

Raptor Report

Grand River Academy Newsletter

February

News & features

Principal's Update
Page 1

Reminders
Page 2

Updates-Advisory, COVID
information, & Updating
Information
Page 3

Lunch Lizard,
Chromebooks, Yearbook,
Learning Lab.
Page 4

Parking & Pickup,
Calendar, Online learning
tips
Page 5

Middle School News
Page 6

Middle School News
Page 7



Principal's Update

KEEPING MOMENTUM

We are a month into 2021. The days are getting longer (at least longer than they were) and we are only 7 weeks away from Spring Break. The days can fly by and things that we had planned to do can fall by the wayside.

Students can experience the same thing.

They may put off completing their schoolwork until it has piled up on them and they are behind. This isn't a good feeling for students and it isn't easy for them to dig themselves out, once they get behind.

You can help your student to stay caught up. Work with them to develop a schedule of when they will wake up, work, take breaks, and lunch. Just like traditional schools have schedules students should follow these at home. It helps them to develop good time management skills and the perseverance needed to school online.

Thank you for sharing your student with us.
Warm Regards,
Steve States

Reminders

Schooling online requires good communication between school, teachers, parents and students. As an online school, we utilize electronic forms for most of our communication. This means that email, telephone, and text are very important for getting timely information about the school. Please check your inbox regularly for emails from school. Occasionally our emails go to spam. You may check there as well. Please be sure to add us to your contacts and email safe list. Please read and respond to any emails requiring a response. We will check our email regularly as well and teachers try hard to get back to parents or students within 24 hours during school days.

Learning coaches should be checking in on their learners daily.

- 1.)Have your learner open Odysseyware
- 2.)Click on "Learn."
- 3.)Click on the "Courses" tab and you will see the dashboard.
- 4.)Go [here](#) for information on how to read the dashboard.

**"Excellence is
the gradual
result of always
striving to do
better."**

Pat Riley



ADVISORY

This past month our advisory at all levels focused on community. This is a focus on the social awareness domain from our district's social and emotional learning standards. Students asked and answered questions such as "how do we contribute to our communities." Other questions included such things as "how do we improve our community" and "how do communities influence us."

COVID PRECAUTIONS

We take the health and safety of your children very seriously. With the COVID 19 pandemic occurring we've had to make shifts in the ways we traditionally do things.

Some of the precautions we have in place are masks are required to be worn by all adults and students in grades 6-12. Students in grades k-5 wear masks whenever they leave their classroom and go into our halls or when the teacher deems it prudent to use masks, such as in small groups.

We encourage students to physically distance themselves from one another. The middle school has been eating in their classrooms. This limits crowding in the gym where high school students have been eating.

We stagger elementary and high school lunches so they aren't in the gym at the same time.

Teachers have been wiping down their desks and chairs after every class. Sanitizer is used a couple of times of day as well.

Chromebooks are sanitized after every student. We have also encouraged the use of handwashing/sanitizer for all adults and students in the building.

If you have questions about our COVID procedures, there is a video on our website to explain all the precautions we are taking. You can also contact the school if you have questions.

Updating Information

Please be sure to update your email and phone information should either or both change. We send most communication through email and/or text. If you're not receiving emails and/or text from the school, please contact the school with your updated information.

SYMPTOM TRACKER

Please continue to fill out your student's COVID Tracker whenever your student is coming to school. The link to the tracker can be found on the district website:

www.d51schools.org

The Lunch Lizard Is Free Until the End of the School Year!

Grand River Academy has a closed campus for lunch (which means all students remain at Grand River throughout the lunch period). The exception, at this time, is for our juniors and seniors. They may leave campus to purchase food if they are not late for the next class. All students can bring lunch from home.

The district has arranged for the Lunch Lizard food truck to stop by on our onsite school days. They will offer lunch on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays at NO COST to students, through the end of the school year.

The menu can be accessed at [D51 School Menus](#), then select "Bookcliff Middle School" or "BES" to see the food options for us as well. Once on the calendar, use the "lunch" tab located near the top. (Breakfast is not available at our location.)

DOES YOUR STUDENT NEED A DEVICE TO DO THEIR SCHOOL WORK ON?

We have brand new Chromebooks for checkout to students. Stop by the school office to check one out or have your student stop by.

Yearbook Sales

You and your student want to remember the days when they were in school.

A yearbook is a perfect way to capture memories. Go to <http://gra.picaboo.com/> or scan the QR code below to order yours.

Hardcover are 32.00 and the softcover is \$22.00.



Learning Lab

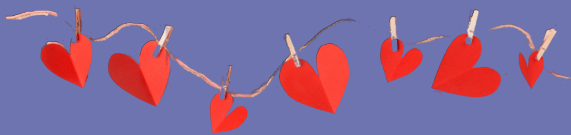
Did you know that we have a place for students to go who need help or need a place to work? Our learning lab has Mrs. Havens who is an excellent support to students who may be struggling or just need a little extra help. The lab also provides a space for students who may need to catch up. Students can come to the lab anytime school is open (Monday-Friday 8:30-2:30). The lab is located outside MS. Predovich's and Mrs. Durmas' rooms. Students can make an appointment or just show up to work and receive help. This is a valuable resource we hope your student(s) will use.

Parking and Pickup

As you know, parking is difficult to find around Grand River Academy. That can make drop off and pick up challenging. There is parking on all four sides of the building (14th, Gunnison, 13th, and Chipeta). There is also a 10-minute "loading zone" in front of the building.

Please park off the street when picking up or dropping your students off. Stopping in the middle of the road or double Parking causes congestion on an already congested 14th street. It is also unsafe as students have to maneuver through parked cars and onto 14th street to get to awaiting vehicles.

Thank you for helping us make pick up and drop off safe and efficient.



February's Calendar

**11th Parent/Teacher Conferences,
4pm-8pm.**

15th President's Day, No School.

Tips for Success in Online Learning

Learning online can be challenging, even if your student is attending their onsite day and coming in for extra help. It requires self-motivation and perseverance in order to successfully complete online classes. There are things you can do at home to help your student to be as successful as possible.

As was mentioned earlier in this newsletter, set a schedule with your student for school work. This doesn't have to be a traditional schedule that starts at 8 and goes to 3. Your student could start earlier or later. Make sure the schedule allows for frequent breaks and lunch so that your student can maintain focus.

Your student should be working around 5-6 hours per day. The schedule should begin to work more like a routine as time goes on.

Set up a dedicated learning space that is free from distractions and has all the materials the student will need. Involve your student in designing the space. This will give them ownership and pride in the space.

Coach your student to break larger tasks down into smaller chunks. For example, they might complete reading a section of a lesson and then take a short break and then resume the lesson. It is generally difficult for students to maintain focus for an entire lesson so breaking them down into manageable chunks makes maintaining focus a little easier.

Finally, encourage your student to stay in touch with their teacher. This is important if they are needing extra assistance. The help feature within Odysseyware is how teachers would receive requests for help and they try to answer these within 24 hours on school days.

Dual Immersion Academy & New Emerson Lottery

Dual Immersion Academy and New Emerson School will begin handing out and accepting applications for the 2021-22 school year on Monday, Feb. 1st, 2021.

Both elementary schools take students from across the Grand Valley and have an application and lottery process to enroll a limited number of students.

COLD WEATHER REMINDER

Please be sure you are sending your student to school with the proper winter weather clothing (winter coat, hat, gloves) for when there is an outdoor activity during these colder months.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SENIORS

Please submit your senior photo and quote to
randi.overturf@d51schools.org
before March 1st

2021/2022 ENROLLMENT

Do you know anyone who is interested in attending Grand River Academy? Our "Request for Enrollment Interview" form is live and can be filled out now for interviews. We will begin interviewing prospective students the week of April 19th.

To request an enrollment interview go to Grand River Academy's website at <https://grandriver.d51schools.org> and open the Enrollment tab and select New Enrollment.

The directions for requesting an interview can be found there as well.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Grand River Academy Middle School kicked off student-led PBL(Project Based Learning) through advisory classes.

6TH GRADE: PROJECT LOVE OUR

PLAYGROUND. Using project planning and follow-through, video production, graphic design through beautifying the basketball court (repainting baselines, center Raptor mascot, and backboards) along with new nets, and possibly hosting a GRA car wash to raise funds for the supplies.

7TH GRADE PROJECT GREEN.

Using project planning and follow-through, video production, and graphic design to encourage green behaviors that include reusing and recycling. Beautifying our flower beds outside.

8TH GRADE PROJECT GRA COMMUNITY.

Using project planning and follow-through, video production to interview students of every grade level to show what they think and feel about our school.

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Beginning with January, one students from each grade level (6, 7, 8) will be honored for their efforts and hard work.

We will provide a Little Caesar's Pizza for that student's lunch.

MIDDLE SCHOOL "Green Zone" Winners

Each full week we are in session, green zone students' names (on track with lessons and overall grades of 70% or better) go into a lottery-style drawing for a \$5.00 Starbucks gift card. Winners so far

6th
Trinity Evans

Tayvin Burcher

Alek Shelley

Ashlyn Pacheco

Audrey Miner

Sterling Bean

7th

Alexis Ott

Hudson Hackney

Brooke Coleman

Noah Serrano

Deuce Maulding

Tessa McCullum

8th

Kailie Fuller

Nika Miller

Maciah Mulford

Brianna Hatter

Libby Haifely

Hope Lovoi