



Dear Community Member: You are receiving this email as part of the District's ongoing community communication efforts. If you do not wish to receive these emails, there is a place to unsubscribe at the very bottom.

Tammy's Top Ten on Tuesday May 16, 2017

- 1. Graduation Information:** I know there are a lot of seniors and their families getting very excited as we approach the important traditions of high school graduation. As a community, this is a time of celebration as we wish our graduates well. Their diplomas open doors to the future. Graduation matters!
 - **GFHS Baccalaureate:** Wednesday, May 31, 7:00 pm, GFHS Auditorium
 - **CMR Baccalaureate:** Wednesday, May 31, 7:00 pm, CMR Bill Williamson Hall
 - **GFHS Commencement:** Friday, June 2, 7:00 pm, GFHS Field House
 - **CMR Commencement:** Saturday, June 3, 7:00 pm, CMR Field House
 - **PGEC Commencement:** Wednesday, June 7, 6:30 pm, PGEC Gym
- 2. Congratulations Retirees:** GFPS says a heartfelt farewell to 38 staff members that will be concluding their GFPS careers. This includes 1 administrator, 12 teachers and 25 classified staff members. All together they represent 867 years of service to our kids, our community and our future. We wish them nothing but the best as they retire.
- 3. Music is in the Air:** Come see, and most importantly hear, the wonderful musical talents of our GFPS students. There are still 19 concerts to be performed by K-12 students between now and the last day of school including two concerts tonight! A full schedule of concert dates, times and places can be found here: www.gfps.k12.mt.us.
- 4. Memorial Stadium to Host AA Divisional Track Meet:** Watch for large travel buses and parents in school colors as they descend upon GF this Friday and Saturday for this large track meet. Track and field athletes from Billings Senior, Skyview and West, and from Butte, Bozeman and Great Falls will be vying for the opportunity to compete in the State Meet in Butte May 26-27. Good luck to our own Bison and Rustlers!
- 5. Multi-Sports Complex to Host AA State Softball Tournament:** Eight teams from across Montana will compete for the state title right here in Great Falls on May 25-27. We have fingers crossed for the Lady Bison to do well this week in the playoffs as they seek to represent GF at State! CMR is already in the state tournament. Good luck, ladies!
- 6. Eagle Feather Ceremony.** This annual ceremony on Tuesday, May 23, will follow the native tradition of presenting an eagle feather to students as they celebrate an important rite of passage: graduation. The eagle feather represents honesty, truth, strength, courage, wisdom, power and freedom...the very things we hope for all of our graduates as they leave our schools. For the last several years, GFPS has supported culturally relevant and appropriate adornment on graduation gowns and caps to include the wearing of eagle feathers. This will become commonplace across the state due to a new law passed in the 2017 legislature. You can read more about that here: www.greatfallstribune.com/story/news/politics/2017/04/21/governor-signs-native-regalia-bill/100761890/.
- 7. All-City Speech Meet:** The annual meet will be held on May 25th at Lewis and Clark Elementary. 130 students from all 15 elementary schools have been invited to compete. 4th graders give expository speeches, 5th graders give oratory speeches and 6th graders give impromptu speeches. Judges are high

school speech and debate team members, teachers, and community members. Awards are given to the top eight students in each event. The meet begins at 4:00 pm with 2 preliminary rounds. The final round will be held at approximately 6:00 pm with awards to follow.

- 8. High School House Open Houses:** For 20 years, GFPS construction tech students have built houses in partnership with NeighborWorks. These houses, built from the ground up during the school year, become homes for families that are decorated with colors and finishes designed by students in Interior Design classes. The public is invited to the open houses on May 25 to celebrate the 20th anniversary. Snacks will be provided by the Culinary Arts students.
 - GFHS House, 4:00 – 5:00, 1624 8th Ave. S.
 - CMR House, 5:30-6:30, 1636 6th Ave. NW
- 9. Congratulations Teachers of the Year:** At the GFPS Foundation's Excellence in Education ceremony last week, EMS teacher Lisa Shull and GFHS teacher Beth Thomas were announced as this year's Teachers of the Year. They each receive \$2500 to use in their classrooms compliments of BNSF Railway's sponsorship of the program. An insert detailing all of the scholars and distinguished educators was in last Saturday's paper. If you didn't get one, you can stop by my office to pick one up.
- 10. School Board Meetings:** The next regular Board meeting is on Monday, May 22 at 5:30 at the District Office Building, 1100 4th St. S. The agenda and supporting information will be posted this Thursday, May 18, at this link: www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/meeting-agendas.

I hope you enjoyed this week's Top Ten on Tuesday! The next release is scheduled for May 30, 2017.

Take care. Be well. Stay safe.
Tammy L. Lacey
Superintendent

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