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May 2, 2019  
MEDIA CONTACT

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RELEASED: 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2019  
UPDATED WITH CAUSE: 5:34 p.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2019

### **Fire in Dust Collector at Fossil Ridge High School, 5400 Ziegler Rd. - May 2, 2019**

Poudre Fire Authority responded to a fire alarm at 8:56 a.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2019 and arrived on scene at Fossil Ridge High School at 9:05 a.m. The responders saw smoke coming from the west side of Fossil Ridge High School, 5400 Ziegler Rd., and upgraded the call to a structure fire response. The alarm was pulled by someone in the wood shop and evacuation was in progress when PFA arrived.

Firefighters quickly extinguished a fire coming from the dust collector in the school's wood shop. Fire sprinklers activated as designed and helped to contain the flames until PFA firefighters extinguished the fire. PFA remained on scene to clear any remaining smoke and monitor the atmosphere until it returned to safe breathing levels. The building was cleared for reentry around 10:15 a.m. except for the technical education wing and adjoining laboratories, which remained closed as of noon.

There is one report of a student who suffered smoke inhalation and a shop teacher that was examined and released by the medical unit.

PFA investigators determined the fire to be accidental. It originated from sparks or heat from a band saw that was drawn into the dust collector and vent system.

For more information regarding PFA's response, or the fire's cause and extent of damage, please contact PFA. Those with questions about the school-related impacts may contact PSD at [info@psdschools.org](mailto:info@psdschools.org).

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