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*Free Public Charter School in West Glenwood Springs Grades K-7 (8th in 2015)*

The **Vision** of Two Rivers Community School is to be an exemplary K-8 school founded upon the belief in Academic **Rigor**, Authentic **Relationships**, and Curricular **Relevancy**.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 🕒 Early Release at 2 PM on December 5th and the 12th.
- 🕒 December 18th: Project Based Learning demonstrations from 5:30-6:30.
- 🕒 December 18th: 6:30 PM. Holiday performance. Hot chocolate will be served. Parents asked to bring a few cookies to share.
- 🕒 Winter break is from December 19th until January 6th for students; Enjoy!

In December, TRCS will be conducting a short survey asking families about their experiences so far with our young school. We look forward to hearing from you.

TRCS is seeking a few new Board members. Please contact Adriana Ayala-Hire if you are interested.

**TRCS Board of Directors:** Manette Anderson—Chair, Rachel Connor, John Gorman, Melody Massih Olszewski, and Jenifer Seal Cramer.

**Fish Fieldwork & Watershed Study**

Second and Third graders spent November and December researching and studying trout in the Roaring Fork Valley. They conducted fieldwork at the local fish hatchery and on the rivers. Students learned about the life-cycle and anatomy of trout, interviewed the local hatchery manager, examined the insects trout eat, and even had time to cast flies themselves. These future leaders have learned to advocate for the health of our local watershed. For their final project, students researched a subspecies of Colorado trout and created a 2015 calendar that will be for sale for \$15 at Project Night on December 18.

**Wish List!**

In this season of giving, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to our school. You or a family member's contribution is so deeply appreciated and needed as the school continues to get off the ground this first year of operation. TRCS is just \$5,000 short of making its **goal to raise \$30,000 from the community by December 31st, 2014 with 100% participation** by the school family. Please see the website for the donation form. **Click:** <http://www.tworiverscs.org/get-involved/donate/>

The school's tax ID number is **461936973**.

**Grant for Transportation**

The Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease awarded a \$25,000 grant to TRCS this fall. This project money will facilitate transportation for children of families who live in New Castle, Silt and also those who live in the south of Glenwood Springs. The funds support the purchase of one to two medium size school buses that can run before and after school routes.

Buying school buses allows the school to extend its wings and draw children from lower-income families to the school. Sadly, more than 30 children declined enrollment to TRCS this fall after being admitted due mainly to transportation issues. By providing options for all families to educate their children, TRCS helps those who often are left without options.

The buses will also allow the school to take children out of the typical "four walls" classroom and visit with local entities as they participate in Place Based Projects, which is one of the pedagogical pillars of the school.



**That which makes you Different Is Your Gift**

In November, five friends or family members of students presented about the country they were born in or have traveled to extensively including the language spoken there. Russia, China, Taiwan, Mexico, Africa, and Ireland were represented. Music was provided by three of the presenters and the event culminated with a Native American traditional dance by James Quitone to honor Thanksgiving.

*"Rigor and high expectations are a symbol of Love."*