July, 2022

Eagle County Home Owner:

At present, it’s nearly impossible to secure affordable housing in Eagle County. Having been here for 31 years this is the worst affordable housing market I’ve ever seen. Now is the time for our entire community to pull together to help provide housing for our educators.

Eagle County School District (ECSD) is making great progress on our Housing Master Plan. The district has added many master-leased units to our inventory, has 37 rental units under construction in Edwards, and is about to break ground on 12 for-purchase units in Eagle.

Nevertheless, we still have a waiting list of 50 employees who must find affordable housing soon or risk giving up their jobs with the district. We offer jobs daily that are turned down because applicants can’t secure housing. The result is many vacant positions in ECSD and a school system stressed to capacity.

Of 178 school districts in Colorado, we are proud to be in the top 10 of base salary for teachers. This year’s base salary will be $47,160. Using 30% of gross income as a target for responsible spending on housing, rental expenses for a 1 bedroom should be about $1,179/month. That is well below the going rate in Eagle County.

Please accept this message as an appeal to open your home to an ECSD employee. Owners can rent directly to employees and we can facilitate the match. Or consider these benefits to renting to a district employee through ECSD:

1. Vetted tenants – All ECSD employees undergo a thorough background check, including fingerprinting and review of criminal record.
2. Guaranteed lease term - If a tenant vacates, ECSD would be responsible for filling the vacancy and maintaining payment.
3. Reliable payment – Master leases with the district receive payment directly from ECSD, ensuring timely payment from our award winning business office.
4. Community service – Support our students and schools by housing a district employee.

Vacant houses, condos, lock-offs, caretaker units, and empty bedrooms could all be put to use.

If you are interested in making space available to an ECSD employee, please complete a brief interest form by opening this QR code with your smartphone camera. Email housing-group@eagleschools.net for more information.

Respectfully,

Philip Qualman
Superintendent
Eagle County Schools