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### Important Dates

### Important Updates from the Principal

**NO SCHOOL—  
District In-Service**  
May 3

**NO SCHOOL—  
No Contact**  
May 4

Dear Mt. Garfield Families,

We are three weeks into fourth quarter and spring weather is in full swing. MGMS has many activities and events going on in April and May - state testing, musical concerts and competitions, field trips, an evening dance, conferences, 5<sup>th</sup> grade orientation, 8<sup>th</sup> grade awards night, and much more. The end of the school year is a busy time for everyone and we encourage you to stay informed by checking our MGMS website weekly.

#### Congratulations to our Students of the Month

We are extremely proud of the students honored at our Student of the Month breakfast celebration in March. The students recognized for being exceptional students were:

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Titus Steele and Ila Graham
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Sancho Tohtsonie and Miranda Pike
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Janelle Heald and Evan Shopbell
- G/T: Gabriel Price
- Math Plus: Aaron Harris

A special thank you to Amelia Swetnam, Vivian LyBarger and Student Council kids for decorating the library and organizing the breakfast for our honored students and their families.

#### School Dress Code Expectations

As weather continues to get warmer, we thank you for helping us with our student dress code expectations. Mt. Garfield teachers and administration have been working with students arriving to school in clothing which does not follow the school dress code expectations. Although we always do our best to be respectful and mindful of what is fashionable and available in stores, we must ultimately uphold our district policy. As a result, these conversations can become difficult. We are asking for parental support as we continue to work with students on this issue.

## Important Updates from the Principal (continued)

Please understand, we are simply following the rules and expectations outlined in school and district policy by holding students accountable and are not seeking to target or embarrass students by having conversations with them about their clothing. It's important to note that our dress code expectations are also the same expectations for students at the high school and are consistent district-wide. We strongly encourage parents to have a dialog with your student(s) concerning this topic. Students choosing to wear clothes that do not meet dress code policy will be asked to change into appropriate attire and/or be sent to the office to either call a parent to bring them something appropriate to wear or be given appropriate clothing to wear through the end of the school day.

**MGMS and D51 Dress Code Expectations include, but are not limited to:**

Hoody "hoods" and hats cannot be worn during the school day

No cutoff shirts showing stomach area

Short no shorter than mid-thigh

No holes in clothing above the mid-thigh exposing skin in pants or shorts (students may wear shorts or leggings under pants with holes to cover skin above the mid-thigh)

These are in addition to spaghetti straps, bra straps showing, low-cut shirts, muscle shirts on guys that show the torso, shorts that are shorter than mid-thigh, and shirts displaying drugs, alcohol, or any violence. Additional information about school dress code can be referenced in the MGMS Student Handbook which every student received at the beginning of the school year.

### **Parental Involvement = Student Success**

Research shows us that students achieve more in school when parents are involved in their student's education. Parental involvement not only enhances academic performance, but it also has a positive effect on student attitude and behavior. A parent's interest and encouragement in their student's education can affect attitude toward school, classroom conduct, self-esteem, absenteeism, and motivation to learn.

Here are a few simple ways parents can become more involved in their child's education and provide the needed support at home to encourage school success.

- Read with your student and talk with them about the books and stories read
- Help your student work on homework assignments by organizing time and creating a quiet space
- Attend and actively support school activities
- Attend parent-teacher conference meetings
- Talk with your student about school on a daily basis
- Be an advocate for your child to make sure that the child's needs are being met
- If a problem arises, address it quickly by contacting the teacher or school
- Advise the teacher of any issues at home that may affect the student's school performance

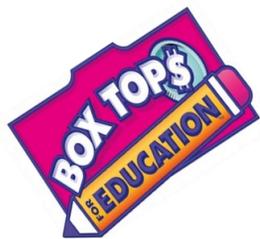
Encourage your student on successes and support them on poor performances

Involved parents truly make a positive impact on a student's academic success. Thank you for continuing to support your student and encouraging him/her to put their best efforts in their education. Mt. Garfield Middle School teachers and staff are grateful to have your student in class each day and welcome your involvement.

Sincerely,

Rocio Roybal, Principal

## Boxtops for Education



Remember to collect those box tops and turn them into the main office. Thank you for supporting our students and MGMS.

## Office Information

Please call the office at (970) 254-4720 **X37111** if your child will be absent for any reason so that we may note the absence correctly.

We ask that you make every effort to schedule Doctor visits and appointments after the school day ends so that we do not continually interrupt valuable teaching time. We understand this is not always possible, but certainly appreciate your efforts to limit these interruptions.

In addition, **if you have an address or phone number change, please let us know right away. This information is vitally important in case of an emergency.** We must be able to reach you.

Thank you in advance for your attention to these matters.

## Yearbooks

The push is on to purchase a yearbook. Yearbooks are still available! The only way to **guarantee that your student will get one is if it is prepaid** and there are many payment options available. You may purchase a yearbook by paying with cash, check, or with a credit/debit card at the MGMS Main Office. You may also pay with a credit/debit card over the phone by calling (970) 254-4720 Ext. 37112. In addition, you may order on-line at [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com). There is also a link to purchase a yearbook on the MGMS home page. The cost is currently \$28.00. Once the books are sold out, we cannot order any more.

Parents, your student will have a lifetime of memories in this forty (40) page, full color, hardback book! Do not wait any longer. Order today by calling or stopping by the MGMS Budget Office, or on-line with Jostens! **GET YOUR YEARBOOK NOW!**

## Mesa Club

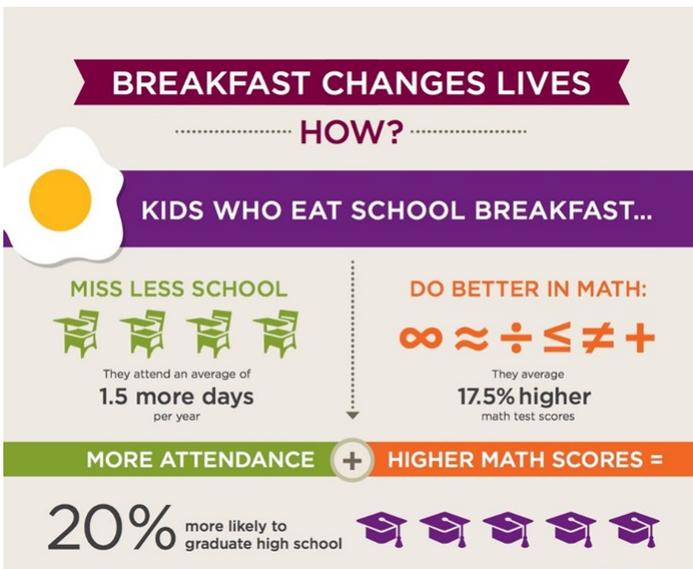
Wow! School year 2017-2018 is three quarters finished! That means MESA only has one more competition. On Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, Mt. Garfield hosted the MESA Mousetrap Car Competition and it was a huge success. Students researched, planned, designed, and created cars powered solely by the spring of a standard mousetrap. To make the competition that much more difficult, the cars had to travel seven meters while staying “in bounds” within the two meter wide track. The car closest to the seven-meter finish line was the winner. As we have in the past several years, one of Mt. Garfield’s teams won first place. Their car finished exactly on the finish line! Overall, the creativity and engineering shown by all participants was amazing, and we can’t wait to host the competition again next year.

Our next and last competition is the ever-challenging Egg Drop Competition hosted by West Middle School and Colorado Mesa University. Students research, plan, design, and build a device that holds three raw eggs. The winner is the team who’s device can withstand a forty foot fall onto concrete without the eggs breaking. The lighter weight the device, the higher the score. The competition is an all-day affair. Students get to tour CMU, eat at the student center, enjoy demonstrations by CMU’s physics club, as well as compete in the egg drop. The competition is currently scheduled for Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

For the end of year, we will be hosting our second annual hamburger fry. Stay tuned for our date and location!

# Student Drop-off/Pick-up

We would like to reiterate the importance of families pulling all of the way forward to the East end of the parking lot to the **official student drop-off and pick-up area**. Students should not be dropped off directly in front of any part of the Mt. Garfield Middle School Building or along the East side of the building prior to school starting. Orange cones will continue to be placed in front of the building in an effort to remind families that this area is for Student Transport of America/busing only. In addition, please do not cut across traffic in order to drop your students off or pick them up along the East end of the building between our gym and track field. Automobiles attempting to leave from this area ultimately cross in front of moving buses and a steady stream of traffic heading to the correct drop-off/pick-up area causing great concern for safety. We understand that during cold mornings, everyone would like to walk a little shorter distance, but these guidelines have been established in an effort to keep everyone safe and we must ask that you adhere to them. Should you have any questions about these policies, please feel free to contact the office. We appreciate your support!



**COME EARLY-** All students Receive a **FREE hot breakfast**

**ARRIVE LATE** –All students Receive a **FREE cold packaged breakfast**

Available at

Bookcliff MS  
Chipeta  
Dos Rios

Mt. Garfield MS  
Clifton  
Fruitvale  
Rocky Mountain



**FREE BREAKFAST**

**FOR ALL COLORADO**

**SCHOOLS WITH A 70% OR  
GREATER FREE AND**

**REDUCED %**

**WHY?**

**INCREASE ACADEMIC PERFOR-  
MANCE**

**WHERE?**

**IN THE CAFETERIA**

for hot breakfast before tardy  
bell grab 'n' go cold pack after  
tardy bell

**WHO?**

All STUDENTS no matter the  
eligibility

For breakfast menu go to  
[d51schools.org/Parent](http://d51schools.org/Parent)  
tab/Meals Tab/Menu Tab