



**Great Falls Public Schools**  
**Ten “MOORE” things you need to know ....**  
**March 14, 2022**

Dear Community Member:

Here are some things going on with Great Falls Public Schools that you need to know about.

1. **Winter Sports Wrap-Up:** Congratulations to the CMR Girls’ Basketball team who competed in the State AA Basketball Tournament this past weekend. Unfortunately, they did not place in the tournament but enjoyed a successful season, none the less! The spring sports season for Tennis, Softball and Track kicked off this week. Competition begins at the end of March. For spring sports schedules check out: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Page/345>
2. **Home and Garden Show:** Need a storage shed??? Want to support our construction trades students????? Purchase a raffle ticket to win a shed at the **Home & Garden Show March 25-27, 2022**. Tickets are on sale this week at both high schools, at the GFPS District Office and at the Home Show. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Also, Save the Date! May 19<sup>th</sup> is the High School House Ribbon Cutting. We will celebrate another year of construction in partnership with NeighborWorks.
3. **Help Wanted.** Pass it on...GFPS is looking to hire teacher aides, food service workers, Para educators, substitutes and more. Current openings are always found here: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Page/1668>.
4. **Community Partnerships:** Thank you to the **Great Falls Rescue Mission staff** for taking good care of our teachers. Each week, the Mission staff has been providing a lunch for some of our schools in Great Falls this year. This has been greatly appreciated!
5. **Great Falls Public Schools Foundation Updates:** The Excellence in Education program from the GFPS Foundation recently announced this year's group of thirty-three distinguished scholars. These graduating seniors from C.M. Russell High School, Great Falls High School, and Paris Gibson Education Center have demonstrated a strong commitment to academics and rigorous coursework. Each student will have the opportunity to pay that recognition forward by selecting one high school teacher and one K-8 teacher who significantly impacted his/her educational experience. Check out the GFPS Foundation Facebook page this week for a full listing of students. Well done, distinguished scholars! <https://www.facebook.com/GFPSFoundation/>
6. **GFPS Music, Art, & Drama:** We are celebrating Music in Our Schools this week with a band concert in the Civic Center on Thursday, March 17, 2022 beginning at 7:00 PM. There are currently art exhibits at both high schools and other art events occurring over the next few months. Please check out all these events at: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/Page/299>
7. **GFPS Citizens Academy:** On March 3, 2022, we engaged 25 members of Citizens Academy at Longfellow Elementary for the third session as they learned about GFPS safety protocols, what our 4 School Resources Officers, 21 School Nurses and 50 + Student Mental Health Counselors do to keep our schools healthy and safe. Students from the SkillsUSA student organization and State Officers served them dinner. Did you know Great Falls Public Schools represents three of the six state officers? SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. They will head to Helena April 7-9<sup>th</sup> for their State competition. The

theme for the **next GFPS Citizens Academy** will be “Curriculum and Instruction”. The meeting will be held on March 17, 2022 in the HUB at Great Falls High School beginning at 6:00 PM.

8. **Workforce Development and Education:** Last week, 25 people representing the business, education and government sectors from the city of Great Falls and the state of Montana, traveled to Tuscaloosa, Alabama to study how the West Alabama Chamber of Commerce has formed state and local partnerships between business, industry, government, public and private interests to address workforce and education needs in their region. Great Falls Public Schools was represented by teachers, administrators, superintendent, a trustee and college partners. The Taskforce is now working on taking the lessons learned from this visit to build and implement a plan for addressing our **Workforce and Education** needs in Great Falls and our region. More to come.....
9. **Board Meetings:** The GFPS Board of Trustees meetings are typically held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of most months. These are public meetings. Agendas and supporting information are always posted the Thursday afternoon prior to the Board meetings. There is a Board meeting tonight, March 14 at 5:30 PM and the next Board meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2022 with the agenda posted on March 24, 2022. There are four Trustee positions up for election on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Three seats that represent both elementary and secondary districts on the board for three years, until May, 2025. Anyone interested in these positions must live within the Great Falls Public School District boundary. The positions are currently held by Mark Finnicum, Jeff Gray, and Gordon Johnson. One seat, a one-year position will fill out the remainder of Jan Cahill’s term. Nathan Reiff was appointed by the Board to fill Jan Cahill’s open position until the next regular election. Important Board information can be found here: <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/domain/130>
10. **GFPS Town Hall Meeting: Please join us** on Wednesday, March 16 at 5:30 PM in the Aspen Room at the District Office Building for an in-depth look at the GFPS annual general budget. In addition, we will report on how the District is using the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to address the impacts of the pandemic. Brian Patrick, Director of Business Operations and Lance Boyd, Federal Programs Officer will provide an overview to the Board of Trustee’s sub-committee on budget, regarding the state of our District’s financial resources.

I hope “Moore” information was helpful to you! The next release is scheduled for March 30,2022. 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.

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

Sincerely,

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](http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us)). Please check-in often.

#### **Tell your friends about this:**

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