

# SD10 Strong Start Update

StrongStart is an important part of our early learning program. It provides support for young families and also an opportunity for our future students to socialize and become connected to their future schools.

Here are how things are going around the district.

- ✧ Southern Zone Outreach StrongStart has regular participants in all three sites. There are 16 preschool children enrolled. Parents are very thankful to have a gathering place to let their preschool children play & build relationships with other families. The Kindergarten students are a wonderful addition to the BES program Tuesday's 12-3. We are having a joyous time creating holiday crafts. The gym at EES & BES remains a popular activity for the youngsters.
- ✧ StrongStart in New Denver is going well, and families are happy to be back at school. Recently, we had Liam Fitzpatrick from COINS (Circle of Indigenous Nations) join us for a drumming experience with Grandmother Drum. Currently, we are busy crafting for the holidays and our favorite circle time activity includes using instruments to sing and act out the nursery rhyme: Hickory, Dickory, Dock.
- ✧ NES StrongStart is going strong with 57 children enrolled. With the reno's and covid, we are so lucky to have been running StrongStart in the gym. We have 6 families at a time, and they register online. Families have been enjoying the time. I make up snack bags for them also. On outreach days I speak to families on the phone and by text and messenger and I also prepare 52 theme bags that go out bi-weekly. A weekly theme bag consists of: 2 crafts I put together, a story the family can read and do together, coloring sheets, and information for science/songs/physical activities/recipes etc.