

## Town of Castle Rock | Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

### **TAG Overview**

Teen Advisory Group (TAG) helps local teens in 7th through 12th grades play an active role in planning and carrying out Parks and Recreation activities for the community's youth.

For the 2023-2024 school year (October-May):

- 12 members served
- Students attended Castle View, Lutheran, and Colorado Early College
- 120 community service hours logged as a group
- 8 community service events/projects
- Monthly meetings (food provided)

### **TAG Strengths**

- Voice for teens – students act as a voice for teens in the community by expressing their opinions and ideas
- Community service – students volunteer at the following Town events and projects
  - Spooktacular
  - The Giving Tree
  - Reindeer Games
  - Storytellers & S'mores
  - The Winter Ball
  - Earth Day Volunteer Event
  - Therapeutic Recreation Spring Dance
  - Kindness Rock Garden at Possibilities Playground
- Leadership skills – students learn characteristics of good leaders; courage, caring, responsibility, inclusiveness, respect, and integrity

### **TAG Challenges**

- Meeting dates/times – teens are busy and very difficult to find a shared time that all students can attend (met on Sundays which is not ideal)
- Communication – teens don't always check their emails. If texting is an option that is ideal when communicating with teens
- Commission presence – having more of a role and presence with the Parks and Recreation Commission. TAG representative to attend monthly/quarterly commission meetings to report on activities and projects
- Teen programs - ideas to increase participation in youth and teen programs at the Recreation Center and through the Parks and Recreation Department. Things to do for teens in Castle Rock are limited