



Great Falls Public Schools 2018-2019 Accomplishments



June, 2019

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 2018-2019 school year.

As I review these accomplishments of my final year as your superintendent, I feel nothing but pride and gratitude. This entire document is dedicated to the incredible team that is Great Falls Public Schools. Here's to all the accomplishments that are to come!

Sincerely,

Tammy L. Lacey

Superintendent

DISTRICT LEVEL ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Our Kids

Academic Achievement

- 2019 SBAC Scores given to students in grades 3-8 in the spring:
 - Math: GFPS = 43% proficient or advanced
 - English/Language Arts: GFPS 52% proficient or advanced
- 2019 GFPS ACT: Data was not available at publication of this document.
- Dual credits: Data was not available at publication of this document.
- The Comprehensive Literacy Project Grant continues at 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. This was year two.
- Attendance "nudge letters" were sent to 412 parents in November, 457 in January and 617 in March to communicate with parents regarding their student absence comparisons.
- The NMS Science Academic Bowl Team won the Regional National Science Bowl for the 4th year in a row.



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.
- 666 Graduates: CMR 264; GFH 266; Paris 136
- CMR, GFHS & PGEC Commencement ceremonies were all held at the Pacific Steel & Recycling Arena at the Montana ExpoPark.



- Year two of differentiated diplomas:

- o 110 Honors Diplomas
- o 244 Concentrator Diplomas
- o 308 Comprehensive Diplomas



- 2018 On Time Graduation Rate = 80.03%
- Scholarship Honor Night were held at each high school where over \$800,000 was presented to students with almost \$325,000 of that being GFPS Foundation managed scholarships awarded at all three high schools.
- Graduation Walks were held in all elementary schools.
- Ready Families Ready Learners- Preschool outreach accomplished the following activities:
 - o Preschool Expo Fair on March 9th, 2019
 - o Class of 2031 t-shirts given to kindergarten students during Grad walks
 - o *Welcome to Kindergarten* books to be provided to all kindergarteners thanks to a \$2,000 donation from 1st Interstate Bank.



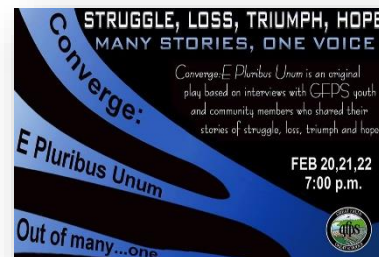
Professional Development for Instruction

- 190 separate sessions of PIR staff development training were held.
- Fifty first year teachers attended a one-day orientation training on August 20, 2018.
- Quarterly meetings for all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year teachers provided by the Instructional Coaches
- "Bold School" by national speaker Weston Kieschnick provided technology integration training to all teachers.
- Managed the June, 2019 Montana Institute on Educational Technology (MIET) which provides technology training to GFPS and Montana teachers. This is the last year of MIET>
- Instructional coaching provided imbedded professional development and 1:1 support for all teachers with an emphasis on new teachers.



School Climate

- Along with 95% of Montana's schools, GFPS administered the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) to a random sampling of 7-12 grade students.
- Partnered with playwright Sarah Butts and videographer Tim Ljunggren, in the production of *Converge: E Pluribus Unum*. The dramatic production showcased the challenges and barriers Great Falls students encounter. There were four live performances (three in February and one in April) and a showing of the resultant documentary in May.
- The changing of elementary school boundaries, effective for the 2018-2019 school year, resulted in a 3% reduction in the number of overloaded K-6 classrooms. It resulted in % reduction in K-2 overloaded classrooms. There were 57 K-6 and 48 K-12 overloaded classrooms this year.



High School Athletics Tops in State

- GFHS Softball Back-to-Back State Champions



Other

- All but one school received "regular" accreditation status. The "advice" status was a minor deviations and has been corrected.
- The GFPS Foundation provided \$ 10,169 in scholarships to pay for dual credit college courses. This was in addition to the "One-Two-FREE" state program: www.mus.edu/one-two-free/index.html
- The Air Force JROTC program had 80 participants in its third year.
- The 50th Annual Russell Essay Contest was held for 5th grade students. Over 42,000 essays have been submitted over that time period.
- 500 children were registered for kindergarten on the May 1, 2019 registration day. This puts the fall 2019 projection at 800 kindergarten students.





Our Community

The Arts

- Great Falls named Top 100 Best Communities for Music Education 2019...8th 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

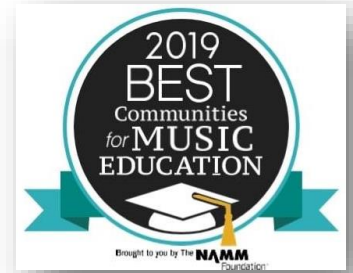
- 21 editions of Tammy's Top Ten on Tuesday were published and emailed to 1600 subscribers
- Community Budget Meetings were held for the sixth consecutive year.
- The GFPS Facebook page has 4289 "follows" as of June 19, 2019.
- Superintendent Lacey tweeted 327 times which resulted in 177,000 tweet impressions.
- GFPS received the 2019 Golden Achievement Award from the National School Public Relations Association.

Finance

- The 2018-2019 budget was balanced by making \$1,565,363 in reductions.
- In the last 18 years, the General Fund budget has increased at a rate less than inflation.
 - \$50,478,160 (2000-2001) to \$70,885,054 (2018-2019) which is a 28.8% increase or an average increase of 1.51% per year
 - Inflation July 1, 2000 to July 1, 2018 = 45.84% or 2.41% per year
 - (Source: http://inflationdata.com/Inflation/Inflation_Calculators/Cumulative_Inflation_Calculator.aspx)
- Budget information available online: <https://gfps.k12.mt.us/budget/>
- Workers' compensation claim amounts continued to decline resulting in decreased premiums.
- Red Flag Fraud Warning System fully implemented with 0 fraud reports.
- \$41,128 in Discovery Grants and \$132,751 in Innovation Grants were awarded by the GFPS Foundation to 34 projects district-wide.
- The Foundation secured the following additional donations to enhance the bond facility projects:
 - \$20,000 for CMR batting cages from Brian and Patty Loucks
 - \$12,000 for Longfellow Elementary Sensory Room from Stu and Janie Nicholson
 - \$48,000 for Longfellow Elementary Special Needs Wing from Anonymous Donor
 - \$500,000 for GFH CTE Wing from the Oakland Family.

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 11. 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.
- The Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce hosted two major events highlighting the importance of public education in our community:
 - "Business Goes to School" on November 27, 2018 where 21 businessmen and women shadowed a principal in the morning and then discussed what they learned over lunch sponsored by the Foundation.
 - A breakfast commemorating "Business Appreciates GFPS" was held on May 6, 2019 as a kick-off to Staff Appreciation Week. Businesses sponsored a table for two of their employees and four school staff members. Community members provided an inspirational program.
- GFPS hosted these MHSAA State Athletic Tournaments: Eastern AA Basketball Tournament, February 28-March 2, and State AA Tennis Tournament, May 16-17. GFPS staff helped at Expo Park for: Girls' C State Basketball Tournament, February 28-March 2, and Boys'/Girls' A State Basketball Tournament, March 7-9.
- Individual school PTAs raised money and donated substantially to their schools. These items included such things as Chromebooks, video surveillance equipment and projectors.

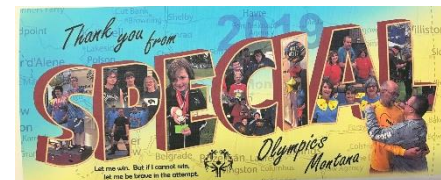
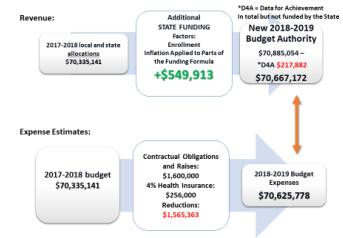


Golden Achievement Award

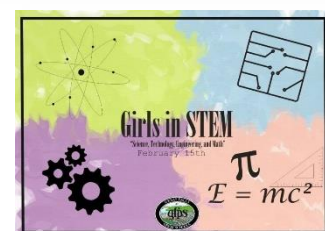
GOLDEN ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Golden Achievement Award recognizes exemplary work in all aspects of school public relations, communication, marketing and engagement. Each entry is judged individually against the contest criteria - not against other entries - and judges select as many winners as meet the award criteria.

2018-2019 Balanced Budget:



- Donations of used items were received from various generous donors. These items included: 4 vehicles, computers, a laser printer, cast iron radiators, a patient lift and folding chairs.
- City Motor Company generously donated a 2019 Toyota Tacoma to the GFPS Foundation. The Foundation coordinated the sale of 11,900 tickets, raising \$119,000 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 \$67,000. The Foundation received the remaining 40% which was \$52,000. Therefore, 100% of ticket sales went to support public school students in Great Falls.
- 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 2018 4th of July parade thanks to a grant from Steel, Etc. The Foundation featured the truck raffle and handed out pencils to parade goers.
- The Superintendent's Advisory Panel met five times during the year.
- The newly formed Superintendent's PTA Leadership Panel met four times and created a Facebook group to share ideas.
- 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 to include newly developed paid internships for students.
- GFPS hosted its first ever "Girls in STEM" event thanks to women STEM professionals in our community.
- The Indian Parent Advisory Council (IPAC) met monthly.
- The Board set forth a Constitution Day Proclamation for September 17, 2018 and schools and classrooms across GFPS celebrated throughout the week.



Military Collaboration

- GFPS worked closely with the MAFB School Liaison to enhance collaboration efforts to include a workshop about serving military students with special needs that was presented by a national trainer.
- The annual MAFB Family Fair was held at Chief Joseph Elementary on August 10, 2018.
- Twelve Military Appreciation events were held at athletic events with a special announcement read to honor military families and veterans.
- Purple Up Day was held on April 18, 2019.
- Superintendent Lacey continued 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 22, 2019.
 - 54 retirees (3 administrators, 1 supervisor, 20 teachers, 1 medical professional, and 28 classified staff members) with a total of 1124 years of service.
 - 30 staff with 25 years; 6 employees with 30 years; and 3 employees with 35 years.

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 second year.
 - GFPS employees gave \$62,933 via the annual fall Giving Campaign. This exceeded the goal of \$60,000 and was a record in giving.
 - 47% of GFPS employees contributed versus 44% the previous year.
 - 5 GFPS employees donated at "Base Camp" and above levels.



Policies

- The Board adopted 60 revised policies and 10 brand new policies.



Other

- Trustees Ann Janikula and Laura Vukasin decided not to run again for Trustee positions on the Board after many years for service. Laura was elected in 2001 and served 6 terms. Ann was elected in 2007 and served 4 terms.
- Trustee Jeff Gray was re-elected and new Trustees Gordon Johnson and Mark Finnicum were elected by acclamation as they were the only candidates to file for the 3 open positions.



- For the 6th year in a row, two Golden Age Tailgate Parties were held. There were record number of participants on October 24, 2018 at CMR and on February 20, 2019 at GFHS.



Our Future

Facilities

- The first new elementary school since 1970 was completed. Giant Springs Elementary School opened its doors after a ribbon cutting on August 28, 2018.
- Ribbon cutting ceremonies were held at the brand new CMR Auxiliary Gym and STEM Center on October 24, 2018. The Thurber Family, D.A. Davidson, Chuck and Gerry Jennings were recognized for their significant donations for the equipment that was purchased for the new learning spaces.
- A major project at North Middle School was completed to include foundational repairs and remodels to music classrooms.
- A celebration of "60 years of 6th Grade" at Longfellow Elementary was held on February 1, 2019 to honor the 6th grade class of 1959 and the 2019 and last 6th grade class at the current Longfellow school prior to its demolition.
- A groundbreaking ceremony was held on the site of the new Longfellow Elementary School on May 10, 2019.



LONGFELLOW GROUND BREAKING



Health/Wellness

- The school-based health clinic at PGEC in partnership with Alluvion Health increased the number of days from two to four where they will take appointments for students and staff.
- The Employee Wellness Program sponsored these activities: the *Eight Dimensions of Wellness Fall Activity*, the 2019 *Healthy Habits Bingo Challenge*, and the *Spring Into Wellness 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 Poker Walk, monthly safety tips and reminders, monthly "Happiness Calendars" and Weekly Wellness Wednesdays messages.
- GFPS provided prevention information to families and staff regarding regional outbreaks of mumps and measles.
- GFPS partnered with LifeMap to provide an Employee Assistance Program (EAP). The services provided include: Counseling, 24/7 crisis help, Adult /eldercare and end-of-life services, consultation for legal support and mediation, consultation for financial services, wills kits, Identity theft support, support for buying, financing, moving or selling a home, parenting help and work/life balance advice.



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 660; 572 in 17-18; 515 in 16-17; 550 in 15-16; 492 14-15.
- GFPS employees continued to participate in Safariland's Emergency Response to an Armed Intruder training. To date, 603 GFPS staff members have been in attendance to the training.
- Upgraded video surveillance coverage.
- Monthly safety tips were provided to staff members.

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



Please keep reading for these departmental reports:

- **Buildings and Grounds**
- **Career and Technical Education (CTE)**
- **Elementary Education**
- **Fine Arts**
- **Food Service**
- **Indian Education and Indian Education for All**
- **Student Mental Health Coordinator**
- **Technology**
- **Title III: English Language Learner Programs**
- **Transportation and Safety**
- **Wellness: Student and Employee**

Please keep reading for all Preschool through High School reports including the Career and College Readiness Center.

STAFF AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

(List may not be all inclusive)

Staff Member	School	Subject/Grade	Award	Presenting Organization
Bob Howard	GFHS	Teacher/BBB Coach	Inductee to the Montana Coaches Association Hall of Fame	Montana Coaches Association
Cindy Duffy	GFHS	English Teacher	2019 Advocacy Award for Excellence	Indian Education for All (OPI)
Drew Uecker	PGEC	Principal	CSPD Region 2 Leadership Award	Montana Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD)
Joe Vance	District	Data Analyst	Volunteer of the Year Award	NeighborWorks
Jon Konen	Lincoln	Principal	Montana Distinguished Principal of the Year	Montana Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals (MAEMSP)
Jon Konen	Lincoln	Principal	No Kid Hungry School Breakfast Hero Award	Montana No Kid Hungry Program
Keely Baker	West	Health Enhancement Teacher	Salute to Women - Business & Entrepreneurship	YWCA Salute to Women Award
Kerry Parson	CMR	Principal	Montana Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award	Montana Air National Guard
Miranda Murray	District	Indian Ed for All Coach	Salute to Women - Creative Arts	YWCA Salute to Women Award
Robert Griffith	GFHS	Math	2017 Montana Football Official of the Year	National Federation of State High School(NFHS) Officials Associations
Steve Grady	North Middle School	Health Enhancement Teacher	Middle School Teacher of the Year	Society for Health and Physical Education (SHAPE) Montana
Tammie Hickey	Adult Education	Program Coordinator	Award of Excellence	Mountain Plains Adult Education Association
Tammy Lacey	District	Superintendent	Montana Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award	Montana Air National Guard
Tammy Lacey	District	Superintendent	2019 "Fighter" Rockstar Award	Forward Montana
Tammy Lacey	District	Superintendent	Sheila Rice Lifetime Achievement Award	YWCA Salute to Women Award
Tom Moore	District	Assistant Superintendent	Montana Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award	Montana Air National Guard
Ty Moore	Sunnyside	5th Grade Teacher	SHAPE Montana Board - 3-year volunteer service	SHAPE Montana

DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AS PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS

Buildings and Grounds Department's Accomplishments 2018-2019

ADA

- Continuing door replacement
- Restroom Remodels
- Elevator/lift repairs

Emergency Responses

- Responded to several emergency call outs for police and fire

Energy Savings

- New boilers
- Continued control replacement
- LED interior lighting upgrades at ML, SS, RV, NMS, PG taking advantage of significant NW Energy rebates and cutting the lighting usage in half

Hazardous Materials Work

- Continual Asbestos abatement/monitoring
- Continued Science chemical disposal
- Labeling/Safety Data Sheets

Indoor Air Quality

- Ongoing HVAC air duct cleaning
- Moisture mitigations
- Continual air and water monitoring
- Responded quickly to occupant complaints

Maintenance

- Painting Sacajawea Elementary
- Replaced carpet at several sights
- Continued completion of work orders
- Ongoing parking lot sealing and painting
- Annual inspections of life/safety, boiler, mechanical and equipment
- Kitchen remodel at Mountain View and Valley View
- Assisted in the Move in to Giant Springs Elementary
- Assisted in the Move of Longfellow to Roosevelt
- Grounds crew did an excellent job of snow removal from one of the toughest winters to date
- Grounds crew hand dug the tunnels at Loy for water abatement project
- Prepared CMR and Memorial Stadium for the Special Olympics State Games
- Updated the Facility Condition Inventory to submit to OPI

Safety

- Passed 6 Department of Labor inspections
- Supported SRO recommendations for safety
- Continued deployment of 2M floor maintenance system
- Continuing fire alarm repairs/upgrades
- Assist installing the "buzz in" door systems
- Continuing improving our safety program and trainings
- Annual completion of inspections of Life/Safety systems

Bond Work

- Abated asbestos at Longfellow Elementary allowing an earlier demolition date
- Save a considerable amount of bond money by doing work "in house"

Career and Technical Education Accomplishments 2018-2019

- Students from all three high schools combined to build the 42nd High School House. They also built the Veterans' Grace Home Shop.
- 112 Seniors graduated with a CTE Concentrator on their diploma
- An anticipated 45 CNA students graduated through Spectrum Medical
- The Welding Cohort at GFC-MSU (1 year Dual Credit Program) graduated six 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, 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%
- Hosted 400+ Middle School Girls for our first "Girls in Stem Day" ~ various businesses at CMR for girls to learn & explore
- Hosted GFPS CTE (first ever) Signing Day – eight students recognized for their careers in the CTE field
- Hosted first Summer Construction Camp ~ fifty 5th & 6th grade students attended this three day summer camp at CMR to build dog houses for Maclean Animal Center
- Hosted "Shark Tank" ~ partnering with Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce at Heritage Hall to spotlight our business students to offer scholarships to the top three Shark Tank winners
- Partnered with Home Builders Association as our CTE Departments showcased items at the 2019 Home & Garden Show ~ with a raffle for a shed to a saddle to benefit BPA

Elementary Education Accomplishments 2018-2019

Academic:

- Longfellow and Whittier Elementary began work through the MCLP Grant with a focus on literacy instruction
- Extensive training and work in fidelity to core resource materials in the area of ELA (Various Elementary Schools)
- Began researching standards based grading and reporting practices with all elementary principals
- Instructional Coaches were trained by Jill Jackson on coaching model best practices
- Elementary Speech Meet was held on May 23, 2019

Curriculum Adoptions:

- K-6 Science Adoption: Program purchased: Inspire- Publisher- McGraw Hill
- K-12 Math Intervention Research Committee work completed. Waiting for decision on resource purchase. Do the Math: Publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Graduation Matters

- Graduation Walks in all elementary schools week of May 28th
 - Class of 2031 t-shirts given to all kindergarten students during Grad walks
- Ready Families Ready Learners- Preschool outreach accomplished the following activities:
 - Preschool Expo Fair on March 9, 2019

Professional Development for Instruction:

- Project based learning via Chromebooks was an emphasis. Training was expanded to include all 2nd and 3rd grade teachers.
- Create relevant learning opportunities through project-based learning and use of old school wisdom to enhance instruction and learning.
- K-12 Districted Directed PIR on Bold Schools with national speaker Weston Kieschnick
- Created an Elementary PIR Summer Institute offered two different times to differentiate professional development through a conference format
- 190 separate sessions of PIR staff development training were held
- Quarterly meetings for all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year teachers provided by the Instructional Coaches

- Managed the Montana Institute on Educational Technology (MIET) which provides technology training to GFPS and Montana teachers. June 2019. This will be the last MIET Institute
- Instructional coaching provided embedded professional development and 1:1 support for all teachers with an emphasis on new teachers

School Climate

- Implemented the new boundaries for all elementary schools
- Opened our first new elementary school since 1970- Giant Springs Elementary
- Started designing the Longfellow Replacement School
- Elementary Student Leadership Council was successfully completed for the 7th year in a row with a focus on teamwork and collaboration

Partnerships

- Alluvion Health Care opened an elementary School Based Health Care Center at Giant Springs Elementary, and began designing the school based clinic at Longfellow Elementary
- Started planning a partnership with Alluvion to provide mental health services in 5 elementary schools.
- Created and implemented four afterschool StarBase extension camps for students in 6th grade

Fine Arts Department's Accomplishments 2018-2019

- GFHS Delphian Choir performance at All NW in Portland (February 2019)
- 58 All-State musicians from GFHS and CMR
- 25 All NW musicians from GFHS and CMR
- 3 National ACDA musicians
- AA Choir and AA Band Festivals hosted in GF
- Jazz Workshop event
- Hosted Middle School Solo Festival for over 115 students
- Hosted Concordia Choir (from Moorhead, MN) in March 2019
- Sound of Music Musical (CMR)
- Frog & Toad Musical (GFHS)
- Hosted District 6 Music Festival for over 1000 students
- NAMM Best Communities for Music Education Award (8th consecutive year)
- Robert Kruthoff served as Artist in Residence this year and worked with all art teachers across the District working with hundreds of students
- Art Shows outside of District Buildings: Colors of Fall (Heritage Inn), 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). Students placed well in all juried shows, and the quality of student art at all exhibits was stellar.
- AP Art trips to Arizona and Bozeman
- Montana Art Interscholastic event in Billings with side events and clinics to art centers in Billings
- Hundreds of Concerts, Programs, Art displays, and other performances delivered to the Community of Great Falls over the course of the year
- First year of the Jump Start Music Camp for 4th graders

Food Service Department's Accomplishments 2018-2019

Service:

- Prepared and served 916,899 student lunches
- Prepared and served 511,355 student breakfasts
- Increased participation in school meals by >31,000 meals from 2017-18
- Served 17,568 summer meals in the summer of 2018

- Added Breakfast in the Classroom at Sunnyside Elementary (Fall 2018) and Lewis and Clark Elementary (2019) with the help of Montana No Kid Hungry grant funding
- Successfully served student meals at Giant Springs Elementary without a functional kitchen for the first several weeks of school
- Continued to provide students access to a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables without Lucy (food packaging machine) due to the Longfellow Elementary closure
- Received Montana No Kid Hungry grant to support expanded service times and promotional materials for the Summer Food Service Program.

Maintenance:

- Sunnyside Elementary Remodel – expanded service window and updated equipment
- *Safety:*
- Completed routine cleaning and maintenance on production kitchen hood systems
- Certified/Re-Certified 8 staff members as ServSafe Managers

Engagement:

- Coordinated a sample day at Great Falls High School for students to provide feedback on menu items

Indian Education and IEFA Departments' Accomplishments 2018-2019

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 had some important booths also, for our families. Our HOPA Mountain Books was 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 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.

Bison Harvest:

Once this year we were able to travel to local reservations, and participate in a traditional Buffalo Harvest. This experience was 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 in a 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 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 (YDS') 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.

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. There were free health screenings provided that include blood pressure, glucose, and several others. This year our department worked closely with 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 geared this event to high school 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!

3rd 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, throughout this school year, received their Eagle Feathers, bestowed upon them as a great honor, for honorable achievements, through a ceremony. These ceremonies were held by our most respected Elders, Tuffy Helgeson and John Stiffarm. 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 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, Ulm Pishkin Buffalo jump and CM Russell Museum to study historical art and artists.

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.

Strengthening Our Community Posters were rolled out in December, and the second in May. We are excited to be finishing out the 2018-2019 school year with the second semester posters for our “Strengthening Our Community” poster series. We put together a mini-poster series highlighting our American Indian Students who are exceptional role models for younger students in our community. They might be role models for many reasons, leadership, work ethic, involvement in the community, commitment to graduating high school, academics or kindness to everyone around them. Students are nominated by administrators, teachers, school staff and nominations of high school students that fit the description of a positive role model were asked for in each semester. The students must be a senior committed to graduating at the end of each school year.

Student Mental Health Coordinator Activities for 2018-2019:

- Partnered with CSPD and brought in national threat assessment and behavior management trainer
- Led GFPS team to update threat assessment document
- Coordinated over 50 interviews for Sarah Butts and Tim Ljunggren, in prep of the play *Converge: E Pluribus Unum*
- Ongoing work with Alluvion Health to support and expand behavioral health services in GFPS
- Collaborated with Pathways Partners MT, NY Life and GFPS Foundation for GFPS to attain \$10,000 in funding to be used towards grief and trauma professional development
- Participated in the NoMore Violence week planning committee
- Serve on the Cascade County Juvenile Detention Center Advisory Board
- Serve on the Cascade County Fetal Infant Child Mother Mortality Review Team (FICMMR)

- Coordinated Thrive and Thrive re-connect with PGEC
- Worked with GPFS colleagues to submit VOCA grant which will go into effect for the 2019-2020 school year
- Coordinated Converge media team in prep of the live performances of *Converge: E Pluribus Unum*
- Taught June and August trauma-informed PIR
- Taught trauma-informed PIR during school year with Erin Bucher
- Partnered with Drew Uecker, United Way and NoMore Violence week to implement community forum
- Partnering with the MSU Center for Research and Recovery and Alliance for Youth to work towards sustaining Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM) in EMS and NMS

Technology Department's Accomplishments 2018-2019

■ Building Technicians:

- Readied Giant Springs network, phone system and video surveillance system prior to the school opening with only a three-week window to work in. Assisted with other internet-based systems – lighting controls, intercom, bells/alarms, external warning system, electronic reader board and visitor management system. Setup desktop computers, laptops, Chromebooks, printers and 25 Promethean panels for entire building.
- Readied CMR STEM and Practice Fieldhouse's network, phone system and video surveillance system prior to the dedication in Oct 2018.
- Planned and coordinated technology related equipment move from Longfellow Elementary to Roosevelt Elementary over Christmas break. Removed all obsolete technology equipment from the Longfellow site before demolition.
- Involved in construction planning for GFH, Longfellow.
- Hired two new employees for staff that left and provided appropriate training.
- Installed camera system at DOB warehouse (6), Chief Joseph (9), Morningside (11), Skyline (14), Whittier (20), Sacajawea (34), Lewis and Clark (12), Meadowlark (32), Sunnyside (3), West (16) and some upgrades and additional cameras at GFHS, CMR. Scheduled for a camera system over haul at East (45 cameras) and planning is under way to replace all cameras at PGEC (81 cameras). Approximately 40,000 ft of wire (7.6 miles) for cameras alone. Total cameras in district – 883.
- Installed UPS back up power systems in all of our 23 Main Network Distribution Facilities to help suppress power spikes and short term power outages that could cause damage to our network equipment.
- Installed 19 UPS battery backup systems for the Charter Equipment to keep the network and phone equipment running for a short time in the event of a power outage.
- Installed the NFHS sports camera systems in Memorial Stadium and the GFHS, CMR field houses.
- Installed over 50 Promethean smart interactive panels.
- Relocated the network distribution facility in Meadow Lark's principal's office to another location in the building to eliminate noise in the office.
- Installed over 10 short throw projectors around the district, which involved wiring termination and network access.
- Moved the Help Desk function down to Little Russell. Setup an alert access system to the Little Russell Processing Center for client access and installed repurposed old cameras for door surveillance.
- Removed old phone system equipment from all 23 sites around the district.
- Added additional wireless access points to CMR.
- Installed and overhauled five network distribution facilities at CMR for the Bond and general upgrades.
- Rebuilt three network distribution facilities at North due to the Bond build and upgrades. This involved fiber optic termination and wiring for each cabinet. One network distribution facility had to be moved to another part of the building due to the new construction. Wired all the new rooms for network, phones, and video needs. Installed multiple new network drops for the gym.
- Setup and implemented over 34 virtual reality units for the classrooms at North and Paris, bringing virtual reality technology to the classroom.

- Updated all iPads (six-week process) in our district (800-1000 units).
- Updated and insured that all Microsoft Windows computers in the district were at version 1803 or 1809 of Windows 10. A process that took over 4 months.
- Labeled all the phones in the district with phone and room numbers to insure that they were not misplaced during summer cleaning and fall setup. This process will aide in the event that a phone has been moved and no longer works so that we can insure that the end user is not without phone access.
- Linked 3 TVs and one Promethean in the East Library for a Staff development area.
- Completed over 5,000 Help desk tickets.
- Completed over 50 small project wiring tickets during the school year.
- Update the FOG server over three times this year to insure faster imaging for computers in the district.
- Refreshed 70 computers at CMR over Spring Break, 27 at Meadow Lark, with another large refresh scheduled at GFHS.
- Completed Wireless Heat Maps and building diagrams for all the Elementary Schools, Middle Schools, CMR, and GFHS. Still working on Paris.
- Completed multiple fiber optic terminations throughout the district for future speeds on the network and stability for phones and data.
- Upgraded all the network switches, documenting every port per switch on what is connected to them on a large living spreadsheet.
- Working on implementing a mass inventory control system for all computer electronics identification and tracking of our assets from installation to disposal.
- Collecting the old outdoor wireless equipment from around the district that is mounted on towers or rooftops.
- Submitted and was granted \$45,740.74 in E-Rate funding for network switches, UPS Battery backup, cabinets and misc cables.
- Recycled / E-wasted 24 pallets of obsolete technology equipment. Estimated cost savings to district - \$20,000
- Deployed 1523 new and replacement computers (175 Refurbished PCs, 258 Refurbished Laptops, 972 Chromebooks, 109 New Laptops, 9 New PCs)
- Deployed 130 new and replacement projectors / Promethean panels (67 Desktop/Ceiling/Short Throw projectors, 63 Promethean panels)
- Deployed 24 new and replacement printers

▪ **Data Center:**

- Upgraded PowerSchool Student Information System to new version
- Installed new load-balancer (server that redirects incoming connections to one of four application servers)
- Electronically supported the middle school move from quarters to trimesters. This was a bit involved as reports and processes needed changing.
- Added a new building (Giant Springs) to PowerSchool. This required unique setup as this is not something often done. Students and staff needed to be moved and configurations modified.
- Added a new building (Giant Springs) to the network. This was involved as there are scripts, network configurations, and processes that need to be established to effectively have Giant Springs operate.
- Met requirements and timelines for state data submissions and reporting.
- Upgraded iVisions financial system to a new version.
- Hired two new employees for staff that left and provided appropriate training.
- Performed updates on multiple servers for continued operations and security.
- Upgraded VMWare to a new version. This is an architecture for running multiple virtual servers on a single physical space (hardware) resulting in an efficient and cost effective environment.
- Adjusted the call accounting software and process due to the implementation of the new telephone system.

- Altered the install process for Microsoft Windows updates to be automated, overnight, when it is necessary. This change definitely helped in using technology in the classroom as we could schedule installation of updates off-hours instead of during class time.
- Implemented automated scripts across our district to make installing and maintaining our computers more effective.
- Upgraded the Internet connection from a 1 Gb connection to 2 Gb. This required some interesting challenges due to limitations of some of our hardware.
- Upgraded wireless environment to a new version.
- **Technology Coaches:**
- **Elementary Tech Coach completed:**
 - Annual MIET Conference – planning, organizing and executing (10 days)
 - 55 half day PBL sessions for 3rd-6th grade new teachers and 2nd grade teachers
 - 2 Technology EduCamps
 - 8 PLCTs
 - 6 new teacher meetings
 - 86 planning sessions
 - 29 pre-conferences
 - 130 modeled lessons
 - 9 observed lessons
 - 2 co-teaching lessons
 - 42 post conferences
 - 2 PIRs
 - 4 District-wide training sessions for Prometheans
 - Total: 277 coaching opportunities
- **Secondary Tech Coach completed:**
 - Annual MIET Conference – planning, organizing and executing (2 days)
 - New Teacher Training (August 20th)
 - 1 Sub Training Day – August
 - PIR Summit - prep and teaching (Aug 22-23rd)
 - NWEA MAP Benchmark Assessment Proctor Training (Sept. 2 days),
 - MAP Data Analysis PD (Oct. 2 days)
 - Facilitated and supported monthly Assessment webinars with ELA teachers at EMS and NMS
 - Assisted with finalizing the 7th grade Computer Applications curriculum and assessment
 - Code.org at EMS (November 20th)
 - Attended the NCCE Conference in Seattle (February 25-March 1)
 - Media Hygiene Presentation(s) at Cameron Family Center (May 15th and 22nd)
 - Quarterly Tech Goal meetings with Dept. Leaders at GFH (Yearlong)
 - Ten Tech-focused PLC presentations at GFH – including project-based learning, interactive video, and HyperDocs (Yearlong)
 - Monthly meetings with Disciplinary Literacy Department Leads at GFH & EMS
 - Included teachers from all departmental areas
 - Focused on a BOLD School approach to the integration of technology with disciplinary literacy strategies in all content areas – best practices. (Yearlong)
 - Monthly Secondary New Teacher Mentor Meetings (Yearlong)
 - Planned and taught 4 tech sessions at PIR Summit (June 10-11th)
 - Planned and facilitated last MIET Conference (June 12th)
 - 134 individual teacher coaching sessions which included lesson planning, modeling, and/or co-teaching
 - Total: 186 coaching opportunities between GFH and EMS
- **Other:**

- 3rd year of 5 year Technology Strategic Plan completed
- Conducted annual Building Tech Review with each Principal
- Continue work of upgrading school and department web pages to Word Press platform.
- Planned, organized and executed 2019 MIET Conference on June 12, 2019. 22 sessions, 176 attendees (133 GFPS)

Title III (ESL) Department of Student Services' Accomplishments 2018-2019

- Partnered with Cameron Family Center to deliver 12 hours of parenting classes on the topic of building language skills with children.
- Welcomed in June—20 ESL students to English as a Second Language Summer Camp. Irina Mills and Hayley Chaon led the students in tours of downtown Great Falls and classwork to develop speaking and writing skills.
- Co-wrote 94 English as Second Language Customized Learning Plans with teachers and principals.
- We are pioneering a framework of Academic Language Development for our American Indian students identified as needing language support. In this project, unique in the state, our staff of three works with teachers and principals to develop engaging, effective teaching strategies to ensure that all students are proficient in content across the curriculum.
- We have ensured compliance with ESSA changes for English Learners.
- With elementary teacher volunteers, delivered 3909 books to children during the summer to keep the learning going and avoid the “Summer Slide” of skills. 98 of the 105 students who received 6 books did maintain their reading skills!

Transportation and Safety Departments' Accomplishments 2018-2019

Transportation:

- Completed negotiations on a 5 year School Bus Contract with Big Sky Bus Lines.
- Provided consistent busing information to parents through the use of the EduLink mass communication system.
- Constructed 5 additional routes for the temporary Longfellow building transition.
- Initiated the use of a Class E Type Vehicle and hired a driver for student busing.
- Omitted 2 General Education buses.
- Added 2 Special Needs buses.
- Reconfigured Skyline Preschool busing for maximum safety and efficiency.

Safety:

- Help to facilitate the installation and use of an outside emergency alert system at Paris Gibson Education Center.
- Completed 13 Lockdown Observation Drills on GFPS facilities.
- Provided incentives to increase employee safety training.
- Completed 22 individual facility safety meetings.
- Facilitated 2 District Safety Committee meetings.

Warehouse Accomplishments 2018-2019

- Ensured accurate and safe delivery of over 1.4 million student meals
- Worked to find creative solutions for delivering to schools under construction
- Displayed extreme flexibility and dedication in ensuring a quick and efficient entire school move from Roosevelt to Giant Springs
- Actively participated in the turnaround of Longfellow to Roosevelt over the holiday break.
- Picked up, delivered and organized all items for the GFPS Garage Sale
- Coordinated extensive warehouse re-organization to allow for construction within the warehouse

Wellness Accomplishments 2018-2019

2018-19 Brief Summary of Projects Provided by Jody Murray, Prevention Specialist

Prevention:

- 5,607 students in grades K-6 received prevention education about the dangers of tobacco and nicotine devices.
- 113 students attended educational classes for tobacco violations.
- 26 students attended educational classes for a substance use violations.
- Presented the HIPS (Hidden in Plain Sight) display to parents in our community. The HIPS room provides parents with clues from a teen's bedroom to help them determine whether their child might be experimenting with or using drugs or alcohol. Room décor, hidden compartments and items to conceal use are located throughout the room.

Safety, Health & Wellness:

- The Emergency Response to an Armed Intruder Training Team held 5 trainings during the year. 136 staff members participated in the trainings for a total of 603 staff members trained since 2015.
- The GFPS Student Wellness Committee comprised of 18 community and school district members, collaborated to keep our student wellness policy and guidelines in compliance.
- 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), onsite biometric screenings and flu shots, the Spring Into Wellness Challenge, the Spring Poker Walk, and Weekly Wellness Wednesday messages.
- GFPS and United Way collaborated with our afterschool HANDS program to offer the F4 Games (Fitness, Food, Family and Friends). The 8-week fitness and nutrition program encouraged families to explore a healthy lifestyle. Nearly 600 students and their families participated during the year. An added bonus was that 184 community volunteers assisted with the pre and post fitness testing for the F4 Games. This program will continue on each year.

Community Partners:

- GFPS was again a Pacesetter organization for United Way of Cascade County and their giving campaign.
- Get Fit Great Falls Board Member: provided fitness activities for our community and families including: Winter Trails Day and Summer Trails Day.
- SAPA Member (Substance Abuse Prevention Alliance): Collaboration of community stakeholders raising awareness of substance abuse. Assisted in creating an educational campaign for parents, community members and educators about the dangers of marijuana use (ongoing), grant reporting of prevention activities in our county, facilitated graduation letter to senior parents about healthy choices at graduation time.
- Cascade County DUI Taskforce Board Member: collaboration of community stakeholders raising awareness of impaired driving.
- Community Outreach Co-Chair DUI Taskforce: Daren Brown, GFPS and I plan opportunities for the taskforce to be visible in the community.
- Chairperson of Community Red Ribbon Planning committee.

Other:

- Appointed to MTUPP (MT Tobacco Use Prevention Program) State Advisory Board for an additional 3 year term.

SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

AS PROVIDED BY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

- Installation of carpet and wall murals.
- **Foundation Innovation Grant** proposal fulfilled with whole school field trips in the community to *Pumpkin Patch, Super 1 and Children's Museum*.
 - These experiences helped to build relationships with students and parents and make connections with community members to support our goals.
- School wide participation in **Special Olympics Montana Summer Games**:
- *Fans in Stands* at Bocce and pillows with treats for our adopt a team- Helena Wolverines!
- Preschool Foster Grandma Kathy Sanders was awarded **Volunteer of the Year!**
- The **Montana Behavioral Initiative (MBI)** established an awards process to recognize teams and schools who meet exemplary standards for promoting positive school climate and school safety. Our school team was awarded with a **Platinum** status!
- A dedicated team to include GFPS school staff, parents and children testified in Helena at the **legislative session**, more than once, advocating for sustainable preschool funding.
- We had a record number (12) of preschool children identified as having a disability at age 3 who now **exited from special services** prior to transitioning to kindergarten!
 - Early intervention works!!
- **65 children are pre-registered** to attend preschool beginning fall 2019



CHIEF JOSEPH ELEMENTARY

1. 2019 4th grade winner of the "What Patriotism Means to Me" essay contest.
2. PTA had 2 very successful fundraisers.
3. Chief Joseph gave out 4 bikes and 9 Kindles thanks to the Mason's. These items went to students that met their at home reading goals and had excellent citizenship.
4. Chief Joseph students raised 350 dollars for new books for the library.
5. Chief Joseph students and staff collected 750 pounds of food for our food pantry.

GIANT SPRINGS ELEMENTARY

Opened the first new elementary school in Great Falls since 1970!

- 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
- Amazing School Partnerships:
 - New Hope Church and Crossroads Church: Food pantry donations, clothing needs, multiple volunteers to read with students, assisted with celebrations
 - Great Falls Masons Euclid Lodge: Reading Challenge donation of 3 Kindles and money for our library
 - Kiwanis Club: Monthly Readers for our Book Nook

Student Leadership Events:

- Donated funds for Buddy Benches on the playground
- Sponsored a Food Drive for our building pantry and provided rewards for winning class
- Bought Christmas gifts for local families in need at Giant Springs and through the Rescue Mission
- Sponsored the Polar Express Christmas workshop for family fun night
- Sponsored the Valentine's Day Candlelight Luncheon
- Sponsored the March Madness Reading Challenge by providing prizes including books and two bikes
- Recognized staff with snacks and appreciation for World Kindness Day
- Stuffed and delivered over 400 Easter eggs for the Rescue Mission's Easter egg hunt
- Sponsored a Military Child Appreciation dessert banquet
- Made several blankets to be donated to shelter pets at the Maclean Adoption Center
- Volunteered time and delivered books to our local pre-school
- Bought and stuffed 35 water bottles with snacks and needed items for our Special Olympics team
- Went to cheer on our Black Hornet Special Olympics teams at Great Falls High School
- Raised funds through Spirit Days for three families in need at Giant Springs, one for a house fire and 2 for surgeries out of state.

Classroom and Family Events

- Kindergarten and 1st Graders delivered May Day Baskets to neighbors
- School Carnival
- School Based STEM for all 6 Graders and interested K-5 students
- 9 Innings of Reading with the Great Falls Voyagers
- Kiwanis Club Book Nook Monthly Read Aloud with K-3
- I Love to Read Month in February
- 4th Grade Wax Museum
- 5th Grade Book Tasting
- 4th Grade Quilt Making with the Quilters Guild
- Kindergarten built chick habitats
- 2nd Grade built animal habitats
- 6th Grade raised funds through a bake sale in which they did all of the math and baking
- Author Visit Ryan Acra
- MApril Clean Up School Wide
- Cat/Griz Food Drive brought in a huge amount of food for our school pantry and the Great Falls Food Bank
- Veteran's Day Events
- Month of the Military Child Luncheon

- Special Olympics School Wide Respect Rally
- Grants:
 - 2 Teachers received One Class At a Time Grants
 - Tammy Osentowski received a Great Falls Public Schools Foundation Grant
 - Mary Proud received the Masonic Foundation Grant for STEM activities in the classroom
 - Holly Molyneaux received the Masonic Foundation Grant for music books for students in need
- Professional Development
 - Implemented a yearlong theme of building the language skills of our students.
 - Writing: examples are turned in monthly for all curricular areas
 - Implemented monthly social skills and character traits instruction in all classrooms.

LEWIS AND CLARK ELEMENTARY

- Breakfast in the Classroom- In January we switched to the Breakfast in the Classroom model. This has increased the number of students we have eating breakfast. Thank you to our cafeteria staff and classroom teachers for the smooth transition.
- Social Emotional Learning- This year we moved to class meetings every day in every classroom to address social emotional learning. We incorporate Olweus, Zones of Regulation, Social Skills, and topics related to diversity. Thank you to classroom teachers and our school counselor for this implementation.
- Starbase 2.0- we were a lucky school to host Starbase for our sixth graders. This is a voluntary after school program (10 sessions) for sixth grade students through the Starbase program. Our students worked on engineering tasks using robotics. Mr. Rieger and Mr. Edwards were the teachers here.
- Professional Development- Our teachers worked on continuing to improve their instructional skills through café-style and PLCT sessions on instruction in Math. After these sessions our Instructional Coach provided in-class modeling, observation, and/or planning with each teacher.
- Technology- Our teachers have all (every grade level) implemented either Chromebooks or Promethean screens in their classrooms. They have received valuable professional development from our district's instructional coaches. They have used this knowledge to use the technology with their students in many ways in their classrooms.
- PTA- We have a tremendous PTA group. They have raised money to support technology in our school as well as co-hosted an internet safety night with Lincoln Elementary PTA. We are so thankful to our PTA volunteers.
- Special Olympics- Lewis and Clark is a Unified Champion School. We just completed year two of our 3 year commitment while the state games are here in Great Falls. We have held respect rallies, adopted a team from Charlo, and gone to be fans in the stands. This has been such an amazing experience for our students.
- Students- Our students have accomplished much this school year in Speech, Cross County, Track, Spelling, Music, Art, and all kinds of extra-curricular (outside of school) activities. We are so proud of them.
- We have so many great volunteers. We are proud of the continued partnerships we have with New City Church and Schulte's. They do so much to help support our school.

The things that I am most proud that we accomplish aren't always the things that can be put on a list like this. I am proud of the relationships we build with students and families and the climate and culture of our building. Because of these relationships, students come to school more regularly and grow more academically. They feel like school is a safe place for them. I had more students than ever before sad about school ending for the summer.

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, Kindergarten Learning Lunch, Veteran's 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, 100% of Families Participated in Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences (face to face or phone conferences); 2nd Grade Community May Day Baskets;

- GFHS and Lincoln Aim Higher Activities in fourth grade
- Volunteer Luncheon to honor and celebrate our many volunteers throughout the school year
- Student Council Project/Contest: Amazing Shake (with business partners)
- RSVP Montana Service Award Winner: Gary Petersen
- Strong PTA – fund raising events (Walk-A-Thon, Fall Fund Raiser) for the school raised over \$18,000 for new security doors, computers, and books for the library, Montana Shakes in the Schools, Holiday Giving Tree for Families in Need of Support, Good Person Breakfast, Read-a-thon, Internet Safety Workshop, PTA Holiday Dance, PTA
- Fundraising for students doing Lincoln Service Projects. We also supported many causes in our community: Sletten Cancer Institute, School Food Bank, May Day Baskets, Benefis Daisy's Cart, Jadon's Hope SMA Organization,
- Make-A-Wish surprise party/sendoff, Student in Need Holiday Shopping for Parents,
- 2 One-Class-At-A-Time grants from First Interstate Bank
- Over 1,600 acts of great citizenship with our new Lion's Tickets inspired by our new Montana Behavior Initiative – much like random Acts of Kindness
- Almost 760 Facebook followers!
- Adopted Chromebooks in grades 2-6.
- School-wide Read for the book BFG (every student received a copy).
- Continued to put emphasis on Culture Building Activities: Buddy Classrooms and Community, School-wide theme of Grit, partnered with Fort Benton Elementary School on learning about Grit
- City-wide Speech Meet had 2 students who finished in top 5.
- Cascade County Spelling Bee Runner Up: David Wolfe
- 5th Grade CMR Essay Winner for Lincoln: Caitlin Wetterau
- Cohesion Dance Project with 3rd and 5th Grade
- Increased Safety Awareness: practicing dog safety, 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, Kindergarten 100 Day Celebration, Kindergarten Gingerbread Hunt, Kindergarten Festival, 2nd Grade Farmer's Union Presentations,
- No Kid Hungry National Breakfast Hero Award received by Jon Konen
- Excellence in Education Award received by Jeff Rieger and former GFPS employee Tamra Johnson; Two former students, Celia Keil and Jennie Gresham, honored for Excellence in Education.
- Business Partnerships – Student Leadership Team: "Shark Tank" proposals and business involvement; Team also presented the "Sharktank" concept at the first ever high school Electric City Shark Tank Contest.

LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY

- MCLP (Montana Comprehensive Literacy Project) Grant Award recipient. (Along with ELF, Whittier, East Middle, and GFHS.) Received a gold innovative grant award through our work during this process. This grant will allow us to continue our work in reading instruction and support.
- Moved from old Longfellow Building to Roosevelt Elementary in December of 2018 to allow construction of new building to begin early.
- Worked with designers, architects and families to give input into new building design and concept.
- Developed framework for behavioral and instructional expectations within the classrooms and building.
- Supported students with six PAWS incentive celebrations to celebrate their great successes during the year.

- Implemented bussing for all Longfellow students that live in the schools area. Bussing will continue until new building opens in Fall of 2020.
- 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 9 students reach our “Million Word Club” this year. (Up from just one two years ago!)
- Longfellow will be sending a team of 6 educators to MBI (Montana Behavioral Initiative) in June for training on climate and culture. (This will be year two.)
- Longfellow continues to operate a thriving food pantry, clothing pantry and backpack food program for many of our students and families in need. Helped support over 100 families from our school pantry.
- We provided much needed family support over the holidays giving out meals at Thanksgiving and gifts at Christmas. Helped support 20 families during each holiday.
- 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 2019-2020 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 2018-2019 has ended and Loy Elementary accomplished many things throughout the year. Character education, student safety and academics.

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 “The Minuteman Way” motto of being respectful, responsible, honest and caring. 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 state in the area of character development.

We continued 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. A new aspect of our character education program was the Character Council was created which allowed 4th -6th grade students to apply to be a part of the council and coordinate events, honor students at the assemblies, create projects for Loy Families, present at the monthly school board meeting, help with the school store among other character building activities throughout the year. The Character Initiative for Loy is about building relationships in all aspects of the school and getting to know the students and helping them be successful in and outside of school.

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, acceptance 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. In addition, through parent support and a donation from PTA, Loy is now a fully locked down building with visitors having to use the locking security system to gain access. The front office staff have been trained on the procedure to let visitors in and once in the building what the steps are to allow the visitor access to 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 the educational opportunities on base for the children we share. We had the base CDC teachers meet with our kindergarten teachers and discuss areas that the incoming kindergarten students have been exposed to and areas that will be new to them.

Since 2014 Loy has used Smarter Balance as the state assessment to show growth. In 2016-2017 79% of 6th graders were proficient on the ELA/Literacy Test and 73% of 6th grade students were proficient on the Mathematics test. In 2017-2018 86% of 6th graders were proficient on the ELA/Literacy Test and 73% of 6th grade students were proficient on the Mathematics test. Loy teachers pride themselves on the rigorous curriculum and differentiation that they provide to their students. This is evident in the test scores of our students.

Other events and activities:

- Weekly Indian Education Club
- Starbase Program for 5th grade students
- Music Programs (Holiday and spring concerts)
- Geography Bee and Spelling Bee
- City Speech Meet
- Data Day Meetings (RTI) every 6 weeks
- DEAR (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

- **In a World Where You Can Be Anything.....Be Kind Kick-off-**On the first day of school, our entire staff, students, and families gathered on the playground to greet, visit, and meet new people before school started. Photo booth areas were hopping with smiles and anticipation for the new year to begin. When the very first bell rang, gold ribbons were cut and everyone entered the building together! This was the second year of a new tradition for us at Meadow Lark. The energy and excitement could be felt by everyone!

- **Veteran's Day Luncheon**-Students invited Veteran's to have lunch with them to show appreciation for their service to our country.
- **Missoula Children's Theater** came to Meadow Lark in January and worked with all 510 students with workshops and the production of *The Secret Garden*.
- **Meadow Lark PTA STEMN' Science Night** was held in March to encourage students to participate in science and technology activities. Meadow Lark was the recipient of a National STEM grant and received **50 LittleBits** science kits. In preparation for our school-wide Science Fair, parent and teacher volunteers held a workshop to support students with science projects. Our Meadow Lark Science Fair for kindergarten through sixth grade was a success that all students were able to attend.
- **Unified School Assembly** for our second year of being a Unified School! This assembly to promote 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. Students and staff members wore a "Spread Kindness Like Confetti" t-shirt 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 "Spread Kindness Like Confetti" 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.
 - **Donations for Community and Staff Members in Need**-We held several donation collections for Coleman, The Kinder Family (former student diagnosed with cancer), The Bimler Family (father injured), and our own kindergarten teacher Amy Hollenbach (diagnosed and treated for breast cancer).
 - **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/Kindergartners**-Graduation Matters/United Way teamed up with our kindergarten to do activities and participate in a photo opportunity with a graduation banner and Graduation Matters t-shirts.

MORNINGSIDE ELEMENTARY

THEME- "Camping"

Morningside families and students celebrated the first day of school with tents and camping chairs on the front lawn to kick off our school theme. We even had Smokey Bear greeting students as they walked through the front doors. Thank you to the Lewis and Clark National Forest for allowing a bear (Smokey) to roam the grasslands of Morningside.

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, and several \$50 checks to our food service to pay for lunches for families in need.
- My Student in Need Program: Various clothing and personal need items.
- Great Falls Masons: Reading Challenge donation of **3 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
- Foster grandma program: Gma Loy, Gma Juanita and Gma Silvia
- Great Falls Foundation: \$200 for the school to use to pay off student lunch accounts for families who couldn't afford it.

5th and 6th grade student council:

The 5th and 6th graders were very busy this year. They had multiple opportunities to "Do Good" in our community. Here are a few of the activities they did:

- October was SOCKtober. Students throughout the school brought socks to donate to our local receiving home.
- November & December: students organized a food drive. Food, not only stocked our pantry but was donated to the Food Bank for other families.
- February: Penny Wars. This was especially fun for students. The grade level that collected the most pennies, and did not get silver coins won. Guess who got all the silver coins? The money raised was donated to **Benefis Angel Fund**. This organization was started years ago from one of our very own Morningside families.

One Fantastic PTA: I can't thank these parents enough!!!

Our PTA president, Carlee Fox is amazing! We are forever grateful for her time, skills and passion for Morningside students.

- MCT: Missoula Children's Theater production of King Arthur's Quest
- BBQ at Heren Park to start the year with families, staff and students
- Staff appreciation week goodies
- Dinners for staff during conferences
- PTA Carnival in April- always a great tradition for Morningside families
- Candy popcorn sales (yummy!)
- AND so much more!!

MOUNTAIN VIEW ELEMENTARY

- Montana Shakes is a branch of Montana Shakespeare in the Park. Mountain View has had them come for 12 years. They came in April 2019 and presented a wonderful play that was hilarious! Then they did workshops in grades 3-6. Some classes got a physical workshop called strange places, some got a language workshop called strange sounds and some got a craft workshop and character development called strange creatures. All in all it was a very good day!
- Mountain View's sixth grade graduation went off without a hitch! The graduation started with a guest speaker named Julius Scott. He spoke about the 5 things graduating 6th graders should know. Each graduating sixth grader got a certificate of completion. Next they read what they would like to be when they grew up. Mrs. McKittrick gave out the Presidential Awards. She gave out 21 gold awards for scholarship and 1 silver award for most improved student. Impressive! She also gave out the sixth grade honor band awards. Refreshments were served.
- Mountain View's kindergarten graduated in style! Mrs. McKittrick, Mr. Schmersahl, Miss Davis and Miss Evans handed out certificates of completion to all kindergarten students. They also got Graduation Matters T-shirts. There was a photo station set up and the students could take pictures with friends and family. Refreshments were served and everybody had a fun time.
- Mountain View has a tradition of showing a slide show on the last day of school. This year's slide show did not disappoint! It featured Kindergarten through sixth grade students at work and at play! It was set to music and the students loved seeing themselves on the big screen! Then we went outside for year book signing.

RIVERVIEW ELEMENTARY

- Riverview Elementary formed a Reading Committee that promoted Reading through, "Reading Everything, Reading Everywhere, and Reading Every Day. The Reading Committee partnered with General Distributing, to have professionals/volunteers read in the classroom and provide books as rewards to students. From September to June, Riverview students read over 55,000 books.
- Riverview Leadership partnered with the Great Falls Lions Special Olympics team and raised over \$2,000 to go toward new uniforms for the team.
- Riverview 5th and 6th grade leadership students and staff worked together to plan our building wide SBAC kick-off assembly, implement a Riverview 100 Board, plan our 2nd Annual Community movie night, the 2nd annual 5th and 6th grade social.
- Riverview staff was honored with eleven gold stars through the GFPS Foundation, one teacher nominated for Montana History Teacher of the year and one teacher recognized for Excellence in Education.
- Riverview students read to earn the opportunity through good behavior and the MBI team to participate in the "Chalk the teacher" and "Slip and Soar, Slip and Slide" celebrations at the end of each semester.
- Riverview PTA organized the annual cookie dough fundraiser and walk-a-thon. Students and their parents stepped up to make it another great year, and are being rewarded with nearly \$18,000 of new technology and are continuing to save to incorporate new play structures on the playground. Riverview PTA continues to organize and celebrate our families through our annual BINGO night.
- Riverview continues to plan and prepare for emergencies through practice of fire drills, lock downs, shelter in place, evacuations and code blue practices.
- Riverview students, parents and community came together to provide 25 holiday baskets for families in need.
- Riverview Elementary became eligible to distribute food through the backpack program, partnering with the Community Food Bank.
- Riverview students completed two food drives totaling almost 3,500 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 a GFPS Discovery Grant to fund lock boxes in a classroom to promote creative and critical thinking, along with student engagement in the classroom.
- Riverview received seven bikes courtesy of the Uptown Optimist to be given away at the end of the year as a reading incentive.

SACAJAWEA ELEMENTARY

Schoolwide Celebrations:

- Sacajawea had community members come to be guest readers to the whole school each month. The guest reader read a Dr. Seuss book to go with our Dr. Seuss theme.
- Missile Squadron volunteers from MAFB came to read to classrooms weekly.
- Installation of security camera's.
- SAC PAC hosted an Elf Store for all students to pick out a gift for someone special.
- Dress up Days funded a donation to Angel Fund and the Great Falls Community Food Bank.
- Provided MAPRIL cleanup for community and received NeighborWorks Great Falls Most Improved Award.
- Implemented the Backpack Food program for students to have food on weekends and holidays.
- Mrs. Smith was taped to the wall in the gym because students met the Book Fair goal of sales totaling more than \$7,000.00.
- Mrs. Busch and Mrs. Doran were BNSF Distinguished Educators.
- Community members donated \$1.00 per month per student in several classrooms for students to receive a new book each month.

Student Celebrations:

- Students made published books.
- Forty-five students participated in our Summer Reading Challenge.
- Had students exit out of System 44 (Tier 3 Reading Intervention Program).
- Parent Involvement with "Mailing May" and gingerbread houses.
- Parent volunteer who is also a firefighter came in to talk about fire safety to 2nd grade.
- Kindergarten hatched baby chicks.
- Students received an IEFA award.
- Provided a book swap area for students to exchange books.
- 5th grade students made simple machines and presented those to students and parents.
- Created a STEM Fair for 4th-6th graders through a grant from the GFPS Foundation.
- 4th grade students wore hats for Stand Up for Students
- Wrote cards to deployed military
- Made Christmas ornaments and cards for Meals on Wheels
- Made Valentine Cards for the Beehive
- Donated food items to the Community Food Bank
- Teamed up with Pam Hansel Alfred for the Kindness Revolution
- 3rd grade students participated in Money on the Bookshelf program through Embark Federal Credit Union
- 5th grade classrooms had Courtroom transformations to introduce persuasive speeches
- PTA state reflections-students placed at state reflections.
- PTA National Reflections: One Sacajawea student placed first.
- Participated in City Speech Meet.
- 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).
- Kindergarten students presented May Day Baskets to our neighborhood.
- Sacajawea participated in Graduation Matters Graduation Walk with Kindergarten students.
- 1st grade students received a free pumpkin from Torgerson's in October.
- Many students participated in Cross Country, Track and Field and the 4th grade Fitness Challenge.
- Consistently had more than 20 students at Free Throw Thursday and students participated in the Elk's Hoop Shoot.

PTA Celebrations:

- PTA hosted a Walk-A-Thon and Family Fun Carnival Night.
- Missoula Children's Theater production "Emperor's New Clothes".
- One-day Book Fair profit over \$7,000.00 including online sales.
- Box Top money purchased three water filling stations for our school.
- Helped purchase security camera's for the school.

SUNNYSIDE ELEMENTARY

- Sunnyside students and staff once again teamed together to support the Travis Manion Foundation by organizing a "fun run". Students raised funds to support military veterans in our community.
- Sunnyside teachers again participated in the Shape MT initiative with more being trained this year. Shape MT provides movement strategies in the classroom that helps focus the mind and work the body.
- Sunnyside staff, students and families provided meals for many families needing support at Thanksgiving and just under 100 families were provided with gifts and clothing at Christmas time.
- Sunnyside students took part in a Jumpalooza as a healthy way to promote healthy lifestyle choices.
- The Sunnyside community challenged themselves in a Cat/Griz food drive to provide canned goods for the Great Falls Food Bank.
- Sunnyside was a Special Olympics "Unified School" hosting the Billings Bears. Staff and students held a welcome march throughout the building, sat with the team during opening ceremonies, decorated doorways at their hotel, and participated in fans-in-the-stands. We were proud to do so.
- Sunnyside implemented Breakfast-in-the-Classroom this year dramatically increasing the number of students served!
- Sunnyside held its annual school track meet for the 4th/5th/6th graders.
- Sunnyside has an amazing PTA that helped us provide fun afterschool activities such as an ice cream social and a school dance. They also run an active Facebook page letting parents know of upcoming events and motivating volunteers to help out!
- Finally, Sunnyside finished the year with Kindergarten and 6th grade celebrations to recognize both of these elementary milestones.

VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY

We continued to offer varied opportunities to showcase the talents of our students including

- 1st Annual Talent Show
- 4th Annual Jitterbug Competition
- Geography Bee
- Spelling Bee
- 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.
- Voyagers Seven Innings of Reading Program
- 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.
- Special Olympics-It's our 3rd year of being a Unified Champion school. We continued to provide the Young Athletes program, adopted a team from Sanders County and a team from Lewistown, and sent hundreds of student to be Fans in the Stands for Summer Games. We also created gift baskets for all the athletes we adopted.

We have an active PTA who supported us by providing:

- Grants for teacher projects
- Back to School Swim Night
- staff meals
- end of year class parties
- buses for field trips
- classroom supplies
- and a yearbook for every child

In addition they planned these fun events

- Desserts and Dice
- Family Fun Bingo
- Ice Cream Social
- Family Formal Ball

Jump rope fever continues at Valley View! Our counselor expanded his jump rope team as jumpers increased their skill level and complexity of tricks. The team was invited to perform at Sacagawea Elementary, Lewis and Clark Elementary, North Middle School and Highgate Senior Living. Several team member competed in the regional competition in Missoula, with 3 qualifying for the National Competition in Orlando, FL.

Students competed in the Amazing Shake at the school level and with several other elementary schools with one of our students taking 3rd place.

Melissa DeBruycker was awarded a Discovery Grant to purchase flexible seating for students across grade levels.

WEST ELEMENTARY

- 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. Each student received a book to take home for the summer!
- Gold Star Awards
- Distinguished Educator Award - Mrs. Lewis
- Student Leadership raised money to make pet blankets for pet rescue (the Pet Pawsee)
- One Class at a Time Grants
- 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
- Had the 2nd Annual West Talent Show – showcasing our Native American Dancers and other great talent!
- Had 1 teacher ear a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction in Math

- Had 1 teacher celebrate 25 years with Great Falls Public Schools
- Completed another GREAT year with Great Falls Public Schools!

WHITTIER ELEMENTARY

- **MBI**--We would like to showcase being an MBI School (Montana Behavioral Initiative) as one of Whittier's top accomplishments again 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 and will again the summer of 2018. This summer at the MBI Conference Whittier Elementary will receive a **"Bronze Award"** from the Office of Public Instruction-for becoming an exemplary Tier Two MBI School. **Team** leadership is important in an MBI School and a Whittier MBI team continues to plan and communicate school wide procedures for common areas such as the playground, hallway, cafeteria, etc. This year the team has moved to classroom procedures and helps teachers with plans for Tier II and Tier III behaviors. This team and the 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 universal 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 not followed.

The MBI team meets every other week (after school) as a team and with classroom teachers to assist with RtI Tier III behavior interventions.

- **MCLP Grant**—in the 2017-2018 school year, Whittier received funding from the Office of Public Instruction through the **Montana Comprehensive Literacy Grant** and we continue to work on instructional growth areas for reading. We took a hard look at Whittier's instructional strengths and growth areas for reading and a leadership team grew. These teacher leaders: receive training, conduct training, and have input on outside trainers coming into Whittier.
- **Special Olympics Unified Partners**—Whittier sponsored the **Helena Bengals and the Helena Capital** 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**-The new elevator continues to be well used and is much appreciated by Whittier students and families. Our families that have elders or members of the family that are handicapped are thankful for this addition.
- **Boys and Girls Club Partners**—Whittier has teamed up with the Boys and Girls Club this year to provide an afterschool **"Learning Lab"**. We received a 21st Century Grant to provide Whittier teachers to students afterschool – at Whittier-to catch them up (after extended absences-- such as funerals), and to supplement their skill level in the areas of math and reading. This has been a hit with students and parents. This summer we will have two Whittier teachers that will provide educational programming at the Boys and Girls site.
- **Family Summer Celebration**—Whittier planned two Family Summer Celebrations in coordination with: PTA, the volunteer group-*The Fishers of Men*, and Summer Read 6.



Whittier Free Summer Family Celebrations

Where: **Whittier Elementary School**

When: **June 11th, August 13th**

What: **4:00-5:30 Family Activities**

5:30-6:30 Free Dinner

6:30-7:30 Free Books
Summer Read 6 Book Mobile

- **Graduation Matters**-- continued and expanded our partnership with University of Providence 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 UP 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.
- **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. They also sponsored, an end of the year, family Bingo. This was well received with over 155 people attending and winning bikes and/or baskets. There are more and more families and community members crossing the threshold of Whittier Elementary each year for these evening events.

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 schoolwide drive with United Way for Graduation Matters
- EMS honored over 187 students for having a Mind-Set that would allow them to be successful in the future.
- EMS had 449 Students receive a 3.0 for all four quarters
- 815 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 NMS activities
- Student Government Maul Ball Fundraiser to support NMS activities
- NJHS Cat/Griz Food Drive
- NMS PTA Fundraisers- Godfathers Pizza and Krispy Crème Donuts to buy new lunch tables
- Special Olympics Unified Champions, Graduation Matters, and Polar Plunge Fundraisers for Special Olympics
- NMS Angel Tree
- HOSA Fundraisers for the Cameron Center, the Rescue Mission, the Childrens' Receiving Home, and other local charities
- Maclean Animal Center, Great Falls Animal Shelter, the Linus Project, Breast Cancer Awareness, Homeless Awareness, Bella Horse Rescue, and Meals on Wheels Fundraisers
- Grizz Biz Wadsworth Kids Fishing Day- Assemble 800 rods, reels, and tackle boxes

Community Engagement:

- Grizz Biz attended the State Fair, Farmer's Market, 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- News Broadcasting Careers, Real Estate Careers, and Vet Careers
- Various community donations to Grizz Biz and Ram Enterprises

Student and Family Engagement:

- Principal for the Day: Students Srb and Ginnaty
- Interdisciplinary Theme Units: American Icons, Genetics, Flat Franklins, Diversity, Service Learning, Life Skills, and Gratitude
- Team Celebrations- 6 teams, 3 trimesters
- Student Leadership Conferences: JMG, MBI, Graduation Matters Summit, HOSA Fall and State Leadership, State Student Government, and LEAD
- Week Long Instructional Celebrations: Red Ribbon Week, Graduation Matters Week, and RESPECT Week
- Principal 200 Lunch Celebrations (3)
- Industrial Technology Field Trips to the High School House
- Hooked on Fishing not Drugs Field trips
- Assemblies: End of Trimester School Celebrations, Love This Life Foundation, Purple Up for Military
- No One Eats Alone Lunch Campaign
- Support Special Olympics Summer State Games as Fans in the Stands and host NMS Respect Rally
- Students vs. Staff Basketball Game
- Field Day Investigation- 3 day field trip

- Grizzly Got Talent Show
- Talent Search College Tours
- Started middle school JS2S or Junior Student 2 Student program
- Started middle school HOSA program
- Indian Education Department Student Awards
- Hour of Code Celebrations
- Family Fun Night
- Adaptive Music and Health Enhancement Offerings and Celebrations
- Spring Fling Student Dance
- Girls in STEM Day
- GIRL CLUB- offered by Girl Scouts
- Parent Education Night Offerings on Challenges, Internet Safety, and Human Trafficking

Student and Staff Accomplishments:

- Middle School Job Shadows at Youth Court and TD & H Engineering
- Virtual Reality Classroom Grant- Mr. Dues
- Science Olympiad Competition
- Science Bowl Regional Winners and fourth trip to Nationals.
- Academic Bowl Win- Adam Elkin, Josslyn Rose, Zach Dean, Kelly Lynch, Della Everhart, Rory Hibbs, Amy Ollivant, and Audrey Cameron
- Math Counts Competition
- Foundation Excellence in Education- 5 staff honored
- Uptown Optimists Toastmasters Competition- 10 students
NJHS Induction 141 students
- Izzy Rukavina won 1st place at the State Toastmasters Competition
- Individual Athletics: Adam Elkin, AJ LaFurge, Tanner Grove, Cayden Doran, and Norah Allen NMS 8 th
- Grade Grizzly Athletes of the Year
- NMS City Championships: Cross Country: 8 th grade girls and 7 th grade girls, Girls Basketball: 8A Grady, 8B Haviland, and 7B Fisk, Football: 8A Taylor/Jarrett, 8B Kualuaau/Leitz, and 7A Steward/Crosby, Boys Basketball: 8A Sterling, 8B Jarrett, and 7A Lins, Volleyball: 8A Preston, 8B S. Thomsen, 7A Grady, 7B Dues, Swimming: 8 th grade girls and 7 th grade girls, and Track: 8 th grade boys, 8 th grade girls, 7 th grade boys and 7 th grade girls
- 6 GOLD STAR teachers- Mrs. Barker, Mr. Dues, Mrs. Jacobsen, Mrs. Beck, Mrs. Bronec, and Mrs. Lorang
- Melissa Vansickle won the Horace Mann Crystal Owl Award
- Trish Korman received a grant from Calumet
- Andrew Nagengast Gallery 16 Art Show

C.M. RUSSELL HIGH SCHOOL

2018-2019 Student Achievements

- Members of this class have earned over \$1.5 million dollars in scholarships and awards
- 15 seniors were awarded the Montana University System Honor Scholarship
- Two seniors won the Horatio Alger Undergraduate Scholarship
- 67 senior class members have been initiated into the National Honor Society
- 66% of this senior class have post-graduate plans to continue their formal education
- 11 seniors maintained a perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA throughout high school

- 98 seniors (38%) were recognized for making the honor roll **all 4 years** of high school
- 24 members of this senior class will be serving our country in the military
- Three students were selected for Cross Country All-State
- A CMR student was 103-pound state champion at the wrestling tournament while another student was 145-pound runner up
- Three wrestlers were selected for the Academic All-State Wrestling team and the Wrestling manager was also named to the Academic All-State team
- One of our senior girls was inducted into the Cheerleading Hall of Fame
- Three CMR football players were named to All-State; Six CMR football players were selected to All-Conference
- 11 CMR Track and Field students made All-State; 128 CMR students completed the track season
- One of our senior girls is the Eastern AA Divisional Shot Put Champion
- Two CMR softball players were selected to All-State
- 47 student athletes volunteered to help with Special Olympics
- Three students participated in Special Olympics all four years of high school. These same three students also volunteered at Eagles manor making Christmas ornaments
- Six Special Education students will earn their athletic letter for participating in the Special Olympics year-round sports program
- One of our Special Education students won the Patti Cooper Memorial Award while another student won the Sid Nasby Award for Outstanding Employee at Bosses Night
- 11 students were named to All-State Band and four students were named to All-Northwest Band
- Nine students participated in All-State Orchestra and three students participated in All-Northwest Orchestra
- Seven seniors were selected to 2018 Montana All-State Choir; seven seniors were named to 2019 Northwest Honor Choirs in Portland
- Seven students won gold medals at the State HOSA Conference; two students won silver and one student won bronze
- Two seniors placed first in the Principle's Cup. The entire team placed 2nd at the MT Academic State Championship.
- CMR took first place in the AA Great Falls Central New Year's Invitational Speech and Debate Tournament
- Two students are national finalists in the United States National Chemistry Olympiad
- Five students earned second place at the Regional Science Bowl. One of those students completed his mini-grant project using his 3-D printer to make prosthetic hands for amputees which he shipped all over the world, including to China—probably without the tariffs
- A member of the CMR German Club won Outstanding Junior World Language Student
- 24 students took advantage of the CTE Internship Program earning high school credit AND a paycheck. One of those students was selected Welding Student of the Year
- Our Journalism/Newspaper students won the Pacesetter Award for top AA newspaper in the State and top AA online news site in the State. Several students took first place in several events
- One of our students was chosen to represent Montana at the Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference in Washington, D.C. One high school journalist from each state is selected to attend the conference. It is the third year in a row that a CMR student has been selected to represent our state
- Five seniors qualified for the National Business Professionals of America conference where one student placed 5th and another student placed 11th
- One of our seniors won first place in the Electric City Shark Tank competition while another student placed third
- Four seniors competed at DECA Nationals
- One of our seniors was awarded the MAFCS/FCCLA Scholarship for the State of Montana
- One of our seniors received her State FFA degree and was a finalist for Star in Agriscience
- One of our students won the Mental Health America, Great Falls Creative Writing Contest and was honored at a banquet and presented with a \$300 monetary award. CMR students also placed 2nd and 3rd in the contest.

CMR Drama Accomplishments 2018 – 2019

- CMR Drama students help haunt the Vaughn Corn Maze during October.
- Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat collected over 1,000 pounds of food for the CMR Food Pantry.
- During The Sound of Music we collected for Toys for Tots, Shop with a Cop and the CMR Food Pantry CMR Drama donated 86 teddy bears to the Great Falls Police Department after 26 Pebbles.
- CMR Drama students helped with CERT Training during Spring Break.
- A senior student wrote the show “Laika” for the CMR entry to the Montana State Thespian Convention where another senior student was recognized as Outstanding Actor in Drama and another senior took 2nd place in the Death and Dying Category. CMR was recognized with Outstanding Stage Combat and Outstanding Special Effects

Art Department Accomplishments 2018 –2019

- CMR Art Students received \$8,000 in scholarships
- Six CMR art students lettered in art.
- Five CMR students were award winners at the Colors of Fall Art Show; one student won 2nd place overall.
- Five CMR students were selected out of 20 for the People’s Choice Award at Embark Federal Credit Union. One senior won 3rd Place.
- Ten CMR students were selected for the Young Masters Art Show
- A CMR student painted the Selfie Wings at Holiday Village Mall
- 23 CMR Art Students attend Montana Arts Interscholastic in Billings MT
- 12 CMR AP Art Students participate in portfolio review at MSU Bozeman
- 30 CMR Students presented work at MSU Great Falls Ergon show
- CMR Art Club painted Christmas windows at Park Place retirement center
- Two CMR Students had work displayed at Montana State Capital in March
- 30 CMR Art students displayed their art at the All City Show at Paris Gibson Museum of Art
- 20 CMR Students displayed their art at the Youth Art Month celebration at Great Falls Public Library
- 45 CMR Students displayed their art at Great Falls Public School District Office Building
- Artist in Residence, Robert Kruithoff, worked with 50 CMR Art Students
- CMR Art Club designed art for Downtown Crosswalk Project

GREAT FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Our Kids

Professional Development for Instruction

- Literacy Coaches, Yolanda Westerberg, Kayte Howell and Jana Mora focused on literacy instruction through developing Academic Vocabulary Skills in all content areas.
- Start with Why by Simon Sinek, professional book study
- Development of T2T teacher google site to highlight best practices
- Common Content Assessment and Power Standards work
- Three teachers nominated for *Montana Teacher of the Year*

Grant

- Year two of the Title I *Montana Comprehensive Literacy Project* grant to support the Professional Development for Instruction (listed above), develops preK-12 systems and purchase intervention supplies for classes
- Maintained and expanded supplemental learning opportunities through Night School and Saturday School through the MCLP and Boys’ & Girls’ Club grants

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
- Student Council 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.
- 41.7% of our student body is engaged in extracurricular activities
- Will send one football player and three cheerleaders to the Shrine Game
- 14 seniors were honored with All-Conference and/or All-State nominations
- 26 seniors earned Academic All-State designations in at least one sport
- Wrestling placed 2nd as a team, at State
- Will send two soccer players to the Shodair Soccer Classic
- 2019 State Championship in softball
- Gatorade player of the year
- 4th place state boys basketball
- 14 individual scholarships given to athletes who will be continuing their sport in college
- Advanced Biology students experienced a day long ornithology fieldtrip, researching birds of prey and banded a Golden Eagle

Culture: Academic Achievement

- 3 Senior GFHS Choir students named to the NAFME All-Northwest Choir
- 3 Senior GFHS Choir students earned All-State honors
- 3 students selected for the ACDA National Honor Choir
- Over 75 Seniors participated in music all four years at GFHS
- 9 Senior GFHS Band students selected for All-State Honor Band
- 6 Senior GFHS Choir students selected for All-State Honor Choir
- 3 Senior GFHS Orchestra students selected for All-State Honor Orchestra
- 4 GFHS Band students were selected for All-Northwest Honor Band/Orchestra
- Delphian Choir Seniors represented GFHS at the All-Northwest Conference of NAFME in Portland
- 30 Seniors earned Superior Solos and Ensembles at District Music Festival
- GFHS Seniors from Delphian Choir, Chamber Orchestra, Rhapsody Choir and Jazz Band participated in over 60 performances this year in our elementary schools, retirement homes, and Benefis Hospital. In addition, they performed the national anthem at Special Olympics, civic group activities, with community bands, and at sporting events. Marching band also performed in two marching shows and a parade
- AP Art students painted a mural in the music department
- Art students hung and displayed art at the State Capital in Helena
- Drama provided successful shows, including *Dracula*, *The Outsiders*, *Converge*, and *A Year With Frog and Toad*
- Juniors and seniors built a home for NeighborWorks, High School House # 41
- FCS students catered many events and dinners throughout our district and community including the 3-Sport Banquet and dessert for Excellence in Education
- Junior ROTC cadets presented our National Colors at over 50 events within our district and community
- Seniors in both DECA and BPA won state awards and competed at their national conferences.
- 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
- The total amount of scholarship money awarded on Honors Night, (NOT including MUS scholarships, sports, music or private scholarships) was over \$400,000.00
- 14 Seniors earned a perfect 4.0
- 10 MUS (Montana University System) Scholarships
- 1 National Merit Scholar Letter of Commendation
- 1 U.S. Presidential Scholar Semifinalist
- Mathlete Contest

- TrigSTAR contest
- WorldQuest Competition at UM
- Principal Cup competition at Simms High School
- Senior AP Art students painted a mural in music department.
- 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

Our Community

Partnerships

- YRBS/CARE/TEG/Student Voice Survey / Teacher Voice Survey / Threat Assessments
- Cascade of Talent (Embark Credit Union)
- Developing Child classes at ELF Center; career pathway with UM-Western; State's first students to earn an certificate in Early Childhood, while in high school
- 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
- Website development
- Google Girls Day of Coding participation (one student won a Chromebook, one student won a gift card)
- Benefis CNA classes
- New Life Church, Set Free Ministries, LDS members provided asset development to students, families and support for staff

Communication

- Crisis team at DOB and GFRPD support during times of crisis
- Work on the Threat Assessment Process
- Facilities Updates
- GFPS Foundation for support of students and teachers
- Construction update with neighbors and Sletten Construction Co.
-

Innovation

- Ed McNamee, BNSF Teacher of the Year
- Coding Classes
- Bison Baristas coffee shop
- Bison Video Productions and the Bison Film Festival
- Early Childhood Development certification process
- "Pull Your Share" fieldtrip
- GFHS Grown specialty carpentry projects

Service

- National Honor Society Seniors provided hundreds 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, clothing, food and personal care items
- Collected and distributed food through the Great Falls High School Food Bank, for over 400 meals between Thanksgiving and Christmas; totaling over 6,000 pound.

- 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 17 members performed 477 service hours through distinct and different projects, as well as raised a total of \$1,113
- Key Club members were recognized at the State Convention with awards for outstanding service and skills in The Governor's Project, club reporting, club secretary and the 2019 Distinguished President awards. One senior was recognized as the State's single recipient of the Sandy Nininger Medal
- Art Club decorated windows at senior living facilities over the holiday season
- Seniors donated \$1,207 to the Wounded Warrior Project in their final act of charity as a class, at the 2019 Commencement Exercises
- Expanded "Pull Your Share" to four busses of students
- Student/Faculty Basketball Game for charity
- BPA Winter Walk-a-Thon for Special Olympics
- Student Council donated over \$2,000.00 to *AidSpiritUSA* in addition to giving back over 1,000 hours of service to our school and community

Our Future

Facilities

- Watched as construction continues on the GFHS HUB
- Worked, weekly, with professionals from NE45 and Sletten on new construction and remodel design
- Received an amazing \$1.8M gift from the Davidson Family to renovate the historic GFHS Auditorium
- Worked around construction determined parking redistribution and re-directing of student traffic flow

Health and Wellness

- Welcomed a new SRO, Detective Clint Huston
- Youth Diversion Program
- Blue Collar Bison staff recognition

PARIS GIBSON EDUCATION CENTER

- Staff awarded over 2500 half credits for the year, this is a record for Paris.
- Eight students received their CNA certification.
- One hundred forty-three graduates with more expected by the end of summer school, also a record number.
- Six Secondary Life Skills graduates.
- Paris had a high of 284 students at one point this fall, highest ever.
- Over 40 classes taken by Paris students at GFC-MSU.
- Average Daily Attendance went up again this year, 76.3%, up from 54% ten years ago. This is our highest ADA ever.
- Approximately 12,000 rides provided to students to work, school, home, doctor appointments, housing, and turning in job applications or to whatever the student needed...we are trying to decrease the amount of rides without much success!
- Over 1000 hours of community service provided by Paris students.
- One JMG national winner in public speaking, Jimmy McCallister.
- Almost 400 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. Several staff members were used to provide multiple statewide training on Trauma.
- Over 70% of our students work more than 18 hours per week, 24% work more than 40 hours in order to survive.
- At least 20% of our seniors lived on their own, no parent or family member.

- Paris conducted a three day Thrive Workshop for just Paris students. The workshop focused on trauma and ways to develop resilience and perseverance. This was attend by 35% of the student body. Staff did most of the presentation in coordination from Erin Butts’s office.
- Multiple field experiences including; Slippery Ann, bison harvest on the Blackfeet reservation, and many local visitations.
- Immersion School at Paris had its largest graduation class, twelve students received their diploma. A new cohort will start this fall with the few remaining students from the first group.
- 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 was held at Paris in September of 2018.
- Paris successfully hosted and assisted with State Special O state games and hosted Bache Ball. Many students contributed time and muscle to make this happen.
- Many Paris students and staff were interviewed and participated in “Converge” a play about the barriers kids in Great Falls face on a daily basis.
- Our students built the storage shed for Giant Springs Elementary School.
- Many of our students participated in drum making in the traditional way with the assistance from Dugan Coburn and Curtis Valladolid.
- Over \$100,000 in scholarships were awarded to our graduates.

Great Falls Career & College Readiness Center

“Our Clients” – ‘Believing that every person has purpose, value and potential..., Great Falls Career & College Readiness Center 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 the CCRC 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: **406**
 - 16-18 yrs. 102
 - 19-24 yrs. 110
 - 25-44 yrs. 140
 - 45-54 yrs. 28
 - 55-59 yrs. 12
 - 60 & older 14
- ELA clients: 39
 - 97% making an Education Functioning Level (EFL) gain
- Surpassing state targets at all six (6) levels
- AE Clients - Measurable Skill Gains

		State Targets
○ Beg. Literacy:	25%	42%
○ Beg. Basic:	37%	43%
○ Int. Low:	55%	43%
○ Int. High:	77%	42%

- ASE Low: 80% 44%
- ASE High 50% 45%
- Exceeding state targets in 4 out of 6 levels

- MACO District 5 clients: 25
 - Belt, Browning, Cascade, Choteau, Conrad, Cut Bank, Ft. Benton, Kevin, Lewistown, Sand Coulee, Shelby, Stockett, Sun River, Ulm, Vaughn
- Total hours of instruction: 18,831.5

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 2018/2019 year was another success for individuals in the following areas:

- High School Equivalency Diploma: 115
- United States Citizenship: 2
- Certified Nursing Assistant: 13
- Nutrition Education 10
- Work Ethic Proficiency Certificate: 4
- Phlebotomy 2
- Financial Fitness Certificate: 5
- Job Shadow 10
- Career & College Prep 67
- Commercial Driver's License (CDL): 1
- Co-Enrolled: 10
- Entered College/Apprenticeship/Training 38

“Our Community”- *Great Falls Career & College Readiness Center 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 Career and College Readiness Center facilitates trainings and presentation to organizations that want their staff and/or clients to learn more about our program.*

- Education Partners
 - Great Falls College MSU
 - University of Providence
 - Montana Academy of Salons
 - MSU Extension Office
 - Early Childhood Coalition (ECC)
- 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
- Cut Bank Job Service
- Cut Bank Opp. Inc.
- Workforce GPS

- Business Partners
 - Benefis Spectrum
 - Benefis Health Systems
 - Alluvion Health
 - Alliance for Youth
 - ADF
 - Big Sky Bus Lines
 - Centene Corporation
 - Central Plumbing & Heating
 - E & S Recovery
 - Embark Credit Union
 - LPW Architecture/Engineering
 - Loenbro
 - Scheels All Sports
 - Sletten Construction
 - Pasta Montana
 - Rural Dynamics, Inc.
 - Best Western Heritage Inn

- State Partners
 - Job Service
 - Job Corps
 - Montana Registered Apprenticeships
 - Fish & Game
 - Legislature
 - OPI
 - SWIB
 - Vocational Rehabilitation
 - WANTO
 - 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
 - Military One Source
 - Vets4Vets
 - Veterans Upward Bound
 - Recruiters from all branches

“Our Future”- *Great Falls Career & College Readiness Center 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 both district and community collaborations & partnerships
- Increase client goal improvement, achievement, and transition to workforce and/or higher education and training
- Maintain our commitment to continuous forward-thinking with a growth mindset to include: ongoing professional development through weekly staff meetings; district trainings; state collaborations; state meetings; national participation and presence; utilizing a multitude of resources for best practice models; and ongoing community partnerships