



COLORADO
Department of Education

Multicultural and Heritage Festival

Columbine Elementary School, Boulder Valley School District

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Columbine Elementary School is located in the Boulder Valley School District and serves approximately 400 students. It is recognized for its diverse student body. In April 2025, the school hosted the Multicultural and Heritage Festival with the goal of celebrating the rich cultural diversity within the school and strengthening school community relationships.



Columbine Elementary
School

The entire Columbine Community actively contributed to organizing the Multicultural and Heritage Festival. Teachers, staff, students, and parent volunteers collaborated closely. It was a combined effort to bring the event to life to ensure a vibrant celebration of cultural diversity.

The Multicultural and Heritage Festival featured food booths where families and staff shared traditional dishes, offering delicious culinary delights that highlighted the variety of flavors from around the world. Cultural performances, including Baile Folklorico, African drumming, African dance, and salsa classes, provided dynamic entertainment where many people participated. Interactive cultural booths, managed by parents and teachers, allowed attendees to participate in hands-on activities, learn about different traditions, and engage in art and craft projects. The collaborative nature of the event encouraged teamwork and communication among students, staff, and families, strengthening community bonds. Participating in the festival also provided students with opportunities to express themselves creatively and develop new skills. The Multicultural and Heritage Festival not only enriched the students' educational experience but also positively impacted the school's climate by creating an environment that values diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.

The Multicultural and Heritage Festival was evaluated through feedback from teachers, staff, parents, and students. Everyone shared joy around the strong turnout for this festival and how much they enjoyed the variety of food from more than ten different countries. They faced a few challenges during the festival with the sound system, as the speakerphone lacked sufficient power to amplify music effectively in the designated performance area. Additionally, the event attracted more attendees than anticipated, leading to a shortage of plates.

To replicate a successful event, initiate planning at least three months ahead. Begin with booking performers and coordinate logistics. Engage families early by providing information on volunteer opportunities and cultural representation. Create flyers and digital communication to promote the event and encourage participation.