



Great Falls Public Schools
Ten “MOORE” things you need to know
December 23, 2020

Dear Community Member:

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

1. **Holiday Greetings and Thanks** - From the Staff here at Great Falls Public Schools, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Thank you for your support for the students and staff this past year. We are looking forward to a healthy and prosperous new year 2021!
2. **COVID-19 Updates:** We are pleased with the improved COVID quarantined and isolation data over the past few weeks. On November 11, there were approximately 104 active COVID-positive cases and 1200 students and staff who were either quarantined or isolated. On December 18, there were 37 active COVID-positive cases and approximately 284 students and staff who were isolated or in quarantine. For more information: <https://gfps.k12.mt.us/>
3. **Great Falls Public Schools Foundation Gold Star Awards** - Teachers and staff in the District have been receiving surprise classroom visits from the Great Falls Public Schools Foundation. Parents and community members are recognizing these teachers' hard work through the Foundation's Gold Star program. If you're interested in recognizing a teacher or staff member, contact the GFPS Foundation office at 268-7401.
4. **Holiday Donations Appreciated** - Great Falls Public Schools Foundation and the school district have been receiving donations of food and financial contributions to help families during the holiday season. If you would like to help, you may contact the GFPS Foundation at 268-7401.
5. **Meadowlark School Celebrates Playground Equipment Gift** - The monkey bars are waiting for Meadowlark Elementary students! The playground is complete thanks to the Meadowlark parent group, the generosity from local businesses and also the 819th Red Horse Unit along with contractor Cory Buford assembling the structure.
<https://www.facebook.com/GreatFallsPublicSchools/photos/a.630116073703835/3482611295120951/>
6. **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: 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.
7. **Military Purple Star Awards-** The Montana Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission (MIC3) announced recently that it has awarded Purple Star status to three Great Falls schools at its November meeting. Purple Star recognition is awarded to schools that go above and beyond to provide inclusive environments for active military families. The schools awarded this year are Loy Elementary, North Middle School, and CMR High School all in Great Falls. For more information:
<https://www.newsbreak.com/montana/great-falls/living/2117369232505/three-great-falls-schools-honored-with-purple-stars>
8. **Junior ROTC Cadets Dedicate a Bench at the Veteran’s Memorial** - The bench was inscribed to honor the Veterans and POA of the Battle of Bataan in WWII.” Recently, the High School JROTC Cadets marched or ran 14 miles on the Rivers Edge Trail to raise money through sponsorships for their own version of the “Bataan Death March”. For more info:

<https://www.greatfalls Tribune.com/story/news/education/2020/12/11/great-falls-public-schools-jrotc-cadets-dedicate-bench-veterans-memorial-park/3885368001/>

9. **Community Partners** - A “Secret Santa” has been busy lately around Great Falls, donating money to area businesses to help them feed many hungry families and to reach out to our teaching staff. Great Harvest Bread, Electric City Café, Teriyaki Madness, Cogswell Insurance are a few the local business involved. Thanks to our business partners in Great Fall and Thanks “Santa”!!!
10. **Board Meetings:** The GFPS Board of Trustees meetings are typically held the 2nd and 4th Mondays of most months. These are public meetings. Agendas and supporting information are always posted the Thursday afternoon prior to the Board meetings. The next Board meeting is on January 11, 2021 with the agenda posted on January 7, 2021. Important Board information can be found here: <http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/school-board>.
11. **Trustee Election Schedule** - People interested in being a candidate for the GFPS Board of Trustees may file an application between December 10, 2020 and March 25, 2021 in order to appear on the April 2021 ballot. For more information contact the Cascade County Elections Office; <https://www.cascadecountymt.gov/205/Elections>

Holiday Break...Began on Friday, December 18, 2020 and school resumes on Monday, January 4, 2021!

Please continue to protect yourself and others during this Holiday Season by practicing good sanitation, physical distancing when possible, wear masks in public, be smart, stay healthy and be Happy..... A New Year is on its way!!!!!!

I hope “Moore” information was helpful to you! The next release is scheduled for January 7, 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.

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: www.gfps.k12.mt.us/superintendent.