A Note from the Principal

March is upon us. We have Spring Break this in March, so there will only be three weeks of school this month. Spring Break is a great time to catch up if your student has fallen behind. Odysseyware will remain open over the break.

**Strategic Planning**

School District 51 is asking community members to help build a road map to the district’s future through Strategic Plan meetings taking place during the next few weeks.

The purpose of the community meetings is to find out what residents of D51 want for the future of PK-12 education in Mesa County. The meetings will be from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on the following days:

- March 5th in the Palisade High School Cafeteria
- March 10th in the Central High School cafeteria

The public is invited to attend any of the sessions above, whether they live in the attendance area where the meeting is taking place or in another part of the district. Attendees are encouraged to bring their smartphones to the meetings so that they can participate in live polling; Chromebooks will be available for those without smartphones.

In addition to the public meetings, D51 will host four meetings to gather input from staff members and host two breakfast meetings for local business and government leaders. All information will be compiled and shared with Strategic Plan Committee members, who will use the data to find trends and priorities, create actionable steps and benchmarks for addressing those priorities, and decide how success will be measured through the Strategic Plan.

If you have any questions about this process, don’t hesitate to ask.

Thank you for sharing your student with us!

Warm Regards,
Steve States.
Scholastic 2020

Scholastic 2020 is a district-wide challenge for middle school students with “brain games”. Our middle school students were invited to this challenge and participated with all other middle schools in the district. This took place on February 11th at Bookcliff Middle School.

Our students were involved with timed competitions with other middle schools practicing problem-solving strategies within the “brain games”. This is our third year in the competition where we have held the overall first place student and our school placed second overall in past years. This was another successful year with students representing GRA with their great sportsmanship and striving their best!
Crocodile Reef

Crocodile Reef was invited to share their animals with GRA on February 27th. Elementary students have been studying endangered species and middle school studies have included genetics, ecosystems and habitats. As a culminating education experience students were able to interact with animal species brought in by owner Dylan from Crocodile Reef. Some of the animals included a young Wallaby, pythons, tiger salamander, bearded dragon and more. Students were able to handle many of these animals which left them with a greater appreciation of protecting and understanding animal species.
This year Grand River Academy will have a yearbook put together by our fantastic students!

Order yours today!
K-12
Customizable
Hardcover - $30
Softcover - $20
E-book - $10
Pre-order by March 27th, 2020

Order at:
Grandriveracademy.picaboo.com

March Calendar

5th High School/Elementary Conferences 4-8 pm
10th Middle School Conferences 4-8 pm
12th Teacher Workday, No School
13th Teacher Inservice, No Tutoring or Clubs.
16th-20th Spring Break

Online Learning

Parents and students choose our school for a variety of reasons. Grand River offers a smaller environment on-site, and students don’t have to attend at our physical location as often. This helps to alleviate many of the concerns parents may have about school when they come to Grand River.

There is one thing that is similar to traditional schools, and that is, we need students to engage in their online lessons and “attend” online. Attending online means that they are working on their online assignments 4 days a week for 5-6 hours each day. They also need to attend on-site on their assigned day. During the on-site days, students have the opportunity to socialize with other students and will experience instruction that extends what they are doing online.

Students who follow our attendance guidelines are generally more successful in online schooling than those who attend online and on-site sporadically or not at all.

The Learning Coach is a vital link in the online experience, and we can’t do it without them! They serve as a motivator and monitor of student work. Check students’ online progress daily and monitor what they are working on when
on the computer. Set aside a consistent place for your student to work. Make a schedule with your student and have your student follow it as closely as possible. There will be weeks when you have to deviate from the schedule. That is fine but just get back on the schedule as soon as you can. Make sure your student is taking notes as well.

Your student’s success depends on a partnership between the school and you. We appreciate all of our Learning Coaches, and Parents/ Guardians. Your student would not receive a quality online education without you!