



Great Falls Public Schools 2017-2018 Accomplishments



July, 2018

Dear Trustees,

I believe that in order to plan our future wisely, it is necessary that we understand and appreciate our past. To do that, I asked GFPS leaders to compile our points of pride, highlights, learning experiences, accomplishments, fait accompli, moments in time...anything worth memorializing from the previous year. The following will document those results.

You will first see district-level accomplishments followed by those generated by individual departments and then schools. No specific direction was given to format or content so each list is unique. The lists are a snapshot of our work and are not all inclusive. It is certain that not every big and little victory has been listed, but I think it provides a sense of some of the accomplishments that happened during the 2017-2018 school year. I'm impressed and hope you will be too.

Sincerely,

Tammy L. Lacey

Superintendent

DISTRICT LEVEL ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Our Kids

Academic Achievement

- The NMS Science Academic Bowl Team won the Regional National Science Bowl for the 3rd year in a row.
- 2784 dual college credits were earned by GFPS students saving \$631,488 in tuition costs.
- 2018 SBAC Scores given to students in grades 3-8 in the spring:
 - Math: GFPS = 46% proficient or advanced; MT = 41%
 - English/Language Arts: GFPS 54 proficient or advanced; MT = 50%
- 2018 GFPS ACT scores were on-par with the entire state in that 19% of GFPS juniors and 19% of the state's juniors met the benchmark for college readiness on all 4 of the subtests. The average ACT score for GFPS juniors was 19.5 as compared to 19.6 for the state.
- Project-based learning provides educational relevance:
 - The Montana Project (formerly War Fair), March 22, 2018
 - STEAM Expo, March 24, 2018: 292 students presented 182 projects to 105 judges thanks to 36 community sponsors and 24 community agencies.
- Comprehensive Literacy Project Grant awarded to Skyline PK, Whittier Elementary, Longfellow Elementary, East Middle School and Great Falls High School. It provides for \$1,740,000 in funds over a 4-year period.
- Attendance "nudge letters" were sent to 382 parents in November, 586 in January and again in March to communicate with parents student absence comparisons.
- CMR Wrestling received the AA Academic All-Team Award for the 2nd year in a row.
- 1 GFHS student won the regional and state math contest. 1 GFHS student took 2nd place. 1 GFHS students tied for the top female math student in the state.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Achievements

- The 40th High School House since 1997 was built in collaboration with Neighborworks.
- 45 CNA students graduated through Spectrum Medical
- Welding and Carpentry Cohorts at GFC-MSU (1 year Dual Credit Programs): 4 welding graduates
- *Educators Rising* became the newest CTSO as the *Introduction to Education* dual credit class is offered for the first time at CMR.
- See other CTE related accomplishments in the department section.

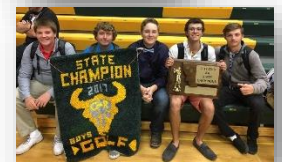
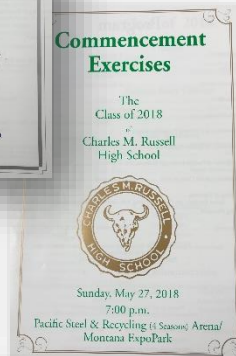
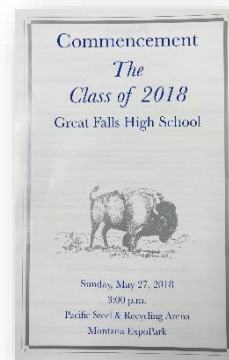


Data

- Continued implementation of the on-line Power School assessment tool.

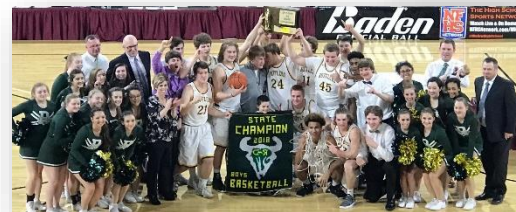
Graduation

- Continued focus on Graduation Matters bold goals.
 - Through educational opportunities for preschool-aged children and their families, Graduation Matters will increase the percentage of students who are prepared to succeed (as measured by the Boehm Test of Basic Concepts) to 80 percent.
 - To increase the percentage of proficient and advanced readers in 3rd grade to 85 percent.
 - To decrease the number of high school students who are chronically absent from school and demonstrate poor school performance.
 - Increase the number of students who graduate on-time and ready for college or career.
- 614 Graduates: CMR 276; GFH 224; Paris 114
- CMR & GFHS Commencement ceremonies were both held at the Pacific Steel & Recycling Arena at the Montana ExpoPark.
- Year two of differentiated diplomas:
 - 85 Honors Diplomas
 - 270 Concentrator Diplomas
 - 292 Comprehensive Diplomas
- 2017 On Time Graduation Rate = 83.2%
- Scholarship Nights, hosted by the Foundation, were held at each high school where over \$800,000 was presented to students with \$250,000 of that being Foundation managed scholarships.
- Graduation Walks were held in all elementary schools.
- Ready Families Ready Learners- Preschool outreach accomplished the following activities:
 - Preschool Expo Fair on March 12th, 2018
 - Class of 2030 t-shirts given to kindergarten students during Grad walks



High School Athletics Tops in State

- CMR Boys' Golf State Champions
- CMR Boys' Basketball State Champions; GFHS 3rd Place
- GFHS Softball State Champions with an undefeated season.



Professional Development for Instruction

- 151 separate sessions of PIR staff development training were held.
- First year teacher training was reduced from 5 days to 1 day due to budget reductions. Quarterly mentoring meetings for all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year teachers were held.
- Project based learning via Chromebooks for elementary classrooms was an emphasis. Training was expanded to include all 3rd grade teachers.
- Managed the Montana Institute on Educational Technology (MIET) which provides technology training to GFPS and Montana teachers.
- All elementary classroom teachers were required to attend a district directed training with a technology emphasis.
- Instructional coaching provided imbedded professional development and 1:1 support for all teachers with an emphasis on new teachers.
- Trauma Informed Intervention training was presented by Stacy York to elementary staff.
- All special education teachers attended an intervention institute hosted by the student services department.



School Climate

- The Montana Prevention Needs Assessment (MPNA) Survey was given to 7-12 random sample of students.
- Elementary Student Leadership Council was successfully deployed for the 6th year in a row.
- GMGF student forums resulted in school-based Graduation Matter Weeks of celebration.



- Instead of walking out to protest school violence, GFPS students stayed in and stood up for school safety.
 - CMR: Facilitated discussions in Connections classes; 17 Days of Change
 - GFHS: Moment of silence. Walk to gyms (writing activity); 17 Days of Change
 - PGEC: Facilitated discussion groups in the Hub
 - EMS/NMS: Connections lessons (respecting, supporting, reporting)

Other

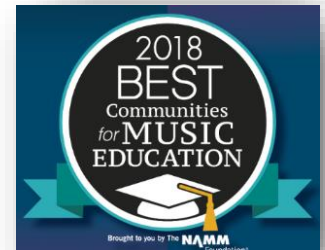
- All but 4 schools received regular accreditation status. The others had minor deviations noted and since corrected.
- The GFPS Foundation provided \$18,000 in scholarships to pay for dual credit college courses.
- The Air Force JROTC program at GFHS had 79 participants in its second year.
- The 49th Annual Russell Essay Contest was held for 5th grade students. Over 41,000 essays have been submitted over that time period.



Our Community

The Arts

- Great Falls named Top 100 Best Communities for Music Education 2018...7th year in a row.
- Hundreds of concerts, programs, art displays, and other performances delivered to the Community of Great Falls over the course of the year
- See other arts related accomplishments in the department section.



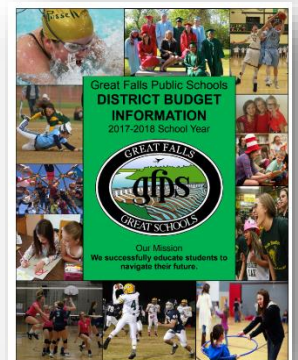
Communication

- 20 editions of Tammy's Top Ten on Tuesday were published and emailed to 1500 subscribers
- Community Budget Meetings were held for the fifth consecutive year.
- Operational Levy information presented to the community in May of 2018 was communicated in a variety of ways to include a dedicated webpage, two community meetings, several service group presentations, an op-ed in the newspaper, social media posts, and in informational booth at several community gatherings.
- The GFPS Facebook page has 2875 "likes" as of June 30, 2018.
- Superintendent Lacey tweeted 360 times which resulted in 170,699 tweet impressions.



Finance

- The 2017-2018 budget was balanced by making \$1,822,836 in reductions in personnel, supplies, textbooks, professional development, technology, and administrative benefits.
- In the last 15 years, the General Fund budget has increased at a rate less than inflation.
 - \$50,478,160 (2000-2001) to \$70,335,141 (2017-2018) which is a 28.2% increase or an average increase of 1.57% per year
 - Inflation July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2017 = 41.66% or 2.31% per year
 - (Source: http://inflationdata.com/Inflation/Inflation_Calculators/Cumulative_Inflation_Calculator.aspx)
- \$40,155,000 in bonds were sold at an interest rate of 3.38% to finance facility projects.
- Workers' compensation claim amounts continued to decline resulting in decreased premiums.
- Red Flag Fraud Warning System fully implemented with 0 fraud reports.
- All budget and audit information available on-line.
- \$93,188 in Discovery Grants were awarded by the GFPS Foundation to 36 projects district-wide.
- The Foundation secured the following donations to enhance the bond facility projects:
 - \$105,000 for soccer field at Memorial Stadium from Willie and Melissa Pyette
 - \$100,000 for Media Center at Giant Springs Elementary from Brad Talcott
 - \$125,000 for CMR Fitness Center from the Thurber Family
 - \$150,000 for CMR STEM Center from D.A. Davidson Companies
 - \$50,000 for the CMR STEM Center from Chuck and Gerry Jennings
 - \$1.8 Million for GFH Auditorium from Ian and Nancy Davidson

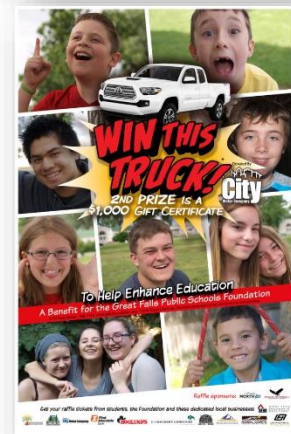


Partnerships

- GFPS assisted in the hosting of the Special Olympics State Summer Games and was a Unified Champion District supporting athletes from across the entire state.
- The Great Falls Youth Pow Wow was held on May 12. It was organized by the GFPS InterTribal Strong youth group. It attracted youth dancers from the region.
- 33 student scholars and 66 educators were honored at the Foundation's Excellence in Education Celebration. BNSF Railway sponsored two Teacher of the Year awards of \$2500 each.
- CMR hosted 500 students representing fourteen high schools for the Montana State Speech and Debate Tournament, January 26th - 27th, 2018.
- GFPS hosted these MHSA State Athletic Tournaments: State Swim Meet (February 9-10) and State AA & C Track Meet (May 25-26).
- Individual school PTAs raised money and donated substantially to their schools. These items included such things as computers, Chromebooks, video surveillance equipment and library furnishings.
- Donations of used items were received from various generous donors. These items included: 3 vehicles, a sound system, a TV, 16 lawnmowers/engines, 140 computers, 50 keyboards/mice, 15 Smartboards, 11 short-throw projectors, photography equipment, percussion equipment and materials for new benches for the new elementary school.]
- City Motor Company generously donated a 2018 Toyota Tacoma to the GFPS Foundation. The Foundation coordinated the sale of 12,058 tickets, raising \$120,580 to help support public education in Great Falls. 50 GFPS student organizations sold raffle tickets and received 60% of their ticket sales for a total of \$66,972. The Foundation received the remaining 40% which was \$53,608. Therefore, 100% of ticket sales went to support public school students in Great Falls.
- Food Pantries and local groups worked together to reduce food insecurity. \$1000 was donated to the GF Food Bank in honor of the GFPS administration and the Board of Trustees by Tom and Cindy Duffy.
- The Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce continued its sponsorship of Leadership High School. (50 students).
- The high school Patriot Band entertained the crowd at the annual 4th of July parade thanks to the generous donation from Steele Etc. The Foundation featured the truck raffle and handed out pencils to parade goers.
- The Superintendent's Community Advisory Panel met twice and the Parent Advisory Panel met once before combining for three additional meetings.
- The GF Police Department fundraised so students could "Shop with a Cop."
- The GF Fire Fighters Local 8 conducted their annual "Paul's Holiday Wish" program where they spent \$200 on a needy family in each of the 15 elementary schools.
- The Great Falls Public Schools' Job Shadow Program has been matching students with employers since 2005, and the successful relationships we have built with community partners continue to grow. See <http://gfpsweb.weebly.com/job-shadows.html> for more information.
 - 410 Job Shadows were sponsored by community businesses
- The Indian Parent Advisory Council (IPAC) met monthly.
- Constitution Week was celebrated by schools and classrooms across GFPS, September 18-22, 2017.

Military Collaboration

- GFPS worked closely with the MAFB School Liaison to enhance collaboration efforts.
- The annual MAFB Family Fair was held at Loy Elementary in August, 2017.
- Eleven Military Appreciation nights were held at athletic events with a special announcement read to honor military families and veterans.
- Purple Up Day was held on April 13, 2018.
- Superintendent Lacey continues to serve on the Montana Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children – MIC3



Staffing

- GFPS celebrated retirees and longevity at the 11th annual dessert reception on May 16, 2018.
 - 43 retirees (1 administrator, 24 teachers & 18 others) with a total of 965 years of service.
 - 31 staff with 25 years; 13 employees with 30 years; 2 employees with 35 years; and 2 employees with 40 years of service.

Supporting Others

- 2500 pounds of food was collected in December in our schools for the Salvation Army.
- Coats drives, toy drives and giving trees were championed at several schools and at the DOB.
- GFPS was a Pacesetter for the United Way Giving Campaign for the first time.
 - GFPS employees gave \$46,822 via the annual fall Giving Campaign.
 - 4 GFPS employees donated at "Base Camp" and above levels.

Policies The Board adopted 55 revised policies and 5 brand new policies.



Our Future

Facilities

- Great Falls HS was named the most beautiful high school in Montana by *Architectural Digest*.
- "Giant Springs" became the Board adopted name of the new elementary school.
- Memorial Stadium was rededicated on October 27, 2017. Veterans were honored with a customized coin during the pre-crosstown game ceremony.
- The Buildings and Grounds Headquarters at Little Russell was officially opened.
- A new phone system, the first since 1999, was installed across the entire district by the GFPS Instructional Technology Department.
- In conjunction with the GFPS Foundation and the GF Aquatics Club, the Great Falls Clinic, Howard's Pizza, D.A. Davidson, Benefis Results and the Optimists donated \$24,000 for new starting blocks at the GFHS Pool.
- See Buildings and Grounds Department list.

Health/Wellness

- First school-based health clinic opened at PGEC in partnership with CCHC.
- 5695 students were provided dental health support via collaboration with the City County Health Department and our local dentists. 2467 1st, 3rd, & 5th graders received a screening conducted by 19 community volunteer dentists. 1568 2nd & 4th graders participated in oral health care classes. Students received toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss thanks to a \$1,800 GFPS Foundation Grant. 959 K and pre-K children received an oral health presentation and tooth brushing demonstration.
- Developed a partnership with local dentists to partner with individual schools to provide more access to dental care.
- The Employee Wellness Program sponsored these activities: the *Healthy Habits Bingo Challenge*, the *Eat Smart, Move More, Maintain, Don't Gain Challenge*, the Fitness Center with before and after school hours, fitness classes (Zumba, circuit training, yoga, water exercise, swimming), on-site biometric screenings and flu shots, the *Spring Into Wellness Challenge*, a nutrition class on Whole Foods, the Spring Poker Walk, and Weekly Wellness Wednesdays messages.

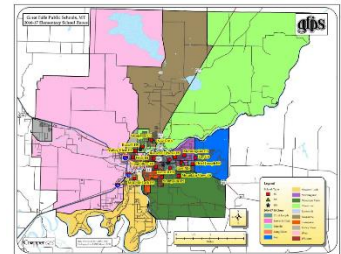
School Boundaries

- Cropper GIS conducted a redistricting process which resulted in boundary changes to for most of the elementary schools. 291 students received notification of a change of school. Of those, 121 changed to the new school and 154 received permissive transfers to stay at their current school.

Safety

- All schools participated in the statewide Shake Out Earthquake drill in October.
- Cabinet members conducted 4 tabletop safety exercises at the Command Center.
- The District Safety Plan was revised and Board approved.
- The Crisis Manager App remained fully operational.
- SRO response to calls district-wide were 572; 515 in 16-17; 550 in 15-16; 492 in 14-15.
- Upgraded video surveillance coverage.

This list of accomplishments is not all inclusive. This is a sampling only.



STAFF AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

(List may not be all inclusive)

2017-18

Staff Member	School	Subject/Grade	Local, Regional, State & National Awards	
			Award	Presenting Organization
Cara Dunn	Whittier	5th grade Teacher	2017 Javits-Frasier Scholar	National Association for Gifted Children
Carole McKittrick	Mt. View	Principal	MAEMSP Executive Board Award	Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals
Cortni Harant	GFHS	Art Teacher	2018 Art Educator of the Year	Montana Art Education Association
Drew Uecker	Paris	Principal	Montana Award of Excellence	Mountain Plains Adult Education Association (MPAEA)
GFPS Board of Trustees	District	Board of Trustees	2017 School Board of the Year	Montana Association of School Superintendents
Jessica Carranza	District	School Psychologist	School Psychologist of the Year	Montana Association of School Psychologists
Jon Konen	Lincoln	Principal	MAEMSP National Distinguished Principal	Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals
Kathy Van Tighem	GFHS	Counselor	2018 Education Award Recipient	YWCA (Salute to Women Awards)
Keith Davey	EMS	Teacher	2018 BNSF Teacher of the Year	GFPS Foundation/BNSF
Lindsey Gustafson	CMR	Health/PE Teacher	2018 MHSA Athletes' Hall of Fame Inductee	Montana High School Association
Meghan Grady	ML	Health/PE Teacher	Elementary Teacher of the Year	Society for Health & Physical Education (SHAPE) of Montana
Michelle Brown	GFHS	Teacher	2018 BNSF Teacher of the Year	GFPS Foundation/BNSF
Paula Olsen	CMR	Health/PE Teacher	High School Teacher of the Year	Society for Health & Physical Education (SHAPE) of Montana
Tammy Lacey	District	Superintendent	North Central Region Superintendent of the Year 2017	Montana Association of School Superintendents
Tammy Lacey	District	Superintendent	G.V. Erickson Award	School Administrators of Montana
Tammy Lacey	District	Superintendent	Superintendent of the Year	School Administrators of Montana
Tammy Lacey	District	Superintendent	Community Honor Award	AAUW
Ty Moore	SS	6th grade Teacher	Dave Oberly Striving for Success Award	Society for Health & Physical Education (SHAPE) of Montana

2017-18

Staff Member	School	Subject/Grade	Appointment/Election	Organization
Landon Stubbs	GFHS	IT Teacher	MT ACTE Executive Board Past President	The Montana Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE)
Tom Moore	District	Assistant Superintendent 7-12	2017-2018 Montana University System Rural Educator Recruitment and Retention Task Force Participant	Montana University System - Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education
Ruth Uecker	District	Assistant Superintendent K-6	Chair, Board of Directors	United Way of Cascade County

DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AS PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS

Buildings and Grounds Department's Accomplishments 2017-2018

ADA

- Continuing door replacement
- Restroom remodels

Emergency Responses

- Responded quickly to a partial power outage at several schools
- Responded to several emergency call outs for police and fire

Energy Savings

- New boilers
- Continued control replacement
- LED interior lighting upgrade at CMR and EMS taking advantage of significant NW Energy rebates and cutting the lighting usage in half

Hazardous Materials Work

- Continual Asbestos abatement/monitoring
- Science chemical disposal totaling (6) 50 gallon drums
- Continual training
- Continual Labeling/safety data sheet

Indoor Air Quality

- HVAC air duct cleaning
- Moisture mitigations
- Continual monitoring

Maintenance

- Painted Skyline Education Center
- Replaced carpet and several sites
- Continued completion of work orders
- Parking lot sealing and painting
- Supported PTA playground projects
- Kitchen and restroom remodel at Sunnyside-phase 2
- Moved into and set up of newly constructed Buildings and Grounds Headquarters building
- Continual grounds work throughout District
- Prepared Memorial Stadium for the Special Olympics State Games and the State Track Meet

Safety

- Passed 4 Department of Labor inspections!
- Improved fire egress at GFH Fieldhouse at the request of the fire marshal in time for the state tournaments, completed the project in four days in 20 below zero weather.
- Supported SRO recommendations for safety
- Continued deployment of 3M floor maintenance systems
- Continuing Fire alarm repairs/upgrades
- Improved our safety program and training

Bond Work

- Abated asbestos at Loy, Longfellow, and Lincoln for bond work
- Saved a considerable amount of bond money by doing work "In House"

Career and Technical Education Accomplishments 2017-2018

- Students from all three high schools combined to build the 41st High School House
- An anticipated 45 CNA students graduated through Spectrum Medical
- The Welding Cohort at GFC-MSU (1 year Dual Credit Program) graduated four students
- Business partners from around the community offered internship and job shadow opportunities to students in CTE programs. Students earned a paycheck while learning valuable real-world skills, building a resume, and networking with local industry partners
- Students in Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) which include BPA, DECA, CyberPatriot, FFA, SkillsUSA, HOSA, FCCLA, and JMG earned local, state, and national honors
- CTE students (students with three or more CTE credits) graduated high school at a rate of 98.8%
- Following graduation, 92% of CTE graduates were actively engaged in employment, the military, or post-secondary training

Elementary Accomplishments 2017-2018

Academic Achievement:

Project-based learning provided educational relevance

- Project-based learning professional development training for instructional coaches K-12
- Continued professional development for all teachers grades 3-6 in technology infusion.
- Provided training for specialists in the use of Chromebook
- Piloted use of Chromebooks with 2nd grade students. Full deployment of 2nd grade Chromebook in 2018-2019 school year.

Elementary Speech Meet: May 24, 2018

STEAM EXPO: March 24, 2018

Curriculum Upgrades:

- K-6 science committee unpacking the NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) standards
- K-6 library media/information literacy assessment work
- K-12 math intervention research committee

Data:

- Full implementation and use of Powerschool Assessment tool

Graduation Matters: Same bold goals as last year

- Graduation Matters: Graduation Walks in all elementary schools
- Ready Families Ready Learners- Preschool outreach accomplished the following activities:
 - Preschool Expo Fair on March 12th, 2018
 - Class of 2030 t-shirts given to kindergarten students during Grad Walks

Professional Development for Instruction

- Project based learning via Chromebooks was an emphasis. Training was expanded to include all 3rd grade teachers.
- 151 separate sessions of PIR staff development training were held
- Quarterly meetings for all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year teachers
- Managed the Montana Institute on Educational Technology (MIET) which provides technology training to GFPS and Montana teachers
- All elementary classroom teachers were required to attend a district directed training with a technology emphasis.
- Instructional coaching provided imbedded professional development and 1:1 support for all teachers with an emphasis on new teachers
- Trauma Informed Intervention training was presented by Stacy York to elementary staff
- All special education teachers attended an intervention institute hosted by the student services department

School Climate

- Elementary student leadership council was successfully completed for the 6th year in a row with a focus on teamwork and collaboration

Partnerships

- Community Health Care Center
 - Development of school based health care centers at Paris Gibson Education Center, and the future Giant Springs, and Longfellow
 - Transfer of two GFPS mental health providers to be employed by CHCC and work directly with GFPS students
 - Started discussions on creating an employee based health care center

Military Collaboration

- Annual MAFB Family Fair was held at Loy Elementary in August

Health Wellness

- 5695 students were provided dental health support via collaboration with the City County Health Department and our local dentists
 - Starting a partnership with local dentist organization to partner with individual schools to provide more access to dental care
 - 2467 1st, 3rd, and 5th graders received a screening conducted by 19 community dentists who volunteered their time and services
 - 1568 2nd and 4th graders participated in oral health care classes
 - Students received toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss thanks to a \$1,800 GFPS Foundation Grant
 - 959 K and pre-K children received an oral health presentation and tooth brushing demonstration

Enrollment

- Cropper GIS facilitated a community based boundary adjustment process that resulted in adjustment to current boundaries of elementary schools.

Safety Piloted Raptor Badge check-in system at Loy and Roosevelt

Fine Arts Department's Accomplishments 2017-2018

- GFHS Delphian Choir performance at NW-ACDA in Seattle (March 2018)
- Hosted Rampart Winds Concert from the USAF Academy Band
- 56 All-State Musicians from GFHS and CMR
- 24 ACDA-NW Choir musicians from GFHS and CMR
- AA Orchestra and AA Band Festivals hosted in GF
- Jazz Workshop event (50th Anniversary)
- Hosted Middle School Solo Festival for over 120 students
- Hosted Montana Youth Sings Concert for elementary and middle school vocalists
- Hosted District 6 Music Festival for over 1000 students
- NAMM Best Communities for Music Education Award (7th consecutive year)
- Dr. Sam Krahn served as Artist-in-Residence this year and worked with all art teachers across the District working with hundreds of students in sound art
- Art Shows outside of District Buildings: Colors of the Fall (4 Seasons), Ergon (GFC-MSU), YAM (Library and also displayed in Helena at Capitol), Young Masters (Heritage), All-City (Paris Square), Elementary Art Show (at Holiday Village Mall—new this year!) Students placed well in all juried shows, and the quality of student art at all exhibits was stellar
- Partnered with CM Russell Museum for workshops with artist Laura Dean at various schools, as well as bringing in rap artist and motivational speaker Supaman to do presentations at middle schools
- AP Art trips to Arizona and Washington
- Montana Art Interscholastic event in Butte with side events and clinics to art centers in Helena
- Hundreds of Concerts, Programs, Art displays, and other performances delivered to the Community of Great Falls over the course of the year

Food Service Department's Accomplishments 2017-2018

1. Served 1,397,630 meals in SY17-18; an increase of >5,000 from SY16-17
2. Served 16,986 summer meals in Summer 2017; an increase of >2,000 meals from Summer 2016
3. Sunnyside began operating under the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)
4. Extended the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program to Morningside
5. Kitchen facility upgrades included a walk-in cooler at North Middle School and new dishwashers at Lewis and Clark, Meadowlark and Loy
6. Recognized 4 employees with 100 years of combined service to the District.

Indian Education and IEFA Departments' Accomplishments 2017-2018

Back to School Splash:

Our annual Back to School Splash was a success, where we met and were able to visit, laugh, and spend time with most of our American Indian (AI) families. The students and their families swam and ate a dinner of hot dogs, water, and for a total of 2 hours. We also had some important booths for our families. Our HOPA Mountain Books were there to give books to all school age children, and to visit with parents/guardians about ways to promote and guide reading at home. The City-County Health Department was also there to check Immunizations, so our students were 'school-ready' and able to get immunizations, if needed. We also had our TRIO staff there, who were able to offer support to parents, in college-ready preparation for the upcoming school year. In all, it was a very successful event for our staff.

Cultural Exhibition Events:

Indian Education worked hard to support outreach events that allowed our students to showcase their regalia and dancing skills through exhibitions held throughout the school year. At the MCLT (Montana League of Cities and Towns) State Conference, which was supported by the GF Mayor Bob Kelly, NAMI (National Association for Mental Illness) State Conference, and our GF Public Library, our students participated in presentations of their dance skills, beautiful regalia, and their commitment to the growth and promise of their culture. Our students love this opportunity to showcase their dance skills, their regalia, which is often worked on throughout the year, and monitored and adjusted by their families and as a student grows into bigger and more elaborate regalia.

Bison Harvest:

Twice this year we were able to travel to local reservations, and participate in a traditional Buffalo Harvest. These experiences were planned to continue to help our students work on their cultural sense of identity through rich cultural experiences that were cross-curricular and quite extensive in terms of using the buffalo the way our ancestors intended. Our students studied buffalo before and after these experiences, and also were able to continue to use all of the parts of the buffalo to complete projects, use meat for feeds at our Pow Wow and other special events, and continue to reflect on this experience, as it hopefully grows into an annual experience. We are working diligently on our reciprocal partnership with the Innii Foundation, which was instrumental in bringing the buffalo back to the reservation in Browning. This partnership worked to reciprocate the hospitality that landowners, BIA directors extended to our district and our students. One way we did this was through our work with the Montana Conservation Corps, which brought our students to work directly with those entities over the summer. We hope to continue to develop our relationships with all Montana tribes, and work towards always gaining invaluable tribal and cultural knowledge for our students.

Native American Week/ Month:

Indian Education Department worked tirelessly throughout the month of September to erect teepees for every school. This was done in collaboration with our Indian Education staff, IEFA Trainer of Trainer attendees, and IEFA Instructional Coaches, to make sure they were done appropriately and in a timely manner. There was also continual Oral Tradition commencing, as part of the Indian Clubs at each school. The teepees were also used for doing homework and completing Indian Club tasks for that month.

Indian Parent Advisory Committee:

Continued to build on the relationship we have with our community, our parents, our elders and our students. This committee drives our grant, and we are extremely proud of their involvement, often going above and beyond, to ensure our student's

voices are heard, that they are being served adequately by our staff, and that their commitment to our community stays intact and continues to develop.

Immersion Classroom:

This classroom, which is in its second year of a 'pilot' program, continues to show great promise and success. The entire curriculum is integrated and infused along the lines of Indian Education for All, but with also great care taken to ensure that it promotes a culture and climate of caring, relationships, reciprocity, accountability, and stable encouragement through goal-setting, customized learning plans, strategic planning, and reflection. All cultural activities are a combination of all tribal representation, and our students can literally see themselves reflected in the curriculum, as they work on preparing traditional foods, go on traditional bison harvests, and study the historical significance of all of their ancestors' trials and triumphs.

Inter TRIBAL STRONG:

This student-led Indian Club, which is a collaboration of all AI students at HS across the district, and began in 2014, continues to forge new trails and embrace their surmounting obstacles. This student group continued to work, even as their circumstances may have become more challenging, throughout the community, pitching in where they could. They worked to obtain donations of fleece, make and then supply blankets to our Rescue Mission, provide food for our neediest of families, gave gifts to many leadership in the district, worked tirelessly at our many Indian Education Dept. events, and used their public relations training and marketing skills to get donations of food, gifts, and financial gifts from our AI community, to support their ITS Annual Pow Wow. In no small feat, these students worked the Pow Wow from every angle, they picked up litter, ran the arena, assisted the MC, sold artwork, solidified the scoring, honored elders, and most importantly modeled for our younger generation.

Indian Clubs Across District:

Our Youth Development Specialists (YDSs) worked collaboratively with our IEFA Instructional Coaches to provide rich, cultural, and significant lessons to our AI students across the district. This year we worked on hands-on, cultural lessons that included oral tradition, self-care, resiliency, and traditional games. Our department will continue to change the way our Indian Clubs look across the district, making the most of our time with our AI students, and forging lasting relationships while also providing relevancy in their cultural knowledge.

Little Shell Language Program:

In collaboration with the Little Shell Tribe, we offered Ojibwe language at both of our traditional high schools, to provide language acquisition to any student who was interested in learning a second language.

Healthy Native Hearts:

Healthy Native Hearts has been serving the Great Falls community for almost 10 years. Great Falls Public Schools and GFPS Foundation team-up to bring health accessibility to the female American Indian population, under the support of Benefis Healthcare. Benefis provides free health screenings that include blood pressure, glucose, and several others. This year our department worked closely with Lacey Gallagher and Dr. Michael Eisenhauer (Keynote Address), both of Benefis, to provide a comprehensive approach to our AI female students, elders, families, and community members. Heart Disease is the number one killer of women in the US, and significantly affects cultures with historically low social-economic statuses, due to decreased access to heart-healthy food choices. Because February is Heart Disease Awareness Month, the event is held yearly on Valentine's Day. Also, in an effort to implement prevention strategies at younger ages, the Indian Education Department has opened the event to students in Great Falls Public Schools. This strategy has increased attendance immensely, while connecting younger generations to their elders. The purpose is to grow a healthy, active American Indian network, who has access to the tools and resources to increase their heart health and overall health.

P-12 Awards Programs:

In collaboration with all of our district schools, our program was once again able to hold our Annual Awards Programs for grades P through 12. Both nights were extremely successful, as we had booths set up (selfie booth, Community Resource Booth, T-Shirt Booth) to allow for our families to visit before and/or after the actual awards ceremonies, and we were able to promote **GRADUATION**, work on academic success, family reading habits all through the use of these booths. Our success was also supported by our many teachers, administrators, and community supporters who not only helped work our event, but supplied the evidence of our goal to always build relationships, throughout our district and into our community!

Dr. Murton McClusky Library Dedication:

This year we were honored to be finally able to make many Indian Ed Directors vision come true, by honoring Dr. Murton McClusky, by naming our Native American Library and dedicating it to his work, his vision and his contribution to Indian Education in Great Falls and across our state. We began in October, where we gained the permission by GFPS Board of Trustees to move forward on this plan. Throughout the school year we continued work on this mission, and on Wednesday, April 25th, our current Native American Library became the **Dr. Murton McCluskey Library and Resource Center**. We were proud to honor such a visionary, who was able to make early inroads in the district, promoting our cultures, our traditions, and our seat at the table.

2nd Annual Youth Pow Wow:

Our Annual Youth Pow Wow was predominantly put on by our InterTRIBAL Strong students, with mentorship and collaboration from many staff, businesses, community partners, and our GFPS district. The Pow Wow had numerous vendors, selling beadwork, art, and crafts. We also had educational vendor, HOPA Mountain Books, which promotes family reading and literacy. We had contest dancing throughout the day, with special attention given to our Tiny Tot dancers, who were given a monetary gift and a HOPA book. Our youth dancers were encouraged by the audience and the prize money, which for some, was the first time they had ever been honored and won a category. Our program was also educational, describing each dance in our contests, and giving the historical background and the relationship the dance has to our culture.

Eagle Feather Ceremony:

All of our AI graduating seniors received their Eagle Feathers, bestowed upon them as a great honor, for honorable achievements, through a ceremony. These ceremonies were held by one of our most respected Elders, Chief Earl Old Person, whereas the Eagle Feathers were blessed, and given to the seniors.

Summer Culture Academy:

From moccasin making, to field trips to obtain traditional materials used in a variety of projects, our students worked throughout the month of June, learning about their culture, smudging, making traditional foods, visiting traditional local sites, building lasting relationships through mentorships with their older peers, learning oral tradition, practicing teepee making, learning traditional games, etc. Our Summer Culture Academy also included H=hands on Projects, Traditional Games (Lacrosse, etc.), Leather working, moccasin construction, drum stick making, drum making, rattle making, string making, oral tradition of Storytelling, Tipi set up drills, visit to Lewis and Clark Center for tour inside and outside, Belt mountains to obtain traditional materials, and Ulm Pishkin Buffalo jump. Our students also got to enjoy StarBase as one week of their amazing summer adventures, which included 3D engineering, robotics, and kept our students enthralled throughout that week!!

STARBASE:

This program that offers a full 5 days of STEM experiences for ALL GFPS 5th grade students throughout the year. This year STARBASE held a week long camp for American Indian students in GFPS at Whittier in conjunction with our Summer Culture Academy! It was raved about by students to parents and we had many student sign up after the first day as word got out about the great things happening at this Academy and at StarBase!!

Indian Education for All:

Book studies @ various schools; North Middle School, Lewis and Clark, Whittier and Elf. At East Middle School and CMR, IEFA coaches worked on specifically "Changing School Climate and Culture"; including relationship building, academic infusion, building capacity with cultural integration, building-wide cultural proficiency, intentional professional development based on the strength, not deficit mindset, increasing cultural identity in school buildings and with all our GFPS AI students. Indian Education for All is consistently working toward every student feels as if they have a safe place at school and are welcomed at each school. IEFA also helped provide professional development to our Indian Education Department's Youth Development Specialists and Academic Achievement Coaches, through Oral Tradition, Self-Care, Fun games to teach IEFA concepts, Traditional Games, and Self-Reflection. Our IEFA coaches also worked closely with ALD (Academic Achievement Language) to build relationships and capacity within each school, so we are better able to address the language barriers our AI students encounter, if they come from homes speaking their Native language, or even if those homes have residual AI language at their homes.

Technology Department's Accomplishments 2017-2018

- Voice over IP phone system implemented district wide – 23 locations (1375 phones)
- Re-wired District Office Building with 36,000' of Cat6 computer network cable
- 1 main distribution facility wiring closet & 12 intermediate distribution facility wiring closets upgraded/consolidated
- Installed full campus video surveillance system at Mtn View (25), West (16) and Lincoln (31). Added to Lewis & Clark (3), added to Riverview (1), added to Whittier (1), added to Valley View (4) replaced at CMR (9), replaced at GFH (4), added to GFH (6), added to NMS (5), replaced at NMS (8). Total cameras in district – 661
- Wireless expansion at Sunnyside (7), Meadow Lark (5), Whittier (5), West (5), Mtn View (1), Little Russell (3), Skyline (1)
- Removal of outdated network hubs to improve network performance at all Elementary schools
- Conducted evaluation of flat panel monitors and selected Promethean as vendor of choice. Installed at DOB (3), Mtn View (1), Roosevelt (1), PGEC (1)
- District website upgraded and converted to Word Press platform. Begin process to upgrade school and department web pages
- Revised and approved new Student and Staff Acceptable Use Policies
- Elementary Tech Coach completed 5 book club meetings, 4 lesson study planning sessions, 33 half day trainings for 3rd-6th grade Chromebook teachers, 2 half day Successmaker Trainers Workshops, 15 SuccessMaker Cafes for K-2 grade teachers, 3 SuccessMaker Cafes for 3rd-6th grade teachers, 5 new teacher meetings, 5 PLCTs, 154 planning sessions with classroom teachers/coaches, 14 pre-conferences with classroom teachers, 129 lessons modeled in the classroom, 12 lessons co-teaching in the classroom, 22 post-conferences with classroom teachers, 3 PIRs (Total: 386 coaching opportunities)
- Secondary Tech Coach completed New Teacher Training (August 14th), 2 Sub Training Days - August and January, Secondary Tech Summit - prep and teaching (Aug 22nd), 16 half day Project Based Learning Sessions at GFH - included all ELA, Social Studies, Science, HPE, FCS and World Language teachers (Sept, Oct, Nov, Feb), 12 half day Project Based Learning Sessions at EMS - 7th and 8th grade teams (Oct, Nov, Mar), 12 half day Project Based Learning Sessions at NMS - 7th and 8th grade teams (Sept, Nov, April), 2 PowerSchool Assessment PD sessions - GFH & CMR (test development and deployment), CMR, GFH, EMS, NMS, Standards Prioritization Meetings/trainings, 4 PLCTs, 3 Secondary Leadership Training meetings- 1 tech training session and 2 assessment platform training sessions, Facilitated "Computer Science Week" with the Google Logo contest at EMS (December), Collaborated on content and co-designed 2018-2019 DD Bold School PIR course in Moodle, Book Group PIR - *Better Conversations* by Jim Knight (3 2-hour sessions), 4 Quarterly Secondary New Teacher Mentor Meetings, Planned and created Montana Government Studies online Credit Recovery Course, Annual MIET Conference - planning and organizing (2 days), 212 individual teacher coaching sessions which included lesson planning, modeling, and/or co-teaching (Total: 281 coaching opportunities)
- Submitted and was granted \$23,409.00 in E-Rate funding for network switches, cabinets and misc cables.
- Recycled / E-wasted 34 pallets of obsolete technology equipment. Estimated cost savings to district - \$25,000
- District fully converted to Windows 10 & Office 2016
- Deployed 1373 new and replacement computers (150 Refurbished PCs, 89 Refurbished Laptops, 1030 Chromebooks, 94 New Laptops, 10 New PCs)

Other

- 2nd year of 5 year Technology Strategic Plan completed
- Conducted annual Building Tech Review with each Principal
- Renegotiated 3 year contract for Internet Service, Wide Area Network and Phone Services
- Participated in technology design and requirements for new facilities – Little Russell, Mtn View, Memorial Stadium, Giant Springs, CMR Multi-purpose and STEM, NMS, GFH
- Planned, organized and executed 2018 MIET Conference on June 12-13, 2018. 48 sessions, 78 attendees (41 GFPS), 6 vendors

Transportation and Safety Departments' Accomplishments 2017-2018

Transportation

- Increased transportation communication to parents through use of the Edulink system.
- Provided maps and assisted in educating the public on redistricting.
- Increased safety measures to better identify young riders.
- Reconfigured bus routes for maximum safety and efficiency.

Safety

- Completed 16 Lockdown Observation Drills on GFPS schools and support buildings.
- Awarded part of the Montana Homeland Security Grant to purchase 21 radios for emergency communication.
- Supported the implementation of Annual Facility Inspections to remain in compliance with the Montana Safety Culture Act.
- Provided incentives to increase employee safety training.
- Began the planning process for the GFPS Disaster Recovery Plan.

Warehouse Accomplishments 2017-2018

- Found creative solutions to ensure safety navigating buildings/loading docks under construction
- Staff remained injury-free despite a long, cold, and icy winter
- Tackled delivery truck mechanical issues with grace

This list of accomplishments is not all inclusive. This is a sampling only.

SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AS PROVIDED BY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

- Community Resource Fair @ Open House
- *Ferst Foundation* provides books for all of our 3-year-old students
- Successful implementation of 3-year-old room
- Unified Champion School
- 2-Special Olympics Supply Grants \$200 x 2
- YA “Fans in the Stands”
- YA Adopt a Team
- *Little Feet Meet*
- *First Interstate Foundation Grant* for \$500 -Nurse Kay
- *Innovation Grant* \$10,000
- *Karen Cox Memorial Grant* for wordless pic books
- *2-One Class at A Time* grants
- MCLP Grant Award Winners \$80,000
- 3 more Masters Degrees in EC from UM –Gretchen H, Ryan B and Christine H and Courtney N graduated!
- Teacher/Para Team of the Year –Jessica Vlasie and Faith Thompson

CHIEF JOSEPH ELEMENTARY

- SBAC Scores increased despite an increase in free and reduced lunch numbers.
- Chief Joseph enrollment increased to 335 students up from 305 the previous year.
- All 3rd Grade students completed *Money on the Bookshelf* program.
- Continued our strong partnership with Schulte’s and the Great Falls Church of Christ.
- Chief Joseph students began our Random Acts of Kindness campaign where students recognize their peers for random acts of kindness.

LEWIS AND CLARK ELEMENTARY

- Lewis and Clark teachers increased differentiation and improved instructional strategies specifically in math.
- Teachers again participated in Trauma Training and used this information to become more trauma-informed when interacting with students. This resulted in increased positive relationships between teachers & students.
- Increased diversity instruction for students and staff with great results this spring.
- Revived Student Council to give a greater student voice.
- Became a Unified School with Special Olympics Montana. Held a Respect Rally and adopted a team.
- Implemented Academic Data based parent fall meeting in all classrooms in lieu of “Open House.”
- RtI: added in general education plan documentation this year.
- Implemented Problem-Solving lessons school-wide this year. We see more students solving their own problems.
- Fewer cancelled intervention days due to changes in coverage for “no sub” days, decreasing intervention teacher support for MAP testing, and starting interventions sooner in the fall.
- Continued Partnerships with New City Church and Schulte’s.
- PTA raised almost \$10,000 through our annual Walk-a-Thon and donated this amount to purchase 5 interactive projectors and security cameras for our building.
- 3-5 Grades accessed Chromebooks during this school year. This increased access to technology increased student engagement and improved student achievement based on MAP data.
- Spent time in PLCT creating minimum competencies for writing across grade levels (vertically aligned). We continued this focus for student writing this year. We began to see the evidence of this effect this year. Upper grade teachers are impressed with the difference in skill-level of writing coming in.

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY

- Parent and Community Engagement – Working with families and meeting needs outside of school, as well as in school. Held several school-wide events over the school year: School-wide Book Club and Movie night, Church Volunteers, 2nd Grade parent activity evenings, 2nd Grade Caroling Retirement Homes, Kindergarten Learning Lunch, Veterans’ Day Tea, Special Olympics, 6th Grade last day meal at Fuddruckers, MAPRIL Clean Up Lion’s Park, Cat/Griz Food Drive over 2,000 lbs. of food donated to Salvation Army, 98% of Families Participated in Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Volunteer Luncheon to honor and celebrate our many volunteers throughout the school year
- Student Council Project/Contest: Amazing Shake (with business partners)
- Discovery Grant Winners – Leslie Kynett, Susanne Halley
- Strong PTA – fund raising events (Walk-A-Thon and Popcorn sales) for the school raised over \$20,000 for 31 security cameras, computers, flexible seating, and books for the library, Montana Shakes in the Schools, Holiday Giving Tree for Families in Need of Support, Good Person Breakfast,
- Fundraising for students doing Lincoln Service Projects. We also supported many causes in our community: Sletten Cancer Institute, School Food Bank, May Day Baskets, 5th Grade ECS Holiday Kits Sold,
- Make-A-Wish surprise party/sendoff, Student in Need Holiday Shopping for Parents,
- 3 One-Class-At-A-Time grants from First Interstate Bank
- Over 600 acts of great citizenship with the Lion’s 19 Program developed off of Ron Clark’s 55 Essential Rules – much like random Acts of Kindness (See our Lion’s 19 Bulletin Board on our Facebook Page).
- Almost 700 Facebook followers!
- Adopted Chromebooks in grades 3-6.
- School-wide Read A-louds: Seven Habits of Happy Kids and What Do You Do With a Problem?,.
- Put more emphasis on Culture Building Activities: Buddy Classrooms and Community, School-wide theme of Leadership: Leader In Me
- Increased Safety Awareness: practicing dog safety, school evacuation procedures, and other safety procedures.
- Several Celebrations of Learning: I Love to Read Week, Kindergarten Learning Lunches, 2nd Grade Insect Project and Presentations, 5th Grade Constitution Day Parade, 3rd Grade State Report Project and Presentations, 5th Grade Veteran Tea, 5th Grade Country Projects and Presentations, 6th Grade Biome Projects, Respect Rally, 4th Grade Expository Speeches, Indian Education Awards Night, Lawyer Appreciation Day; Kindergarten 100 Day Celebration, Super Hero Story Writing Contest with local author Ryan Acra, Kindergarten Gingerbread Hunt,
- Cascade County Spelling Winner, 6th Grader Ali Naber
- 5th Grade CMR Essay Winner for Lincoln, Meredith Trunkle
- Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals Community Volunteer Award – Pastor Susan Otey, Christ United Methodist Church (Volunteering at Lincoln)
- National Distinguished Principal Award received by Jon Konen
- Excellence in Education Award received by Kirsten Dige; Three former students honored for Excellence in Education: Coleman and Alec Good, Emma Womboldt
- Business Partnerships – Student Leadership Team: “Shark Tank” proposals and business involvement; Team also presented the “Sharktank” concept to the Mayor City Commission

LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY

- We began Model Schools work and partnership with ICLE (International Center for Leadership in Education)
- MCLP (Montana Comprehensive Literacy Project) Grant Award recipient. (Along with ELF, Whittier, East Middle, and GFHS.)
- Continued to offer 100% of our students a FREE breakfast and lunch each and every day.
- Longfellow increased our technology access in the classrooms. (Now offering Chromebook availability to EVERY grade 2-6th!)
- We had 7 students reach our “Million Word Club” this year. (Up from just one the year before!)
- Longfellow will be sending a team of 7 educators to MBI (Montana Behavioral Initiative) in June for training on climate and culture.
- Longfellow continues to operate a thriving food pantry, clothing pantry and backpack food program for many of our students and families in need.
- We provided much needed family support over the holidays giving out meals at Thanksgiving and gifts at Christmas.
- Longfellow became a Unified Partner for the Special Olympics and partnered with Ronan this year. We sent groups over to support athletes as “Fans-in-the-Stands” and held Respect Rallies/Lessons at school.
- Longfellow continues to support Graduation Matters in GFPS and celebrated our graduating seniors with a school-wide Graduation Walk.
- Longfellow had a vibrant Native American Club meeting weekly after school.
- We are PROUD to say that our school continues to grow both academically and behaviorally as we move into the 2018-2019 school year. Our school staff would like to say “Thank You” to our Students, Parents, and Volunteers who strive to make that possible.

LOY ELEMENTARY

The 2017-2018 has ended and Loy Elementary accomplished many things throughout the year. Character education, student safety and collaboration with MAFB.

Character Education continued to be an emphasis throughout the year. We continued our Character Assemblies, which took place in the gym on the last Wednesday and Friday of every month. For the assemblies, we had students in grades 4-6 attend the Wednesday and K-3rd grade attend on Friday. The character trait for the next month was introduced and we recognized the students who selected for demonstrating the character word of the month throughout all settings in the school. Any full-time employee can nominate a student who best exemplifies the character trait from the previous month. These nominations may include more than one student or no student at all. This will not only give more students a chance to be recognized, but also ensure that they are all deserving of the award. In addition, students that joined our school community during the month will be welcomed and given a Loy coin that represents our character education program and exemplifies our “Believe, Discover, Achieve” motto. Loy was recognized as an Honorable Mention School of Character by Character.org. Schools are selected by having reached a standard of excellence within their states in the area of character development.

New this year, were our positive office referrals, which any adult in the building could give to a student that at any time demonstrated one of your character traits. The student were given a sheet to take home to share with their parents and a copy was turned into the office for a chance to be drawn for a pizza party with the principal and counselor. Six students were drawn from K-3 and six students from 4-6 and they all attended the celebration together. Another new aspect of our character education program was two 6th grade students attended the board of education meeting and presented the character trait and shared what that meant to them and what they did at Loy to help foster character education throughout the building. It is about building relationships in all aspects of the school and getting to know students .

Loy Families continued which has each full-time staff member have 15-18 students divided between grades K-6 (all students participate) in their family. This offered our students the opportunity to build positive relationships with an adult besides their classroom teacher, but also form relationships with students in other grades. Our families met once

a month (the last Wednesday of the month) and did fun activities that focused on building positive relationships and teamwork.

Student safety is always a continual focus as we want students to feel safe and welcomed in the building at all times. The building is now equipped with cameras in the hallways and outside to help monitor student and community safety. Visitors are required to sign in with the Raptor computer system in the office and get a printed badge with their name and photo on it before entering the building.

Meetings were held with the SLO to further open communication between Loy and MAFB and work together to improve transitions for all military children. These meetings also gave way to more opportunities for the staff at Loy to learn about MAFB and the jobs that the parents of our students do on a daily basis and the hardship that families incur. Every year, we honor Veteran's Day by having an assembly and we were privileged to have the Junior ROTC perform for us reminding us the importance young students have in our military families along with their parents and all the veterans that support the school and our community.

Other events and activities:

- Weekly Indian Education Club
- STEAM Expo
- Starbase Program for 5th grade students
- Music Programs (Holiday and spring concerts)
- Geography Bee and Spelling Bee
- School and City Speech Meet
- Data Day Meetings (RTI) every 6 weeks
- DARE (drop everything and read) & Scholastic Book Fairs to promote the importance of reading
- Various fundraisers in conjunction with PTA
- Monthly Character Education Assemblies and Loy Family Activities
- 5/6th Grade activity nights (once a month)
- Veterans Day Assembly

MEADOW LARK ELEMENTARY

- **Going for Gold Kick-off**-On the first day of school this year, our entire staff, students, and families gathered on the playground to greet, visit, and meet new people before school started. When the very first bell rang, gold ribbons were cut and everyone entered the building together! It was the start of a new tradition for us at Meadow Lark. The energy and excitement could be felt by everyone!
- **Unified School Assembly** for anti-bullying was put on by our 6th grade Leadership students. They wrote and performed a skit to demonstrate our unification with Special Olympics and our adopted team from Shelby, Montana. We invited Tom Wylie from KRTV and Jon Hargett from Special Olympics to speak to our students and staff. Every student and staff member received a "Going for Gold" t-shirt to wear to Fans in the Stands during the Special Olympics.
- The **Meadow Lark PTA** held a Color Run for families and staff to celebrate spring and get some color on our "Going for Gold" t-shirts.
- In our school, we continued to work to strengthen **Community Relationships** by finding ways to support others:
 - **Fans in the Stands**-All of our 6th grade students attended *Fans in the Stands* to cheer on the Special Olympic athletes. Our entire school participated in writing cards, making banners, and creating posters for the athletes.
 - **River Edge Trail Luminaries**- Our students each made a luminary bag with artwork showing their favorite part of Great Falls on them. These will be on display at the River Edge Trail Luminary Walk in the summer.
 - **Cameron Family Center**- Our leadership students volunteered once a month and served dinner to the families that are staying in this facility. They also organized a school-wide collection of toiletries and baby items to donate as well. They collected well over 600 items that over the course of four months.
 - **Meals on Wheels**- Our school organized a collection of small items to be delivered to the participants in the Meals on Wheels Program for the holidays. This 12 Days of Christmas allowed each recipient to

open a small gift from December 12-24 to anticipate the holiday. This year we were able to wrap and send 52 gift bags filled with the 12 items.

- **Giving Trees**-Parents and staff shopped, wrapped, and gave presents to support families in our community from other schools.
- **Canned Food Collection**-Our students collected non-perishable food items and donated to GFPS school food pantries in several elementary schools.
- **Lost and Found**-We made several donations of clothing items throughout the year to other elementary schools and community agencies.
- **Red Cross Blood Drive**-Our PTA hosted our own Blood Drive promoted by our 4th grade students as part of their science curriculum. Each adult that donated nominated a student to donate for to encourage our students to donate their own blood when they are adults. We had a record number of donors this year.
- **Leadership Campus Cleanup**-Every student participated in a variety of spring cleaning activities for our school. This effort was led by our Sixth Grade Student Leadership students. They were able to fill many garbage bags with trash, weeds, and branches. Our school looks amazing!
- **Graduation Matters:**
 - School-wide **National Walk to School Day** at Meadow Lark with students, families, and alumni high school students (wearing their high school logo) joining this event to encourage exercise, wellness, and graduation.
 - **Assemblies** were put on by our local high school students to encourage our students to be part of music, theatre, and sports.
 - **Seniors/Kindergarteners**-Graduation Matters/United Way teamed up with our kindergarteners to do activities and participate in a photo opportunity with a graduation banner and Graduation Matters t-shirts.

MORNINGSIDE ELEMENTARY

First Day of School- “Go TEAM!” Celebrated the first day of school with TEAMS from around Great Falls: Orbit mascot from the Voyagers baseball, LadyArgos Volleyball team, and the Argos men’s soccer team. They greeted students with a spirit line as they came into the school.

Amazing School Partnerships: again this year...we can always count on these groups

- Great Falls Lions Club: Two free breakfasts for students and families; food pantry donations
- Living Grace Church: Food pantry donations, clothing needs, ice cream treats on last day of school
- My Student in Need Program: Various clothing and personal need items
- Great Falls Masons: Reading Challenge donation of **5 Kindles** which were given out at the Awards Ceremony on the last day of school
- Agencies with Holiday Family Support: GFPD- Shop with a Cop; Meadow Lark Country Club; GFFD-
- Paul’s Holiday Wish; Morningside Families

Special Olympics

- We collaborated with the Special Olympic Montana to become a Unified Inclusive School.
- We also sent several classes to be “fans in the stands” at the State Summer Games held in May. It was a wonderful experience for our students and the teachers were thanked multiple time for taking their kids to support the athletes.

One Fantastic PTA:

- MCT: Missoula Children’s Theater production of Alice in Wonderland
- “TEAM” BBQ at Heren Park to start the year with families, staff and students
- PTA Carnival in April- always a great tradition for Morningside families

MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY

The library and media center at Mountain View Elementary has graduated to the 21st century! Thanks to the collaborative work of five teachers and a \$14,788 grant from the Great Falls Public Schools Foundation and a generous donation from Mountain View's PTA, the library was upgraded with new shelves for the books, an interactive TV, new desks for students. The teachers were Trish Korman, Rachel O'Neill, Jennifer Crisman, Carly Nason and Lainie Warneke. The PTA funded the new shelves for the books. Kristi Wasson, Mountain View's art teacher took on the task of guiding the 6th grade leadership students in painting a mural of a grove of aspen trees on an interior wall. Kira Fercho, an artist from Billings, donated an oil painting worth over \$4,000 to the project. Now, students have a comfortable place to work.

Kindergarten graduation was held the last week of school. The kindergarteners filed in to the piano music of Pomp and Circumstance played by MS Emma Citton. They prepared a song for parents and got Graduation Matters T-Shirts and a certificate of completion.

Sixth grade graduation was a huge success. The theme this year was, "Oh the Places You Will Go" from the Dr. Seuss book. This year the sixth grade class invited MS Lainie Warneke to be the guest speaker. Her message focused on the places the 6th graders would go. The students each read a piece they had written about what they would accomplish in life. They each got a certificate of completion. The Presidential Academic Fitness awards, both silver and gold, were awarded. After the ceremony, students took pictures with their families and friends.

Each quarter, first grade hosts a family fun event that centers on things first graders have learned during the quarter. Activities such as math games or science experiments that students have mastered are set up and families can come participate. One quarter the students planted flowers and took home 2 books on plants.

The Masons generosity continues as they gave away 2 bikes and a kindle Fire tablet again this year. Students could earn a chance to win by reading books. The bike give away was followed by the traditional Mountain View slide show. The slide show has become a tradition at Mountain View. One meaningful work job is picture taker. Those students take pictures of students throughout the year and then the pictures are combined into a slide show, shown on the last day of school. Students LOVE seeing themselves on the "big screen"!

RIVERVIEW ELEMENTARY

- Riverview 5th and 6th grade leadership students and staff worked together to plan our building wide SBAC kick-off assembly, brainstorm weekly behavior rewards, plan our first community movie night, the first 5th and 6th grade dance and organize our first annual 6th grade talent show.
- Riverview staff was honored with five gold stars through the GFPS Foundation.
- Riverview staff implemented Leveled Intervention K-6 in Math.
- Riverview students read to earn the opportunity to participate in the "Sumo Wrestling" and "Dunk Tank" celebrations at the end of each semester.
- Riverview PTA organized the annual cookie dough fundraiser. Students and their parents stepped up to make it another great year, and are being rewarded with nearly \$7,000 of new technology, new adjustable basketball hoops in our gym, and starting to save to incorporate new play structures on the playground.
- Riverview continues to plan and prepare for emergencies through practice of fire drills, lock downs, shelter in place, evacuations, and code blue practices. Fall of 2017, the Riverview staff participated in an active shooter training in our building.
- Riverview students, parents and community came together to provide 25 holiday baskets for families in need.
- Riverview students completed two food drives totaling almost 4,000 pounds of food.

- Riverview continued our tradition of delivering May Day baskets around the community. In addition, each classroom cleaned up the streets along the delivery route.
- Riverview staff received GFPS Discovery Grant to fund a Maker Space in a classroom.
- Riverview students and staff partnered with Montana Special Olympics and adopted the Great Falls Lions team for the next three years. RV students supported the athletes through fans in the stands, notes of support, and goodie bags for athletes during the event.
- Riverview received seven bikes and two Kindles from the Masonic Lodge and Uptown Optimist to be given away at the end of the year.

ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY

- Roosevelt Students were recognized by the Governor's wife as having read the most minutes of any school in the state of Montana during the 2017 summer by Scholastic. **This was our fourth year in a row!**
- Riki Johnson-Lackey, our school counselor, was selected as the alternate for Montana School Counselor of the Year!
- Roosevelt is moving into Giant Springs in the Fall of 2019! This led to many firsts and lasts this year at Roosevelt Elementary. We created, along with the Freshmen Honor's English students from Great Falls High School our final yearbook. We did multiple learning activities with the crew from Sletten Construction including interactive activities provided by Sletten through technology. We were able to take an all school field trip to Giant Springs for a Topping Out Ceremony in which the highest steel beam was signed by all of our students and staff and placed upon the building!
- We were the recipients of multiple donations for our new school building including:
 - Media Center from Linda Caricaburu and Brad Talcott
 - Bike Racks and Benches—designed and built by the CMR Welding Students under the direction of Paul Hogan; through donations from our Roosevelt PTA, Roosevelt Leadership Team, Brad Norris and children Kamden and Kenadie
 - A bronze duck family from Stu and Janie Nicholson
 - Materials for our new activity room and maker space from the Roosevelt PTA
 - Book Nook from the Great Falls Kiwanis Club
 - Makerspace and Teachers' Lounge appliances from Tom and Cindy Duffy and Eklund's Appliances
- In our school we worked to strengthen community relationships, help students get their needs met, and build stronger relationships with parents with the goal of increasing student achievement.
 - Teachers communicated with parents' monthly and logged communication. Grade levels hosted parent luncheons to build capacity in parents
 - Held several school-wide events over the school year: Children's Night at the Museum, a formal luncheon to teach manners, a carnival
 - Leadership Team comprised of leaders in 4, 5, 6 grades did multiple community service activities this year including work with the mission, the animal shelter and our new neighbors at Giant Springs
 - We delivered May Day baskets to our new neighbors and our existing neighbors as a way of thanking them for their support and showing them ways the school can give back
 - STEAM Expo—greatly increased the number of students participating and held our own school expo
- Amazing School Partnerships:
 - Participated in the 9-Innings of reading with the Great Falls Voyagers
 - New Hope Church and Crossroads Church: Food pantry donations, clothing needs, multiple volunteers to read with students, assisted with celebrations
 - My Student in Need Program: Various clothing and personal need items
 - The Kiwanis Club donated a Book Nook and volunteers read to students each month
 - Great Falls Masons: Reading Challenge donation of 5 Kindles, and money for our library
- Grants:
 - 2 Roosevelt Teachers received One Class At a Time Grants
 - 2 Roosevelt Teachers received a Great Falls Public Schools Foundation Grant

- Roosevelt's Library received the \$2500 Masonic Foundation Literacy Grant as well as 3 classroom teachers received Masonic Grants
- Professional Development
 - Writing: examples are turned in monthly for all curricular areas
 - We implemented monthly social skills and character traits instruction in all classrooms. Our school counselor created a yearlong daily meeting PowerPoint for instruction
 - Our teachers worked tirelessly multiple evenings and weekends to get our school ready for the move to Giant Springs! Thank you, Great Falls! We want to leave Roosevelt better than we found it as we embark on this new journey
 - Our teachers continue learning about the effects of trauma on students

SACAJAWEA ELEMENTARY

Schoolwide Celebrations:

- **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:** K-3 teachers implemented new Handwriting Without Tears writing curriculum.
- **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:** 4-6 teachers infused technology into instruction with the use of Chromebooks. Students were actively engaged using Chromebook devices daily for instruction.
- **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:** Data was kept per classroom for attendance and posted each month outside the office. In February, our lowest % was 82%. All other months we reached 90% or higher. One class had 99% attendance and many classes reached 98% attendance every month.
- **HEALTHY SAFE AND SECURE SCHOOLS:** This year, we incorporated the book "Wonder" into our kindness campaign. Students could earn "Wonder" tickets for being kind to other students and then their ticket was put into a drawing for lunch with the principal/counselor each month.

Student Celebrations:

- PTA State Reflections: Six Sacajawea students placed first, four Sacajawea students placed second, and two Sacajawea students earned the Judge's Award.
- PTA National Reflections: One Sacajawea student placed first in Photography.
- City Speech Meet: 4th grade student won Expository category & 5 other students placed in the top 8 in 4th-6th.
- Several students earned gold medals for their STEAM projects.
- Sacajawea 4th grade student represented GFPS at the State Geography Bee in Billings.
- Adopted a Special Olympics Team and became an inclusive school for Special Olympics. Sacajawea students held a Respect Rally and were "Fans in the Stands".
- Two students were in the top 10 of the County Spelling Bee.
- Five students exited out of System 44 (Tier 3 Reading Intervention Program).
- Raised \$3,617.00 for Jump Rope for Heart Association.
- Kindergarten students presented May Day Baskets to our neighborhood.
- Sac Pac Leadership students participated in Mapril Cleanup.
- Sacajawea participated in Graduation Matters Graduation Walk with Kindergarten students.
- 1st grade students received a free pumpkin from Torgerson's in October.
- Forty 4th-6th grade students participated in Cross Country at Sacajawea. Two 5th grade girls placed in the top 10 at the City Cross Country Meet.
- Twenty-five students attended "Free Throw Thursdays" in the gym with Mr. Thornton to get ready for Elks Hoop Shoot. Twelve students qualified for the Elks Hoop Shoot.
- Fifty-eight students qualified for the 4th grade Fitness Challenge from Sacajawea. Three students got first place, two students placed second, and one student placed third.
- Twenty-six 5th and 6th graders participated in track this year and many students placed earning a ribbon. Two 6th grade students placed first in their event.

PTA Celebrations:

- PTA hosted a Walk-A-Thon and Family Fun Carnival Night.
- Missoula Children's Theater production "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs".
- One-day Book Fair profit over \$7,000.00 including online sales.
- Box Top Challenges held throughout the year.

SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY

- Every grade level and individual class completed a community service project during the 17-18 school year. The service projects ranged from working and supporting the law enforcement agencies within our community, a sock drive for the Receiving Home, raising funds for a mother who is terminally ill with cancer and many more
- Sunnyside students and staff teamed together to support the Travis Manion Foundation. Students and staff organized a fun run at our school. Students raised over \$3500 in a week and supported the military veterans of our community.
- Sunnyside teachers participated in the SHAPE MT 150 initiative. This allowed students to work with their classes to have 150 minutes of movement time during their day. Students participated in yoga, school moves, boot camp drills, dancing and much more during the 2017-2018 school year.
- 2 Teachers earned Discovery Grants to support students with enhanced learning within the classroom.
- Sunnyside provided 25 families dinner at Thanksgiving and 20 families dinner at Christmas.
- Sunnyside families and students also supported 100 students and families for Christmas. Families provided games, books and household items to help those families in need at Sunnyside.
- Sunnyside was the proud recipient of nine "One Class at A Time" Grants. Teachers used this money to support students and make learning a little easier and fun for students.
- Participation with MAPRIL Cleanup during April and May- All 450 kids cleaned up our campus and surrounding allies and streets.
- Sunnyside students participated in annual bike-a-thon as a way to promote healthy life style choices.
- Student Leadership worked with the principal and faculty to have healthy snacks for sale for a quarter during selected Fridays throughout the year.

VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY

- We focused on the elements of the book The Leader in Me which centers on Covey's seven habits for highly successful people. Grade level teams worked together to create 7 student-led assemblies designed to teach and reinforce each habit. The assemblies featured a 7 habits song that all students learned, videos, and student skits.
- Jump rope fever caught us! Our counselor expanded his jump rope team as jumpers increased their skill level and complexity of tricks. A wide range of students took up jump roping at recess. The team was invited to perform at Sacagawea Elementary to spark their enthusiasm for jumping.
- We continued to offer varied opportunities to showcase the talents of our students including
 - 3rd Annual Jitterbug Competition
 - Geography/Spelling Bee
 - Art Festival-a fundraiser showcasing student art and sponsoring Montana Shakes theater group
 - Montana Shakes –two days of acting workshops allowing each student to participate, plus two whole school performances
 - Veteran's Day Assembly
 - 6th grade Wax Museum
- We continued some great community partnerships:
 - Graduation Matters/United Way- We partnered to do a Grad Walk with seniors from CMR and hosted multiple United Way volunteers throughout the year. We also had our first ever kindergarten graduation.
 - Voyagers Seven Innings of Reading Program (we even got Orbit to jump rope at our last Leader in Me assembly).
 - First Church of the Nazarene: anytime we have a need...from volunteers to funds, this awesome church steps up. They are so good to us!
 - My Student in Need Program: Various clothing and personal need items.
 - Great Falls Masons: Reading Challenge donation of bikes/Kindles

- Special Olympics: It was also our second year of being a Special Olympics Unified Champion school. We continued to provide the Young Athletes program, adopted a team from Sanders County, and sent hundreds of student to be Fans in the Stands for Summer Games.
- We also have a fantastic PTA who provided:
 - Back to School Swim Night, Popcorn Fridays, sensory kits for each wing, Back to School supplies for staff, lunch money for families in need, staff meals, end of year class parties, classroom supplies, and a yearbook for every child.
 - And these fun events: Desserts and Dice, Family Fun Bingo, Ice Cream Social, and a Family Formal Ball

WEST ELEMENTARY

- Purchased additional West Wildcat Wall Art for the hallways
- Continued partnership with Kiwanis Club continue the “Book Nook” where students could go and listen to stories read by Kiwanis and other community members as well as trade or keep books
- Partnered with Kiwanis to Initiate the BUG (Bring Up Your Grades) and Improved Attendance recognition to motivate students to improve grades and attendance
- Discovery Grant – 2 teachers received grants; one for interactive games and puzzles for after the lesson and one for sensory chairs
- One Class at a Time Grant – 2 teachers
- Embark Student Savings Program – students completed the challenge of reading books and learning about saving money
- Continued grant for Free Breakfast and Lunch for all students
- Continued implementation of after school Indian Culture Club – which included cultural activities and dancing
- Continued use of MILEPOSTS for weekly data collection for RtI progress monitoring and planning for specific interventions
- West Students read **80 MILLION** words, participating in our AR Reading Incentive Program, greatly surpassing their goal!
- Had the first ever West Talent Show – showcasing our Native American Dancers and other great talent!
- Had 4 teachers earn their Masters in Education
- Completed another GREAT year with Great Falls Public Schools!

WHITTIER ELEMENTARY

- **MBI**--We would like to showcase Whittier becoming an MBI school (Montana Behavioral Initiative) as one of our top accomplishments this school year. We are an elementary school with an enrollment of approximately 242 students. Whittier sent a team of teachers and the principal to the MBI conference during the summer of 2017. **Team** leadership is important in an MBI School and a Whittier MBI team was created to plan and communicate school wide procedures for common areas such as the playground, hallway, cafeteria, etc. This team and Whittier staff had the willingness to try new procedures until they found what worked for our students. They created:
 - A calm, caring learning environment.
 - PAWS –school wide rules—P-Pride and Respect, A-Accept Responsibility, W-Work Hard, and S-Safety Always.
 - Common area lesson plans (common language) that all classroom teachers taught and all staff followed. For example: a common lesson plans was taught for lunchroom procedures and this created a more organized and calm lunchroom.
 - Power Hour—the Whittier counselor and librarian conducted Power Hour as needed throughout the school year. Students and teachers at each grade level were brought together to review common area procedures. Power Hour explicitly teaches building wide procedures and expectations using common lesson plans. Power Hour is used to introduce and review expectations and behaviors. They also prepare new students for success when they come to Whittier.

- Lunch Learning Opportunity or “recess school”. Students that received a tune-up are required to go to LLO—where they receive individual re-teaching of the school wide rule that was not followed.

Whittier completed MBI Tier I Fidelity Inventory with 100% accuracy and our next step is to move from Tier I common areas to Tier II individual student behavior plans of improvement. The MBI team will meet every other week (after school) as a team and with classroom teachers to assist with RTI Tier III behavior interventions.

- **MCLP Grant**-- We took a hard look at Whittier’s instructional strengths and growth areas for reading and helped others write a Montana Comprehensive Literacy Project Grant. Whittier received funding from this grant and will work on instructional growth areas for reading.
- **Special Olympics Unified Partners**—Whittier sponsored the *Helena Bengals* Athletes. Student leadership held a Respect Rally with a Special Olympics athlete as the keynote speaker, sought donations for gift bags for each athlete, decorated their hotel room doors, welcomed the athletes to Whittier, and took buses to their athlete’s events such as opening ceremonies and swimming.
- **Elevator**--Whittier’s new elevator was completed in October -- just in time to accommodate a kindergarten student with cerebral palsy—she loves riding the elevator upstairs to the resource room. We were able to have 6th grade graduation upstairs this year, because a handicapped parent could use the elevator to visit her student’s classroom. The new elevator is well used and much appreciated by Whittier students and families.
- **STEAM EXPO**—increased participation at Whittier. We had the second highest number of participants of any elementary school in Great Falls Public Schools. Mrs. Davalos was the teacher leading this surge of interest by bringing students and parents together after school to work on projects.
- **K-1 Parent Night**—the goal is to build parent capacity in the areas of reading and math. We had 35 families attend. We will be expanding on this idea next year and looking at how this could replace or be a part of parent teacher conferences. A PLCT was held on how important engaging families is to student success and how to hold a winning Parent Night.
- **Family Summer Celebration**—Whittier planned three Family Summer Celebrations in coordination with: PTA, the volunteer group-*The Fishers of Men*, and Summer Read 6.
- **Graduation Matters**-- continued and expanded our partnership with UGF this year. The Providence Formation Group has adopted 4 grade levels here at Whittier (seniors with 3rd graders / juniors with 2nd graders / sophomores with 1st graders / freshman with kinder). We also celebrated a graduation at UGF with our 3rd graders and our graduating UGF Seniors! They have been with their adopted grade level for 5years! The relationships and volunteer hours these students are logging with their adopted grade levels is incredible!
- **Free**--We continue our 100% free breakfast and lunch program at Whittier. We also have breakfast-in-the-classroom, the backpack food program for weekends, and an active food pantry. Our students get fed!
- **Student leadership** worked a school store and used their proceeds to fund free yearbooks for all students again this year. The yearbook was a collaborative project with our PTA librarian and many highly motivated students. They created an amazing product! Student Leadership began each day delivering the morning announcements and leading our school in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Student Advisory Committee**—this is a district wide program in which each elementary school sends two students to participate in student leadership activities (a fifth and a sixth grader) and these student bring leadership skills back to Whittier student leadership. The showcase project that the Student Advisory Committee and the Whittier student leadership worked on together was an introduction to Whittier Elementary. The student leaders created a power point to show and discuss with each new student and their parents. Student leaders will take turns showing the power point and taking the families on a tour of their new school. This procedure that was planned this year will be implemented during the 2017-2018 school year.
- **STARBASE** continuation of the program that offers a full 5 days of STEM experiences for ALL GFPS 5th grade students throughout the year. This year STARBASE held a week long camp for American Indian students in GFPS here at Whittier in conjunction with Indian Education 4-11 Grade Summer Culture Camp. It was raved about by

students to parents and we had many student sign up after the first day as word got out about the great things happening at Whittier.

- **9-Innings of Reading**--Whittier kids again participated in the 9-Innings of reading with the Great Falls Voyagers. Orbit came, encouraged our kiddos to read, and offered a bunch of fun incentives! Thanks Voyagers!
- **PTA**—new this year our PTA sponsored a “Sock Hop”. Students, families, **community** and staff were invited to a night of 50’s music and free dinner. This was a well-attended events. Students said they will always remember this evening of fun at their school.
- **Bison/Rustler Buddy Program**--Continued a relationship with both the Bison/Rustler Buddy program and the Girl Scouts to provide services and activities for Whittier students.

EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL

- EMS had 70 more 7th graders inducted into National Jr. Honor Society than the previous year
- EMS partnered with Special Olympics Montana to support State Games in Great Falls
- EMS had over 200 hundred hours of student community service
- EMS again participated and lead a school-wide drive with United Way for Graduation Matters
- EMS honored over 150 students for having a Mind-Set that would allow them to be successful in the future.
- EMS had 420 Students receive a 3.0 for all four quarters
- 743 EMS students all signed a pact to agree to report issues with school safety after the school shooting crisis in Florida.

NORTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Community Service:

- National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) Fundraisers to support Student Lunch Account Balances
- NJHS Cat/Griz Food Drive
- NMS PTA Fundraisers- Buffalo Wild Wings, Godfathers Pizza, Krispy Crème Donuts, Dairy Queen
- Special Olympics Unified Champions Fundraisers for Special Olympics
- NMS Angel Tree
- Cozy for Crossing Guards Fundraiser
- Cameron Center Clean up Day
- HOSA and Grove Family Fundraiser
- Maclean Animal Center and Great Falls Animal Shelter Fundraisers
- River’s Edge Trail Luminaria Walk
- Grizz Biz Wadsworth Kids Fishing Day- Assemble 700 rods and reels, 500 tackle boxes

Community Engagement:

- Grizz Biz attended the State Fair, the Home and Garden Show, and Art for a Cause
- Orchestra Concerts at the Preschool and Retirement Homes
- WWII Interview Project at the Beehive Retirement Home
- Club Community Advisors- Salon Careers, Vet Careers, Photography Careers
- RY Lumber Donates to Grizz Biz

Student Engagement:

- Principal of the day: Schmidt and Fatz
- Interdisciplinary Units: American Icons, Olympics, Iditarod, Genetics, Flat Franklins, Genius Hours
- Team Celebrations: Pancake Breakfast, Cocoa and Candy Canes, and Parent Appreciation Night
- Leadership Conferences Students Attended: JMG, MBI, Graduation Matters Summit
- Week Long Instructional Celebrations: Red Ribbon Week and Graduation Matters Week
- Principal’s Corner Youtube Channel
- Principal 200 Lunch Celebrations (4)
- Industrial Technology Field Trips to the high school house
- Hooked on Fishing not Drugs Field trips

- Assemblies: End of Quarter School Celebrations, SUPAMAN, Ken Tork
- No One Eats Alone Lunch Campaign
- Host Special Olympics Summer State Games and GFPS Respect Rally
- Students vs. Staff Basketball Game
- Field Day Investigation- 3 day field trip

Student and Staff Accomplishments:

- Middle School Job Shadow Noah Stimac with Woith Engineering
- Science Olympiad Competition
- Science Bowl 1st and 2nd place and Regional Winners and trip to Nationals.
- Spelling Bee- NMS Grand Champion Ashton Blake
- Math Counts Competition
- Foundation Excellence in Education- 8 staff honored
- STEAM Expo- Science Olympiad participation
- Uptown Optimists Toastmasters Competition- 10 students
- NJHS Induction 122 students
- Ben Hodson Wins Optimist International MT vs. Canada Oratory Contest \$2500 Scholarship
- Individual Athletics: Brycen Gardner, Emmerson Grafton, and Lauren Lindseth NMS 8th Grade Grizzly Athletes of the Year
- Team Athletics: Volleyball City Champions 8B, 7A, and 7B, Boys Basketball City Champions 7B, 7A, and 8A, Girls Basketball City Champions 7A, 7B, 8B, and 8A, Football City Champs 8A and 7Aa, 8th grade girls and boys and 7th grade girls and boys Track City Champs

C.M. RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL

- Some notable accomplishments of the 2018 senior class:
 - Members of the 2018 senior class have earned over \$2 million dollars in scholarships and awards
 - 11 seniors were awarded the Montana University System Honor Scholarship
 - 75 senior class members have been initiated into the National Honor Society
 - 68% of this senior class have post-graduate plans to continue their formal education
 - 12 seniors maintained a perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA throughout high school
 - 107 seniors (38%) were recognized for making the honor roll **all 4 years** of high school
 - 18 members of this senior class will be serving our country in the military
 - 8 senior boys were members of the AA Boys Basketball State Championship team
 - A member of this senior class is the 2017-2018 AA Cross Country State Champion
 - A member of this senior class placed second in the State AA Tennis Tournament
 - 4 senior boys won the Golf State Championship—the first boy's championship for CMR in 13 years
 - 4 senior girls were on the 2016-17 State Softball Championship Team
 - 28 seniors were recognized as Montana Coach's Association All-State Team members
 - 18 senior athletes will compete at the college level in their respective sports
 - 10 seniors were selected to the 2017 Montana All-State Band and Choir in Bozeman.
 - 13 seniors have earned their State FFA Degree
 - 3 seniors are Unified Partners for Special Olympics and have donated countless hours of their time
 - Senior HOSA members won 7 Gold, 3 Silver, and 7 Bronze Medals at HOSA State Conference
 - 5 students are on the National Scholastic Press Association's Honor Roll
- Notable accomplishments from the 2017-2018 School Year:
 - A ground breaking ceremony was held on September 13, 2017. This was the beginning of the construction process for the CMR Multi-purpose facility, the STEM addition, and renovations to Pride Field and the track complex
 - CMR Boys' Golf Team won the 2017-2018 AA State Title
 - Electric City FFA, advised by CMR Teacher Jodi Koterba, was recognized as Premier Chapter Finalist in Building Communities

- On December 13, 42 student government members gathered in Bill Williamson Hall with a goal of being exposed to the YRBS survey data, and how the data affects CMR. In addition, the students brainstormed ways to move forward with the goal of improving culture and climate at our high school.
- The CMR Boys' Basketball Team won the State AA Championship
- CMR Student, Katrina Roberts was named a 2018 Prudential Spirit of Community top volunteer. She received \$1,000, a silver medallion, and an all-expense paid trip to Washington DC.

GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Our Kids

Professional Development for Instruction

- Literacy Coaches, Yolanda Westerberg and Kayte Howell focused on literacy instruction through writing in all content areas
- Quiet professional book study
- Jana Mora provided integrated technology coaching support
- Common Content Assessment and Power Standards work
- Three teachers applied to begin studies as "National Board Certified" professionals

Grant

- Received a Title I School Support grant for the 2017-2018 school year to support the Professional Development for Instruction (listed above) and purchase intervention supplies for English Language Arts classes
- Received a Title I Montana Comprehensive Literacy Grant for the 2018-2019 school year (Spring Semester of the 2018 school year)

Culture: Extra Curricular Achievement

- InterTRIBAL Strong! Students participated in the state leadership forum
- Bison Beginnings annual kickoff for freshmen and students new to Great Falls High
- Hosted a brunch for new upper class students the first day of school and linked them to an upper classman for lunch, finding their classrooms, etc.
- 46% of our student body is engaged in extracurricular activities
- Air Force JROTC program doubled in size.
- Will send one football player and three cheerleaders to the Shrine Game.
- Hung a banner for the GFHS Girls' Softball Team (22-0).
- 16 seniors were honored with All-Conference and/or All-State nominations.
- 25 seniors earned Academic All-State designations in at least one sport.
- Individual State Champion in wrestling.
- Will send two soccer players to the Shodair Soccer Classic.
- 13 individual scholarships given to athletes who will be continuing their sport in college.
- State champion for Speech and Debate in *Original Oratory* with National Tournament qualifiers
- National Honor Society chapter members provided 932 hours of tutoring for students in all subject areas, before and after school, during Saturday school and in the STAT rooms.
- Biology, geology and chemistry students participated in field studies in the Greater Yellowstone ecosystem.
- Applied Physics participated in the first annual "Pull Your Share"
- Senator John Tester surprised our Government classes with a visit, thanking them for their letters and answering questions
- Montana Secretary of State Corey Stapleton visited history classes

Culture: Academic Achievement

- The total amount of scholarship money awarded on Honors Night, (NOT including MUS scholarships, sports, music or private scholarships) was over \$230,000.00.
- Capitalized on dual credit opportunities, helping GFHS to be recognized as a leader in the state in savings to families utilizing this college jump-start opportunity
- Mathlete Contest

- TrigSTAR contest
- WorldQuest Competition at UM
- Montana Talks (formerly WarFair)
- Principal Cup competition at Simms High School
- 11 MUS Scholarships
- 1 National Merit Scholar Letter of Commendation
- 1 U.S. Presidential Scholar Semifinalist
- 1 Full JROTC Scholarship
- 3 Senior GFHS Choir students named to the NAFME All-Northwest Choir, 3 Senior GFHS Choir students earned All-State honors
- 1 Senior GFHS Band student earned All-State honors.
- Over 50 seniors participated in music all four years at GFHS.
- Senior AP Art students painted a mural in music department.
- Art students hung and displayed art at the State Capital in Helena.
- Drama produced three successful shows, including the musical *The Little Mermaid* and brought *To Kill A Mockingbird* back to Great Falls.
- Juniors and seniors built a home for NeighborWorks, High School House # 40.
- Marching band performed 2 shows and marched in the Homecoming parade last fall.
- Student musicians from Delphian Choir, Chamber Orchestra, Rhapsody Choir and Jazz Band participated in over 60 performances this year at our elementary schools, retirement homes, Benefis Hospital, as well as Special Olympics, civic group activities, and community bands. Plus, performed the National Anthem at events.....too numerous to count!
- 30 seniors earned Superior Solos and Ensembles at District Music Festival.
- 4 seniors were members of the All-State Honor Ensembles for music.
- Junior ROTC cadets presented our National Colors at over 50 events within our district and community.
- FCS students catered many events and dinners throughout our district and community including the 3-Sport Banquet and dessert for Excellence in Education.
- Delphian Choir Seniors represented GFHS at the All-Northwest Conference of ACDA in Portland. They were the only Montana choir selected to perform at this year's conference.
- Seniors in both DECA and BPA won state awards and competed at their national conferences.
- US Senator John Tester and Montana Secretary of State Cory Stapleton surprised our Government classes with a visit, thanking them for their letters and answering questions.
- Seniors capitalized on dual credit opportunities, helping GFHS be recognized as a leader in the state in savings to families. Dual credit is a college jump-start opportunity.
- 5 seniors earned their CNA certificates, completing rigorous academic and National Board testing processes.
- Worked cooperatively with CMR to build High School House # 40

Our Community

Partnerships

- YRBS/CARE/TEG/Threat Assessments
- CopCorn (with the SRO – raises money for the Bison Giving Tree)
- Cascade of Talent (Embark Credit Union)
- Developing Child classes at ELF Center; career pathway with UM-Western
- Student musicians from Delphian Choir, Chamber Orchestra, Rhapsody Choir and Jazz Band participated in over 100 performances this year at our elementary schools, retirement homes, Benefis Hospital, as well as Special Olympics, civic group activities, and community bands. Plus, several National Anthem performances...too numerous to count!
- Buddy Walk partners – GFHS Cheer
- Special Olympics – celebrating diversity and support athletes activities
- American Red Cross blood drives

- Cross Town Clash partnerships with Voyagers Baseball
- GFCMSU partners in education for IT cohorts and dual credit
- UGF partnership for sports practice and competition venues
- Benefis CNA classes
- New Life Church and Set Free Ministries provided asset development to students and support for staff.

Communication

- Crisis team at DOB and GFPD support during times of crisis
- Work on the Threat Assessment Process
- Facilities Updates
- GFPS Foundation for support of students and teachers

Innovation

- Michelle Brown, BNSF Teacher of the Year
- Coding Classes
- Bison Baristas coffee shop
- Bison Video Productions and the Bison Film Festival
- Early Childhood Development certification pathway established

Service

- Bison Giving Tree
- Student Council donated over \$2,000.00 to *Erin's Hope, Montana* in addition to giving back over 1,000 hours of service to our school and community.
- National Honor Society Seniors provided thousands of hours of service, working Leap Up Night and educating our community about our food pantry, clothing pantry and tutoring services available to all students.
- National Honor Society Seniors staffed both the food pantry and clothing pantry for 3 days before the start of the school year, providing students and families with school supplies,
- Collected over 1,100 pounds of food during the annual "Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat" campaign.
- Collected and distributed food through the Great Falls High School Food Bank, for over 200 meals between Thanksgiving and Christmas; totaling 8,246 pounds.
- Senior Honor Society members provided over 400 hours of tutoring for students in all subject areas, before and after school, during Saturday school and in the Transition rooms.
- Key Club's 21 members performed 630 service hours through 37 distinct and different projects, as well as raised a total of \$2,378. 22 members were recognized at the State Convention with awards for outstanding service. One senior was recognized with Key Club International's Robert F. Lucas Outstanding Lieutenant Governor Award.
- Art Club decorated windows at Park Place Manor.
- Student/Faculty Basketball Game for charity; *Erin's Hope*
- BPA Winter Walk-a-Thon for Special Olympics
- The Class of 2018 collected \$912.00 in their final act of charity, on graduation day.

Our Future

Facilities

- Watched as Memorial Stadium was re-dedicated and the track was completed.
- Worked, weekly, with professionals from NE45 and Sletten on new construction and remodel design.
- Broke ground on the HUB connector.

Health and Wellness

- Continued low crime case rates (equivalent to 2017); 76 calls with 22 of those assigned for off campus incidents
- Youth Diversion Program
- Staff participating in district healthy living initiatives

PARIS GIBSON EDUCATION CENTER

- Staff awarded over 2350 half credits for the year.
- Eight students received their CNA certification.
- One hundred fourteen graduates, same as last year!
- Three Secondary Life Skills graduates.
- Over 40 classes taken by Paris students at GFC-MSU.
- Approximately 11,000 rides provided to students to work, school, home, doctor appointments, housing, turning in job applications or to whatever the student needed.
- Over 1800 hours of community service provided by Paris students.
- Almost 450 non-Paris events happened in the building this year.
- Paris hosted three very successful blood draws this year. The goal was met or surpassed each time.
- Staff participated in Self-Care workshops monthly throughout the year. They also developed a Self-Care plan as part of their goals for the year. Most staff included students in their physical activities.
- Over 70% of our students work more than 12 hours per week, 20% work more than 40 hours in order to survive.
- At least 20% of our seniors lived on their own, no parent or family member. This stat has held true for the past six year.
- Paris conducted a two day Thrive workshop for Paris students. The workshop focused on trauma and ways to develop resilience and perseverance. This was attended by 32% of the student body. Staff did most of the presentation in coordination Erin Butts.
- Multiple field experiences including; Slippery Ann, drama performance by UM students in Missoula, River Walk, Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Grouse house at Benton Lake, and many others. The favorite field trip of the year was the buffalo harvests conducted at both Fort Belknap and on the Blackfeet reservation. Many students were able to participate in this cultural event that will become an annual event.
- Immersion School at Paris completed the second year. Twenty-eight Native American students were involved with the program this year. Three graduates from the Immersion classroom this year!
- JMG attended two state competitions and once again cleaned house! We won a majority of the awards and every student placed in the events they were entered in.
- Paris staff was utilized to provide training at the OPI Innovative Education Conference. The conference will be held at Paris in September of 2018.
- Paris successfully held and assisted with State Special O Fun House and hosted Bache Ball. Many students contributed time and muscle to make this happen.
- Elevator was installed and is working wonderfully for the engineers, elderly visitors, and injured kids and staff!

“Our Clients” – *‘Believing that every person has purpose, value and potential...,’ Great Falls Adult Education creates choices, improves chances and motivates changes for all clients through a variety of pathway opportunities. The heart of our program is the clients we serve and their individual stories. The faces of Adult Ed are many, they don't come to us shiny and full of confidence, usually quite the opposite. However, they leave our program with hope, confidence, and the realization that they can accomplish their goals through hard work and believing in themselves. To enter our program, individuals are required to take the free Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) to assess their educational functioning levels (EFL) in the areas of Reading, Language & Math.*

- Clients served: 464
 - 16-18 yrs. 86
 - 19-24 yrs. 139
 - 25-44 yrs. 184
 - 45-54 yrs. 25
 - 55-59 yrs. 12
 - 60 & older 18
- ELA clients: 54
 - 100% making an Education Functioning Level (EFL) gain
- AE Clients
 - Beg. Literacy: 50% made an EFL gain
 - Beg. Basic: 40% made an EFL gain
 - Int. Low: 31% made an EFL gain
 - Int. High: 42% made an EFL gain
 - ASE Low: 72% made an EFL gain
 - ASE High: 79% made an EFL gain
- MACO District 5 clients: 18
 - Belt, Cascade, Choteau, Conrad, Denton, Dutton, Fairfield, Power, Shelby, Stockett, Sun River, Ulm, Vaughn
- Total hours of instruction: 21,106.75

Approximately 40% of individuals that enter our program already have a high school diploma or its equivalency. Our program assists individuals on their path to high school equivalency, path to higher education, path to employment, and path to citizenship. Our 2017/2018 year was another success for individuals in the following areas:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • High School Equivalency Diploma: 96 | • College Prep. 094 Math: 9 |
| • United States Citizenship: 3 | • College Prep. 094 Writing: 25 |
| • Certified Nursing Assistant: 12 | • College Prep. 103 COLS: 10 |
| • Para Optometric Nat'l & State Certification: 1 | • Pre-Welding: 1 |
| • Work Ethic Proficiency Certificate: 11 | • Co-Enrolled: 2 |
| • Launchpoint Business Workshop: 2 | • Integrated Education & Training: 116 |
| • Financial Fitness Certificate: 6 | • Entered College/Training: 88 |
| • Job Shadow: 5 | |

“Our Community” - Great Falls Adult Education continues to actively work with WIOA Core Partners along with other community and education partners to serve individuals. They speak to our staff and clients on a regular basis and observe our orientation so they are knowledgeable in the mission of our program. In addition, GF Adult Education facilitates trainings and presentation to organizations that want their staff and/or clients to learn more about our programs.

- Education Partners
 - Great Falls College MSU
 - University of Providence
 - Montana Academy of Salons
 - MSU Extension Office
- Agency Partners
 - United Way
 - Opportunities, Inc.
 - Kairos Youth Services
 - Youth Dynamics
 - Family Connections
 - Great Falls Rescue Mission
 - Experience Works
 - Neighborworks
 - North Central Independent Living
 - Family Promise
 - Sunrise Lion’s Club
 - GF Development Authority
- Business Partners
 - Benefis Spectrum
 - ADF
 - Centene Corporation
 - E & S Recovery
 - Scheels All Sports
 - Pasta Montana
 - Rural Dynamics, Inc.
 - Best Western Heritage Inn
- State Partners
 - Job Service
 - Job Corps
 - Montana Registered Apprenticeships
 - Vocational Rehabilitation
 - Department of Corrections
 - Great Falls Pre-Release
 - Youth Transition Court
 - Juvenile Detention Center
 - Drug Treatment Court
 - Department of Probation & Parole
- Military Partners
 - Malmstrom Air Force Base
 - Montana Air National Guard
 - Vets4Vets
 - Recruiters from all branches

“Our Future” - Great Falls Adult Education will continue to increase the effectiveness of services provided for clients within the myriad of needs in which they enter our program. This is achievable only through the collaborative partnerships we have built and continue to improve upon within MACO District 5 (Cascade, Choteau, Glacier, Pondera, Teton, and Toole counties)

- Expand district collaborations & partnerships
- Increase client goal improvement and achievement
- Maintain our commitment to professional development on a continuous basis through weekly staff meetings, district trainings, state collaborations, state meetings, national presence, and utilizing a multitude of resources for best practice models