



# GRAND MOUNTAIN *Mavericks* newsletter

## The Maverick Mission

Welcome to Grand Mountain School! We are now moving into staffing and scheduling season. With the continued growth we have had this year and the growth anticipated with new homes being built on the north side of Fontaine and Lamprey we are planning for additional students, teachers, and course offerings for next school year. Scheduling information will be coming as these plans and details are finalized in the coming weeks and months.

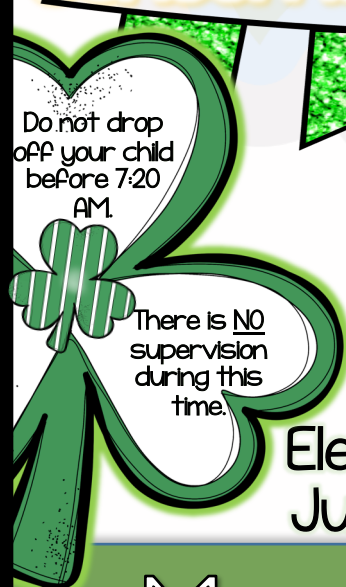
I also want to thank the community for all the support the school has received in the past few weeks, the recent events have drawn us closer as we continue to work to support every student at GMS so they get the social-emotional, academic, and other supports they need. Also, our PTO is panning our Spring Fund Run (we are calling it "The Grand Mountain Stampede") - more details to come! Giddy up!

Thank you parents, students, and staff for making GMS a grand place to be!

- Mr. Pohl, Principal / Ms. Keri Lindaman, Secondary VP / Ms. Ursula Reese, Elementary VP

**Maverick** - (noun) /mav-rik/ - an unorthodox or independent-minded person, an unbranded range animal. Synonyms: individualist, free spirit, original, trendsetter.

## School Hours & Office Contact



Office: (719) 391 - 3470

Breakfast Entry: 7:15

1st Bell Entry: 7:30

Tardy Bell: 7:35

Elementary Dismissal: 2:45

Junior High Dismissal: 3:05



# March 2020

"A SCHOOL FOR THE MIND; A HOME FOR THE HEART."

# from the Front Office

## Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school please contact the front office *as soon as possible - before 8:30am*. If no one answers, or if it is early, you may leave a message and our front office staff will update your child's attendance. Thanks!

## Attendance:

719- 391 - 3471

## Front Office:

719- 391 - 3470

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# 6th Grade Knowledge Bowl highlights



Way  
to go  
team!



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# Junior High SCIENCE highlights

The Grand Mountain **Science Department** continues to teach students new knowledge about natural systems and the processes used to get, extend and revise the scientific knowledge that we have.

**Sixth Graders** are currently working on their **Oceans unit** where they will learn about the **Coriolis Effect, El Niño, La Niña, ocean ecosystems, and ocean floor features**. There is so much that scientists are continuing to learn about the ocean so it is an ever-changing and fascinating area of study. **They will finish off the year with important units on natural resources and the environment.**

**Seventh Graders** are continuing to working on their **Plate Tectonics** unit with specific focus on **how plate tectonics relate to and cause volcanos and earthquakes**. This unit leads into the next units on **fossils and geologic time**. The fossils unit is always a fun one that interests a lot of students. Studying geologic time is fascinating but can be challenging to comprehend the vast history of our 4.6 billion year old Earth.

**Eighth Graders** are in the middle of their physics units having just finished learning about **forces and motion**. They are currently learning about the **different types of energy and even got to "play" with Hot Wheels recently to demonstrate kinetic and potential energy**. They will finish off the physics units by learning about a variety of different waves like **light waves and sound waves**. Prior to taking the CMAS Science test in April, we will also squeeze in units on the **Earth/Sun/Moon, the solar system and space**. We will go more in depth on these after the test to finish off the year.

## Note to Parents/guardians:

*It is easy at this time of year for students to start to let their studies slip a little. Please make sure to talk to your students about keeping up on all their schoolwork. In science class it is especially important that they keep up on their Interactive Science Notebooks as these are crucial to their success. Remind them that if they miss science class at any point, they are responsible for making up any missed notebook pages and classwork.*

*Also, please remind them that the first step in success is coming to class prepared. We have noticed more students coming to class without basic supplies like pencils. Please check with your child to make sure they are fully stocked on anything they need in their classes. As a department, we would like to thank all the families in this community that support their child's education and teach their children about the value of education and the expected behaviors at school. We appreciate all you do at home!*

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# Counseling Corner



## What is it?

### Just Joking:

- Everyone is having *FUN* together.
- No one feels hurt. Each person is choosing to participate.

### Being Mean:

- A person is being mean to others on purpose.
- It usually happens as a reaction to a strong emotion like embarrassment, sadness, or anger.
- It happens *ONCE* and is not a repeating event.

### Peer Conflict:

- Two or more people have a fight, *ARGUMENT*, or disagreement.
- A solution can be found easily with open communication.

### Bullying:

- When *REPEATED*, unwanted, aggressive behavior happens towards someone.
- It happens repeatedly and *ON PURPOSE*.
- Intent is to cause harm to someone else.
- It can be social, verbal, physical, or cyber harm.

**“You will never reach higher ground if you are always pushing others down.” – Jeffrey Benjamin**

Tiana DeSimon  
Counseling Secretary  
DeSimonTiana@wsd3.org

Jill Zuvac K-5 Counselor  
719-391-3325  
zuvacj@wsd3.org

Taylor Moore 6-8 Counselor  
719-391-3366  
mooretaylor@wsd3.org

Courtnee Divine Social Worker  
719-391-3467  
divinecourtnee@wsd3.org

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# counseling Corner



A student's right to privacy and confidentiality is the basis for an effective school counseling program. As school counselors at GMS, we are ethically required to keep confidentiality of our students to build trust in the student/counselor relationship. Counselors work to establish rapport and must respect the student's privacy so they are free to explore issues, feelings and behaviors. There are some limitations to confidentiality, and these limitations are communicated with students:

1. When a student discloses that they are being hurt
2. When a student discloses thoughts of hurting themselves
3. When a student discloses hurting someone else
4. When the student gives us permission to disclose to specific people (such as parents)

If you have any questions or concerns about confidentiality, please let us know in the counseling office!

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# PTO

## corner



PTO will be doing the FundRun (The Grand Mountain Stampede!) in the spring (April – exact date has yet to be determined) and will need volunteers to help with everything from seeking donations to helping to run the actual event. If interested in helping, please let us know.

Scan the QR code to be taken to our FB page



To keep up to date with all PTO happenings please like Grand Mountain Families page on Facebook.

♥ We are getting ready to open another spirit shop: hats, water bottles, lanyards and possibly car magnets.

♥ Grand Mountain Spirit Night – more info to come on this!

♥ NO BAAC meeting this month!  
Next BAAC meeting is April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
PTO Meeting is March 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30

♥ FUNdRun is coming up! Be on the lookout for more information!

Download the Box Tops App at

<https://www.boxtops4education.com/>

then take a photo of your receipts. Any eligible items will automatically go to our school.

*You can still bring in the physical box tops!*

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# Weather Reminders & Schedule Changes

With colder weather here, please be sure to send your child to school with the appropriate cold-weather gear: jacket, gloves/mittens, scarves, closed-toed shoes, etc. If you would like assistance in this area, please contact our school's counselors or social worker.

## Severe weather Reunification:

Due to severe weather, lightening, wind or snow, Grand Mountain is unable to release students safely to parents. Staff will relocate students to areas that parents can go to inside the school for pick up.

1. Preschool and Kindergarten will remain in their rooms and parents can pick them up there.
2. 1st grade, 2nd grade and 3rd grade will move to the cafeteria and parents can enter through the front door and into the cafeteria.
3. 4th grade, 5th grade, 6th grade, 7th grade and 8th grade will move to the gym parents can enter through the front doors and into the gym.
4. Teachers are to escort their class to the assigned areas.

Once the parent unites with their child they will exit out the front doors. Phone calls to parents will be made for remaining students.

If busses are able to run, students will be released to load the bus. If busses are unable to run students will be picked up in the above areas by parents.

## Red Flag Days

Red Flag Days will occur when the temperature during morning arrival (including wind chill) is below 25 degrees. The red flag will fly under the Colorado flag at the front of the building indicating Red Flag status. We are awaiting the installation of a red flag pole at the back of the building as well. An announcement will also be made at 7:25 a.m.

- a. Kindergarten students should enter the building through their exterior classroom doors and will be supervised by kindergarten teachers.
- b. Students in grades 1-4 should enter the building via the back cafeteria door entrance. This door will unlock at 7:25 a.m. Students in grades 1-4 should report to their grade level wings and will sit in assigned areas outside of their classrooms.
- c. Students in grades 5-8 will enter the building via the back gym door entrance. Students in grade 5 will sit with their classes at the half-court line. Grades 6-8 will sit in rows along the south wall of the gym.
- d. Breakfast will continue as usual in the cafeteria.
- e. Parents must check-in through the Front Office in order to enter the building.

## Schedule Changes

Grand Mountain School will be adding 10 minutes to the start of the day for both elementary and junior high students beginning January 8th, 2020 through the end of the school year. The Board of Education approved this last evening for WSD3 Schools in order to meet required student-teacher contact time per Colorado State Statute. The new start time will be 7:35 a.m. (with the first bell ringing at 7:30).

The end time for elementary will also change to 2:45 p.m. The end time for junior high students will remain the same at 3:05 p.m.

At the elementary level, the adjustment to the end of the day is necessary to ensure our elementary staff has adequate planning time commensurate with other district elementary staff.

We did not add time to the elementary day because GMS students are already in school 20 minutes longer than other innovation elementary schools, and 40 minutes longer than our traditional elementary schools. We shortened the elementary day to align with our other innovation elementary schools and to give GMS elementary teachers comparable plan time.

There are many considerations we have to take into account as we adjust to these new times. Our plan is to notify you once we have the new plans in place and any adjustments that we foresee may affect your students here at GMS due to these changes being made and how we can ideally account for them.

We greatly appreciate your patience and cooperation as we work through this new schedule.

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### Elementary Specials:

Blue = Day 1  
Green = Day 2  
Grey = Day 3  
Grand = Day 4  
Mountain = Day 5  
Mavericks = Day 6  
Algorithm = Day 7  
Programming = Day 8

### Important Dates:

March 4<sup>th</sup> - Junior High Dance (6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades) 3:30- 5:00  
March 6<sup>th</sup> - NO SCHOOL - Parent-Teacher Conferences ALL DAY  
March 9<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Begins  
March 10<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program 5:45 - 6:45  
March 13<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report Cards sent home  
March 16<sup>th</sup> - Choir Music Concert (Grades 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>) 6:00 - 7:30  
March 17<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program 5:45 - 6:45  
March 18<sup>th</sup> - GMS Literacy Night 6:00 - 7:00  
March 19<sup>th</sup> - PTO Meeting at 5:30 (NO BAAC Meeting)  
March 20<sup>th</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Renaissance Assemblies (1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 1:00- 1:45;  
4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 - 2:45)



# March 2020

Note: If your child participates in any before or afterschool sports or programs, please know that those dates are not on this calendar.  
Check out our school's calendar by scanning the QR code to the top left, or by visiting: <https://grandmountain.wsd3.org/calendar>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	Programming 2	Blue 3	Green 4	Grey 5	6	7
			Junior High Dance Grades 6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>		NO SCHOOL - Parent- Teacher Conferences	
8	Grand 9	Mountain 10	Mavericks 11	Algorithm 12	Programming 13	14
	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR Begins	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program			3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR Report Cards Sent Home	
15	Blue 16	Green 17	Grey 18	Grand 19	Mountain 20	21
	Choir Music Concert Grades 6 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Music Program	GMS Literacy Night	PTO Meeting (no BAAC meeting)	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR Renaissance Assemblies	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
SPRING BREAK						
29	Mavericks 30	Algorithm 31				
						