

Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Business Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2015

Board Business Meeting Minutes

- A - Doug Levinson
- B - Paul Pitton
- C - John Williams
- D - Tom Parrish
- E - Greg Mikolai

Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
 Business Meeting Minutes: December 8, 2015
 Adopted: January 19, 2016

	A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
Present	x	x	x	x	x	A. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL ➤ Mr. Williams welcomed attendees to the December Board Business Meeting and gave instructions for meeting participants to address the Board, under item G, Audience Comments.	6:00 p.m.
Absent							
Motion						B. AGENDA APPROVAL	Adopted
Second					x		
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion						C. MEETING MINUTES AND SUMMARY APPROVAL C-1. October 27, 2015, Board Work Session Minutes	Adopted as Presented
Second					x		
Aye			x	x	x		
No							
Motion						C-2. November 5, 2015, Board Special Meeting Minutes	Adopted as Presented
Second					x		
Aye			x	x	x		
No							
Motion						C-3. November 17, 2015, Board Business Meeting Minutes	Adopted as Presented
Second					x		
Aye			x	x	x		
No							
						D. RECOGNITIONS	
						D-1. United Way Recognitions – Mr. Corey Hafey and Mr. Tracey Gallegos	
						➤ Mr. Hafey, Appleton School Principal, and Mr. Gallegos, West Middle School Assistant Principal, discussed the United Way Workforce Campaign and stated District 51 employees pledged \$82,477.50 to United Way of Mesa County this year. This is \$730 more than last year. Employee participation in the United Way Campaign grew by one percent over last year. The Board helped pull names for staff who participated in the United Way Campaign to win a day off from work.	
						E. AUDIENCE COMMENTS	
						➤ Mr. Williams read guidelines for meeting attendees to address the Board:	
						• Mr. Dan Robinson, 202 N. 7 th Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501	
						Mr. Robinson is a Trustee at Colorado Mesa University. He discussed minority hiring. He commended the Board for addressing this issue. He stated the employee representation versus student enrollment are not equal. He discussed minority enrollment in Grand Junction. He stated minority Latino students identify with teachers and counselors of the same ethnicity. He asked the Board to consider the upcoming presented goals for the District regarding minority hiring. He asked the Board to quantify the goals and set benchmarks for achievement of those goals. Mr. Robinson stated the achievement gap needs to be addressed. He complimented Mrs. Susana Wittrock, Executive Director for Equity/Minority Student Performance, for seeking to address diversity in the District.	

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						<p>F. BOARD REPORTS/COMMUNICATIONS/REQUESTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion regarding Mr. Paul Pitton's Residency. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board members discussed the residency of new Board member Mr. Paul Pitton in District B. Mr. Pitton unknowingly lived in District D at the time he became a candidate for the school Board's District B seat. He has since moved into a home within District B boundaries. He has put his former residence up for sale. Mr. Pitton submitted a list of documents which showed his new address including a lease agreement, a change of address document for the U.S. Postal Service, a motor vehicle registration, a driver's license, change of address with insurance carrier CNIC, change of address with the Colorado Public Employee Retirement Association, the Daily Sentinel delivery change of address and gas and electric service change of address. He also provided a change of address for his internet provider. Mr. Pitton told fellow Board members he still returns to his old house to check on it for security reasons and there is still furniture at his former home for staging purposes for selling the home; however, he assured the Board he lives at the new house. • The Board decided not to take a vote to declare a vacancy, as they were satisfied with the documents Mr. Pitton submitted. No action had to be taken to prove his residency or keep him on the Board. The results of the Supreme Court hearing Tuesday, December 8, regarding vote counts for Mr. Pitton may impact the Board; otherwise, no further action is expected from the Board regarding this matter. ➤ Mr. Mikolai stated the District Board won the State School Board of the Year at the convention for the Colorado Association of School Boards. He reported they received a \$2,500 award. Colorado Mesa University has matched the funds and scholarships for minority students who are pursuing the field of education will be awarded to five high school seniors. <p>G. LEGISLATIVE REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Parrish showed a "Colorado School Finance Project", video regarding the Negative Factor and told fellow Board members he is concerned Colorado is the only State without taxing authority. This is disturbing due to the fact school funding may face more cuts over the next few years. ➤ Mr. Mikolai state District 51 will be facing a reduction in the state budget over the next two years because of the Tabor Amendment. He stated this will impact state spending and K-12 funding. ➤ Mr. Williams stated he felt there is a need to find a local solution due to no relief from the state. <p>H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT</p> <p>H-1. Human Resources Report on Minority Hiring – Mrs. Colleen Martin, Executive Director, and Mrs. Cindy Starr, Human Resources Certified Applicant Specialist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Starr provided a presentation to the Board detailing the current demographics of students and staff. They discussed how the 	

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						<p>District hopes to hire more minority employees so the student and staff populations better mirror each other. Currently, thirteen percent of District 51 staff are classified as minority, compared to twenty-nine percent of students in 2014-2015. The goal is to increase recruitment of highly-qualified minority teachers and other employees as well as recruit more male teachers in elementary schools. Research shows students respond positively having role models which are similar to them. A target has been set to have minorities represent at least fifteen percent of new hires in 2016-2017, and to increase this percentage in the following years. Mrs. Martin reported on the barriers facing districts trying to recruit minority employees, especially Districts like ours which are far from the social and cultural aspects of a larger city. Mrs. Starr stated school District's in other states with higher minority populations are partnering with their local colleges and universities to increase the minority candidate pool. Other Districts are encouraging current staff who work in a classroom, but do not teach, to add to their Bachelor of Arts degrees by getting a teaching license.</p> <p>H-2. Teaching Learning Framework Charter – Mr. Tony Giurado, Chief Academic Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Giurado presented the concept of a teacher learning framework to the Board. Mr. Giurado stated teachers have a lot on their plates when creating a lesson plan and sorting through state academic standards, District 51 unified curriculum and measures which determine a student's grade. Mr. Giurado proposed forming a committee of teachers and administrators to work on easing the burden so teachers can devote more time to engaging students. ➤ The committee will work to support teachers by creating a teacher learning framework which will serve as a foundation for professional learning, coaching and teacher evaluation; which makes sure teachers have a toolbox of strategies which work best for their students. The framework will be completed in two phases; phase one in January through May will focus on identifying framework needs and phase two; May through December, will focus on developing and implementing a teaching and learning framework and professional learning plan. <p>H-3. Expulsion Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Expulsions continue to track lower than this time last year. As of November 30 fourteen students have been expelled in the 2015-2016 school year compared to 25 students at the same time last school year. <p>H-4. Communications Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Communications Report highlighted the work of the Communications Department and the upcoming graduation guidelines discussions held on December 9, 10 and 16. <p>I. EXECUTIVE SESSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ None at this time. 	

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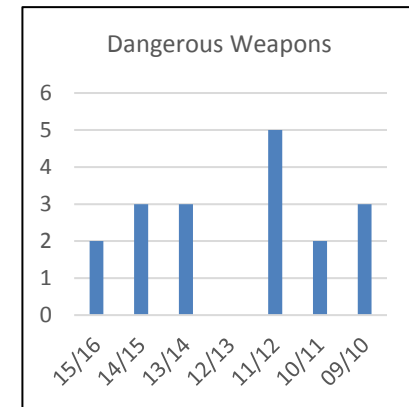
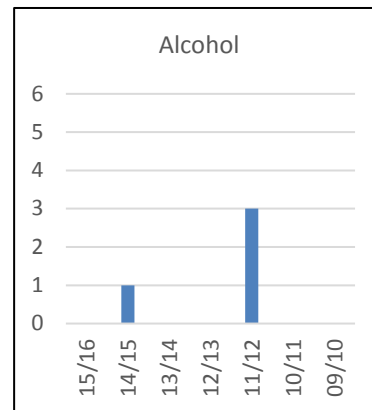
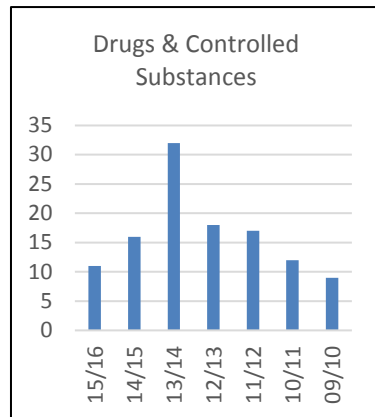
	A	B	C	D	E		ACTION
						AGENDA ITEMS	
Motion Second				x		J. CONSENT AGENDA	Adopted
Aye	x	x	x	x	x	J-1. Personnel Actions	
No						J-1-a. Licensed Personnel	
						J-2. Gifts	
						K. BUSINESS ITEMS	No Action
						K-1. Board First Reading:	
						K-1-a. IKA, Grading Systems	
						K-1-b. IKA-R, Grading Systems	
						K-1-c. JLDAC, Testing of Systems	
						➤ Mr. Schultz spoke about the need to adjust the language due to action during the last legislative session. This will include the prescribed process for opting out and defining expectations of the law. There will also be an elimination of three policies which conflict with the new policies.	
Motion Second				x		K-2. Board Second Reading and Adoption	Adopted
Aye	x	x	x	x	x	K-2-a. GBEB, Staff Conduct (and Responsibilities) Conflict of Interest	
No						➤ The Board reviewed the policy to align it with current legislation and to clarify language in the policy.	
Motion Second				x		K-3. Resolution to Approve District Accountability Committee (DAC) Membership	Adopted
Aye	x	x	x	x	x	[Resolution: 15/16: 40]	
No						➤ The Board unanimously approved the 2015-2016 membership of the District Accountability Committee.	
						K-4. Certification of Mill Levy [Resolution: 15/16: 42]	
						➤ This resolution certifies this year's mill levy amount. This mill levy has to be certified annually in order for the District to receive property tax revenue.	
						L. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION	
						➤ Mr. Parrish asked about hosting another Board Coffee. He would like to have it at Orchard Mesa Middle School. He stated it would help people understand the issues of the facility.	
						➤ Mr. Williams asked the Board to look at the Committee Assignments. Committees were name and assigned for the next two school years.	
						M. FUTURE MEETINGS	
						➤ Reviewed.	
						N. EXECUTIVE SESSION	
						➤ None at this time.	

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						AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
Motion				x		O. ADJOURNMENT	Adjourn –
Second	x						8:07 p.m.
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No						_____ Terri N. Wells, Secretary Board of Education	

Category	High School				Middle School				Elementary School				Total		Total for previous years as of November 30 of:				
	15-16		14/15		15/16		14/15		15/16		14/15		15/16	14/15	13/14	12/13	11/12	10/11	09/10
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F							
100	8	3	11	4			1						11	16	32	18	17	12	9
200			1											1			3		
300																			
400	1		1										1	1		1			
500	2		3										2	3	3		5	2	3
600																			
700																2	1		
DSP																			
VOO			4											4	5	3	3	4	4
Total	11	3	20	4			1						14	25	40	24	29	18	16

Category Description

- 100 - drug or controlled substance
- 200 - alcohol
- 300 - tobacco
- 400 - felony assault
- 500 - dangerous weapons
- 600 - robbery
- 700 - other felonies
- DSP - destruction / defacement of school property
- V00 - other violations



Communications Update November/December 2015

November 11 – December 2, 2015

Includes

Earned Media Coverage

Paid Media Coverage

Electronic Direct Communication

Events

Social Media Reports



Earned Media

KKCO/KJCT

Nov. 11, District Attorney and District 51 define criminal cyber-bullying

<http://www.nbc11news.com/home/headlines/District-Attorney-works-with-District-51-to-define-cyber-bullying---345478082.html>

Nov. 12, CO Supreme Court to hear Pitton Case

<http://www.nbc11news.com/home/headlines/CO-Supreme-Court-to-hear-Pitton-Case.html>

Nov. 18, District 51 breaks ground for new R-5 High School

<http://www.nbc11news.com/home/headlines/District-51-breaks-ground-for-new-R-5-High-School--351221051.html>

Nov. 22, Teacher shortage in Colorado continues to grow

<http://www.nbc11news.com/home/headlines/Teaching-shortage-in-Colorado-continues-to-grow-352977411.html>

Nov. 24, Pitton to be sworn in ahead of court date

<http://www.nbc11news.com/home/headlines/Pitton-to-be-sworn-in-ahead-of-court-date-353142941.html>

Nov. 30, Pitton takes seat on District 51 School Board ahead of CO Supreme Court Case

<http://www.nbc11news.com/home/headlines/Pitton-takes-seat-on-District-51-School-Board-ahead-of-CO-Supreme-Court-case-359134111.html>

KREX

Nov. 11, Financial Aid Night

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/live-in-the-studio/financial-aid-night>

Nov. 12, Paul Pitton Decision Going to Supreme Court

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/paul-pitton-decision-going-to-supreme-court>

Nov. 17, Live: R-5 Groundbreaking announcement

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/live-in-the-studio/school-district-51-r-5-high-school-groundbreaking>

Nov. 17, District 51's R-5 High School to relocate in 2016

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/district-51s-r-5-high-school-to-relocate-in-2016>

Nov. 18, Pathways Program Works to Support Students

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/pathways-program-works-to-support-students-who-have-experimented-with-substance-use>

Nov. 20, Scholastica creates new ways to learn

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/scholastica-creates-new-ways-to-learn>

Nov. 23, New development in School Board Controversy

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/new-development-in-school-board-election-controversy>

Nov. 27, FMHS FFA kids sell Christmas trees

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/future-farmers-get-fruits-in-the-spirit>

Nov. 30, New D51 members take oath

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/new-d-51-members-take-oath>

Dec 1, Bank of Colorado Announces Art Calendar Student Winners

<http://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/bank-of-colorado-announces-art-calendar-student-winners>

The Daily Sentinel

Nov. 17, District 51 to change certification protocols

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/district-51-is-to-change-8232certificati-on-8232pr>

Nov. 17, New beginnings for R-5 High School

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/new-beginnings-for-r5-school>

Nov. 22, Fruita 8/9 students participate in charitable Christmas fair

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/an-alternative-way-to-give>

Nov. 22, Fruita Middle School robotics team headed to state

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/fruita-robot-team-qualifies-for-state>

Nov. 23, Pitton can take oath of office

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/district-51-pitton-can-take-oath-of-office>

Nov. 24, CHSAA releases proposed FB conferences

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/sports/articles/chsaa-releases-proposed-fb-conferences>

Nov. 24, St. Mary's tax fix benefits county, school district

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/tax-fix-puts-county-below-tabor-limits>

Nov. 26, CMU athletes donate Thanksgiving food to D51 families

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/cmu-athletes-step-up-donate-thanksgiving-dinners>

Nov. 27, District 51 paid ex-exec more than was due

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/district-51-paid-exexec-more-than-was-due>

Nov. 29, Pitton to take oath, accept money for legal fees

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/pitton-accepts-money-for-legal-fees>

Nov. 30, Levinson, Pitton take board seats

<http://www.gjsentinel.com/news/articles/levinson-pitton-take-board-seats>

Electronic Media

November Staff Newsletter

Audience reach: 2,610

District 51 Insider

School District 51 Staff Newsletter | November 2015



How the District 5 Election will change us, move forward

The Nov. 3 election was complex, to say the least. Find out more about what happened, what may come next, and how we're changing procedures [here](#).

CMAS results coming soon
Students took Colorado's first-ever CMAS math and English tests this spring. The tests were created to test Colorado's newest academic standards based on the PARCC consortium exam format. [Here's](#) what you need to know about the impending results, what they mean, and how they will be used.



D51 breaks ground on R-5/STOC

District 51 hosted a ground-breaking ceremony Tuesday, Nov. 17, at the future site of **R-5 High School and The Opportunity Center**. The building at 2150 Grand Ave. will house R-5 in an east wing and TOC in a west wing, with shared space in the middle for administrators from both schools, as well as a community room. The \$9.3 million building, funded by the sale of R-5's current location and certificates of participation, is expected to open in August 2016.



"Most Likely to Succeed" screening scheduled in January

The District 51 Foundation will present "Most Likely to Succeed," a documentary about Performance-based Learning, at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, at the Avalon Theatre, 645 Main St. The trailer is posted above.



Links for Staff

[D51 Community.com](#) - November is [Educator Appreciation Month](#) at [Fuoco Motors!](#)

[Classified Ads](#) - Open to all D51

Fostering a growth mindset
Do you have a Growth Mindset or a Fixed Mindset? Find out the difference and learn how a Growth Mindset shapes the way students (and adults) overcome assumptions and achieve great things [here](#). To learn more about praising effort v. intelligence, watch the video below.



Developing Habits of Mind
Persisting. Remaining open to continuous learning. Thinking flexibly. These are just three of the 16 Habits of Mind students are learning in District 51 classrooms. Learn more about all 16 Habits of Mind in the YouTube clip below and in [this article](#).



Q&A
Q: Where can I get updates about the School Board Director District 5 election?
A: The school district has created a thread of information called "District 5 Updates," which is available on the D51 app, [d51news.org](#), and the [d51schools.org](#) website - just click the [District 5 Updates](#) icon on the lower right side of the home page.
Have a question? Contact [Jeannie Smith](#) or [Emily Shookley](#).



Marching bands place at state
Congratulations to all four District 51 marching bands for their performances at the Colorado Bandmasters Association State Championships! Palisade High School placed second overall in Class 3A and Central High placed seventh overall in Class 4A. Fruita Monument High ranked 10th in the Class 5A semifinals and Grand Junction High's marching band placed 12th in the 5A quarterfinals.



Students honor veterans
The picture above shows Lincoln Orchard Mesa Elementary students handing thank you cards to veterans and National Guard members during an all-school ceremony Nov. 11. Numerous schools hosted Veterans Day ceremonies this year, including Central High, Loma Elementary, Chipeta Elementary, Taylor Elementary, and Sheldale Elementary (pictured below).



Important Dates and Events

Nov. 20-21: You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, Central High School Auditorium, 7:00 p.m. both nights and a 2:30 p.m. matinee on Saturday.

Nov. 23-27: Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 30: Board of Education Special Meeting, Emerson Building, 11:30 a.m.

Dec. 4: Career Center Annual Open House, Career Center, 2:30-5:30 p.m.

Dec. 5: Appleton Holiday Bazaar, Appleton Elementary, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Dec. 8: Board of Education Business Meeting, BTK, 6:00 p.m.

Dec. 15: Central High School Choir Concert, Auditorium, 7:15 p.m.

Would you like your event included in the newsletter? Email your event date and details to [Jeannie Smith](#).

Athletes, coaches honored
Malissa Gellerman, a Central High junior, has been named 2015 Southwest League All-Conference Softball Player of the Year in Class 4A/5A. Her coach, Scott Else, is 2015 SWL Softball Coach of the Year.

Grand Junction High School Boys Soccer Coach Stephen Latta is 2015 SWL Boys Soccer Co-coach of the Year.

Congratulations to all of the District 51 athletes named to the 2015 All-Conference teams! [SWL Boys Soccer](#), [SWL Volleyball](#), [SWL Softball](#), [WSL Softball](#).

start to post items for sale or items wanted.

D51 Wellness Program - Join the [Holiday Challenge](#) - Holiday Maintain, Don't Gain Weight Challenge, Nov. 20 - Jan. 15. Look for weekly tips and winners!



Download the Free District 51 App sponsored by Community Hospital!



Congratulations to the BOE!

The District 51 School Board will be recognized as an All State School Board Dec. 4 at a Colorado Association of School Boards conference in Colorado Springs. The board earned the honor by demonstrating exemplary governing practices, including engaging the public, responding well to challenges, and sustaining policies and plans aimed at improving student achievement.

The school board has decided to use the \$2,500 prize that comes with the award to fund scholarships for five minority students who plan to attend Colorado Mesa University and enter the field of education. Colorado Mesa has generously agreed to match the \$2,500 donation so that five scholarships worth \$1,000 each can be created.

Johnston named award finalist

Central High teacher Phil Johnston has been selected as a finalist for the 2015 Colorado Technology Association APEX Teacher of the Year. The award is given annually to a teacher who helps students' passion for STEM thrive.



The mobile app that connects parents and school officials to the buses transporting their students. Monitor the status of your child's bus in real time.

- * A real-time map to locate your child's bus
- * Estimated arrival times for the bus at your stop
- * Alerts and messages letting you know of any change to service
- * A secure registration process that ensures only parents and school officials gain access to information

Bank of Colorado Calendar Contest Finalists Announced

The top three finalists from each grade level are on display from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 16-27 in the bank lobby at 200 Grand Ave. One vote per person. You can also vote on the [Bank of Colorado Facebook page](#). "Like" your favorite image to cast your vote.

Fruita Middle becomes model

Fruita Middle School is now one of just three schools in Colorado named a [Model Professional Learning Community](#) by Solution Tree, a company that provides professional development for educators. A Model Professional Learning Community is a group of educators working collaboratively to raise student achievement.



Teams compete for state spot

New Emerson team Robot Apocalypse placed first for their robot at a FIRST LEGO League state qualifier Nov. 14 in Aspen! More D51 teams will compete Nov. 21 at Central High for a chance to go to the league's state championship Jan. 16. Each team builds and codes its own robot.

Congratulations to the October Alpine Bank-Colorado Mesa University Students of the Month!

The October Student of the Month Luncheon honored two outstanding eighth- and 12th-graders from each District 51 middle and high school. Colorado Mesa and Alpine Bank fund a \$500 scholarship, which can be renewed annually, for each student of the month if they choose to attend CMU or WCCO.



This month's high school honorees are:

- Central:** Nicole Alired and Michael Mail
- Fruita Monument:** Rachel Norris and Shane Haberkorn
- Grand Junction:** Bailey Summers and Steven McKenzie
- Palisade:** Kendra Urbin and Jeff Goff
- R-5:** Kimberly Koenig and Jaycole Hernandez

This month's middle school honorees are:

- Bookcliff:** Sarah Payton and Carlos Pinada
- East:** Inga Almgren and Luis De La Torre
- Fruita 8/9:** Kall Jones and Coby Hudson
- Grand Mesa:** Alayna Gilbert and Jacob Knight
- Grand River:** Savanna Robson and Mason Powell
- Mt. Garfield:** Leslie Jimenez and Jason Do
- Orchard Mesa:** Alannah Wolfe and Craig Kelsey
- Redlands:** Sarah Mahoney and Christopher Balding
- West:** Gina Giannangelo and Matthew Lane



District 51 Insider - November Newsletter

"School District 51" <jeannie.smith@d51schools.org>

D51 Staff 2015-2016 (2,610 contacts)

Sent to 2,610 recipients on Thursday, November 19, 2015 3:32pm



— this mailing
— community avg

Opens

43%

1,111 opens

Clicks

20%

219 unique clicks

Delivery

100%

2,610 delivered

0 bounced

Opt-outs

0

0% of recipients

Shares

0

OPENS BY DEVICE

83.7% Desktop

16.3% Mobile

OPENS BY CLIENT

0% AOL

0.3% AppleMail

0.1% Gmail

32.3% Outlook

0% Outlook.com

0% Yahoo! Mail

0% Unknown



November Parent Newsletter

Audience Reach: 16,568



School District 51 Parent Newsletter | November 2015



How the District B Election will change us, move forward
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CMAS results coming soon
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Central has STEM, career fairs
Central High hosted its first-ever STEM Fair Wednesday, Nov. 11, for students interested in science, technology, engineering, and math. Presenters (including Sarah Lanol, above) from nine local manufacturing companies and Colorado Mesa University discussed career opportunities. Central also hosted a Career Fair for 9th- and 10th-graders Nov. 11.



Marching bands place at state
Congratulations to all four District 51 marching bands for their performances at the Colorado Bandmasters Association State Championships! Palisade High School placed second overall in Class 3A with the band's highest-ever score at a state competition - 75.2. Central High placed seventh overall in Class 4A. Fruita Monument High ranked 10th in the Class 5A semifinals and Grand Junction High's marching band placed 12th in the 5A quarterfinals.

Fostering a growth mindset
Do you have a Growth Mindset or a Fixed Mindset? Find out the difference and learn how a Growth Mindset shapes the way students (and adults) overcome assumptions and achieve great things [here](#). To learn more about praising effort v. intelligence, watch the video below.



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The picture above shows Lincoln Orchard Mesa Elementary students handing thank you cards to veterans and National Guard members during an all-school ceremony Nov. 11. Numerous schools hosted Veterans Day ceremonies this year, including Central High, Loma Elementary, Chipata Elementary, Taylor Elementary, and Shalley Elementary (pictured below).



Events for the whole family:

Nov. 20 - Downtown GI Train Lighting, 5:30 to 7 p.m., 4th and Main streets. Free.

Dec. 4-6 - Old-Fashioned Christmas, downtown Palisade. Activities kick off at 6 p.m. Friday with a tree lighting ceremony and Taylor students singing carols.

Dec. 5 - Breakfast with Santa at 9 a.m. at Dinosaur Journey, Candy Cane Hunt at 11 a.m. at Lincoln Park Barn, and Parade of Lights at 6 p.m., downtown Grand Junction.

Dec. 12 - Elf Jr., The Musical, 2 and 7 p.m. showings at Grand Junction High School.



Lunch Lizard still rolling
A hot meal sure sounds nice on a chilly day. Thanks to the Lunch Lizard, getting a hot lunch is now an option year-round at three D51 schools that don't have kitchens. The food truck, donated by the Western Colorado Community Foundation, debuted this summer to provide meals around town to children in need. During the school year, the truck stays in service, stopping every weekday at lunch time at The Opportunity Center, New Emerson and R-5 High. The

"Most Likely to Succeed" screening scheduled in January

The District 51 Foundation will present "Most Likely to Succeed," a documentary about Performance-based Learning, at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, at the Avalon Theatre. Ninety percent of the 39 respondents to last month's Parent Post survey showed interest in a public screening of the film.

The trailer is posted below.



Athletes, coaches honored
Congrats on titles earned this year in the Southwest League:

* Melissa Gelleman, Central High junior, All-Conference Softball Player of the Year in Class 4A/5A.

* Central Softball Coach Scott Else, Softball Coach of the Year.

* Grand Junction High Soccer Coach Stephen Latta, Boys Soccer Co-coach of the Year.

* All-Conference Teams:

- Boys Soccer
- Softball (4A only)
- Volleyball

D51 breaks ground on R-5/TOC

District 51 hosted a groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday, Nov. 17, at the future site of R-5 High School and The Opportunity Center. The building at 2150 Grand Ave. will house R-5 in an east wing and TOC in a west wing, with shared space in the middle for administrators from both schools, as well as a community room. The \$9.3 million building, funded by the sale of R-5's current location and certificates of participation, is expected to open in August 2016.

truck serves 85 to 120 meals per day and saves the district the \$300-400K it would take to build a kitchen at each school.



Teams compete for state spot
New Emerson team Robot Apocalypse placed first for their robot at a FIRST LEGO League state qualifier Nov. 14 in Aspen! More D51 teams will compete Nov. 21 at Central High for a chance to go to the league's state championship Jan. 16. Each team builds and codes its own robot.



Fruita Middle becomes model
Fruita Middle School is now one of just three schools in Colorado named a [Model Professional Learning Community](#) by Solution Tree, a company that provides professional development for educators. A Model Professional Learning Community is a group of educators working collaboratively to raise student achievement. FMS will receive a banner Dec. 9.

Track your child's bus with app

The new SafeStop app allows District 51 parents to track the location of their children's buses, get an estimated time of arrival for each bus stop, and receive information about delays or route disruptions. SafeStop only gives bus-tracking information to parents to ensure children's safety and the bus' GPS information updates every 30 seconds. Learn more [here](#).

Register for the app by clicking the logo above. Once you've registered, visit the [Apple](#) or [Google Play](#) app stores to download SafeStop.



District 51 Board of Education named one of two All State School Boards in Colorado for 2015!

The District 51 School Board will be recognized as an All State School Board Dec. 4 at a Colorado Association of School Boards conference in Colorado Springs. The board earned the honor by demonstrating exemplary governing practices, including engaging the public, responding well to challenges, and sustaining policies and plans aimed at improving student achievement.

The board will use the \$2,500 prize that comes with being named an All State School Board to fund scholarships for five minority students who plan to attend Colorado Mesa University and enter the field of education. Colorado Mesa has generously agreed to match the \$2,500 donation so that the scholarships worth \$1,000 each can be created.



Congratulations to the October Alpine Bank-Colorado Mesa University Students of the Month!
The October Student of the Month luncheon honored two outstanding eighth- and 12th-graders from each District 51 middle and high school. Colorado Mesa and Alpine Bank fund a \$500 scholarship, which can be renewed annually, for each student of the month if they choose to attend CMU or WCCC. See who made October's Student of the Month list [here](#).



D51 November Parent Newsletter

"School District 51" <emily.shockley@d51schools.org> All Parents (16,307 contacts)

Sent to 16,568 recipients on Thursday, November 19, 2015 3:38pm



— this mailing
— community avg

Opens

26%

4,286 opens

Clicks

8%

363 unique clicks

Delivery

100%

16,505 delivered
64 bounced

Opt-outs

53

0% of recipients

Shares

1

OPENS BY DEVICE

41.3% Desktop

58.7% Mobile

OPENS BY CLIENT

0.1% AOL

3.7% AppleMail

14.7% Gmail

3.7% Outlook

4.2% Outlook.com

4.5% Yahoo! Mail

0% Unknown



November Board Election Update 1 – Staff

Audience Reach: 2,610

School Board Election Update

"School District 51" <emily.shockley@d51schools.org>
D51 Staff 2015-2016 (2,610 contacts)
Sent to 2,610 recipients on Friday, November 20, 2015 5:28pm



— this mailing
— community avg

Opens

50%

1,303 opens

Clicks

0%

0 unique clicks

Delivery

100%

2,610 delivered
0 bounced

Opt-outs

0

0% of recipients

Shares

0



All-Staff Update on School Board Election

OPENS BY DEVICE

53.9% Desktop

46.1% Mobile

OPENS BY CLIENT

0% AOL

0.2% AppleMail

0.1% Gmail

11.5% Outlook

0% Outlook.com

0% Yahoo! Mail

0% Unknown

Delay possible in District B election process pending Supreme Court ruling

Levinson to be seated on Nov. 30

Grand Junction, CO – Today the District 51 School Board's designated election official, Terri Wells, received the certified official abstract of votes cast for each school director candidate in the Nov. 3 Election from Mesa County Clerk and Recorder Sheila Reinet.

In accordance with the certified results, Wells will notify Director District A candidate Doug Levinson today regarding his election to office in District A. Mr. Levinson will be sworn in as the new District A representative on the District 51 School Board at a special meeting at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 30, at the Emerson Building, 930 Ute Ave. Colorado. Following receipt of his oath of office, Wells will issue a certificate of election to him.

Wells will, if possible, delay taking action to finalize the election regarding the District B school director race, due to pending litigation.

On Dec. 8, the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral argument regarding a decision by District Court Judge David Bottger denying a petition challenging Paul Pitton's eligibility to be a school director candidate. The petitioners – Mesa County residents Gil Tisue, Kent Carson, and Dale Pass – asked the Supreme Court to review the decision on Nov. 3. On Nov. 12, the Supreme Court agreed to hear the appeal. Paul Pitton received the most votes in the Nov. 3 election for the District B school directorship.

The school board and District 51 will review the status of the appeal at the board's meeting on November 30 and will consider whether action by the board is necessary regarding the District B election at that time.

Contact information/phone number/website.com

November Board Election Update 2 – Staff

Audience Reach – 2,610

School Board Election Update

"School District 51" <Jeannie.Smith@51schools.org>
D51 Staff 2015-2018 (2,610 contacts)
Sent to 2,610 recipients on Monday, November 23, 2015 5:20pm



— this mailing
— community avg

Opens	Clicks	Delivery	Opt-outs	Shares
47% 1,227 opens	0% 0 unique clicks	100% 2,610 delivered 0 bounced	0 0% of recipients	0



OPENS BY DEVICE

52.6%	Desktop
47.4%	Mobile

OPENS BY CLIENT

0%	AOL
0.2%	AppleMail
0.1%	Gmail
12.5%	Outlook
0%	Outlook.com
0%	Yahoo! Mail
0%	Unknown

All-Staff Update on School Board Election - Monday, November 23, 2015

District will follow timelines established in statute regarding school director election

- 1 The District issued a statement on Friday that it would, if possible, delay any action regarding Paul Pitton's election to the school board until the Supreme Court rules on the legal challenge to his candidacy.
- 2 The District subsequently determined that in the absence of a court order delaying or stopping post-election procedures and timelines, a school director must take office no later than 15 days after it receives the official election results. The District received the certification of election results on November 20, 2015. It is not possible for the District to extend this time period.
- 3 To the best of its knowledge, none of the interested parties to the pending legal action will seek a court order to stop or delay the post-election process until the legal challenge is finally decided.
- 4 Therefore, over the weekend the District proceeded to notify Pitton of his election to office, and advised him that he must now take the oath of office within 10 days of such notification (by December 1, 2015). Upon receipt of his oath within that time, the District's designated election official, Teri Wells, will issue to him a formal certificate evidencing his election, and his term of office will then begin.
- 5 The Board will hold a special meeting on November 30, 2015, at which time the Board president will administer the oath of office to Doug Levinson, the winner of the District A school director race, and to Pitton should he elect to appear and take the oath at that time.
- 6 The District is aware that, as of election day, Pitton was not a resident of the director district he was elected to represent. A school director cannot hold office if at any time during his term he or she is or becomes a nonresident of his or her director district. Therefore, if it appears that Pitton is not a resident of Director District B at any time following commencement of his term, the Board of Education is required by statute to adopt a resolution declaring a vacancy in such office at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The next scheduled meeting of the Board following November 30 is on December 8, 2015.
- 7 In the event of a vacancy, the Board would have 60 days to appoint someone to fill the vacancy.
- 8 The election or appointment of any person to the District B school director office will be subject to change based on decisions or orders of THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT in the pending court action. The Court is expected to hear oral arguments in that action on ON DECEMBER 8.

November Board Briefs

11/17/15 Board Briefs

"School District 51" <emily.shockley@d51schools.org>
 D51 Staff 2015-2016 (2,610 contacts)
 Sent to 2,610 recipients on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 3:24pm



Opens
45%
 1,166 opens

Clicks
0%
 0 unique clicks

Delivery
100%
 2,610 delivered
 0 bounced

Opt-outs
0
 0% of recipients

Shares
0

— this mailing
 — community avg



Board Brief November 17, 2015

OPENS BY DEVICE

77.8% Desktop
 22.2% Mobile

OPENS BY CLIENT

- AOL 0% AOL
- AppleMail 0.3% AppleMail
- Gmail 0.1% Gmail
- Outlook 35.2% Outlook
- Outlook.com 0% Outlook.com
- Yahoo! Mail 0% Yahoo! Mail
- Unknown 0% Unknown

D51 School Board Report 2015 All State School Board of the Year!

Congrats to the District 51 Board of Education, named one of two All State School Boards a

Updates for 2015 by the Colorado Association of School Boards' Board members will be recognized at a CABS awards ceremony Dec. 4 in Colorado Springs.

CABS judges award one or two All State School Boards each year based on six criteria that demonstrate exemplary governing practices, including how well board members:

1. Engage the public
2. Build a shared vision
3. Sustain policies and plans aimed at improving student achievement
4. Demonstrate strong ethics and sound reasoning when making decisions
5. Respond appropriately to issues and challenges
6. Continually improve board effectiveness

The board will use the \$2,500 prize that comes with being named an All State School Board to fund scholarships for five incoming students who plan to attend Colorado Mesa University and enter the field of education. CMU has generously agreed to match the \$2,500 donation so that five scholarships worth \$1,000 each can be created.

Standard Operating Procedures Update: Director District Changes

Superintendent Steve Schultz presented board members with procedural changes the District will adhere to from now on. The board will notify Mesa County one month before the board considers a change to director district or school boundaries and the county will place a tentative status notice on its director district boundary map and website system five days before the board's first meeting of those changes. If the board adopts boundary changes with a period meeting, the district will start the county within 10 days of adoption and the county will change and update the tentative status update within five days of getting the new boundary parameters.

Additionally, the district will send a primary consultant (not a secondary consultant to act) or director to assist the board secretary before consideration of a board candidate to confirm the director district to which a candidate applies. District Geographic Worksheet: Geographicists will be the district's primary consultant in 2015 and 2016 and Bythe Group, Inc. will be the secondary consultant.

Business Items

Board members approved a resolution to use \$1,000 they will receive in being a 2015 Colorado Association of School Boards All State School Board to fund scholarships for District 51 graduates who wish to attend Colorado Mesa University and have adjacent interest in becoming educators. The board also approved a telephone contract with Five Five Networks and 25M Global to switch district phone services from server and into SO on a hybrid cloud to build a guaranteed maximum price for construction of the new R470C building.

The board also approved changes upon second reading to non-representative policies: AC and DC II and to staff hiring and working policy: OSE-GOP in order to be in compliance with revised statutes and best practices. For the same reason, the board approved a resolution to repeal policy ACA on non-representative and had a first meeting of its update to staff contract policy: GEBB.

Expulsion Report

As of the end of October, 18 students have been expelled during the 2015-16 school year. That number is down compared to the same time period last year when 19 students had been expelled during the first three months of school.

Upcoming Meetings

Nov. 30, 11:30 a.m. - Special Board Meeting, Director Discretionary (Conference Room, 300 Oak Ave)

Dec. 1, 8 p.m. - Bank of Colorado Colorado Contact, Bank of Colorado, 200 Oak Ave

Dec. 8, 8 p.m. - Board Business Meeting, 876, Board Training, TDD

Groundbreaking Update on Construction of New R. 570C Building

Board members, district employees, and community members gathered today Tuesday's board meeting at 250 Grand Ave. to ceremonially break ground on the new all-purpose high school building that will open at that address next year. R-5 High School will move into the building's east wing and The Opportunity Center will move into the building's west wing. The central portion of the building will have offices for administrators from both schools, plus meeting rooms, including one large enough to host School Board meetings.

At the board meeting that followed the groundbreaking, Director of Maintenance and Building Lee Eric Hixon and Project Director Debbie Gravel presented the board with an update on the building project is going well and some design changes may be needed to handle groundwater on the construction site. Two issues have been added to the building design to accommodate students who need specialized bathroom services in the therapeutic day treatment program.

Board Recognition

The board recognized the following groups and individuals for their accomplishments:

- * **Palmer High School Marching Band** - for placing second at the state State 3A at the 2015 CMA State Championship marching band competition. The band's 111 members earned their highest ever score at the state competition (75.2). The band is directed by **Jeff Moore** and led by drum major **Chaitin Davis**.
- * **Central High senior Malissa Galbreath** and her coach **Scott Elze** for earning the Southwestern League District 4A/5A Substain Player of the Year award and the Southwestern League Softball Coach of the Year award, respectively. The Central High Softball Team finished their season with a 16-8 record overall this year.
- * **Grand Junction High School Soccer Coach Stephen Little** for being named the Southwestern League Boys Soccer Co-coach at the Year District in one of five soccer teams in the league and finished the season with an overall record of 8-5.
- * Board members elected **Ann Tison** and **Jill Leamy** to their four years of service on the board.

Nov. 30 Board Briefs

"School District 51" <emily.shockley@d51schools.org>
D51 Staff 2015-2016 (2,610 contacts)
Sent to 2,610 recipients on Tuesday, December 01, 2015 9:54am



— this mailing
— community avg

Opens
35%
925 opens

Clicks
0%
0 unique clicks

Delivery
100%
2,610 delivered
0 bounced

Opt-outs
0
0% of recipients

Shares
0



Board Brief - Monday, Nov. 30, 2015

OPENS BY DEVICE

86.3% Desktop
13.7% Mobile

OPENS BY CLIENT

0% AOL
0.2% AppleMail
0% Gmail
45.2% Outlook
0% Outlook.com
0% Yahoo! Mail
0% Unknown



Levinson, Pitton sworn in as newest D51 School Board members
Doug Levinson and Paul Pitton took the oath of office and joined the District 51 School Board Monday morning during a board special meeting at the Emerson Building.

Mr. Levinson won the Nov. 3 election for the Director District A seat and Mr. Pitton received the most votes for the Director District B seat. Mr. Levinson was notified that his win had been certified by Mesa County on Nov. 20. Mr. Pitton was notified the following day.

Both candidates had to take the oath of office within 10 days of receiving formal notice of the election certification, in accordance with Colorado Revised Statutes.

No delay requested for oath of office

Mr. Pitton was allowed to take the oath of office despite the district learning in mid-October that he lived in Director District D, not Director District B, because no one requested court intervention to delay the swearing-in process. As a result, the election and oath of office timeline was carried out as usual.

Residency discussed, to be touched on more next week

Board members will discuss whether Pitton was a resident of Director District B when he took the oath of office at the new board's first business meeting. That is scheduled to take place Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Pitton said at Monday's meeting he now resides in a rental home in District B and he plans to share evidence at the board's next meeting that shows he is now a District B resident.

Board members will not need to take any action if they believe Pitton is a resident of District B. If they are not satisfied that that is the case, however, the board can declare a vacancy and seek to seat another person on the board within 60 days of declaring that vacancy.

Supreme Court hearing yet to be conducted

Changes may still come for the newly-assembled board. The Colorado Supreme Court will have a hearing at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 8 in Denver to review District Judge David Seltzer's Nov. 2 decision to continue to allow Mesa County Clerk and Recorder Sheila Reimer to count votes for Mr. Pitton.

Board officers selected

The board will have new officers for its new lineup at the next board business meeting, Dec. 8. They are:

- **President:** John Williams
- **Vice President:** Tom Parrish
- **CASB Assembly Delegate:** Paul Pitton
- **Grand Valley BOCES Rep:** Greg Mikolaj
- **District Accountability Committee Rep:** Doug Levinson
- **ERPC Members:** Greg Mikolaj, Tom Parrish

Events

Groundbreaking

On November 17th, the Board of Education, District 51 staff, and community members gathered at 2150 Grand Avenue to celebrate the Groundbreaking of the site for the new R-5 High School and the Opportunity Center.



Student of the Month

This monthly recognition program is a collaboration between CMU, Alpine Bank, and District 51 to honor outstanding students with a luncheon that includes their parents and school leaders.



Front row, left to right: Madelyn Hand (West), Nathanel Akens (Grand Mesa), Alondra Sierra-Campos (Mt. Garfield), Grace Smith (Redlands), Romiah Diaz (Grand Mesa), Leslie Alcon (GJHS), Isabela Sanchez (Orchard Mesa), Nicole Harkreader (Palisade), Kaden Spence (Orchard Mesa), Ender McCallister (Mesa Valley), Parker Stacy (East), Kate Bowman (FMHS), Lauryn Burton (East)

Back row, left to right: Cassidy Lastine (Fruita 8/9), Christoph Kessler (GJHS), Jack Hawkins (Fruita 8/9), Cori Evering (Central), Tonka Little-Fawn (Central), Isidro Lopez (Bookcliff), Cameron Pollard (Redlands), Richard Gibson (Mt. Garfield), Liam Houston (Palisade), Noah Graf (FMHS), Anthony Pratte (R-5), Neila Rodriguez-Marquez (R-5), Ailish Fritz (Mesa Valley), Christopher Hayes (West)

Not pictured: Valeria Martinez (Bookcliff)

Social Media

Social media posts from November 12 – December 2 covered student and school events, the Daily Sentinel’s Student of the Week, New Emerson’s First Lego League qualifier, high school senior signing National Letters of Intent, the Board’s recognition of Board of the Year by the Colorado Association of School Boards, various news stories, and the swearing in of our new board members.

GROUP REPORT from November 12, 2015 - December 1, 2015



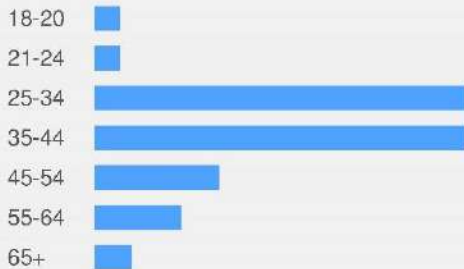
GROUP STATS across all Twitter and Facebook accounts

Incoming Messages	898	
Sent Messages	49	
New Twitter Followers	24	
New Facebook Fans	45	

909 INTERACTIONS
 BY **752 UNIQUE USERS**
89,793 POTENTIAL REACH

TWITTER STATS across all Twitter accounts

FOLLOWER DEMOGRAPHICS



TWITTER STATS



DAILY INTERACTIONS



OUTBOUND TWEET CONTENT



FACEBOOK STATS across all Facebook pages



My Facebook Pages

5.08k Total Likes, and 90 people talking about this

FAN GROWTH

New Fans 45 Unliked your Page 11

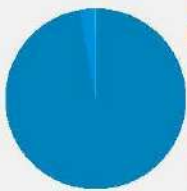


PAGE IMPRESSIONS

Impressions 46,329 by 18,933 users



IMPRESSIONS



- Page Post 12.7k
- Fan 334
- Other 13
- Mention 0
- Checkin 0
- Question 0
- User Post 0
- Coupon 0
- Event 0



- Paid 0
- Organic 32.9k
- Viral 13.0k

BY DAY OF WEEK

Day	Avg	Total
Sun	208.7	626
Mon	4.5k	13.6k
Tue	2.3k	6.9k
Wed	2.0k	4.0k
Thu	3.9k	11.7k
Fri	2.5k	7.6k
Sat	642.3	1.9k

IMPRESSION DEMOGRAPHICS

Here's a quick breakdown of people engaging with your Facebook Page

AGE & GENDER

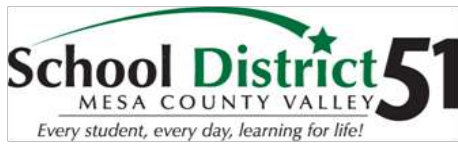


TOP COUNTRIES

Country	Impressions
United States	15.9k
Canada	30
Mexico	29
Japan	13
Germany	11

TOP CITIES

City	Impressions
Grand Junction, CO	8.1k
Fruita, CO	924
Clifton, CO	762
Denver, CO	683
Palisade, CO	353



Mesa County Valley School District 51

Licensed Personnel Action

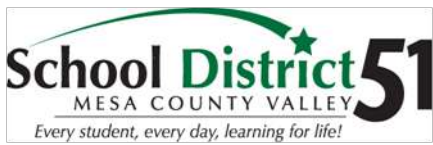
Board of Education Resolution:

Adopted: December 8, 2015

Name	School/Assignment	Effective Date
Retirements		
None at this time.		
Resignations/Termination		
Groh, Christie	Fruita 8-9/Math	December 18, 2015
Kerbs, Sarah	FMS/Reading Interventionist	December 11, 2015 (revised)
Leave of Absence		
None at this time.		
New Assignments		
None at this time.		

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on December 8, 2015.

Terri N. Wells
Secretary, Board of Education



Board of Education Resolution: 15/16: 41

Adopted: December 8, 2015

Donor	Pro-Build
Gift	Lumber
Value	\$250.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Theatre Arts

Donor	Dan Roussin
Gift	Baldwin upright piano
Value	\$1,200.00
School/Department	Grand Junction High School / Choir

Donor	Tim Cooney
Gift	Conn baritone
Value	\$300.00
School/Department	Music Department / Middle school students

Donor	Ron Brown Welding, Inc.
Gift	223 frozen turkeys
Value	\$2,000.00
School/Department	Appleton Elementary / PTA fundraiser and Appleton families.

Donor	Joe Deveydt
Gift	Snare drum and stand
Value	\$200.00
School/Department	Music Program / Middle school bands

Donor	David Miller and Anne Wenzel
Gift	Cash
Value	\$100.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Choir

Donor	Cecile Aday
Gift	Cash
Value	\$200.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Choir

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education, in accepting the donations listed above, extends their appreciation and acknowledges these important partnerships within the community which support learning for all students.

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on December 8, 2015.

 Terri N. Wells
 Secretary, Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

IKA

GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS

Related: IKA-R

Adopted: November 3, 1987

Revised: September 20, 1988

Policy Manual Review: November 19, 2002

Second Reading/Adoption: January 16, 2016

It is the philosophy of this Board that students will respond more positively to the opportunity for success than to the threat of failure. The district shall seek, therefore, in its instructional program to make achievement both recognizable and possible for students. It shall emphasize achievement in its processes of evaluating student performance.

State assessment system

State and federal law require district students to take standardized assessments in the instructional areas of English language arts, math and science. State law also requires students to take standardized assessments in the instructional area of social studies. Accordingly, the district shall administer standardized assessments pursuant to these state and federal legal requirements.

State law also requires the district to adopt policies and/or procedures concerning the use of pencil and paper on the computerized portion of state assessments; parent requests to excuse their children from taking state assessments; and the district's assessment calendar. This policy and its accompanying regulation represent the district's process to address these requirements.

1. Pencil and paper testing option

The district may determine that a specific classroom or school within the district will use pencil and paper to complete the computerized portions of a state assessment. Factors that will be considered in making this determination include:

- the technological capacity and resources of the particular school/classroom;
- students' previous experience with computerized and written assessments;
- whether the instructional methodology of the particular school/classroom is consistent with the use of computerized assessments or written assessments; and
- the logistics of administering the state assessment in different formats at a particular school or schools.

Prior to making this determination, the superintendent or designee shall consult with the school principal(s) affected by this determination as well as parents/guardians of students enrolled in the district.

For students with disabilities, the use of pencil and paper instead of a computer to complete a state assessment shall be determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team or Section 504 team, in accordance with applicable law.

2. Parent/guardian request for exemption

Under state law, parent(s)/guardian(s) may exempt their children from some state assessments. A parent/guardian who wishes to exempt his or her child from state assessment(s) shall make this request on a form approved by the District.

In accordance with state law, the district shall not impose a negative consequence upon a student whose parent/guardian has requested an exemption from a state assessment or assessments.

Mesa County Valley School District 51

IKA

GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS

Related: IKA-R

Adopted: November 3, 1987

Revised: September 20, 1988

Policy Manual Review: November 19, 2002

Second Reading/Adoption: January 16, 2016

This policy's exemption process shall apply only to state assessments and shall not apply to district or classroom assessments.

3. Sharing of student state assessment results with parents/guardians

The Colorado Department of Education is required to provide diagnostic academic growth information for each student enrolled in the district and for each public school in the district based on the state assessments results for the preceding school years. This information shall be included in each student's individual student record. Appropriate school personnel, including those who work directly with the student, shall have access to the student's state assessment results and longitudinal academic growth information and shall share with and explain that information to the student's parent/guardian.

District assessment system

In addition to the state assessment system, the district has developed a comprehensive assessment system that:

- challenges students to think critically, apply what they have learned and gives them the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge;
- includes "early warning" features that allow problems to be diagnosed promptly to let students, teachers and parents/guardians know that extra effort is necessary;
- provides reliable and valid information on student and school performance to educators, parents/guardians and employers; and
- provides timely and useful data for instructional improvement and improved student learning, including feedback useful in determining whether the curriculum is aligned with the district's academic standards.

The district will use a variety of assessment tools to determine student achievement. The superintendent or designee shall be responsible for scheduling, disseminating and collecting assessments so that the district is in compliance with state and federal requirements. The superintendent or designee also shall be responsible for reporting and interpreting all group assessment results.

In accordance with applicable law, the district's assessment system shall accommodate students with disabilities and English language learners.

The district's assessments results, in combination with state assessment results, will be used as the measurement of student achievement. It is believed these results will provide reliable and valid information about student progress on the district's academic standards.

Additional assessment information for parents/guardians

In accordance with state law and this policy's accompanying regulation, the district shall distribute an assessment calendar and related information to parent/guardians on an annual basis to inform them about the state and district assessments that the district plans to administer during the school year.

Classroom assessment system

Classroom assessment practices shall be aligned with the district's academic standards and assessment program. Assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process that should occur continuously in

Mesa County Valley School District 51

IKA

GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS

Related: IKA-R

Adopted: November 3, 1987

Revised: September 20, 1988

Policy Manual Review: November 19, 2002

Second Reading/Adoption: January 16, 2016

the classroom. The primary purpose of classroom assessment shall be to enable teachers to make instructional decisions for students on a continual basis.

Students are encouraged to engage in informal self-assessments as they study and attempt to solve problems, monitor their own progress and improve their learning.

Grading system

The administration and professional staff shall devise a grading systems for evaluating and recording student progress and to measure student performance in conjunction with the district's academic standards. The records and reports of individual students shall be kept in a form meaningful to parents/guardians, as well as teachers. The grading system shall be uniform district-wide--at comparable grade levels, except for programs approved by the Board. Peer grading of student assignments and classroom assessments is permissible. The intent of this practice is to teach material again in a new context and to show students how to assist and respect fellow students.

The Board shall approve the grading, reporting and assessment systems as developed by the professional staff, upon recommendation of the superintendent.

The Board recognizes that classroom grading and/or assessment systems, however effective, are subjective in nature, but urges all professional staff members to conduct student evaluations as objectively as possible.

The Board also recognizes that state and federal laws, rules and regulations governing the education of students with disabilities contain special requirements not applicable to the general education program. Accordingly, the superintendent may promulgate and publish appropriate administrative procedures, consistent with the district's responsibility under applicable laws, rules and regulations, for evaluating the performance of students with disabilities using an independent grading system based upon each student's individual education plan.

Legal Reference:

- C.R.S. 22-7-1006.3 (1) (state assessment implementation schedule)
- C.R.S. 22-7-1006.3 (1) (d) (district must report to CDE the number of students who will take the state assessment in a pencil and paper format)
- C.R.S. 22-7-1006.3 (7) (d) (state assessment results included on student report card if feasible)
- C.R.S. 22-7-1006.3 (8) (a) (policy required to ensure explanation of student state assessment results)
- C.R.S. 22-7-1013 (1) (district academic standards)
- C.R.S. 22-7-1013 (6) (policy required regarding the use of pencil and paper on state assessments)
- C.R.S.22-7-1013 (7) (procedure required concerning distribution of assessment calendar to parents /guardians)
- C.R.S. 22-7-1013 (8) (policy and procedure required to allow parents to excuse their children from participation in state assessments)
- C.R.S.22-11-101 et seq. (Education Accountability Act of 2009)
- C.R.S. 22-11-203 (2)(a) (principal required to provide educators access to their students' academic growth information "upon receipt" of that information)
- C.R.S.22-11-504 (3) (policy required to ensure explanation of student state assessment results and longitudinal growth information)

Mesa County Valley School District 51

IKA

GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS

Related: IKA-R

Adopted: November 3, 1987

Revised: September 20, 1988

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Cross Reference:

IKA-E, Request for Exemption From State Assessment(s)

JRA/JRC, Student Records/Release of Information on Students

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IKA-R

GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS

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Pursuant to Policy IKA, the District shall follow a uniform numerical grading system for evaluating and recording student progress in elementary schools (Grades K-5), and a uniform letter grading system for evaluating and recording progress in secondary schools (grades 6-12). Such grading systems shall be aligned with the content standards adopted by the Board of Education, and shall reflect the levels of performance indicated below.

In addition to number or letter grades, teachers shall, report their assessment of the student's classroom behavior in elementary grades, and the student's attitude as a learner in secondary grades.

ELEMENTARY GRADING SYSTEMS

Academic Reporting Criteria		
Advanced	4.0	The student regularly meets and at times exceeds (more depth/ extension with grade level work and / or performing at higher than grade level) the standard as described by the grade level expectations. The student extends and applies key concepts, processes and skills for grade level.
	3.5	<i>Meets criteria at 3.0, progressing toward 4.0</i>
Proficient	3.0	The student regularly meets the standard as it is described by the grade level expectations. The student, with limited errors, grasps and applies key concepts, processes and skills for grade level.
	2.5	<i>Meets criteria at 2.0, progressing toward 3.0</i>
Partially Proficient	2.0	The student is beginning to, and occasionally does, meet the standards as described by grade level expectations. The student is beginning to grasp and apply the key concepts, processes and skills for the grade level work but produces work that contains many errors.
	1.5	<i>With support can meet criteria for 2.0</i>
Unsatisfactory	1.0	The student is not meeting the standard as is described by grade level expectations for this grade level or insufficient evidence at this time.

The following annotations may be affixed to the grades above, as appropriate:

* = Grade based on accommodations

N = Content was not directly taught or assessed during this grading period

M = Standards were modified for student; not working on grade level standards

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	4 = Advanced	3 = Proficient	2 = Partially Proficient	1 = Unsatisfactory
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently participates and works effectively with others/group Consistently acknowledges authority and follows directions Consistently is a self-directed learner Consistently uses teamwork and leadership skills effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually participates and works effectively with others/group Usually acknowledges authority and follows direction Usually does not require teacher redirection Usually uses teamwork and leadership skills effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes does not participate or cooperate with others/group Sometimes does not acknowledge authority Sometimes requires teacher redirection Sometimes does not use teamwork and leadership skills effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely participates, cooperates and often disrupts others/group Rarely acknowledges authority Constantly requires teacher redirection Rarely uses teamwork and leadership skills effectively
Work Ethic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently manages time effectively and completes all practice in a timely manner Consistently learns from instruction and feedback Consistently organized and prepared for learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually manages time effectively and usually completes all practice in a timely manner Usually learns from instruction and feedback Usually organized and prepared for learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes manages time effectively and sometimes completes all practice in a timely manner Sometimes learns from instruction and feedback Sometimes organized and prepared for learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely manages time effectively and rarely completes all practice in a timely manner Rarely learns from instruction and feedback Rarely organized and prepared for learning
Civic Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently respects the rights of others and follows classroom and school rules Consistently accepts that our society is made up of a diverse population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually respects the rights of others and usually follows classroom and school rules Usually accepts that our society is made up of a diverse population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes respects the rights of others or needs adult/peer guidance to follow classroom and school rules Sometimes accepts that our society is made up of a diverse population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely respects the rights of others, including adults, and disregards classroom and school rules Rarely accepts that our society is made up of a diverse population
Personal Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently takes responsibility for own actions Consistently takes initiative and responsibility for his/her own learning Constantly plans and prioritizes goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually takes responsibility for own actions. Usually takes initiative and responsibility for his/her own learning Usually plans and prioritizes goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes takes responsibility for own actions Sometimes takes initiative and responsibility for his/her own learning Sometimes plans and prioritizes goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely takes responsibility for own actions Rarely takes initiative and responsibility for his/her own learning Rarely plans and prioritizes goals

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Effort: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing • Writes Clearly & Legibly • Mathematics • Science • Social Studies • Physical Education • Music • Technology • Art 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perseveres beyond completion to gain deeper understanding • Consistently continues working on the task even when difficulties arise or a solution is not immediately evident 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually works on tasks until completed • Usually continues working on the task even when difficulties arise or a solution is not immediately evident 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes puts effort or focus into the task • Stops working when difficulties arise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student puts very little effort or focus into the task
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SECONDARY GRADING SYSTEMS

6th – 8th Grades

District 51 Common Proficiency Descriptor

<p>4 Advanced</p>	<p>The student regularly meets and at times exceeds (more depth/extension with grade level work and/or performing at higher than grade/course level) the standard as described by the grade level expectations. The student extends and applies key concepts, processes and skills for grade level.</p>
<p>3 Proficient</p>	<p>The student regularly meets the standard as it is described by the grade level expectations. The student, with limited errors, grasps and applies key concepts, processes and skills for grade level.</p>
<p>2 Partially Proficient</p>	<p>The student is beginning to, and occasionally does, meet the standards as described by grade level expectations. The student is beginning to grasp and apply the key concepts, processes and skills for the grade level work but produces work that contains many errors.</p>
<p>1 Unsatisfactory</p>	<p>The student is not meeting the standards as is described by grade level expectations for this grade level.</p>
<p>IE Insufficient Evidence</p>	<p>The student has not provided enough evidence to make a determination of their proficiency as described by grade level expectations.</p>

District 51 Learning Rubric				
	4 – Advanced	3 – Proficient	2 – Partially Proficient	1 = Unsatisfactory
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly participates and works effectively with others/group • Regularly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually participates and works effectively with others/group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sometimes does not participate or cooperate with others/group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rarely participates, cooperates and often disrupts others/group

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> acknowledges authority and takes direction Regularly uses teamwork and leadership skills effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually acknowledges authority and takes direction with some teacher redirection and/or encouragement Usually uses teamwork and leadership skills effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes does not acknowledge authority and needs more teacher redirection and/or encouragement Sometimes does not use teamwork and leadership skills effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely acknowledges authority and constantly needs teacher redirection and/or encouragement Rarely uses teamwork and leadership skills effectively
Work Ethic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly manages time effectively and completes all practice in a timely manner Regularly learns from instruction and feedback Regularly prepared for class with all necessary materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually manages time effectively and usually completes all practice in a timely manner Usually learns from instruction and feedback Usually prepared for class with all necessary materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes manages time effectively and sometimes completes all practice in a timely manner Sometimes learns from instruction and feedback Sometimes prepared for class with all necessary materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely manages time effectively and rarely completes all practice in a timely manner Rarely learns from instruction and feedback Rarely prepared for class with all necessary materials
Civic Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly respects the rights of others and follows classroom and school rules Regularly accepts that our society is made up of a diverse population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually respects the rights of others and usually follows classroom and school rules Usually accepts that our society is made up of a diverse population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes respects the rights of others or needs adult/peer guidance to follow classroom and school rules Sometimes accepts that our society is made up of a diverse population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely respects the rights of others, including adults, and disregards classroom and school rules Rarely accepts that our society is made up of a diverse population
Personal Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly takes responsibility for own actions Regularly takes initiative and responsibility for his/her own learning Regularly plans and prioritizes goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Usually takes responsibility for own actions Usually takes initiative and responsibility for his/her own learning Usually plans and prioritizes goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes takes responsibility for own actions Sometimes takes initiative and responsibility for his/her own learning Sometimes plans and prioritizes goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely takes responsibility for own actions Rarely takes initiative and responsibility for his/her own learning Rarely plans and prioritizes goals

9th – 12th Grades

1. Performance Level Definitions

A

1. Student consistently demonstrates all exceptional level of

K-1.b.4

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		understanding by incorporating and transferring advanced skills and complex thinking into grade level performance expectations.
	2.	Student is independent and self-directed in extending the learning process.
	3.	Student meets and frequently exceeds assignment requirement.
	4.	AND/OR Student is consistently performing above grade level expectations.
B	1.	Student successfully achieves grade level expectations and supporting concepts.
	2.	Student regularly applies thinking skills and learning strategies
	3.	Student meets assignment requirements.
C	1.	Student is performing near grade level expectations.
	2.	Student is showing progress in applying thinking skills and learning strategies.
	3.	Student shows partial grasp of central concepts.
	4.	AND/OR Student inconsistently meets assignment requirements.
Below Proficient		
D	1.	Student is inconsistent in meeting the expectations of the course content standards.
	2.	Student demonstrated partial skill and ability in content area.
F	1.	Student is performing significantly below expectations of the course content standards.
	2.	Student demonstrates minimal skill and ability in content area.
	2.	<u>Behavior Symbol Criteria.</u>
+ = Strong		The student <u>consistently</u> meets teacher's expectations for conduct and effort.
√ = Satisfactory		The student <u>generally</u> meets teacher's expectations for conduct and effort.
- = Needs Improvement		The student <u>inconsistently</u> meets teacher's expectations for conduct and effort.
	3.	Grade Point Averages (GPA)



Mesa County Valley School District 51

JLDAC

SCREENING/EVALUATING OF STUDENTS (And Treatment of Mental Disorders)

Adopted: November 17, 1987

Revised: January 15, 1991

Revised: March 28, 2000

Policy Manual Review: August 6, 2002

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Parents/guardians and eligible students have the right to review any survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation administered or distributed by a school to students whether created by the district or a third party. For purposes of this policy, "eligible student" means a student 18 years of age or older or an emancipated minor. Any survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation administered or distributed by a school to students shall be subject to applicable state and federal laws protecting the confidentiality of student records.

Survey, assessments, analysis or evaluation for which consent is required

Except as otherwise permitted by law, students shall not be required to submit to a survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation that is intended to reveal information, whether the information is personally identifiable or not, without prior written consent of the parent/guardian or eligible student, if that survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation reveals information in the following areas ("protected information")

1. political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian
2. mental and psychological conditions of the student or the student's family
3. sex behavior and attitudes
4. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior;
5. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers
7. religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian
8. income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program)
9. social security number

School personnel responsible for administering any such survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation shall give written notice at least two weeks in advance to the student's parent/guardian or the eligible student and shall make a copy of the document available for viewing at convenient time and locations. The notice shall offer to provide the following written information upon request:

1. records or information that may be examined and required in the survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation
2. the means by which the records or information shall be examined, reviewed, or disseminated
3. the means by which the information is to be obtained
4. the purposes for which the records or information are needed
5. the entities or persons, regardless of affiliation, who will have access to the information; and



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6. a method by which a parent/guardian can grant or deny permission to access or examine the records or information

These notice provisions also apply to any survey, analysis or evaluation funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

Exceptions to policy

Nothing in this section of the policy shall:

1. prevent a student who is working under the supervision of a journalism teacher or sponsor from preparing or participating in a survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation without obtaining consent as long as such participation is not otherwise prohibited by law
2. be construed to prevent a district employee from reporting known or suspected child abuse or neglect as required by state law
3. be construed to limit the ability of a health professional that is acting as an agent of the school district to evaluate an individual child
4. be construed to require parental notice or consent for a survey, assessment, analysis or evaluation related to educational products or services for or to students or educational institutions. These products and services include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - college or other postsecondary education recruitment or military recruitment activities
 - book clubs, magazines and programs providing access to low-cost literary products
 - curriculum and instructional materials used by district schools
 - tests and assessments used by district schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students.
 - the sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or educational-related activities
 - student recognition programs
5. be construed to require parental notice or consent for assessments used to collect evidence of what a student knows and is able to do and to measure a student's academic progress toward attaining the district's academic standards
6. limit the ability of the district to administer a suicide assessment or threat assessment

Surveys, assessment, analysis or evaluation for marketing purposes

Parents/guardian and eligible students shall receive notice and have the opportunity to opt a student out of activities involving the collections, disclosure or use of personal information collected from the student for the purpose of marketing or selling that information or otherwise providing the information to others for that purpose.

Annual notice



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At the beginning of each academic year, the district shall inform parents/guardians and eligible students that the parent/guardian or eligible student has the right to consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the protected areas and to opt out of the following:

1. activities involving the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information;
2. the administration of any protected information survey; or
3. any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening (other than a hearing, vision or scoliosis screening) that is:
 - required as a condition of attendance;
 - administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and
 - not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or of other students.

Psychological Testing Of Students (And Treatment of Mental Disorders)

School personnel are prohibited under state law from recommending or requiring the use of psychotropic drugs for students. They are also prohibited from testing or requiring testing for a student's behavior without giving notice to the parent/guardian describing the recommended testing and how any test results will be used. Prior to the conducting any such testing, school personnel shall obtain written permission from the parent/guardian or eligible student in accordance with applicable law.

School personnel are encouraged to discuss concerns about a student's behavior with the parent/guardian, and such discussions may include a suggestion that the parent/guardian speak with an appropriate health care professional regarding any behavior concerns that school personnel may have. Only those persons appropriately licensed may expose student to any psychiatric or psychological method or procedure for the purpose of diagnosis, assessment or treatment of any emotional, behavioral or mental disorder or disability. Such methods or procedures may only be performed after acquiring written permission from a student's parent or guardian, or from the student in those circumstances in which federal or state law allows the student to obtain such services in confidence or without prior notice to the parent/guardian.

Licensed school personnel are encouraged to be knowledgeable about psychiatric or psychological methods and procedures but shall not be involved in any diagnosis, assessment or treatment of any type of mental disorder or disability unless appropriately licensed. In accordance with state law, school personnel including licensed school psychologists are not authorized to practice psychotherapy or utilize any psychiatric or psychological procedure outside of or beyond their area of training, experience or competence.

Psychological tests shall be administered to students only by appropriately licensed school personnel employed for this purpose or by interns under their supervision. Adherence to this policy will insure quality psychological services and will protect the educational rights, dignity and privacy of students and parents.

Psychological examination and testing shall be made only after informed and written consent of the student's parents or guardian is obtained unless the student is of legal age to give his informed and written consent. Psychological data shall be only one of several criteria for determining any change in a student's educational



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program. Psychological data older than three years shall not be used as the basis for prescriptive teaching or placement.

Students shall not be required to submit to any psychiatric or psychological methods or procedures for the purpose of diagnosis, assessment or treatment of any emotional, behavioral or mental disorder or disability as part of any classroom or instructional activity without parental knowledge and consent.

Ordinary classroom instruction, activities and techniques involving the approved curriculum that teach about psychological or psychiatric methods or procedures shall be permissible and considered outside the scope of this policy. It is understood that there is a significant difference between practicing therapy and providing activities that may be therapeutic in nature. Any teacher who questions whether a planned activity is one involving psychiatric or psychological methods or procedures for which the teacher may not be properly licensed shall consult with the school principal.

Special education evaluation

The giving of parental permission for evaluation or re-evaluation of a student with disabilities and any required consent to the provision of special education services to a student with disabilities is governed by state and federal law and is outside the scope of this policy.

Legal References:

20 U.S.C. 1232g (Family Education Rights and Privacy Act)

20 U.S.C. 1232h (rights of students and parents to inspect instructional materials and give prior consent for certain surveys, analysis and evaluation)

C.R.S.13-22-101 (18 is age of competence for certain purposes)

C.R.S. 22-1-123 (district shall comply with federal law on protection of pupil rights, Colorado provisions regarding survey, assessment, analysis and evaluation of students)

C.R.S. 22-32-109.2 (1)(ee) (duty to adopt policy prohibiting personnel from ordering behavior tests without parent permission)

C.R.S. 22-32-109.2 (screening and treatment of emotional/mental disorders or disabilities)

C.R.S. 27-65-103 (voluntary applications for mental health services)

Cross References:

GBEB, Staff Conduct

GCS, Professional Research and Publishing

IKA, Grading/Assessment System

JLCA, Physical Examinations of Students

JRA/JRC, Student Records

LC, Relations with Education Research Agencies



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GBEB

STAFF CONDUCT (AND RESPONSIBILITIES)/CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Related: GBEA, GBEA (1), GBEA (1)-E

Adopted as GBEA (2): April 22, 1975

Revised: June 17, 1997

Amended Document Presented/Revised and Renamed: December 13, 2011

Adopted: January 24, 2012

Adopted: December 8, 2015

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Staff Conflicts of Interest

No employee of the Board shall engage in or have a financial interest, directly or indirectly, in any activity that conflicts or raises a reasonable question of conflict with his/her duties and responsibilities in the school system.

Employees shall not engage in work of any type where information concerning customer, client or employer originates from any information available to them through school sources.

An employee shall not take or receive any part or portion of moneys from the sale, proceeds, profit, or items in lieu thereof of any book, musical instrument, school supplies, school apparatus, or other materials, including custodial, office, and athletic supplies, sold to a minor, or the parent or guardian of a minor, enrolled in the school where the employee is performing services, or which may be sold to the school district unless prior approval has been obtained from the board.

Moreover, as there should be no conflict of interest in the supervision and evaluation of employees, at no time may any employee responsible for the supervision and/or evaluation of any other employee be directly related to him/her.

Staff Conduct (And Responsibilities)

All staff members have a responsibility to make themselves familiar with and abide by the laws of the state as these affect their work, the policies of the Board and the regulations designed to implement them.

As representatives of the District and role models for students, all staff shall demonstrate and uphold high professional, ethical and moral standards and conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with the educational mission of the District. Interactions between staff members must be based on mutual respect, and any conflicts must be resolved in a professional manner. The Superintendent is authorized to develop and promulgate by regulation a code of conduct applicable to all employees that is consistent with this policy. Such code of conduct shall set forth ethical and moral standards for behavior and core principles of professionalism to guide day-to-day staff behavior, interaction and decision-making.

Prohibited Conduct

Each staff member shall observe rules of conduct established in law which specify that a school employee shall not:

1. Disclose or use confidential information acquired in the course of his/her employment to further substantially his/her personal financial interests.
2. Accept a gift of substantial value or substantial economic benefit tantamount to a gift of substantial value which would tend to improperly influence a reasonable person in his/her position or which he/she knows or should know is primarily for the purpose of rewarding him/her for action taken in which he/she exercised discretionary authority.
3. Engage in a substantial financial transaction for his/her private business purposes with a person whom he/she supervises.
4. Perform any action in which he/she has discretionary authority which directly and substantially confers an economic benefit on a business or other undertaking in which he/she has a substantial financial interest or in which he/she is engaged as a counsel, consultant, representative or agent.

The phrase "economic benefit tantamount to a gift of substantial value" includes a loan at a rate of interest substantially lower than the prevailing commercial rate and compensation received for private services rendered at a rate substantially exceeding the fair market value.

It is permissible for an employee to receive:

1. An occasional nonpecuniary gift which is insignificant in value.
2. A nonpecuniary award publicly presented by a nonprofit organization in recognition of public service.
3. Payment or reimbursement for actual and necessary expenditures for travel and subsistence for attendance at a convention or other meeting at which he/she is scheduled to participate.
4. Reimbursement for or acceptance of an opportunity to participate in a social function or meeting which is not extraordinary when viewed in light of his/her position.
5. Items of perishable or nonpermanent value including but not limited to meals, lodging, travel expenses or tickets to sporting, recreational, educational or cultural events.
6. Payment for speeches, debates or other public events reported as honorariums.

All staff members shall be expected to carry out their assigned responsibilities with conscientious concern. A staff member may request an advisory opinion from the secretary of state concerning issues relating to conduct that is proscribed by state law.

It shall not be considered a breach of conduct for a staff member to:

1. Use school facilities and equipment to communicate or correspond with constituents, family members or business associates on an occasional basis.
2. Accept or receive a benefit as an indirect consequence of transacting school district business.

Staff Responsibilities

Essential to the success of ongoing school operations and the instructional program are the following specific responsibilities which shall be required of all personnel:

1. Faithfulness and promptness in attendance at work.
2. Support and enforcement of policies of the Board and regulations of the school administration in regard to students.
3. Diligence in submitting required reports promptly at the times specified.
4. Care and protection of school property.
5. Concern and attention toward their own and the school system's legal responsibility for the safety and welfare of students including the need to insure that students are supervised at all times.
6. Maintenance of proper professional boundaries with students at all times.

The superintendent shall develop and promulgate by regulation a non-exclusive list of actions or conduct that are not in keeping with reasonably expected standards of interaction between a staff member and students and that, in the absence

of a legitimate educational purpose, may be regarded as a violation of professional boundaries. Failure to maintain or observe professional boundaries with a student or students or engaging in a pattern of conduct with one or more students that is outside proper professional boundaries in violation of this policy shall be grounds for discipline, including dismissal.

Felony/Misdemeanor Convictions

If, subsequent to beginning employment with the District, the District has good cause to believe that any staff member has been convicted of, pled nolo contendere to, or received a deferred or suspended sentence for any felony or misdemeanor other than a misdemeanor traffic offense or infraction, the District shall make inquiries to the Department of Education for purposes of screening the employee.

In addition, the District shall require the employee to submit a complete set of fingerprints taken by a qualified law enforcement agency. Fingerprints must be submitted within 20 days after receipt of written notification. The fingerprints shall be forwarded to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of conducting a state and national fingerprint-based criminal history record check utilizing the records of the Colorado Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Disciplinary action, which could include dismissal from employment, may be taken against personnel if the results of fingerprint processing provide relevant information. Non-licensed employees shall be dismissed from employment if the results of the fingerprint-based criminal history record check disclose a conviction for certain felonies, as provided in law.

Employees shall not be charged fees for processing fingerprints under these circumstances.

Child Abuse

All district employees who have reasonable cause to know or suspect that any child is subjected to abuse or to conditions that might result in abuse or neglect must immediately upon receiving such information report such fact in accordance with Board policy and state law.

The superintendent is authorized to conduct an internal investigation or to take any other necessary steps if he receives information from a county department of social services or a law enforcement agency that a suspected child abuse perpetrator is a school district employee. Such information shall remain confidential except that the superintendent shall notify the Colorado Department of Education of the child abuse investigation.

Unlawful Behavior Involving Children

The Board may make an inquiry with the Department of Education concerning whether any current employee of the school district has been convicted of, pled nolo contendere to, or received a deferred or suspended sentence or deferred prosecution for a felony or misdemeanor crime involving unlawful sexual behavior or unlawful behavior involving children. Disciplinary action, including termination, may be taken if the inquiry discloses information relevant to the employee's fitness for employment.

Personnel addressing health care treatment for behavior issues

School personnel are prohibited under state law from recommending or requiring the use of psychotropic drugs for students. They are also prohibited from testing or requiring testing for a student's behavior without giving notice to the parent/guardian describing the recommended testing and how any test results will be used. Prior to the conducting any such testing, school personnel shall obtain written permission from the parent/guardian or eligible student in accordance with applicable law. School personnel are encouraged to discuss concerns about a student's behavior with parent/guardian and such discussions may include a suggestion that the parent/guardian speak with an appropriate health care professional regarding any behavior concerns school personnel may have. Only those persons appropriately certified or licensed may expose a student to any psychiatric or psychological method or procedure for the purpose of diagnosis, assessment or treatment of any emotional, behavioral or mental disorder or disability. Such methods or procedures may only be performed after acquiring written permission from a student's parent or guardian, or from the student in those

circumstances in which federal or state law allows the student to obtain such services in confidence or without prior notice to the parent/guardian.

Possession of Dangerous Weapons

The provisions of the policy regarding public possession of dangerous weapons on school property or in school buildings also shall apply to employees of the District. However, the restrictions shall not apply to employees who are required to carry or use dangerous weapons in order to perform their necessary duties and functions.

- Legal References:
- C.R.S. 18-12-105.5 (unlawful carrying/possession of weapons on school grounds)
 - C.R.S. 18-12-214 (3) (b) (school security officers may carry concealed handgun pursuant to valid permit)
 - C.R.S. 19-3-308 (5.7) (child abuse reporting)
 - C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1) (ee) (duty to adopt policy prohibiting personnel from recommending certain drugs for students or ordering behavior tests without parent permission)
 - C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (8) (policy requiring inquiries upon good cause to department of education for purpose of ongoing screening of employees)
 - C.R.S. 22-32-109.7 (duty to make inquiries prior to hiring)
 - C.R.S. 22-32-109.8 (6) (requirement to terminate non-licensed employees for certain felony offenses)
 - C.R.S. 22-32-109.9 (licensed personnel-submittal of fingerprints)
 - C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1) (k) (power to adopt conduct rules)
 - C.R.S. 24-18-104 (government employee rules of conduct)
 - C.R.S. 24-18-109 (local government employee rules of conduct)

- Cross Reference:
- JLC, Student Health Services and Records
 - JLDAC, Testing of Students
 - JLF, Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection
 - KFA, Public Conduct on District Property



Mesa County Valley School District 51

District Accountability Committee (DAC) Membership
2015-2016 School Year

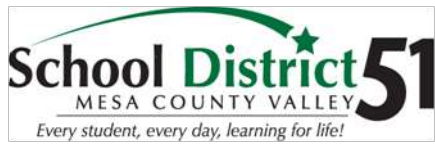
Board of Education Resolution: 15/16: 40

Adopted: December 8, 2015

<i>Current Member Name</i>	<i>Representative Area</i>
Dan Bunnell	Parent, Elementary School Representative
Lee Carleton	Parent, High School Representative
Brenda Chandler	Community Representative
Vickie Fay	Parent, Elementary School Representative
Arthur Gardner	Community Representative
Deb Lamb	Elementary School Representative
Amanda McQuade	Parent, Community Representative
Julia Moore	Parent, Middle School Representative
Jessica Mulvey	Parent, Community Representative (vice-chair)
Andy Nikkari	Parent, Community Representative (Chairman)
Randall Reitz	Parent, Community Representative
Allison Ripple	Elementary School Representative
Gary Roahrig	Community Representative
Franki Sanders	Elementary School Representative
Shawn Wilson	Elementary School Representative

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education on December 8, 2015.

Terri N. Wells
Secretary, Board of Education



Mesa County Valley School District 51

**Certification of Mill Levy
(Including Full Abatement)**

Board of Education Resolution 15/16: 42

Adopted: December 8, 2015

WHEREAS, Section 22-40-102(1)(b), C.R.S., requires that the Board of Education certify to the Board of County Commissioners by December 15, 2015, the amount to be raised from levies against the valuation for assessment for the General Fund, Bond Redemption Fund, Transportation Fund, and Special Building Fund.

WHEREAS, the following has been certified by the Mesa County Assessor for property within the boundaries of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51:

Assessed Valuation	\$1,649,727,000
Taxes Collected on Omitted Property by December 1, 2015	\$13,455.87
Tax Abatements Refunded as of December 1, 2015	\$1,232,682.08

WHEREAS, Section 39-10-114(1) (a) (I) (B) provides:

Any taxing entity may adjust the amount of its tax levy authorized pursuant to the provisions of section 29-1-301, C.R.S., by an additional amount which does not exceed the proportional share of the total amount of abatements and refunds made pursuant to the provisions of this section. After calculating the amount of property tax revenues necessary to satisfy the requirements of the *Public School Finance Act of 1994*, article 54 of title 22, C.R.S., any school district shall add an amount equal to the proportional share of the total amount of abatements and refunds granted pursuant to the provisions of this section prior to the setting of the mill levy for such school district.

WHEREAS, the board wishes to avail itself for the provision of Section 39-10-114(1) (a) (I) (B).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 does hereby certify to the Mesa County Commissioners the amounts of levies required against the valuation for assessment of all taxable property located within the boundaries of this school district for the General and Bond Redemption Funds for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 Budget years.

	AMOUNT	MILLS
General Fund (Regular)	\$39,946,490	24.214
Tax Abatement Credit	1,232,682	0.747
Override Election 1996	4,619,823	2.800
Override Election 2004	4,000,000	2.425
Total General Fund	\$49,798,995	30.186
Bond Redemption Fund	10,985,532	6.659
Transportation Fund	0	0
Special Building Fund	0	0
Total All Funds	\$60,784,527	36.845

CERTIFICATION OF MILL LEVY

The deadline for the Board to certify the mill levy to the County Commissioners is December 15, 2015. The local mill levy is calculated by a formula which uses enrollment growth, inflation, prior year local property tax revenue and current year certification of valuation. The valuation certification from the County Assessor's Office is as of December 2014. The prior year General Fund levy was 29.582 mills including abatement. The current certification is 30.186 mills including abatement, which is 0.747. The Bond Redemption levy will be 6.659.

Mill Levy Summary

General Fund

By December 10th, the District receives notification from CDE of what the mill levy will be for the District for the next tax year. In other districts, the mill levy may be more or less than this rate depending on the assessed value per student. District 51's General Fund mill levy is 24.214 mills.

Tax Credit CRS, Section 39-10-114(1) (a) (I) (B)

The above referenced statutes allow school districts to add to the mill levy required for state equalization. This additional levy will allow for the recovery of districts' anticipated revenue that was abated or refunded by the County Commissioners. The amount of \$1,232,682 (.747 mills) was reflected on the certification from the county treasurer's office, and was based on an assessed value of \$1,649,727,000.

Voter-Approved Override Election

In the November 1996 election, the voters of Mesa County authorized an additional levy to support the General Fund operating costs of the district. The mill levy is 2.800. In November 2004, voters approved an additional override to support the operating costs of the new schools. The mill levy is 2.425.

Bond Redemption

The current mill levy of 6.659 mills will provide revenue to meet the current bond and interest obligations.

	2014-2015	2015-2016	Difference
General Fund	24.214	24.214	0.000
Tax Abatement	0.133	0.747	0.614
Override Election 1996	2.710	2.800	0.090
Override Election 2004	2.525	2.425	(0.100)
Total	29.582	30.186	0.604
Bond Redemption	6.990	6.659	(0.331)
Total Mill Levy	36.572	36.845	0.273

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education on December 8, 2015

Terri Wells
Secretary, Board of Education