

Great Falls Public Schools
Ten “MOORE” things you need know



Special Edition- March 31, 2020

1. **Thank you to all of you who have supported the efforts of the School District during this time of the COVID-19 crisis!**
2. **Last week**, as you know, Governor Bullock extended the school closure period through April 10, 2020 and limited access to non-essential business and gatherings through his “Stay Home” order, effective March 28 at 12:01a.m. <http://governor.mt.gov/Pressroom>. Schools are essential to the operation of the state and country. Please refer to this document: https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CISA_Guidance_on_the_Essential_Critical_Infrastructure_Workforce_508C_0.pdf
3. **On Friday, March 27, 2020-** I submitted a GFPS COVID-19 Plan of Action to the Governor. This was required of all schools in Montana, if we wanted to continue receiving funding during the time schools are closed by executive order. The Plan states that we will do everything in our power to continue to provide for the education and social/emotional and nutritional needs of our students in Great Falls.
4. **Elementary Principals and Teachers spread some good will this past week!**- On Thursday afternoon many of our elementary principals and teachers traveled around the community, honking and waiving at their students and parents. Parents, students and community members with signs, cheers and waves, greeted them as they drove through neighborhoods! **Check out this link if you missed it!**; <https://www.krtv.com/news/great-falls-news/gfps-teacher-parade-on-thursday>
5. **Elementary Updated Packets-** will be distributed on Thursday, April 2, 2020 from 8:00-3:00 p.m. Instructions on how and where parents and students may pick them up at will be posted on the Elementary page of GFPS website ; <http://gfpsweb.weebly.com/remote-learning-tk-6.html>
6. **Food Distribution – Thanks to Jessa Youngers, John Hasner and all of the Kitchen and Warehouse staff who** are working to distribute lunch and breakfast meals to our students! Here is this week’s update from Jessa; *GFPS School Nutrition Programs will provide free meals to all children 18 and under for the week of spring break. Meals will be served at the existing sites and times on **MONDAY, APRIL 6th only.** We will make every effort to distribute the meals in a timely fashion, please have patience and expect delays. Students will be provided 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches at that time. Due to the volume of meals being distributed, if accessing sites via walking, please plan to bring a wagon, stroller, or other means to transport the meals home. **No meals will be served Tuesday, April 7th – Friday April 10th.** Please refer to the District’s website and Facebook page for more information or call, 406-268-6047. Check out their schedule: <https://gfps.k12.mt.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/FREE-MEAL-SITES-effective-3-19-20.pdf>*
7. **Limited Access to the District Offices Building -** Beginning on Monday, March 30, 2020 the GFPS District Offices Building will be limiting access. Please use the main entrance by the Human Resources Office. The Warehouse and Annex will also be limiting access. Please call ahead to the department that

you need to meet with. Hopefully, we can provide you the service that you need while maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all staff and the public.

8. **April is Military Child Month-** April is designated as the Month of the Military Child, underscoring the important role military children play in the armed forces community. Sponsored by the Department of Defense Military Community and Family Policy, the Month of the Military Child is a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome. For more info; <https://www.dodea.edu/dodeaCelebrates/Military-Child-Month.cfm>
9. **Spring Break-** Will begin on Friday, April 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. and continue through Sunday, April 12, 2020. School buildings will be closed during this time period. Teachers and students are encouraged to take a break from online learning and packets during this week. The GFPS District Offices Building will remain open during the week of April 6-9 from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. for limited access. All GFPS offices will be closed on Friday, April 10, 2020.
10. **Faith and Hope:** Faith and hope are defined in the dictionary as follows; **Faith** is confidence or trust in a person or thing or a belief not based on proof and **Hope** is an optimistic attitude of mind based on an expectation or desire. Faith says it is so now, and Hope says in the future it could happen. **I have faith** in all of you that you will continue to serve the children of our community and each other to the very best of your ability in the days and weeks to come. Furthermore, **I have hope** that once we have passed through this storm, we will be closer and stronger as a community and a school system than ever before.

I hope “Moore” information was helpful to you! The next release is scheduled for April 15, 2020. Thanks for reading!

Until then, Stay Healthy and be blessed and protected!

Tom Moore
Superintendent

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More GFPS news:

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