

Grand Junction High School



October 2015

Ari Goldberg, Principal | Carol Coburn, Assistant Principal | Alicia Timbreza, Assistant Principal | Kyle Rush, Assistant Principal
Meghan Roenicke, Assistant Principal | Tom LeFebre, Dean of Students | Carol Sams, Director of Athletics

Important Dates

Academic Letter Ceremony

November 3, 2015
6:30 pm @ GJHS Auditorium

Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 12, 2015
3:30 - 7:30 pm

Thanksgiving Break

November 23-27, 2015

End of Quarter

December 18, 2015

Winter Break

December 21, 2015
January 5, 2016

Teacher Work Day

January 5, 2016

1st Day of 2nd Semester

January 6, 2016

In This Issue

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Concussion Management | 2 |
| Volunteers | 2 |
| Attention All Bronco Fans! | 3 |
| School Board Forum | 4 |
| Winter Sports | 4 |
| Class of 2016 | 5 |
| Senior Work Days | 5 |
| Report Cards | 6 |
| Volunteers | 6 |
| MyLocker.net | 6 |
| Tigers Roar! | 6 |
| Booster Club | 7 |
| Athletics | 8 |

A Message From Principal Ari Goldberg:

Happy October Tiger Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed the fall break. I know that students are refreshed and ready to tackle the second quarter. October is a great month as students are really into their learning. Fall sports and band are in or near post season competitions. Drama club's first production is coming up. The Pigskin dance was a success. I have always compared a high school to a mini city that never sleeps. Grand Junction High School is no different with all of the incredible opportunities and pathways that it offers our students. Whatever interests our students have, we certainly offer something to engage them in.

In the Fall, we celebrate our students who achieve high academic marks by earning a GPA of a 3.5 and higher. This is based on the 14-15 school year and students must be full time and have achieved the GPA for both semesters. These students have earned an Academic Letter for their performance and will be honored at our Academic Lettering recognition ceremony on Tuesday, November 3rd in our auditorium. You will be notified if your child is receiving an award.

Hopefully you have seen the recent District 51 publications regarding our school district and the limited resources that D51 students have. I am amazed at all that D51 does and stands for even with its extremely limited resources and funding. I know some say that schools have plenty of money. But the reality for D51 and GJHS kids is that resources are very limited while the federal and state expectations continue to increase without funding and resources. As we continue to provide great opportunities for your student, we are constantly evaluating what our world is looking for in 21st century graduates. Grand Junction High School continues to explore and grow our students in order to meet our current trends and our unknown future.

I have enjoyed these past few months and the students, families, teachers and staff at GJHS have shown me what a great place this is!

GJ All Day!
Ari Goldberg

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Concussion Management

If your son/daughter has sustained a concussion this school year, and intends to participate in any Grand Junction High School sports team during the school year, he/she has to be cleared by a physician in order to begin the Return to Play process. If your child has been cleared to begin the RTP process by your Physician, you will need to contact our Certified Athletic Trainer Ms. Erin Glavan at the Saint Mary's Life Center, Wellness Department, at 970-250-1131 to schedule time to begin and complete the RTP process. If you have questions, please contact Athletic Director Carol Sams at carol.sams@d51schools.org or 970-254-6900.

Representative Tipton Visits GJHS

On Thursday, October 15, students in Mr. Weekley's High School Scholar's Government class (CMU Political Science 101) were able to host Congressman Scott Tipton. The Congressman spent about fifteen minutes going over some of the current issues of the day, the Congressional lawmaking process, and other topics, and then he spent the remainder of the class time taking questions from students. Students asked law-related questions dealing with Katie's Law, the career path of being a small business owner to being in politics, the vetting process for any refugees coming to Colorado from North Africa and Europe, and issues that affect small businesses as well as personal questions about how often does he make it back home and how his job affects his family.



During the follow-up interview with Callihan Marshall from KREX News, Mr. Tipton explained how impressed he was with the students' behavior and the quality of their questions: "When you get in a classroom full of students it's some of the toughest town halls that you can do because you never know what's coming. These are all on point questions and it showed that here in class they're obviously paying attention to current events."

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Attention All Bronco Fans!

In March, Grand Junction High School teachers will be taking 20 students and several adults in the community to India and Nepal. Their main focus of this trip is to help one of the GJHS Nepalese students with her village in Nepal which was leveled in the devastating earthquake that rocked Nepal last spring. Nearly 8,600 Nepalese lost their lives and over 450,00 structures were destroyed throughout their country. Not only do they plan on taking nearly 1,000 pounds of donated supplies, but also offer humanitarian support and city-wide attention to this horrible tragedy.



We are selling raffle tickets to fundraise for the trip. Take a look at the awesome details you could win:

- 4 amazing ground-level Bronco tickets (14 rows up) for the December 13th game against the Oakland Raiders (Roughly \$120.00 seats)
- VIP parking pass near the stadium
- Two nights stay at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel Denver
- \$100.00 gas card to drive to Denver
- Gift card for four at Fire on the Mountain, a top-rated local restaurant in Denver

(Overall this package equals around \$1,000.00)

Tickets sell for \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00 and will be available in the main office of Grand Junction High School for the next four weeks. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn on November 7th at the fundraising gala for the trip.

Thank you for your support!

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District 51 School Board Candidate Forum

Monday, October 12, the staff of the Orange and Black newspaper, held an interview forum for the 6 individuals running for school board; all candidates agreed to participate. The students organized the forum and wrote questions for the candidates. Each candidate was asked a variety of questions ranging from school start times and calendars to how to improve participation in high stakes testing to the relevance of testing during the 90 minute forum.

Student editors, Andrea Lielkoks and Jed Wilson, led the forum with assistance from student reporters from the Orange and Black. Students will write articles regarding the interview forum in the upcoming issue of the Orange and Black which is scheduled to print the first week of November.

Academic Letter Ceremony

Each year, we celebrate our students' academic excellence by awarding an academic letter to qualified students. Academic letters and Superintendent's pins will be presented at the Fall Academic Letter award ceremony on November 3, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the GJHS Auditorium.

The Academic Letter Award is based on the following criteria: Full time student at GJHS, including District 51 satellite programs and a GPA of 3.5 and above. Full time status means that a student must be enrolled in at least three credits each semester. Superintendent's Scholars are students with a 4.0 GPA and above. This year we are recognizing 390 students.

All Winter Sports Registration

All winter sports athletes must be registered on line through Family ID. If you were in a fall sport, please go into Family ID and change your fall sport to your winter sport. If you have not registered, go into Family ID, complete registration, bring current sports physical and \$140.00 participation fee into the Athletics/Activities Office before Friday, November 6th. Registration will close on that day. The official mandatory start date for all winter sports try outs is Thursday, November 12, 2015. If you are not registered by Wednesday, November 11, 2015, you will not be allowed to start practice on the 12th. Remember that the first tryout date is Thursday, November 12th. Additional tryout dates will not be added for those failing to register on time.



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Class of 2016 and Early Grads

Class of 2016!! And Juniors who will be Early Grads! On October 19, Rick Wilding from Jostens presented to this year's Seniors and Early Grads about caps and gowns, graduation announcements, and swag. Jostens will be available in the GJHS Commons on October 27 from 10-6, and October 28 from 10-3 to take orders for all the above. A \$60 deposit is required with orders, and then final costs can be paid all the way until Spring 2016 when orders are delivered. Students and families can go to Jostens.com to view clothing and swag, as well as order if they wish.



Upcoming Senior Class and Early Grads meeting!!!

On Monday October 24, there will be a meeting during advisory for all Seniors and Early Grads in the GJHS Auditorium, 9:29-10. It is time for you to decide on your class song, class flower, class quote, and the colors of your caps and gowns!!!! Exciting stuff!!! So, be sure to make this meeting. If you are unable to meet, all the voting will take place on Naviance. You will be able to vote following this Oct. 24 meeting until Nov. 2. Have a voice!

Senior Work Days

The GJHS counseling team worked with seniors on October 13 and 14 in the library to take advantage of Free App Week and making plans for life after high school. On Tuesday, 156 seniors visited the library to work on college applications, resumes, and job applications. Plus they had the chance to ask questions and get answers about planning for life after high school, whether they are college-bound, work force-bound, or military-bound!

Then on Wednesday, they saw 155 students, all busy planning for life after high school in the library. All together, 224 of our 406 seniors were helped on either Tuesday, Wednesday or both!



Here is what your high school counselors were up to last week:

Each school worked hard to help seniors take their next steps towards life after high school. The majority of seniors worked with counselors to complete college applications, but still many others worked to explore military options, and file as job seekers with the Colorado Workforce Center.

Last year, we had a grand total of 1150 college applications submitted throughout the district.

This year we had a total of 1421 applications submitted across D51! 1041 of these applications were submitted to colleges offering D51 students a free app during this week. With an average application cost of \$50, our students saved roughly \$52,050 in applications fees this year.

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Report Cards

GJHS will no longer be printing report cards to be given to students. You may view your student's report card on ParentVue/StudentVue the week after the end of a quarter or semester. If you want or need a print out of your student's report card you or your student may stop by the counseling office and we will be happy to print a copy for you.



Thank you,
GJHS Counseling Team

Volunteers

Thank you to all of the Volunteers who have given of their time and energy to the students of Grand Junction High School. During the months of July and August, we had 144 volunteers donate over 1043 hours of time and in September we had 33 volunteers who donated over 673 hours of service for the school. It is because of the generous time and effort of these many volunteers that our programs continue to operate and perform at high levels.

MyLocker.net

My Locker is a FREE online spirit shop with over 180 items for our Tiger fans! Don't miss out!

- Design your favorite custom gear instantly on-screen
- Links to the GJHS My Locker site can be found on the GJHS Home Page, and on the GJHS Athletic Page

Tigers Roar!

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following Grand Junction High School October Student of the Month students. The Daily Sentinel of the Week for this month is Benjamin Potter. Benjamin is the son of Laurie and Dan Potter. The Alpine Bank Students of the Month for October are Bailey Summers, daughter of Nikki and Arne Summers, and Steven McKenzie, son of Jennifer and Andrew McKenzie.

The Kiwanis Student of the Month for October is Carolena Campos, daughter of Jennifer and Omar Campos. Grand Junction High School is proud to recognize these students for their outstanding work in the classroom, and for the leadership they demonstrate in our school.

WESTERN COLORADO HONOR ORCHESTRA

The following GJHS Orchestra students, under the direction of Cameron Law, have been selected to play at the Western States Honor Orchestra at the University of Northern Colorado in November:

Mari McCarville-Cello
Matthew Johnson-Bass
Melody Jacobsen-Violin
Tommy Mahre-Viola

The students prepared a rigorous recorded audition and were selected from a pool of hundreds of students throughout the state. Congratulations to each of them on this tremendous accomplishment!

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Booster Club

The Grand Junction High School Booster Club needs your help. Our membership has declined due to parents no longer being members after their child graduates. In order for the Booster Club to continue to function and provide continued support of our 40 plus Tiger activities, we need more parent members and parent involvement. Last school year the Booster Club was able to donate over \$51,000 to many of the Tiger programs and activities. Without this generous support of time and money, we would have to continue to cut back on programs and what our programs are able to offer and accomplish for your students.



If you have never attended a Booster Club meeting and are interested in doing so, please come and check it out. The typical agenda for a meet is: to first hear requests from school groups asking for money, then discussion and voting on approving the requests, followed with a monthly financial report, and finally a discussion of Bingo business. We like to keep the meetings to about an hour. Meetings are held the second Monday of the month during the school year at 6:00 pm in Room 115. There may be an exception to this if a Monday falls during a break or is a vacation day. The next GJHS Booster Club meeting will be on Monday, November 9, at 6:00 pm in Room 115.

At the September Booster Club meeting the Booster Board approved \$5,500.00; GJHS Cross Country uniforms, gear, and travel expenses \$3,000.00; Athletic Department \$2,500.00 to cover athletic training fees for the 2015-16 school year. Thank you to our Booster Club and all of the volunteers for your continued support of Grand Junction High School students, staff, and all of our activities.

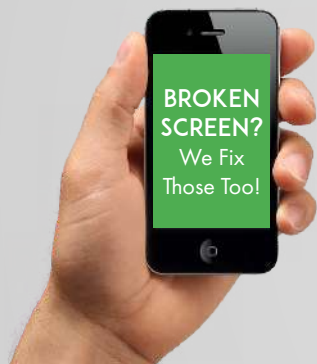
At the October Booster Club meeting the Booster Board approved \$7,550.00; Cheerleaders travel expenses and signs \$800.00, and Orange and Black printing fees for the year \$6,750.00.

If you are interest in becoming a Booster Club member or in volunteering, please contact: Booster Club President Trina Brillhart at trina.brillhart@gmail.com or GJHS Athletic/Activities Director Carol Sams at 254-6900 or carol.sams@d51schools.org

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BOYS GOLF

The GJHS boy's golf team has had another successful season. The Tiger golf team won five of the ten tournaments they competed in and took 2nd in two others. The Tigers were led by junior Trevor Olkowski who won the individual title five times this past season. Freshman Canon Olkowski, sophomore Blake Schneiter, senior Carlos Vendegna, and junior Drew Derrieux all contributed to the success the Tigers experienced in 2015. The Regional Tournament was played on September 21st at Bookcliff Country Club. Although the Tigers finished 5th, they still qualified three golfers who represented GJHS at the state golf tournament in Fort Collins on October 5th and 6th. Trevor Olkowski tied for third in his third state tournament. Canon Olkowski tied for 33rd and Blake Schneiter tied for 67th in their first state tournament. The team tied for 8th place overall.

BOYS TENNIS

The Tiger Tennis season finished the season with a 7-3 overall dual record. At regionals the Tigers finished 2nd and took 6 teams to the state playoffs: Jacob Lapkin - #1 singles (16-1), Cal Hegstrom - #2 singles (15-8), Ian Hegstrom and Matt Miller - #1 doubles (16-6), Sam Shaver and Ryan Bowen - #2 doubles (14-8), Sam Welling and Colton Prout - #3 doubles (14-9) and Tommy Mahre and Elijah Crick - #4 doubles (13-8). All the state qualifiers played tough in their first round matches, but unfortunately fell to their opponents except for #1 singles player, Jacob Lapkin who was our lone first round winner. Jacob lost his next round match in a close 3rd setter. Despite a tough ending to the season, the Tiger Tennis Team had another outstanding season. Way to go Tigers.

CHEERS

The GJHS Cheer squad has been working hard throughout the summer and fall to increase the school spirit and to help the students be positive representatives of the school at all athletic events. The Poms and Cheer squads hosted the Pigskin Dance at GJHS on Saturday, October 17, 2015. The "Haunted Candyland" theme was a fun and exciting event for all whom attended.

POMS

The GHJS dancers have kicked off the year with a great start. The team has had three great performances. In September, the team hosted their famous "Tiny Tiger" night. The team recruited over 50 young girls to practice and perform at halftime of the high school football game. The GJHS Poms team is getting ready for competition in the next couple of months. Please come support the girls at the 2015 Regional Spirit Competition on November 21st at FMHS.

Friday and Saturday night is Skate Party Night!

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