

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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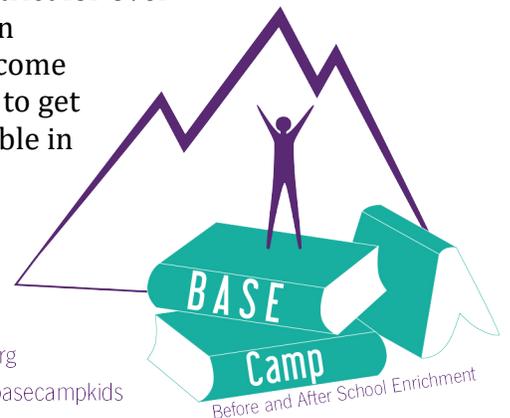
**LOCAL BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM PROVIDER TO CLOSE DOORS
AFTER POUDBRE SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTRACTS NEW PROVIDER**

Fort Collins, CO – Locally-based, nonprofit before and after school program provider BASE Camp has been operating programs in Larimer County for over 30 years. In December, Poudre School District (PSD) instituted a request for proposal process and engaged other local and national providers in bidding for services. PSD sent BASE Camp a form email on Friday that read:

Thank you for your response to Poudre School District's Request for Proposal 20-100-001, District Wide Before and After School Care Provider. After careful review of all responses, the evaluation committee has recommended that the District enter into negotiations with AlphaBEST Education.

The District wishes to express its gratitude for your interest and efforts in responding to this RFP.

Given the current conditions, subject to final action taken by the BASE Camp board of directors, this transition effectively closes down BASE Camp's operations in PSD schools permanently and immediately, putting more than 180 employees out of work. "I'm stunned and heartbroken," said Executive Director Seth Kelley. "Our staff have tirelessly and caringly served as a partner to the district for over three decades. We participated in the RFP process with an understanding it was procedural and did not see this outcome coming at all." Upon hearing the news, Kelley set to work to get a plan together to take care of employees as best as possible in the midst of other challenging circumstances with the COVID-19 pandemic responses.



Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:00am – 5:00pm

Office Location

1224 E. Elizabeth Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Contact Info

(p) (970) 266-1734
(f) (970) 377-9865

Online

mybasecampkids.org
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BASE Camp has been a staple of the community on which many families have relied for enrichment programs and care when school and work days don't align. They serve over 4,000 children annually and are at 39 locations. They also operate three rural preschools in Wellington, Stove Prairie and Red Feather. They have provided tuition assistance and scholarships of over \$700,000 a year to thousands of families in need.

"We know families are relying on us, and are sad that our services have to end so abruptly – but we simply cannot ask our employees to wait out the COVID-19 response, for a job that may only have a couple of weeks left when schools return."

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About BASE Camp

Base Camp is a 501c3 nonprofit based in Fort Collins, CO whose mission is to be the choice provider of safe, affordable, accessible, out-of-school childcare with enrichment services, aligned with the community schools. Programming was first offered in 1988 at three schools and has grown to include over 35 schools throughout Larimer County. Approximately 25% of BASE Camp participants receive partial or full tuition assistance due to their sliding scale and scholarship programs for families in need. Programs provide a variety of activities, including a positive social environment, dedicated play and academic support times and more. Learn more at www.mybasecampkids.org.

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