



Mt. Garfield Middle School seeks to foster lifelong learning by engaging students in an innovative learning environment that develops critical thinking through daily perseverance.

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Important Dates

All School Fundraiser from Jan. 30–Feb. 13th

February 5, Vision and Hearing testing

PTO meeting–Feb. 7th, 5pm cafeteria

February 13th, 4-9pm at *Dos Hombres* Fundraiser, see page 3

NO SCHOOL– Feb. 18
President’s Day

NO SCHOOL-Feb. 25
District M.S. In-service

NO SCHOOL -Mar 11
Teacher work day

Spring Break- March 18–22

Important Updates from the Principal

Gator Parents, Families and Community,

This year we have been working to improve the behavioral culture within our school. We have implemented a “5 R’s” system to help students who are struggling to follow classroom standard operating procedures. In this system, students are first given a ‘Redirection’ to help encourage them to correct problem behaviors. If the behavior continues, the student is given a ‘Reminder’. If there is no behavior improvement after the ‘Reminder’ the student is given a ‘Reflection’ form and allowed the opportunity to take a 5 minute break to reflect on his/her behavior in order to regroup. If, after the ‘Reflection’, the student’s behavior still does not improve then the student is sent to the office for a ‘Reset’. When students have needed a Reset, within 24 hours, there will be a conversation with all involved to ‘Restore’. If at any point a student is found to engage in an extreme rule violation (see back), the individual will automatically be given a ‘Reset’ and sent to the office.

In an effort to minimize the number of ‘Resets’ that occur, we have developed the Big 5 School Rules and will be teaching/re-teaching these to students throughout the semester.

Rule #1: Listen, acknowledge, and respond to directives and requests.

Rule Violation: Arguing, back-talking, ignoring, and/or saying no.

Extreme Rule Violation: Refusal using loud, hostile language after an adult has stated what is expected; running away from an adult.

Rule #2: Use appropriate and respectful language with peers and adults.

Rule Violation: Engaging in teasing, taunting, put-downs, profanity (directed at a person), or name calling.

Extreme Rule Violation: Threats, inappropriate/abusive language towards staff and peers, bullying

Introducing staff

Rule #3: Respect property and personal space.

Rule Violation: Inappropriate touching, breaking property or supplies, physical altercations, intimidation, throwing objects; engaging in deliberate acts to annoy, tease, provoke, or bother peers.

Extreme Rule Violation: Fighting, theft, vandalism, bullying, sexual harassment

Rule #4: Transition respectfully and efficiently; be on time or have a pass.

Rule Violation: rough housing, yelling, throwing items, loitering, walking friends to classes

Extreme Rule Violation: Physical aggression, truancy

Rule #5: Be prepared, stay on task, and contribute to the positive learning environment.

Rule Violation: sleeping, avoidance of work, deliberate acts to annoy, following class SOPs, failing to meet expectations

Extreme Rule Violation: Hostile and/or blatant refusal to do work

Thank you for reviewing this information with your students.

We will also be holding a Parent Accountability Meeting in the school Conference Room on Thursday February 7th at 6:00pm. We would love to have you to join us and discuss the progress we have made as a school as well as gather input on future changes here at MGMS.

Thank you so much for sharing your children with us.

Nikki M. Johnston
Interim Principal
Mt. Garfield Middle School.

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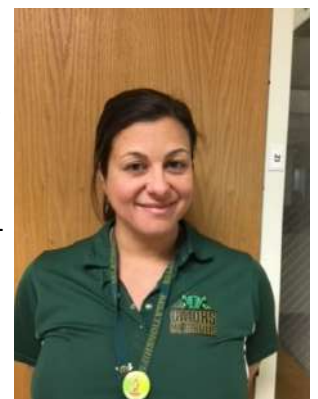


Nancy Wildrick

Nancy joins us from the Front Range where she taught in the Jeffco School District. Originally from Ohio, then relocated to the Denver area. She has been teaching in the SSN setting for 18 years. Nancy also taught in Boulder and at Adams 12 district. She is married and has three grandchildren and two dogs. Her hobbies are scrapbooking and hiking.

Alanna Piccillo

Alanna grew up in Scranton, PA where she attended college at Bloomsburg University and fell in love with the sciences. She moved to New Mexico after graduating to complete a six month Wildlife Biology Internship and then moved to Grand Junction to earn her Teaching Certificate and explore the beauty of the West. Alanna has been a teacher for eleven years, teaching both high school and middle school. An avid outdoorswoman, Alanna plans to backpack in Canada this summer and eventually thru-hike the Colorado Trail.



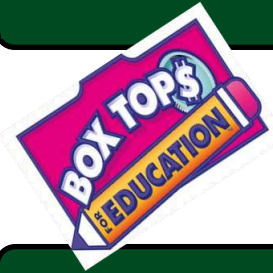
Introducing staff cont.



Jordan Tavenner

I was born and raised in Thornton, Colorado, and moved to Grand Junction in 2013 to attend CMU. I decided I wanted to work with kids, and I really enjoyed science, so becoming a science teacher was an easy choice. I completed my student-teaching at Central High School, and this will be my second year working at Mt. Garfield. In my free time I enjoy reading, cooking, hiking, and exercising.

Boxtops for Education



Remember to collect those box tops and turn them into the main office. Thank you for supporting our students and MGMS.

Fundraiser for Washington DC trip



Come support your fellow Gators earning money for their amazing trip to Washington, DC in June 2019.

Dos Hombres in Clifton has graciously allowed us to be a part of their Give Back Wednesday program. They will donate 10% of your meal total back to our students.

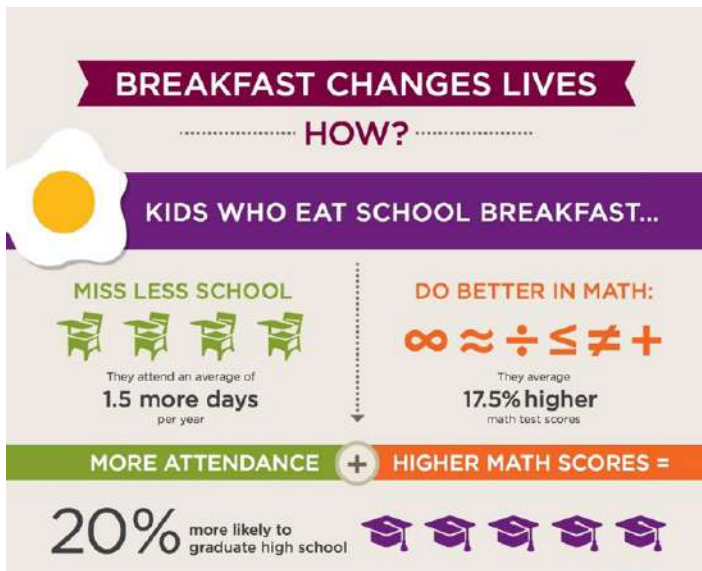
The date is February 13th from 4 pm to 9 pm.

Vision and Hearing Testing February 5

We are doing vision and hearing screenings for all 7th and 8th graders on February 5th. Please make sure your student brings his or her glasses that day, so they receive an accurate vision screening!

Student Drop-off/Pick-up

We would like to reiterate the importance of families pulling all of the way forward to the East end of the parking lot to the **official student drop-off and pick-up area**. Students should not be dropped off directly in front of any part of the Mt. Garfield Middle School Building or along the East side of the building prior to school starting. Orange cones will continue to be placed in front of the building in an effort to remind families that this area is for Student Transport of America/busing only. In addition, please do not cut across traffic in order to drop your students off or pick them up along the East end of the building between our gym and track field. Automobiles attempting to leave from this area ultimately cross in front of moving buses and a steady stream of traffic heading to the correct drop-off/pick-up area causing great concern for safety. We understand that during cold mornings, everyone would like to walk a little shorter distance, but these guidelines have been established in an effort to keep everyone safe and we must ask that you adhere to them. Should you have any questions about these policies, please feel free to contact the office. We appreciate your support!



COME EARLY- All students Receive a **FREE hot breakfast**

ARRIVE LATE –All students Receive a **FREE cold packaged breakfast**

Available at

Bookcliff MS
Chipeta
Dos Rios

Mt. Garfield MS
Clifton
Fruitvale

Rocky Mountain



FREE BREAKFAST

FOR ALL COLORADO

SCHOOLS WITH A 70% OR GREATER FREE AND

REDUCED %

WHY?

INCREASE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

WHERE?

IN THE CAFETERIA

for hot breakfast before tardy bell grab 'n' go cold pack after tardy bell

WHO?

All STUDENTS no matter the eligibility

For breakfast menu go to d51schools.org/Parent tab/Meals Tab/Menu Tab