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# GRAND RIVER ACADEMY



## Newsletter

# A Note from the Principal

### A big, big thank you!

Our students could not be successful without the support of you: their families. Our students rely on the support of their parent(s)/guardian(s) to help them be successful in our blended learning model. As you know, online learning is not easier, it's just different and it requires effort on the part of the family support system. Thank you for all the help you give them in completing their studies at home.

### School Performance Framework

Each year the State of Colorado issues schools a "Performance Framework." This contains information about how the school fared the prior year on measures such as the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) and SAT. This information, along with other data collected by the school, is used to create the school's Unified Improvement Plan (UIP).

The UIP is required by State law and it details the school's plans for improving outcomes for students

You can find more information on the School Performance Framework at <https://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/performanceframeworks>. More information about the State's UIP requirements can be found at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/uiip>.

Warmest Regards,

Steve States, Principal

# Counselor Corner

### About your counselor:

Hello, and allow me to introduce myself. My name is Michelle Haptonstall, and I am a new counselor for students and families at Grand River Academy.

I come from a 20+ history as a teacher and counselor in the district. I have been a counselor for the past 11 years, combined MS and alternative HS, with my previous school being at Valley School Program, and I am excited to now be serving your Grand River family.

I am very excited to work beside and on behalf of you and your students at Grand River. I look forward to hopefully meeting all of you as your students go through our hallways and classrooms.

### Up and Coming:

For the next few months Grand River and the School District are working on Suicide Prevention Training for our students. I have sent out information about when these trainings take place. It is a good informational platform of discussion and mental health support for students. If you have any questions please notify me.

### HS Planning:

There will be a focus on creating plans and getting familiar with personal interests and experiences to assist all students after high school. We will be walking through Naviance (program for after HS planning) to explore and create options available.

Juniors and Seniors-

Jostens will be visiting Grand River soon to introduce all the SWAG for graduation and class rings.

### Vocational Field Trips:

Dec. 7- field trip to GJ area legal services- students interested in Lawyer/attorney and the courts- talk to and get the permission forms from Ms. Haptonstall to reserve your spot.

### I NEED YOU!!

I am wanting to create a Student Lead group to have voice and choice in our building. It will be to welcome new students, create celebrations, efforts to reach out in the school and community, and create a welcoming and inviting culture among students.

If you are interested see Ms. Haptonstall.

# November Calendar



- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jostens will be at Grand River from 10:30am-12:30pm for graduation gowns and class rings.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Field trip to GJ area legal services. Contact Ms. Haptonstall.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Elementary pottery fieldtrip 11:00am
- 12<sup>th</sup> Middle School Field Trip to the Colorado National Monument. Contact Mrs. Sewalson.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Elementary Learning Coach Meeting 8:30am-9:30am.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Elementary Learning Coach Meeting 8:30am-9:30am.
- 15<sup>th</sup> High School Careers Class touring Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) 1:30pm-2:30pm. Contact Mrs. Clement.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Elementary pottery fieldtrip 11:00am
- 19<sup>th</sup>—23<sup>rd</sup> Thanksgiving Break- No School.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Elementary cooking club 11:30am-12:30am.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Safety Summit Field Trip 8:30am-2:30pm. Contact Ms. Haptonstall.

# Attendance Matters

Attendance is one predictor of student success. It is important that students attend on their weekly day in order to learn academic content that will help them be successful in k12 for k-5 and Odysseyware for 6-12. Please make sure your student attends regularly on their scheduled day:

K-2<sup>nd</sup> grades- Tuesday 8:30am-2:30pm

3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades- Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm

k-5<sup>th</sup> grades- Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm (optional day)

\*6<sup>th</sup> grade- Tuesday 8:30am-2:30pm

\*7<sup>th</sup> grade – Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm

\*8<sup>th</sup> grade- Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm

9<sup>th</sup> grade- Tuesday 9am-2:30pm

10<sup>th</sup> grade- Wednesday 9am-2:30pm

11<sup>th</sup> grade- Thursday 9am-2:30pm

12<sup>th</sup> grade – Friday 9am-12pm

\*6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade have “Stay & Play” from 2:30pm-3:00pm on their scheduled day (optional).

# Grand River High School Clubs

November 5<sup>th</sup> Cooking Club 1:00pm-3:00pm  
(Contact Mrs. Peterson)

November 12<sup>th</sup> Riverwatch 1:00pm-3:00pm  
(Contact Mrs. Peterson)

## Mondays

11:00am-12:00pm Dungeons & Dragons  
(Contact Ms. Overturf)

12:00pm-1:00pm Anime  
(Contact Ms. Overturf)

1:30pm-2:30pm Art/3D Printing  
(Contact Mrs. Stocks or Mrs. Clement)

2:30pm-3:30pm Criminology  
(Contact Mrs. Clement)

Times TBD  
Field Trips will be scheduled and communicated in advance.

## Fridays

12:00pm-1:00pm Student Council  
(Contact Mr. Ahrens)

1:00pm-2:00pm Video Game  
(Contact Mr. Stoner)

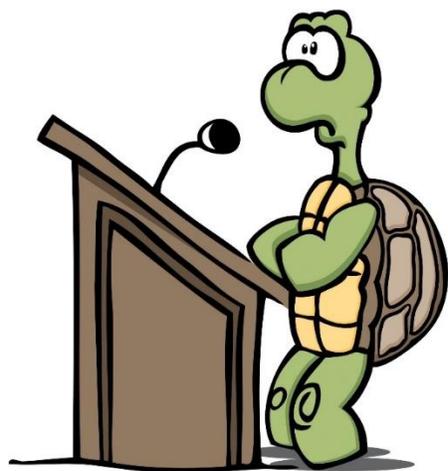
1:00pm-2:00pm Photography  
(Contact Mr. Ahrens)

2:00pm-3:00pm

Gym Activities  
(Contact Mr. Ahrens or  
Mr. Stoner)

Times TBD

Field trips will be  
scheduled and  
communicated in  
advance.



## Volunteers Needed to Speak

Do you work in cosmetology, real estate, social work or the sciences? Or do you have a career that you would be willing to come and speak to a class about? We need volunteers willing to share their career with students. Contact Mrs. Clement for more information at [tilisa.clement@d51schools.org](mailto:tilisa.clement@d51schools.org) or 254-6393 ext 69107.

## Growth Mindset

In general, a growth mindset is the belief that intelligence and ‘smartness’ can also be learned and that the brain grows from experience and effort. The opposite, a fixed mindset, is the idea that you are smart, or you are not. Did you know that praising efforts rather than intelligence or results can impact your child’s ability to persevere in challenges?! The goal is to have children thrive on challenges and see failures, not as a sign of low intelligence, but as a learning opportunity. Brain research tells us that making mistakes actually wires more connections into the brain! When a person has a growth mindset, they accept challenges, see their efforts as worthwhile, and are open to learning from mistakes. Students with a growth mindset achieve at higher levels than those with fixed mindsets. How can you help? Some simple ways:

- Adding “yet” when they claim they are “not good at this” (Respond: “You are not good at this yet.”)
- Ask questions that focus on their effort and choices and get them to reflect on satisfaction of that effort (e.g. What did you learn today? What mistake did you make that taught you something? What did you try hard at today?)
- Model this yourself as you share about your day.



**1-877-542-7233**

[safe2tellco.org](http://safe2tellco.org)

Anonymously Report Concerns 24/7

