



Dear Community Member: You are receiving this email as part of the District's ongoing community communication efforts. If you do not wish to receive these emails, there is a place to unsubscribe at the very bottom.

Tammy's Top Ten on Tuesday May 15, 2018

- 1. Operational Levy Failure.** While very disappointed by the outcome of the levy election, GFPS will move forward with the development of the 2018-2019 budget which will be presented to the trustees in August. The general fund budget for 2018-2019 will be \$70,689,779 as compared to this year's of \$70,335,142. The state funding increase amounts to \$354,637 or 0.5%. The cost-of-doing-business increases for next year necessitates reductions of \$1,565,363. About 1/3 of Montana's school districts ran levies this year as the state's funding did not match budgetary needs in their communities either. 80% of the levies that were run passed. GFPS thanks the citizens who attended the community budget setting meetings in January and February, and the levy informational meetings held throughout the month of April.
- 2. Congratulations, Trustees!** Current trustee Kim Skornogoski and new trustee Teresa Schreiner will be sworn in at a special reorganization Board meeting next Wednesday, May 23 at noon. The agenda for that meeting will be posted Monday morning. We will also say farewell to Bob Moretti who is leaving us after two stints on the Board, being elected in 2011 and 2015. We thank him for his service and dedication to our public schools. We also thank the unsuccessful trustee candidates for throwing their hats in the ring!
- 3. Special Olympics State Games are THIS WEEK in Great Falls!** The Games will take place today through Friday. They will feature over 900 athletes taking part in eleven different sporting events. Athletes of all abilities and ages will be featured; the youngest being eight years old and the oldest at 77. Multiple Great Falls venues will be utilized for the competition to include Montana Expo Park, GFPS, and Centene Stadium. Volunteers are still greatly needed in various capacities, including time-keeping, score-keeping, registration, etc. If you are interested in volunteering or attending, please click here: <https://www.somt.org/day-event-volunteer-openings/>. Please help us welcome the athletes, their families and coaches to our community!
- 4. Graduation Information:** I know there are a lot of seniors and their families getting very excited as we approach the important traditions of high school graduation. As a community, this is a time of celebration as we wish our graduates well. Their diplomas open doors to the future. Graduation matters!
 - **GFHS Baccalaureate:** Wednesday, May 23, 7:00 pm, GFHS Auditorium
 - **CMR Baccalaureate:** Wednesday, May 23, 7:00 pm, CMR Bill Williamson Hall
 - **GFHS Commencement:** Sunday, May 27, 3:00 pm, Montana Expo Park
 - **CMR Commencement:** Sunday, May 27, 7:00 pm, Montana Expo Park
 - **PGEC Commencement:** Wednesday, May 30, 6:30 pm, PGEC Gym
- 5. Memorial Stadium to Host AA-C State Track Meet:** Watch for large travel buses and parents in school colors as they descend upon Great Falls on May 25 and 26 for this large track meet. Seventeen track and field events, several boy and girl athletes per event, and two classes (AA and C) all adds up to a whole bunch of athletes, staff and families being in town! We still need volunteers to help put on this major event. Call Lisa at 268-6083 to help. Good luck to our own Bison and Rustler tracksters! We

also send best wishes to our tennis and softball athletes competing in their own state events in Kalispell and Helena, respectively.

- 6. Big Band Music and More.** Join the CMR RussTones Jazz Band, singers from the CMR Chanteur Choir and CMR Drama Department for an evening of Big Band music! Dress up and dance the night away! This Friday, May 18, 7 pm - 10 pm in the Bill Williamson Hall Auditorium. \$8 Adults, \$6 Students and Senior Citizens. You can also just sit and listen to the remaining 22 elementary, middle and high school concerts. You can find the list here: www.gfps.k12.mt.us.
- 7. Eagle Feather Ceremony.** This annual ceremony on Tuesday, May 22, will follow the Native tradition of presenting an eagle feather to our Native American students as they celebrate an important rite of passage: graduation. The eagle feather represents honesty, truth, strength, courage, wisdom, power and freedom...the very things we hope for all of our graduates as they leave our schools. GFPS continues to set records in the number of Native American students who graduate and we are excited to honor this year's group!
- 8. High School House Open House.** The 40th house built since 1997 via a collaborative effort between GFPS and Neighborworks is close to completion. Please come see it on May 17th at 4 pm. It is located at 2108 6th Ave South.
- 9. Congratulations Teachers of the Year:** At the GFPS Foundation's Excellence in Education ceremony on May 2, GFHS math teacher Michelle Brown and EMS English Teacher Keith Davey were announced as this year's Teachers of the Year. They each receive \$2500 to use in their classrooms compliments of BNSF Railway's sponsorship of the program. A magazine detailing all of the scholars and distinguished educators was in the Tribune on May 5. If you didn't get one, you can stop by my office to pick one up.
- 10. School Board Meetings:** The next regular Board meeting is on Tuesday, May 29 at 5:30 at the District Office Building, 1100 4th St. S. The agenda and supporting information will be posted on Thursday, May 24, at this link: 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 May 29, 2018.

Take care. Be well. Stay safe.

Tammy L. Lacey
Superintendent

Tell your friends about this:

You can pass on the invitation to your friends to subscribe to this service. If they open this page, there is a sign-up spot under my signature: www.gfps.k12.mt.us/superintendent.

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.