

Mount Garfield Middle School



Hal Templeton, Principal | Rocio Roybal, AP | Jared Burek, AP | Lori Thompson, Secretary | Valerie Mendoza, Secretary

Important Dates

**Classes Begin! – 7:20 am
first bell – 7:25 am tardy
bell**

August 10, 2016

**Back-to-School BBQ &
Teacher Meet & Greet –
5:30 pm to 7 pm**

August 11, 2016

**Volleyball 1st Official day
of Practice**

August 15, 2016

**Student Pictures and Stu-
dent ID's – Attending by
grade level**

August 24, 2016

**NO SCHOOL – Educator
Effectiveness Day**

September 2, 2016

NO SCHOOL – Labor Day

September 5, 2016

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A Message From The Principal

Welcome Back Mt. Garfield Families,

I hope all of you had a wonderful and relaxing summer with friends and family. There are definitely some really exciting opportunities and activities happening here this year for your student/s. I would like to introduce some of our new staff members and welcome them to our Mt. Garfield family. Brandon Mohr-7th Grade Math, Cassandra Walker-8th Grade Literacy, Dara Fubler-Choir, Eric Reiners- Physical Education, Jenna Schellinger-Resource, Maribeth Flanagan-Behavior Counselor, Tyler Wedel- Custodial, Shiloh Fox and Linda Johnson-Food Services, Jeanette Funk-School Nurse, Kember Langner- Speech and Language Pathologist, and Katelyn Collins-School Psychologist.

Please also extend a welcome to our new Assistant Principal, Mr. Lee Carleton. Mr. Carleton comes to us from Fruita Monument High School where he has been an Assistant Principal for the past fourteen years. The wealth of knowledge and experience he brings will only enhance and support our students and our community at large. Mr. Carleton was a Math Teacher for many years and currently teaches math classes in the evening at CMU. Give him a great Gator welcome when you see him!

I encourage all new and returning Gator parents to make certain that your email is linked into our system for ALL school information. We use Peachjar to share all flyers, newsletters, and other important information with our parents. If you are not already receiving the flyers through Peachjar, go to www.peachjar.com, register as a parent, and select "MGMS" as your student's school. Once you register, you will begin receiving all of our up-to-date news. We also use ParentVue and StudentVue for all grade reporting, absences, MyPaymentsPlus for fees, and teacher email communication. For your convenience, download the ParentVue phone AP. The M.G.M.S. website (www.mgms.mesa.k12.co.us) is continuously updated with news and important events.

I would also like to welcome all incoming 6th grade students and families. With the transition from summer to a new school year, there are procedures and routines to be aware of. I would ask that you be mindful of the following:

Parents, please remember to drop off your student/s ALL the way down in the

(Continued on next page)

East parking lot. Please do not stop in the crosswalk area because it ultimately backs up cars on the frontage road. Often times it is better to drop off or pick up your student before or after buses have arrived. The best time to pick up your child is at 2:50 p.m. with less traffic. So far, everyone has been doing a great job of following the signs, so thank you.

Back-to-School Night is August 11th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Please join us to meet and greet the teachers who are interacting with your student/s each day.

M.G.M.S.'s positive atmosphere and learning environments are contagious and it's evident in the smiles and the participation of all our Gators.

Communication and feedback are crucial to the success of our M.G.M.S. Gator students. Please feel free to contact me or drop by the office with any of your questions or concerns.

Be well,
Hal Templeton
Principal, Mt. Garfield Middle School

MCVSD 51 Peachjar News Distribution:

District 51 has converted to an all-digital process for flyer distribution. We are using a tool called Peachjar to facilitate this process. This system is used exclusively for distribution of district-approved flyers to keep parents informed about school programs, activities, events, and enrichment opportunities.

These flyers offer enrichment opportunities for students from District 51 and non-profit organizations, including sports, music, arts, scouting, theater, dance, swimming, clubs, camps, and other similar great opportunities for school aged children.

If you are not already receiving the flyers through Peachjar, go to www.peachjar.com. Register as a parent and select your student's school. Once you are registered, you will begin receiving the information being sent out to all Mt. Garfield Middle School parents!



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Text alerts & notifications from MCVSD 51:

MCVSD 51 has invested in a district-wide communication system (called SchoolConnects) that will allow all schools and the district to contact you regarding important news, events, and emergency or safety-related situations. Schools and the district can only send texts to phones who have subscribed to receive the messages. If you want to receive SMS text messages from the school or district, you must first do the following:

1. Ensure that your child's school has your cell phone listed in the student database under "Mobile."
2. From the SMS-capable telephone where you want to receive the text messages, text the word "Join" to the number 56360. If our messaging system finds a match for your phone number in its database, you receive a confirmation message thanking you for joining school alerts. If our messaging system does not find a match for your phone number in its database, you will receive a message that the number could not be found, and then you should contact the school to add the number to the school's Student Management System.

In order to receive the quickest and most accurate information in an emergency situation, parents need to be sure that all home phone, cell phone, and email addresses are up-to-date in the student information system, Synergy. Contact the school office if you have any questions. The texts, calls and emails will only go to those families who have those fields completed in the database.

Breakfast After the Bell Nutrition Program

The Breakfast After the Bell Nutrition Program was created by House Bill 13-1006. The purpose is to offer a breakfast at no charge to each student enrolled in a public school that has 70 percent or more students who are eligible for free or reduced price lunch under the USDA's National School Lunch Program. CDE assists school districts with the implementation of this law by providing an implementation guide, resources, training and technical assistance.

Program Objectives

- Increase the number of children eating breakfast on school days
- Increase the consumption of nutritious foods, making breakfast programs more effective
- Improve academic performance by preparing children to learn
- Improve the overall health of children in Colorado
- Revenue for school nutrition programs through federal and state reimbursements

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Attendance News:

Regular school attendance is as important for a student as an employee's attendance on the job. Parents are the primary source in developing an attitude of responsibility and reliability. Student absences adversely affect learning. The District encourages parents to work in partnership with school officials to help students establish and maintain regular attendance. The School District has a policy which adheres to state law and establishes attendance requirements and consequences for not meeting those requirements. A student with four (4) unexcused absences a month or ten (10) unexcused absences during the school year is considered to be "habitually truant". An excused absence can be obtained for medical purposes, legitimate advanced parental permission, absence approved by the administrator of student's school or matters of an emergency nature. Personal appointments are strongly encouraged for after the school day. In the case of an absence, please call 254-4720 Extension 37111 to excuse your student for any of the above reasons.

Athletics:

Every 7th & 8th Grader is eligible to participate on school teams, which compete against other district middle schools. District 51 Athletics' Policy requires proof of insurance and a \$70 fee per sport. These requirements **must be met** by the end of the first week of practice. **There will be no refunds.** Dates are subject to change.

Girls' Volleyball – August 15 – October 1

Boys' Basketball – November 28- February 4

Girls' Basketball – October 10 – November 18

Wrestling – February 6 - March 16

Track – March 27 – May 2

(Dates may change if there is a district conflict)

Football and Cheerleading are offered through the Mesa County Junior Football Association and the Mesa County Junior Cheerleading Association. Mount Garfield is proud to support our students who participate in these activities, but need to note that these programs are not sponsored by Mesa County Valley School District 51.



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