



Great Falls Public Schools
Ten “MOORE” things you need to know
December 1, 2020

Dear Community Member:

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

- 1. COVID-19 Updates** - On Monday, November 30, 2020 we resumed face-to-face learning in all schools across the District after a temporary 2-week shift District-wide to remote learning for all students. This was done to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our schools and allow for staff and students to complete the isolation or quarantine period as a result of testing positive for Covid-19 or being a close contact with a person who was Covid-19 positive. For more information: <https://gfps.k12.mt.us/>
- 2. Teachers are Essential Workers!**- These past few weeks as the spread of COVID-19 has increased in Cascade County, our GFPS teachers and staff have been under an unusual amount of stress and strain to cover classes and provide for the learning needs of students and deal with their own health concerns. A local business, Great Harvest Bread Company, along with an anonymous "Secret Santa" are giving out free baked goods to all GFPS employees at their store on Wednesday, December 2nd. The anonymous Santa has funded a free loaf of bread, cookies or rolls to every teacher, crossing guard, food service worker, principal, etc. for their work these past months. We appreciate the amazing support from our community in so many way
- 3. Fall Sports wrapped up on Saturday, November 14** - Congratulations to the CMR Girls Volleyball Team who took second place in the MHSAA State AA Volleyball Championship against Helena Capital. It was a close battle with Capital taking the title 3-2 in the final round. Great season for the Lady Rustlers!
- 4. Military Interstate Compact Coalition Announces Montana’s Purple Star Schools** - Purple Star recognition is awarded to schools that go above and beyond to provide inclusive environments for active military families. The schools awarded this year are Loy Elementary, North Middle School, and CMR High School, all in Great Falls, as well as Glacier High School in Kalispell and Valley Christian School in Missoula.
- 5. Thanksgiving Donations (turkeys and volunteers) Appreciated** - Over 100 food boxes were distributed before Thanksgiving to GFPS families. Each of these families enjoyed a wonderful meal because of our community. Ty and Kristie Williams donated 50 turkeys, Cogswell Insurance provided volunteers, and local Hutterite Colonies made pumpkin pies.
- 6. Great Falls Public Schools Foundation** - Has been busy with gifts from donors to help GFPS students during the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Season. Thank you so much to the Foundation and donors for helping others! If you want more information on how you can help this holiday season, contact the GFPS Foundation office at 268-7401.
- 7. Help Wanted** - Pass it on...GFPS is looking to hire teacher aides, food service workers, Para educators, substitutes and more. Current openings are always found here: www.gfps.k12.mt.us/employment. Big Sky Bus Lines is in need of bus drivers as well. You can contact them at 454-1283 for more information.
- 8. Community Partners** - "A Desk of Their Own to Learn at Home! "Three gentlemen, 40 desks and a blessing to Remote Learner First Grade Students! Gordon Johnson, Gaines McFadden and Dan Oakland have been busy building student desks for our first grade students who are learning at home. They build

and deliver (to Roosevelt School) for distribution to homes! The students grin from ear to ear as they have a desk that fits them to call their own!

9. **Board Meetings:** The GFPS Board of Trustees meetings are typically held the 2nd and 4th Mondays of most months. These are public meetings. Agendas and supporting information are always posted the Thursday afternoon prior to the Board meetings. The next Board meeting is on December 14th with the agenda posted on December 10th. Important Board information can be found here: <http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/school-board>.
10. **CMR Health Science Students Give Back-** HOSA is a group for students who want to work in the healthcare industry. The students do community service with organizations such as the fire department and county health department, and visit elementary schools to talk to students about the group. This month the CMR HOSA students have been putting together gift baskets for first responders and health care workers to express their appreciation for the work that these folks do in our community, especially during the pandemic! For more information; <https://www.krtv.com/news/great-falls-news/cmr-student-group-shows-support-for-healthcare-workers>

Changing Weather Conditions- Winter weather is upon us! Great Falls Public Schools are concerned with student safety as they travel to and from school. Be sure to adhere to school zone speed limits, attend to buses with red flashing lights and watch for children at all times. Please reference some guidance on inclement weather procedures on our website <https://gfps.k12.mt.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/REFRIGERATOR-NOTE-2019.pdf>

I hope “Moore” information was helpful to you! The next release is scheduled for December 16, 2020. 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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You can pass on the invitation to your friends to subscribe to this service. If they open this page, there is a sign-up spot under my signature: www.gfps.k12.mt.us/superintendent.