

## 2016-2017 School Year

### Immediate Release

**The Granite Falls School Board of Directors will hold a study session meeting on Wednesday, August 2, 2017, 6:00 pm in the Administration Building Board Room located at 205 N. Alder Ave, Granite Falls, WA. The agenda topics will be Board Self-Assessment and Goals.**

### **National Night Out**

National Night Out will be taking place on Tuesday, August 1, from 4-7 pm located in the field adjacent to IGA. The Granite Falls School District will have a booth set up to hand out give away's to students. We invite you to come out and visit us!!

### **Voter Information**

With the Primary Election happening, we want to remind you to VOTE by August 1, 2017! There will be a new ballot drop box open outside the Granite Falls Library. Ballots need to be returned to the drop box by 8:00pm on August 1. The Granite Falls Library is located at 815 E Galena Street. Are you new to Granite Falls? Have you recently moved? Your vote counts! **Register today and vote!** You can register to vote at the district office or any public library. Citizens may also download registration forms [HERE](#) to register by mail.

### **Granite Falls School District Requests for Qualifications/Proposal (RFQ/RFP)**



Architectural and Engineering Services  
Granite Falls School District Bond Project

The Granite Falls School District recently passed a \$13.725K bond measure and is seeking qualified Architectural and Engineering (A/E) services in order to complete district-wide security and safety improvements; renovate Granite Falls Middle School to provide flexible, integrated Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) classrooms; and construct a covered grandstand to complete the stadium at Granite Falls High School. A/E professional services are required to perform activities within the scope of the general definition of professional practice in the RCW chapters 18.08 (Architects), 18.43 (Engineers and Land Surveyors), or 18.96 (Landscape Architects). Go to Table E of RCW 39.80.020(5) for the scopes of practice for these professions.

Specific proposal requirements, qualifications, evaluations, and contract negotiations can be found [here](#). For further questions or assistance, please contact the Granite Falls School District business office at 360.691.7717.

**IMPORTANT SCHOOL REMINDERS:**

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL WILL BE TUESDAY, JUNE 20.**



June 9- I-Hour Early Release  
June 9- NJHS Field Trip  
June 13- MCE Field Day  
June 15- MCE Student Talent Show  
June 16- MWE Field Day  
June 16- 8th Grade Fun Day Field Day  
June 19- 8th Grade Celebration @ 6:00 p.m. @ MS



**FBLA at State**

The Granite Falls High School chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America participated in yet another successful year at the State Leadership Conference/Competition in Spokane, WA held at the Davenport Grand Hotel from Wednesday, April 19 through Saturday, April 22, 2017. Twenty-four members from GFHS attended the conference along with two thousand other high school students from around the state of Washington. The Granite Falls High School students who attended the conference were: Madison E. Cory, Nida Haroon, Skye K. McBride, Michael

B. Turpin, Anna L. Beach, Aurora L. Denning, Joslyn T. Harding, Hannah R. Holman, Jordan T. Hymas, Ciara M. Parkhurst, Miranda I. Russo, Mandalynn M. Scheffler, Mariah J. Spencer, Maia E. Whitley, Khasia A. Hopkins, Luke D. Macomber, Conner L. Maneval, Dayna A. Strecker, Megan M. Woldstad, Bret S. Benzion, Orion L. Green, Jacob Whitt, Erich K. Whitley, and Clayton A. Wise.

In order to go to state the students had to compete and win in the top 6 at the Northwest Regional Competition which was held in February in Mount Vernon, WA.

Students attended competitions, workshops, award ceremonies and meetings during the day and at night there were concerts and dances available for the members to enjoy and network with students from other chapters. During the awards ceremonies Granite had EIGHT students make it to the stage to be recognized as one of the top ten winners in their event. Please congratulate the following students: Bret Benzion – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Spreadsheet Applications and 8<sup>th</sup> Place – Introduction to Information Technology; Orion Green – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade 5<sup>th</sup> Place – Introduction to Information Technology and 8<sup>th</sup> Place – Help Desk; Erich Whitley – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade 7<sup>th</sup> Place – Agribusiness; Khasia Hopkins – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade 6<sup>th</sup> Place -- Introduction to Parliamentary Procedures and 7<sup>th</sup> Place – Accounting I; Luke Macomber -- 10<sup>th</sup> Grade 9<sup>th</sup> Place – Introduction to Information Technology; Conner Maneval – 10<sup>th</sup> Grade 10<sup>th</sup> Place – Accounting I; Mandalynn Scheffler – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade 10<sup>th</sup> Place – Word Processing; Maia Whitley – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Computer Applications, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Database Design and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Word Processing; Michael Turpin – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade 5<sup>th</sup> Place – Help Desk. Students that were in the top four spots at state in Spokane, which included Maia Whitley and Brett Benzion, are eligible to compete at the national level and the other six students are their alternates. Great Job to the Granite Falls FBLA Team!



**Granite Falls High**

### **School FFA**

The Granite Falls High School Future Farmers of America have competed in several competitions throughout the year which lead them to be able to compete in the State Horse Judging Career Development Event held in Ellensburg on April 19, 2017. The Participants this year were Lacey Tolbert, Jodi Bond, Abbi McNeil, Kendal Davis, Charlotte Boone and Meckenzie Hagan. The team placed 8<sup>th</sup> overall in the competition. Kendal Davis placed 9<sup>th</sup> high in the individual category. The team will be recognized at the FFA State Convention in Pullman

on May 10-14<sup>th</sup> to a crowd of about 3000 FFA members. Great Work to the Granite Falls Feature Farmers of America (FFA) Team.

### **Thank You Granite Falls Community**

#### **The Granite Falls School District would like to give a big THANK YOU to voters!**

The YES vote on the recent bond issue benefits our students and staff, as well as the entire community. The vote of confidence and support you have given us is truly appreciated. We will continue to work hard to keep your trust, improve student learning, and provide safe, secure facilities for our children. We will be keeping you informed as progress is made on the renovations of the Granite Falls Middle School, district wide security and safety improvements and the construction of a covered grandstand to complete the stadium at the Granite Falls High School.

A special thank you goes to the Citizen's Committee and the Committee Chair, Carl Cary, whom devoted hours and hours of time to ensure the successful election; and to Mike Trask, Brent Kirk, VonJentzen Productions, Steve Howell, Jeff Balentine, Carol Panagos, Richard Panagos, Melanie Freeman, Deon Freeman, Premier Realty, Kathy Silveira, Julie Dickson and the countless number of employees, parents and community members who volunteered time and resources to support the election. And of course, to each and every voter – we cannot thank you enough.

It's because of all of you that we will build a future that is Granite Strong!

Linda Hall  
Superintendent, Granite Falls School District

#### **2017 Graduation Ceremonies:**



- \* **CRHS: Wednesday, June 7 at 7:00 p.m.**  
Crossroads Gymnasium, 205 N. Alder Ave.
- \* **Open Doors: Thursday, June 8 at 10:30 a.m.**  
Crossroads Gymnasium, 205 N. Alder Ave.
- \* **GFHS: Friday, June 9 at 7:00 p.m.**  
Granite Falls High School Gymnasium, 1401-100th St. NE

**Granite Falls High School Class of 2017 graduation is tonight, June 9 at 7:00 pm in the High School gymnasium! Entry for parents and community members will begin at 6:00 pm. For family and friends unable to attend the graduation ceremony, the event will be streamed live via the Internet at [www.grad.tigersports.tv](http://www.grad.tigersports.tv) beginning at 6:45 pm!**

June 1- High School Art Show @ 3:30 p.m. @ high school

June 1- High School Spring Concert @ 7:00 p.m. @ PAC

June 2- Retirement Celebration for Carol Panagos @ 2:30 p.m. @ Crossroads Commons

June 5- High School Senior Tea @ 4:00 p.m. @ high school

### **Crossroads High School Will Be Holding Their First Prom**

On May 19, 2017 from 6pm-10pm, Crossroads High School will hold their first prom in the school's history. The Granite Falls community and surrounding communities have been amazing in supporting the effort to assist in donating, fundraising and helping assist in the many areas to make this event happen. Students and parents alike have helped raise the support to make sure the prom happens. There has been a total of \$2,445 donated, \$2,240.97 raised through 4 fundraisers, and \$4,671.77 donated by someone who matched the funds. There are a total of 193 students attending the prom. Of those 193 students attending, 150 (of 190 total students) are Crossroads students, 10 attend the Open Doors program, 31 guests, 22 chaperones and 10 plus teachers. Donations have been coming in from all over the place. From monetary donations, to clothing and haircuts. 80 plus students will be clothed by donated dresses and suits. There are 15 students, so far, who received free haircuts and Granite Falls Floral has offered to provide flowers for the occasion.

Preparation for prom will happen prior to the main event where many students will be getting haircuts, getting hair and make-up ready, and dressing in a makeshift shopping/dressing room that has been set up at the school. Several students have been provided with transportation to and from prom.

With all the community support and help, everything for prom ends up being free to the students of Crossroads High School. The events for the night include: pictures, dinner, dessert, photo booth and a DJ. It will definitely be a night to remember for all involved.

### **IMPORTANT SCHOOL SCHEDULE REMINDERS:**

#### **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL WILL BE TUESDAY, JUNE 20.**

-Friday, May 5: 1-hour early release

-Friday, May 12: 1-hour early release

-Friday, May 19: 1-hour early release

-Friday, May 26: 1-hour early release

-Monday, May 29: No School, Memorial Day

### **CROSSROADS HS MODIFIED LOCK-DOWN**

At approximately 12:15pm, Crossroads High School and the Administrative Office went into a modified lock-down as a precaution. The threat has been contained and police are on-site handling the situation.

### **Congratulations Success in Education Winners!!**

The District announces its 3rd quarter 'Success in Education' award winners! Congratulations to **High School winners: Jaden Yaretz, Samantha Leitzke & Jordon Heppner; Crossroads High School winner: Madelynn Cleveland; Middle School winners: Ella Smith, Makena McGill & Zoii Vogt; MCE winners: Dezedemona Cheer-Gomez & Rylinn Buchholz; MWE winners: Kyle Dennis & Clayton Connell.** The award represents students that show an understanding of the importance of education and provide a committed, excellent service to other students, staff members, or the community. Candidates were nominated by staff and selected by the school's administrative team.

### **Monte Cristo Science Fair**

The Winners of the Monte Cristo Science Fair are: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Hannah Brotherton & Mackenzie Diseth; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Cooper Washo; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Jonny Ralph & Andrew Dee; 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Honorable Mention: Steven Berlin; 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Honorable Mention: Danika Mace & Alisha Wright; 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Honorable Mention: Madison Dierck-Carr & Mackenzie Dennis; Zoey Haverman & Sydnie Darnell. Principal's Pick went to Katie Beth DaSilva-Knight & Nathan Edwards. All the projects were amazing! Great job to everyone who participated.

### **FFA Plant Sale**

Green thumb alert!! The Annual Future Farmers of America (FFA) Sale will be starting on **Friday, April 14 from 2-4pm** at the high school. Please stop on by and pick up hanging baskets, herbs, tomatoes, or annual bedding such as geraniums, lobellia, petunia's, pansies, marigolds, and red and green begonia's. All proceeds go toward supporting the Granite Falls High School FFA team activities, community service projects, travel and the purchasing of plants and materials for next year. They will be open on **April 29 from 9-1pm**. If you have any questions, please contact the Granite Falls High School.

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### **The Beat**

The Band Program will be hosting their annual silent auction/dinner fundraiser called "[The Beat](#)" on **Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:45pm** located at the Granite Falls High School. Tickets are on sale now. You can buy tickets from any band students or contact the high school or middle school. Dinner tickets include: Lasagna, Salad, Bread, Dessert, and Beverage. All the funds raised from the dinner ticket sales and silent auction directly benefit the students in the band program. If you are unable to attend the event, you can still make a donation, donate an item for the auction, or help in getting the word out! Please contact Erin Howard with any questions: [ehoward@gfalls.wednet.edu](mailto:ehoward@gfalls.wednet.edu).

### **Spring Break**

The Granite Falls School District will hold Spring Break during the week of **April 3-7, 2017**. There are several high school sporting events going on during this time if you are around the Granite Falls area during break. Please contact the high school at 360-691-7713 for details on times and days.



### **Kindergarten Round-Up**

Granite Falls School District invites you to attend the [Kindergarten Round-up](#) on **April 13<sup>th</sup> from 4-7pm** at Mountain Way Elementary located at 702 N. Granite Ave., Granite Falls, WA 98252. Incoming Kindergarteners will meet teachers and participate in fun activity centers. Parents will also visit classrooms and learn more about the kindergarten program. Also provided will be a free hot dog dinner served by the Granite Falls Fire Department. If you have any questions or are unable to attend please contact Mountain Way at 360-691-7719.

### **Community Survey**

The district is running the community survey from Mid- March to Mid-April. We are trying to get as much feedback as possible from parents, students, and staff. Please take a moment to complete the survey by going [here](#). We desire to hear your opinion and get your feedback on how we are doing as a district so that we can improve our services and learning opportunities to the children of our community.

### **Spring Break**

The Granite Falls School District will hold Spring Break during the week of **April 3-7, 2017**. There are several high school sporting events going on during this time if you are around the Granite Falls area during break. Please contact the high school at 360-691-7713 for details on times and days.

### **Spring Conferences**

Conferences are coming up at the end of March. If you have a child in elementary school, this is an opportunity to visit with your child's teacher! If you have a child in middle or high school, come watch your child lead a presentation of some of their best work! This is a great opportunity to track your child's progress and how to build on current successes. A district-wide conference schedule is available [here](#), or you may contact your child's school directly for a schedule. To sign up for conferences at Monte Cristo here is the Direct link: <https://mce-conference.youcanbook.me/>.

### **Granite Falls School District Bond Proposal- You Tube Video**

Looking for more information regarding the bond that will be on the ballot in February? Please take a look at our presentation: <https://youtu.be/t1gnQ30Jlvs> . The video highlights what the February 2017 bond initiative entails, as well as the related cost and impact to property taxes. More detailed information can be found in the power point presentation as well.

For further questions please contact the Business Operations department at: 360-283-4314 or the district office 360-691-7717.

Here is the download link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jv90gr7sjksx9ll/AABoIqpXu1iNXIPqkTkgK36fa?dl=0>



### **Crossroads Prom Fundraiser**

Come out and support Crossroads High School in being able to have their first prom ever! The event will take place on March 25 from 11am-5pm at Crossroads High School located at 205 N. Alder Ave., Granite Falls. There will be rock painting, bunny pictures, face painting, popcorn, Rice Krispie Treats, and a mini photo session with a bunny. Costs for items range from \$1- \$20 depending on the desire. Check out the flyer ([here](#)) for more details. For any questions, please contact [torr@gfalls.wednet.edu](mailto:torr@gfalls.wednet.edu) or call Crossroads HS at 360-283-4407.

### **HS/MS Band Concert**

The high school and middle school band will be performing on Thursday, March 16 at 7 PM at the PAC. Come out and enjoy the music. The members of both bands have put a lot of time and practice into these music pieces throughout the year.

### **St. Patrick's Day Dance- MCE**

MCE Parent Group is putting on a St. Patrick's Day dance on **Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8pm** in the Monte Cristo Elementary gym. The cost is \$2 to get in, adults and children under 2 years old are free. If you bring in a can food item or non-perishable item you get a raffle ticket for the trolls or candy basket. Any questions, please contact Jenny Yamasaki at [jyamasaki@gfalls.wednet.edu](mailto:jyamasaki@gfalls.wednet.edu).

### **Making Sense of Math**

Would you like to know how to help your children with math at home? Do you wonder what "Common Core Math" really means? Come join the experts. Making Sense of Math will be held on March 14, 2017 from 6-7 pm at Mountain Way Elementary Gym. If you have any questions



regarding this event, please contact Kathy Silveira by phone: 3600-691-7717 or email: [ksilveira@gfalls.wednet.edu](mailto:ksilveira@gfalls.wednet.edu). To view flyer for event go [here](#).



### **The 5th Annual Granite's Got**

#### **Talent Event**

Talent Show will be this Saturday at 6:00 pm, held at the High School Performing Arts Center. This event showcases talented singers, dancers and musicians from our community. Cost of admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors, and preschool get in free. All proceeds go towards the Granite Falls Education Foundation which is a nonprofit organization established to promote education within the community of Granite Falls. Don't miss this fun evening of entertainment!

#### **!!TRANSPORTATION ALERT!!-WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017**

School is running on time this morning for Wednesday, March 8, 2017. Bus route 30 up the Mountain Loop will be on snow routes. All other routes are running normal. Should there be any updates to share with you as the day progresses, we will communicate them to you as soon as possible. Check out the transportation link for more information on inclement weather procedures.

#### **Community Survey**

Please take a moment to complete the survey by going [here](#). We desire to hear your opinion and get your feedback on how we are doing as a district so that we can improve our services and learning opportunities to the children of our community.

#### **Inclement Weather Communication**

When the decision is made to close or delay school, the information will be listed on the district website, facebook page, and FlashAlert. When you sign up w/ [FlashAlert](#) (by clicking on the link), you can choose to receive a text message notification. Local TV, radio and newspapers pulls information from FlashAlert. Parents will ALSO be notified of a closure/delay through the phone messaging system.

#### **Congratulations Success in Education Winners!!**

The District announces its 2nd quarter 'Success in Education' award winners! Congratulations to **High School winners**: Miranda Russo & Thomas Driscoll; **Crossroads High School winner**:

Jacob Kerst; **Middle School winners:** Jacob Churchward, Arianna Graham, & David Cook; **MCE winners:** Layci Armstrong & Avery Coleman; **MWE winners:** Dylan Galen & Tanner Weaver. The award represents students that show an understanding of the importance of education and provide a committed, excellent service to other students, staff members, or the community. Candidates were nominated by staff and selected by the school's administrative team.

The district announces its 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter certificated and classified staff 'Success in Education' awards. The employee award recognizes staff members for creating a thoughtful and exemplary learning environment through committed, excellent service to our schools. The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter **certificated staff winner** is: Jon Thompson; **Classified staff winner** is: Laci Sturm. All candidates were nominated by staff and selected by the school's administrative team. The winners were announced at the board meeting on January 18, 2017.

### **!!TRANSPORTATION ALERT!!-TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017**

School is running on time this morning for Tuesday, March 7, 2017. The Mountain Loop will run on a two-hour late start bus schedule with no out of district transportation for those students. Crossroads High School will be optional for today. All other routes are running on a normal schedule, however please use extreme caution as there are icy patches and snow on the roads. Should there be any updates to share with you as the day progresses, we will communicate them to you as soon as possible. Check out the transportation link for more information on inclement weather procedures.

### **TRANSPORTATION ALERT: MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017**

Due to weather conditions this morning, there will be no bus transportation for the Mountain Loop Highway. This will include routes 29, 30 and 31 for today, March 6, 2017. All other routes are running normal, however please use caution as there may be slush and/or icy patches on the roads.

Should there be any updates to share with you, we will communicate them to you as soon as possible. Please visit our emergency info page for more information on inclement weather.

### **TRANSPORTATION ALERT: FEBRUARY 28, 2017**

Due to weather conditions this morning, bus transportation for the Mountain Loop Highway will be on Snow Routes. This will include routes 29 and 30 for today, Tuesday, February 28, 2017. All other routes are running normal, however please use caution as there may be icy patches on the roads.

Should there be any updates to share with you, we will communicate them to you as soon as possible. Please visit our emergency info page for more information on inclement weather.

### **ALERT! 2-HOUR EARLY RELEASE- TODAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017**

Due to projected weather conditions for this afternoon, we will be implementing a two-hour early release for today, February 27, 2017. The release times for each school will be as follows:

- **Crossroads High School: Release at 11:50 a.m.**
- **Granite Falls High School and Middle School: Release at 12:05 p.m.**
- **Monte Cristo Elementary School: Release at 1:05 p.m.**

- **Mountain Way Elementary School: Release at 1:15 p.m.**

**Buses will be operating on snow routes for the afternoon drop-offs. You can find the snow routes located on the Granite Falls School District Webpage under the transportation link. Out of district transportation will be running on the 2-hour early release. Cancellations include: Sno-Isle, Work Force, afternoon ECEAP and DD-Pre, all afterschool and evening activities.** For any questions, please contact the district office at 360.691.7717. Thank you for your flexibility and support as we keep our students safe!

### **February 2017 Bond**

We are in the early conceptual stages for a bond resolution that will run in **February 2017** with the following initiatives:

- (1) STEAM/CTE modernization at the Middle School;
- (2) Security upgrades district-wide;
- (3) Grandstand addition at the High School.

The improvements for the Middle School would include: Environmental Science classrooms; Family and Consumer Science and Life Skills classrooms, modernization, and additions; Engineering, Design and Manufacturing classroom modernization; Digital Media modernization; Technology classroom improvements. The High School grandstand addition would replace the current seating and include covered stadium seating, with team locker rooms and bathrooms, an entry/exit tunnel for the teams, and storage areas... plus, so much more!!! We are still looking at areas to improve in our security and will keep you posted on our proposals. We invite you to [provide your feedback through our Survey Monkey link](#) and share your name and email to be a part of the electronic updates regarding the bond plans.

The entire bond initiative is a huge opportunity for the Granite Falls School District and our students. We encourage all of you to view the plans in depth and please give us your feedback!

### **Granite Falls School District Bond Proposal- You Tube Video**

Looking for more information regarding the bond that will be on the ballot in February? Please take a look at our presentation: <https://youtu.be/t1gnQ30Jlvs> . The video highlights what the February 2017 bond initiative entails, as well as the related cost and impact to property taxes. More detailed information can be found in the power point presentation as well.

For further questions please contact the Business Operations department at: 360-283-4314 or the district office 360-691-7717.

Here is the download link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jv90gr7sjksx9ll/AABoIqpXu1iNXIPqkTkgK36fa?dl=0>

### **HS Battle of the Classes: Saturday, February 25 @ 6pm**

The Granite Falls High School Battle of the Classes is wrapping up their final week of competitions. The Grand finale takes place this Saturday, February 25, 2017 @6pm in the high school gym. Come out and support your favorite graduating class.

### **School Board Study Session**

The Granite Falls School Board will be having a study session on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:00pm to discuss the 9000 series review. This series includes the bylaws of the Board, describes the terms of office and member responsibilities, the methods of governance, meeting structure, principles of operation and growth and development activities.

### **Community Survey**

During conference week the district will issue our annual community survey. Please take a moment to complete the survey by going [here](#). There will be stations set up throughout the schools during conference week as well. We desire to hear your opinion and get your feedback on how we are doing as a district so that we can improve our services and learning opportunities to the children of our community.

### **School closure update for February 7, 2017**

**All schools will be closed for Tuesday, February 7, 2017** due to weather conditions and more projected ice and snow. There will be no out of district transportation, as well as, no afternoon or evening activities and athletic events. We will keep you posted on the rest of the week as information becomes available. For more information on inclement weather procedures, please visit the district website.

### **Weather Alert- February 6, 2017-**

Due to the weather conditions this morning, February 6, 2017, **all schools are closed**. There will be no out of district transportation. As well as, no afternoon or evening activities and athletic events. We will keep you posted on the rest of the week as information becomes available. Please be safe today.

### **Alumni Hall of Fame**

Hall of Fame awards will be presented at the High School basketball games on Wednesday, February 1, 2017. The program was established in 1994 to honor past graduates that were active in school activities who are now positive role models. Please join us on February 1, 2017 to honor those chosen.

### **Voices of Youth**

Please join Crossroads High School students on **Thursday, February 2 at 6:00pm** as we celebrate the Voices of our Youth. "Voices of Youth" is a program targeting parents and community members who are interested in developing a deeper understanding of the issues that teens face on a daily basis.

It is a great opportunity to listen, learn, ask questions, and interact with teens. Representatives from agencies providing youth resources throughout the county will be available following the youth panel.

When: Thursday, February 2, 2017 @ 6:00p.m.

Where: Crossroads High School

205 N. Alder Ave., Granite Falls, WA 98252

Cost: Free

### **Bond Initiative Coffee Sessions**

School Board Approves School Bond Initiative to go on the February 2017 Ballot. Join Superintendent Hall and School Board Members for Coffee Chat & Community Meetings.

Superintendent Linda Hall and School Board Directors Rick Short, Robert Butler, Carl Cary, Richard Panagos and Tom Eadie **invite all** interested citizens to attend an open community chat. This is an opportunity to ask questions and receive more information regarding the bond initiative that will include school security enhancements, middle school STEAM/CTE modernization and a new high school grandstand.

Last opportunity to meet with Superintendent Hall, Business Operations Jeff Balentine and members of the teacher's union for a coffee chat to discuss the bond Proposal.:

- February 3rd from 8-10am for coffee session at Buzz Inn

Location will continue to be at the Buzz Inn for the coffee sessions. Please contact the Superintendent's Office for more information at 360-691-7717.

### **Weather Alert-February 3, 2017**

Due to weather conditions up the mountain loop, there will be no bus transportation for routes 29 or 30 today, Friday, February 3, 2017. All other routes are running normal, however please use caution as there are icy patches and some snow on the roads.

### **Update- Transportation Alert-Limited Bus Transportation-Mountain Loop Hwy**

Transportation Update Alert: This is a transportation update for Thursday, January 5, 2017 and Friday, January 6th, 2017. The Granite Falls Bus Route 30 that goes up the Mountain Loop hwy will be on snow route at the ranger station for both Thursday and Friday. If you have any questions please contact the transportation department or the district office.

### **Limited Bus Transportation-Mountain Loop Hwy**

On Wednesday, January 4, 2017 there will be limited bus transportation (snow routes) up the Mountain Loop Hwy past Masonic Park due to weather and safety related conditions. If you have further questions please contact transportation or the District Office.

### **Limited Bus Transportation-Mountain Loop Hwy**

On Tuesday, January 3, 2017 there will be limited bus transportation (snow routes) up the Mountain Loop Hwy past Masonic Park due to weather and safety related conditions. If you have further questions please contact transportation or the District Office.

### **Winter Break**

Granite Falls School District will be on Winter Break from December 17-January 2. School will resume on January 3, 2017. December 16th will be a Half-Day Early Release for all students.

### **Attention: Granite Falls School Board Special Study Session: December 14, 2016 @ 6pm**

The Granite Falls School Board will be having a special study session on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 6pm to discuss and accept pro/cons committees for the bond.

### **Seeking Applications**

Granite Falls School District is seeking applications from citizens interested in being appointed to a committee to write the pro/con statements for the Snohomish County Local Voters' Pamphlet related to the District's bond ballot measure to be considered at the February 14, 2017 election. Those interested should send their name, address, phone number and which position (pro or con) they represent to: Jeff Balentine, Director of Business, Granite Falls School District, 205 N. Alder Ave., Granite Falls, WA 98252 or via email to [Jeff Balentine](mailto:Jeff.Balentine@granitefalls.wa.us) by December 13, 2016. The Board will take action on the appointments at its December 14, 2016 special board meeting.

### **Spotlight Theatre Presents**

"A Christmas Carol"- performances will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm and December 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm at the Granite Falls High School Performing Arts Center (PAC). Admission will be \$3.00 for the public and students without ASB, \$2.00 for GFSD staff and students with ASB or free with 5 nonperishable food items for the Food Drive. Please come join [Spotlight Theatre](http://www.spotlighttheatre.com) for a night of action!

**Bus Route 30 UPDATE:** Granite Falls SD: RT 30 will not travel past Masonic Park for all AM runs. Bus will wait at Masonic Park for any students who need a ride.



### **Granite Falls School District Food Drive- LAST WEEK!**

This is the final week of the Granite Falls School District Food Drive. We have more than 200 families and 500 children that we will be providing food and gifts for this year, however, we are short in both cash and food donations. If you haven't already contributed, please consider giving before Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Together we can do so much. Visit [www.gfsdfooddrive.com](http://www.gfsdfooddrive.com) for more information. Please take a moment to view the wonderful presentation that was done up by some of our Granite Falls High School students in support of the Food Drive & Giving Trees: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1WD6hNkFvc>

\*\*If you would like to contribute to the Food Drive and/or help provide gifts for children in our community, simply drop off nonperishable food at any Granite Falls school or the district office. Then, look for our "Giving Trees" at each school, where you can sign up to provide a gift to a child.

**UPDATE-Inclement Weather Report-Bus Route 30-Granite Falls SD:** Bus route 30 will not travel past Masonic Park for all AM runs. Bus will wait at Masonic Park for any students who need a ride.

### **Inclement Weather Report: No Bus Route 30**

Good morning Granite Falls Families- due to weather conditions up the mountain loop, there will be no bus route 30 today, Monday, December 12, 2016.

Should there be any updates to share with you, we will communicate them to you as soon as possible. Please visit our emergency info page on the district website for more information on inclement weather.

### **HS Food Drive & Giving Tree 2016**

Attention Granite Falls staff and families! The annual Granite Falls School District Food Drive and Giving Tree is going on now. If you know of a family or individual who would benefit from receiving our support of food and gifts, please contact Eric Dinwiddie at 360-283-4366 or via e-mail at [edinwiddie@gfalls.wednet.edu](mailto:edinwiddie@gfalls.wednet.edu).

\*\*If you would like to contribute to the Food Drive and/or help provide gifts for children in our community, simply drop off nonperishable food at any Granite Falls school or the district office. Then, look for our "Giving Trees" at each school, where you can sign up to provide a gift to a child.

### **November Board Meeting Cancelled**

The second regular board meeting in November will be cancelled due to the Board attending the Annual WSSDA conference being held in Spokane, WA from November 15-19. The [WSSDA Annual Conference](#) is the premier annual event for school directors and superintendents. It is the largest gathering of education policy makers in the state of Washington.

### **College and Career Fair**

Get a jump start on your future. On Thursday, November 17, 2016, Granite Falls High School will be hosting the 2016 [College and Career Fair](#). The event will take place from 6:30pm-7:30pm at the high school. Invitations have been sent to 17 colleges & universities, 8 technical colleges, 4 military personnel and 8 resource agencies in Granite Falls. In addition there will be a college planning information session at 6:15pm. We hope you can make it to this meaningful event.

### **November Conferences**

All schools have parent/teacher conferences scheduled during the last weeks of November, prior to Thanksgiving. Please view your individual [school schedule here](#).

### **Veterans Day Assembly Schedule**

Each school hosts an assembly in November to honor all our veterans and current military members in recognition of their service to our country. Here is this years' schedule:

GFHS @ 9:20 am

MWE @ 9:30 am

CRHS/Open Doors @ 12:37 pm

GFMS @ 1:00 pm

MCE @ 2:00 pm

### **Voter Information**

With the General Election nearing, we want to remind you to VOTE by November 8, 2016! Are you new to Granite Falls? Have you recently moved? Your vote counts! **Register today and vote!** You can register to vote at any school, the district office or any public library. Citizens may also download registration forms [HERE](#) to register by mail.

### **Success in Education**

The District announces its 1<sup>st</sup> quarter ‘Success in Education’ award winners! Congratulations to **High School winners:** Madalyn Massena, Orion Green, Hannah Holman, & Aiden Holm; **Middle School winners:** Hanna MaComber, Jared Yaretz & Deontrez (DJ) Freeman. The award represents students that show an understanding of the importance of education and provide a committed, excellent service to other students, staff members, or the community. Candidates were nominated by staff and selected by the school’s administrative team. The Board will recognize the winners at the November 2, 2016 board meeting.

### **October is Disability History Month**

National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is a nationwide campaign celebrating the skills and talents workers with disabilities bring to our workplaces. RCW 28A.230.158 requires that all Washington public schools conduct or promote educational activities that provide instruction, awareness, and understanding of disability history and people with disabilities. #InclusionWorks seeks to inspire social media awareness of workers with disabilities.

### **2016-2017 Start/End Times and Transportation Schedule**

Monte Cristo: 8:35 am – 3:05 pm

Mountain Way: 8:45 am – 3:15 pm

Middle School: 7:35 am – 2:05 pm

High School: 7:30 am – 2:00 pm

Crossroads: 8:10 am – 1:55 pm

For information on transportation schedule and bus routes, please visit the [Transportation webpage](#). If you have any questions about transportation or school start times, contact the GFSD Administration Office at (360) 691-7717.

### **MWE Changes School Times**

We have some areas for improvement with the reconfiguration of the elementary schools and time changes. In an effort to address some concerns with the timing of transportation, we have new hours happening at Mountain Way Elementary beginning this Monday, September 26. Hours at Mountain Way Elementary will be changing by 5 minutes (later) to 8:45 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. Bus pick up and drop off times will NOT change. MWE supervision starts at 8:25 am. The Monte Cristo shuttle bus for students in grades 3-5 and Multiage will still leave MWE at 8:20. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact your school office.

**GFHS Athletic Registration & Student Fees** - We have exciting news regarding athletic registration and student fees! HS Athletic registration for the 2016-2017 school year will be completed using Skyward Family Access. Additionally, HS student fees can be paid on Skyward



Family Access, through a partnership with RevTrak. For more information, [contact GFHS](#) or visit our [Athletics & Activities page!](#)

### **Important Back-to-School Information**

Getting ready for school can be a lot of fun as long as everything doesn't happen at the last minute! Beat back to school stress by spreading out everything that needs to get done over these next few weeks of summer. By the time school starts, you and the kids can relax and step confidently into the new school year!

- Are YOU prepared for school to start? Check out this [back-to-school check list](#) with helpful suggestions to get back in the swing of things.
- Are you new or transferring schools? Visit the [Student Registration/Enrollment webpage](#) for materials needed. Variance forms are available under the [Choice Transfer webpage](#).
- 2016-2017 free and reduced price meal applications are posted on the [Nutrition page here](#).
- When the decision is made to close school, the district will use the FlashAlert system (in addition to the website, FB page and School Messenger) to provide text message alerts. Click one of the following to [establish](#) or [update](#) your subscription to FlashAlert.
- Looking to get signed up for your favorite sport? Middle School and High School athletic sign-ups begin August 16. Visit the [Athletics page](#) for more information!
- 2016-2017 School Supply Lists are available in one place on our website now ([click here!](#)). If you have any questions, get in touch your child's school or the District Office at (360) 691-7717.
- 2016-2017 Student Handbooks are [posted here](#).
- Bus Schedules/Routes are posted through the program *Versatrans*. Please visit the [Transportation webpage](#) for log-in information.

### **Free All Day Kindergarten**

Granite Falls School District merits early learning and recognizes the importance of full-day kindergarten for our students. We offer full-day kindergarten at Mountain Way Elementary. Read more information on [kindergarten readiness here](#)>

### **Important Kindergarten Dates:**

*September 6: Kindergarten Parent Orientation at 6:00 p.m.*

Teachers will present program information and answer your questions about Kindergarten. You will also sign up for a time to bring your child in to visit his/her new classroom and have a family meeting with your Kindergarten teacher. This is intended to be an adults only event. If you are unable to find childcare, we understand that you may need to bring your child(ren) with you.

*September 7 and 8: Kindergarten Family Meetings*

Teachers will have activities for students to participate in while getting to know you and your child.

*September 9 and 12: Small Groups Attend*

In order to ease the transition into an All Day Kindergarten program, small groups of students will be attending on these dates. Parents will be able to choose the date that works best for them.

*September 13: First Day of Kindergarten for ALL students.*

**2016-2017 School Supply Lists** are available in one place on our website ([click here!](#)). If you have any questions, get in touch your child's school or the District Office at (360) 691-7717.

**Band Director Meet & Greet** - Do you want to meet the new Granite Falls Middle School and High School band director, Erin Howard? Stop by Granite Falls High School on August 18th, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for a meet & greet! Band students and parents are encouraged to attend!