



## Tammy's Top Ten on Tuesday September 11, 2018

- 1. Patriot Day Tribute.** Governor Bullock ordered flags to be flown at half-staff today in observance of Patriot Day and the National Day of Service. Governor Bullock notes, "Each year, September 11 reminds us of how much we lost, but also what brought our nation together in the face of tragedy and what binds us all as Americans. We owe an enormous debt to our men and women in the Armed Forces and to our first responders. We are truly blessed to live amongst these heroes who are willing to give so much to ensure the safety of our communities and that the freedoms and ideas of the United States are upheld." GFPS joins with our fellow citizens on this day of remembrance.
- 2. See, Hear or Know Something? Say Something.** In today's world, every citizen has a responsibility to help keep our students, staff and facilities safe. GFPS continues to encourage students, parents, staff and community members to say something to the District anytime and every time something is amiss. As noted in the *Say Something Call to Action Planning Guide*, "Too often after an act of youth violence, facts come out that friends suspected or knew something was going to happen, but didn't know what to do with that information. In fact, in 7 out of 10 acts of gun violence, at least one other person knew of the shooter's intent, but said nothing. Additionally, 70% of people who complete suicide told someone of their plans or gave some type of warning or indication." We can't help if we don't know. Please pass it on...if you see something, say something by contacting a school principal or a district official.
- 3. Constitution Day.** Monday, September 17 is Constitution Day. Many GFPS classrooms will celebrate the entire week as students participate in various activities and events that are designed to educate, commemorate and celebrate the United States Constitution. The Board adopted a resolution at last night's Board meeting to support the celebration of the 231<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention. A plethora of resources can be found here: <http://bit.ly/gfps-const-day-resources>.
- 4. Leadership High School.** A big shout out to the GF Area Chamber of Commerce as they kick off another year of Leadership High School. 44 local high school students will spend one day each month of this school year learning about our community, social issues, government and its impact on youth, and the importance of community service. Many community volunteers make it all come together. Thank you to all involved for helping to build the leaders of tomorrow! To check out more information, click here: [http://www.greatfallschamber.org/?page\\_id=9375](http://www.greatfallschamber.org/?page_id=9375).
- 5. Scholarship Nights for Seniors.** Given the large amount of money awarded each year to graduates via a variety of scholarships, it behooves parents and students to understand the process. The GFPS Foundation and the High School Counselors will be holding scholarship information nights for seniors and their parents. They will cover such things as what reviewers are looking for, what documents are required, timelines and deadlines, and the dos and don'ts of applying. Please help spread the word about these important events:
  - a. CMR:** September 20, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm in the Bill Williamson Auditorium
  - b. GFHS:** September 27, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm in the Great Falls High Auditorium
- 6. Veterans' Grace Home Support.** GFPS construction technology students will be helping to build the new Grace Home garage and workshop project. In addition to working on this year's High School House, the students and their teacher Pete Pace will support the Grace Home project too. To learn more, see this news piece: <https://ktvh.com/news/2018/09/07/great-falls-grace-home-hosts-ribbon-cutting-for-construction-launch/>. GFPS and our students are proud to support our veterans in this way!

- 7. Tribune Calendar.** Each year, GFPS and the Tribune partner up to create a year-long calendar that highlights all kinds of educational information. If you would like one, stop by my office at 1100 4<sup>th</sup> St. S. to pick up this informative resource.
- 8. Student Handbook.** It is important that students, parents and the district are all on the same page regarding rules, regulations and expectations. One of the ways we work to do that is to have a written Student Handbook. All citizens have access to it at <https://gfps.k12.mt.us/student-handbook/>. Everything from attendance to wellness can be found starting on page 3.
- 9. Facility Project Update.** A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will be advertised this Sunday and again on September 23 for the General Contractor/Construction Manager (GCCM) for the Longfellow replacement school. Applications from construction firms are due on October 2, 2018. Those will be reviewed by the GFPS Facility Committee and the firms that are deemed qualified will then be asked to submit a response to a Request for Proposal (RFP). From there, interviews will be held and the firm that is the most qualified will be determined. The public procurement process is very different from the private process. To view all of the related documents for the RFQ process, visit these webpages: <https://gfps.k12.mt.us/rfq-rfp-bids/> and <https://bit.ly/2CIIXxy>.
- 10. Board Meetings.** The next Board meeting is on Monday, September 24 at 5:30 at the District Office Building, 1100 4<sup>th</sup> St. S. An agenda item of note includes decisions around advertising for the new superintendent to replace me after my retirement on June 30, 2019. The full agenda and supporting information will be posted on the afternoon of September 20 at this link: [www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/school-board](http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/content/school-board).

I hope you enjoyed my Top Ten on Tuesday! The next release is scheduled for September 25, 2018.

Take care. Be well. Stay safe.

Tammy L. Lacey  
Superintendent

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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](http://www.gfps.k12.mt.us)). Please check-in often.