



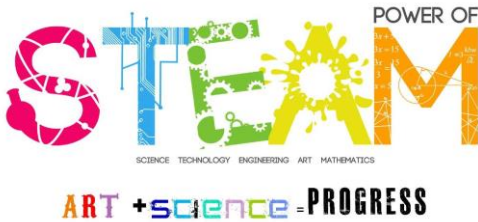
PONDEROSA
ELEMENTARY

Chad Gerity
Principal

Sarah Polzin
Assistant Principal



Home of the Panthers! November Newsletter



Dates to Remember...

November 2- PTCO
Meeting @Ponderosa
5:30pm-6:30pm

November 3- No School

November 8- Parent's
Council Meeting
@Freemont 9:00am-
11:00am

November 9- Studio 5 Re-
Take Pictures @ Ponderosa
8:00am-11:00am

November 13- Board of
Education Meeting
@Horizon Middle School
7:00pm-9:00pm

From Mr. Gerity and Mrs. Polzin

Greetings Parents and Family Members,

This past weekend sure ushered in the winter weather in rapid fashion! I'm not sure how ready we all were for such a significant shift in temperature and moisture from the sky. I guess it's another reminder of how deep we really are into the school year. Believe it or not, this is our twelfth week of school... that's right 12 weeks! With that said, I have to share that I am incredibly impressed with the success of our students thus far this year.

As I mentioned above, we have arrived at a significant benchmark of the 2023/ 24 school year. We have officially completed one third of the time at school this year. Report cards have been issued to parents and parent/ teacher conferences begin this Friday and carry over into the week of November 5th. This is a special time of year. A point in time when families and school staff come together to connect, discuss progress, and set goals. Parents, be sure to schedule a conference with your child's teacher. This is your opportunity to become more informed and to ask questions. Your child's success at school is magnified when we partner together as a team.

The Friday before Fall Break we hosted our initial PRIDE Assembly of the school year. For those of you new to Ponderosa, PRIDE is our one school rule and each letter represents a behavioral value that we hope to teach, encourage, and cultivate in all students here at school. P is for Perseverance, R is for Responsibility, I is for Integrity, D is for Dedication and E is for Empathy. Our entire staff works together to teach, model and develop the values represented in PRIDE. Three times a year, we host an assembly that provides time and space for students who consistently demonstrate behaviors that align with these values to be celebrated. Our initial assembly was a phenomenal success. We will look forward to the second assembly which will happen in February at the conclusion of the second trimester.

Dates to Remember...

November 14- PTCO
Meeting @Ponderosa
5:00pm-6:00pm

November 15- District
P.A.S.S Meeting @Overland
High School 6:00pm-
7:30pm

November 16- P.A.S.S
Meeting @Ponderosa
@5:00pm-6:00pm

November 22-24 – NO
SCHOOL. Thanksgiving
Break

From Mr. Gerity and Mrs. Polzin

To end this month's newsletter, I want to address an important topic – attendance. With the passing of the 1st trimester of school and recognizing that the winter months typically coincide with colds and various illnesses such as COVID and the flu, I wanted to address attendance expectations at Ponderosa to ensure students are present for learning to the greatest extent possible. Attendance continues to be a substantial focus of ours during the 2023/2024 school year. If our kids are to be academically successful we need them here at school, in class and on time. Please be advised school begins at 8:00 am and ends at 2:45 pm (1:45 pm on Wednesdays).

The best rule of thumb is to have students arrive between 7:45 am and 7:55 am. This ensures that students are in seats, ready to learn at 8:00 am. Attendance at school for children aged 5 – 18 is compulsory, meaning it is the law that they attend school. We are required to enforce this expectation by keeping track of absences, tardiness and early dismissals (leaving school prior to dismissal). By state law children, should not miss more than 10% of any given school year. This percentage accounts for absences, tardiness, and early dismissals combined. I want to make sure families are aware we will be carefully monitoring attendance as we continue through this school year and following up with families when we notice attendance is an area of concern for any particular child. Please work with us to have your child here at school when healthy enough to attend school. If there is ever a question of health and whether to send your child to school, please know we can have our school nurse

assess their health and help parents make an informed decision. The best rule of thumb is to keep students home when they have a combination of symptoms. The most common grouping of symptoms are vomiting and a fever or diarrhea and a fever. In these instances, please keep your child at home until the fever passes without the assistance of fever reducing medication. When your child is showing symptoms of a cold, they can still come to school. We truly want our students to excel in their academics and feel confident in their connection with fellow classmates, staff and the school. The most reliable way we can ensure this is to have students here at school. Let's work together to make this happen.

Parents, the first trimester of school moved very quickly. It's hard to believe so much time has passed already. I am so proud of our students and staff. So many incredible accomplishments have taken place already. I look forward to a productive, successful, and fulfilled second trimester of school. Thank you for your continued participation and support.

Sincerely,

Mr. Gerity

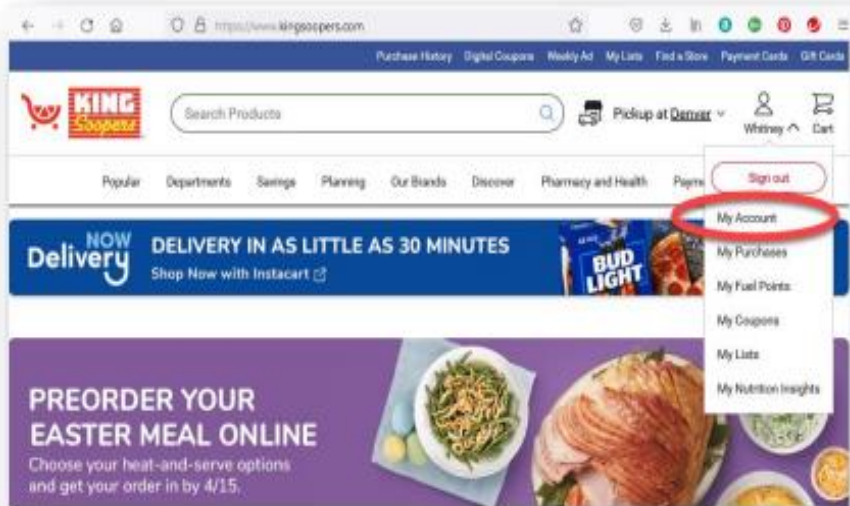
Principal – Ponderosa Elementary

Help Us Fundraise While You Grocery Shop

Start at [kingsoopers.com](https://www.kingsoopers.com) or the King Soopers app



Create or log in to your account:
(Free!)

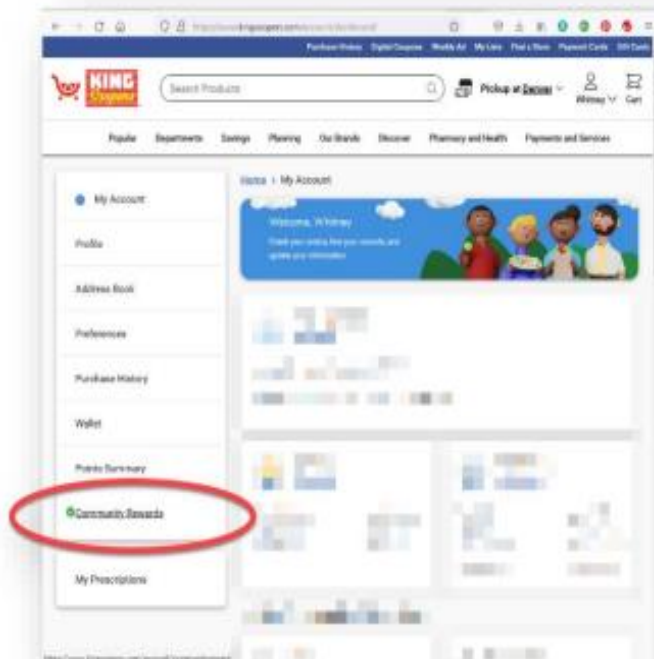


web

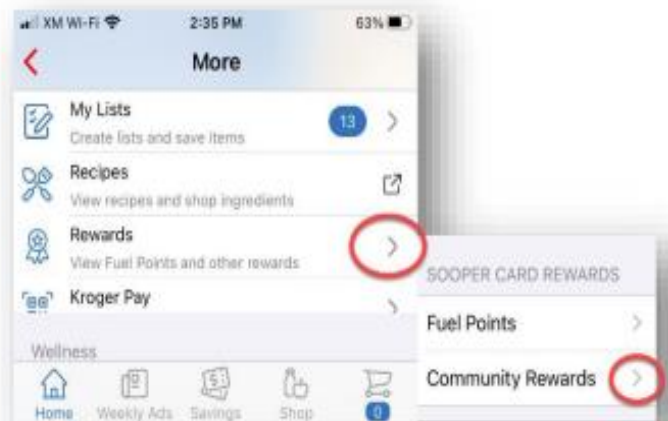


phone

Go to Community Rewards:

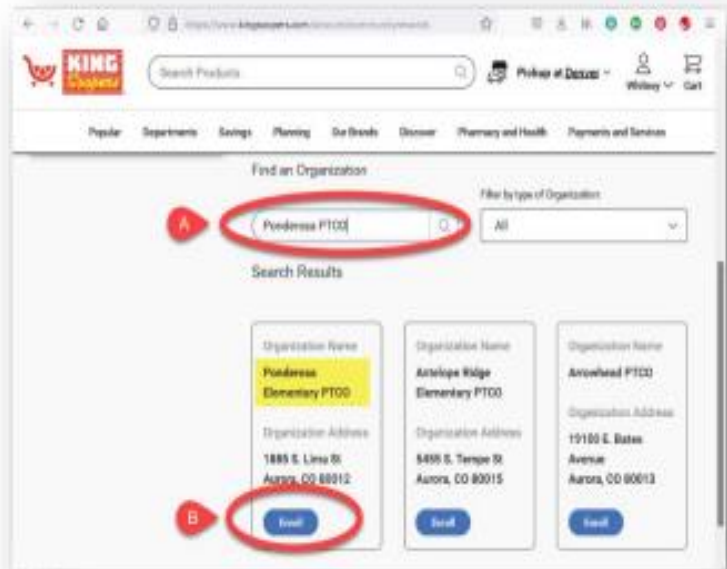


web



phone

Search for and select
Ponderosa PTCO:



That's it! Shop and earn rewards for Ponderosa at NO COST TO YOU.

Thanks for your support!

PICTURE DAY IS COMING!
SE ACERCA EL DIA DE LA FOTO

Ponderosa Elementary School

Retakes: Thursday, November 09, 2023

"IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE CHILDHOOD WAVES GOODBYE"

ORDER YOUR PHOTOS TODAY

PIDE TUS FOTOS HOY

CLICK HERE

OR VISIT

haga clic aquí
o visite

STUDIO5PORTRAITS.PREORDERPHOTOS.COM

ORDER UP TO 3 DAYS AFTER PICTURE DAY

*PEDIDO HASTA 3 DÍAS DESPUÉS DEL DÍA
DE LA FOTO*

ACCESS CODE:

F49WX3



N. Front Range:
(970)674-0520

Website:
STUDIO5CO.PRO

Denver Metro:
(303)550-4456