

A - Doug Levinson B - Paul Pitton C - John Williams D - Tom Parrish E - Amy Davis						Board of Education Mesa County Valley School District 51 Business Meeting Minutes: October 15, 2019 Adopted: November 12, 2019	
	A	B	C	D	E		
						AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
Present	x	x	x	x	x	BUSINESS MEETING	6:02 p.m.
Absent						A. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	
						➤ Mr. Parrish welcomed attendees to the October Business Meeting and gave instructions for meeting participants to address the Board, <i>under Item G, Audience Comments</i> .	
						➤ Dr. Davis arrived at 6:28 p.m.	
Motion		x				B. AGENDA APPROVAL	Adopted
Second	x						
Aye	x	x	x	x			
No							
Absent					x		
Motion		x				C. MEETING MINUTES AND SUMMARY APPROVAL	Adopted
Second	x					C-1. September 3, 2019, Board Work Session Minutes	
Aye	x	x	x	x		C-2. September 17, 2019, Board Business Meeting Minutes	
No							
Absent					x		
						D. RECOGNITIONS	
						D.1. Recognition for North American Hazardous Materials Management Association Environmental Award, Mr. Petie Pope [Resolution 19/20: 23]	
						➤ Mr. Parrish asked Mr. Pope, Environmental Health and Safety Manager, to come to the front of the room. Mr. Pope recently received the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association's (NAHMMA) "Agent in Charge" Award. Mr. Pope received the award for his thorough and efficient handling of the cleaning up a mercury exposure at Chipeta Elementary School, earlier this year. Mr. Pope received the award while presenting at a NAHMMA Conference.	
						➤ The Board and Superintendent congratulated Mr. Pope for receiving the award and thanked him for ensuring schools are safe and healthy.	
						D.2. Recognition for High School of Business Class National Testing, Grand Junction High School Students [Resolution 19/20: 24]	
						➤ Mr. Williams requested the students from Grand Junction High School come forward. Mr. Williams commented on the high quality of students who attend Grand Junction High School despite the condition of their building. Stepping forward to be recognized were the students and their current instructors, Mr. David Bennet, Ms. Jane Nelms and former instructor, Ms. Cindy Ficklin. The Marketing and Business Administration Research and Curriculum Center recently announced the names of students who scored in the top 10% in a nationwide testing. Approximately 8,000 students were tested in the areas of Principles of Business, Business Economics, Marketing, Finance, Management, Business Strategies, Leadership and Wealth Management in a nationwide testing. The Grand Junction High School students recognized for testing in the top 10% were:	

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morgan Raimer in the areas of Principles of Business and Business Economics • Jason Miller in the area of Business Economics • Andrew Bennett in the areas of Principles of Marketing and Principles of Finance • Evan Ancell in the areas of Principles of Marketing and Principles of Finance • Parker Stanfield in the area of Principles of Marketing • Angelina DeCrow in the area of Principles of Management • Wyatt Raimer in the areas of Principles of Management and Business Strategies • Ivy Seacrest in the area of Principles of Management • Payton Wilder in the area of Business Strategies • Corynn Simon in the area of Business Strategies <p>➤ The Board and Superintendent Sirko congratulated the students and thanked them, and their instructor, for their commitment to learning.</p> <p>E. BOARD REPORTS/COMMUNICATIONS/REQUESTS</p> <p>➤ Mr. Williams reported on the continuing work the Bond Committee has been doing. Committee members are volunteers who have been working hard to push the vote to replace Grand Junction High School. He reported that not a large percentage of people vote in off years, so every vote counts.</p> <p>➤ Mr. Williams thanked the Communication Department for providing reusable water bottles for Board members to use at meetings, thus eliminating the waste of disposable water bottles.</p> <p>F. LEGISLATIVE REPORT</p> <p>➤ Mr. Pitton reported he would be representing the Board, later this week, at the Colorado Association of School Board's (CASB) Delegate Assembly. The assembly meets annually to vote on resolutions endorsed by CASB. The resolutions relate to proposed legislation, which would affect school finance, school accountability, and school safety.</p> <p>➤ Mr. Williams reported he had recently spoke with Colorado House Representative, Mrs. Janice Rich. Representative Rich is interested in educational issues and is open to having conversations around education needs.</p> <p>G. AUDIENCE COMMENTS</p> <p>➤ Mr. Bruce Lohmiller, 3032 W. 15th Street #1204, Grand Junction, CO 81506 Mr. Lohmiller reminded the Board of the concerns he shared with the Board at a previous meeting, regarding comprehensive sex education classes. Mr. Lohmiller has reached out to law enforcement to obtain statistics regarding crimes of violence. He reminded everyone to report incidents of violence noting law enforcement has the right to place someone on a M1 hold. Mr. Lohmiller and his minister will be scheduling a meeting with KREX TV.</p>	

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						H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT H-1. Coding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ms. Maria Deuel, Innovative Programs Coordinator, Ms. Emilee Castleton, Ms. Risharra Stulc, Mr. Karl Castleton, and Mr. William Jessop, were present to share information on the importance of computer science and coding. Coding is the process used in developing software. Students at the elementary level use coding when working with robots. ➤ Ms. Castleton, Mt. Garfield Middle School computer science teacher, has a primary teaching background in math and is now teaching computer science. Computer science concepts relate closely to concepts in geometry and working with ratios and rates. At the middle school level, students work with algorithms and learn logical thinking to go from drawing a circle to coding a device to draw that circle. ➤ Ms. Stulc teaches AP computer science at Grand Junction High School. Currently, AP computer science is only offered at Grand Junction High School, but the hope is to eventually offer the class at Central High School and Fruita Monument High School. High school classes focus on collaboration, precision and perseverance, problem solving, enhancing math skills, learning another language (java) and building life skills for future employment. There are many additional scholarship opportunities for students who take computer science classes. ➤ Mr. Castleton, a professor of computer science at Colorado Mesa University, expressed the importance of the District providing computer science at all grade levels. He shared statistics on the growth of computer science classes in higher education and the number of jobs relating to computer science. Currently the median salary for people with an associate degree in computer science is \$105,000 a year with 284,000 new positions to be added in the next ten years. ➤ Mr. Jessup recently graduated from Central High School. He reported on the knowledge he learned by participating in the Career Wise Apprentice Program last year as an apprentice at ProStar. Working at ProStar, enabled him to learn computer science and gave him a job following graduation. He currently works at ProStar and is attending computer science classes at Colorado Mesa University. ➤ Discussion took place on steps needed to expand computer science education to students at all grade levels. New curriculum has been implemented and professional development has been expanded for teachers. There is a desire to get more females and minority students interested in computer science and be able to hire additional teachers with a strong computer science background. The District will be collaborating with more local business to increase computer science apprenticeship opportunities and working to expand and enhance robotics teams. <p>[Recess 7:07 p.m. Resume Meeting 7:18 p.m.]</p>	

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						H-2. Business/Investment Financials, Ms. Melanie Heath, Mrs. Vi Crawford <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ms. Heath reported the Fiscal Oversight Committee reviewed the financial reports for both the End-of-Year Financials and the First Quarter Financials. ➤ H.2.a. End-Year Financials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Highlighted items from the review, for the End-of-Year Financials, showed revenue was up slightly from what was budgeted with the majority of increase coming from ownership taxes, interest and mineral lease funds. Some mineral lease funds, anticipated to be received in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, were received in the 2018-2019 fiscal year. The Physical Activities Fund (23) increased for the 2019-2020 year to offset cost increases in travel and officiating fees. The Medical Insurance Fund (62) had a line item added to cover a six percent increase in medical costs. ➤ H.2.b. First Quarter Financials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ First quarter revenue and spending is going as planned. The October 2 student count showed 76 fewer students than last year, but there are adjustments still needing to be made before the count becomes official. The anticipated budget is based on having flat enrollment and the projected funding for full-day kindergarten. H-3. Bond Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Eddie Mort, Maintenance Assistant Director, was available to answer questions regarding the report. The Orchard Mesa Middle School project is on time and a showing to be a little under budget. H-4. Expulsion Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Superintendent Sirko spoke on how some schools are working with restorative practices to help students with discipline issues. H-5. Communication/District Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Superintendent Sirko complimented the Communication Department on the work they do in keeping everyone informed of what is happening. She noted the Communication Department would play a major role in scheduling meetings to prepare the Strategic Plan. I. CONSENT AGENDA I-1. Personnel Actions [Resolution: 19/20: 21] I-2. Gifts [Resolution: 19/20: 22] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Pitton abstained from voting as a family member's name was listed in Personnel Actions Resolution. J. BUSINESS ITEMS J-1. Resolution of Support for City of Grand Junction [Resolution 19/20: 25]	
Motion Second Aye No Abstained	x x	x x	 x x	 x 	 x 		Adopted
Motion Second Aye No	x	x x	x x	x x	x x	J. BUSINESS ITEMS J-1. Resolution of Support for City of Grand Junction [Resolution 19/20: 25]	Adopted

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Motion Second Aye No						K. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Levinson stated Superintendent Sirko was nominated for Superintendent-of-the-Year. She will be traveling to Denver to interview for the honor. Regardless of the outcome, he complimented her on what she has done for District 51 and emphasized she deserves to win the award. ➤ Mr. Pitton acknowledged Mr. Parrish who recently won the McGuffey Award from the Colorado Association of School Boards. The award is given to a Board member nominated as Board Member of the Year for his district. Mr. Parrish thanked Mr. Pitton for the acknowledgement but noted, as a Board member, you never do anything alone and he has a great team to work with. 	7:55 p.m.
						L. FUTURE MEETINGS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reviewed 	
						M. EXECUTIVE SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ None at this time. 	
						N. ADJOURNMENT	
	x				x	<div style="text-align: right;"> Bridget Story, Assistant Secretary Board of Education </div>	
	x	x	x	x	x		

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko would like to invite Petie Pope to the front.

Last month, while presenting at a conference for the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association (NAHMMA), Petie Pope, the D51 Environmental Health and Safety Manager, was surprised with a prestigious award. In recognition of his work in keeping all of our schools a safe and healthy place to learn and work, Mr. Pope was awarded the “Agent of Change” award. They highlighted his thorough and efficient cleanup of Chipeta Elementary School after its mercury exposure earlier this year.

The “Agent of Change” award recognizes and celebrates individuals who go “above and beyond” to make a difference in the health and environmental safety industry. They consistently achieve outstanding results and work diligently and creatively to protect people and the environment.

The North American Hazardous Materials Management Association is a national non-profit committed to pollution prevention, product stewardship, and the safe and effective handling of hazardous materials. NAHMMA supports its members with training opportunities, relevant industry updates, and access to a diverse nationwide network of qualified individuals in the hazardous waste management industry. Mr. Pope was presenting on Sustaining School Cleanouts at the conference when he was honored.

The Board and Superintendent Sirko are proud to recognize Petie Pope for his commitment to ensuring that schools are safe and healthy. We are honored to recognize you for your outstanding work. Congratulations.

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 24

Presented: October 15, 2019

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko would like to invite the students from the GJHS High School of Business Class and their instructor, David Bennett, to the front.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko are proud to introduce these Grand Junction High School students. Recently the Marketing and Business Administration Research and Curriculum Center announced these students were among the top business students nationwide.

Grand Junction High School offers the High School of Business program, where students earn real, hands-on business knowledge through a series of six courses and covers topics like marketing, finance, entrepreneurship, and business management. Students are tested in the areas of Principles of Business, Business Economics, Marketing, Finance, Management, Business Strategies, Leadership, and Wealth Management.

Out of the approximately 8,000 students, from across the country who participate in High School of Business rigorous exams to test their business knowledge, these students tested in the top 10%.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko are proud to recognize these students, and their instructors, for their commitment to learning, and for representing District 51 well. Congratulations.

Principles of Business

Morgan Raimer

Business Economics

Jason Miller

Morgan Raimer

Principles of Marketing

Andrew Bennett

Evan Ancell

Parker Stanfield

Principles of Finance

Andrew Bennett

Evan Ancell

Principles of Management

Angelina DeCrow

Wyatt Raimer

Ivy Seacrest

Business Strategies

Wyatt Raimer

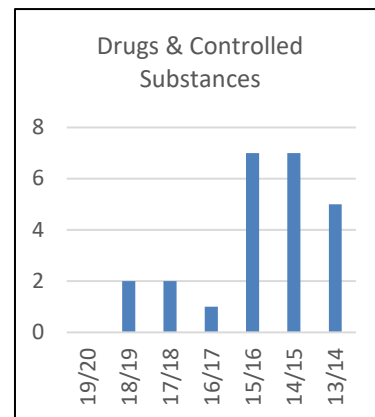
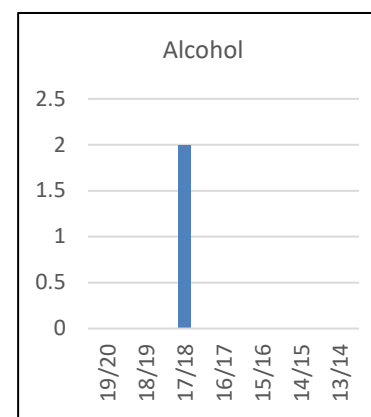
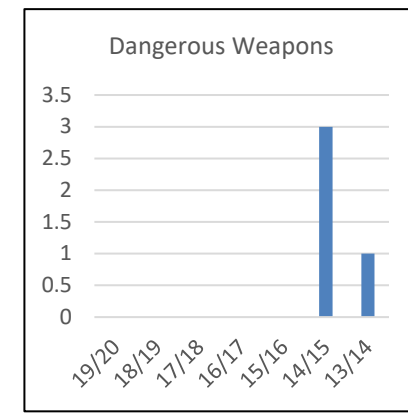
Payton Wilder

Corynn Simon

Category	High School				Middle School				Elementary School				Total		Total for previous years as of September 30 of:				
	19/20		18/19		19/20		18/19		19/20		18/19		19/20	18/19	17/18	16/17	15/16	14/15	13/14
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F							
100			2										2		2	1	7	7	5
200															2				
300																			
400																	1		
500																		3	1
600																			
700																			
DSP																			
VOO	1		1										1	1					
Total	1		3										1	3	4	1	8	10	6

Category Description

100 - drug or controlled substance
 200 - alcohol
 300 - tobacco
 400 - felony assault
 500 - dangerous weapons
 600 - robbery
 700 - other felonies
 DSP - destruction / defacement of school property
 VOO - other violations



Communications Update September 13 – October 9, 2019

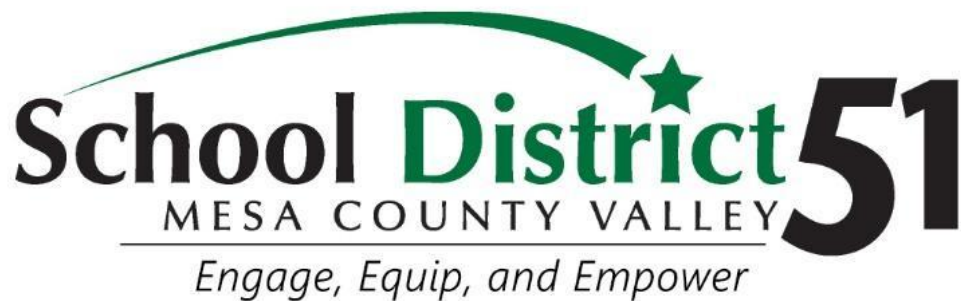
Includes

Earned Media Coverage

Paid Media Coverage

Electronic Direct Communication

Social Media Reports



Media Coverage

The Daily Sentinel

Sept 13, [Two schools under shelter in place](#)
Sept 13, [Shelledy teacher up for top honor](#)
Sept 15, [Opinion: It's now time to replace Grand Junction High School](#)
Sept 15, [GJHS invites public to tours, open houses](#)
Sept 18, [School reveal: Monument Ridge](#)
Sept 18, [Opinion: District 51's predictable request](#)
Sept 20, [Opinion: GJHS students need a new high school](#)
Sept 20, [School District weighs potential future bonds](#)
Sept 22, [Green rewards](#)
Sept 29, [Bond measure takes aim at GJHS rebuild, security](#)
Sept 29, [Opinion: Parents speak up about the need for improvements at valley high schools](#)
Sept 29, [A chance to toot their own horns](#)
Oct 6, [Opinion: The path to future prosperity is paved with education](#)

KREX

Sept 13, [Ballot measure 3A will now appear as 4A](#)
Sept 18, [Grand Junction High School holds open house ahead of measure 4A](#)
Sept 18, [Full Day Kindergarten teacher wins Golden Apple Award](#)
Sept 18, [Career Day: Learn about the Construction Industry](#)
Sept 19, [D51's newest elementary school](#)
Sept 19, [City Council votes unanimously to support measure 4A](#)
Sept 24, [Fruita Monument students learn about bomb squad robots](#)
Sept 27, [Gov Polis wants to reduce teen vaping, here's what's happening in Mesa County](#)
Oct 3, [Local high school students bring art to VA sidewalks](#)
Oct 3, [D51 outdoor wilderness lab to welcome more students](#)
Oct 7, [2nd Annual Grand Valley Yoga Fest](#)
Oct 8, [Chatfield Elementary 2nd graders harvest for food banks, and for knowledge](#)

KKCO/KJCT

Sept 16, [Grand Junction High School to host open houses](#)

Sept 16, [Fruita Monument reaches midpoint of construction](#)

Sept 17, [D51 further discusses school-based health center at Central HS](#)

Sept 17, [New Fruita school named 'Monument Ridge Elementary'](#)

Sept 17, [High school student makes safety buckets for lockdowns](#)

Sept 18, [Grand Valley Yoga Fest proceeds go to suicide awareness](#)

Sept 24, [Fruita Middle School gets inspirational quotes painted on bathroom stalls](#)

Sept 24, [School bus traffic laws](#)

Oct 2, [D51: new numbers for students caught vaping at school](#)

Oct 2, [OWL program expands to all District 51 middle schools](#)

Oct 3, [Hi Fives team attends Kendrick Castillo memorial tournament](#)

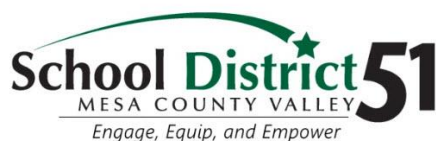
Oct 6, [Grand Valley Yoga Fest raises money for suicide awareness programs](#)

Oct 7, [Chatfield Elementary students donate crops](#)

Paid Media

Indoor Billboards

The following ads appeared on indoor billboards owned by Local Focus at various places in the community, including Mesa Mall, Kidsplex, Glacier Ice Arena, Graff Dairy, Bananas Fun Park, etc.



Explore 51 classes for community members interested in learning more about School District 51. Attend any of the sessions or all of the sessions.

**SESSIONS: 11:30AM-1PM
PRESENTATIONS + Q&A: NOON TO 1PM
MESA COUNTY CENTRAL LIBRARY
d51schools.org/resources/explore_d51**



Welcome Home Packages

Each month, 100 Homeowners who move into a new home in the Grand Valley receive a package that includes two branded stickers and pens, a printed infographic with more information about District 51.

TV Ads

KREX does a monthly segment highlighting a teacher who receives the KREX "Golden Apple Award." The channel advertises the award to bring awareness to D51, and to garner nominations. KJCT provides audience targeting to supply relevant information to demographics who may benefit from our information as they browse the web.

Mesa Mall

The directory just outside of Target has information about Explore D51, a free community class where participants can learn more about District 51.

Events

Explore D51

Each month, the Communications Department hosts Explore D51, a free, informational class where members of the community can come learn more about District 51. September's presentation was on Budget & Finance, with Melanie Heath and Phil Onofrio guest speaking. Explore D51 is held over the lunch hour (12 – 1 p.m.) in the downtown public library. Sessions are free and open to the public. The next meeting is scheduled for October 16, and will cover Facilities, Maintenance, and Energy Management.

Ads with pertinent information will run in the Sunday edition of the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel

Sept 8 & 15

Sept 21

Did You Know?

2017 Bond Measure projects are getting done



In November 2017, voters approved a Bond Measure for construction, maintenance, and technology. Phase 1&2 projects completed or started since then include:

- **Maintenance** projects in 28 schools that added new HVAC equipment, windows, fire alarm systems, bleachers, flooring, roofing, walkways, parking lot surfaces, lights, and more
- A new **Orchard Mesa Middle School** set to open in January
- New security vestibules in 24 schools
- **9,000+** new **Chromebooks** placed in the hands of teachers and learners across the district
- A new **elementary school** in Fruita breaking ground Sept. 17
- A new **STEM** addition at **Central High School**
- A new **entrance** set to open at the end of 2019 at **Fruita Monument High School**

The 3rd/final phase of 2017 bond projects will begin next summer.

90% of the work on all 2017 Bond Measure projects has been done by local crews and contractors. Thank you!



Visit bit.ly/d51bond to see where all 2017 Bond dollars are going.

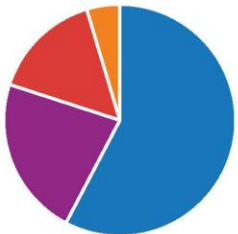
School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Did You Know?

2017 Mill Levy Override is Making an Impact



Mill Levy Override Funding
2018-19 Totals



- Five More School Days
- Curriculum Materials and Training
- Maintenance
- Technology Support

The 2017 Mill Levy Override provides \$6.5 million each year for 10 years. These dollars are being spent exactly the way voters intended:

- Five additional days in the school calendar
- New curriculum materials and teacher training
- Ongoing maintenance
- Four technology support jobs

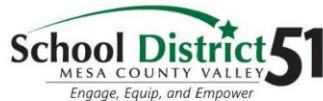
The Mill Levy Override is separate from the 2017 Bond Measure, which is being used for construction of a new Orchard Mesa Middle School, safety projects, computers and top-priority maintenance.

Visit bit.ly/d51mill to see where 2017 Mill Levy Override dollars are going.

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

How Much Do You Know About D51?

- How many schools and school programs are there in District 51?
A) 38
B) 40
C) 43
D) 46
- District 51 has the ___-largest enrollment in Colorado
A) 12th
B) 14th
C) 17th
D) 20th
- What is the average age (in years) of District 51's school buildings?
A) 35
B) 40
C) 45
D) 50
- The 2017 mill levy override will provide \$6.5 million per year for 10 years to add five school days to the calendar and to support:
A) Maintenance
B) Technology
C) Curriculum and Training
D) All of the Above
- Which of the following D51 schools is in the oldest building?
A) Grand River Academy
B) Fruita Middle School
C) Appleton Elementary School
D) Grand Junction High School
- The 2017 bond measure is being used solely for security, technology, maintenance, construction of a new Orchard Mesa Middle School and a new elementary school in Fruita. The 2019 bond measure question asks for:
A) A new GJHS and safety renovations at Central, Fruita Monument, and Palisade high schools
B) A new Grand Junction High
C) A fifth high school in District 51
D) None of the above
- True or False - District 51 is able to collect sales taxes from local marijuana sales if dispensaries were allowed in Grand Junction.



ANSWER KEY

- D - There are 43 schools and 3 school programs in D51.
- B - D51 is closest in size to Greeley 6 and Falcon 49 school districts.
- C - D51 buildings range from 3 years old to 94 years old.
- D - It provides training, curriculum materials and tech support jobs.
- A - Grand River, built in 1925, housed Lincoln Park Elementary.
- A - The 2019 measure would build one school and remodel three.
- False - While the city, county and state directly collect marijuana tax money, school districts must apply for grants from the state. Whether sales are allowed locally has no impact on who receives these grants.

Did You Know?

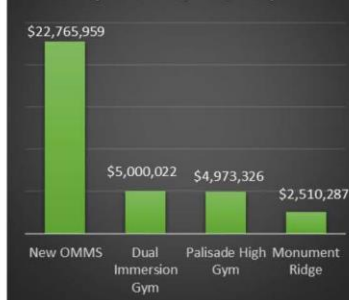
Nearly \$80 mil. of the 2017 Bond funds have been spent

Where your money is going

- Priority 1 Maintenance Projects in 37 schools, with more to come next summer
- New elementary school in Fruita and replacement Orchard Mesa Middle School under construction
- New gyms at Palisade High and Dual Immersion complete
- 9,000+ Chromebooks purchased
- Security vestibules and keyless lock systems in multiple schools



Construction Projects (as of 9/30/19)



Building Improvement Spending

D51 School	Amount Spent (as of 9/30/19)
Appleton	\$914,895
Broadway	\$239,497
Career Center	\$83,438
Central	\$4,030,597
Chatfield	\$34,976
Clifton	\$1,945,533
Dos Rios	\$108,555
Dual Immersion	\$180,216
East	\$779,929
Fruita 8/9	\$44
Fruita Middle	\$663,182
Fruita Monument	\$8,826,225
Fruitvale	\$515,326
Gateway	\$6,500
Grand Junction	\$210,916
Grand Mesa	\$1,564,455
Grand River	\$580,563
Independence	\$230,907
Lincoln OM	\$1,302,920
Loma	\$348
Mesa View	\$168,557
Mt. Garfield	\$1,545,997
New Emerson	\$5,737
Nisley	\$789,520
Orchard Ave.	\$890,866
Palisade	\$6,232,356
Pomona	\$64,132
Redlands	\$869,654
Rim Rock	\$15,716
Rocky Mt.	\$600,187
Scenic	\$688,302
Shelley	\$868,811
Taylor	\$343,545
Thunder Mt.	\$56,079
Tope	\$352,137
West	\$1,060,860
Wingate	\$713,006
Admin Buildings	\$3,620
Full-Day K renov.	\$154,873
General Building	\$70,042

Visit bit.ly/d51bond to see where 2017 Bond dollars are going.

Electronic Communications

Family Newsletter



School District 51 Family and Community Newsletter | September 2019



Fruita's newest elementary school is Monument Ridge!
Fruita's newest elementary school officially broke ground on Tuesday. Following the groundbreaking ceremony at the 1501 K.4 Road site, school board members selected a name for the new school: Monument Ridge! Learn more about how the school got its name [here](#).



It's Homecoming Season!
Palisade High School kicked off Homecoming Season last Friday with a parade and a football game. Check out the Grand Junction High School and Central High School parades in downtown Grand Junction at 6 p.m. on Sept. 26 and Oct. 16, respectively, and see when you can catch more homecoming football games [here](#).



Tour Grand Junction High Oct. 5
Grand Junction High School is hosting tours of the school to help the community gain a better understanding of conditions at the multiple-building campus. Take a tour at 11 a.m. on Oct. 5. The guided tours are free and open to the public.

D51 Finance Department kudos
For the 21st year in a row, D51 has won the Government Finance Officers Association's Excellence in Financial Reporting certificate! Learn more [here](#).



Schools commemorate 9/11
Mt. Garfield Middle School (pictured above) and Orchard Mesa Middle School paid tribute to First Responders and veterans on the 18th anniversary of Sept. 11. Thank you for your service!



Saving money and the planet
D51 has been a leader among Colorado school districts in energy efficiency and utility savings over the past decade. See how much the district has saved through a series of energy efficiency projects and better practices [here](#).



Young entrepreneur honored
Fruita 8/9 student Anatoly Chinn won the People's Choice Award for his division at a competition of 70 young entrepreneurs from across the country this summer in New York. Toly's business, [Colorado Bike Armor](#), supplies protective frame wraps for bikes.



Changes at Central High
Thanks to the 2017 bond, Central High School has new roofing, carpet, a STEM addition, an outdoor classroom, bleachers, auditorium seating, and more! Check it out in the video above.

Important Dates

Oct. 1 - School Board Work Session, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room.

Oct. 14-15 - Teacher Work Day, Teacher In-Service, No school.

Oct. 15 - School Board Business Meeting, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room.

Oct. 16 - Conferences, No middle or elementary school.

Events for high school seniors
Is your child planning on going to college? Learn about [managing college costs](#) on Oct. 9 and take advantage of [Free Application Week](#) Sept. 29-Oct. 6 and [Free Application Day](#) Oct. 15!



Eagle Scout safety project
Fruita Monument student Ryan Davis is making the experience of a lockdown a little easier for students at Fruita 8/9. As part of an Eagle Scout project, he has equipped classrooms at the 8/9 school with safety buckets filled with food, first aid, and other handy items for when kids can't leave the classroom during a lockdown.



Marching bands to compete in huge Western Slope festival
Plan to attend this year's Colorado West Marching Band Festival from 11:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, at Stocker Stadium! Each year, the festival draws thousands of students and spectators from across the Western Slope. Learn more [here](#).



Join the Watch D.O.G.S.

Are you interested in volunteering at your child's school? Want to help keep kids safe? Consider joining [Watch D.O.G.S.](#) Ask your child's school for more information to see if they have Watch D.O.G.S. or consider starting up a branch at your school.



Learn more about District 51
Attend any of the monthly [Explore D51](#) classes to learn more about D51 and the D51 Foundation! Classes are from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month during the school year. Topics include budget, food service, instruction, and more!



Curious what's happening with funding from the 2017 Bond Measure and Mill Levy Override?
Visit [bit.ly/d51bond](#) and [bit.ly/d51mill](#) to keep District 51 accountable and see how the district is delivering on promised projects. Then check out the handy lists above to see which bond and mill projects have begun in your part of the valley, and which ones are still coming.



Find out what happens during a lockdown or shelter-in-place (and find out the difference)
During a shelter-in-place, all exterior doors to a building are locked, typically due to law enforcement activity in the area or an isolated medical issue. A lockdown is more serious, and involves locking all interior doors, too, as law enforcement investigates a reported issue on campus. Though the report may turn out to be unfounded, putting student safety first is always the priority. Learn more in the video above and learn more about school safety in D51 [here](#).



District 51 Insider

School District 51 Staff Newsletter | September 2019

Communications Report

Every month, the Communications Department puts together a brief snapshot of what we've been up to. [Read the current report here.](#)

Sept 3 Board Brief

Sept 17 Board Brief



Fair Campaign Practices

On July 1, the Board of Education voted to pursue a bond measure in the November 2019 election. Both Board members and individual District employees must comply fully with the Fair Campaign Practices Act with the upcoming campaign.

[Click here to learn more](#) about what employees can and cannot do.



2017 Bond and Mill Levy Override Updates

Learn more about the progress being made on 2017 Bond and Mill Levy Override projects at bit.ly/d51bond and bit.ly/d51mill.



21 Years of Excellence in Financial Reporting

Congratulations to the D51 Finance Department for their 21st consecutive Government Finance Officers Association's Excellence in Financial Reporting certificate! [Learn more about the award here.](#)

Help Us Out

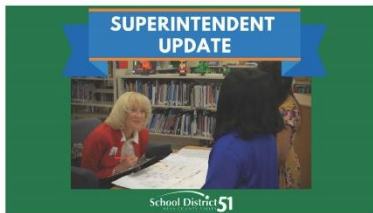
Do you know of any D51 employees? (gym memberships, technology, subscriptions, retail discounts, etc.) Please send us an email so we can make information available to staff!

[Click here to see what discount info we have so far!](#)

Overwhelmed by all the Acronyms and Jargon? (What's an IEP? Or PBL?) Check out this list, and let us know if we're missing any!

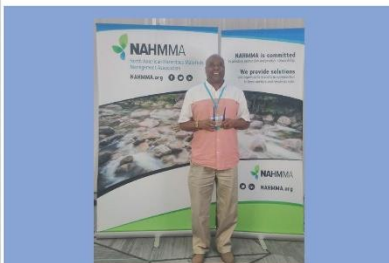
Stay Connected

D51 News - Primary source for things happening in



Superintendent Update

Watch the video above for an update from Superintendent Diana Sirko



Staff Spotlight - Petie Pope

Congratulations to Petie Pope, D51's Environmental Safety Manager! Petie recently presented at a national conference for the North American Hazardous Materials Management Association (NAHMA). While there, he was surprised with an award! Petie was recognized as the Association's Agent of Change, which recognizes and celebrates those individuals in the industry who go "above and beyond" to make a difference. They consistently achieve outstanding results and work diligently and creatively to protect people and the environment. Congrats, Petie!



TRIAD - Employee Assistance Program

[Click here](#) for TRIAD's September Insights, focusing on National Suicide Awareness Month

TRIAD is D51's Employee Assistance Program (EAP). [Click here for more information](#) about the EAP, resources, and contact information so you can find relief.



Updates and Upgrades at Central High School

The voter-approved 2017 bond measure included some significant updates for Central High School. Check out the video above to learn more about what's been done at the school.



Employee Benefit Fair & Health Screen

Don't forget about the Employee Benefit Fair & Health Screen, taking place Sept 20-21 and Sept 28. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Staff News - Exclusive information for D51 staff.

D51 Classifieds - A forum for D51 staff to search for or post items for sale.

D51 Communications - Help us get the word out about great things happening in D51!

TRIAD - Employee Assistance Program - Get professional help with a variety of things including but not limited to financial or legal advice, mental illness support, relationship help, overcoming life challenges, etc.

Want more D51 news?

[Click here to sign up](#) for the monthly Community Newsletter to hear about MORE great things happening in District 51. [Check out previous editions here.](#)



Looking for a change?

Job openings are posted throughout the year as positions open up. If you are looking for a change, and have been in your current position for at least six months, be sure to check out [our employment page.](#)

Questions? Contact [Susan Guadalupe](#) at ext. 11240



D51 Staff Concern Line

D51 employees can report concerns anonymously through the new D51 Staff Concern Line. Report concerns about things like workplace conditions, inequitable treatment, board policy violation, etc.

[Click here for more information.](#)



Community effort names new elementary school in Fruita

On September 17, the Board of Education unanimously voted to name the new elementary school in Fruita "Monument Ridge Elementary School." Learn more about the [naming process here.](#)



SafeSchools

Complete your SafeSchools trainings by the end of the month, and you could win big! [Click here to learn more.](#)

[Click here to access your SafeSchools account.](#)

Consider supporting the D51 Foundation with your United Way donation

We are already six weeks into the school year! We will be awarding our 4th Round of Professional Learning Grants at the end of September. So far, we've donated over \$29,000 to 48 D51 teachers for professional learning. The next round will open up in October and close in February.

The D51 Foundation would like to sincerely thank everyone who designated the D51 Foundation in their United Way donation. The funding priorities of the D51 Foundation are technology for students and professional learning for teachers. Please consider the D51 Foundation in the upcoming United Way fund drive this fall. We truly appreciate your support!



2nd Annual Grand Valley Yoga Fest

Oct 4-6, 2019 "Connect, Recharge, Restore, and Have Fun" at the 2nd Annual Grand Valley Yoga Fest! 100% of the proceeds go towards Suicide Awareness Programs in the Grand Valley. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Partner with the U.S. Department of Energy for Nuclear Science Week!

The Grand Junction Atomic Legacy Cabin will host a Teacher Open House on Friday, October 18!

Come learn more about STEM curriculum opportunities. [Click here for more information.](#)



High School Events

GJHS Homecoming Parade : Sept 26, 6 p.m., Main Street

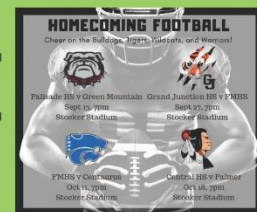
GJHS Homecoming Game : Sept 27, 7 p.m., Stocker Stadium

GJHS Open House/Tour : Oct 5, 11 a.m. - GJHS

FMHS Homecoming Game : Oct 11, 7 p.m., Stocker Stadium

CHS Homecoming Parade : Oct 18, 6 p.m., Main Street

CHS Homecoming Game : Oct 18, 7 p.m., Stocker Stadium



Did we miss something?

We want to hear from you! Staff are welcome to ask questions about the information you read or provide suggestions for future articles.

Submit your ideas/feedback/comments to [Cat Foster](#)

BOARD BRIEFS

October 1, 2019, Board Work Session

BOARD BRIEFS

September 17, 2019 Board Business Meeting

Board selects name for new elementary school in Fruita

Board members voted unanimously Tuesday to select Monument Ridge Elementary School as the name for Fruita's newest elementary school. Monument Ridge was one of 588 unique names gathered in submissions by more than 1,700 community members last month. Ten finalists were selected through an affinity process conducted by a 10-person committee comprising Fruita community members, parents, and District 51 staff. More than 2,500 community members then voted in an online survey for their favorites among the 10 finalists. Monument Ridge had the highest percentage of people picking it in their top three choices, with 48% doing so.



District 51 celebrated a groundbreaking at the site of the new school before Tuesday's meeting at 1501 K.4 Road. Monument Ridge will be a 62,000-square-foot, two-story building serving preschool through fifth-grade students. The school is scheduled to open in Fall 2020. Boundary lines for the new school have not yet been decided.

Construction of the new, \$25 million school will be funded by a combination of bond savings and premiums from the 2017 bond measure. Board members decided to use bond money to build a Fruita elementary school in addition to all of the projects promised in the 2017 ballot measure because of current and projected growth in Fruita. While there are needs at the middle and high school levels as well, such projects would cost more than the remaining bond dollars available.

**Board Recognitions**

The School Board recognized the following people for their recent accomplishments:

* District 51 Finance Employees
Vi Crawford,
Melanie Heath,
Samuel Pugh, and **Ashley Zhang**

, recipients of the district's 21st consecutive Government Finance Officers' Association Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

* Fruita Monument High School student **Ryan Davis**, who made safety buckets for Fruita 8/9 classrooms to use during lockdowns. Ryan made the buckets as part of an Eagle Scout project.

* Fruita 8/9 student **Anatoly Chinn**, creator of Colorado Bike Armor, who competed with more than 70 student businesses from across the country at a national competition in New York. At the competition, Toly won the People's Choice Award for his division.

School-Based Health Center Update

By Oct. 15, the district should receive a formal letter announcing whether D51 has been approved for a grant that would allocate \$200,000 for capital expenses and \$100,000 for equipment for a proposed health center on the Central High School campus. The board heard a presentation about the health center earlier in the year. The center would provide physical and emotional health resources for students.

**Get Out the Vote Presentation**

Students from West Slope Youth Vote spoke about their efforts to register young people to vote and inform young people about voting and important issues. The group has registered more than 300 students from six high schools to vote, attended a lobby trip to the state capitol, hosted a summer kickoff to train interns, and made a video.

This year, the group will focus on youth voter activation and educate students about topics that are important to young Coloradans. The group will lead classroom sessions (mainly in social studies classes) to inform students about the importance of voting and ask classes what issues are important to them. The group will also discuss the Western Youth Issues Report, which highlights bills that passed in the state legislature this year and how our state legislators voted.

Future Meetings

Oct. 1 : Board Work Session, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room

Oct. 3 : CASB Fall Regional Conference, 11 a.m., CMU University Center

Oct. 15 : Board Business Meeting, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room

**Bond Premium Discussion**

Ahead of the 2019 Bond Measure vote, the board invited Dan O'Connell from RBC Capital Markets to explain how bond premiums work. As with the 2017 Bond Measure, the board plans to discuss any bond premium for the 2019 Bond Measure publicly.

When a school district passes a bond measure, it authorizes the district to sell bonds to investors in order to finance the capital construction projects described in the ballot question. A premium bond is when a buyer pays more money up front in exchange for a higher, fixed interest rate over time. Bond buyers prefer a premium because it gives them some protection against interest rate increases, which are expected because rates have been at historic lows for nearly a decade. Looking back five years, O'Connell was unable to find a Colorado school district that did not use bond premiums after a bond measure. The benefit for the seller (in this case, the district), is that they get more money to use for other capital projects (or to cover unexpected costs if the price of construction goes up), and the bonds are more likely to be refinanced early and refunded at a lower interest rate, which reduces the repayment amount for the bonds.

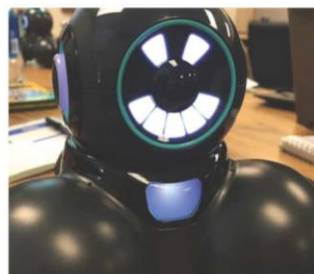
When asked by the board what could happen if the district does not utilize a bond premium if the 2019 Bond Measure passes, O'Connell responded that it would be difficult if not impossible to sell the bonds and that if they did sell, the district would pay significantly more in interest costs.

The 2019 Bond Measure, 4A, allows the district to collect enough from property taxes to pay off the bonds over time, with or without a premium. The estimated cost to taxpayers of \$6.67 per month for the owner of a \$300,000 home is based on the estimated cost of using a bond premium structure.

Board members said they will discuss whether to use a bond premium structure and what premium interest rate to use in early January, as any changes in interest rates between now and then could change their decision. The average premium rate on the 42 bond measures passed in Colorado school districts since 2016 is 17%, ranging from 8% for a 2018 Boulder Valley School District bond measure to 24% for a 2017 Denver Public Schools bond measure.

**Robotics in Elementary Schools Update**

District 51 elementary schools have a new, robotics-embedded computer science curriculum this year. D51 Innovative Programs Coordinator Maria Deuel, Sondra Hemard from Grand Valley Robotics, Lincoln Orchard Mesa computer science teacher Mande Gabelson, Computer Science Paraprofessional DeAnna Harris, and four D51 students came to Tuesday's board meeting to show off some of the robots used in classes and share how important it is to teach robotics early in a child's education.



Robotics and computer science lessons help children learn about algorithms and develop logic, communication, and problem-solving skills. D51 elementary schools use Dash and Sphero Bolt robots for computer science learning in class, and there are also after-school robotics teams (FIRST Lego League and FIRST Lego League Jr.) at eight elementary schools: Appleton, Chatfield, Dual Immersion Academy, New Emerson, Orchard Ave., Pear Park, Thunder Mt., and Taylor. The FIRST Lego League Qualifier will take place Nov. 9 at Central High School, and the FIRST Lego League Jr. Expo will be Jan. 11 and April 4 at New Emerson.

The next steps for elementary robotics and computer science education include having older robotics teams mentor younger robotics teams, collaborating with Grand Valley Robotics on fundraising, working with Human Resources on teacher stipends for robotics, and developing a plan to transition from paraprofessionals to certified computer science teachers. The district also will apply for a Colorado Department of Education computer science grant next week to fund more professional learning. Over the last two years, the district spent \$72,900 on computer science; most of that funding came from grants and the majority was spent on professional development.

City of Grand Junction Ballot Issue

Grand Junction Mayor Rick Taggart presented information to the board regarding the city's upcoming ballot measure, 2A. If approved by voters this November, Measure 2A would provide funding for road network capacity projects in the city. Instead of creating a new tax, the measure would authorize the city to take on \$70 million of debt and use TABOR excess and funds currently allocated to service the Riverside Parkway debt to pay off the debt. Improvements would be made to 1.25 miles of 24 Road, 1.4 miles on the west end of F 1/2 Road, 0.85 mile on the east end of F 1/2 Road, 1.25 miles of 24 1/2 Road, a mile of G Road, 2.18 miles of 26 1/2 Road, 0.85 mile of D 1/2 Road, and 0.75 mile of B 1/2 Road. Work would also be performed to improve capacity on Horizon Drive at G and 27 1/2 roads, improve Patterson Road capacity, and work on Riverside and Redlands Parkway ramps and the intersection of the two parkways. Construction projects may start in late 2020.



Social Media

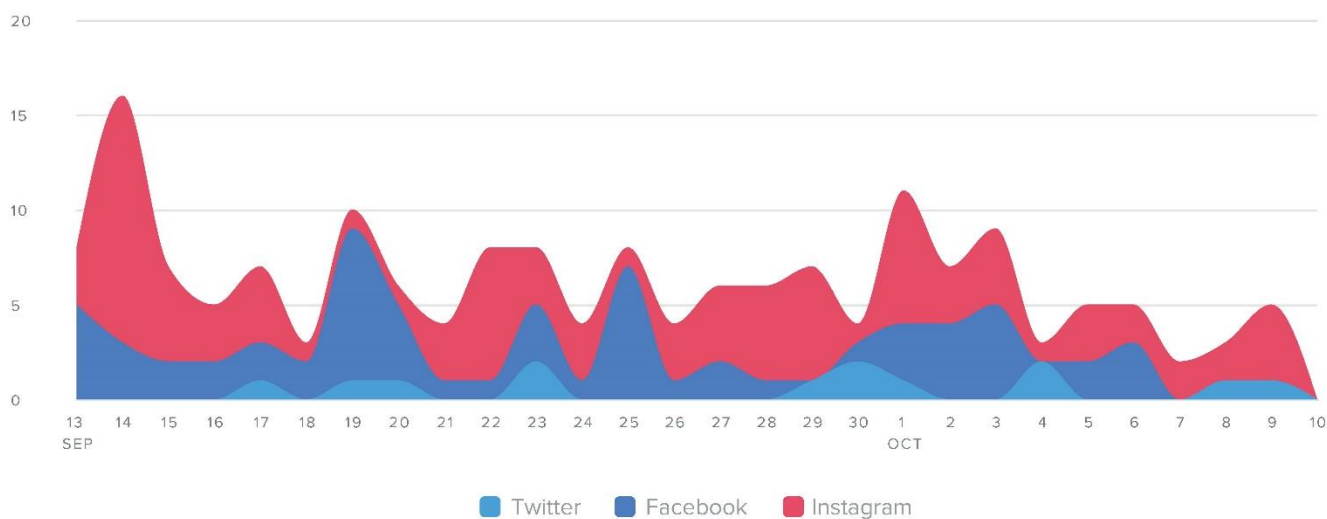
A full social media report is available upon request.

Group Stats by Profile/Page

Profile/Page	Total Fans / Followers	Fan / Follower Increase	Messages Sent	Impressions	Impressions per Message Sent	Engagements	Engagements per Message Sent	Link Clicks
 School District 51 @district51	3,139	0.03%	59	29.7k	502.95	681	11.54	162
 Mesa Co... l District 51 Business Page	12.1k	0.31%	107	429.2k	4,011.19	27.3k	254.81	2,994
 School District 51 (Business) d51schools	1,842	4.36%	30	28.9k	963.57	775	25.83	-

Group Audience Growth

Followers Gained, By Day



Audience Growth Metrics	Totals	Total Followers % Change
Total Followers	17,042	↗ 0.68%
Total Net Follower Growth	117	
Twitter Net Follower Growth	1	↗ 0.03%
Facebook Net Fan Growth	39	↗ 0.31%
Instagram Net Follower Growth	77	↗ 4.36%

Total followers increased by
↗ 0.7%
 since previous date range



Mesa County Valley School District 51
Licensed and Administrative Personnel Action

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 21

Adopted: October 15, 2019

Name	Location	Assignment	Effective Date
Retirements			
HUFF, ROSEMARY	MESA VIEW	GRADE 1	5/25/2018
Resignations/Termination			
PARKER, ROBIN E	BTK	SPEECH/LANGUAGE SPECIALIST	10/22/2019
Leave of Absence			
DWORKIN, KARI L	BROADWAY	GRADE 1	10/7/2019
MAGILL, MORGAN M	PEAR PARK	GRADE 3	10/1/2019
PITTON, SHANNON MARY	NEW EMERSON	SPED - MODERATE NEEDS	9/11/2019
WOOD, AMY C	FRUITA MS	SOCIAL STUDIES	9/11/2019
New Assignments (Transfer/New Hires)			
GABRIEL, PATRICK J	EAST	MATH /INTERVENTIONIST	10/1/2019
JOHNSON, CANDACE J	ROCKY MTN	INTERVENTIONIST	10/10/2019
KELLY, WENDY C M	THUNDER MTN	ESL	9/18/2019
KRILL, JENNY R	POMONA/SCENIC	ESL	9/18/2019
NOLL, TARYN A	EAST	ESL	9/18/2019
SCHUMANN, JENNIFER L	ORCHARD MESA	SOCIAL STUDIES	9/16/2019
VOTRUBA, KARA E	THUNDER MTN	MTSS COACH	9/26/2019
Return from Leave			
NEES, TANYA L	NISLEY	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	9/3/2019

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on October 15, 2019.

 Bridget Story
 Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

**Mesa County Valley School District 51
GIFTS**

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 22

Adopted: October 15, 2019

Donor	Western Slope Iron
Gift	Sign posts and base plates
Value	\$636.27
School/Department	Pear Park Elementary School / School signage

Donor	Out West Books
Gift	Books
Value	\$100.00
School/Department	Pomona Elementary / Susan Rankin's 5 th grade class

Donor	Dewey Bridge
Gift	Cash
Value	\$100.00
School/Department	Pomona Elementary / Stacy Trujillo's 4 th grade class supplies

Donor	Grand Junction Therapies
Gift	Cash
Value	\$100.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Mountain Bike Club

Donor	Eric Talley
Gift	Cash
Value	\$200.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Culinary Club

Donor	SCL Health - St. Mary's Medical Center
Gift	Cash
Value	\$5,000.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / New marque

Donor	Vineland Enterprises
Gift	Peaches
Value	\$600.00
School/Department	Career Center / Culinary Arts Program



**Mesa County Valley School District 51
GIFTS**

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 22

Adopted: October 15, 2019

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education, in accepting the donations listed above, extends their appreciation and acknowledges these important partnerships within the community which support learning for all students.

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on October 15, 2019.

*Bridget Story
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education*

Board of Education Resolution 19/20: 25

Adopted: October 15, 2019

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Junction's mayor, Rick Taggart, presented information regarding the City of Grand Junction's Referred Measure 2A at the October 1 Board Work Session; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the funds are to be used to create safe routes to schools for students in the Lincoln Orchard Mesa Elementary School, Pear Park Elementary School and Thunder Mt. Elementary School areas; and

WHEREAS, the Referred Measure will not be a tax increase;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education hereby declares support for the City of Grand Junction's Referred Measure 2A.

I certify that the information contained herein is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on October 15, 2019.

*Bridget Story
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education*