The Wildcat

May 25, 2022

Have a Happy Summer!

Amanda Thanos

PRINCIPAL

Dear Westridge Community,

It is with excitement and gratitude that I write to introduce myself as principal of Westridge Elementary!

My name is Amanda Thanos, and I'm eager to know you all! I'm currently an assistant principal in Littleton Public Schools and because of a school consolidation process, I found myself seeking home in a new community. Luckily, that led me to Westridge! I've had four years of experience in school leadership. Before my position as assistant principal, I was an instructional coach. Those two experiences have uniquely prepared me to be principal at Westridge. Being a coach helped shape my strong value for causing student learning and being an assistant principal developed an identity as someone who gets to the heart of every child in order to help them unlock their greatest potential. I believe in empowering our students' important adults to help them reach great heights. At Westridge, I know I'll be in good company with individuals who care deeply about the heart and success of our students.

Being a teacher helped shape who I am as a leader greatly! I taught English language development, grades 3-6 at a STEM school, and fifth grade with the gifted and talented cohort as part of my class. One of my favorite experiences was using project based learning to incorporate real-world problem solving and presentation skills with the standards for the grade I was teaching at the time. Ask me about the first project vs. the last project--the difference is stark and I look back fondly at how much I grew with my team at the time! That growth mindset is something important to Westridge and I know we'll continue to foster it for our students.

I am from Nebraska originally, but have lived in Colorado since I started high school. I attended Pomona High School here in Jeffco. My husband and I met while teaching together and now he is a principal as well. He's at Chatfield High School. We added mom and dad to our resume recently! Baby Mark is our awesome son and we're having so much fun!

While I hope to share more about who I am personally and professionally, I also want to get to know YOU! I'll be in touch about opportunities for us to gather and discuss your hopes and dreams for our students and school. For now, enjoy that sweet, sweet summertime making memories with your families! I'm looking forward to being a Wildcat!

Truly, I can't wait to get to know you!
Amanda Thanos

2022 – 2023 Westridge Elementary School Calendar

Teachers Report	August 10
First Day of School	August 16
Kindergarten Orientation	August 16 & 17
First Day of School for Kindergarten	August 18
Modified Contact Day (Student Assessment Day)	August 29
Modified Contact Day (Student Assessment Day)	September 2
No School – Labor Day	September 5
No School - Teacher Work Day	September 23
Conferences, regular school day (conf. 3:15 – 8:00)	October 17
Conferences regular school day (conf. 3:15 – 8:00)	October 19
No School - Teacher Work Day	October 20
No School - Fall Break	October 21
End of 1st Trimester	November 11
Report Card Distribution	November 18
No School - Thanksgiving Holiday	November 21 –25
No School - Winter Break	December 21 – January 4
No School –Teacher Work Day	January 4
Students Return	January 5
No School – Martin Luther King Day	January 16
No School - Teacher Work Day	February 17
No School – Presidents' Day	February 20
End of 2nd Trimester	February 28
Report Card Distribution	March 10
Conferences, regular school day (conf. 3:15 – 8:00)	March 14
Conferences, regular school day (conf. 3:15 – 8:00)	March 16
No School – Spring Break	March 20 – March 24
Modified Contact Day (Student Assessment Day)	April 24
Modified Contact Day (Student Assessment Day)	April 27
No School - Teacher Work Day	April 28
End of 3rd Trimester	May 26
Last Day for Students / Report Cards (12:30 dismissal)	May 26
Last Teacher Work Day	May 30

B	I	N	G	O
Visit a museum or a local cultural exhibit and write about your favorite part in 100 words	Read a book about the history of automobiles, car racing or any kind of race track	Read a book that was published the year you were born	Do research on some type of motorsports and make a one-page report with at least 100 words and two photos	Create a word search puzzle finding at least 10 words
Read a non-fiction book	Research the different kinds of poems and then write one (any kind)	Go to madlibs.com/printables and do two Madlibs	Read a book that someone else chooses for you	Read a book that won a Schneider Family Book Award
Prepare a recipe that has at least five ingredients	Ask a librarian to suggest a book for you based on your interests and read it	Donate some of your used books to a shelter or to your local library	Plan a fictional three-day trip that includes attractions, restaurants and other fun places to visit	Read to someone for at least 30 minutes (in 10-minute
Read a book that won a Caldecott Award	Write a letter to someone you know. Put it in an envelope, address it to them, and mail it	Read a car magazine, ie. Hot Rod, National Dragster, Car and Driver, Road and Track, Motor Trend, etc.	Get your own card to the public library and check out a book with it	Keep a daily personal journal for at lease three weeks
Interview a parent or grandparent about their childhood (ask at least 8 questions)	Read a biography or a memoir	Attend a theatre production and write a 100-word review	Read a book written by a local author	Read a book that won a Newbery Award

This is how I completed my "Race to Read"® BINGO sheet!

Provide a brief description for each square completed.
Attach any back-up (if required) to this sheet before returning to Bandimere Speedway.

Square #1 -

Square #2 -

Square #3 -

Square #4 -

Square #5 -

Please mail my ticket (good for reader and one adult) to the Mayhem on the Mountain event on either August 26 or 27 to: (please print clearly)

Student Name_____

　　　　　Age_____ Grade_____

Address_____

City/State/Zip_____

Email or Phone_____

School You Attend:_____