

RAPTOR REPORT

Grand River Academy Newsletter

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Principal's Update

Rolling Over Classes in High School

One of our Grand River Academy goals is to provide flexibility while holding students to high academic standards. We do know that in high school, not all students have finished this semester's coursework and may need the flexibility of more time.

Instead of having all of these students earn a failing grade and start the course(s) over in January when we return, **some** classes may roll over. A roll over means we will allow the student to work on the course next semester instead of earning a failing grade.

To roll over courses, **students must be at least 30% of the way through the course with a grade of at least a "C."**

Students will have the next five weeks to work on finishing their courses. We will be leaving courses open over Winter Break.

It is important to know that **rolling a class(es) over may put your student behind on their path to graduation.** I would like to emphasize that your student should complete their courses before the end of the semester.

There are a few exceptions to the 30% and at least a C criteria for rollover:

- If your student is a senior who only has their current course(s) to complete, they will be allowed to continue those next semester.
- Your student just recently finished a course this semester and had another course assigned that they would have had next semester. For example, let's say your student completed this semester's elective early, and we gave them another elective. Because the student finished this semester's elective in the semester they were supposed to, and they started next semester's elective early, they are not behind and would continue their class.
- Students who have had their class rolled over once before are not eligible to roll it again. They need to work to complete their course by January 4th. They will have Winter Break to work on their course.

To maintain high academic standards, students are expected to complete 100% of their courses by the end of this school year. All students, whether or not they complete 100% of their course, will receive a final grade at the end of this school year. We will not be rolling over classes to the next school year.

Thank you for your continued support of your student. We know that you are a vital link in your student's success, and we value all of what you do. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us .



"We are what we repeatedly do.

Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

ARISTOTLE



100% Online Learning

As you probably know, the district has moved all high schools to remote learning. While Grand River has not had a positive case of COVID reported, it is out of an abundance of caution that we took the step to have high school go 100% online, at this point, until December 18th.

We are fortunate because the learning our students do is 80% online. So when we switch to a 100% online, we are prepared for students. Our teachers are expert in online education so they know how to facilitate online learning.

There is a schedule of meetings times via Google Meet or Zoom that simulates the onsite day for students.

These meetings are an opportunity for students to interact with one another, get questions answered, and for the teacher to deliver instruction that students need. A copy of this schedule was emailed to parents and teachers will share it.



Advisory

This past month our advisory at all levels focused on gratitude. This is a focus on the self awareness and social awareness domains of our district's social and emotional learning standards. Students learned that focusing on the positive is a healthy way to live life.

In December we will be focusing on kindness. This will include the standards of self-awareness, social-awareness, and self-management. Students will be encouraged to do something kind for others and spread kindness.

COVID Precautions

We take the health and safety of your children very seriously. With the COVID 19 pandemic occurring we've had to make shifts in the ways we traditionally do things.

Some of the precautions we have in place are masks are required to be worn by all adults and students in grades 6-12. Students in grades k-5 wear masks whenever they leave their classroom and go into our halls or when the teacher deems it prudent to use masks, such as in small groups.

We encourage students to physically distance from one another. Middle school and elementary have been eating outdoors because it has been so beautiful. This limits crowding in the gym where high school has been eating.

When the weather gets cold we will have middle school students eat in their classroom and we will stagger elementary and high school lunches so they aren't in the gym at the same time.

Teachers have been wiping down their desks and chairs after every class.

Sanitizer is used a couple of times of day as well. Door knobs, light switches and other "high touch" surfaces are sanitized several times a day.

Chromebooks are sanitized after every student. We have also encouraged the use of handwashing/sanitizer for all adults and students in the building.

If you have questions about our COVID procedures, there is a video on our website to explain all the precautions we are taking. You can also contact me if you have questions. Thank you for sharing your student with us!

Steve States, Principal

Updating Information

Please be sure to update your email and phone information should either or both change. We send most communication through email and/or text. If you're not receiving emails and/or text from the school, please contact the school with your updated information.



The Lunch Lizard Is Free Until the End of December!

Grand River Academy has a closed campus for lunch (which means all students remain at Grand River throughout the lunch period). The exception, at this time, is for our juniors and seniors. They may leave campus to purchase food if they are not late to the next class. All students can bring lunch from home.

The district has arranged for the Lunch Lizard food truck to stop by on our onsite school days. They will offer lunch on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays.

The menu can be accessed at [D51 School Menus](#), then select "Bookcliff Middle School" or "BES" to see the food options for us as well. Once on the calendar, use the "lunch" tab located near the top. (Breakfast is not available at our location.)

Yearbook Sales

You and your student want to remember the days when they were in school.

A yearbook is a perfect way to capture memories. Go to <http://gra.picaboo.com/> to order yours.

Hardcover are 32.00 and the softcover is \$22.00.

Learning Lab

Did you know that we have a place for students to go who need help or need a place to work? Our learning lab has Mrs. Havens who is an excellent support to students who may be struggling or just need a little extra help. The lab also provides a space for student who may need to catch up. Students can come to the lab anytime school is open (Monday-Friday 8:30-2:30. Students can make an appointment or just show up to work and receive help. This is a valuable resource we hope your student(s) will use.



December's Calendar

3rd School Advisory Council
(This will be a virtual Google Meet. You can get to the meeting by clicking on the following link:

meet.google.com/kiv-kbpo-qgc)

18th End of 2nd Quarter

21st-1/5/21 Winter
Break

Parking and Pickup

As you know, parking is difficult to find around Grand River Academy. That can make drop off and pick up challenging. There is parking on all four sides of the building (14th, Gunnison, 13th, and Chipeta). There is also a 10-minute "loading zone" in front of the building.

Please park off the street when picking up or dropping your students off. Stopping in the middle of the road or double Parking causes congestion on an already congested 14th street. It is also unsafe as students have to maneuver through parked cars and onto 14th street to get to awaiting vehicles.

Thank you for helping us make pick up and drop off safe and efficient.

Does Your Student Need a Device to do Their School Work on?

We have brand new Chromebooks for checkout to students. Stop by the school office to check one out or have your student stop by.