

# Holiday Cheer Event

## Greeley-Evans School District 6

### Greeley, CO



COLORADO  
Department of Education

Greeley-Evans School District 6 collaborates with the University of Northern Colorado's Bear Hug Club annually during the holiday season. The Bear Hug Club conducts an annual book and toy drive each November before wrapping gifts for donations given to the Families in Transition Program. The Families in Transition Program, also known as the McKinney-Vento Program, works to support students within the Greeley-Evans School District who are experiencing homelessness.

During the 2016 holiday season, even more holiday cheer was spread through a gift giveaway to families. Fliers were sent out to each school within the district so that students who qualify could receive a gift and a book. Several days prior to the district's winter break, the administration building was festively decorated, music was playing, and a photo booth was available for attendees to take pictures with Santa Claus. Gift cards were raffled off, and cookies, hot chocolate, and coffee were available through donations by local Safeway and King Soopers grocery stores.

Although Greeley-Evans School District 6 provides annual support for McKinney-Vento families during the holiday season, the Holiday Cheer Event exceeded previous expectations by adding gift card giveaways and feedback options for the 40 plus families in attendance to communicate what was and was not helpful during the event.



Most of the families who participated in the Holiday Cheer Event are typically unable to experience luxuries such as paying for pictures with Santa Claus at the mall, receiving gifts, or having holiday decorations in their homes. The Holiday Cheer Event was able to bring families together for a night of treats, gifts, and quality time.