



Tammy's Top Ten on Tuesday November 8, 2016

- 1. It's Election Day!** Hopefully by the time you receive this, you have cast your ballot. If you haven't, please remember that this great country, this great democracy, requires citizen participation. Your elected representatives need to know how their constituents think in order to accurately represent them. They are counting on your vote as part of that process.
- 2. Need Some Relief from the Election?** The high school drama departments have some excellent entertainment in store for you as they prepare their fall productions.
 - **GFHS** will present *The Mind of Poe* at 7:30 pm, November 10-12 and 17-19 in the GFHS auditorium. The play is a collage of works written by American Master of Horror, Edgar Allan Poe. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased at the door.
 - **CMR** will present *It's a Wonderful Life* on December 1, 2 & 3 at 7:30 pm in CMR's Bill Williamson Hall each night. The classic Christmas tale comes to life in the most unique & interesting way. Tickets are \$6 for students/seniors & \$8 for adults & are available at the door.
- 3. Facility Update--Request for Qualifications (RFQs) Received.** Yesterday was the deadline for professionals in design disciplines to submit information in order to be selected for projects of limited size and scope. The final selections will be voted on by the Board on November 28. At the Board meeting on Monday, November 14, they will approve the advertisement of RFQs & RFPs for the phone replacement project, the Roosevelt Elementary replacement project, the Little Russell/Building & Grounds upgrade, and the Memorial Stadium project. For more information, be sure to check out the new website entitled "Facility Action" right here: <http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/facility-action>.
- 4. Winter Weather Awareness:** Before we know it, winter weather will be in the forecast. In case you are wondering how our schools handle emergencies such as threats, natural disasters, hazardous material breaches and unpredictable, wintry weather, check out the Student Safety webpage at: <http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/students/safety>. There's a whole section on how we handle these kinds of school disruptions. There's even a Refrigerator Note that you can print off so you have the information at your fingertips. Check it out!
- 5. GFPS Students Doing Good Things for Others:** The CMR Drama Department collected over 1,197 pounds of food for the CMR Food Pantry on October 22 during their annual "Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat" food drive. Similarly, the GF Young Life organization, with students from our high schools and surrounding towns, participated in a Trick or Treat Food Drive on Halloween. They collected over 350 pounds of food! That food will be divided and distributed equally between the Food Pantries at the high schools. High schoolers can contact Rhonda Moore, GF Young Life Team Leader, at 750-0013 or at rhodam1285@gmail.com for more information. Those interested in the thespian groups can contact the drama teacher at their high school. Both groups thank this incredible community for its generosity.
- 6. Lions Clubs Help Students See:** The three Lions Clubs in GF are committed to projects designed to prevent blindness, restore eyesight and improve eye health and eye care for children in our schools. The Electric City Lions Club does screening in our schools every year. The other clubs collect used glasses that are recycled, reconditioned and provided to those who can't afford new ones. You can donate glasses (prescription or reading) by bringing them to my office or by contacting Lion Jerry Miller at 799-6000.
- 7. Truck Raffle Fundraiser a Huge Success:** The GFPS Foundation raised a total of \$124,320 to support students and education in the district. \$68,484 has been presented to student groups and organizations as they receive \$6 from each ticket sold. The remaining \$55,856 is retained by the Foundation for Discovery Grants and other educational opportunities for students. Josh Kuntz was the winner of the

2017 Toyota Tacoma, donated by City Motors. The winner of the \$1,000 gift certificate donated by North40 was Izac Trainor-Brickey.

8. **Speaking of Discovery Grants:** On December 5, the GFPS Foundation will accept applications for Discovery Grant funding. GFPS employees can apply for up to \$3000 for projects that will enhance education. Applications are due by January 27. The Foundation has \$60,000 available to disburse. For more info, call Dave Crum, 268-7340, or go here: www.gfpsfoundation.org/programs/discovery-grants/.
9. **#MyReasonWhy:** The Montana High School Association (MHSA) has launched a new initiative to capture the reasons why high school students participate in extracurricular activities. *Adults will point out that activity participation is positively linked to better cognitive functioning in students, reduced dropouts, and a higher likelihood of college attendance. MHSA wants kids to share their own reasons. See the MHSA website at: www.mhsa.org/news_article/show/706489?referrer_id=1963569 for more information including a video about the program.
10. **Board Meetings:** The next regular Board meeting is on Monday, November 14 at 5:30 at the District Office Building, 1100 4th St. S. The agenda and supporting information will be posted this Thursday, November 10 at this link: <http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/meeting-agendas>.

I hope you enjoyed my Top Ten on Tuesday! The next release is scheduled for November 22, 2016.

Take care. Be well. Stay safe.

Tammy L. Lacey
Superintendent

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More GFPS news:

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

* References for these statements include:

Cognitive function research: Bailey, 2006; Castelli, Hillman, Buck & Erwin, 2007; Sibley & Etnier, 2003.
Drop out research: Mahoney & Cairns, 1997.
College attendance research: Barber, Eccles & Stone, 2001.
Other attendance research: Los Angeles Unified School District Study, 2011.
GPA research: Indiana State University