



THE MAVERICK MISSION

School Newsletter



Ms. Drake reuniting with a student during Back-to-School Night

Message FROM MR. POHL

Secondary Principal

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

We are off to a great start this year. Please be understanding that mask-wearing is being done to keep students and staff in school as much as possible. The district parade was on September 18th. Our first annual school-wide fundraiser, the Grand Mountain Stampede Fund Run, will take place on September 24th. Please be advocates for GMS and support these school-wide activities for students.

Last year, we were unable to offer all these extra-curricular activities as well as sports and other activities. It is great to see parents in the building supporting our athletic events and we look forward to seeing you at future events as well. - Mr. Brian Pohl, Principal

MAVERICK:

(NOUN) /
MAV-RIK/ -
AN
UNORTHODOX
OR
INDEPENDENT-
MINDED PERSON,
AN UNBRANDED
RANGE ANIMAL.

SYNONYMS:
INDIVIDUALIST,
FREE SPIRIT,
ORIGINAL,
TRENDSETTER.



Message FROM MRS. BONDS

Elementary/Lead Principal



Thank you for welcoming me to the Grand Mountain School community! I have enjoyed getting to know many of you as well as the students during the first few weeks of school.

I am honored to have joined Grand Mountain as the lead principal in order to support the continued growth of our school and community. In this role, I will serve as the lead principal for the building as well as the instructional leader and supervisor for grades K-5. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you.

My career in education started in 1995 with Baltimore City Public Schools where I taught grades two through five as well as special education. After meeting my husband, I moved to Missouri and taught middle school reading and language arts. In 2005, we were fortunate to move to Colorado and begin working for Widefield School District 3. I taught special education at Sproul Jr. High before becoming a school administrator. For the past 14 years, I served as both the assistant principal and principal of Webster Elementary.

I currently reside in Falcon, Colorado with my family. My husband is a high school principal in Falcon School District 49. Our daughter attends Grand Mountain as a sixth-grade student.

My initial goals as I transition into this new role are to make connections and build relationships with the Grand Mountain School community, work collaboratively with the staff and community to provide a positive, safe, and nurturing learning environment, and support the school with its implementation of computer science integration as a school of innovation.

I look forward to partnering with you in order to make this a successful school year. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Jennifer Bonds, Lead Principal



ELEMENTARY *Updates*

We have had a busy start to our year at the elementary level. The teachers have been working with the students to establish routines and procedures as well as to establish classroom communities. We have also completed our beginning of year reading and math assessments in grades K-5. We will use the data to guide our instruction as we strive to meet the individual needs of students.

Please be sure to look for regular updates sent through Infinite Campus to inform you of important dates and information throughout the year.

BIRTHDAY OR CLASSROOM *treats*

We would like to ensure you are informed of our district's policy for providing treats for the class when your student has a birthday. We encourage you to first check with your child's teacher to ensure their class is accepting food for celebrations. Once you have the teacher's approval, treats must be submitted at least 24 hours before the celebration in order to allow the teacher time to communicate with the parents of students with life-threatening allergies. Treats provided by parents must be store bought in original packaging with both a nutrition facts and ingredients label attached. The nutrition facts label must indicate zero grams of trans fat per serving.



Message FROM OUR PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION

It has been a very busy start to the new school year for your GMS PTO. We started the year off by designing and selling t-shirts. Thanks to everyone in the community, we were able to raise almost \$600 at our family food fundraiser night with Papa John's Pizza. The PTO also partnered with the Student Council to design shirts for the community parade which was held on Saturday, September 18th.

The other BIG event we are currently working on is planning our 1st ever Grand Mountain Stampede (aka Fund Run). This is a HUGE fundraiser for our school. This event involves approximately 1,300 students, staff, and volunteers, so you can imagine how much work it involves. Parents of all students are not only welcome but encouraged to be involved in this event. We elected to organize this event all on our own – which means 100% of the proceeds will go to the school. Many other schools opt to use an outside company to organize their Fund Runs. These organizations normally charge anywhere between 30%-40% of the proceeds.

What do we have going on the rest of this year?

- Parent Teacher Conferences for elementary October 21st & 22nd
- Papa John's Night October 27th
- Book Fair November 9th – 18th
- We will have another hoodie/shirt sale in November
- Holiday Shop December 6th – 10th

On top of all this fun, we are in a rebuilding year for the PTO. During last year, we were unable to do a lot with the school so there were just a couple of us who would organize the few events we had last year. During August's PTO meeting, 2 new board members were elected (no one wanted the president position so you are stuck with me - Michelle).

Please welcome your 2021-2022 PTO Board Members:

- President – Michelle Thomson (returning)
- Vice President – Rachael Park
- Secretary – Keri Morgan

Thank you for your continued support.

Michelle Thomson

Grand Mountain School PTO President
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News



For more information visit the news section of our website or visit <https://grandmountain.wsd3.org/grand-mountain-news> or scan the QR Code above



Calendar

For more information on specific dates, visit the calendar section of our website by scanning the QR Code to the left, or by visiting <https://grandmountain.wsd3.org/calendar>