



Great Falls Public Schools
Ten “MOORE” things you need to know
February 18, 2021

Dear Community Member:

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

- 1. COVID-19 Protocols Still in Place - Vaccines Started and Continuing in Cascade County!**
The Cascade County Health Department has recently put in place a mask requirement in the county. GFPS has had a mask requirement in place for all students, staff and visitors since school were reopened in August of 2020. We are pleased to report that our COVID positive numbers for staff and students combined have stayed below .17% of our population since the Thanksgiving Holiday. For more information:
<https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/cms/lib/MT50000605/Centricity/Domain/4/Mask%20Protocol%20Edit%208-3-2020.pdf>
- 2. Winter Sports Updates** - The Winter sports seasons are continuing this week with the Girls' Basketball teams at home on Thursday and traveling to Bozeman over the weekend with the Boys traveling to Bozeman on Thursday night and at home on Saturday against Bozeman teams. Wrestlers from both high schools were in Billings on Tuesday night and will be finishing up their seasons next week in a crosstown match at CMR on Tuesday evening. Swimming will have a crosstown meet and senior night at the GFHS pool on Friday, February 19 starting at 6:00 PM. For more information check out GFPS Athletics' webpage at; <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=345>
- 3. Career and Technical Education Month** - GFPS is celebrating National Career & Technical Education (CTE) month. The ASE Automotive Shop at Paris Gibson Education Center has been in operation for 15 years this year. We are celebrating with an Open House on February 25, 2021 from 1:00-2:00 PM. Please stop by to help us thank those who have made this training center possible over the years!!!
<https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=89&ModuleInstanceID=1165&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=26596&PageID=169>
- 4. United Way of Cascade County** - United Way of Cascade County announced Thursday that it raised \$1.3 million during its annual fundraising campaign, which is a record for the agency. GFPS set a record fundraising of \$60,000. The Great Falls High School Independent Study Video Production Class produced this 30 second video to share the results: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0Vg_Yuxei8
- 5. GFPS Foundation Scholarships** - The GFPS Foundation offers over 80 scholarships for post-secondary education for graduating seniors. The most recent round closed at the end of January, but there are scholarships still available. We encourage graduating seniors to reach out to their high school counselors or to visit the [GFPS Foundation website](#) for more information. **Distinguished Students:** Distinguished Scholars and Achievers have been announced for CM Russell High School, Great Falls High School, and Paris Gibson Education Center. Graduating seniors from CMR and GFH were selected based on academic achievement, GPA, and rigorous coursework. Teachers, counselors, and administrators selected

graduating seniors from PGEC based on academics, leadership, achievement, service, and overcoming obstacles. Congrats to these impressive students! Visit the [GFPS Foundation Facebook page](#) to see these outstanding students.

6. **Child Find** - Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, Great Falls Public Schools will not be hosting traditional preschool screenings as we have in previous years in neighborhood schools and MAFB. We will return to this practice as soon as possible when circumstances allow this. If you are concerned and believe that a child ages 3-5 years should be screened to determine if they have a disability or a significant level of delay in development, please contact: GFPS Early Childhood Education Coordinator, Colette Getten Early Learning Family Center located at Skyline. Call 268-6438 to set up an appointment.
7. **Congratulations Dusty Molyneaux!** Dusty is the Music and Art Supervisor for Great Falls Public Schools and he has recently been elected as President of the Northwest Division of the North American Association of Music Educators. In this position, he oversees 40 teachers that reach out and deliver art and music instruction to more than 10,000 students in 20 buildings in the Great Falls school system. He is a past-president of the Montana Music Educators Association and Montana Bandmasters Association, and is an active trumpet player in the region. In January of 2014 he was awarded the National Federation of High Schools Outstanding Montana Music Educator of the Year by the Montana High School Association. He is also a member of the MHSMA Music Committee.
8. **We Need Your Help! GFPS Positions Open** - This spring GFPS is looking to hire teachers in several areas, teacher aides, food service workers, Para educators, substitutes and more. Current openings are always found here: www.gfps.k12.mt.us/employment. Big Sky Bus Lines is in need of bus drivers as well. You can contact them at 454-1283 for more information.
9. **Legislative Session in Full Swing-** Several Bills are being presented and heard before the State Legislature this week and next that effect school funding. The GFPS Board Budget Committee will host an interactive meeting with some of our elected legislators from Cascade County on March 4, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM in the Aspen Room of the District Office Building. For daily information on this Legislative Session visit: <https://leg.mt.gov/session/>
10. **School Trustee Election** - There is currently one, three-year term on the District School Board that is expiring. Individuals who are interested in running must file a [DECLARATION OF INTENT AND OATH OF CANDIDACY FOR TRUSTEE CANDIDATES](#) with the County Elections Office. This office is located at 325 2nd Ave North, Great Falls. The filing period to do this is December 10, 2020 through March 25, 2021. Candidates must report campaign expenditures to the Montana Commissioner of Political Practices. [School Elections / School Elections 2021 \(gfps.k12.mt.us\)](#)

Congratulations to Brian Held who has recently been appointed as the new Principal at Sunnyside Elementary School. Mr. Held has been an Associate Principal at Great Falls High School for the past six years.

I hope “Moore” information was helpful to you! The next release is scheduled for March 4, 2021. 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). Please check-in often.

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