



Great Falls Public Schools
Ten “MOORE” things you need to know
November 16, 2023

Dear Community Members:

We are thankful for our students, families, staff, and community partners who make our schools Great!

We hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving Holiday... here are a few highlights this month from Great Falls Public Schools.

1. **Music and Arts** – Holiday Concert season is on the horizon. For a listing of all of the Holiday Concerts scheduled in our schools, please check the Music Department web page: [Fine Arts / Music \(gfps.k12.mt.us\)](https://gfps.k12.mt.us) **The Charles M. Russell (CMR) Drama production *The Little Shop of Horrors*** starts November 30 and runs through December 9, 2023. The Great Falls Public Schools (GFPS) Ergon Art show is on display at Great Fall College- MSU through the 29th of November. For more information on Fine Arts: [Fine Arts / Overview \(gfps.k12.mt.us\)](https://gfps.k12.mt.us)
2. **GFPS Winter Sports 2023/2024** – Basketball, Swimming and Wrestling athletes are all gearing up for the beginning of their seasons. Practices begin November 20th with competitions commencing the first week of December. For more information on Athletic Events: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Page/345>
3. **The 2023 *Business Goes to School* Event** – on November 14 was a great success! The fourth annual *Business Goes to School* event was sponsored by Great Falls Public Schools, the Great Falls Public Schools Foundation, and the Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. Twenty-two community businesses and organizations sent representatives to the event, which allowed for the guests to “walk in the shoes of a principal” for a half day to see what it is like to ‘manage/lead’ a school in Great Falls. During a working lunch hour, the participants reported back to the sponsors on their experiences and observations. If you would like more information on how you can participate in the future, please contact Shane Etzwiler at the Great Falls Chamber of Commerce- (406-761-4434) ['Business Goes To School' hosted in Great Falls \(krtv.com\)](https://www.krtv.com)
4. **GFPS Foundation Truck Raffle** – Thank you to City Motor Company, Scheels, and all the student groups, PTA groups, and outlets who sold tickets and made this year the second highest sales year in the history of the raffle. Over \$153,000 was raised! All the proceeds will be going back into our schools as 60% will go to the groups who sold tickets and the remaining 40% will go to teacher grants. Thank you also to everyone who bought a ticket. You are helping enhance education in our community! Contact 406-268-7401 with any questions you might have about the GFPS Foundation ([6\) Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/gfpsfoundation)
5. **Tax Credit Opportunity through GFPS** – Did you know you can direct your Montana State taxes directly to Great Falls Public Schools rather than to the State? The 2021 Legislature authorized tax credit opportunities and the 2023 Legislature enhanced this program. To get a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on your Montana state tax bill in 2024, the submittal date is Wednesday, JANUARY 17, 2024. For more information on how you can take advantage of this opportunity, please check our website:

[Business Services and Operations / Innovative Education Programs - Tax Credit \(gfps.k12.mt.us\)](https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us) or call Brian Patrick, Director of Business Operations at 406-268-6050.

6. **GFPS Student Entrepreneurs** – will be sharing their gifts and talents at the “**Pop-Up Shop**” located in the old Amazing Toy store on Central Avenue during the **Annual Downtown Christmas Stroll, Friday, December 1st from 5:00-8:00**. Any students, PTA groups, or clubs can reserve a table to sell their items. Spots are filling up fast with lots of participation already! If you would like more information, contact GFPS Community Connections Coordinator, Becky Nelson, at 406-268-6024 ([7](#)) [Facebook](#)
7. **Help Wanted ...Pass it on...**GFPS is looking to hire teacher aides, food service workers, paraprofessional educators, substitutes, and more. Current openings are always found here: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Page/1569> Big Sky Bus Lines need bus drivers as well. Please contact Big Sky at 454-1283 for more information.
8. **Indigenous Peoples Education Department** – The GFPS Indigenous Education Department is participating with other organizations across Montana to recognize Native America Heritage Month. Check out the 12 Lighted Teepees on the GFPS District lawn, which can be seen at night from 10th Avenue South. This display represents the 12 Indigenous tribes of Montana, and the colored lighting will change each week to represent significant aspects of our Native American Heritage in Montana. [Native American lodges set up near GFPS district offices \(krtv.com\)](#)
9. **“Build Montana” Comes to Great Falls Public Schools-** *Build Montana* is a partnership between the Montana Contractors Association (MCA), the Montana Equipment Dealers’ Association, and the MCA Education Foundation designed to generate excitement and promote careers in construction. This partnership is designed to provide you with easy access to the tools needed to launch your career in the construction industry. Through *Build Montana*, you will be able to identify the education and training needed for your desired career path, explore current career opportunities available in Montana, and receive access to training, funding, and job placement resources. It’s time to choose your path to a career in construction – the Montana construction industry needs your talent today. The second informational meeting will be held tonight, Thursday, November 16, 2023 in the Great Falls High School (GFHS) Counseling Conference Room from 5:30-6:30. For more information contact Mark Yaeger, GFPS Pathway Advisor at 268-7345 ([6](#)) [Facebook](#) and check out the *Build Montana* Website; [Home - Build Montana](#)
10. **Great Fall Public Charter School** – We would like to invite you to take a moment to read and learn about a new opportunity that will be coming this spring for parents and elementary students in Great Falls called the CORE school at Morningside Elementary School. Please click here to learn more about this new concept school on the horizon for GFPS: [GFPS CORE School / GFPS Core School Overview](#) If after viewing this information you have questions or would like to learn more about how you can be involved in this exciting new learning opportunity, contact GFPS Executive Director for Student Achievement, Jackie Mainwaring at 406-268-6008.

REMINDER: There will be no school Wednesday, November 22 through Friday, November 24. (District offices will be open from 7:30-4:00 on Wednesday). Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

I hope “10 Moore Things” about GFPS was helpful information for you! The next release is scheduled for December 15 ,2023. You are receiving this email as part of the District’s ongoing community communication efforts. If you do not wish to receive these emails, there is a place to unsubscribe at the very bottom.

Thank you for reading and thank you for supporting our staff and students!

Tom Moore
Superintendent

More GFPS news:

We post a lot of GFPS news on the district’s Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/GreatFallsPublicSchools>), and on our webpage (www.gfps.k12.mt.us). Please check-in often.

Tell your friends about this:

You can pass on the invitation to your friends to subscribe to this service. If they open this page, there is a sign-up spot under my signature: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/domain/110>

