A Note from the Principal

We are already 12 weeks into school. The time flies by. The quick passing of time means that we all have to be diligent in making sure students are on track in k-12 (for k-5) or Odysseyware (6-12) because the end of the semester will be here before we know it.

It is easy to fall behind, and once your student starts to fall behind it can be like a snowball.

I want to take the time to thank you for the coaching of your student that you are doing at home. You are a vital link in your child’s education. We see students once a week, maybe a little bit more if they come in for tutoring. You pick up the load at home the rest of the time. Thank you for being the coach your child needs to be a successful student. Some tips to help your child be successful: having them take notes as they read. This helps to solidify the learning in their brain. Work each day on lessons that are issued. Procrastination will cause your student to fall behind. Monitoring your student’s progress is also so important. What is monitored gets done and your student needs to be aware that you know their progress and you are monitoring it.

Thanks again for all you do.

Studt’s Pumpkin Patch

Photo courtesy of parent Ken Durham

Students enjoyed a trip to Studt’s Pumpkin Patch. The field trip was well attended and our students had the opportunity to socialize with one another in a relaxed and fun environment.

Community Garden

Thirteen sixth-graders helped the Mesa County Public Library Community Garden. Several students helped to build part of the “hoop house” for sprouting seeds. Others planted bulbs, built raised beds for the bulbs, and still, others cut, cleared and composted the
remnants of last year’s plants. Students planted the seeds for what will be a long-running relationship with this site and this community. (Courtesy of Betsy Warner)

Advisory

Advisory is a class that we have had in place for a while. In high school, only one teacher taught advisory in recent years. In middle school, each teacher has had a grade that is their advisory group. In elementary, Ms. Karla has worked with our youngest learners. The focus for learning was on the Habits of Mind, like perseverance.

Advisory structures have changed this year. Since the school district has developed a Social and Emotional Framework, we will use this to guide our teaching. Every teacher has students for advisory. The purpose of advisory is to make sure that every student is connected to at least one adult at the school. This is to increase students’ feelings of belonging at our school.

Advisory is guided by the district’s Social and Emotional framework. This framework outlines the social and emotional skills that students need to learn to be successful in school and life. One skill might be demonstrating “ways to express understanding of those who hold a different opinion.” It could be exploring “possible career and volunteer opportunities based on their identified strengths and interests.” Advisory is for students to learn those social and emotional skills they will need in life.

Students are also setting goals in advisory. Goals are both academic and personal. Setting and achieving goals is one skill that students need to be successful in school and life.

Sixth graders work the community garden.
For the next quarter, we are focusing on the “self-management” domain of the district’s Social and Emotional framework. You can go [here](#) to check out the Social and Emotional framework. Look toward the bottom of the page, and they are labeled SEL Frameworks.

If you have any questions about advisory, don’t hesitate to contact your student’s advisory teacher or me.

**Eureka Science Museum FREE Family Night**

Eureka Science Museum will host a free family night for Grand River students. All students (K-12) are welcome to attend. The family night will be at Eureka from 5:30-7:30 November 12th. The location of Eureka is at 1400 N 7th Street in Grand Junction. We hope to see you there!

**From the Office**

The end of the semester will be here before we know it. We are planning and need to know if your student will not be returning next semester. Please email or call the office to let us know.

Please be sure and read all the emails and texts from school. They contain important information for parents and your child’s school experience.

Thank you for sharing your student with us.

Warmest Regards,
Steve States, Principal

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**Year Book**

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 Mar. 27, 2020

Order at: Grandriveracademy.picaboo.com

**November Calendar**

3rd Daylight Savings time ends, set your clock back an hour

12th Eureka Science Museum Family Night 5:30-7:30 @ Eureka.

21st Conferences 4 pm- 8 pm

25th-29th Thanksgiving Break

College Information - Great opportunities
Counselor’s Corner

College Information - Great opportunities

Seniors-

ASCENT- 1 year of College paid for-
Applications by December

Seniors who are currently taking CMU or WCCC College classes may be eligible to register for the ASCENT program. This program is for selected students to continue their college coursework into next year free of charge. To qualify, you need a minimum of 12 college credits completed by May 2020, have qualifying test scores, and will graduate HS on time (4 years). If you are a student who feels they may be eligible and/or interested, please come and see Ms. Haptonstall immediately to discuss possibilities. Applications and Registrations should be completed in December.

Students grade 9-12-

Concurrent Enrollment- Free College while in HS- process starts today- apply by December

Students who have PSAT/SAT Accuplacer tested and meet the scores as well as have a desire to attend college-level classes with the School District paying for it, come and talk to Ms. Haptonstall to see if you qualify or what you can do to qualify. Concurrent enrollment is an excellent opportunity through a few different programs to begin your college credits and transcript while fulfilling your High school transcript. On November 14, CMU reps will be at Grand River to begin signing students up for this program. If you are considering this, please see Ms. Haptonstall before the 14th to begin the journey towards this fantastic opportunity.

Graduating Class Information-

Graduates have given their voices in their Graduation Ceremony. They all had an opportunity to create their ideas around a Graduating Class Colors, Flower, Song, Tassel Color(s), and Motto. They then were able to vote to decide as a class what they would like to see integrated into their ceremony in May. Here is the outcome of those selections.

Class Colors:

Gray and Teal

Class Flower:

White Rose

Class Song:

Congratulations – By Post Malone

Class Tassel Colors:

White and Silver
Class Motto:

“Part of the Journey is the end, but that could be just the beginning.”

Graduation - May 21- 10 a.m. at the Avalon Theater-

We are expecting to have our first 2019-2020 graduate any day now. Stay tuned to see who will be highlighted next month. High School- Grades 9-12

College Trips/Tours

A trip to Colorado Mountain College took place on 10/29 for SD #51. We only had one student participate in the trip. We would like to see more and more students take advantage of these trips as they are free to the families and provide an excellent opportunity for students to see and experience a college campus briefly without any expectations placed upon them. It is merely to give the experience. There may be another Colorado Mountain College trip planned in the Spring for anyone who would like to see the Glenwood campus and learn more about what they offer for programming.

Other college field trips coming this year-May have one to colleges on the front range, CMU, and all 10th graders, and anyone else interested will be visiting/touring WCCC in mid to late January.

Vocational Field Trips-

Virtually each month, Grand River participates in Vocational field trips geared to provide many opportunities for 9-12 grade students to go out into our community and speak with Businesses and Business owners or people in the highlighted field. Those employers, employees, and businesses take time out of their calendars to talk to students and provide insight as to what a day in their life would entail in those career fields.

In October there was a field trip surrounding Construction and Safety around Construction.

In November we went to places supporting Agriculture and Animal Science.

December will focus on The Judicial Court system and Legal Services. – Lawyer/Law

January will be around Law Enforcement

February will be highlighting fields in the study of The Arts and Communication

March takes students around to Businesses to speak about the Business community.

April/May involves all of the STEM careers-Math, Science, Engineering and Math
Field Trip forms are available in the main office or the Counseling office the month prior. They are also sent out through e-mail to parents and students if there is an e-mail on file. If you are NOT receiving these e-mails, please contact the main office to ensure you are on our e-mail list and/or your most recent and correct e-mail is on file. Students who would like to get these e-mails themselves should also be sure the main office has the most updated e-mail/phone information on file for you.

All School – K-12

Grief Group-

We are still looking to create a grief group here at Grand River. Currently, our community has a significant need, and we are still waiting for the option to have a facilitator from Hope West on our campus. Stay tuned as we continue to research this option for our students. In the meantime, please know if you and/or your family would like to seek this service out in the community there are groups for all which are provided within the community structure that you can attend and be a part of. If you would like to find these resources for yourself and/or your family, please contact Hope West at (970) 241-2212. Once we have a group facilitator onboard we will send out invites and information to students and families.

Suicide Prevention-

Every year it is a charge for every student to receive safety training around Mental Health and Suicide Awareness. Thus far, our 6th, 8th, and 9th grade students have received their respective age-appropriate trainings. On Nov. 7th and 13th, 11th and 7th graders respectively will receive theirs. Our 10th and 12th grades will receive theirs within the 2nd semester. Essential parts of this training are to help students become aware of signs, symptoms, stigmas, and keeping themselves and others safe. If you have any questions around this subject or these awareness trainings please contact Ms. Haptonstall (Counselor) at Grand River Academy.

Elementary get a part of how to be safe and how to help each other within their time with Ms. Haptonstall as the year continues. We revisit feelings/emotions and working through them continuously within the monthly lessons with K-2/ 3-5 grade level meetings.

At any time students would like to touch base with the school counselor, please do not hesitate to contact or have students connect with me any day of the week. There are forms outside the Counseling office to fill out to let and post for her know they would like a visit. Phone calls and e-mails are welcome anytime.
Career Exploration-

We touch base yearly to create a student-specific/individualized ICAP plan (Individual Career and Academic Plan). This is an opportunity for students to explore and gain insights about themselves as they begin to explore Career and College Readiness.

Elementary-

It is simply a continued conversation around what they enjoy, how they like to ‘work’, their personal likes/dislikes and what they would like to ‘Do When they Grow up’. What kinds of things do they enjoy ‘doing’ and how they see themselves as a contributing part of their school and future work communities.

Middle School-

Naviance is a tool that students will use/utilize to continue this exploration. They are able to access this both at school and at home. Naviance offers many assessments/interest inventories as well as the option to look at colleges, careers, virtual job shadow, and even request transcripts to send to colleges. Again, it is continued self-exploration of their personal likes/dislikes/passions and strengths as they see them and how that can contribute to a school/work community.

High School- 9-12-

Monthly Vocational Field Trips, College tours, and job shadows are some components of continued exploration. Another opportunity will come when students visit WCCC and Career Center in the Spring. Counseling encourages students to study and become familiar with their transcripts to gain information reading them and their desired pathway as well as the District requirements to graduate. Students are encouraged to visit the counseling office as many times as possible to continue learning and altering their plans towards their futures. Continuing to revisit programming, transcripts and pathways, as well as Naviance, helps students take advantage of all the opportunities provided, giving them the best picture of their own likes/dislikes, passions and desires as they begin to explore their own personalized futures.

Parents are not able to get onto the Naviance accounts themselves, but we do encourage you to begin and continue the exploration and everything Naviance has to offer your student in preparing for their education and their next steps.

You can find Naviance on the Grand River Main Website on the lower blue buttons. The student username and password are the ones the School District has provided them.

Loose Threads - Clothing
We now have an area of our building dedicated to free clothing for those in need. Donations are beginning to stream in, and currently, we are providing long sleeve shirts/pants/jackets and clothing for winter months. Please feel free to stop by and take items you need to help you dress appropriately as the winter months approach. There are select sizes for both boys and girls and some adult.

We want to begin to take donations for near new/barely used clothing in all sizes (men’s/women’s/girls/boys/infants/toddlers). If you have any suggestions or questions please contact Becky Wyatt Or Michelle Haptonstall at 254-6393.

Attendance Matters

Attendance is one predictor of student success. It is brains that students attend on their weekly day and online. Please make sure your student is getting 30 hours of work per week, at a minimum. Each Student’s day onsite is counted in their instruction. Each teacher has made accommodations in their Odysseyware course to account for the on-site day.

K-2nd grades- Tuesday 8:30am-2:30pm
3rd-5th grades- Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm
k-5th grades- Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm (optional day)
*6th grade- Tuesday 8:30am-2:30pm
*7th grade – Wednesday 8:30am-2:30pm
*8th grade- Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm
9th grade- Tuesday 9am-2:30pm
10th grade- Wednesday 9am-2:30pm
11th grade- Thursday 9am-2:30pm
12th grade – Friday 9am-12pm

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