - 1:00 LUNCH	
1:00 - 2:45 BLOCK 3 Periods 6-7 Secondary Placement	PHOENIX FRIDAY (No Classes)

## Save the Dates!

- December 21st - Last Day of Second Quarter
- December 22nd - January 5th - Winter Break
- January 8th - Teacher Work Day (no school)
- January 9th - In-Service Day (no school)
- January 10th - Beginning of Third Quarter
- January 15th - Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no school)
- February 19th - Presidents Day (no school)
- February 22nd - Student Showcases

OUR STAFF IS COMMITTED EACH AND EVERY DAY TO THEIR WORK, OUR MISSION: R5 USES RESTORATIVE PRACTICES AND PROJECT-BASED LEARNING TO SUPPORT LEARNERS IN BECOMING THRIVING CITIZENS. R5 IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING ALL LEARNERS WILL DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS, CULTURAL AND SELF-AWARENESS, AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP THROUGH AN INDIVIDUALIZED WHOLE-PERSON APPROACH, COMMANDING HIGH EXPECTATIONS AND PROVIDING MASTERY LEARNING WITH A COMPASSIONATE, RESPONSIVE, AND COLLABORATIVE ENVIRONMENT. . . .TO GUARANTEE THAT 100% OF OUR GRADUATES WILL BE POST-SECONDARY READY.