



Jared Burek, AP
Lee Carleton, AP

Rocio Roybal, Principal

Lori Thompson, Secretary

Table of Contents					
Important Dates	Page 1	Boxtops for Education	Page 3	PE News	Page 4
Letter from the Principal	Page 1 & 2	Library News	Page 3	Orchestra News	Page 4
Office Information	Page 2	Yearbook update	Page 3	MESA Club	Page 5

Important Dates

**NO SCHOOL -
Educator Effectiveness
Day**
September 1st

**NO SCHOOL -
Labor Day**
September 4th

**NO SCHOOL—
Teacher In-Service**
September 5th

**Parent/Teacher
Conferences**
September 20th
3:00 - 7:00 PM

Volleyball
August 27th-October 7th

Letter from the Principal:

Dear MGMS Students and Families,

Thank you for a great start to the 2017-2018 school year! We are so happy and fortunate to have you partnering with us for a successful school year. My name is Rocio Roybal, I am honored and blessed to be returning to Mt. Garfield Middle School as your new Principal. I have had the opportunity to serve MGMS previously as one of the assistant principals for three years during the 2013/2014 – 2015/2016 school years, and it is my privilege to return and work with our learning community again. I look forward to building strong relationships with families and the Clifton and Palisade communities to support the learning needs of our students. I believe that having strong community support in our school is key to providing the best learning opportunities and environment for our students.

New MGMS Gator Staff

It is exciting to welcome new members to our Mt. Garfield family and we are thrilled with the level of expertise they bring to complement our existing staff. Please join me in welcoming...

- Coleen Street, Lead Custodian
- Stacey Keever, Counseling (covering for Janelle Gustafson while on maternity leave)
- Shelby Gould, Core 7-2 Science (Covering for Kate Hinkle while on maternity leave)
- Stefanie Morgan, Literacy Interventionist
- Lori Schultz, Literacy Interventionist
- Amber Parker, Core 6-2 Literacy
- Shannon Perez, Behavior Therapist
- Jordan Tavenner, Core 8-2 Science
- Teresa Walker-Weinberg, Librarian/Media Specialist
- Stefanie Suppes-Goodsell, Gifted & Talented
- Denise Wright, Art
- Emilee Castleton, Core 6-1 Math
- Clay Kame, Boys PE
- Lacey Behl, Core 6-2 Math

Essentials in Learning, LLC

Is your student struggling in school?
Specializing in working with students with learning needs and differences including ADHD and/or executive skills deficits. Also serving twice exceptional students and those preparing for college.

Essentials in Learning, LLC
www.essentialsinlearning.com • (970) 210-9271

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

Letter from the Principal (continued)

The staff at Mt. Garfield Middle School are committed to providing an engaging and positive learning experience for our students. This year we are excited to be working on creating a new Vision Statement for our school and we need your input as part of our community. At our first Parent/Teacher Conferences on September 20th, we are asking our parents/guardians to give input on our visioning process by answer the following questions:

- How do you picture a successful educational experience?
- What academic skills do learners need to be successful in the future?
- How might a middle school experience prepare learners for social and/or emotional challenges?
- How might we help you become involved in our school community?

Thank you for collaborating with us to create a meaningful Vision Statement for our learning community. We look forward to sharing with you throughout the school year the great things your students are accomplishing.

Respectfully,

Rocio Roybal

Office Information

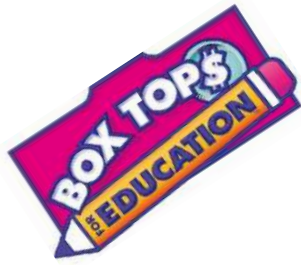
Please call the office at (970) 254-4720 **X37111** if your child will be absent for any reason so that we may note the absence correctly.

We ask that you make every effort to schedule Doctor visits and appointments after the school day ends so that we do not continually interrupt valuable teaching time. We understand this is not always possible, but certainly appreciate your efforts to limit these interruptions.

In addition, if you have an address or phone number change, please let us know right away. This information is vitally important in case of an emergency. We must be able to reach you.

Thank you in advance for your attention to these matters.

Boxtops Support your School!



Remember to collect those box tops and turn them into the main office.

Thank you for supporting our students and MGMS.

Library News

It is that time of year again. TIME TO GET BOOKS! Students can check-out books for a two week period of time and check them back out as many times as they need to finish the book. Please encourage your kids to get books that interest them and are at their reading level. It's not any fun to have a book that you struggle to read. They can always bring a book back and get another one or two. Finding books that they are interested in can take some time.

This year there is a program to work off any library fines or fees. Existing late book fines can be cleared off, though lost books will still need to be paid for. Please see me with any questions.

Teresa Walker, Media Specialist, Mt. Garfield M.S. Library

Ready, Set, Smile!!

The push is on to purchase a yearbook. Yearbooks are still available! The only way to **guarantee that your student will get one is if it is prepaid** and there are many payment options available. You may purchase a yearbook by paying with cash, check, or with a credit/debit card at the MGMS Main Office. You may also pay with a credit/debit card over the phone by calling (970) 254-4720 Ext. 37112. In addition, you may order on-line at jostensyearbooks.com. There is also a link to purchase a yearbook on the MGMS home page. The cost is currently \$25.00. Once the books are sold out, we cannot order any more. Your student will have a lifetime of memories in this forty (40) page, full color, hardback book! Don't wait any longer. Order today by calling or stopping by the MGMS Budget Office, or on-line with Jostens!

GET YOUR YEARBOOK NOW!

COLLEGE EDUCATION CONSULTING, LLC

Individual Educational Planning for College

Kirk Golba

Grand Junction, CO

970-210-0727

It's never too early or too late to start the college admission process

www.collegeeducationconsulting.com



Let me help you to minimize the stress with:

- finding best-fit colleges based on your individual interests, strengths and needs
- college applications, essays, deadlines
- financial aid, scholarships, paying for college
- choosing majors, careers and curriculum planning through high school

MGMS P.E. Happenings



©LatfToon * Illustrations01.com/1168026

Gator Physical Education is off to a strong start. We have a new boys P.E. Teacher Mr. Kame joining our program!!!! He will join Mrs. Edmiston in teaching 6th, 7th, & 8th grade co-ed physical education. We are so lucky to have him. It allows the P.E. setting to offer more variety, flexibility, and safety! Mr. Kame is also the new Palisade High School Boys Basketball Coach. **Welcome Mr. Kame!!!!!!!**

In the first quarter students have been busy performing fitness assessments to measure flexibility, cardio vascular strength and endurance, upper body strength and endurance, lower body strength, speed and agility. As the assessments are completed the games will begin, where students will work cooperatively to become successful team members. Activities done this quarter will be flag football, volleyball, Z ball and other various activities that Mr. Kame will add to our program.

Physical education students are required to dress out daily in shorts, the GATOR t-shirt and tennis shoes that tie and come with a good attitude ready to be challenged and have fun. Gator t-shirts can be purchased from Mr. Kame or Mrs. Edmiston for \$10 each.

We have students that may not have the clothing necessary to be successful in P.E. We do have limited clothing for their use but, if your family has shorts, t-shirts or shoes that are not needed or being used we would encourage you to donate them to our program.

If you have MGMS P.E. clothing at your home that your student has borrowed, please return it to our P.E. Department so other students may use them.

Thanks,

Eve Edmiston & Clay Kame, MGMS P.E. Teachers

Orchestra News

Dear Parents:

Congratulations on enrolling your child in Orchestra! Orchestra is one of the most rewarding and exciting educational opportunities offered by our schools. Your investment will pay tremendous dividends in your child's life for many years to come.

Music provides students with a wealth of fringe benefits. In addition to obtaining the lifelong skills needed to become a music performer or consumer, a child learns skills that may be used in every facet of life. Teamwork, dedication, self-discipline, and responsibility prepare a child for a successful future in any profession he/she may choose. A variety of research shows that music students are among the academically strongest in their schools and score higher on the SAT than other students. Most colleges and universities now look for more than good grades on a child's transcript. They want the well-rounded students that have been able to accomplish more than just textbook knowledge.

You do not have to know anything about music to assist your child in this new endeavor. Arrange a time and place where practice can be done without interruptions. This practice should become a part of each child's daily routine. (He/she) should never merely put in the required time, but should practice with the goal of always improving. Music should be placed at eye level. Please do not allow your child to put the music on a table, bed, etc. This encourages poor playing posture. Remember, practice doesn't necessarily make perfect, but PERFECT practice does!!

Again, I congratulate you on enrolling your child in Orchestra. As the year progresses, I hope you will feel free to contact me whenever necessary.

Sincerely,

Troy Raper, Director of Orchestras

MESA Club

This past April, MGMS and its MESA Program sponsored a recycling day here at MGMS to collect as much scrap metal for recycling as possible. As a result of the environmental awareness and participation of our community, Western Metals Recycling presented MGMS with a check totaling nearly \$900! These proceeds will be used by MGMS's MESA Program to purchase a 3D printer and supplies for our school. Even more special is a letter received in August from Colorado's Governor Hickenlooper regarding our and School District 51's efforts with regards to recycling. Governor Hickenlooper's letter states, in part:

"It is with great pleasure that I welcome Mesa County Valley School District 51 as a Gold Leader to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (the department), Environmental Leadership Program (program). Congratulations and thank you for the effort and dedication Mesa County Valley School District 51 has brought to environmental issues in Colorado.

The program is about creating partnerships among businesses, governments and organizations. The goal is to foster good relationships, reward environmental performance and create a healthier, cleaner and more sustainable Colorado. We look forward to working with Mesa County Valley School District 51 in the coming year(s) to promote the type of commitment and environmental performance your facility demonstrates on a daily basis."

Two MESA Program students and the MESA Advisors from MGMS will be attending the Colorado Environmental Leadership convention in Denver this October to receive recognition for Mt. Garfield and School District 51.

Thank you to everyone in our MGMS Community for helping us make our recycling effort this past April a tremendous success. We look forward to continuing our efforts to protect our environment by making our recycling day an annual event.

Dave Hamilton and Alanna Piccillo, MESA Program Advisors, MGMS