

# Grand Mesa Middle School

September 2017



Jennifer Marsh, Principal

Scott Moore, Assistant Principal  
Jason Eidinger, Assistant Principal

Jackie Walters, Secretary  
Phyllis Taylor, Secretary

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Please support our advertisers who are contributing to school and our students!

## Important Dates

### Orchestra Concert

October 3, 7pm

### GT Open House—Room 605

October 4, 6pm

### Band Concert

October 5, 7pm

### All School fundraiser Kick-off

October 5

### First Day of Boys B-ball Practice

October 9

### Student led Parent Conferences

October 25, 3-7pm

October 26, 11am-7pm

### No School

October 26 & 27

## Letter from the Principal:

Timberwolf Families:

We are off to an excellent start, and I have to thank our staff for their efforts in making it such a It is hard to believe we are now in the month of October. The end of our first quarter is fast approaching! The first nine weeks ends Friday, 10/13. End of quarter marks will be available to view, via ParentVue, on Oct 20. Reminder, GMMS does NOT send report cards home. If you would like a copy of your student's first quarter marks, please call the office and one will be sent home with your student.

I would like to take a moment to remind our families that GMMS is using a new learning management system (LMS) as we continue to grow in the D51 Learning Model. Schoology is our integrated learning management system that provides course/class management, mobile learning, and support for system-wide communication. Schoology enables our students, parents and teachers to engage with learning materials and their school community from the classroom and beyond. We look forward to using Schoology in our classrooms to enhance transparency, connectivity and communication. With an LMS, students can digitally submit homework assignments, review grades, demonstrate learning and growth, receive announcements and feedback, participate in interactive discussions and more. As a parent/guardian, you will be able to view your child's activity in the LMS.

Schoology should not be confused with our Student Information System (SIS). Our SIS or Synergy will continue to be the source for tracking attendance, building schedules, and documenting end of quarter marks, but teachers will be using Schoology for posting daily and weekly grades. You should have already received an email from Schoology for access to your student's Schoology account. If you have not received an email, please call our office. GMMS will be holding a parent Schoology training and support night on Monday, Oct 2, from 3-6, in the computer classroom. This is an open house or drop in training, so stop by, and learn about Schoology. For additional support, here is a link for step-by-step instructions on how to access your student's acct. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B5jAsvAZ2TCbU05fMGFpZW5aV0E/view>



## Letter from the Principal (continued)

Please mark your calendar for Parent Teacher Conferences this month. Student Led Conferences will be held on Wednesday, Oct 26, from 3PM -7PM and teachers will be available for conferences on Thursday, Oct 27, from 11AM -7PM. During conferences, GMMS will have a district Schoology expert on site to assist with access and in navigating the LMS site.

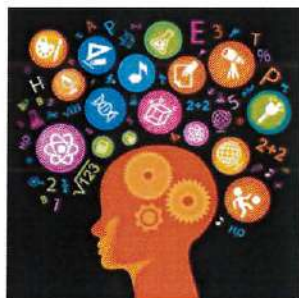
I would like to invite you to attend our Parent Accountability meeting on Thursday, Oct 26 from 5:30 - 6:30. I will go over news and important information regarding GMMS and D51 and I also welcome and encourage parent feedback. Hope to see you there!

Take care and enjoy the fall colors!

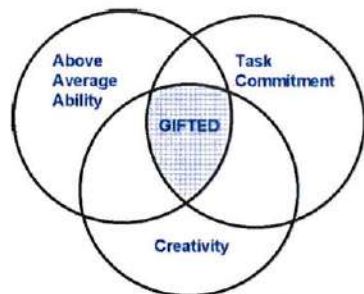
Sincerely,

Jennifer Marsh

## GT Open House



Join us at Grand Mesa M.S. on  
Tuesday, October 4, 2017  
From 6:00 to 7:00 PM-Room 605  
To learn about the Gifted and Talented Program at Grand



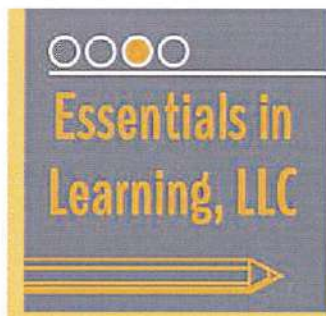
Mesa Middle School.

We will discuss:

- \*Curriculum
- \*Identification
- \*Answer any question you may have.
- \*\*Update ALP's(if on an ALP).

October 4, 2017—6:00-7:00 PM

585 31 1/2 Rd., Grand Junction, CO  
Refreshments will be served.



If your gifted student is  
experiencing new or recurring  
challenges, we can help!





## Volleyball Schedule

Girls Volleyball	October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	3:45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> grade @ GMMS 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ Caprock Academy
District Volleyball Tournament	October 5 <sup>th</sup> – October 7 <sup>th</sup>	TBD	TBD

See Page 4 for Boy's Basketball Schedule

## Fall Fundraiser

Grand Mesa Middle School will hold our all-school fundraiser October 5 – October 24, 2017. We anticipate another great turn-out for the various items that can be purchased. Each student will be introduced to our partner, Fun Services, Inc. during their Wolfpack class at the end of the day on October 5th. Each student will be assigned a packet, complete with an order form and product description and photos for the items GMMS will be offering for sale. These order forms and accompanying money will be returned to GMMS by October 24th.

More information regarding the delivery date of purchased items will be coming out in a later newsletter.

Through your efforts in the past, we were able to offset the \$12,000.00 cost of the safety improvements that were made to our parking lot. Also, we have been able to fund programs at Grand Mesa that benefited our entire school community such as: Positive Behavior Support rewards, educational field trips, technology equipment, computer lab, leadership opportunities, and other positive supports to our students and staff.

GMMS will use this year's fundraiser dollars to purchase supplies for our Wolfpack clubs, technology for the classroom, Positive Behavior Support rewards and treats for our students and staff, and for the future purchase of an electronic marquee for our school. We hope you will enjoy shopping while you support the students and staff at our school.

Thank you for supporting our fall fundraiser!

## Counseling Office—Putting Mental Health as a Priority

The mental health team is looking forward to working with students in the classroom during the month of October. We will be facilitating lessons on suicide prevention, drug prevention, and career exploration.

This year we are collaborating with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to present lessons in all grade levels. The NAMI Ending the Silence presentation covers: signs/symptoms of mental illness, personal perspectives on the experience of living with mental illness, recovery/coping strategies and ways to seek help. Students will receive resources they can use if mental illness enters their lives. For more information, please visit <http://www.namiws.org/>

We will also be collaborating with the staff at Pathways, the D51 substance abuse intervention program. We will provide lessons to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on healthy brain development and the effects of drug use on the development of the adolescent brain.



## Counseling Office—Academic and Career Plans

We will be meeting with all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to focus on developing individual career and academic plans. In the past, we used College in Colorado for career and college exploration but this year we are excited to introduce our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to Naviance. Naviance is a college and career readiness software provider that partners with schools to provide students with college planning and career assessment tools.

## Box Tops for Education

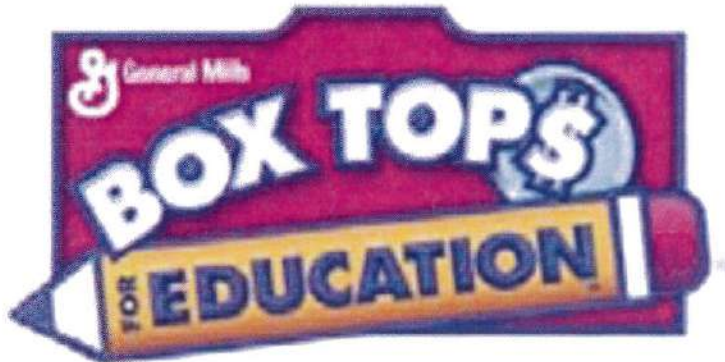
### #1 –Clip Box Tops for Education Coupons

All you have to do is cut the little pink and white box with the Box Tops for Education logo out of various grocery items and turn them into the school office. Each box top is worth 10 cents with the exception of Super Box Tops and Bonus Box Tops which are worth more. Twice a year, the Box Top Coordinator for your school will mail all the coupons collected to General Mills who will then mail Grand Mesa Middle School a check. It's that simple! So please, start cutting out those little coupons and turn them in.

The school greatly appreciates it! Can you imagine how many box tops we can collect if the whole school participates? Every little bit helps!

\*\*\*Please be careful not to cut off the expiration dates.

### EARN CASH FOR GRAND MESA



Our school collects *Box Tops for Education*. Every *Box Top* that you turn in enables the school to earn cash for our school, which can be used to help purchase educational materials and other student activities!

**Drop off your box tops in the front  
office collection box.**

**Thank you!!!**

## Boy's Basketball News

First Official Day of Boys' Basketball Practice  
**October 9**

**October 23** 7th grade @ GMMS  
8th grade @ BMS

**October 24** 7th grade @ GMMS  
8th grade @ OMMS

**October 31** 7th grade @ WMS  
8th grade @ GMMS

**November 2** 7th grade @ RMS  
8th grade @ GMMS