



123 Orchard Ave
Grand Junction, CO 81505
Phone (970)254-5090

October 2017

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Important Dates

Tuesday, October 3rd

- Volleyball pictures
- 8th gr band clinic (am)@PHS
- 7th gr band clinic (pm) @ PHS
- Concert (PHS) 7:00pm

Friday, October 6th

- picture re-takes
- 8th gr River trail 9:00-2:30

Monday, October 9th

- 8th gr. V-ball game vs staff- 1-2:40
- fall choir concert-Gym 7:00pm

Tuesday, October 10th

- MESA milk jug boat race

Wednesday, October 11th

- 6th gr band concert-gym 7:00pm

Friday, October 13th

- 7th grade Micah mine hike
- 10:00am-1:30pm

Thursday, October 12th

- Fall orchestra concert-gym-
- 7:00pm

Monday, October 16th

- no school-teacher in-service
- Rock- A- Thon 8:00-3:00

Wednesday, October 25th

- parent teacher conf.-3:00-7:00

Thursday October 26th

- no school - parent teacher conf.
- 7:30-3:30

Friday, October 27th

- no school

Letter from the Principal:

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone, students, parents, staff, and community, for an amazing start to the school year! We have already taken part in some incredible learning experiences, and are definitely back in the school “groove”!

On Monday, August 21, our students and staff were able to witness the Solar Eclipse and, in the process, learn a lot about science!! Heidi Ragsdale, our 8th grade Science teacher and MESA advisor, was able to secure a donation of 1000 pairs of viewing glasses, which allowed our community to take part in our “viewing party”! Stations were set up and run by GJHS students and other volunteers, we had a telescope on hand for viewing, and a drone was circling overhead, taking pictures and video. We had a School Board member, John Williams, join us, as well as many parents and community members. It was a fantastic learning opportunity!

We are lucky to have added some great new educators to our already stellar staff! These fine people have already made an outstanding impact on the West Middle School learning community! Please welcome them to the family!

Lisle Harrison- 7th Grade Math

Joe Webb- Band

Debbie Beth Hoffman- Gifted and Talented

Nikki Chinse- Deaf Ed.

Kim Klene- Significant Support Needs

Lori Allen- Resource

Maribeth Flanagan- Behavior Therapist

Erika Beasley- Health Assistant

Jessica Bautista, Brandi Bell, Trina Duncan, Lisa Williams- Instructional Assts

Kortney Korber- Custodian

We are looking forward to a great year!! If you ever have any questions or concerns, or just want to visit, please contact me at 254-5090 or Vernon.walker@d51schools.org, or drop by the office. I'm proud to be part of such an outstanding, caring community!

Vernon Walker, Principal



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Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, from 3pm to 7pm and Thursday October 26th from 7:30 to 3:30. Be on the lookout for details, scheduling, etc. We look forward to seeing you!

8th grade vs. Staff Volleyball game

On Monday October 9th the 8th grade Volleyball teams will play the Female Faculty at 1:30. All classes will be on an activity schedule. The 8th grade team will be made up of players from both the West Middle School A and B teams. The Faculty team is; Sara Bradburn, Gena Brygger, Robin Buchanan, Shawna Emmons, Lindsay Icenogle, Stacy Johnson, Becky Jones, Vanessa Moore, Jacinda O'Neill and Jessica Pierce. Admission is only \$1.00. There will be 3 prizes given away, 1 to a 6th grader, 1 to a 7th grader and 1 to an 8th grader. MESA will be selling drinks and snacks.

CODE Club

West Middle School is starting an afterschool CODE Club. It will meet every Wednesday in room 136 (Mr. Gregorich's room) and go from 2:45 till 3:45. Come join the fun.

New Staff— Ms. Peroulis



Ms. Peroulis is our new sixth-grade counselor! Ms. Peroulis decided to join West because of our amazing staff. She also went to school here years ago and loved it so much that she decided to come back. Before coming to West, she taught at Fruita Middle School in their Significant Support Needs program for four years. Ms. Peroulis's biggest goal here at West is to help develop relationships.

So... Who is Ms. Peroulis when she's not helping us? She has a horse named Cheyenne, and a dog named Dusty. Over the summer, she got engaged to a man named Tanner. Her favorite hobby is riding horses, her favorite song artist is Shania Twain, and her favorite movie is *The Parent Trap*. Most of all, she loves kids! Now that we know a little bit about our new, friendly, sixth-grade counselor, let's welcome her with open arms to our community!

Written By: Joel Daugherty

6th Grade Raiders Football Team

The 6th grade Raiders football team has some high hopes to make it to the super bowl. The Coaches name is Scott Roarhig. The Coach hopes that the team works well together and has good team work. The Raiders biggest competition is The Cowboys. "I know that the Cowboys are a very good team they are competition for pretty much every team" said Roahrig. "I think that the Raiders have a good chance to make it to the super bowl,". The quarterback of the team is River Ritchy. We wish the 6th Grade Raider's Football players good luck this season.

Limited Raiders Football Team (Lightweight)

There are five 8th graders and fourteen 7th graders on the team. Coach Schrader says they have the best offense and defense in the league and have an amazing set of coaches. He is confident their team will make it into the Super Bowl. Even though their team is doing well this season, the team's biggest struggle is keeping the boys healthy. They need to stay healthy because they don't have that big of a team so they need to stay healthy and have fresh bodies.

One of their hopes for the season is for all the boys to take on the Heart of the Warrior. The Heart of a Warrior includes the following **RAIDERS** attributes:

Resilience Attitude Integrity Dedication Excellence Role model Selflessness

Every week, the coaches choose 3 or 4 football players who have shown one of these attributes, and they receive "The Raider Rock"- an actual rock- that has one of the words on it. Those 3 or 4 boys get to be the captains for that week.

By: Sailer Warinner

Unlimited Raiders Football Team

Coach Dustin Martin is the unlimited football coach for 2017. He has big plans for his team this year and hopes for a championship title. He says he's very confident in his team and believes he has the best defense in the league. When it comes to offense he's very confident and runs a very similar offense to the high school and has studied it for years. He's proud of his team's performance so far this year he says they're pushing hard. Coach Dustin Martin is very big on turning the players in to young men, and working on their personalities.

Team captains

Mikey Miller #8 Quarterback and Safety, Mikey has been playing for 9 years and he plans to play in high school. Mikey thinks the team's biggest struggle is giving up, and says his goal is to keep everyone up whenever there starting to give up.

Jack Mottram #12 Wide Receiver and Cornerback, Jack has been playing for 7 years and plans to play for Grand Junction High school next year. Jack's personal goal is to be a leader and be more outgoing with the team, He wants to work on their offense.

Cole Atkinson #22 Defensive End and Left Tackle, Cole has been playing for 7 years, and plans to play football at Grand Junction High School next year. Cole's goals for the year are that he hopes his team can be more than a team, to be a family and work together to win, and he also hopes for a team championship title.

Tyler Blanco #32 Running Back and Strong Safety, Tyler has been playing for 7 years and is planning to play for Grand Junction High School, and he also wants to keep the team up when everyone's down and he also wants a team title.

7th Grade Volleyball

This season we have two awesome girl teams with exceptional talents. Coach Warinner is excited to begin the season. He is dedicated to helping the girls develop their skills. Their practice is every day from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m

Coach Warinner is an amazing coach. It's his first time leading the West Volleyball Team. He's also a great counselor at GJHS. His family consist of his wife, three beautiful daughters, and two bulldogs. Hiking and watching the Denver Broncos are some of his favorite hobbies.

By: Krystal Hoang

8th Grade Volleyball

Mr. Brennan is the A team coach, he has been coaching for 18 years but only eight at WMS and 10 years at MGMS. Mr. Bell is the B team coach, he has only been coaching for 3 years at WMS. According to Coach Brennan players are working hard to prepare for upcoming games, there is still lots to learn before the first game and they will continue throughout the season.

Right now the girls are working hard practicing serving, pass accuracy and overall being a successful team. This year the coaches are confident in playing against the other teams even when some may be challenging. Two games that would be fun to watch and to show your school spirit may be Redlands middle (September. 12 at Redlands) and Fruita 8/9 (September. 20 at Fruita).

The coaches are very excited to watch as the 8th grade girls progress into great volleyball players and hope they continue it after middle school!

By: Lily Tyre

New Staff—Mrs. Bell



Mrs. Bell is a new Paraprofessional at West! She's been teaching preschool for twenty years at her own preschool and then taught eight years at Bookcliff Christian School. She came to West because of our amazing staff and flexible schedules! Mrs. Bell decided to help and be involved with Special Ed because she had worked with the elderly and special needs adults and fell in love with helping them. Her biggest goal she wants to accomplish here at west is to help her student, Reannen, learn.

Mrs. Bell is married to Mr. Bell, a teacher at West and has two daughters: Savannah and Sierra. Her favorite sport is football and her favorite team is the Broncos. If any of you have Mr. Bell you know how much he loves books and reading, so I just had to ask her what her Favorite authors are and she said Jenny Lawson and Jen Lancaster. She loves to read, (obviously) camp, knit, and crochet. She really wanted you all to now that she loves her job and is really excited to work and help Reannen and to become friends with all of us!

By: Jordan Lefler

New Staff—Mrs. Pierce



Mrs. Pierce is our new Vice Principal of West Middle School. She moved from Tucson, Arizona where she taught English and Spanish at a high school before she moved to Grand Junction. After she moved here from Arizona she was the AP at Orchard Mesa Middle School for three years. Her dad is her inspiration for teaching because he was a teacher.

In Mrs. Pierce's free time, she likes to run and spend time with friends and family. She loves chocolate chip cookies, so if she is having a bad day you know what she might need. Her favorite sports are soccer and basketball. Mrs. Pierce has been married for 10 years to her husband, Garrett, and has two wonderful kids named Steven, who is 5 and Kennedy, who is 4. If she could travel anywhere, she would go to the beaches of Mexico. Mrs. Pierce came to West for a new experience and to one day become a principal, so let's welcome her with open arms to West Middle School.

By Abbey Tscherter

New Staff— Mr. Webb



Mr. Webb is our new band teacher. He has taught for 25 years at Fruita Middle School and has recently come to West to help kids learn to love music. Mr. Webb specializes in the trombone, however, he can play the basics on all the essential instruments in a band. Over the next few years, he hopes to create some stability for the band students at West who want to strive for success in their musical career.

Traveling, going to car shows, and working on cars are a few of Mr. Webb's favorite pastimes. He likes hanging out with his family: his wife, Carmela, and two kids, David and Clair. Mr. Webb has traveled to many places such as England, Puerto Rico, Georgia, and Oregon. He loves listening to music: smooth jazz and 70's rock. He enjoys watching football, and he has even been to a few games where he played with the band at half-time!

Mr. Webb already enjoys it here at West, so let's make sure we welcome him into our school community.

Written by: Ashley Guddat

New Staff— Ms. Klene



Kim Klene is a significant support needs teacher (SSN) at West. Kim Klene decided she wanted to teach because she loves being with kids, helping others learn, and her dad was a teacher. Ms. Kim taught preschool for nine years, intervention for one year, and she was a paraprofessional for five years at West! Ms. Kim taught at Fruita Middle School, Rocky Mountain, Tope, and Appleton before West.

Ms. Kim came to West to get the experience of working with Middle School kids. While teaching at West, Ms. Kim wants to be there for everyone and help kids learn skills for everyday life.

Aside from school Ms. Kim loves to spend time with her family and friends. She also likes photography, traveling, and gardening. Ms. Kim has two kids Christopher and Katie, she also has two cats Bandit and Patches. Ms. Kim is very flexible, easy going, and fun loving. Ms. Kim loves the author Jan Brett and she also loves reading Dr. Seuss books to her students. Let's welcome Ms. Kim to West in her new role!

By: Riley Pope

New Staff— Mr. Harrison



Lisle Harrison is one of our many new staff members here at West Middle School. We truly love having him here and appreciate all he has done in the little amount of time he has been here. Lisle or “Mr. Harrison” is our new 7th grade math teacher. Previous to West Middle School Lisle taught at Rifle Middle School, although he was living in Fruita. He wanted a job closer to home and when a job opened up at West he went straight for it. He loved working at Rifle Middle School but is very happy about his job at West. He says he loves the students here and so far they have been awesome.

Outside of school he is married to his wife, Cassie, whom he has three kids with, Meadow, Lisle, and Laurale. Mr. Harrison is from Boulder, Colorado and attended Fairview High School where he graduated in 1993.

New Staff— Mrs. Allen



Lori Allen, is one of the new teachers that has joined the West family. She travels from class to class in all grades to help those kids in need. She has been teaching for twenty-six years and before West, she was at Shelledy Elementary in Fruita. Lori has been in Grand Junction for ten years. She left Shelledy to work with older students. Her husband and four kids must be so proud of their amazing, kind, caring wife and mother.

Lori is making her dreams come true by riding horses when she has the time. She is here for the kids at West, and she still has time to go barrel racing. Lori has three girls and one boy. I have only met Mrs. Allen a couple times, but I can tell she will be there when you need her most. Welcome to the family Lori Allen, we are happy to have you here.

New Staff— Mr. Beasley



Erica Beasley is are new health assistant. She's done health care for six years, she did hospice care, she worked at a nursing home, and worked at Grand Junction high school. She came to West because of their family friendly schedule! Her goal here at West is to “Keep everyone alive”. She had originally wanted to be a nurse and got her CNA license and finished two years of college.

Ms. Beasley has one seven month old girl named Aribella. She loves spending time with her and loves to watch baseball. Her favorite song is The River flows through you by Yirumma. She sings it to Aribella every night. She wants you all to know she's super friendly and exited to meet each of you.

Written by: Jordan Lefler