Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Business Meeting Minutes ***December 10, 2019***

Board Business Meeting Minutes

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Every student, every day, learning for life!

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: December 10, 2019
Adopted: January 21, 2020

	A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
						BUSINESS MEETING	6:01 p.m.
Present	x	x	x	x	x	A. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE ➢ Mr. Parrish welcomed attendees to the November Business Meeting and gave instructions for meeting participants to address the Board, *under Item G, Audience Comments.*	
Absent							
Motion		x				B. AGENDA APPROVAL	Adopted
Second				x			
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion		x				C. MEETING MINUTES AND SUMMARY APPROVAL	Adopted
Second			x			C-1. November 12, 2019 Board Work Session	
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
						D. RECOGNITIONS D-1. Recognition for Mr. Paul Cain, Athletic Director [Resolution 19/20: 39] ➢ Mr. Williams invited Mr. Cain to the front of the room. Mr. Cain was recognized for the incredible amount of dedication and passion he displays in his role as Director of Athletics and Activities. Mr. Cain works countless hours to organize, coordinate, facilitate, plan and oversee hundreds of athletic and activity events throughout the year. Mr. Cain also tries to attend the majority of football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, volleyball, golf, soccer and other sporting events. The Board and Superintendent Sirko thanked Mr. Cain for his hard work and dedication. D-2. Recognition for Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award, Scenic Elementary School [Resolution 19/20: 40] ➢ Mr. Parrish asked the representatives from Scenic Elementary School to step to the front of the room. Scenic Elementary School recently received the Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award from the Colorado Department of Education. Scenic was one of ninety-nine schools state-wide to receive this award for demonstrating the highest rates of student longitudinal growth as measured by the Colorado Growth Model. Scenic Elementary earned this award four times previously in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. The Board and Superintendent Sirko congratulated staff members and thanked them for helping students grow in their learning. D-3. Recognition for John Irwin Schools of Excellence Award, New Emerson School [Resolution 19/20: 41] ➢ Mr. Parrish invited staff and students from New Emerson School to come to the front of the room. Last month the Colorado Department of Education awarded New Emerson School the John Irwin School of Excellence Award. This award is based on the state's school performance frameworks and awarded to schools that exceed expectations for the academic achievement indicator by earning some of the highest scores in the state on the	

A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION

Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science (CMAS) tests. This is the eighth time New Emerson School has received the award. The Board and Superintendent Sirko congratulated the staff and students on their hard work and excellent academic achievement.

D-4. Recognition for Central High School's Food Give Away [Resolution 19/20:42]

- Mr. Levinson requested Ms. Kimberley Flynn come to the front of the room. Ms. Flynn, a teacher at Central High School, has been the driving force in implementing a food giveaway program at Central High School. Ms. Flynn, in cooperation with Food Bank of the Rockies, has implemented two monthly food giveaways, one for students and one for community members who meet government program guidelines. Neither program requires any funding from District 51. Ms. Flynn not only assists in unloading boxes of food from semi-trucks, but also assists in sorting the food and, if needed, makes arrangements for the food to be delivered for those families who are unable to pick it up at the school. Both the student and community giveaways each help over 1000 people. The Board and Superintendent Sirko thanked Ms. Flynn for her time and dedication in helping others.

D-5. Recognition for District 51 Custodial Staff [Resolution 19/20: 43]

- Mr. Pitton invited Mr. Pete Apodaca, Custodial Coordinator, and Custodial Working Foremen, Mr. Mark Greenlee and Ms. Deb Wells-Patton, to come forward. He also asked any additional custodial staff present to step forward. The custodial staff were recognized for their commitment, hard work dedication and the extra steps they provided in cleaning buildings when a highly contagious illness swept through District 51 schools. Custodial crews worked night and day to clean and disinfect every classroom, office, gym, restroom and common area to protect students and staff from further illness. The Board and Superintendent Sirko thanked the custodial staff for going above and beyond for our staff, students and community members.

E. BOARD REPORTS/COMMUNICATIONS/REQUESTS

- None at this time

F. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

- Mr. Pitton recently attended the Colorado Association of School Board's (CASB) Conference. While at the conference he attended the Federal Relations Network Session and participated in a video call with Congressman Scott Tipton regarding the Windfall Bill. Mr. Pitton visited with financial analyst of the Joint Budget Committee regarding a mill levy equalization plan and the need to find sustainable funding.

G. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

- Ms. Patricia Johns, 2217 Mescalero Ave. Grand Junction, CO 81507
  Ms. Johns expressed the need for the District to educate the public when

A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION

seeking a bond or mill increase. She understands there are fair campaign laws, which places restrictions on the District. Mrs. Johns would like the District to hold meetings explaining the costs and benefits for the improvements. Please give the public a forum to ask questions.

- Ms. Dianna Vera, 534 Teco St., Grand Junction, CO 81504
  Ms. Vera, a retired teacher from Palisade High School, was present to bring awareness on the need for equality for transgender students. Ms. Vera, currently volunteers as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Mesa County and has worked with some transgender students who have been mentally and physically abused by other students. She shared, the students have reported the incidents to school administrators, but the attacks occurred in the restroom where there are no cameras or witnesses, so administration has been hesitant to act. She would like the District to work to make sure all students, regardless of sexual identification, have a safe learning environment.
- Mr. Bruce Lohmiller, 3032 W. 15 Street #1204, Grand Junction, CO
  Mr. Lohmiller reminded everyone of the emergency number to call, 214-STOP, to report a crime. He shared information on the Our Whole Lives (OWL), comprehensive sex education classes through the Unitarian Universalist Association. They have classes for students at different grade levels with the first level being for students in kindergarten through first grade.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

H-1. Angel Fund Account, Mrs. Angela Christensen

- Mrs. Angela Christensen, D51 Foundation Executive Director was unable to be present. Mr. Phil Onofrio, Chief Operations Officer briefed the Board on the Angel Fund. The proposed fund would offer parents a chance to donate any funds remaining in their student's lunch accounts, at the end of the school year, to District 51. These funds would go to cover unpaid lunch fees for students unable to pay.

H-2. Weighted Grades Policy Discussion

- Ms. Cheryl Taylor, Director of College/Career Readiness, Ms. Andrea Bolton, Assistant Director of College/Career Readiness, and Ms. Shauna Hobbs, School Counselor Coordinator, expressed the desire to see concurrent enrollment classes receive weighted grades. District 51 is one of the few Districts in the state which does not offer weighted grades for concurrent enrollment classes. This may put students at a disadvantage when applying for scholarships or enrolling at a college or university. Policy IKC, Weighted Grades, up for adoption at this meeting, would clarify which classes would receive weighted grades and would create consistency across District 51.

H-3. Audit Presentation, Mr. Edward Freeman, Chadwick Steinkirchner Davis & Co.

- Mr. Edward Freeman, Chadwick Steinkirchner Davis & Co., Mrs. Vi Crawford, Financial Services Director, Mrs. Melanie Trujillo, Financial Services Assistant Director, and Samuel Pugh, Finance Accountant, were present to

A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
					answer questions regarding the 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Audit Report. Mr. Edwards congratulated the Finance Department for receiving recognition from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the past year's financial reporting. He reported this audit noted a clean opinion, meaning the financials are good. Mr. Edwards reviewed some of the highlights of the audit and pointed out the largest change was with the Public Employee Retirement Association (PERA). H-4. School Improvement Plan Presentation: Bookcliff Middle School, West Middle School and Central High School. ➢ Mr. Dan Bunnell, Site Leadership Director, Mr. Jim Butterfield, Bookcliff Middle School Principal, Mr. Brian Dickes, Bookcliff Middle School Assistant Principal, and Ms. Christina Broom, a parent, were present to report on the Unified Improvement Plan for Bookcliff Middle School. Mr. Butterfield reviewed the data trends and root causes for the trends. The school hosted a parent information evening to explain the data and to develop a plan to move forward. Improvement strategies developed were reviewed which included increasing the number of computers at the school and lessening the number of tests taken; expanding the District 51 Learning Model and working with the Mutli-Tiered Support System (MTSS) to help studenta who have a history of traumatic experiences. The school will be reviewing data quarterly. Ms. Broom expressed a need to keep parents and families involved. ➢ Mr. Ari Goldberg, Site Leadership Director, Mr. Vernon Walker, West Middle School Principal and Ms. Jessica Newman, West Middle School Assistant Principal, shared the Unified Improvement Plan for West Middle School. Mr. Walker noted the trend data mirrored the growth data, which shows things are stable but low. He reviewed three major improvement strategies to strengthen school climate and culture, increase achievement and growth for students with disabilities, and implement and strengthen instructional practices in reading and writing. MTSS will be solidified to help with the increase in discipline problems they have seen over the past two years. The administration has been reviewing Best Practices used at other middle schools and will be incorporating those practices at West Middle School. Data collection is being improved and data will be reviewed quarterly. ➢ Mrs. Terrie ReQua, Site Leadership Director, Mr. Lanc Sellden, Central High School Principal and Mrs. Tracy Arledge, Central High School Assistant Principal presented on Central High School's Unified Improvement Plan. The trends reviewed showed five years of decline until last year, which showed a dramatic rise in failing grades. Some improvement strategies will be to insure those Central High School students who attend classes off campus receive testing, focusing on student attendance with teachers, making calls to parents rather than parents receiving just a robo-call, and increasing communication between general teachers, special education teachers and English Language Students. Additional steps will be to grow the Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) Program to more classes, increase reading lab classes and progress monitoring for students on a READ Plan.	

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						➢ Mrs. Patti Virden, Executive Director of Student Services reported on a grant the District is pursuing. The grant would provide for a research organization to review the current system process for working with students on an Individual Education Plan (IEP). With the help from data coaches, new implementation plans could be developed prioritized. [Recess 8:10 p.m. Resume Meeting 8:20 p.m.] H-5. Perception Data Comparison, Ms. Heather O'Brien ➢ Ms. Heather O'Brien, Social Emotional Learning and Behavior Support Specialist, presented comparison information on three different types of staff perception surveys. She highlighted some of the pros and cons of each survey and gave an overview of the categories relating to the survey questions. The surveys compared were: the Organizational Health Inventory (OHI) which looks at the whole organization and is administered to all staff; the Teaching and Learning Conditions Colorado (TLCC) which looks at individual buildings and is only administered to licensed staff; and Panorama which can look at both individual building and/or the organization and can be administered to all staff. Both the OHI and Panorama are administered by private companies and the TLCC is administered by the Colorado Department of Education. ➢ The Board and Dr. Sirko thanked Ms. O'Brien for her hard work. In considering future staff perception data. Tthe District will need to decide on the purpose and intent of the survey, the data needing to be gathered and how best to use the data to reach the goal. H-6. Expulsion Report ➢ Reviewed H-7. Communication/District Initiatives ➢ Reviewed H-8. Orchard Mesa Middle School Update ➢ Mr. Phil Onofrio, Chief Operations Officer, reported the OMMS project is on schedule and on budget. Orchard Mesa Middle School students will be taking tours of their new building this week.	
Motion Second Aye No	 x	x x	 x	 x	x x	I. CONSENT AGENDA I-1. Personnel Actions [Resolution: 19/20: 38] I-2. Gifts [Resolution: 19/20: 36] I-3. Curriculum Adoption [Resolution: 19/20 37] ➢ Mrs. Melissa Turner, Director of Curriculum, shared this adoption represents fifteen months of work by dedicated staff. She recognized Curriculum/-Learning Specialists, Ms. Kim Smith, and Ms. Felicia Casto, and teachers Ms. Liz Mohler and Ms. Tracy Seremak for their hard work and dedication in researching, selecting, designing learning plans and finalizing	Adopted Consent I-1 through I-3

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						the purchasing with vendors. Ms. Mohler and Ms. Seremak worked with the curriculum department last year but are now back in the classroom.	
Motion		x				J. BUSINESS ITEMS	Adopted
Second	x					J-1. Mill Levy Certification Resolution [Resolution 19/20: 34]	Business Items
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		J-1 through J-3
No							
						J-2. Resolution to Approve Leasing Agreement for Activity Vehicles [Resolution 19/20: 35]	
						J-3. Policy Second Reading/Adoption: IKC Weighted Grades	
						K. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION ➢ Mr. Parrish reported Mr. Shannon Bingham, Demographer for the District, would not be available to present at the January 7, 2020, Board Work Session, so an alternative date will need to be scheduled. ➢ Mr. Williams reported the 2019 Campaign Committee is reviewing the demographics of the 2019 election, drafting a conclusion page and will be sharing the information with Board members.	
						L. FUTURE MEETINGS ➢ Reviewed	
						M. EXECUTIVE SESSION ➢ Personnel: For discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4) (f) personnel matters except if the employee who is the subject of the session has requested an open meeting, or if the personnel matter involves more than one employee, all of the employees have requested an open meeting. Discussion will be regarding the Superintendent's employment evaluation.	
Motion		x				➢ Motion to move to Executive Session	8:47 p.m.
Second					x	➢ Present at Executive Session: Dr. Davis, Mr. Levinson, Mr. Parrish, Mr. Pitton, Mr. Williams and Superintendent Sirko. Time spent discussing Superintendent Sirko's evaluation: 25 minutes	
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion					x	➢ Motion to adjourn Executive Session	9:12 p.m.
Second	x						
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion	x					N. ADJOURNMENT	9:12 p.m.
Second		x					
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							

_____
Bridget Story, Secretary
Board of Education

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

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition: *Paul Cain*

Board of Education Resolution: #19/20: 39 Presented: December 10, 2019

The Board would like to invite Mr. Paul Cain to the front.

District 51's athletic program is one of the highlights of student life in District 51. With the many sports that occur throughout the year, Mr. Paul Cain has demonstrated an incredible amount of dedication and passion for his role of Director of Athletics and Activities.

Most notably, Mr. Cain has committed himself to being at every game, meet, and tournament when possible, whether it's football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, volleyball, golf, soccer, or any of District 51's other sports. He puts in countless hours to organize, coordinate, facilitate, plan, and oversee the hundreds of athletic events that take place each school year. On top of that, he is thoroughly involved in the Colorado High School Activities Association as President of the Southwestern League as well as serving on the Technology Board, Handbook Committee, and Legislative Council.

Mr. Cain, a Mesa State College graduate, has always been involved in athletics in some ways – from his career in professional basketball overseas, to coaching and supporting students here in the U.S. We are grateful for the last 18 years that Mr. Cain has been working with District 51 schools. It's exciting to see someone who has true passion for his work, and who works so hard to ensure all athletes and coaches continue to thrive.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko are proud to recognize Mr. Cain for his incredible work with D51 Athletics. It's an honor and a pleasure to work with you. Thank you for all you do.

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition: *Scenic Elementary School*
2019 Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 40 Presented: December 10, 2019

The Board would like to invite representatives from Scenic Elementary to the front.

Last month, the Colorado Department of Education announced that Scenic Elementary was one of 99 schools in the state of Colorado recognized with the "Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award."

The Colorado Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award recognizes the top eight percent of Colorado public schools that demonstrate the highest rates of student longitudinal growth, as measured by the Colorado Growth Model. This program is one of five Excellence in Education honors that schools are awarded by the Colorado Department of Education.

At Scenic Elementary, teachers know all the students, which is part of what makes the school special. Scenic has won this award five times, in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and now in 2019.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko would like to thank the Scenic Elementary school staff and community for their extra effort to help students be successful and grow in their learning.

School District 51
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Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition: *New Emerson Elementary School 2019 John Irwin Schools of Excellence Award*

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 41 Presented: December 10, 2019

The Board would like to invite representatives from New Emerson Elementary to the front.

In November, the Colorado Department of Education recognized New Emerson Elementary for receiving a "John Irwin School of Excellence" award. This award is given to schools that demonstrate excellent academic achievement over time. This is the eighth time New Emerson has won this award – every year since the award was created in 2011.

The John Irwin Excellence Award is based on the state's school performance frameworks and is awarded to schools that "exceed" expectations for academic achievement indicator by earning some of the highest scores in the state for CMAS tests. This year, 184 schools across Colorado received this award.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko would like to congratulate the New Emerson School students, staff and community for their hard work and excellent academic achievement.

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
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Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition: *Central High School Student & Community Food Giveaway*

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 42 Presented: December 10, 2019

We would like to invite Ms. Kimberley Flynn and other representatives of Central High School to the front.

Last February, after hearing about a community food giveaway, Central High School teacher, Ms. Kimberley Flynn, wanted to do something similar at the high school. As a teacher, she knows that many students come to school with their best foot forward, but are often struggling with things like food insecurity behind the scenes. Central High School has a 51% Free and Reduced Lunch rate, so the need is great.

Working with the Food Bank of the Rockies, Ms. Flynn, and some student and staff volunteers started food giveaways at the school twice a month. The program quickly morphed so that one of those giveaways is for students specifically, and one is tied to a government food program which requires participants to meet the program guidelines. Neither of these food giveaways costs District 51 anything.

Each giveaway involves several tons of food, delivered to the school in a semi-truck. Student and adult volunteers have learned how to unload the semi in just over half an hour to have the food items ready for the giveaway. Both the student and community giveaway helps out up to 800 people each.

Throughout the year, Ms. Flynn has learned how to overcome obstacles like helping families who don't have a way to transport the food back home, or coordinating with individuals who speak other languages, as well as other cultural barriers that often come into play.

"I had a conversation with Dr. Sirko at the beginning of all of this, and I really appreciate her understanding that this is a huge need," said Ms. Flynn. "Dr. Sirko and Mr. Sellden really took a leap of faith in supporting me in this, and believed that it would be successful."

Ms. Flynn plans to continue the food giveaways, year round, until she retires.

The Board of Education and Superintendent are proud to recognize Ms. Flynn for her commitment to making such an undertaking happen and reach success. She demonstrates an admirable focus for helping others, and involving students in these efforts that are having a huge impact on many lives. Thank you for all you do.

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
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Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition: *D51 Custodial Department*

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 43 Presented: December 10, 2019

We would like to invite Mr. Pete Apodaca, Mr. Mark Greenlee, Ms. Deb Wells-Patton, and any other custodial representatives to the front.

Our custodians do some of the most important work in the district: making sure our schools and buildings are safe and healthy places to learn and work. When many of us are finishing up our days, custodians are just getting started.

The commitment and hard work of the D51 custodian crew came into focus right before Thanksgiving Break when a highly contagious illness swept through our schools. Mr. Apodaca, Mr. Greenlee, Ms. Wells-Patton and their crews worked tirelessly, night and day, to clean and disinfect our schools so others wouldn't get sick. They were often going into schools that many did not want to enter, and working extra hard to clean every room. They spent many hours during a holiday week to get schools ready for when our 22,000 students and almost 3,000 staff members returned.

We have always known that you are committed to keeping our schools healthy, and know that this only scratches the surface of all you do. The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko would like to thank you for always going above and beyond for our staff, students, and community. Thank you for all you do.

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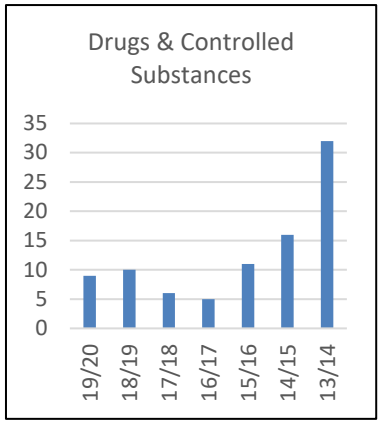
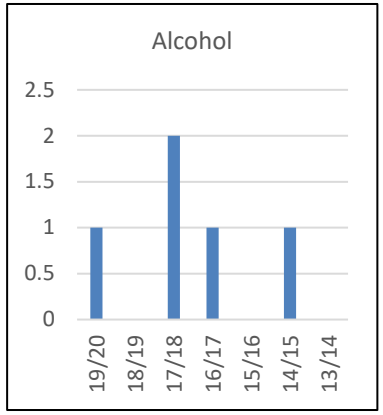
Expulsion Report
2019-2020 School Year
As of November 30, 2019
Presented: December 10, 2019

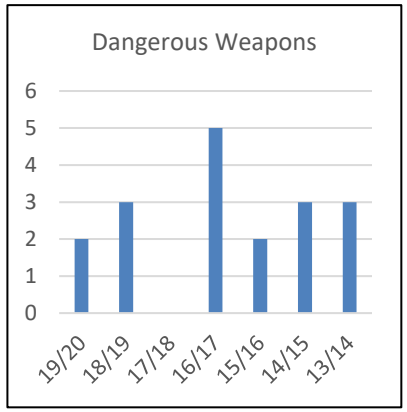
Category	High School				Middle School				Elementary School				Total		Total for previous years as of November 30 of:				
	19/20		18/19		19/20		18/19		19/20		18/19		19/20	18/19	17/18	16/17	15/16	14/15	13/14
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F							
100	6	3	9				1						9	10	6	5	11	16	32
200	1												1		2	1		1	
300																			
400	1	2	2										3	2	1		1	1	
500	1		2		1		1						2	3		5	2	3	3
600																			
700																			
DSP																			
VOO	2		2		2	1							5	2	2	4		4	5
Total	11	5	15		3	1	2						20	17	11	15	14	25	40

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
V00 - other violations







Communications Update
November 6 – December 4, 2019

Includes

Earned Media Coverage

Paid Media Coverage

Electronic Direct Communication

Social Media Reports

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
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Media Coverage

The Daily Sentinel

Nov 15, Palisade High School closed due to illness

Nov 16, Illness affects second Palisade school

Nov 17, Repairs next for Grand Junction High School

Nov 17, Build schools with pot cash, 1 in 4 readers say

Nov 17, Opinion: School bond proposal will be back

Nov 17, Opinion: We need to think small to improve our local high school experience

Nov 17, Opinion: A 'political fiction' in play with 4A

Nov 19, District 51 to have Q&A on failed ballot

Nov 19, Virus hits Mount Garfield Middle School

Nov 21, District 51 closes all schools

Nov 22, Illness is still spreading through the valley. Experts have tips to help stop it

Nov 2, High school students back to class after sickness absences

Nov 2, School board swears in incumbent board members

Dec 3, Report near Central High School involved replica firearm

KREX

Nov 8, Grand Junction High School students walk out for school safety

Nov 8, Post-secondary workforce symposium at R-5

Nov 13, School board member reflects on 4A campaign

Nov 14, Naturalization Ceremony at Grand Junction High School

Nov 19, Illness sweeps D51 schools, concerned parent speaks out

Nov 20, Grand Mesa and Mt. Garfield Middle Schools close early due to suspected norovirus

Nov 20, Rocky Mountain Elementary to close Wednesday, 3rd Mesa County School to shut down due to illness

Nov 21, D51 addresses school closures

Nov 21, Lunch Lizard to serve D51 students free lunch due to school shutdown

Nov 22, Despite school closures, Lunch Lizard makes its way to town

Nov 22, GJHS stabbing suspect appears in court

Nov 27, MCPH addresses viral illness

Nov 11, Athlete of the Week: Cam Tucker

Nov 11, Chipeta Elementary honors Veterans

Nov 13, Nearly 100 students out sick at Palisade High School

Nov 13, D51 'Teacher of the Year' nominee surprised

Nov 14, Over 300 PHS students out sick resulting in school doors closing

Nov 14, Central High School Health Clinic set to open March 2020

Nov 14, West Middle School under extra security after Safe2Tell tip

Nov 15, Music teacher and students receive special thanks from a veteran

Nov 18, District 51 question and answer session on Facebook Live

Nov 18, Mount Garfield Middle School closes because of sickness

Nov 18, Scenic Elementary receives performance award

Nov 19, GJHS Aquaponics Club hopes to raise money for greenhouse

Nov 19, Rocky Mountain Elementary School closes because of illness

Nov 19, Mesa County school buses getting sanitized due to illness

Nov 20, School District 51 decides to close all schools Thursday and Friday

Nov 20, More schools closing because of illness

Nov 20, Cleaning program helps fight off viruses and nasty stomach bugs

Nov 21, Lunch Lizard expands locations to serve students for Friday's school closures

Dec 3, Suspicious incident near Central High School

Dec 4, Illness aftermath

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.

Welcome Home Packages

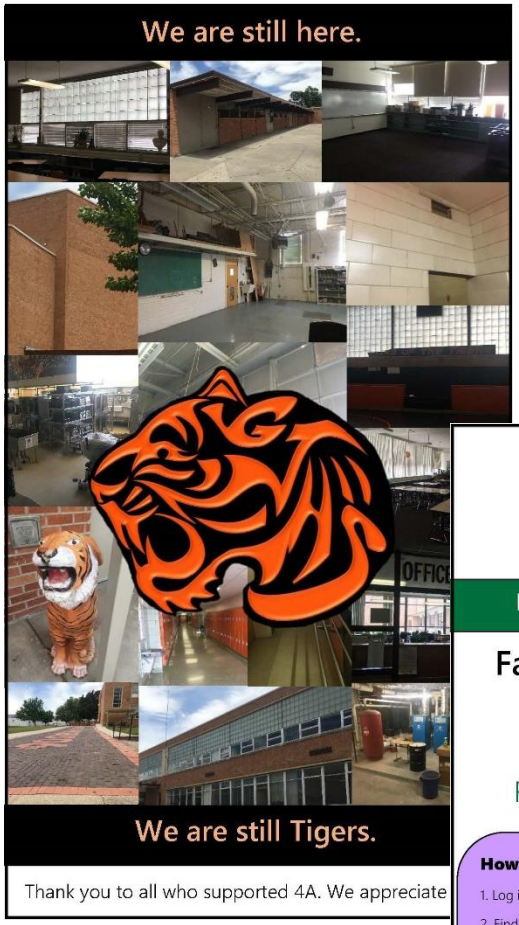
Each month, 100 Homeowners who move into a new home in the Grand Valley receive a package that includes two branded stickers and pens, a printed infographic with more information about District 51.

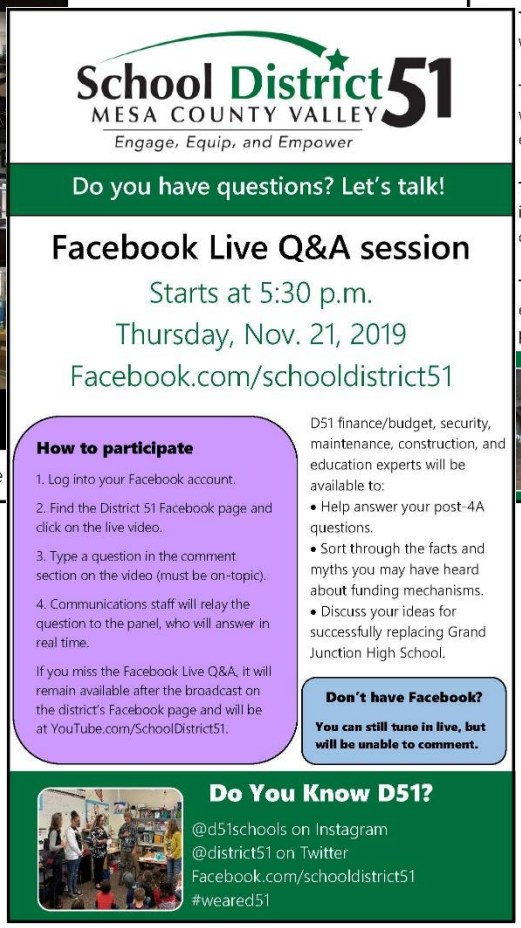
TV Ads

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.

GJ Daily Sentinel Ads

Ads with pertinent information will run in the Sunday edition of the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel. Click each image to enlarge.





Electronic Communications

Family Newsletter - Click here to view

- Sent to 18,316 active contacts including parents, media, elected officials, and community members who have signed up at www.d51schools.org.
- Includes updates about the school closures, 4A efforts, Marching Band Championship results, a video about D51 Security, Veterans Day events, sports honors, construction progress at Fruita Monument High School, Mr. Rick Green who was nominated as Colorado Teacher of the Year, KREX Golden Apple Recipients, D51 Foundation information, illness information, and details from Mesa County Public Health about the illness outbreak.

Staff Newsletter - Click here to view

- Sent to all District 51 staff
- Includes the month's Board Briefs, a video update from Superintendent Sirko, information about staff wellness opportunities, a staff spotlight on announcements from Human Resources, a staff spotlight on D51 custodians, a video highlighting the D51 Security team, updates and next steps for 4A efforts, winter weather information, a video with updates on the construction at Fruita Monument High School, TRIAD Employee Assistance information, information about Mr. Rick Green who was nominated for Colorado Teacher of the year, D51 Foundation updates, and information from Mesa County Public Health on the recent illness outbreak.

November 12 Board Briefs - Click here to view

- Sent to all District 51 staff, media, and community members who have signed up at www.d51schools.org
- Includes a summary of what was presented/discussed/adopted at the Board of Education meeting
    - Recognitions
    - School Based Health Clinic updates
    - Health Insurance updates
    - School Improvement Plan presentations
    - Business items

Social Media

A full social media report is available upon request.

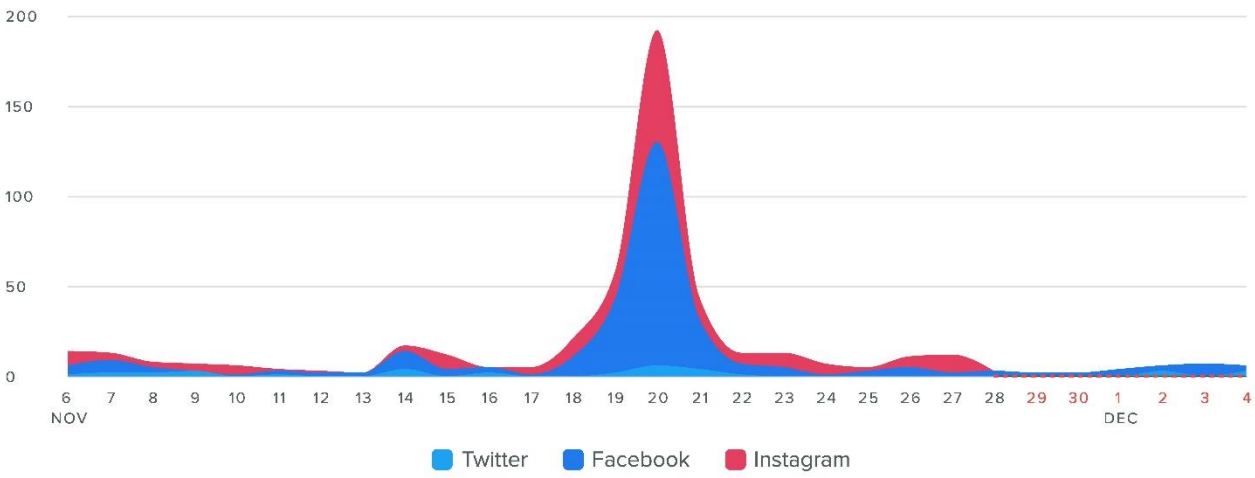
Group Stats by Profile/Page

Profile/Page	Total Fans / Followers	Fan / Follower Increase	Messages Sent	Impressions	Impressions per Message Sent	Engagements	Engagements per Message Sent	Link Click
School District... @district51	3,181	0.9%	74	44.2k	597.7	1,749	23.6	272
Mesa ... istrict 51 Business Page	12.4k	2.1%	111	631.9k	5,693.2	101.3k	912.5	5,75
School District... d51schools	2,071	8.5%	24	38.7k	1,613.0	1,788	74.5	-

Group Audience Growth

Followers Gained, By Day

We are unable to retrieve all of your data at this time.



Audience Growth Metrics	Totals	Total Followers % Change
Total Followers	**17,661**	↗ 2.6%
Total Net Follower Growth	**446**	
Twitter Net Follower Growth	29	↗ 0.9%
Facebook Net Fan Growth	255	↗ 2.1%
Instagram Net Follower Growth	162	↗ 8.5%

Total followers increased by

▲2.6%

since previous date range

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

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Certification of Mill Levy (Including Full Abatement)

Board of Education Resolution 19/20:34

Adopted: December 10, 2019

WHEREAS, Section 22-40-102(1)(b), C.R.S., requires that the Board of Education certify to the Board of County Commissioners by December 15, 2019, the amount to be raised from levies against the valuation for assessment for the General Fund, Bond Redemption Fund, Transportation Fund, and Special Building Fund.

WHEREAS, the following has been certified by the Mesa County Assessor for property within the boundaries of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51:

Assessed Valuation	$1,903,898,176
Taxes Collected on Omitted Property by August 1, 2019	$26,058.66
Tax Abatements Refunded as of August 1, 2019	$213,216.77

WHEREAS, Section 39-10-114(1) (a) (I) (B) provides:

> Any taxing entity may adjust the amount of its tax levy authorized pursuant to the provisions of section 29-1-301, C.R.S., by an additional amount which does not exceed the proportional share of the total amount of abatements and refunds made pursuant to the provisions of this section. After calculating the amount of property tax revenues necessary to satisfy the requirements of the *Public School Finance Act of 1994*, article 54 of title 22, C.R.S., any school district shall add an amount equal to the proportional share of the total amount of abatements and refunds granted pursuant to the provisions of this section prior to the setting of the mill levy for such school district.

WHEREAS, the board wishes to avail itself for the provision of Section 39-10-114(1) (a) (I) (B).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 does hereby certify to the Mesa County Commissioners the amounts of levies required against the valuation for assessment of all taxable property located within the boundaries of this school district for the General and Bond Redemption Funds for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 budget years.

	AMOUNT	MILLS
General Fund (Regular)	$46,100,990	24.214
Tax Abatement Credit	213,217	0.112
Override Election 1996	5,138,836	2.699
Override Election 2004	4,000,000	2.101
Override Election 2017	6,500,000	3.414
Total General Fund	61,953,043	32.540
Bond Redemption Fund	17,956,463	9.431
Transportation Fund	0	0
Special Building Fund	0	0
Total All Funds	$79,909,506	41.971

CERTIFICATION OF MILL LEVY

The deadline for the Board to certify the mill levy to the County Commissioners is December 15, 2019. The local mill levy is calculated by a formula which uses enrollment growth, inflation, prior year local property tax revenue and current year certification of valuation. The valuation certification from the County Assessor's Office is as of November 21, 2019. The prior year General Fund levy was 33.430 mills including abatement. The current certification is 32.540 mills including abatement, which is 0.112. The Bond Redemption levy will be 9.221.

Mill Levy Summary

General Fund
By December 10th, the District receives notification from CDE of what the mill levy will be for the District for the next tax year. In other districts, the mill levy may be more or less than this rate depending on the assessed value per student. District 51's General Fund mill levy is 24.214 mills.

Tax Credit CRS, Section 39-10-114(1) (a) (I) (B)
The above referenced statutes allow school districts to add to the mill levy required for state equalization. This additional levy will allow for the recovery of districts' anticipated revenue that was abated or refunded by the County Commissioners. The amount of $213,216.77 (0.112 mills) was reflected on the certification from the county treasurer's office, and was based on an assessed value of $1,903,898,176.

Voter-Approved Override Election
In the November 1996 election, the voters of Mesa County authorized an additional levy to support the General Fund operating costs of the district. The mill levy is 2.699. In November 2004, voters approved an additional override to support the operating costs of new schools. The mill levy is 2.101. In November 2017, voters approved an additional override to extend the school calendar, update instructional materials and educator training, support technology, and support additional building maintenance. The mill levy is 3.414.

Bond Redemption
The current mill levy of 9.431 mills will provide revenue to meet the current bond and interest obligations.

	2018-2019	2019-2020	Difference
General Fund	24.214	24.214	0.000
Tax Abatement	0.114	0.112	(0.002)
Override Election 1996	2.872	2.699	(0.173)
Override Election 2004	2.373	2.101	(0.272)
Override Election 2017	3.857	3.414	(0.443)
Total	33.430	32.540	(0.890)
Bond Redemption	10.338	9.431	(0.907)
Total Mill Levy	43.768	41.971	(1.797)

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education on December 10, 2019.

Bridget Story
Secretary, Board of Education

Resolution for Lease Agreement
For Activity Buses

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 35

Adopted: December 10, 2019

A Resolution of the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Master Lease Purchase Agreement for the acquisition of certain equipment for District purposes; Ratifying Action Previously Taken Concerning the Referenced Lease; and Providing for Other Matters Relating Thereto.

WHEREAS, the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51, Mesa County, Colorado (the "District") is a duly and regularly created, organized and existing school district, existing as such under and by virtue of the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the District (the "Board") has the power, pursuant to Section 22-32-110(1)(c), Colorado Revised Statutes, to provide furniture, equipment, library books and everything needed to carry out the education program of the District; and

WHEREAS, for the purpose of financing the costs of acquiring buses for school purposes (the "Leased Property"), the District has determined that it is in the best interest of the District and its residents and taxpayers to enter into a Master Lease Purchase Agreement, including any amendments and/or supplements thereto required for any advance or draw thereunder (collectively, the "Lease") with a lender (the "Lender") in an amount not to exceed $375,000, for the purpose of acquiring such buses in order to replace certain buses in an aging fleet (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms of such Lease, the Lender will advance funds for the Project to the District (an "Advance"), and such funds related to the Advance may be held in an escrow account pursuant to the terms of an escrow agreement, as may be amended or supplemented for each specific Advance, by and between the District, the Lender, and an escrow bank selected to provide such services (if so required, the "Escrow Agreement"), or may be otherwise made available to the District in order to implement the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Lease, and subject to the right of the District to terminate the Lease and other limitations as therein provided, the District will pay certain rental payments ("Rent") in consideration for the right of the District to use the Leased Property; and

WHEREAS, the District's obligation under the Lease to pay Rent shall be from year to year only; shall constitute currently budgeted expenditures of the District; shall not constitute a mandatory charge or requirement in any ensuing budget year; and shall not constitute a general obligation or other indebtedness or multiple fiscal year financial obligation of the District within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory limitation or requirement concerning the creation of indebtedness or multiple fiscal year financial obligation, nor a mandatory payment obligation of the District in any ensuing fiscal year beyond any fiscal year during which the Lease shall be in effect; and

WHEREAS, Section 11-57-204 of the Supplemental Public Securities Act, constituting Title 11, Article 57, Part 2, Colorado Revised Statutes (the "Supplemental Act"), provides that a public entity, including the District, may elect in an act of issuance to apply all or any of the provisions of the Supplemental Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO:

Section 1. Ratification and Approval of Prior Actions. All action heretofore taken (not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution) by the Board or the officers, agents or employees of the Board or the District relating to the Lease, the Escrow Agreement, and the implementation of the Project is hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 2. Finding of Best Interests. The Board hereby finds and determines, pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of the State of Colorado that the acquisition and implementation of the Project and financing the costs thereof pursuant to the terms set forth in the Lease are necessary, convenient, and in furtherance of the District's purposes and are in the best interests of the residents and taxpayers of the District and the Board hereby authorizes and approves the same.

Section 3. Supplemental Act; Parameters. The Board hereby elects to apply all of the provisions of the Supplemental Act to the Lease and in connection therewith delegates either the President, the Superintendent or the Chief Operations Officer of the District independent authority to make any determination delegable pursuant to Section 11-57-205(1)(a-i), Colorado Revised Statutes, in relation to the Lease, and to execute a sale certificate for any Advance or other disbursement of funds (the "Sale Certificate") setting forth such determinations, including without limitation, the term of the Lease, the Rent to be paid; and the interest rate on the rental payments under the Lease, subject to the following parameters and restrictions:

(a) the Lease Term shall not extend beyond ten years past the date of the Advance;

(b) the aggregate principal amount of the amounts available under the Lease, shall not exceed $375,000;

(c) the interest rate on any Advance under the Lease shall not exceed 5.00%;

(d) the Lease shall be subject to prepayment as described in any lease addendum or supplement.

Pursuant to Section 11-57-205 of the Supplemental Act, the Board hereby delegates to any of the President, the Superintendent or the Chief Operations Officer the independent authority to sign the Lease, including any addendums or supplements, and any term sheet or commitment as may be required by a Lender, to select the Lender and any escrow bank, and to execute any agreement or agreements in connection therewith. The Board also hereby delegates to any of the President, the Superintendent or the Chief Operations Officer to determine the amount and the timing of any Advance under the Lease subject to the parameters set forth above.

Section 4. Approval of Documents. The Lease and any Escrow Agreement, in such form as is on file with the District and as hereafter approved by the President, the Superintendent or Chief Operations Officer, are in all respects approved, authorized and confirmed, and the President, the Superintendent or the Chief Operations Officer are hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the District to execute and deliver the Lease and the Escrow Agreement, provided that any and all such documents may be completed, corrected or revised as deemed necessary by the parties thereto in order to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

Section 5. Authorization to Execute Collateral Documents. The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to attest all signatures and acts of any official of the District in connection with the matters authorized by this resolution and to place the seal of the District on any document authorized and approved by this resolution. The President, the Secretary and other appropriate officials or employees of the District are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this resolution,

including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, executing, attesting, authenticating and delivering for and on behalf of the District any and all necessary documents, instruments or certificates and performing all other acts that they deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement and carry out the transactions and other matters authorized by this resolution. The approval hereby given to the various documents referred to above includes an approval of such additional details therein as may be necessary and appropriate for their completion, deletions therefrom and additions thereto as may be approved by bond counsel prior to the execution of the documents. The execution of any document or instrument by the aforementioned officers or members of the Board shall be conclusive evidence of the approval by the District of such document or instrument in accordance with the terms hereof and thereof.

Section 6. No General Obligation Debt. No provision of this resolution or the Lease shall be construed as creating or constituting a general obligation or other indebtedness or multiple fiscal year financial obligation of the District within the meaning of any constitutional, statutory provision, nor a mandatory charge or requirement against the District in any ensuing fiscal year beyond the then current fiscal year. The District shall have no obligation to make any payment with respect to the Lease except in connection with the payment of the Rent and certain other payments under the Lease, which payments may be terminated by the District in accordance with the provisions of the Lease. The Lease does not constitute a mandatory charge or requirement of the District in any ensuing fiscal year beyond the then current fiscal year or constitute or give rise to a general obligation or other indebtedness or multiple fiscal year financial obligation of the District within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation and shall not constitute a multiple fiscal year direct or indirect debt or other financial obligation whatsoever. No provision of the Lease shall be construed or interpreted as creating an unlawful delegation of governmental powers nor as a donation by or a lending of the credit of the District within the meaning of Sections 1 or 2 of Article XI of the Colorado Constitution. The Lease shall not directly or indirectly obligate the District to make any payments beyond those budgeted and appropriated for the District's then current fiscal year.

Section 7. Reasonableness of Rentals. The Board hereby determines and declares that the Rent due under the Lease, in the maximum amount authorized pursuant to Section 3 hereof, constitutes the fair rental value of the Leased Property and does not exceed a reasonable amount so as to place the District under an economic compulsion to renew the Lease or to exercise its option to purchase the Leased Property pursuant to the Lease. The Board hereby determines and declares that the period during which the District has an option to purchase the Leased Property (i.e., the entire maximum term of the Lease) does not exceed the useful life of the Leased Property.

Section 8. No Recourse against Officers and Agents. Pursuant to Section 11-57-209 of the Supplemental Act, if a member of the Board, or any officer or agent of the District acts in good faith, no civil recourse shall be available against such member, officer, or agent for payment of the Rent. Such recourse shall not be available either directly or indirectly through the Board or the District, or otherwise, whether by virtue of any constitution, statute, rule of law, enforcement of penalty, or otherwise. By the acceptance of the Lease and as a part of the consideration of their sale or purchase, the Lender specifically waives any such recourse.

Section 9. Severability. If any one or more sections, sentences, clauses or parts of this resolution shall for any reason be held invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remaining provisions of this resolution, but shall be confined in its operation to the specific sections, sentences, clauses or parts of this resolution so held unconstitutional or invalid, and the inapplicability and invalidity of any section, sentence, clause or part of this resolution in any one or more instances shall not affect or prejudice in any way the applicability and validity of this resolution in any other instances.

Section 10. Repealer. All bylaws, orders, and resolutions, or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent only of such inconsistency. This repealer shall not be construed to revise any bylaw, order, or resolution, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.

Section 11. Interpretation. This resolution shall be so interpreted and construed as to effectuate its general purpose.

Section 12. Effective Date. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this December 10, 2019.

MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51, MESA COUNTY, COLORADO

_____
President

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

_____
Secretary

IKC
Weighted Grades

Adopted: December 10, 2019

The purpose of this policy is to identify which classes receive a weighted grade and encourage every student to challenge him/herself to pursue the most rigorous and challenging courses that best promote their academic achievements and career pathways. It is the intention of the Board to recognize and encourage additional effort and learning required in classes beyond the grade level of difficulty. To accomplish this, a weighted grade scale will be implemented and used internally for determining high school grade point average.

The following classes will be weighted:

1. All Concurrent Enrollment Guarantee Transfer classes*
2. All Concurrent Enrollment Technical Scholars classes*
3. All Advanced Placement classes
4. All International Baccalaureate classes
5. All National High School of Business Classes

* Excludes Math 107, Kine 100

A student is not required, but is highly encouraged to take the exam at the completion of either an AP or IB class. If they do not take the exam, the grade is still weighted and listed as AP or IB on the transcript.
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Weighted classes will include material of greater depth and breadth, be more rigorous, and be more challenging than other college preparatory classes. Grade point average and class rank will be determined using weighted grades.

All Weighted Grade classes will receive the following values:

A= 5.0
B= 4.0
C= 3.0
D= 1.0
F= 0.0

If a student drops a weighted grade class at semester, the student will still receive the weighted grade for the first semester.

Classes that do not fall into one of the four categories above, but include material of greater depth and breadth, and are more rigorous and are more challenging than other college preparatory classes, may be considered for a weighted grade. For classes to be considered for a weighted grade, an application must be submitted to the Executive Director of Curriculum 45 school days prior to the start of the semester that the weighted grade would be implemented.