



# Summer GMMS Newsletter

Happy Summer!

## Brief Message From the Principal

Dear Timberwolves Community,

As we transition into summer, I want to take a moment to reflect on the past school year and share my heartfelt gratitude for each of you. It has been a remarkable year filled with growth, learning, and countless achievements, thanks to the hard work of our students, teachers, and families.

Summer is a time for rest, relaxation, and exploration. I encourage all our students to take advantage of this break to pursue their interests, pick up new hobbies, and spend quality time with family and friends. Whether it's reading a good book, exploring nature, or participating in summer activities, I hope each student finds ways to continue learning and having fun.

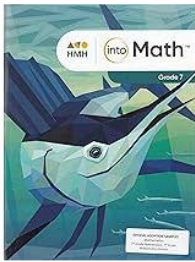
Our school office will be open until June 4, so feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns. We will return July 16.

As we look ahead to the new school year, we will continue to strive for excellence and ensure that every child feels valued and supported. Thank you for being an integral part of our school community. Wishing you all a safe, joyful, and refreshing summer!



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## Opportunities for Summer Learning



### Student workbooks

Your student came home with some workbooks from the school year. Encourage them to work on the empty pages to keep their skills sharp!

### Free events at your local library

Your local library has Summer Reading programs, podcasting/production workshops, and more available for free with your library card.

### Book Giveaway

Pick up some free books at the D51 book giveaway on June 11-14. East Middle School (830 Gunnison Ave, Grand Junction) will be open from 9am-4pm each day for anyone who is interested.

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## Other Fun Opportunities



### Kids Bowl Free

Freeway Bowl is proud to partner with Kids Bowl Free Colorado to offer **2 Free Games Every Day** to registered participants.

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## CMU Music Camp

June 1-6, 2025

This week-long event is for middle-school music students who have had at least one year of training in band or orchestra, as well as guitar students. Music Camp includes five days of engaging instruction from the music faculty at Colorado Mesa University and professional musicians from the Grand Junction area. Also included in the price is a Music Camp t-shirt, music enrichment courses and all meals. Students perform in the Music Camp band, orchestra or guitar ensemble. Open to students completing 6th, 7th and 8th grades with prior band, orchestra or guitar

experience. Guitar students must have 6 months prior experience and be able to read pitches in treble clef. Students may stay overnight on campus or participate in all day and evening activities as a commuter.

For more information visit:

<https://www.coloradomesa.edu/music/festivals-camps/music-camp.html>



## Lunch Lizard Summer Meal Program

The D51 Lunch Lizard is a beloved initiative in District 51 aimed at ensuring that no child goes hungry during the summer. This mobile meal program brings nutritious lunches directly to community youth during the summer months when school is out of session, as well as during other breaks when access to meals may be limited. The Lunch Lizard travels to various neighborhoods and community locations, offering free and healthy meals to children aged 18 and under, regardless of their economic background. It's

not just about providing sustenance; it's about fostering a sense of community and ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive. With its cheerful colors and friendly staff, the Lunch Lizard is a welcome sight for families throughout District 51.

[Schedule and Locations \(English\)](#)

[Schedule and Locations \(Spanish\)](#)

[Safety and Security Update](#)

# CSOC YOUTH ATHLETICS BASEBALL IN MESA COUNTY!

JULY 23RD 2025

## DETAILS:



JULY 23<sup>RD</sup> 2025



7:30AM-4PM



Central High School



Donation based



Ages 8-12



Join local law enforcement for a fun day of **baseball** at **Central High School!** Open to all skill levels, this **free event** is a great way for kids to play ball, learn new skills, and connect with officers in a positive setting.



REGISTRATION AND OTHER INFO: [leagues.bluesombrero.com/csocya](https://leagues.bluesombrero.com/csocya)

For help registering or other questions:

**Camille D'Arcey**

(970) 820-8038 [cdarcey@csoc.org](mailto:cdarcey@csoc.org)

**Robert Branham**

(720) 438-9691 [rbranham@csoc.org](mailto:rbranham@csoc.org)

## Summer Baseball Camp

Mesa County Sheriff's Office will be hosting a FREE day-long baseball workshop at Central High School on July 23 from 7:30am-4 pm. This event is open to students ages 8-12. Please follow the Mesa County Sheriff's Office social media for any further information.

## Game Recommendation



This semester in my GT classroom, students worked on building their own board games. Which meant that we started by exploring board games to learn more about game mechanics. Along the way we discovered some new games. Here is one of our favorites!

Cartographers is an award-winning, fantasy map-drawing game for everyone - literally! Play by yourself or with up to 100 players of all ages. Each turn, a card is revealed that gives players a choice of what to draw. Simultaneously draw shapes on a grid-based map and fill them with forests, farms, villages, and water.

But beware of monsters that other players will draw on your map! Fill your map wisely to complete a variety of scoring patterns that change each game. Earn points after each season and at the end of four seasons, the player with the highest reputation is declared the greatest cartographer in the kingdom!

—description from the publisher

I ordered Cartographers for my middle school students at GMMS. Never having played it before, but impressed with the reviews, I took the game home over the weekend to learn how to play it. I was immediately hooked. The game mechanics are simple, and challenging. Once students learn the game, you can get through it in about 30-40 minutes, depending on how many monsters appear throughout the game. When a monster card is drawn, they have to pass it to someone and that player gets to draw the monster terrain on their card.

After learning the mechanics, students began thinking strategically about terrain placement. Not only about maximizing their points (reputation stars) but also how to sabotage another's map if a monster card was drawn. This is a very individual game with minor influence from outside forces. I found that students were eager to share their maps with friends and this often influenced their next game and strategy.

This was great for students who struggle with competitive games where there is a "winner" and a "loser." My artistic and spatial kids took to the game the fastest, and usually had the highest scores. Overall, everyone enjoyed the game play because their goal was to do better than their last game.

We have the game at home, and have played it with our 4th grader, and I think that you could easily play it with younger grades as well. That being said, I may, or may not have purchased the mobile game... I find it pairs well with an audio book 😊.

-Mrs. Kelley

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## Upcoming Events

# School Registration



**OPENS JULY 17**

**All Students  
must register**



**Transfer Requests**

**OPEN JULY 23**

**We look forward to  
seeing you!**

Event Information  
**School Registration**

When?

**Thursday, Jul 17, 2025, 07:00 AM**

**6TH GRADE BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT**

**T** RUST  
**R** ESPECT  
**A** CCOUNTABILITY  
**C** OOPERATION  
**K** INDNESS  
**S** AFETY



WELCOME TO  
**GRAND MESA MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
JULY 31<sup>TH</sup> 6PM-7:30PM

6:00 PM - 6:15 PM	<b>WELCOME MESSAGE FROM MR. FOSTER &amp; GET YOUR CLASS SCHEDULE!</b> Hear a welcome message from Mr. Foster, and pick up your schedule. Know that schedules are subject to minor changes, & you will receive another copy the first day of school.
6:15 PM - 6:30 PM	<b>FILL OUT GUARDIAN FORMS, VISIT TABLES</b> Please take time to visit our mandatory guardian form stations, and informational tables to learn about student activities including: Student Council, O.W.L., R.E.C., Partners and others.
6:30 PM - 6:45 PM	<b>PAY STUDENT FEES &amp; GET YOUR LOCKER ASSIGNMENT</b> We have some fees that help sustain the programs GMMS offers. Once fees are paid, students will receive their locker assignment. Everyone is assigned their own locker. You will be given a combination for your locker and allowed to decorate it <b>on the first day of school.</b>
6:45 PM - 7:00 PM	<b>FIND YOUR WOLFPACK ROOM &amp; LOCKER</b> Everyone is assigned their own locker. When you decorate it, the first day of school, make sure you don't damage or put anything permanent on it. (magnets & clings are better than stickers). Lockers are closed until the beginning of the school year, but now is a good time to find it and make sure that it is near your WolfPack and is the right height for you. If not, please see a staff member.
7:00 PM - 7:30 PM	<b>BELL PRACTICE</b> We ask that you go back to your Wolfpack teacher, then we will ring a bell for you to go to the first Core class on your schedule (Math, Science, ELA, Social Studies). At the next bell go to your next core class. This will help you familiarize yourself with your schedule! (Exploratory techres are not here tonight, skip them.)

PLEASE REVIEW OUR GMMS HANDBOOK



Event Information

**6th Grade Back to School Night**

When?

**Thursday, Jul 31, 2025, 06:00 PM**

Where?

**Grand Mesa Middle School, 31 1/2 Road, Grand Junction, CO, USA**



#### Event Information

### 7th and 8th Grade Back to School Night

When?

**Monday, Aug 4, 2025, 06:00 PM**

Where?

**Grand Mesa Middle School, 31 1/2 Road, Grand Junction, CO, USA**



#### Contact Info

Grand Mesa Middle School

Principal: [Randy Foster](#)

Asst. Principal:

[Julie Schmalz](#)

Main Office: 970-254-6270

Espanol: (970)254-5272

Website: <https://gmms.d51schools.org/>

Location:

585 31 1/2 Rd.  
Grand Junction, CO 81504



## Smore Templates

Smore is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters