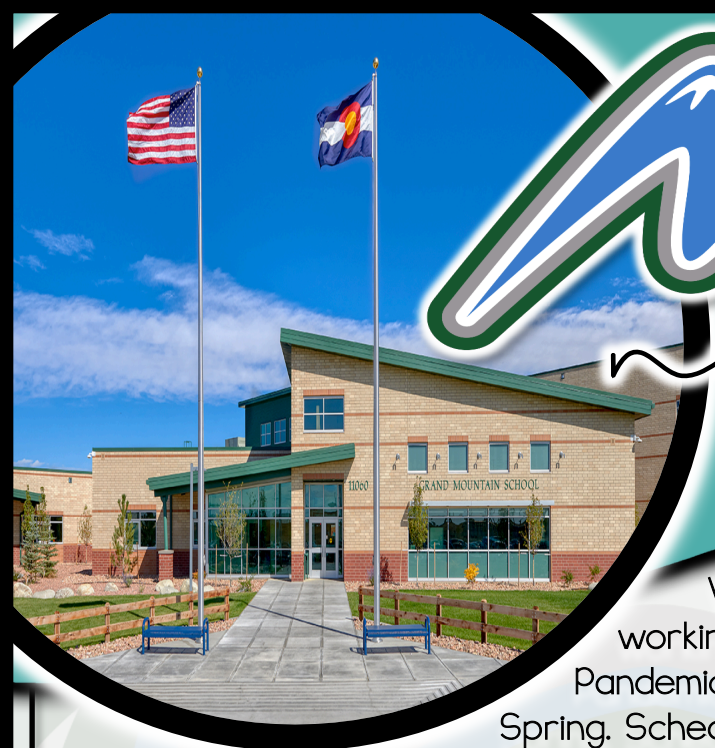




# GRAND MOUNTAIN *Mavericks* newsletter



## The Maverick Mission

Welcome to Grand Mountain School! We are now working to maintain some normalcy as the COVID-19 Pandemic has caused many adjustments to our plans for the Spring. Scheduling information will be coming as these plans and details are finalized in the coming weeks. As we try to create plans with many unknowns in the near future, and as we return to school at some point, please continue to help support your child(ren) through the distance learning options we are implementing on short notice - due to COVID-19. Also, our PTO is continuing to plan our Spring Fund Run as we return to school, ideally after Spring Break, more details to come as our return date becomes finalized.

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

Attendance: (719) 391 - 3471

Breakfast Entry: 7:15

1st Bell Entry: 7:30

Tardy Bell: 7:35

Elementary Dismissal: 2:45

Junior High Dismissal: 3:05



Do not drop off your child before 7:20 AM. There is NO supervision during this time.



# April 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

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**Front Office:**  
(719) 391 - 3470

April 2020

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





Do you read to your children regularly? Children love to be read to, and there are so many benefits!

## Did you know?

- By Kindergarten, children should be on their way to learning 4,000 words!
- Kids who read at least 20 minutes a day are exposed to 1.8 million words a year!

## Here are 9 benefits of reading to your children regularly:

1. Reading increases creativity and imagination.
2. Reading together builds strong family bonds.
3. Reading expands a child's vocabulary.
4. Reading opens minds to new and diverse people, places, and situations.
5. Reading is fun and helps children relax.
6. Reading promotes and enhances critical thinking skills.
7. Reading teaches children about the complex world we live in.
8. Reading promotes positive communication in families.
9. Reading helps build character.

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  
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divinecourtnee@wsd3.org

April 2020

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

# counseling

## Corner

### A few of Mrs. Zuvac's favorite books are:

Beekle

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters

Interrupting Chicken and the

Elephant of Surprise

Owl Moon

The Snowy Day

The Gruffalo

The Quiltmaker's Gift

Matilda

Amelia Bedelia

Frog and Toad are Friends

Where the Wild Things Are



I often use books in my guidance lessons, and if you are looking for books on specific topics related to counseling and character building, please let me know. I might have an idea for you!

- Mrs. Zuvac

I ♥ EARTH

### 5th-7th grade parents!

Scheduling for middle school next year will be coming soon. There will be an IC blast put out to parents as soon as more information is available. -Ms. Moore

April 2020

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



# PTO

# corner

## Upcoming Events



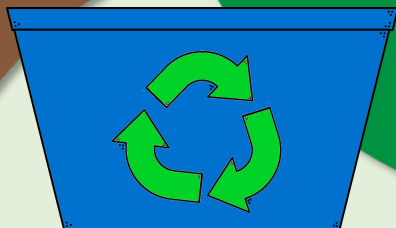
We are getting ready to open another spirit shop: hats, water bottles, lanyards and possibly car magnets.



Next BAAC and PTO are TBD



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



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.



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!*

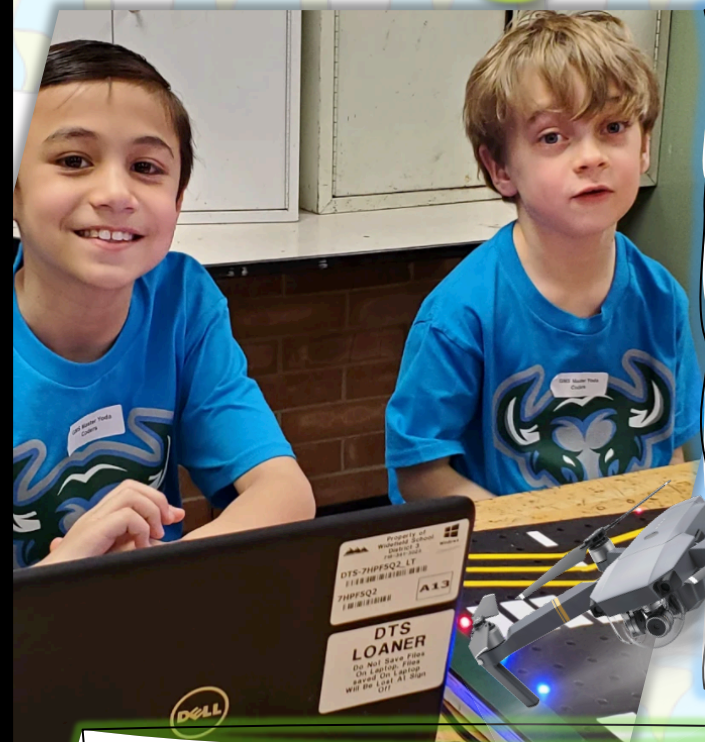
## April 2020

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

# Coding in Action Recognition!



March 7th, 2020



**Drones** Students had to program the drones to navigate through 3 different courses. One was to travel through a tunnel, over the trees, and land on a target. The second was to navigate under and around billboards. The third was to knock off all of the villains from the buildings in a city.

**2nd place - Grand Mountain School (GMS) Cream Cheese Bacon Coders**

## Spheros

Students had to navigate the Klyn - Marvel Energy Pods through the galaxy avoiding all obstacles.

- 3rd place - GMS Master of Yoda Coders
- 1st place - GMS Cream Cheese Bacon Coders





# Coding in Action Recognition!

March 7th, 2020



Congratulations!

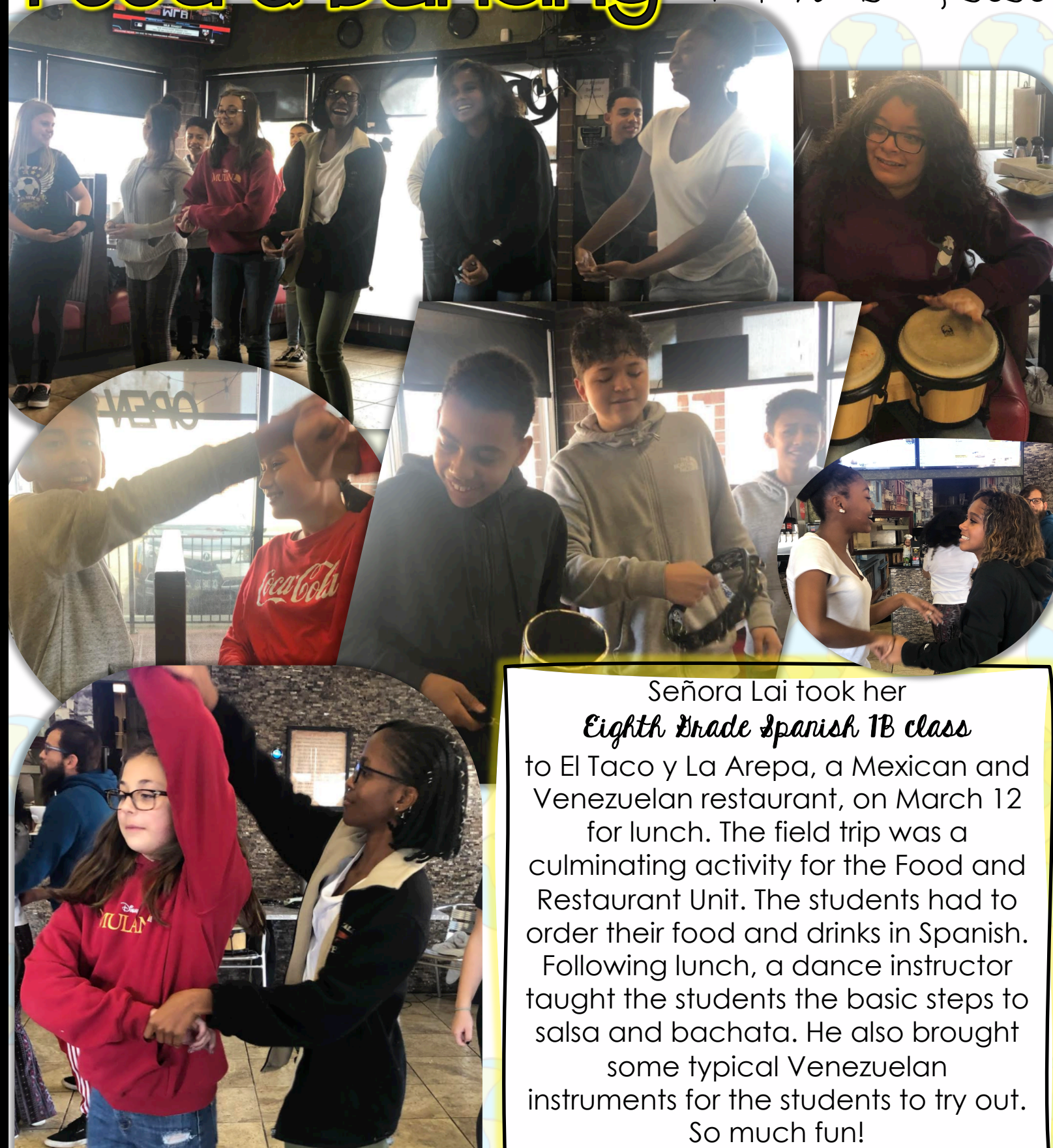
**GMS' Cream  
Cheese Bacon  
Coders won 2<sup>nd</sup>  
place overall!**



# El Taco y La Arepa

## Food & Dancing

March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020



Señora Lai took her ***Eighth Grade Spanish 1B class*** to El Taco y La Arepa, a Mexican and Venezuelan restaurant, on March 12 for lunch. The field trip was a culminating activity for the Food and Restaurant Unit. The students had to order their food and drinks in Spanish. Following lunch, a dance instructor taught the students the basic steps to salsa and bachata. He also brought some typical Venezuelan instruments for the students to try out. So much fun!



# Distance Learning Questions & Answers (pg. 1)

Dear GMS Families,

As you know, the governor recently ordered a statewide “ stay at home” order beginning March 26 and lasting until April 17. There are exemptions to this order that will allow us to continue necessary educational services for distance learning.

We appreciate your understanding while our teachers design distance learning lessons for your child. Across the district, distance learning will begin after spring break on **Thursday, April 2, 2020.**

Your classroom teacher is your best point of contact with concerns or questions you have. As you all know, GMS teachers are dedicated to your children and they have worked very hard to provide meaningful activities for your children. They have spent a large portion of their spring break to work together to provide for your children. We know that we may need to adjust plans and we ask that you be patient as we navigate through this unprecedented time. Below you will find some FAQ and answers:

## **What does working from home look like?**

Teachers will be sharing the required work on a weekly/daily basis. Students will be assigned lessons each week to make learning from home more manageable for families. These will be labeled **MUST DO.**

# Distance Learning Questions & Answers (pg. 2)

## Learning Schedule:

### Elementary

Mondays/Wednesdays: Reading

Tuesday/Thursdays: Math

Wednesday/Friday: Writing

### Junior High

Teacher instruction and/or student activities should take between 15 - 60 minutes daily per content area depending on the lesson, content, level, and rigor.

We also know there are several students who want more work. Teachers will provide additional optional work that will be labeled **MAY DO**.

### What do we do with our children's work?

Teachers will give feedback on the required assignments each week. Until we make a district plan, please keep your child's work until further notice.

### How will we receive the learning materials?

Students who have access to technology will receive materials from their teacher using the tech platforms used last week.

**Students without technology will receive materials during packet delivery Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 – 6:00pm.**



# Distance Learning Questions & Answers (pg. 3)

Time	First initial of student's last name
9:00 – 10:30am	A-E
10:30 – 12:00pm	F-J
12:00 – 1:30pm	K-O
1:30 – 3:00pm	P-T
3:00 – 4:30pm	U-Z

***\*we will stay from 4:30-6:00pm for those who work later and cannot arrive earlier***

This pick-up date is for packet and book(textbooks/novels/workbooks) pick-up only. We are only planning to deliver school essential items needed for learning at this time, also any medications stored by our nurse at school will also be available for pick-up if you arranged this with our nurse. We are not collecting library books or other items, nor getting other non-essential school items from cubbies/lockers at this time. We have worked hard to create these packets for those who stated they needed them based upon our teachers' information or the survey sent at some grade levels, only those who need the packets as necessary should be coming to school Wednesday to receive these items. We anticipate roughly 300 students needing these items based upon the information we have received.

Packets will be picked-up at the front of the building only by those parents who must pick up packets, no other parents should come to the school. Parents will just pull their vehicle through the "Kiss n Go," section in the front parking lot, a staff member will approach the vehicle then radio in the students names inside, another staff member will bring out the packets for that family. Staff will wear gloves and be mindful of social distancing when delivering packets. Parents will tell us each student's name in their family and their grade level, please try to do your best to come during the allotted times.

# Distance Learning Questions & Answers (pg. 4)

## **How do we reach teachers & How do they reach us?**

Teachers will hold daily office hours:

GMS teacher office hours will be 8-10am(ES) & 10-12noon(JH) in the morning and 6-7:00pm(ES & JH) in the evening in order to catch both students and/or parents, other times as necessitated.

This is a time that our teachers will be available to you. If this time does not work for you, please work with your child's teacher to schedule individual time(s) as needed outside these hours.

## **Who will keep in touch with my child?**

GMS staff (not necessarily the classroom teacher) will be assigned students to check-in 1-2 times per week. More information will be provided by your child's teacher. This time is designated to answer questions and provide feedback to your child.

## **What is the best way to stay in touch?**

Our teachers use email and some use various apps to stay in touch with you. This is the fastest mode of communication. Our website is up to date. Please feel free to email administration/counselors with anything else you may need.



# Distance Learning Questions & Answers (pg. 5)

## How can I help my child through this challenging time?

We recommend that you keep routines in place: bedtimes, wake-ups, and snack and mealtimes, chores, schoolwork. Be creative about new activities and exercise. Limit the consumption of news, and answer their questions honestly but with reassurance, also a good filter from some news as age level appropriate. Our school counselors are available to help.

In regards to recent news surrounding our school, and these stressful and uncertain times in dealing with a worldwide pandemic, we would like to be sure that all GMS families have access to appropriate mental health resources during this time:

### Online Counseling Resources:

- [Betterhelp.com](https://www.betterhelp.com)
- [Talkspace.com](https://www.talkspace.com)
- [Pridecounseling.com](https://www.pridecounseling.com)
- [online-therapy.com](https://www.online-therapy.com)

### Resources for finding a counselor in your area:

- [psychologytoday.com](https://www.psychologytoday.com)
- [goodtherapy.org](https://www.goodtherapy.org)

### Other Important Resources:

- National Suicide Hotline 1-800-273-TALK
- Emotional-Support Help Line: 1-866-342-6892 (free access to health specialists to support people who are experiencing anxiety or stress)
- Call "211" for additional community resources (food, utilities, rent, individual/family community supports, etc.).

We *miss* our community very much and remain committed to engaging our students in *learning*.

We **hope** to see you back at school as soon as *possible*.

# Internet Options

Dear WSD3 Families,

We have been working diligently to build a distance learning model that will be a meaningful way for ALL students to master skills this fourth quarter. One of our challenges includes the fact that some students do not have access to the internet in their homes. The following are free or low-cost options that will provide access for those who do not have it.

## Home Internet Service

1. [Comcast Internet Essentials](#): First two months free, then \$9.95 per month after that for qualifying households. [Apply online](#) or call 1-855-846-8376 during normal business hours.

## Free Public WiFi

1. [Xfinity WiFi hotspots](#): Find one close to you at this link. Available in Widefield/Security and Fountain. Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. Public hotspots can be found in small/medium businesses and outdoors in commercial areas. Non-Xfinity subscribers need to accept Terms and Conditions to access the network and repeat when requested to continue to receive free unlimited access.
2. [AT&T Offerings](#)
  - a. **Unlimited AT&T Home Internet** – All AT&T consumer home internet wireline customers, as well as Fixed Wireless Internet, can use unlimited internet data. Additionally, we'll continue to offer internet access for qualifying limited income households at \$10 a month through our [Access from AT&T program](#). We've expanded eligibility to Access from AT&T to households participating in the National School Lunch Program and Head Start. Additionally, we're offering new Access from AT&T customers two months of free service.
  - b. **AT&T World Connect Advantage** – Business customers currently on or who purchase an AT&T World Connect Advantage package receive 50% off the current rate in a monthly bill credit (max \$7.50/mo.).\*
  - c. **Helping You Work and Learn Remotely** – Businesses, universities and schools can keep their teams and classrooms connected through conference calls and video conferencing with [Cisco Webex Meetings](#) with AT&T, and seamlessly forward calls to both mobile and landline phones with [AT&T IP Flexible Reach](#).
  - d. **Distance Learning** – AT&T is underwriting expenses for a "one-stop" resource center to support eLearning Days from the [State Educational Technology Directors Association \(SETDA\)](#) available to all educators in schools to help them handle school closures and the increase in virtual learning due to COVID-19.

## Your Cell Phone Carrier

1. [Sprint](#): Sprint is providing Unlimited data for 60 days to customers with metered data plans and giving 20 GB of free mobile hotspot to customers with hotspot-capable devices (effective 3/18).
2. [T-Mobile](#): [T-Mobile Connect](#) – part of the New T-Mobile's 5G for Good initiative – is launching ahead of schedule for \$15 per month, half the price of the company's lowest smartphone plan. And Metro by T-Mobile is adding new, lower-cost options. Current customers also get unlimited smartphone data for the next 60 days (excluding roaming). Starting March 20, 2020, providing T-Mobile and Metro by T-Mobile customers on smartphone plans with hotspot data an additional 20GB of smartphone mobile hotspot (10GB per bill cycle for the next 60 days) for each voice line. (T-Mobile Connect excluded).

As you know, this is a rapidly changing situation, so this information will be updated on the [district website](#) as new information becomes available.



# Access to online curriculum Troubleshooting & Tips

If your child is using an iPad to access their reading materials online through the HMH app, you will need to make sure the settings are allowing pop-ups. Follow these directions to ensure your child is able to see his/her work:

1. From the home screen, click on the "Settings" icon.
  2. Scroll down on the left-hand side until you see "Safari" and tap on the word.
  3. In the middle of the screen you will see the words, "Block pop-ups." If the toggle is green you will need to click on that and turn the block pop-ups feature off.
  4. That's it! When you return to the HMH website you will need to refresh the page, but the assignments should now open.
- \*Note - if you are using a different web browser (other than Safari) go through settings to make sure pop-ups are allowed to open.**

If your child is not able to access Pearson, it is almost always an issue with the cache. It needs to be cleared. Here are instructions for clearing cache on Chrome and Mozilla Firefox.

## Clearing Cache – 2020 Chrome

1. On your computer, open **Chrome**.
2. At the top right, click More.
3. Click More tools. Clear browsing data.
4. At the top, choose a time range. To **delete** everything, select All time.
5. Next to "Cookies and other site data" and "**Cached** images and files," check the boxes.
6. Click Clear data.

## Clearing Cache - Mozilla

1. Click the menu button. and select Options. ...
2. Select the Privacy & Security panel.
3. In the Cookies and Site Data section, click **Clear** Data....
4. Remove the checkmark in front of Cookies and Site Data. ...
5. With **Cached** Web Content check marked, click the **Clear** button.
6. Close the about:preferences page.

To access Pearson online:

1. You must start at [wsd3.org](https://wsd3.org)
2. Click on student links
3. Login to student school account ([lastnamefirstname-100@wsd3.org](mailto:lastnamefirstname-100@wsd3.org)) then use password you use to login at school
4. Then select Easy Bridge (Pearson) on the list on the left of the webpage

### Important Dates:

April 1<sup>st</sup> - April Fools Day  
April 12<sup>th</sup> - Easter  
April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Earth Day  
April 24<sup>th</sup> - No school (April Day)

Due to Covid-19 precautions,  
this calendar may change

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 right, or by visiting: <https://grandmountain.wsd3.org/calendar>



### 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

# April 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Programming 1	Blue 2	Green 3	4
DISTANCE LEARNING						
	5	Grey 6	Grand 7	Mountain 8	Mavericks 9	Algorithm 10
DISTANCE LEARNING						
12	Programming 13	Blue 14	Green 15	Grey 16	Grand 17	18
DISTANCE LEARNING						
19	Mountain 20	Mavericks 21	Algorithm 22	Programming 23	24	25
No School (April Day)						
26	Blue 27	Green 28	Grey 29	Grand 30		