

Mount Garfield Middle School



Bill Larsen, Principal | Jared Burek, AP | Lee Carleton, AP | Lori Thompson, Secretary | Kim Chambers Attendance Secretary

Important Dates

7th Grade Testing

April 3rd & 4th, 2017 (AM)

8th Grade Testing

April 5th & 6th, 2017

Band Pre-Festival Concert

April 10th, 2017

@ PHS 7:00 pm

(Core 8-1) Testing

April 11th, 2017

Choir Final Concert

April 11th, 2017 @ PHS

7:00 pm w/ Elementary

8th Grade Science Test

April 11th, 2017

(Core 8-2) Testing

April 12th, 2017

8th Grade Science Test

April 12th, 2017

Orchestra Pre-Festival Concert

April 18th, 2017

@ PHS 7:00 pm

Alpine Bank Student of Month

April 18th, 2017

@ CMU Ballroom 11:30

Student of the Month Breakfast

April 20th, 2017 6:45 am

A Message From The Principal

Dear Mount Garfield Families,

We hope this April Newsletter finds you ready to welcome in spring as you reflect on the break you enjoyed with your students at the end of March. With just eight weeks left in our 2016-17 school year, we realize there is much to accomplish during April and May. We encourage parents to stay in close touch with their children on the learning that is taking place so our students can experience successful support at school and at home. Do not hesitate to contact your student's teachers to lend support with any way we can increase support to your student.

As we begin the third quarter, we would like to celebrate the students honored during our March Student of the Month Breakfast. Congratulations to: Core 6-1 Layton Tobin, Core 6-2 Miranda Pike, Core 7-1 Kayleigh Eliza Smith, Core 7-2 MaKayla Christensen, Core 8-1 Elizabeth Hawkins, Core 8-2 Triscia Teachout, Math Plus Austin Neece, and Gifted/Talented honored Caden Hinshaw.

In the past four months newsletters, you have heard about the seven of the sixteen "Habits of Mind" (HOM): **Persisting, Managing Impulsivity, Listening with Understanding and Empathy, Thinking Flexibility, Thinking About Thinking (Metacognition), Thinking Interdependently, and Remaining Open to Continuous Learning, Striving for Accuracy, Questioning and Posing Problems, and Applying Past Knowledge to New Situations.** This month we would like to introduce the next three HOM:

- **Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision:**
 - Strive to be clear when speaking and writing;
 - Strive be accurate to when speaking and writing;
 - Avoid generalizations, distortions, minimizations and deletions when speaking, and writing.
- **Gathering Data through All Senses:**
 - Stop to observe what I see;
 - Listen to what I hear;
 - Take note of what I smell;
 - Taste what I am eating;
 - Feel what I am touching.

(Continued on next page)

Important Dates (Continued)

Band Colorado West

April 20th, 2017
@ CHS/GJHS – All Day

Choir Colorado West

April 20th, 2017
@ CMU – All Day

Orchestra Colo. West

April 20th, 2017
@ PHS – All Day

Band Colorado West

April 21th, 2017
@ CHS – All Day

Choir Colorado West

April 21th, 2017
@ CMU – All Day

Choir Colorado West

April 22th, 2017
@ CMU – All Day

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- **Creating, Imagining, Innovating:**
 - Think about how something might be done differently from the “norm”;
 - Propose new ideas;
 - Strive for originality;
 - Consider novel suggestions others might make.

Our hope is the common vocabulary between home and school might deepen your conversations at home about the best way your student is learning. Thank you for your partnership with our MGMS Staff. We look forward to seeing you over the next few months.

Sincerely,

Bill Larsen

ATTENDANCE:

Please call the office at (970) 254-4720 X37111 if your child will be absent for any reason. You may also e-mail our Registrar/Attendance Secretary **Kim Chambers** at: Kim.Chambers@d51schools.org.

In addition, if you have an address or phone number change, please inform Kim at your earliest convenience. This information is vitally important in case of an emergency situation. We must be able to reach you. Thank you in advance for your attention to these matters.

Ready, Set, Smile!

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 or with a credit/debit card at the MGMS Budget 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. There is also a link to purchase a yearbook on the MGMS home page at the very bottom. The cost is currently \$28.00. Once the books are sold out, we cannot order any more. Your student will have a lifetime of memories in this forty (40) page, full color, hardback book! Don't wait any longer. Order today by calling or stopping by the MGMS Budget Office, or on-line with Jostens!



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BAND NEWS:

Spring is the busiest time of year for the MGMS Bands! We have lots of upcoming events.

On Monday, April 10 all of the Concert Bands will have their Prefestival concert at PHS Auditorium. On Friday, April 14 the 7th and 8th grade Jazz Bands will have their Prefestival concert at PHS Auditorium. Both concerts begin at 7:00pm.

These concerts are in preparation for the annual Colorado West Performance Festival, which takes place on April 20 and 21. The Festival performance schedule is as follows:

6th Grade band. Thursday, April 20 at 9:00am in the Central High School Auditorium.

7th Grade band. Thursday, April 20 at 10:45am in the Central High School Auditorium.

8th Grade band. Thursday, April 20 at 2:00pm in the GJHS Auditorium

7th Grade Jazz. Friday, April 21 at 11:15am in the Central High School Auditorium.

8th Grade Jazz. Friday, April 21 at 3:00pm in the Central High School Auditorium.

All performances are free and open to the public. We hope to see you at one or all of our concerts!

HONORS NEWS:

Happy April from Honors Math! The end of the year is such a busy time for us. We are finishing up PARCC Testing, 7th grade will be taking the IOWA Readiness Test on April 26th, and all classes will take their final STAR Assessment on May 9th. Finalized honors contracts will go out by May 15th. It has been such a pleasure teaching your students this year. Please let me know if I can answer any questions about testing or honors placement for next year.

Rebekah Diedrich

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The average cost of 4-year public college is \$112,000; for private college, it's \$236,000. Next to buying a home, post-secondary education is the most expensive investment a family will make. Yet many students leave it up to chance in finding the right college. Luck is not a plan. Let me help you find your "Best-Fit" colleges. Local, honest, experienced.



Kirk Golba
210-0727

1. Consider important college characteristics you want in a college
2. Understand your learning style and find colleges that embrace that
3. Prioritize and use the college characteristics as a filter when choosing your college list
4. Create a list that has two Safeties, three Targets, and two Reach colleges

MESA CLUB NEWS:

MESA Club has been busy as always. The Mousetrap Car Competition was a big success, and many of the entries were super cool. The STEM Day put on by Colorado University and hosted by West Middle School was awesome. MGMS took about twenty-four students and they are all really excited to see what CU will bring for us next year.



Our next competition is the Egg Drop Competition which is at Colorado Mesa University. The competition is on Monday, April 24th. Students have to research, design, and build a device that holds three raw eggs. Their device will be dropped from a height of forty feet onto concrete. The lighter the device weighs and the faster it falls the better. Teams that have three whole, unbroken, raw eggs after the drop are in the running for winning. In addition to the competition, students will have an opportunity to tour CMU's campus and observe science labs and experiments as well as tour other cool campus buildings like the library and sports center.

Finally, a few months ago, MGMS's MESA Club was approached by SD51 to be one of the first schools in SD51 and the first western slope school district to become involved in the State of Colorado's Environmental Leadership Program (ELP). The ELP is a voluntary program that encourages and rewards superior environmental performers that go beyond the requirements of environmental regulations and move toward the goal of sustainability. Our MESA Club will host a huge collection day for recycling metals on Saturday, April 8. This is going to be a really big deal, so look and listen for information about this program on local news and radio stations. More information about the program and the collection day will be going home with all MGMS students after spring break.

Spring Scholastica Tournament

Fourteen students involved in the Mt. Garfield's Gifted and Talented Program attended the D51 Scholastica Tournament on March 3rd. The Scholastica Tournament includes students from all nine D51 Middle Schools and had approximately ninety-five students competing in games involving logic, strategy, spatial awareness, math skills, and combinations of these areas. The Mt. Garfield Middle School students placed three students in the top 18. Final results were: 1st place tied with 2 other contestants: Caden Hinshaw, 5th place: Isaiah Swank, and 14th place: Chase Storm. Way to go Gators!



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Health Office Reminders:

SUN SAFETY

It's warm and sunny! Your kids want to be outside and enjoy the sunshine. Keep in mind these tips from the American Cancer Society to stay safe in the sun!

REMEMBER TO:

Limit Sun Exposure

1. Peak sun hours are between 10am and 4pm, so try to limit the amount of sun exposure during this time.

- **Cover up**

- o Use clothing to cover and protect your skin.
- o Wear a hat. This helps protect your skin and eyes.

- **Wear Sunglasses**

1. You are supposed to wear sunglasses that block 99%-100% of both UVA and UVB rays. To buy the correct sunglasses, look for "UV absorption up to 400nm" or "Meets ANSI UV Requirements."

- **Use Sunscreen**

- o The SPF (Sun Protection Factor) in sunscreen states how long the sunscreen will protect your skin from the sun. To find that out, take the SPF, times it by 15, and that is how long the sunscreen will protect your skin.
- o Apply and reapply sunscreen every 2 hours.

- **Avoid tanning beds**

1. Tanning beds give out UVA and usually UVB rays as well. Both rays can cause long-term skin damage, and can contribute to skin cancer.

- **Protect your children**

- o Keep babies (younger than 6 months) out of direct sunlight, and cover up and protect with clothing and hats.
- o Use these tips to protect you and your children from the sun.
- o Educate your children about sun safety to have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Remember, just because it has been warm and sunny doesn't mean the cold weather is behind us. Please make sure your children are dressed for all types of weather.

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

- Sports Physical Special: \$25! No appointment necessary. You do not have to be a current patient.
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Gator Physical Education continues to build strong BODYS & MINDS.

MGMS P.E. students have finished up winter time net activities. With the end of the 3rd Quarter students completed badminton, pickleball and ping pong units with tournaments in all three concentrations. Also, at the end of the quarter came the fitness assessment finals. Students test their abilities with five different assessments measuring upper and lower body strength & endurance, cardio-vascular strength and endurance, flexibility, agility, and speed. In meeting cross-curriculum requirements, grades are added and averaged for the quarter. More specifically in third quarter 8th graders concentrated on improving personal results in the Pacer test, 7th graders learned how to calculate and use personal target heart rates and 6th graders applied growth mindset rubrics in all aspects of the physical education setting.



In 4th Quarter students will start out with fitness pre-assessments to establish a baseline for the eight elements of fitness. Our units this quarter will consist of Hantis, Track & Field, Softball, Chicago Ball, Frisbee, and possibly a unit on summertime backyard activities.

Physical education students are required to dress out in shorts daily, the NEW Gator t-shirt, tennis shoes that tie and come with a good attitude, ready to be challenged and have fun.

Please help your student to be successful in physical education by providing mandatory attire and encouraging participation.

STRONG BODY.....STRONG MIND!!!!

Get outside and enjoy some spring time activities with your family and friends over the spring break!!!!

Eve Edmiston & Erik Reiners
MGMS P.E. Teachers

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T H E R E ' S O N L Y O N E

Text Alerts

District 51 has invested in a district-wide communication system (called SchoolConnects) that will allow all schools and the district to contact you regarding important news, events, and emergency or safety-related situations. Schools and the district can only send texts to phones who have subscribed to receive the messages. If you want to receive SMS text messages from the school or district, you must first do the following:

1. Ensure that your child's school has your cell phone listed in the student database under "Mobile".
2. From the SMS-capable telephone where you want to receive the text messages, text the word Join to the number 56360. If our messaging system finds a match for your phone number in its database, you receive a confirmation message thanking you for joining school alerts. If our messaging system does not find a match for your phone number in its database, you will receive a me
3. Create a contact on your phone with the name of your school or school district, or another meaningful name, and the phone number 56360. Then, when you receive a text from this number, you know who is sending it.

At this point in time, the District will only contact parents in the case of an emergency or safety-related situations. The District will reach out to parents using phone, text and email or a combination. Parents and the community can also check the district website (www.d51schools.org) or social media accounts (facebook.com/schooldistrict51 and twitter.com/district51) for emergency alerts and updates as well as general news.

In order to receive the quickest and most accurate information in an emergency situation, parents need to be sure that all home phone, cell phone and email addresses are up-to-date in the student information system, Synergy. Contact the school office if you have any questions. The texts, calls and emails will only go to those families who have those fields filled in in the database. Should you have any questions about this new service or other emergency communications, don't hesitate to call Dan Dougherty in Communications or Tim Leon in Safety at 254-5100.



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