

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 25, 2021

Denver Non-Profit supports Avon students with supplies and gifts during the pandemic

Kenzi's Causes doubles-down on donations in a difficult year

Avon, CO – Eagle County Schools would like to recognize the donation of holiday gifts from the non-profit organization Kenzi's Causes to students at Avon Elementary School. Kenzi's Causes seeks to help low-income families and their communities by providing supply-packed school backpacks and brand new toys during the holidays. Previously, the organization had provided 60 backpacks full of new school supplies to AES families at the beginning of this school year. The organization redoubled their support in donating holiday gifts for all 300+ Avon Elementary students last month.

Seventy percent of Avon Elementary students qualify for free and reduced lunch. During an almost year-long pandemic where unemployment rates have affected many households across the country and rural areas dependent on tourism, many families have struggled to make ends meet and saving for children's gifts during the last holiday season was difficult.

“Seeing the smiles on their faces when our students received the donated gifts was heartwarming. For some of these kids, this was maybe the only present they received for Christmas,” said Principal Dana Harrison. “We are very grateful for Jessica and Kenzi's Causes. We hope to continue working with them in the future.”

[Kenzi's Causes](#) was founded in 2007 by Jessica Bachus after her daughter was born stillborn. Bachus and her team work primarily with underprivileged communities in Denver and Fort Collins, extending south to Pueblo and Colorado Springs. They started looking for communities to serve on the Western Slope and contacted Avon Elementary School Principal Dana Harrison in October 2019, and have continued their partnership into the current school year. With the efforts of over 500 volunteers, Kenzi's Causes is one of the only organizations that provides new toys to low-income families.

“Being able to use new school supplies at the beginning of the school year raises the students' self-esteem, they feel excited about coming to school and this helps the teacher create a different environment in the classroom,” said Bachus. “I didn't expect to step outside of the Denver area, and now I want to be in every community in Colorado that needs us. We are changing communities and who knows what these children will go out and do, they are our future and I cannot wait and see how they are going to change the world.”