

Grand Mesa Middle School



October 2016

Jennifer Marsh, Principal | Scott Moore, AP | Jason Eidinger, AP | Jackie Walters, Secretary | Phyllis Taylor, Secretary

Important Dates

School-Wide Fundraiser Kickoff

October 10, 2016

7th & 8th Fall Choir Concert

October 12, 2016 7 pm
@ CHS HS Auditorium

End of 1st Quarter

October 14, 2016

Teacher Workday – NO SCHOOL

October 17, 2016

Girls Basketball

October 24, 2016
3:45pm 8th grade
4:45pm 7th grade
@ Caprock Academy

Girls Basketball

October 25, 2016
4:30pm 8th grade
5:30pm 7th grade
@ Plateau Valley MS

School-Wide Fundraiser ends

October 26, 2016

Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 26, 2016 3-7 pm
@ GMMS

Parent Advisory Council

October 26, 2016 6 pm
@ Main Office Conference Room

Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 27, 2016 7:30am-3:30pm @ GMMS

NO SCHOOL

October 28, 2016

A Message From Principal Jennifer Marsh

Fall Break is the first week of October (10/03 - 10/07) and October 14th, marks the end of 1st quarter. Our staff and students have been busy! Throughout the quarter students have been focusing on various classroom learning targets and activities. We held our first Parent Teacher Conferences mid-September, our 7th and 8th grade girls finished up their volleyball season and both our Orchestra and Band held concerts.

Please mark your calendars for our next round of Parent Teacher Conferences, Wednesday, October 26th, from 3-7 and Thursday, October 27th from 7:30 – 3:00. I will be hosting our Parent Advisory meeting on Oct 26, at 6:00PM.

In order to learn more about student's perceptions of their own Social Emotional Learning (SEL) skills in District 51, we will be asking our students to complete an SEL self-assessment this month. Education research has shown that Social and Emotional Learning matters for student achievement and well-being. It is no longer enough to focus only on developing and measuring academic competencies in school because success in today's society requires a broader set of skills. The district has chosen the Panorama self-assessment tool to strengthen our understanding of student needs. The tool offers students the opportunity to voice their needs and guide our efforts to support them. It shouldn't take students more than a few minutes to complete, and will be an invaluable source of information for us as we work to make our school better than ever. If you have any questions about the administration, please don't hesitate to contact me.

October also marks the month of our all school fundraiser! GMMS will kick-off the school-wide fundraiser on Monday, October 10th and end on Wednesday, October 26th. This is a catalog fundraiser through FunServices out of Westminster. Each student will receive a packet labeled with their name on it, Monday the 10th. Please encourage your student to participate in the all school fundraiser as the money raised will be used for student instructional items/materials and incentives.

As a staff we are dedicated to helping your student grow academically and socially. On behalf of all the staff at GMMS, I would like to thank you and your family for being valued partners as we work together to educate our children.

Best,
Jennifer Marsh

Important Dates Continued

Girls Basketball

November 1, 2016 3:45 pm
7th grade @ GMMS
8th grade @ BMS

Honor Choir Auditions

November 3, 2016 3 pm
@ Choir Room

Girls Basketball

November 3, 2016 3:45pm
7th grade @ GMMS
8th grade @ MGMS

Middle School In-Service – NO SCHOOL

November 11, 2016

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Parents/Guardians:

We would like to invite you to attend our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings. Meeting dates for this school year are:

September 14, 2016 6:00pm

October 26, 2016 6:00pm

February 15, 2017 6:00pm

May 3, 2017 6:00pm

The objectives of the PAC are to provide an ongoing vehicle for parent support for GMMS; promote excellence in all phases of the programs offered at GMMS; facilitate interaction and communication among the school staff, students, parents and community; strive to keep informed of the needs of the school and to create awareness of these needs among parents; aid in seeking support, financial and otherwise, from all available sources to meet the needs of the school; and to promote a positive image of GMMS throughout the community.

In order to maintain a PAC that best meets the needs of our caring community, we welcome ideas and areas of involvement you feel could benefit GMMS.

IMMUNIZATIONS

GMMS parents:

There have been changes to the State of Colorado Immunization requirements:

All students who are 6th graders are required to have a TDAP vaccine.

You can go to the district web page to check on immunization requirements and get forms on the link:

<https://connect.d51schools.org/sites/shared/nursing/Pages/home.aspx>

Thank you,
Health Office GMMS



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FROM THE ATTENDANCE OFFICE

Please make after school arrangements with your student prior to the beginning of the school day. We try to keep interruptions to instructional time to a minimum. If you will be picking your student up early, please send a note with your student and ask them to bring the note to the office. We will issue a pass for your student to meet you in the office at the time designated. Thank you for your assistance.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

EARN CASH FOR GRAND MESA

#1 –Clip Box Tops for Education Coupons

All you have to do is cut the little pink and white box with the Box Tops for Education logo out of various grocery items and turn them into the school office. Each box top is worth 10 cents with the exception of Super Box Tops and Bonus Box Tops which are worth more. Twice a year, the Box Top Coordinator for your school will mail all the coupons collected to General Mills who will then mail Grand Mesa Middle School a check. It's that simple! So please, start cutting out those little coupons and turn them in. The school greatly appreciates it! Can you imagine how many box tops we can collect if the whole school participates? Every little bit helps!

***Please be careful not to cut off the expiration dates.



Our school collects Box Tops for Education. Every Box Top that you turn in enables the school to earn cash for our school, which can be used to help purchase educational materials and other student activities!

Drop off your box tops in the front office collection box.

Thank you!!!



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SCHOOL-WIDE FUNDRAISER

Grand Mesa Middle School will hold our all-school fundraiser October 10 – October 26, 2016. We anticipate another great turn-out for the various items that can be purchased. Each student will be introduced to our partner, Fun Services, Inc. at an assembly on October 10th. Each student will be assigned a packet, complete with an order form and product description and photos for the items

GMMS will be offering for sale. These order forms and accompanying money will be returned to GMMS on October 26th. More information regarding the delivery date of purchased items will be coming out in a later newsletter.

Through your efforts in the past, we have been able to fund programs at Grand Mesa that greatly benefit ALL of our school community: Positive Behavior Support rewards, educational field trips, technology equipment, computer lab, leadership opportunities, and other positive supports to our students and staff. We hope you will enjoy shopping while you support the students at our school.

COUNSELING CORNER

Counseling Corner

Fostering a growth mindset involves developing positive self-talk. What is self-talk? Self-talk is our inner voice, our personal commentary, the recording that plays over and over in our minds. Our self-talk, both positive and negative, can have a powerful impact on our feelings and behaviors. Negative self-talk can contribute to symptoms of depression or anxiety. On the other hand, positive self-talk can boost our confidence and feelings of self-control. The next time you are experiencing strong emotions, take a moment to reflect on your self-talk. Is it mostly positive or negative? When we find ourselves or our children engaging in negative self-talk, there is hope! Combating negative self-talk and developing positive self-talk is often challenging but it is possible and worth the effort. Dr. Michele Borba describes 6 Ways to Turn “Cant’s” Into “Cans”:

1. Model Positive Self-Talk 2. Develop a Family “I Can” Slogan “Success comes in cans, not in cannots.” 3. Point Out Stinkin’ Thinkin’ 4. Confront Negative Voices 5. Turn Negatives Into Positives 6. Send Positive Self-Statement Reminders
Read more at <http://micheleborba.com/michele-borba-negative-kid-parenting-solutions-to-turn-cants-into-cans/>

Note: Research shows that on average it takes 66 days before a new habit will stick. If at first you don’t succeed, persevere!

Congratulations goes out to Christina Guire and Zach Wilson! These GMMS 8th graders were selected by their teachers as Alpine Bank and Colorado Mesa University Students of the Month. They will each receive a renewable yearly \$500 scholarship if they choose to attend CMU or Western Colorado Community College. In addition, they were honored at a luncheon during the month of October. Way to go!!!!

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

- Sports Physical Special: \$25! No appointment necessary. You do not have to be a current patient.
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NEWS FROM MRS. NICHOLS' CLASS

Hello families!

I would like to share with you a little bit of information about the classroom app that I use for our classroom. Our classroom app is called Class Messenger. Class Messenger is a kid-friendly/parent-friendly tool that is used to keep open lines of communication with regards to homework, class happenings, upcoming events, and important messages. It is also a tool that allows students and family members to communicate directly with me regarding Language Arts class, Wolf Pack, and activities that 8th grade students are involved in or might be interested in. I also upload images of activities from class that I believe will help students when they are at home and might need support, plus I like to share with families what we are working on in pictures. No student faces are used.

I shared the information needed by families and students for downloading the app last week. Please ask them about the paperwork or download the app in your smart phone's app store.

Once you have downloaded the app, follow the screen prompt, and enter our classroom code for Language Arts and Wolf Pack, if I have your child for that class also. The codes are listed below.

Language Arts- ZSR9TU

Wolf Pack- VEKVTE

Thank you for your partnership in the education of your loved one,

Mrs. Nichols

LIBRARY NEWS

We are excited to announce a Book Fair Oct 18th to Oct 28th. Parents, students, and staff are able to buy books in the GMMS library or online. Watch for more information that will come out after Fall Break.

The library is also hosting a Makerspace for all students after school on Mondays until 4pm. The month of October is focusing on projects made with cardboard as it is Cardboard Competition Month.



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SafeStop is Available at Mesa County Valley Schools!

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Why Register For SafeStop?

Our **FREE**, easy-to-use mobile app features neighborhood maps and a Map View bus locator so you'll never have to guess when the bus will arrive at your bus stop! Using GPS technology, the app updates every 30 seconds to help you better plan your busy day. In addition, you can have up to two user names per account to share access between parents or caregivers.

Available Features:

- Real-time map to locate your child's bus
- Expected Arrival Times for the bus at your stop
- Alerts & Messaging Center for service notifications and other updates
- Secure registration process ensures only parents can access student information



Already have a SafeStop Account? Here's how to renew your subscription:

(1) Visit your registration page: MesaCountyCO.SafeStopApp.com/activate and enter in your child's Student ID Number (*just like last year!*).

Don't know your child's Student ID? Please contact **First Name, Last Name** at **preferred contact method – email or phone** and your school's administration will assist you.

(2) Once you have renewed your subscription, you can start using SafeStop! We are already working with your school's transportation staff to ensure that SafeStop is live for your school as quickly as possible.

(3) Remember, if you have any questions about SafeStop, please email us at support@safestopapp.com or call us at (800) 843-8936.

New to SafeStop? It's easy to create an account and get started!

Visit MesaCountyCO.SafeStopApp.com/activate and follow the instructions on the page. You will be asked for your Student ID, so please be sure to have that ready!

What is SafeStop?

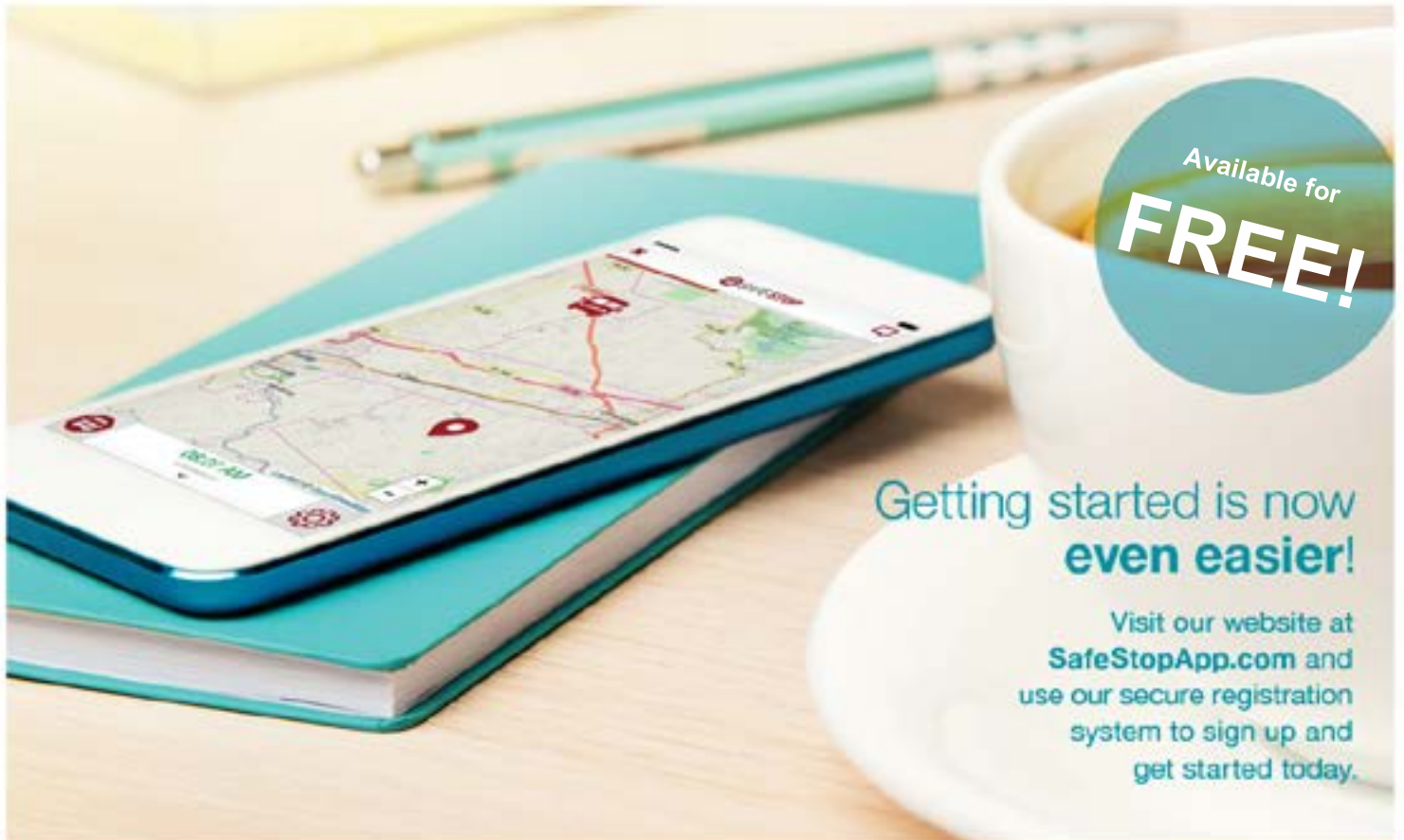
SafeStop is the app that finally answers the question, "Where's the bus?"

PEACE OF MIND

Built for parents like you, this app gives detailed vehicle information including its location and its expected arrival time at your bus stop. SafeStop is here to bring you peace of mind and convenience right at your fingertips!

FEATURES

- A real-time map showing you where your child's bus is located
- Expected arrival times for your bus stop
- An Alerts & Messaging center displaying important updates from your school or transportation provider



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