



NEWS RELEASE

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Harrison School District 2

D2 and Hillside Connection’s Fall Hoopster Basketball League

COLORADO SPRINGS – Harrison School District 2 (HSD2) and Hillside Connection (HC) are excited to announce a one-of-a-kind partnership that will bring access to competitive basketball play for 13 elementary schools in Southeast Colorado Springs this Fall.

In January 2022, HC leadership developed the framework for the “Hoopster League” with a guiding principle that all youth deserve access to quality sports and enrichment programming regardless of socio-economic status. After a meeting in April 2022, HC and HSD2 joined forces to create an impactful grassroots basketball experience that will ultimately create a newfound sense of school and community pride! Approximately 300 4th/5th grades boys and girls attended school tryouts in September and 156 youth were selected to compete on their school teams (12 players per team).

The Hoopster League will consist of divisional play on Saturdays October 8th, October 15th, and October 22nd and conclude with “Championship Saturday” and a community BBQ on October 29th. Thanks to private and philanthropic contributions, jersey tops, shorts, and Nike shoes will be provided to all participants. For “skin in the game” purposes the league only cost \$10 per player.

“Life is a competitive sport. I believe the Hoopster League is a leading example of youth sports done the right way. We really appreciate HSD2 coaches and administrators, sponsors, volunteers, players, and families for believing in the Hoopster League vision. Excited to see the impact this opportunity will have on the next generation of leaders in Southeast! ~ Terrell Brown Founder, Hillside Connection”

“We are so excited that our 5th grade students will have the opportunity to play basketball in a D2 league with the support and training that would not have been possible without this partnership.” ~ D2 Superintendent, Dr. Wendy Birhanzel.

“According to Aspen Institute’s Project Play: 12% of households in the U.S. do not spend money on their child’s sport, while the national annual cost per sport exceeds \$690 from ages 1-18,

with some families paying up to \$35,000 per year. The study also notes that children who are physically active score up to 40% higher on standardized tests, are 15% more likely to go to college and earn on average 7-8% more annually.”

See how [Hillside Connection](#) offers a unique opportunity for Colorado Springs youth sports amid dwindling numbers across America [here](#). Learn more about Harrison School District 2 [here](#). We invite everyone to check out some Hoopster League action in Southeast this month!



Hoopster League “Coach Workshop” with Positive Coaching Alliance and UCCS Head Men’s Basketball Coach Jeff Culver
Saturday September 10th at Carmel Community School

SOUTH DIVISION GAME SCHEDULE ~ FINAL
Carmel Community School - 1700 South Chelton 80910

SOUTH DIVISION TEAMS		
TEAM(S)	WIN	LOSS
S1: Mountain Vista		
S2: Centennial		
S3: Monterey		
S4: Carmel		
S5: Stratton Meadows		
S6: Otero		

WEEK #1: Saturday October 8th

Game Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:00am	Mountain Vista vs Carmel	Centennial vs Monterey
11:00am	Stratton Meadows vs Otero	Mountain Vista vs Centennial
12:00pm	Carmel vs Otero	Monterey vs Stratton Meadows

WEEK #2: Saturday October 15th

Game Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:00am	Mountain Vista vs Monterey	Centennial vs Carmel
11:00am	Centennial vs Stratton Meadows	Mountain Vista vs Otero
12:00pm	Carmel vs Stratton Meadows	Monterey vs Otero

WEEK #3: Saturday October 22nd

Game Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:00am	Mountain Vista vs Stratton Meadows	Centennial vs Otero
11:00am	Monterey vs Carmel	Stratton Meadows vs Otero
12:00pm	Mountain Vista vs Carmel	Centennial vs Monterey

**Championship Saturday & BBQ | October 29th at Carmel Community School (10am - 3pm) |
Tournament Game Times To Be Announced**

EAST DIVISION GAME SCHEDULE ~ FINAL
Panorama Middle School - 2145 S Chelton Rd 80916

EAST DIVISION TEAMS		
TEAM(S)	WIN	LOSS
E1: Soaring Eagle		
E2: Bricker		
E3: Sand Creek		
E4: Giberson		
E5: Wildflower		
E6: Oak Creek		
E7: Turman		

WEEK #1: Saturday October 8th

Game Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:00am	Soaring Eagles vs Giberson	Bricker vs Sand Creek
11:00am	Wildflower vs Oak Creek	Turman vs Sand Creek
12:00pm	Soaring Eagles vs Wildflower	Giberson vs Oak Creek
1:00pm	Turman vs Bricker	

WEEK #2: Saturday October 15th

Game Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:00am	Oak Creek vs. Sand Creek	Soaring Eagles vs. Bricker
11:00am	Sand Creek vs. Wildflower	Giberson vs. Turman
12:00pm	Oak Creek vs. Soaring Eagles	Bricker vs. Wildflower
1:00pm		Turman vs. Wildflower

WEEK #3: Saturday October 22nd

Game Time	Court 1	Court 2
10:00am	Bricker vs. Oak Creek	Giberson vs. Wildflower
11:00am	Oak Creek vs. Turman	Wildflower vs. Bricker
12:00pm	Turman vs. Soaring Eagles	Sand Creek vs. Giberson
1:00pm	Soaring Eagles vs. Sand Creek	

Championship Saturday & BBQ | October 29th at Carmel Community School (10am - 3pm) Tournament Game Times To Be Announced