



Great Falls Public Schools
Ten “MOORE” things you need to know
March 3, 2021

Dear Community Member:

Here are some things going on in Great Falls Public Schools that you need to know about!

1. **COVID-19 Update:** This week we have seen a slight uptick in our COVID+ students and staff in isolation or quarantine. Less than 300 of our 1500 employees have been vaccinated to date. The District has required masks in our schools since we reopened in September. Given this information, I would anticipate that we will keep our health and safety protocols for COVID-19 in place at this time. For more information on vaccines: <https://www.cascadecountymt.gov/462/COVID-19-Vaccination>
2. **Winter Sports Updates:** The Winter sports seasons are wrapping up this week! The State AA Swim, Meet will be held here at Great Falls High School on Friday, March 5. The State AA Wrestling Meet will be held at Flathead High School in Kalispell on March 5th and 6th. The AA Basketball playoffs are happening this week with the GFHS Boys at home against Gallatin on Thursday, March 4th at 6:00 PM, the GFHS Girls are at Billings Senior at 4:00 PM and the CMR Girls are at Billings Skyview at 4:00 PM as well. The CMR Boys play in Bozeman at 7:00 PM on Friday, March 5. The AA State Basketball tournament will be held in Great Falls at the 4-Seasons Arena on March 10, 11, 12 & 13. For more information: <https://www.mhsa.org/bbpostseason>
3. **Art Month:** GFPS is celebrating the Fine Arts! It is Youth Art Month, Music In Our Schools Month, and Theatre in our Schools Month. Please take a moment to thank our dedicated Art, Music, and Theatre professionals for all the great work they do on a daily basis to bring creativity, emotion, and critical thinking skills to our students and community. For more information: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Domain/84>
4. **Black History Month:** Four community members spoke at a special assembly at East Middle School to recognize Black History Month. The speakers facilitated a panel discussion as students asked questions about racism, Martin Luther King Jr and more. It was an amazing educational experience for all of the middle school students.
5. **Skills USA Leadership:** Last week GFPS hosted an open house at the ASE Automotive Training Center located at Paris Gibson Education Center. The program is celebrating 15 years of operation. The ASE program is a capstone course for students who interested in pursuing a career in automotive repair or mechanics. The project was originally cofounded by local automotive dealerships and the school district. Thank you to Becky Nelson and Skills USA student leaders Emma and Macie from Great Falls High for helping to host this event! Check out the photos from this event on our Facebook page; <https://www.facebook.com/GreatFallsPublicSchools/photos/pcb.3675542965827782/3675542882494457>

6. **GFPS Summer Virtual Academy:** Summer Virtual Academy 2021 will run from June 7 through July 31. Students are able to earn credit in several core classes as well as a couple of electives including one dual credit offering. Students taking courses in the summer are able to open up their schedules, affording them more flexibility to take higher level or different courses of their choosing during the school year. Registration opens Monday, March 1 at 8:00 AM - High interest classes like HPE will fill up within 10 minutes of the opening of registration! <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Page/1>
7. **GFPS Surplus:** Great Falls Public Schools has a number of items that have surpassed their usefulness for our purposes. However, many of the items are still of some resale value and may be of interest to others in the private sector. By state law and board policy these items are to be publicly noticed as surplus and offered for resale through a bid process. For more information please check out these items and the process for bidding: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Page/1229>
8. **We Need Your Help! GFPS Positions Open:** This spring GFPS is looking to hire teachers in several areas, teacher aides, food service workers, Para educators, substitutes and more. Current openings are always found here: <https://www.applitrack.com/greatfalls/onlineapp/default.aspx?all=1> Big Sky Bus Lines is in need of bus drivers as well. You can contact them at 454-1283 for more information.
9. **Legislative Session in Full Swing:** The GFPS Board Budget Committee will host an interactive meeting with some of our elected legislators from Cascade County on March 4, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM in the Aspen Room of the District Office Building: <https://mt50000605.schoolwires.net/site/default.aspx>. For daily information on the Legislative Session visit: <https://leg.mt.gov/session/>
10. **School Trustee Elections:** There is currently one, three-year term on the District School Board that is expiring. Individuals who are interested in running must file a [**DECLARATION OF INTENT AND OATH OF CANDIDACY FOR TRUSTEE CANDIDATES**](#) with the County Elections Office. This office is located at 325 2nd Ave North, Great Falls. The filing period to do this is December 10, 2020 through March 25, 2021. Candidates must report campaign expenditures to the Montana Commissioner of Political Practices. [**School Elections / School Elections 2021 \(gfps.k12.mt.us\)**](#)

Schools Cannot Do It Alone Network series. Today's installment, "What About Bob," is seven minutes long. We address the importance of supporting your schools and present the hard and soft benefits that flow to the people in our community whether or not you have children in the system.

Here's the link: <https://player.vimeo.com/video/516283711>

I hope "Moore" information was helpful to you! The next release is scheduled for March 18, 2021. 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.

Thanks for reading and thank you for supporting our staff and students!

Sincerely,

Tom Moore

Superintendent

More GFPS news:

We post a lot of GFPS news on the district's Facebook page

(<https://www.facebook.com/GreatFallsPublicSchools>), and on our webpage (www.gfps.k12.mt.us). Please check-in often.

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