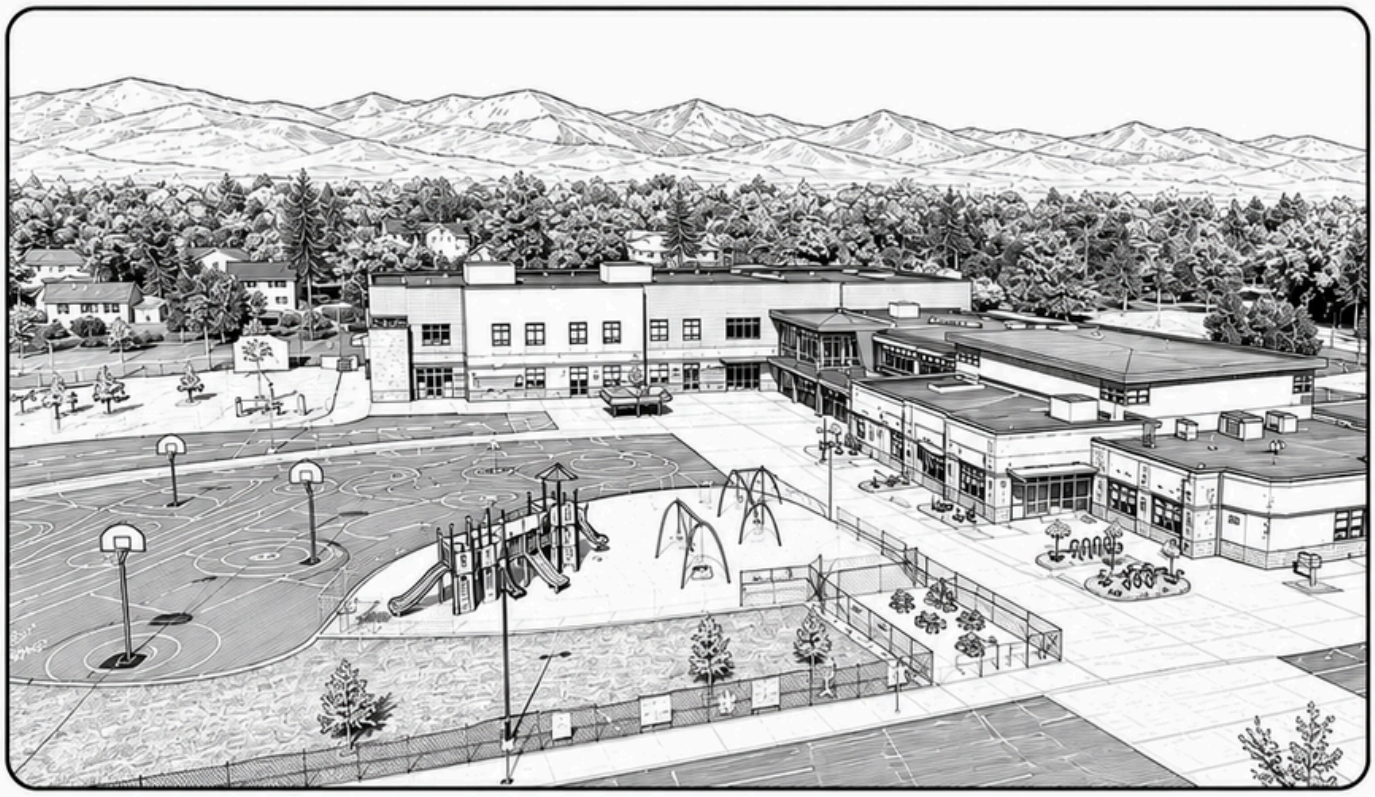
SIERRA 101

A FAMILY'S GUIDE

2026-2027



Brought to you by the Sierra PTA

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Welcome

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year at Sierra Elementary!

We are so excited you are a part of this amazing community. The following pages give an overview and an inside look at what you need to know for this upcoming school year. We hope this helps you navigate the first few weeks of school and beyond.

Cheers to a great year, Sierra Sabertooths!

Ways to Stay Informed

SIERRA SCOOP NEWSLETTER

The weekly newsletter is emailed every Friday afternoon to all parents and families. If you don't receive it, please contact the front office. It's important to read, as it includes upcoming events, principal reminders, PTA news, and volunteer opportunities – all in one place.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY MEETINGS

The Sierra Family and Community Council is Sierra's name for the school accountability committee. They hold quarterly meetings to update the school community and gather feedback on priorities. Topics include the budget, new curriculum, CMAS results, and more. The committee is always seeking new members. Contact Principal Foerster for details: tennille.foerster@jeffco.k12.co.us

FRIDAY FOLDERS

Friday Folders are the main source for updates from your child's teacher, flyers about events or clubs, recent student work, assessments, and other info like school pictures. The folder will come home in your child's backpack – please check it and return anything due by Monday!

PTA FACEBOOK GROUP

The Sierra PTA Facebook group is a great place to get PTA updates, ask questions, and more. This group is open to all members of the Sierra Community, not just PTA members. https://www.facebook.com/groups/sierrapta

School Hours

K-5th Grades:

- Soft start 7:35 - 7:45 am
- School day 7:45 am - 2:35 pm

Pre-K:

- AM Class: 8:00 - 11:00 am
- PM Class: 11:45 am - 2:45 pm
- Full Day: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm

Office:

7:00 am - 3:15 pm

Note: There is no adult supervision outside before 7:35 am - including at the crosswalk - so children should not be dropped off before 7:35 am. Children may not play on playground equipment without adult supervision.

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast:

K-5th 7:20 - 7:35 am

Pre-K 7:20 - 7:55 am

Lunch Times:

Pre-K: 11:20 - 11:50 am

Kindergarten: 10:45 - 11:05 am

1st Grade: 11:10 - 11:30 am

2nd Grade: 11:30 - 11:50 am

3rd Grade: 11:55 am - 12:15 pm

4th Grade: 12:15 - 12:35 pm

5th Grade: 12:40 - 1:00 pm

Breakfast Information:

Sierra offers free, optional breakfast in the cafeteria. To participate, see grade level instructions below. If adults choose to eat breakfast with students, they must sign in upon entering the cafeteria.

Students in K-5th grades

- Breakfast hours 7:20-7:35 am
- Please do not drop students off or come before 7:20 as there is no adult supervision outside.
- At 7:20, go to the exterior cafeteria doors (Kindergarten entrance). Students will enter the cafeteria on their own, go immediately to the service line to retrieve their meal, and sit at a table to eat. Supervision will be provided.
- Students will be dismissed to their classrooms at 7:35 am (once their spots are clean).

Students in Pre-K

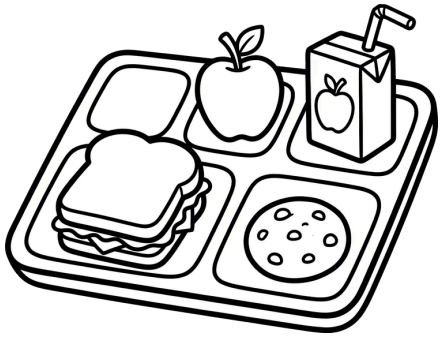
- Breakfast hours 7:20-7:55 am
- Pre-K students must be accompanied by an adult/family member who will remain with them during breakfast.
- At 7:55, adults and students will exit the cafeteria and go outside to their arrival door to sign students in for the day.

Joining your child for lunch:

Families are welcome to join students for lunch. This can be a special way to celebrate your child's birthday or just a random Tuesday. Adults must first sign in at the Front Office via Raptor (with a driver's license, government ID, or using the Raptor app).

Parents can bring a special meal for their child, but please do not share any food with other students (for a variety of reasons).

For safety reasons, families cannot join students during recess.



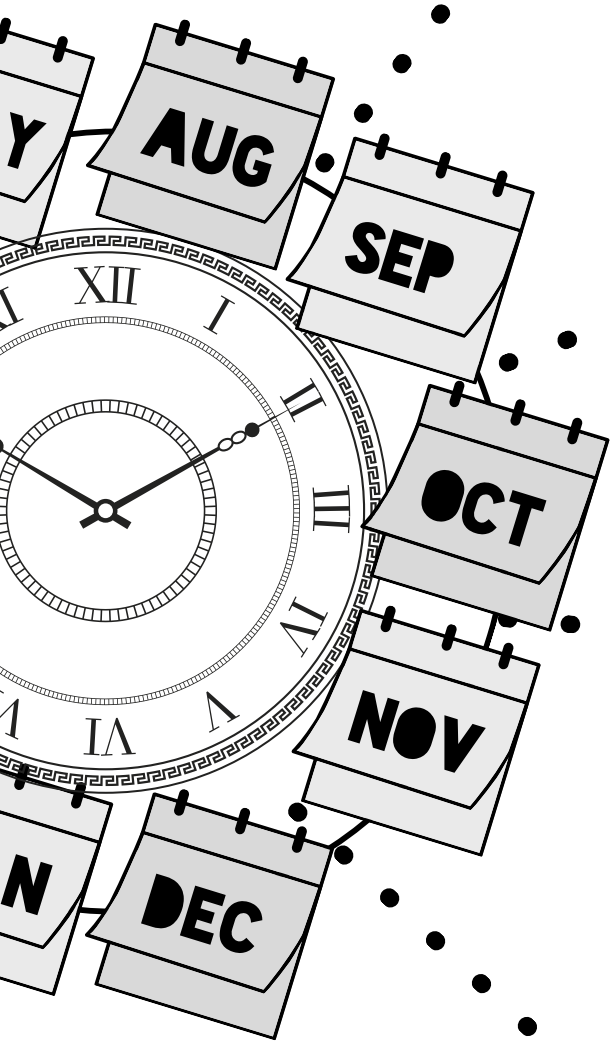
NO SCHOOL DAYS 26-27

8/28 8/31	Modified Contact Testing days (students only attend for 2 hours on 1 of the days) - see page 11 for more info
9/7	Labor Day
9/18	Teacher Staff Development
10/12 10/13	Fall Break
11/23 - 11/27	Thanksgiving Break
12/4	Modified Contact Testing day (students only attend for 2 hours, by appointment)
12/21 - 1/5	Winter Break
1/18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
2/12	Teacher Staff Development
2/15	Presidents' Day
3/22 - 3/26	Spring Break
3/29	Teacher Staff Development
4/26	Modified Contact Testing day (students only attend for 2 hours, by appointment)
4/30	Non-Contact Day

Fall Semester

8/17 - Teacher Meet & Greet
8/19 - First Day of School & Kinder Camp
8/27 - Back to School Night
8/28 & 8/31 - Modified Contact Testing Days

9/7 - Labor Day (No School)
9/11 - ROAR Kickoff
9/11 - Sierra Fam Jam
9/14 - PTA Meeting and School Accountability Meeting
9/18 - Teacher Staff Development (No School)
9/25 - Pirate ROAR Day



10/1 - Picture Day & October Count Day
10/4 - Strides for Sierra 5K Fundraiser
10/9 - Cartoon ROAR Day
10/9 - Literati Book Fair (also 10/14 - 10/16)
10/12 & 10/13 - Fall Break
10/14 & 10/15 - Fall Conferences & Book Fair
10/30 - Monster Mash ROAR Day
10/30 - Halloween Parade & Class Parties

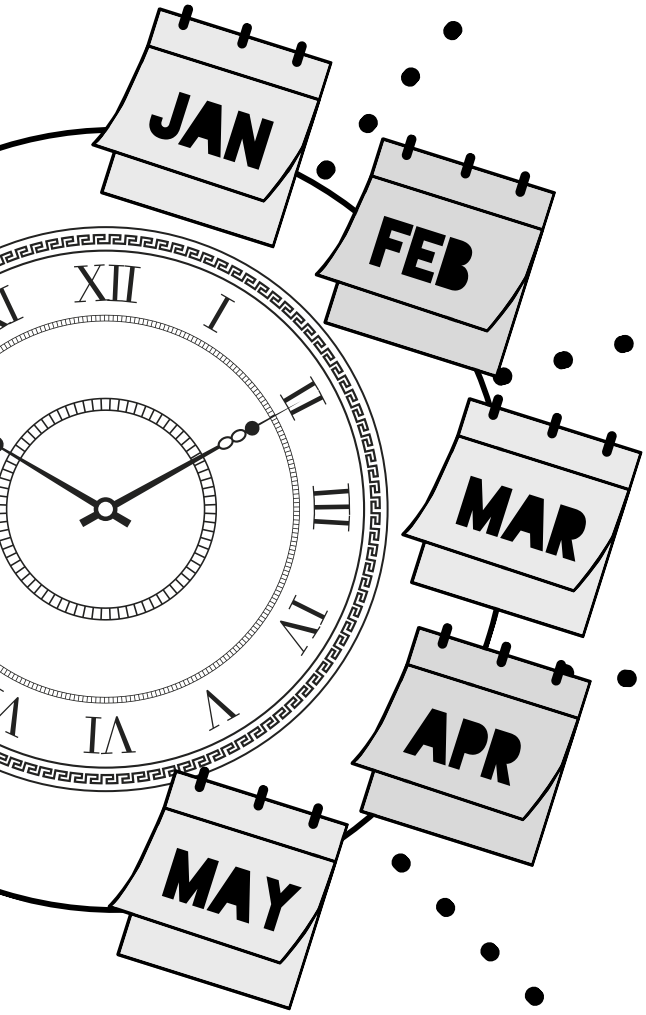
11/3 - 3rd Grade Musical
11/4 - 4th Grade Musical
11/10 - Sierra Skate Night
11/12 - Student Picture Retakes
11/12 & 11/13 - Science Fair
11/17 - PTA Meeting and School Accountability Meeting
11/20 - Candy Land ROAR Day
11/23 - 11/27 - Thanksgiving Break

12/4 - Modified Contact Testing Day
12/9 - 2nd Grade Musical
12/15 - Sierra Singers Performance
12/18 - Super Hero ROAR Day
12/21 - 1/5 - Winter Break

Note: Dates, times, and ROAR Day themes sometimes change. Please refer to the Sierra Calendar and Sierra Scoop for the latest information.

Spring Semester

11/18 - Martin Luther King Day (No School)
1/22 - Western ROAR Day
1/29 - 2/12 - Read-a-thon Fundraiser
1/29 - Read-a-thon Kick-Off Assembly
1/30 - All State Choir



2/9 - PTA Meeting and School Accountability Meeting
2/11 - Super Bowl ROAR Day
2/11 - Valentine's Class Parties
2/12 - Teacher Staff Development (No School)
2/15 - Presidents' Day (No School)
2/19 - Read-a-thon Closing Assembly
2/26 - Jump Jam ROAR Day
Staff Appreciation Week (Dates TBD)

3/1 - 3/4 - Used Book Fair
3/2 - Read Across America Day
3/4 - Spring Conferences
3/5 - Harry Potter ROAR Day
3/16 - Sierra Skate Night
3/19 - Tropical ROAR Day
3/22 - 3/26 - Spring Break
3/29 - Teacher Staff Development (No School)

4/2 - Outer Space ROAR Day
4/19 - PTA Meeting and School Accountability Meeting
4/26 - Modified Contact Day
4/29 - Art Show
4/29 - 5th Grade Musical
4/30 - Non-Contact Day (No School)
CMAS Testing (specific dates announced in March)

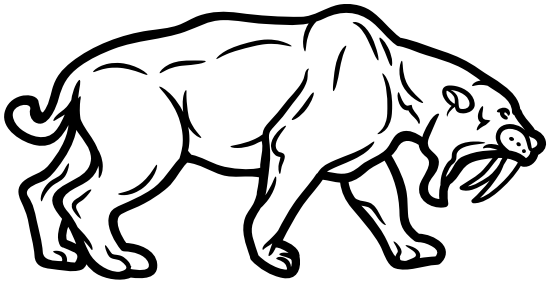
5/7 - K-5th Field Day
5/12 - Sierra Talent Show
5/14 - Video Game ROAR Day
5/26 - Greatest Hits ROAR Day
5/26 - 5th Grade Continuation
5/27 - Kindergarten Graduation
5/27 - Last Day of School

Note: Dates, times, and ROAR Day themes sometimes change. Please refer to the Sierra Calendar and Sierra Scoop for the latest information.

ROAR Days

What is a ROAR day?

Each month, our AMP team – Art, Music, and PE – celebrates ROAR behavior with a fun event in the gym. All three classes join together for dancing, singing, games, and themed activities. Each month has a unique theme, and students are encouraged to dress accordingly.* This energetic celebration reinforces the values Sierra Sabertooths ROAR: Safe, Respectful, and Responsible.



*Important Note:

Costumes are not required. Instead, students can wear something simple like a graphic t-shirt that fits the theme. For example, on Outer Space Day, students could wear shirts with stars, planets, aliens, NASA logos, or Star Wars graphics, instead of dressing as astronauts or Darth Vader. If your child doesn't have theme-related clothing, there's no need to buy anything new. The focus is on creating joyful experiences and meaningful memories – not on what students wear.

2026-2027 ROAR Days & Themes

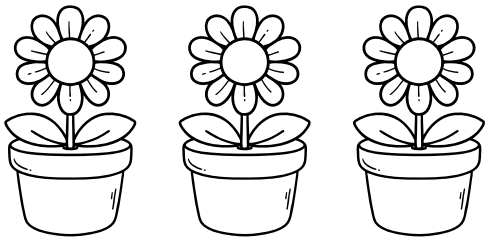
Sept. 11 (ROAR Kick-off)
Sept. 25 (Pirate)
Oct. 9 (Cartoon)
Oct. 30 (Monster Mash)
Nov. 20 (Candy Land)
Dec. 18 (Super Hero)
Jan. 22 (Western)
Feb. 11 (Super Bowl Shuffle)
Feb. 26 (Jump Rope)
Mar. 5 (Harry Potter)
Mar. 19 (Tropical)
Apr. 2 (Outer Space)
May 14 (Video Game)
May 26 (Greatest Hits)

ROAR Day themes sometimes shift. Please refer to the Sierra Calendar and Sierra Scoop for the latest information.

After School Extracurriculars

Garden Club

The Garden Club is a fun and educational after school group where students learn about plants through hands on activities. Topics such as insects, starting seeds, composting, up-cycling, and much more are explored using crafts and games. Details about 26-27 session dates and costs will be sent out in the Scoop.



Sabertooth Sprinters Running Club

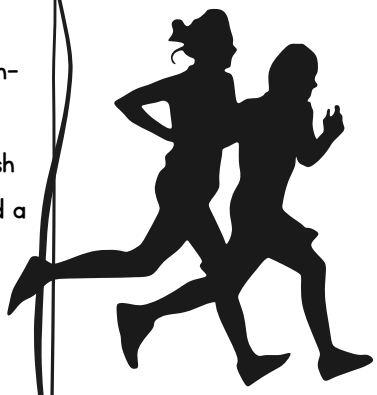
The largest club at Sierra, promoting friendship and an active, healthy lifestyle! The goal is to run 100 miles throughout the whole school year and all participants receive a charm necklace to track progress. Students, family members, and staff are all welcome! Running Club needs more volunteers for the 26-27 school year to continue as a club. Please email sabertoothsprinters@gmail.com if interested. Club details will be forthcoming dependent on volunteer response.

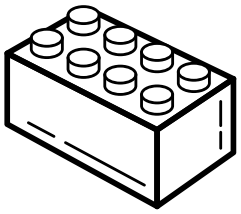
Lego Club

Grades K-1: Mondays 2:35-4:05 pm
Grades 2-5: Tuesdays 2:35-4:05 pm
Let your imagination run wild with tens of thousands of LEGO® parts! Build engineer-designed projects and use special pieces to create your own unique designs! Projects are rotated seasonally to ensure that both new and returning students can explore the endless creative possibilities of the LEGO® building system. This optional, registration-required club is presented by Play-Well TEKnologies (held at Sierra). Registration and fee information will go out in the Scoop.

Spanish Club

Spanish Club is an optional, registration-required activity to learn some basic Spanish with our fabulous guest Spanish teacher Sra. Alyssa. There is a fall and a spring session. Keep an eye out in the Sierra Scoop for registration and fee information. Spaces go quickly!





Sierra Singers Choir:

4th and 5th grade after school choir, offered during Fall Semester. Watch the Scoop and Friday Folders for full details.

GO TO THE MUSIC WEBSITE

PTA FAQs

Where do I order new spirit wear?

Orders for new Sierra Spirit Wear (t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, etc) are coordinated once a year by the Sierra Office. Ordering information is sent out in the Sierra Scoop and via email. For the 26-27 school year, the order window closes on August 23, 2026.

Can I pass on my old spirit wear?

Yes! Donate used spirit wear to the Sierra PTA's Spirit Wear ReWear program! Simply bring in *clean* spirit wear items that you'd like to pass along and drop them in the ReWear box in the office vestibule. You can also grab something new from that same box during school hours or at community events.

How do I order a Yearbook?

The PTA works with Lifetouch to create our yearbook. Copies can be ordered on their website (https://ybpay.lifetouch.com/). Use the unique school code: 11780627 for Sierra. Ordering dates and deadlines will be announced in the Sierra Scoop and Friday Folders. The order deadline is typically sometime in early April. Contact the Yearbook team with any questions - yearbook@sierraptaarvada.org.

Can I submit photos for the Yearbook?

Yes! We need your photos of first day of school, school events, etc to help make the yearbook amazing! The photo submission process is easy, simply fill out this form: https://bit.ly/Sierra-Photos-2627. We recommend submitting photos throughout the year. Please only submit photos that are school related.

ORDER A YEARBOOK

SUBMIT PHOTOS FOR YEARBOOK

PTA FAQs

Where can I find teacher wish lists?

Each year the PTA collects information from Sierra staff about their Favorite Things. This includes their favorite coffee order, places to shop, gifts they would like for their classroom, etc. Some teachers include a link to an Amazon Wishlist. It also includes items that they already have enough of and would prefer not to receive. Favorite Things lists are available on the PTA website: https://www.sierraptaarvada.org/room-parents/staff-favorites

STAFF FAVORITES

How can I support Sierra if I have limited time and resources?

Not all volunteering requires a lot of time! Some jobs don't take long, and have a big impact. Being a crossing guard only takes about 15 minutes, but increases student safety during drop-off and pick-up. Parent helpers during classroom parties are vital for a successful party. See pages 24 and 25 for more information about volunteering at Sierra and watch the Sierra Scoop for upcoming volunteer needs. There are also easy fundraisers like collecting Longmont Dairy Milk Caps or enrolling in the King Soopers Community Rewards program (https://www.kingsoopers.com/i/community/community-rewards) that raise funds for Sierra while you buy your normal groceries.

Can I donate to the PTA without participating in a fundraiser?

We understand that fundraisers can be a lot of work for parents and some families would like to opt out. If you would still like to donate to the PTA, you can donate via the PTA Givebacks site: https://sierraelementary.givebacks.com/shop or you can contact the PTA Treasurer (treasurer@sierraptaarvada.org) to arrange a donation via check.

How should I pass out birthday party invitations?

It is Sierra policy that party invitations cannot be distributed during the school day, through Friday Folders, school email, etc - even if the whole class is invited. So what can you do?

- You can use the Sierra Family Directory (organized by the PTA) to find parent contact information and send invites. The Sierra Family Directory is optional and the information is only shared with other families that have opted in. If you would like to participate, please submit your contact information here: https://bit.ly/26-Sierra-Directory.
- You and your child can hand out invitations outside the building during drop-off and pick-up.

JOIN THE FAMILY DIRECTORY

Have other questions? Email the Sierra PTA - general@sierraptaarvada.org

Fall Semester

Dates to Remember

Teacher Meet & Greet: Monday, August 17

Come by the school to meet your teacher face to face. 1st - 5th grade families can drop off school supplies. If you purchased a school supply kit in the spring, it'll be waiting for you at school!

First Day of School: Wednesday, August 19

Back to School Night: Thursday, August 27

Meet your students' teachers and hear what they will be learning about this year. Teachers will provide a grade-level presentation with information about the teachers and what to expect throughout the year. Each grade will offer the presentation twice to accommodate families with multiple children at Sierra.

Modified Contact Days:
Friday, August 28 and Monday, August 31

Sierra conducts individualized benchmark testing for students three times a year on Modified Contact Days. Students will attend a 2-hour session in the morning (8-10 am) or afternoon (12-2 pm) on one of the days for testing. This is not a full day of school, so there's no lunch provided or buses on those days. Teachers will send out a link to sign up for a slot as the testing approaches.

Labor Day (No School): Monday, September 7

Sierra Fam Jam: Friday, September 11

Join the school community from 5-7 pm on the Sierra playground to celebrate the start of school. Kona Ice will be provided for all kids (one snow cone, free of charge). There will be food trucks, outdoor games, live music and more! Come hang out with old friends and meet some new ones!

PTA General and School Accountability Meetings:

Monday, September 14

Join us in the Sierra Library (or online - look for the link in the Sierra Scoop). PTA meeting starts at 5pm and Sierra Family and Community Council meeting follows at 5:30 pm.

Teacher Staff Development Day (No School): Friday, September 18

Student/Class Photos: Thursday, October 1

Individual and class photos will be taken on this day. A flyer with information about picture orders and payment will be sent home in Friday Folders.

Strides for Sierra Fundraiser: Sunday, October 4

Join us Sunday October 4th at 9:00 am for the Sixth Annual Strides for Sierra 5K run/walk fundraiser. Get your sweat on running or enjoy a leisurely stroll through the beautiful neighborhood surrounding Sierra Elementary! Don't want to do the full 5K? A 1K fun run starts at 10:00am. Afterwards, stay and enjoy the Race Village with vendors, food, drinks and activities for the kids all while supporting the Sierra Elementary PTA!

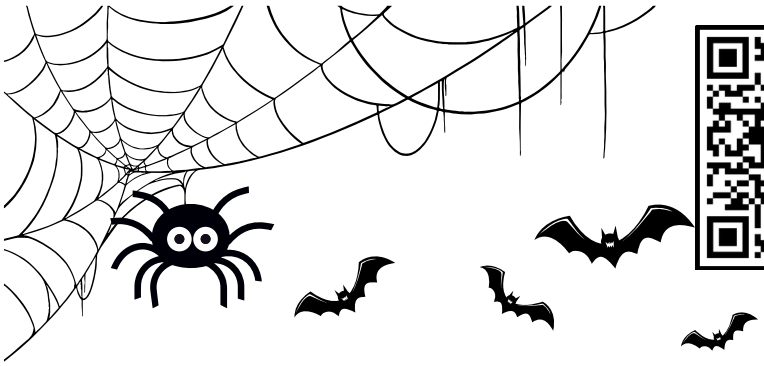
Literati Book Fair:
Friday, October 9 & Wednesday, October 14 - Friday, October 16

The library's biggest fundraiser of the year! The Book Fair brings in thousands of dollars to help support our library, book room, and technology budgets. Shopping hours will be all day and during conferences. Students may bring money to shop during specific times during the school day, OR parents can purchase gift cards through the Literati website to shop without worrying about cash and change. Parents can also come shop anytime during the day or after school. On conference nights, the Book Fair is open during the evening as well. Keep an eye out for volunteer sign-ups to help with set-up, cashier positions, and tear-down.

Fall Break: Monday, October 12 and Tuesday, October 13

Fall Conferences: Wednesday, October 14 and Thursday, October 15

The fall conferences are for every child and family (as opposed to the spring conferences, which is invite-only). Your child's teacher will send out sign-ups for a time slot closer to the conferences. This is a great time to check in about academic, social, and behavioral progress and work together to problem solve anything that comes up.



EMAIL THE ROOM PARENT COORDINATOR

Halloween Parade and Class Party: Friday, October 30

Both the parade and party will be in the afternoon, with the party following the parade. Class parties typically include food, crafts, games, and prizes. Parents are welcome to attend.

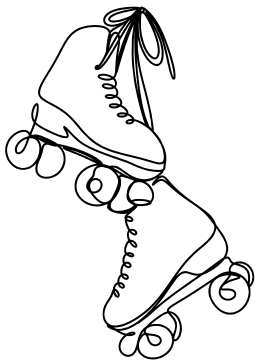
Parties are organized by room parents. If you'd like to be a room parent, contact the PTA Room Parent Coordinator at roomparent@sierraptaarvada.org. More details will be sent via the Sierra Scoop or your classroom's room parents.

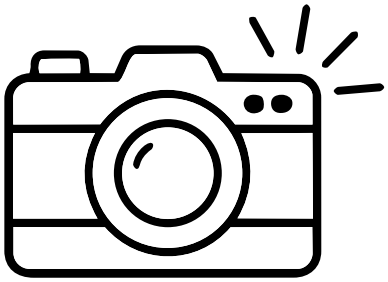
3rd Grade Musical: Tuesday, November 3

4th Grade Musical: Wednesday, November 4

Sierra Skate Night at Skate City: Tuesday, November 10

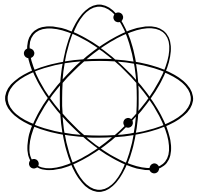
Join your friends for a fun skate night at Skate City from 6:00 - 8:00 pm and raise money for the school, all at the same time! This is a private event, reserved just for Sierra Elementary.



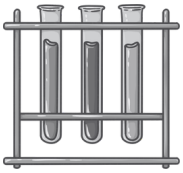


Student Picture Re-Takes: Thursday, November 12

Missed picture day or had a bad hair day? Just return your packet of pictures and your student can have their picture re-taken at no extra cost.



Science Fair: Thursday, November 12 and Friday, November 13



The Science Fair is optional for students in grades K-5. Students can work individually or in pairs, but all project work is done at home.

This is a fun opportunity to do science with your child and create a poster on a topic or experiment they enjoy. Entries can be experiments or demonstrations/simulations. Sierra's library has many science project books for inspiration, and the internet is another great resource.

Judging takes place during the school day, with volunteer judges reviewing posters and asking students about their experiments. Judging is divided into 3 age groups: K-1, 2-3, and 4-5. The top 3 winners in each category will receive prizes, while all participants get a t-shirt and Science Fair ribbon. Partner projects (max 2 students) are allowed, but must be within the same age group.

PTA & School Accountability Meetings: Tuesday, November 17

Join us in the Sierra Library (or online - look for the link in the Sierra Scoop). PTA meeting starts at 5pm and Sierra Family and Community Council meeting follows at 5:30 pm.

Thanksgiving Break: Monday, November 23 - Friday, November 27

Modified Contact Day: Friday, December 4

Sierra conducts individualized benchmark testing for students 3 times a year on Modified Contact Days. Identified students will attend a 2-hour session in either the morning (8-10 am) or afternoon (12-2 pm) for testing. This is not a full day of school, so there's no lunch provided or buses. Teachers will send out a link to sign up for a slot as the testing approaches.

2nd Grade Musical: Wednesday, December 9

Sierra Singers Performance: Tuesday, December 15

Winter Break: Monday, December 21 - Tuesday, January 5

Spring Semester

Dates to Remember

First Day Back from Winter Break: Wednesday, January 6

Martin Luther King Day (No School): Monday, January 18

Read-a-thon: Friday, January 29 - Friday, February 12

The Read-a-thon is Sierra's biggest fundraiser, raising most of the PTA's budget to support committees, technology, events, and grants throughout the year. It's both a fundraising campaign and reading competition. Prizes are given for various levels of fundraising and reading minutes, as well as for group efforts like classroom and grade totals. It may seem complicated at first, but the main idea is for kids to read as much as possible and reach out to family and friends for donations to earn prizes.

All State Choir: Saturday, January 30

PTA General and School Accountability Meetings: Tuesday, February 9

Join us in the Sierra Library (or online - look for the link in the Sierra Scoop). PTA meeting starts at 5pm and Sierra Family and Community Council meeting follows at 5:30 pm.

Valentine's Day Party: Thursday, February 11

This year's Valentine's Day party will happen in the afternoon. Typically, class parties involve food, crafts, games, and prizes for the kids. Parents are always welcome to attend. Parties are organized by classroom room parents. If you are interested in being a room parent, please contact the PTA Room Parent Coordinator - roomparent@sierraptaarvada.org. More information on specific needs and details will be sent via the Sierra Scoop and/or by your classroom's room parents.

EMAIL THE ROOM PARENT COORDINATOR

NO SCHOOL

Teacher Staff Development Day (No School): Friday, February 12

Presidents' Day (No School): Monday, February 15

Used Book Fair: Monday, March 1 - Thursday, March 4

Families are invited to donate used books to the library to be re-sold to the community. Families can donate any children's books in decent condition, which will then be sorted and sold (for $2 or less). Not only is this a fundraiser for our library, but it's also a great way to get more books into the hands of our kids (and for you to clean out those shelves and closets)!

Read Across America Day: Tuesday, March 2

For this national event, the Sierra Library coordinates local leaders to come read books to all grade levels.

Sierra Skate Night at Skate City: Tuesday, March 16

Join your friends for a fun skate night at Skate City from 6:00-8:00pm and raise money for the school, all at the same time! This is a private event, reserved just for Sierra Elementary.

Spring Conferences: Thursday, March 4

These conferences have traditionally been invite-only, at your teacher's discretion. If you would like a conference but didn't receive an invite, you can reach out to your child's teacher and they will schedule one.

Spring Break: Monday, March 22 - Friday, March 26

Teacher Staff Development Day (No School): Monday, March 29

PTA General and School Accountability Meetings: Monday, April 19

Join us in the Sierra Library (or online - look for the link in the Sierra Scoop). PTA meeting starts at 5pm and Sierra Family and Community Council meeting follows at 5:30 pm.

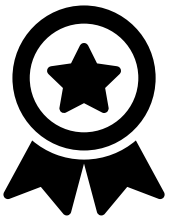
Modified Contact Day: Monday, April 26

Sierra conducts individualized benchmark testing for students 3 times a year on Modified Contact Days. Identified students will attend a 2-hour session in either the morning (8-10 am) or afternoon (12-2 pm) for testing. This is not a full day of school, so there's no lunch provided or buses those days. Teachers will send out a link to sign up for a slot as the testing approaches.

Art Show and 5th Grade Musical: Thursday, April 29

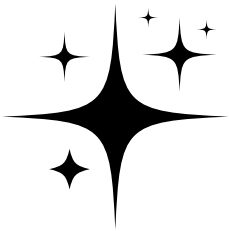
Come by to see all of the artwork that the students have created throughout the year and watch the 5th Grade Musical (held in the gym).

Non-Contact Day (No School): Friday, April 30



K-5th Grade Field Day: Friday, May 7 (Half-Day)

Everyone looks forward to this fun-filled day of games, activities, and friendly competition. Please feel free to join your student's class as they travel from station to station. It's a great day in the sun and a good way to meet other parents.



Talent Show: Wednesday, May 12

Sierra's Student Council puts on this optional talent show. Any student can audition, although this audition is more of a formality so that the director(s) can see the acts and arrange an order for the show. Any student who auditions has a place in the talent show. After two after-school rehearsals, the show is on!

5th Grade Continuation: Wednesday, May 26

This is the 5th graders' last day of school.

Kindergarten Graduation: Thursday, May 27

After graduation, all Kindergarten students are dismissed.

Last Day of School: Thursday, May 27

This day is early release. Happy Summer!

Spring Events Dates TBD

Be on the lookout!

Staff Appreciation Week

This is our annual week to celebrate and spoil all of the staff members at Sierra. This week typically happens in February or March before spring break, and is distinct from the National Teacher Appreciation Week in May. During this week, PTA members and parents work together to provide meals, unique gifts, treats, and decorations to help all of our staff members feel appreciated for all of the work that they do.

CMAS testing

This state-mandated testing happens annually for 3rd - 5th graders in the spring. This year's testing window is 4/5 to 4/23. Specific testing dates for each grade will be announced closer to the testing window. Students are tested in English language arts, math, social studies (4th grade only), and science (5th grade only). This testing is used to help determine big-picture academic goals for the following year, and to create targeted strategies for teaching and learning.

All about the Sierra PTA

Join the PTA

Become a Member Today!

The Sierra PTA is proud to support all the wonderful students, teachers, and staff here at Sierra Elementary. We promote student academics and self-esteem through a variety of programs, and work to meet school needs with both volunteer and financial support. What the Sierra PTA has achieved over the years wouldn't be possible without the support of our community!

The PTA is led by a board of 7 committed parents volunteering their time to make the school community a better place. Please know that as a member, your involvement in the PTA can be as little or as much as you want it to be. There is no expectation to volunteer a set amount of (or any) time, but we greatly appreciate any involvement that you are willing to provide.

By joining the PTA every year, your membership dues support advocacy for public education at the state and national level. Your membership in the Sierra PTA gives you a vote for how PTA funds are spent and who serves in PTA leadership.

- Individual member fee: $10
- Family member fee: $18
- Sponsor a teacher: $10

JOIN THE PTA HERE

Join today at: https://sierraelementary.givebacks.com/shop

PTA Website

The PTA website is a one-stop-shop for information about what the PTA does, meeting minutes, budget, and information for different committees. This is also where you can find staff favorites' lists. www.sierraptaarvada.org

GO TO THE PTA WEBSITE

PTA Meetings

The PTA holds four general meetings a year in the school library. We share updates from committees and board members, vote on financial matters, and address member concerns. All are welcome to attend, but only PTA members may vote.

2026-2027 General PTA Meetings:

- Monday, September 14
- Tuesday, November 17
- Tuesday, February 9
- Monday, April 19

What does the PTA do?

Sierra Family Directory

In an effort to make it easier to communicate with other families at Sierra, we are compiling an optional family directory. Please go to the link below to add your contact information. The directory will be shared with other families who also opted into the directory.

If you choose to participate, please submit your contact information here: https://bit.ly/26-Sierra-Directory

JOIN THE FAMILY DIRECTORY

Community Events

The Sierra PTA puts on numerous events throughout the year to strengthen the Sierra community, the first one being the Sierra Fam Jam on Friday, Sept. 11. Please keep an eye out for additional dates for restaurant nights, skate nights, morning coffee trucks and a holiday canned food drive!

Sierra Cares

Sierra Cares is a committee that provides practical support and help to Sierra community members going through a hardship. For example (not limited to), student loss of a parent, parent loss of a child, caregiver injured in an accident, loss of family home or job, etc. We offer many forms of help: meal trains, organized playdates, dog walking, highlighting GoFund Me pages (on the Sierra Cares web page and in Sierra PTA Facebook group), school pick-up/drop-off, etc. If you or someone you know in the Sierra Community is going through a hard time, we are here to help (this is anonymous). Please visit the Sierra Cares website for more information and/or to nominate a recipient: https://www.sierraptaarvada.org/sierra-cares

VISIT THE SIERRA CARES WEBPAGE

Supports Students and Staff

The PTA coordinates and funds programs that support students and staff at Sierra. This includes money for teacher supply grants and classroom enrichment, dinners for teachers during conferences, and much more!

PTA Committees

The PTA has a number of committees to support students, parents, and staff throughout the 26-27 school year. Want to join a committee or get more information?
E-mail committees@sierraptaarvada.org

Advocacy
- This committee monitors legislative changes to Colorado education, Jeffco education, or the PTA and updates PTA members as needed.

Crossing Guards
- Coordinates crossing guards for each morning and afternoon of school days for the entire year.

Lost & Found
- Organizes lost and found items throughout the year and advertises them to families when it gets overwhelming.

Staff Appreciation
- Coordinates the weekly snacks donated to the staff lounges.

Milk Caps for Moola
- Collects Longmont Dairy milk caps from school and returns them to Longmont Dairy (via local pick up) for reimbursement.

Library Support
- Helps get volunteers and support for all Library needs: weekly shelving of books, help with book fairs, organization of spaces, etc.

Mascot Coordinator
- Coordinates when the mascot costume is needed and finds volunteers to wear it at events.

Sabertooth Sprinters Run Club
- Organizes the run club on the playground/track, including tracking student mileage and distributing awards.

Finance
- Help plan the PTA budget and participate in the yearly financial review.

Fundraising
- Help support PTA fundraisers and raise additional funds by recruiting school sponsors.

Yearbook
- Solicits pictures for the yearbook throughout the year, organizes the ordering and completion of the yearbook annually.

Bulletin Boards
- This committee supports staff and teachers in creating bulletin boards for a variety of needs and topics as requested.

Strides for Sierra 5K Fundraiser
- This team oversees all aspects of the fundraiser: setting a day, coordinating race logistics, getting sponsors, providing race packets, and acquiring race wear for the day.

Conference Dinners (Fall and Spring)
- Coordinates the PTA-provided staff dinners for each night of conferences.

Reflections
- Organizes, supports, and coordinates all entries to the annual arts competition.

Science Fair
- Assists with Science Fair planning, preparation, organization, and judging.

Read-a-thon Fundraiser
- This team plans and executes the school's largest fundraiser: picking a theme, decorating the school, tracking progress, planning prizes and celebratory events.

5th Grade Continuation
- Works with the 5th Grade team to coordinate the continuation celebration for 5th graders in May.

Kindergarten Graduation
- Works with the Kindergarten team to coordinate, set up, and host the celebration for Kindergarten graduation in May.

Volunteer Opportunities

Sierra doesn't require volunteer hours, but the PTA and school thrive because of the volunteers who contribute each year! There are many ways to support our students – what level of involvement suits you best?
Please contact the PTA if you would like to volunteer or would like additional information - president@sierraptaarvada.org

PTA Board Member

Time: ★★★★★
Commitment: ★★★★★
Effort: ★★★★☆

The most time (and commitment) intensive role is becoming a PTA board member. The board has 7 positions and openings are announced each spring. Anyone can apply, and we encourage co-chairs to share the workload and bring diverse perspectives to discussions. The board meets monthly with the principal to address current needs, run committees, and recruit volunteers. The primary role of the PTA is fundraising, allocating, and distributing funds throughout the year.

Committee Chair

Time: ★★★☆☆
Commitment: ★★★★☆
Effort: ★★★☆☆

If you're ready for a bigger commitment, consider volunteering as a committee chair. Some committees are simple to manage, while others need more planning and teamwork. Anyone can take on this role, whether you're organized, enthusiastic, or just plain curious. Co-chairs are welcome, so you can share the role with a friend. The VP of Committees will provide all the details and support you throughout the process! Email committees@sierraptaarvada.org

Recurring Volunteer

Time: ★★☆☆☆
Commitment: ★★☆☆☆
Effort: ★★☆☆☆

Some parents volunteer for recurring activities or committees. Here are a few that need ongoing support:

- Crossing Guard (daily AM and PM slots)
- Room Parent
- Fundraisers
- Sabertooth Sprinters Run Club (after school, weekly)
- Short-term events: Science Fair, Talent Show, etc.

Dip-In Volunteer

Time: ★☆☆☆☆
Commitment: ★☆☆☆☆
Effort: ★☆☆☆☆

Most parents opt for "Dip-In" volunteering, signing up for one-time tasks like chaperoning a field trip or helping at events. These opportunities are posted throughout the school year in the Sierra Scoop. Some recurring jobs (like Library Shelving or Crossing Guard) can also be done as a one off/occasional commitment - just sign up for a slot that fits your schedule!

Room Parents

all you need to know

What does a Room Parent do?

Each classroom has a room parent – often 2-3 working together! They plan and coordinate the Halloween and Valentine's Day parties. The PTA provides a party budget to help cover party costs. They can also ask other families for food and party supplies donations.

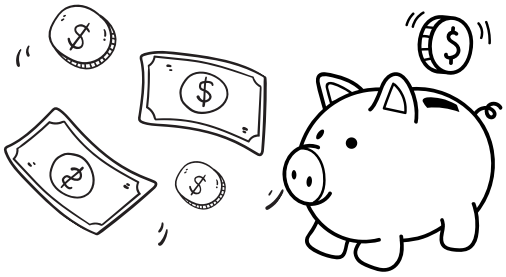
Duties include organizing games, crafts, food, and sending out donation requests for volunteers, food, and party supplies (if needed). It's an easy, fun role–and Dollar Tree is your friend!

How do I volunteer to be a room parent?

EMAIL THE ROOM PARENT COORDINATOR

SIGN UP TO BE A ROOM PARENT

Fundraisers



The PTA runs two major fundraisers each year, and supports smaller ways to help donate throughout the year. Our current fundraisers are the Strides for Sierra 5k in the fall, and the Read-a-thon in the spring. These two fundraisers bring in all the money the PTA needs to fund committees, purchase technology for the school, provide grants for teacher supplies, classroom enrichment and host our community events throughout the year.

There are also some everyday ways that you can raise money for the PTA and Sierra. Milk Caps for Moola is a program from Longmont Dairy where Sierra can earn 5 cents for every Longmont Dairy milk cap that you bring into school to be recycled. Save your milk caps and drop them in the collection box in office vestibule.

The King Soopers Community Reward program lets you contribute to Sierra PTA every time you buy groceries. Once you link your Shopper's Card to Sierra Elementary, King Soopers will give a percentage of every dollar you spend to the Sierra PTA. Sign up here: https://www.kingsoopers.com/i/community/community-rewards.

The PTA also sponsors a few restaurant nights each year, where a portion of that night's proceeds from the restaurant go to the Sierra PTA.

All PTA funds are used to benefit Sierra students and the school community, as soon as possible. The budget is transparent and always available on the PTA website. Additionally, the budget and allocations of money is reported on at every PTA General Meeting.

PTA Executive Board 26-27

President	Lizz Conover - president@sierraptaarvada.org
Treasurer	Emily Andersen - treasurer@sierraptaarvada.org
Secretary	Kim Dusek - secretary@sierraptaarvada.org
VP of Membership	Rachel Malis - membership@sierraptaarvada.org
VP of Committees	Jamie Kitzman - committees@sierraptaarvada.org
VP of Community Events	Katie Tenhulzen - communityevents@sierraptaarvada.org
Room Parent Coordinator	Alyssa Aberle - roomparent@sierraptaarvada.org