A PEEK INSIDELongmondEstatesEstatesElementary

#### Longmont Estates Elementary-A STEM Focus School

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

Longmont Estates Elementary is transforming teaching and learning by providing students with engaging, real world learning experiences to emphasize connections between school, community and our global society. Students apply science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) concepts using 21st century skills and inquiry-based design thinking models to create innovative solutions to authentic problems.

Longmont Estates Elementary offers a highly rigorous, state-of-the-art STEM curriculum that is igniting a passion for rewarding careers, while providing students the skills to succeed in advanced education and a fast changing and highly competitive global economy.

### Movement

Physical activity has been shown to have a positive impact on students' learning. It increases retention, improves focus, and enhances academic performance. Our school is participating in a \$1.4 million dollar grant awarded to the St. Vrain Valley School District by the Colorado Health Foundation. The goal of the grant is to increase the amount of time students are engaged in vigorous physical activity.

## **Green Star School**

Longmont Estates Elementary has partnered with Eco-Cycle to move toward Zero Waste through increased recycling, the implementation of composting, and special waste reduction activities. The project is part of Eco-Cycle's awardwinning School Recycling and Environmental Education Program. The Green Star Schools are the first in the nation to reduce waste in every aspect of school life. As a result of implementing the program, up to two-thirds of the discards from each of the Green Star Schools is kept out of landfills.



#### Autism Center-Based Program

The needs of most students with autism spectrum disorders can successfully be met in their neighborhood school. There are some students who need more intensive support and services. These students can come to our specialized autism program. Our highly trained staff work with students to develop skills in the areas of social functioning (i.e., perspective taking, understanding social situations and emotions), executive functioning (i.e., planning, organizing, attending), problem solving, language use/comprehension, and work completion. We help students develop the academic and functional life skills necessary to be as independent as possible and have a satisfying quality of life post graduation. Skills and routines that have specific a purpose and occur in real life are an important component of instructional focus.

## A Well-Rounded Education

Longmont Estates offers high-quality P.E., music, and art programming. At Longmont Estates, we celebrate the various talents and skills students possess. We also help them to develop new abilities. Our specials classes allow students to try new things, discover passions and hone new skills.

# Positive Behavior Support

As a staff, we use a school-wide system to support students' development of positive social skills. We use proactive strategies for defining, teaching, and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments. We purposefully teach students what is expected in each area of the school. We model and reinforce positive social behavior. The purpose of our school-wide positive behavior support and intervention program is to establish a climate in which appropriate behavior is the norm.

# Strong Early Childhood Programming

We offer early childhood programs that are academically rigorous and developmentally appropriate. The preschool program emphasizes kindergarten readiness by providing high quality early childhood experiences in safe, supportive, and stimulating environments. Our preschool program serves 3 and 4-year-old children.

Longmont Estates offers both half-day and full-day kindergarten. The programming emphasizes reading, writing, and math so students have a strong foundation for first grade.