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## Tammy's Top Ten on Tuesday March 21, 2017

- 1. Community Budget Meeting Today.** As the Board continues its efforts to make the general fund budget setting process a transparent and community-based effort, the final community meeting is today, 5:30-6:30 pm, at Paris Gibson Education Center, 2400 Central Ave. The agenda and information from previous meetings can be found here: [www.gfps.k12.mt.us/2015budget](http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/2015budget).
- 2. April is Autism Awareness Month.** As April approaches, our community seeks to increase our understanding and acceptance of friends and neighbors with autism, and to draw attention to the tens of thousands facing an autism diagnosis each year. This Saturday, March 25, 9 am to 3 pm at the Heritage Inn, a workshop titled "*Understanding Life Skills, Intense Interests and Meltdowns*" will be held. To learn more about the workshop and lots of other related information, click here: <http://friendsofautismgf.blogspot.com/>.
- 3. End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter:** Friday, March 31 marks the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The quarter started on January 23 and consisted of 48 days of school. The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter/2<sup>nd</sup> semester/school year ends on June 8, 2017. Students attend 180 school days during the year and teachers work an additional 7 days for orientation, parent/teacher conferences and staff development.
- 4. The GFHS "Montana Project".** This cross-curricular freshmen Expo will be held on Thursday, March 30th. In years past, the "War Fair" was used to explore the multifaceted concepts of war and a broad sweep of history. This year, GFHS is excited to explore a new process. Students will compete for scholarship money (thank you Uptown Optimists and GFPS Foundation!) by rotating through English, Science/Math, and History stations, all having a Montana theme. The "Montana Project" is an outstanding opportunity for students to learn in a fun and engaging format.
- 5. Facility Projects Update.** LPW Architecture has been meeting with GFPS staff to plan what the Roosevelt replacement school is going to look like. They also met with the Lowell neighbors as they will live next to the new school. They are also engaging Roosevelt students for ideas and to share the architectural career with them. We are in the process of selecting the Roosevelt replacement school General Contractor/Construction Manager (GCCM). The firm selected will be announced the first week of April. CTA Architects have been selected as the designer of the CMR projects. GFPS staff have been attending demonstrations of possible phone systems and the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Memorial Stadium Turf will be due the first week of April as well. For more facility information, use this link: [www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/facility-action](http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/facility-action).
- 6. STEAM Expo Info!** You are invited to attend the annual STEAM Expo on Saturday, April 1, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the GFHS Fieldhouse. The Exposition will offer a venue for K-12 students to demonstrate the results of their STEAM studies, professionals to show how STEAM is used to better our communities, and spectators to participate in hands-on experiments. The STEAM EXPO event will connect our schools to the community, our students to professionals, and generate interest and excitement for science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. See you there!
- 7. FCCLA & HOSA Students Competing Right Now.** CMR and GFHS students are competing in the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) state conference in Billings through today. They started on Sunday. Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) are also competing at

their state conference in Helena yesterday and today. The students have been practicing and preparing for their competitive events for the last several months. We know they represented Great Falls well.

8. **Music is Still in the Air.** The final two weeks of Music in Our Schools Month is upon us. Here's the schedule: [www.gfps.k12.mt.us/sites/default/files/Music%20and%20Art%202017.pdf](http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/sites/default/files/Music%20and%20Art%202017.pdf). Of note is the Orchestra Concert which will feature orchestras from both high schools and middle schools on March 28 at CMR at 7:30 pm.
9. **Art for a Cause.** The NMS GrizzBiz students featured their products at the "Art for a Cause" auction last Saturday at the Holiday Inn. New products included GrizzWare (cups, mugs and pitchers) which is totally made of left over clay from the middle school art classes. They also featured wood products made from left over scraps from the woodshop classes. The students enjoyed volunteering their time for great causes like Breast Cancer Awareness and they got to practice their public presentation skills. Be sure to check out their products at the upcoming Home and Garden Show or at the website: <http://grizzbiz.com/>
10. **Board Meetings:** The next Board meeting is on Monday, March 27 at 5:30 pm at the **Paris Gibson Education Center**, 2400 Central Ave. As the agenda will deal with budgetary issues, it is being held in a space that is larger than the usual conference room. The agenda and supporting information will be posted on the afternoon of Thursday, March 23 at this link: <http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/meeting-agendas>.

I hope you enjoyed this week's Top Ten on Tuesday! The next release is scheduled for April 4, 2017.

Take care. Be well. Stay safe.  
Tammy L. Lacey  
Superintendent

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