

# Meet our sponsors!!!

WHO? Karen Current

WHAT? DHM Design

*Karen sat down with me to talk about why DHM Design supports McKinley-Thatcher and answer questions thought up by a savvy 1<sup>st</sup> grader...*

**6YO: What do you sell?**

**Karen:** We are landscape architects, planners and ecologists. We design all kinds of outdoor spaces, including recreational facilities from playgrounds and trails to National Parks around the country. We even worked with students to design the learning landscapes at **McKinley-Thatcher!** We also have done a lot of work along the South Platte, planning trailheads and river parks. We have four offices and also do work at resorts, ranches, streetscapes, residential communities and civic spaces. One of our favorite projects is helping redesign the Summit Complex at Pike's Peak, which will start construction this year.



**ME: How long have you been in the neighborhood? What do you like about it?**

**Karen:** Our company moved here from Lodo in 2014 and we love how connected we are to the businesses, restaurants, transportation options and people in the neighborhood. The development around our office at I-25 and Broadway has been transformational to watch, from the Gates buildings coming down to the new Sprouts going up. We bought 6 cruisers for the office and you'll see us tooling round on them all summer.

**ME: How did you decide to support McKinley-Thatcher?**

**Karen:** Our office participated in a "wellness challenge" last summer, where we each competed to see how long it would take to walk 2,000 miles - we did it in 3 months. The winning team got to choose an organization to donate money and we selected McKinley-Thatcher for their support of the health and wellness of their students.

**ME: Do you have anything special for this summer that you'd like to get the word out about?**

**Karen:** We are very proud to have been the landscape architects for Johnson Habitat Park, where the South Platte River Environmental Education (SPREE) headquarters are located. That's a great park you might visit this summer with natural play areas, large "fort" structures and great access to the river. My daughter is excited to spend a few weeks of summer camp there as well.

We've also designed some other places that might be fun to visit:

- **Greek Theater at Civic Center Park:** We helped with the rehabilitation and snowmelt system a few years back and you can go every Tuesday all summer for live music and a great food truck scene.
- **At River Run Park,** near the Broken Tee Golf Course, you can bring a kayak or surfboard and play in the (very tame) wave feature, have a picnic and wade along the beach.
- In Silverthorne, you can bike along the beautiful **Blue River Trail** with boardwalks and bridges that crisscross the river all the way up to the Dillon Reservoir.
- We also designed **Englewood's Town Center** with an amphitheater that hosts a free summer concert series. In a fun coincidence, my husband and I play music and you could even come out on June 15<sup>th</sup> to see us perform at a venue DHM helped design!

**6YO: What would you like to tell the kids of MCT?**

**Karen:** Be kind and take care of each other. And have a fabulous summer!

*You can visit [www.dhmdesign.com](http://www.dhmdesign.com) or keep up with them on Facebook to learn about some of their cool projects around the country.*