

# 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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## Important Dates

**Educator Effectiveness/No School for Students**

September 1

**Labor Day / No School**

September 4

**Teacher In-Service/ No School for Students**

September 5

**All School Pictures**

September 7—all day

**Band, Choir, Orchestra**

**Rock-a-Thon**

September 15

4-10pm—GMMS Gym

**Honor Orchestra Tryouts**

September 25

3pm

**BMS with GMMS 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Grade Choir Concert**

September 28

7pm CHS Auditorium

**8th Grade Band Clinic**

October 2

All Day—GJHS

**Orchestra Fall Concert**

October 3

7pm—GMMS Gym

**6th & 7th grade Band Concert**

October 5

7pm—GMMS Gym

## 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 great success. All of our students are working hard and the GMMS staff could not be more pleased. GMMS has great kids! This is the first newsletter of the new school year. Along with the newsletter, GMMS will communicate via email and auto messenger. Please be sure to check out the GMMS website at <http://gmms.mesa.k12.co.us/> for additional information. Thanks to the parents and students who attended our Back to School Night. If you were not able to attend, please do not hesitate to contact your student's teachers for any information. Girls' volleyball practice started last week for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade and games begin on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>.

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 solution 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 with the LMS. Schoology should not be confused with our Student Information System (SIS). Our SIS or Synergy will continue to be the source for attendance, but teachers will be using Schoology for grades. You will soon be able to access your parent account and I will be sending out additional details prior to that time. If you have questions regarding work or grades before then, please contact your student's teachers. I value your participation in your child's education, and I have included Schoology's Privacy Policy and Terms of Use for more information. Please follow this link <https://www.schoology.com/privacy.php> I also encourage you to watch this YouTube video where Schoology Cofounder and CEO, Jeremy Friedman, talks about our mission of this LMS. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QgHWMGIGgbk>

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## Letter from the Principal (continued)

Attending school is very important. There is a direct relationship between school attendance and student achievement. The fewer school days a student misses during the year, the more successful they are in the classroom. If your student is absent, please make sure to call the office (970-254-6270) prior to 8AM. Please mark your calendar for the following no school dates in September:

Friday Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> - No Student Contact Day  
Monday Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> - Holiday No School  
Tuesday Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> - No Student Contact Day

The GMMS staff and administration are very excited for the 2017-18 school year and we look forward to working collaboratively with parents, staff and students. The school year is off to a great start! Please stop by or call the office if you have any questions or concerns.

## Please Remember.....

Please remember to make arrangements with your student(s) before school regarding what the student will be doing after school, for example riding the bus home or walking, etc.

Thanks!

## Message from the Counseling Office

The counseling program at GMMS is designed to be **proactive** and **preventative**. **All students**, 6-8, have access to counseling services. We implement the counseling program by providing classroom lessons, small group counseling sessions, and individual counseling. Students can be seen at the request of a staff member, parent/guardian, or via self-referral. Self-referral forms are located in the main office. Once completed, the student will receive an appointment time depending on the urgency of the matter.

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## Volleyball Schedule

Girls Volleyball	September 7 <sup>th</sup>	3:45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> grade @ GMMS; 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ BMS
Girls Volleyball	September 12 <sup>th</sup>	3:45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> grade @ GMMS 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ OMMS
Girls Volleyball	September 14 <sup>th</sup>	3:45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> grade @ WMS 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ GMMS
Girls Volleyball	September 19 <sup>th</sup>	3:45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> grade @ RMS 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ GMMS
Girls Volleyball	September 20 <sup>th</sup>	3:45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> grade @ FMS
Girls Volleyball	September 21 <sup>st</sup>	3:45pm	8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ GMMS
Girls Volleyball Pictures	September 26 <sup>th</sup>	2:50pm	GMMS
Girls Volleyball	September 26 <sup>th</sup>	3:45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ GMMS
Girls Volleyball	September 28 <sup>th</sup>	4:15pm	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ DeBe- que MS
Girls Volleyball	October 2 <sup>nd</sup>	3:45pm	7 <sup>th</sup> grade @ GMMS 8 <sup>th</sup> grade @ Caprock Academy
District Volleyball Tour- nament	October 5 <sup>th</sup> – October 7 <sup>th</sup>	TBD	TBD

## GMMS Yearbook Update

If you haven't already ordered a yearbook for your student, now is the time! Yearbooks can be purchased at the main office for \$25. Get them now as the price goes up after Christmas!

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## Kid's Aid Backpack Program

The Kid's Aid Backpack program is scheduled to begin on September 8<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the program is to bridge the gap on weekends for students of District 51 schools who may benefit from extra food. Volunteers deliver the bags of food to schools at the end of each week. Bags are then discreetly delivered to students who have turned in the form stating they would like to participate in the program. If you are interested in participating this year, you may pick up a form in the office and return it to the counseling office.

## 8th Grade News

8th Grade Ropes Course

September 18th-8M. September 19th-8T.

Volunteer Mandatory Practice is September 9th at 12:00.

## Box Tops for Education

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! 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!!!

