



2025-26

Welcome!

**All the answers to questions you
didn't even know you had**



Special Guests

Ms. Haggstrom - 8th Grade

Ms. Pennell - 7th Grade

Mr. Kitch - 6th Grade

**Ms. Elder - Instructional
Coach**

Ms. Grove - Dean

Welcome Back!

Welcome to the 2025-26 School Year!

- Community & unity - focus on community & connection - with each other & with our students!
- Developing & sustaining relationships with every student - so they feel accepted, loved, and cared for.
- We had a kick-off event at GMHS for all of the area schools to get together! This area values vertical articulation between the grades.



Quote We Provided for the Staff

Belonging is the step before achievement. Indeed, achievement is built upon belonging. We need to belong in order to achieve. Our self-worth rises when we are grounded in community. In other words, achievement occurs in the context of our relationships.

Floyd Cobb & John Krownapple
Belonging Through a Culture of
Dignity



New Staff Intros

Teaching Staff:

- Justin Baum, 7th Math Marmots Team
- Jess Fabio, Learning Specialist 6th & 7th Grades
- Sam Franks, 6th Science Wolves Team
- Mark Vymyslicky, Learning Specialist 6th & 7th Grades
- Christie Hurst, 8th Science Rams Team
- Matt Patterson, Learning Specialist 7th & 8th Grades
- Carly Johnson, AN Center Teacher
- Brian Williams, 6th Math



New Staff Intros

Support Staff:

- Tyler Veltman, 1:1 Independent Support Para &th Grade
- Jason Ackerman, 1:1 ISP 8th Grade
- Erica Winzent, Registered Nurse
- John Goodrich, School Resource Officer
- TBD - Speech Language Pathologist



Focus on Culture & Climate

We feel and see our culture growing in positive directions - let's keep going/building

- Each of us contributes to the culture and feel of the school each day.
- Dunstan and the Green Mountain Area value teamwork, instructional collaboration, exchanging what's working, and continually bettering what we do (instruction and connection with students).
- We value education that specifically teaches critical thinking and analysis skills so students can make sense of the world, know they have the tools to do so, and value multiple perspectives.
- Your admin team wants everyone to have a great year and we are here to listen, support, & collaborate with you!



Basic Stats

- 4 feeder elementary schools; we are the primary feed for Green Mountain HS
- We are a diverse community - racially, socially and economically - please coach your student(s) to be kind, respectful, and get to know others they may not have known in elementary school
- 803 students (175 ALPs, 120 IEPs this includes 18 Affective Needs students, 35+ Multilingual Learners
- We are an inclusive environment - as is the world around us and the world your kids will have in the future!



Google Classroom - Student Work

Your child has 1 Google Classroom per class - so 6 Google Classrooms

- Make sure you have access
 - Review the content for each class at least weekly
 - Have your child compose and email that includes you if you have questions about class content
 - Please keep up with reviewing this weekly with your students to make sure your students have as much of a smooth transition as possible



Infinite Campus - Student Grades

Quarters

- Posting 4 time this year
 - End of Each Semester
 - Oct 17th
 - Mar 13th

IC Tips and Tricks

- Review IC with your kids at least weekly

SBG / Gradebooks

- Standards
- 1-4 grading scale
- OnTrack Letters
 - Your student receives these every other week in Advise
 - Being On-Track correlates to quarterly field trips or celebrations



Bell Schedules - What's New?



Dunstan Regular Bell Schedule

2025-2026

6th	
Entry	8:45-8:55
A	8:55-9:22
1	9:25-10:22
2	10:25-11:22
L	11:25-11:55
3	11:58-12:55
4	12:58-1:55
5	1:58-2:55
6	2:58-3:55

7th	
Entry	8:45-8:55
A	8:55-9:22
1	9:25-10:22
2	10:25-11:22
3	11:25-12:22
L	12:25-12:55
4	12:58-1:55
5	1:58-2:55
6	2:58-3:55

8th	
Entry	8:45-8:55
A	8:55-9:22
1	9:25-10:22
2	10:25-11:22
3	11:25-12:22
4	12:25-1:22
L	1:25-1:55
5	1:58-2:55
6	2:58-3:55

Schedules:

- 45-min Advise
- 57 min
- Grade level lunches
- 3 min passing periods



Assessment Updates

- All testing windows are on the Dunstan Calendar
- National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) - 8th Only
 - MAP = Elder (and Haggstrom)
 - ACCESS = Mulcahy (and Haggstrom) for Multilingual Language Students
 - CMAS = Haggstrom



Clubs - Open House

Information of those we know about so far - in the cafeteria!

MSSP program - with the City of lakewood. Fliers in the office.



Professional Learning Plan (linked)

Learning Targets

LT1: We can refine our instructional design and academic monitoring practices across all classrooms to promote the consistent implementation of standards-based, grade-level instruction to ensure all students have points of access, challenge, and targeted feedback needed to grow.

LT2: We can build and maintain schoolwide unity by strengthening relationships among all members of the Dunstan community (staff, students, families).



District Arc

“Leading for Consistency, Coherence and Belonging PK-12”



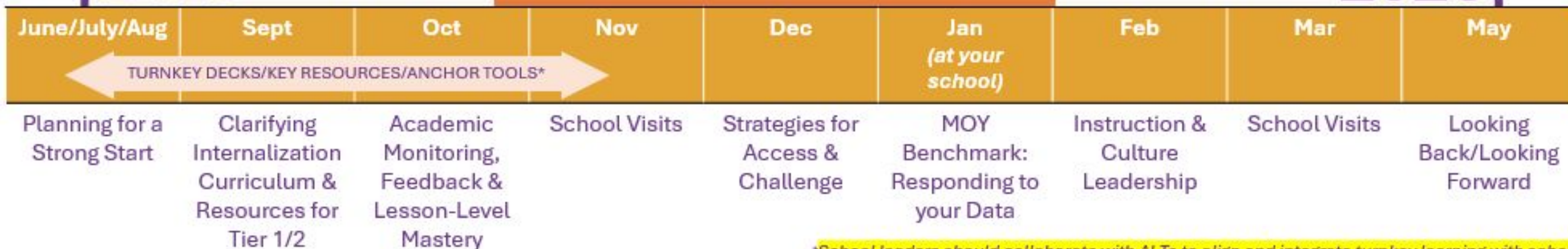
Grades 9-12
DURABLE SKILLS & CREATING RELEVANCE
IN LEARNING

Grades 6-8
MEANINGFUL, RELEVANT LEARNING THROUGH
HIGH EXPECTATIONS & INQUIRY

Grades PK-5
ENSURING A STRONG FOUNDATION

2025

2026



*School leaders should collaborate with ALTs to align and integrate turnkey learning with school PLPs for SY 25-26. Turnkey learning will determine the focus of November & March School Visits.

Focus for 1st 6 weeks: Sprint 1

LT 2 Success Indicator: Teachers lead classrooms where students feel safe, included, and connected

By September 19:

Goal(s): Teachers lead classrooms where students feel safe, included, and connected.

- 100% of teachers have routines and rituals that are explicitly taught and reinforced
- 100% of teachers are referring to students by name
- 100% of teachers have classrooms where all students are given *an opportunity* to participate and share thinking

Sprint Cycle Goals and Look Fors

Elder, Admin, and your ALT peeps are here to help!



Our New Dean Michelle Grove

👋 A bit about me:

- **Second-career educator with 14 years in education, 13 at the middle school level**
- **Former Deer Creek Middle School teacher, district instructional lead, and new teacher mentor**
- **Completed my principal license and 2nd educational masters**
- **Committed to equity, restorative practices, and high expectations for all students.**



💡 My Pedagogical Approach

Inclusion | Connection | Growth | Partnership

- ➔ **Inclusion:** Every student should feel seen, valued, and supported.
- ➔ **Classroom Management:** I promote proactive, student-centered routines rooted in consistency, respect, and clarity.
- ➔ **Behavior Support:** I view behavior as communication and use restorative, data-informed strategies to foster growth and re-engagement.
- ➔ **Collaborative Partnership:** I work alongside teachers to co-create safe, inclusive classrooms where both students and educators feel supported, respected, and empowered to thrive.



New This Year

You will be getting MUCH more information about these topics in the coming days/weeks

- Cell Phone & Smart Watch Policy - Away for the Day
- Student-Family Handbook / Patriot Path
- 57 minute classes; 30 minute lunch/recess



Starting Simple - Remove Distractions

"AWAY for the DAY!"

- Cell phone/Smartwatch/wireless earbud policy - students keep these in lockers during the entire school day.
→ They should be turned off or in silent mode.
- Consequences:

1st Offense - *Phone kept in office and parent called. Student will pick up phone at the end of the day.*

- The item will be placed in a safe location in the classroom that students **cannot** access.
- The item will be taken to the main office by the teacher and kept in the main office until the end of the school day.
- School's OLT will be part of a system for phone collection - **coming soon!**

2nd Offense - *Phone kept in office and parent called. Parent will pick up the device from the office.*

3rd Offense - *Student checks the device in at the main office for a set period of time determined by administration.*

Starting Simple - Keep it Locked Up

Backpacks in Lockers!

- Students may utilize backpacks to bring items to school but **they must leave the backpacks in their assigned hallway lockers during the entirety of the school day; they may NOT store them in the gym locker rooms.** They may not take their backpacks to any of their classes. This includes the last class of the day. Please also do not dismiss them early to get their backpacks.
- Backpacks will NOT be allowed in gym locker rooms at any time. Students' backpacks/bags must be stored in their assigned hallway lockers.
- A "backpack" or "bag" is defined as any receptacle that is large enough to hold a spiral notebook, binder or textbook-sized book.
 - This does not include binders that zip and have a carry strap; these are NOT considered bags because they can be opened up and laid flat on the desk for immediate use.
 - Purses are permitted; however, if they fit the definition of a backpack/bag, they are too large and must stay in the student's locker.

Basic Safety Information

- Safety Information - we will have a Safety Parent Night this Fall
 - Fire/Evac Drills - monthly - this happens
 - Lockdown - once a year
 - Lockout - this happens
 - Hold - this happens
 - Combinations - this happens
- Staff Supervision Before & After School 8:40-8:55 and 3:55-4:10. Please avoid dropping your students earlier unless they are involved with a club/activity



TechForEd CHROMEBOOKS

TechForEd Program

Current 6th grade students who have been in Jeffco have now been in the [TechForEd program](#) since at least **June 2022**.

- Expectations related to the use and care of district property remains the same whether the item is library book or a district Chromebook. The item they're borrowing doesn't belong to them and should be cared for accordingly. **They will need constant reminders at home as well as at school.**
- Families need to make sure to review these documents and resources with student(s) so everyone is on the same page:
 - [Jeffco's Technology Use Agreement](#) (updated 7/2025)
 - [Dunstan's Student Chromebook Info](#) (includes troubleshooting, expectations and processes students are expected to follow so they are prepared to learn each day)



TechForEd CHROMEBOOKS cont.

Chromebook Lifespan

Students are expected to take care of, keep track of and use the same Chromebook for 4 years.

- Students are issued a new Chromebook in 5th grade & will turn it in for another new Chromebook in 9th grade
- **No more swapping.** Old loaners will now be issued to students when Chromebooks go to repair and students will get the same one back when it comes back from repair. (Estimated turnaround time is 2-3 weeks.)
- Basic troubleshooting: Students & families must do basic troubleshooting when issues arise that aren't the result of physical damage.



TechForEd CHROMEBOOKS cont.

“Getting A Chromebook Looked At”

If troubleshooting doesn't fix an issue or a Chromebook is physically damaged AND that damage doesn't allow the student to access the materials they need for school, they will follow Dunstan's [“Getting A Chromebook Looked At”](#) process.

“On-the-spot” technology support isn't available due to budget and staffing restrictions at the middle school level.



TechForEd CHROMEBOOKS cont.

Repeat-Intentional-Excessive Damage

Taking proper care of and keeping track of the Chromebook loaned to students by the district is **essential**.

- If a student shows a history of repeated damage and/or if the damage is determined to be intentional and/or excessive, families will be charged a fee to repair or replace the Chromebook. This fee (based on extent of the damage; \$25, \$100 or \$275) will need to be paid through *Infinite Campus Student Fees* before another TechForEd Chromebook will be issued to the student.

[Jeffco's Technology Use Agreement](#) (updated 7/2025)



IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

6th Grade Parent Meeting with Principal - Thursday 8/21 6:00

Back To School Night/Curriculum Night - Wednesday 8/27 5:00

Parent Teacher Association Meeting - Wed. 9/3 6:00

Outdoor Lab Parent Meeting 6th Grade - Thurs. 9/4 6:00

GMHS Homecoming Parade - Friday 9/12 Noon at DMS

No School - Professional Learning - Friday 9/19

6th Social - Friday 10/3 - for all 6th Graders!

Orchestra Concert - Tuesday 10/7 @ GMHS

Choir Concert - Thursday 10/15 6:00 @ DMS

Band Concert - Wed. 10/16 6:00 @ DMS

Parent-Teacher Conferences - 10/8 & 10/9 5:00



Welcome Back!

[Welcome Back Newsletter](#)

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Accessibility


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Welcome to 2025/26 School Year!!!


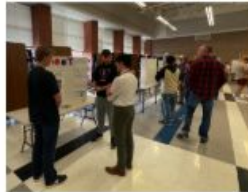

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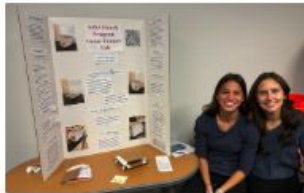
FAMILY INFORMATION UPDATES




Dunstan New School Electronics Policy



Let's Make the First Day







Welcome!

**This afternoon is
about community and
getting to know each
other & the school!**

