



**GYPSUM CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**HOME OF THE WOLVES**  
**OCTOBER 2008**

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<i>October 2</i>	<i>5:00PM</i>	<i>8th Football Game-EVMS @GCMS</i>
<i>October 3</i>	<i>4:30PM</i>	<i>6th Volleyball Game @EVMS</i>
<i>October 4</i>	<i>8:00AM</i>	<i>ASC Soccer Tournament-Gypsum Rec Center</i>
<i>October 6</i>	<i>4:30PM</i>	<i>Volleyball Game-TVA @GCMS</i>
<i>October 7</i>	<i>5:00PM</i>	<i>7th Football Game @EVMS</i>
<i>October 13</i>	<i>5:30PM</i>	<i>SAAC Meeting</i>
	<i>6:00PM</i>	<i>PTO Meeting</i>
<i>October 14</i>		<i>Grade sheets to be verified</i>
	<i>7:00PM</i>	<i>6th "Take Your Parent to Band" Concert</i>
<i>October 15</i>	<i>5:30PM</i>	<i>8th Football Championship/Consolation Game @EVHS</i>
<i>October 16</i>	<i>5:30PM</i>	<i>7th Football Championship/Consolation Game @BMHS</i>
<i>October 20</i>	<i>4:00PM</i>	<i>Boys Basketball Practice Begins</i>
<i>October 21</i>	<i>7:00PM</i>	<i>7th/8th Fall Preview Band Concert</i>
<i>October 27</i>		<i>Red Ribbon Week</i>
		<i>Fall Book Fair Begins</i>
<i>October 28</i>		<i>Grade sheets to be verified</i>
		<i>Book Fair continues</i>
	<i>4:30-8:00PM</i>	<i>Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>
<i>October 29</i>		<i>Book Fair Continues</i>
		<i>Book Fair Continues</i>
<i>October 30</i>	<i>4:30-8:00PM</i>	<i>Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>
<i>October 31</i>		<i>Book Fair Ends</i>



## **Power School**

To check grades and assignments on line, first go to the Power School website at [ps.eagleschools.net/public](http://ps.eagleschools.net/public). Then you type in your user name and password. If you need your codes, please call the office at 328-8980. You will see your child's schedule and grades. When you click on the blue grade, you will see the assignments for that class. You will see homework and missing assignments, too. You also have access to the school bulletin for upcoming events, and you can email teachers with the click of a button. Please check it out! It is a very good tool for us to work together to help your child succeed in school.

## **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Our fall Parent/Teacher Conferences are on Tuesday, October 28 from 4:30 to 8:00 PM and Thursday, October 30 from 4:30 to 8:00 PM. Please call the office at 328-8980 to schedule your time. When you arrive, you will receive a grade report for your child, and be directed to the conference areas. All conferences will be in the pods and is intended to take no more than 90 minutes or so per child to visit with all the teachers. You will receive a postcard in the mail as a reminder. Hope to see you here. Thanks for marking your calendar to call and to attend.

## **Annual Craft Fair November 1**

Gypsum Creek Middle School is hosting the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Craft Fair on Saturday, November 1, 2008, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Stop by to visit, have a bite to eat, and shop. We'll have handmade jewelry, books, clothing, art work, candles, ornaments, greeting cards, and homemade foods. We'll have photos with Santa, too. Come on by and see the gymnasium transformed into a marketplace!

## **Ski Pass Silent Auction**

Thanks to the generous donation from Vail Resorts, GCMS has a season ski pass for sale. Details about the ski pass will be available soon. Make your bids by writing or faxing Steve Smith at 524-7393 (fax), [stsmith@eagleschools.net](mailto:stsmith@eagleschools.net) (email), or PO Box 5129, Gypsum, CO 81637. Deadline is Wednesday, November 12

## **SAAC and PTO**

The School Advisory and Accountability Committee (SAAC) provides guidance for matters of school improvement, budget, and safety issues. We have two openings for our SAAC. If you are interested in joining the SAAC, please notify Steve Smith, Principal. The SAAC meets the second school-Monday each month at 5:30 PM, and the meetings are open to everyone.

Our Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) meets the second school-Monday of each month at 6:00 PM. All parents are invited to attend. The purpose of our PTO is to be an open forum for parents and teachers to voice concerns and ideas, to be collaborators of school procedures, to be a positive social environment, and to show appreciation for staff, students, and parents. To join PTO and get on the mailing list, call the office or come to a meeting. **Our next meeting will be Monday, October 13 at 6:00 in the library.** We'll be discussing our CSAP data and upcoming fundraisers.

## **Student Planners and Wolf Folders**

Students are expected to have their planners in every class except some Specials. They are expected to write homework and events in their planner. Please check your child's planner often. You will notice the Parent/Student Handbook is included in the planner. Please read this together with your child. If you would like a separate copy of the handbook, we would be happy to send you one.

Students are expected to have their Wolf Folder in every class except some Specials. The Wolf Folder is a good way to keep papers organized. Please take a look at your child's Wolf Folder and discuss how "Take home" and "Bring back" can help you. Replacements for lost or damaged planners and folders are available at the office for \$5 and \$2 respectively.

## **Sports**

Football, Volleyball, and Soccer are winding down. The league tournaments will conclude in mid-October. Good luck to our athletes and best wishes for healthy learning and good showings. Records so far are: 7<sup>th</sup> grade Football 3-1, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Football 2-1,

6<sup>th</sup> grade Volleyball 2-2, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Volleyball 0-6, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Volleyball 1-5. We have 3 Soccer teams (2 boys and 1 girls) participating in the WECMRD Fall Soccer league, and they each play every Saturday.

Boys Basketball starts October 20 for grades 6, 7, and 8. 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be an intramural program. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will compete in the Eagle County League of Middle School Athletics. To join, players are to show up on the first day of practice after school in the gym. Coaches will give players more information. Players must have a physical exam completed prior to practice.

### **Band Concerts in October**

Tuesday, October 14 is Take Your Parents to Band Night for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band students. It starts at 7:00. Tuesday, October 21 (not the 28<sup>th</sup> as was written in the Sept. Newsletter) is our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Fall Band Concert at 7:00. Come on by and support the performing arts.

### **CollegeInvest Early Achievers Scholarship**

It is not too early to start thinking about college. Check out the website [CollegeInColorado.org](http://CollegeInColorado.org) for some great information about planning and free money for college. Especially look for the tab, "College Opportunity Fund."

### **Clubs and Activities**

- Academic Club started and meets after school 2 days a week. To join, simply stay after school. See Ms. Lehr for details. Thanks to the Youth Foundation for sponsoring this program!
- Fall Soccer Club meets after school 2 days a week. We have 2 Boys teams and 2 Girls teams. See Ms. Lehr for details. Thanks to the Youth Foundation for sponsoring this program!
- Literacy Project, a tutoring program for 6<sup>th</sup> graders, meets after school on Mondays until 5:15. Thanks to the volunteers from the Literacy Project for sponsoring this program!
- The Pre-Collegiate Program meets periodically throughout the year.

The next meeting is Saturday, September 27 at 8:30 at Eagle Valley Middle School. Thanks to the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and The Youth Foundation for sponsoring this program!

- Yearbook Club started. If you are interested in joining, see Mrs. Pitman for details.

### **Box Tops for Education**

Yes, we are still collecting Box Tops for Education. The contest between the classes is heating up. Please remember we collect Box Tops for Education from certain food and household products. We turn them in for 10 cents each, and the money sure adds up if everyone sends the box tops in. We appreciate your help and support to send in Box Tops for Education. Thanks!

### **Concessions**

If you have attended any of our athletic events, you may have noticed the concession stand. Our PTO raises funds for school activities by selling concessions at home games. It's fun and easy to sell concessions, but it becomes a burden when we don't have enough help. If you are willing to help, please call Rachel Messerich at 524-7923 or Steve Smith at 328-8980 to volunteer. Rachel from the PTO will call you to schedule a time to sell concessions. Thanks so much! We need your help!

### *Counselor's Corner*

#### **Den Buddies**

8<sup>th</sup> graders have an opportunity to participate in a program to mentor the Kindergartners at Red Hill Elementary School. This program is called Den Buddies (both RHES Bear Cubs and GCMS Wolves have "Dens") and is sponsored through the counseling program at GCMS. We will walk down to the elementary school on Mondays during Specials. The eighth graders will read with the Kindergartners and then walk back up to GCMS. If you have any questions please contact Bethanie Lindal at 328-8980.

### **Red Ribbon Week**

October 27<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup> is Red Ribbon Week in which GCMS will celebrate anti-drug educational events at school. We will have a special drug-free event each day. For more information contact Bethanie Lindal.

### **Mix It Up**

November 14 will be Mix It Up day at lunch. Mix It Up is a nationwide campaign that supports students who want to identify, question and cross social boundaries that separate them from each other and help build inclusive, welcoming learning environments. Student will take a new seat in the cafeteria for the day to get to know someone new.

### **Six Key Actions Parents can take:**

#### **1. Establish and maintain good communication with your child.**

Encourage conversation by actively listening to your child about things that interest them. This paves the

way for communication about topics that concern you. □

2. **Get involved and stay active in your child's life.** Have regular conversations about your child's school performance and activities, attend after-school events, and get to know your child's friends.
3. **Make clear rules and enforce them with consistency and appropriate consequences.** Develop clear family rules. Establish clear consequences for breaking the rules and enforce them consistently.
4. **Be a positive role model.** Set a good example for your child.
5. **Teach your child to choose friends wisely.** Talk to your child about the qualities that really count in a friend, such as being kind and trustworthy.
6. **Monitor your child's activities.** Be aware of your child's whereabouts and plans.

Eagle County Schools invites all staff, students, and parents to use the below resources to help with lesson plans, research help, and homework! These are wonderful resources that provide students with options for finding answers, completing reports, and preparing for school. For remote access from your home computer! Click on the link below to access the information.

Type in the following URL to access the Eagle County School "Libraries" Web page:

URL: <http://destiny.eagleschools.net> OR go to GCMS school page: <http://gcms.eagleschools.net>

### **Nettrekker-**

Username: gcmswolves

Password: listi

**Britannica Online-** <http://school.eb.com/>

User name: ecsd Password: library

**World Book Online-** <http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/Home>

User name: eagle50 Password: books

**Grolier Family Resources-** <http://go-passport.grolier.com/>

Includes: Encyclopedia Americana, Grolier Multimedia, New Book of Knowledge

La Nueva Enciclopedia Cumbre, The New Book of Popular Science, Lands and People,

America the Beautiful

User name: ecsd Password: ecsd

**EBSCO(magazine/periodicals)-**

<http://search.ebscohost.com/Community.aspx?authtype=ip&ugt=723731963C3635673746359632953E3224E360D36413649367E328E334133503&return=y>

User name: RE50J Password: RE50J

**Annals of American History-** <http://america.eb.com/>

User name: ecsd Password: library

**INET Library-** <http://www.inetlibrary.com/>

Lesson Plans/Teen Zone/Parent Zone/Current Events, etc.

User name: eagle1 Password: book