

Winter Family Night

Moffat PK-12 School, Moffat Consolidated School District #2

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Moffat Consolidated #2 partnered with the Center for Rural School Health and Education (CRSHE) to provide support and resources to the local rural community. As the 2024 holiday season approached, the Moffat CRSHE team had the idea to provide free holiday photo sessions for families. As the team brainstormed, other ideas emerged such as making gingerbread houses and having hot cocoa and popcorn for families. The Pre-K and elementary school team included the students' annual Christmas caroling to encourage more families to attend.

After the activities were planned and funds approved, the CRSHE Team divided and conquered all the required tasks. The Health and Wellness Teacher found the photographer, who was willing to give the school a discount, and coordinated having the photos printed. The School Secretary made a homemade hot cocoa



recipe, and the SEL & Family Liaison made a flier to send to families. The Kindergarten Teacher and K-5 Reading Interventionist posted the flier on Moffat's social media multiple times. They also gathered the supplies needed to build the gingerbread houses. The Pre-K and Elementary school team practiced Christmas carols every day during school hours for two weeks before the event.

Approximately 100 families and students attended, which is a terrific turnout considering there are less than 110 students enrolled in Moffat PreK-12. The Pre-K and Elementary students sang Christmas carols at the

beginning of the event. CRSHE team members monitored candy and helped families with supplies for gingerbread house making. Other team members made and served free hot cocoa and popcorn to all families, while still more team members helped build the picture area and helped the photographer take family photos. Photos were delivered to families on a parent teacher conference night in February.

Winter Family Night was not specifically evaluated. The families commented on how lovely the evening was and the students loved it. Next year, the CRSHE team is considering sending out a survey after the event.

Having organized leaders and a great team willing to share tasks so no one person was overwhelmed was critical. One consideration is to have a few more people at the gingerbread houses to minimize stress around candy distribution.