

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL MEETING / WORK SESSION AGENDA

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY MAYORS AND COMMISSIONERS MEETING

February 10, 2026

8:00 a.m.

Marion's of the Rockies

2805 Colorado Blvd., Idaho Springs, CO 80452

and Via Zoom (see link below)

I. Introductions

II. Childcare

Documents:

[CHILDCARE PRESENTATION.PDF](#)

III. Roundtable Discussion: General Discussion Of Matters Of Common Interest Among The Board Of County Commissioners And The Mayors And/Or Other Representatives Of The Incorporated Municipalities Within Clear Creek County

IV. Comments For The Good Of The Order

V. Adjourn

To join and listen to the meeting, please do the following:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/167562115>

Webinar ID: 167 562 115

Building Early Learning Capacity in Clear Creek

10 February 2026



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Community Partners

Operational



Financial

Board of County Commissioners
Comis Foundation

City of Idaho Springs
City of Empire

2

System-Wide Capacity

Early learning access depends on three connected components:

- More seats — licensed, qualifying exempt, and unlicensed care
- Affordability — tuition support so families can participate
- Educator & provider quality — workforce pipeline and supports

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Who Does What

EECL — Family access, scholarships, coordination

Triad Bright Futures (TBF) — Regional alignment and funding pathways

CCMRD — Summer pilot operator; prospective Mountain Trails operator

CCSF — Contract administration, workforce supports, BOCC accountability

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2025/26 Strong Start Scholarships

Verified Impact:

- 70 applications
- 30 awards
- 27 active scholarships
- Scholarships support up to 12 months of continuous care
- Income-based awards

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What We Are Learning

- Demand exceeds available awards
- Costs are rising
- Maintaining current care days now requires increased investment

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Cost of Early Learning: Regional Trend

- Child care costs increased 20–30% between 2021 and 2024
- Increases driven by wages, benefits, and regulatory requirements

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2026/27 Operations and Scholarships

- Sustain current care days — requires increased local funding
- Expand care days (~50%) — supported through philanthropy

Local funding provides stability; philanthropy supports growth.

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Mountain Trails and Near-Term Relief

Summer 2026 Pilot — Carlson Elementary

- Toddlers (potty trained) through age 5
- 7 weeks of care, 5 days per week
- Operated by CCMRD

Mountain Trails

- Permitting begins March 2026
- Construction readiness aligned with funding

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What's Next

Key facts, partners, and contacts are summarized in your handout.

We welcome questions and discussion.



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