

The School Report

Grandview C-4

Winter
2010



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"Where Kids Come First:
Each and Every One"

Points of Pride...

—GHS band students Aryana Nemati-Baghestani (Baritone Saxophone) and Teddy Krulewich (Trumpet) receive important recognitions at the 2009 Missouri All-State Instrumental Music Ensembles Auditions.

—GMS National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) members participate in school shrub planting service project in November 2009.

—GHS 2009 *Seussical the Musical* production was one of three high school shows selected to perform at the 2010 Missouri Thespians Conference.

—CAIR recognized eight students in December 2009 for successfully completing the Missouri Options GED Program for the first semester of the 2009-10 school year.

Dr. Ralph Teran, Superintendent of Schools "Continued Success in the 2009-10 School Year"



Ralph Teran, Ed.D.
Superintendent
ralph.teran@
csd4.k12.mo.us

We are more than midway through an exciting and productive 2009-10 school year. First and foremost, the district completed a five year school improvement cycle by demonstrating five years of increased student achievement, culminating in full accreditation by the Missouri State Board of Education. In a turbulent economic climate, the Board of Education initiated necessary budget adjustments resulting in increased end of year fund balances. While the economy remains fragile, the district has positioned itself to address economic challenges while minimizing impacts on students.

Highlights so far this year have included:

- **High Grove Early Childhood Center:** Nearly 200 students (early childhood and Head Start) receive services in an outstanding facility, with extended supports such as Parents as Teachers and the Success by Six Program, with increasing likelihood of serving more students before the end of the year and into the next.
- **Grandview High School Small Learning Communities (SLCs):** GHS has initiated a bold and energetic plan to increase personalization of the school culture, to increase rigor in all academic areas, and to develop a thriving culture of increased student and adult learning. In addition, beginning with the current sophomores, high school students will have the opportunity to participate in Missouri's A+ Schools initiative.
- **District Power Standards:** Standards are basically, "what we want students to know." The district is well into a year-long process of identifying "Power Standards," those being standards that matter most because they are critical for student success. Once the Power Standards are in place, teachers will focus in-depth instruction on the "essential" skills and concepts with the commitment that all students will demonstrate proficiency of the standards.
- **Instructional Management System (IMS):** If we have Power Standards articulating what we want students to know, how will we know that our kids are learning them? The newly implemented IMS does just that – it informs instruction! The system includes a data warehouse where all pertinent student assessment information is stored. There is also a dashboard, essentially a user friendly visual display to access the data warehouse information such as assessment results, discipline, enrollment, as well immediate test results that aid teachers in designing instruction based on student needs.
- **Nutrition Services:** We have received positive comments from students, parents, and staff about the improvements in our Nutrition Services as a result of the district's contract with Sodexo. It is nice to hear good things about school food, such as the taste, increased choices, nutrition and décor.

We appreciate the support of our parents and patrons. Please stay informed by visiting the district website at www.csd4.k12.mo.us and by viewing future issues of the School Report as we strive to make 2009-10 the best.

Grandview C-4

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The School Report is published two-three times yearly to give the community a review of the Grandview C-4 District news, events and plans.

Designer and Editor:
Lane Lucas, Coordinator of Public Relations
816.316.5021 lane.lucas@csd4.k12.mo.us

Grandview C-4 School District
Grandview Educational Administrative Center
13015 10th Street, Grandview, MO 64030
816.316.5000 Fax: 816.316.5050
www.csd4.k12.mo.us

High Grove Early Childhood Center
2500 High Grove Road, Grandview, MO 64030
816.316.5500

Belvidere Elementary School
15200 White Avenue, Grandview, MO 64030
816.316.5300

Butcher-Greene Elementary School
5302 East 140th Street, Grandview, MO 64030
816.316.5400

Conn-West Elementary School
1100 High Grove Road, Grandview, MO 64030
816.316.5225

Martin City K-8 School
201 East 133rd Street, Kansas City, MO 64145
816.316.5700

Meadowmere Elementary School
7010 East 136th Street, Grandview, MO 64030
816.316.5525

Grandview Middle School
12650 Manchester, Grandview, MO 64030
816.316.5600

Center for Alternative
Instructional Resources (CAIR):
(Main Street Academy, Transitions,
Crossroads, Missouri Options GED)
1001 Main Street, Grandview, MO 64030
816.316.5150

Grandview High School
2300 High Grove Road, Grandview MO 64030
816.316.5800

GRANDVIEW C-4 Mission

In an environment of dignity, diversity, and change, our commitment is to provide a spectrum of educational opportunities to instill in all students and staff the motivation for lifetime learning, and to develop and demonstrate character traits in preparation for ethically responsible citizenry.

MSIP Review Classifies GC-4 As Accredited

Continued full accreditation of the Grandview C-4 School District was confirmed during the start of the 2009-10 school year when the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) notified the district that it was classified by the Missouri State Board of Education as being accredited under the fourth cycle of the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP). A certificate of recognition was included. The GC-4 fourth cycle MSIP Review timeline occurred during the entire 2008-09 school year with an onsite review taking place on March 2-5, 2009.

Grandview C-4 has been fully accredited throughout its history. The Review required GC-4 response and/or submission for MSIP Standards such as curriculum, the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP), professional development and student, parent and staff surveys. A copy of the 2009 MSIP accredited certificate is displayed in all school buildings and on the district website at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/aboutGC4.html.



Tiffani Kendrick, School Resource Officer "Canine Searches: School Safety Enhancement"

In today's society it is not a secret that there are illegal narcotics in our communities and schools. Students today are faced with many challenges and are not always presented with easy choices. It is our job as parents, educators, and Police Officers to make sure that our students have the "right" to attend school and learn in a safe and drug free environment. We have started that journey by stepping up our efforts to ensure student safety during crisis situations by enhancing our crisis management. We often think of crisis management as an outside threat or danger, but the reality is illegal drugs can be just as harmful to the learning environment.



Grandview Police Officer Mike Rigot with Grandview Police Dog Bessie.

Grandview C-4 will be working collaboratively with the Grandview Police Department in an endeavor to help make our schools a safer and more conducive learning environment. The use of trained police canines sends a positive message to students, faculty and parents that our campus is 100% focused on education and safety, not disrupted with the presence of illegal narcotics, weapons, or alcohol. Canine searches will be well organized with safety as the number one goal. Students will not be searched, only common areas, such as lockers, hallways and parking lots. Learning will not be interrupted and students will remain in their classrooms until searches are complete.

PTA Presents "Germ Factory"

Microbiologists, Monica Terry and Julie Tripp, from Remel Products, located in Lenexa, Kansas, presented the "Germ Factory" at Meadowmere Elementary on Friday, December 4. The event was sponsored by the MM PTA. Students learned the scientific identity of some of the more common bacteria and viruses and how (nearly 5 billion) germs can be easily spread at school, home and in the community.

The importance of good hand washing was also emphasized when a special lighting instrument revealed unseen residue left on student hands after handling the "germ" doll at the beginning of the program. Remel provides scientific products used in clinical, industrial, research, and academic laboratories around the world. A complimentary "germ doll" was given to each classroom and every student received a germ and virus identifier hand-out.



Pictured (left to right), Microbiologists Julie Tripp & Monica Terry show the importance of good hand washing to Meadowmere fourth graders Carl Wiley & Mackenzie Gettel.

Seussical Selected For State

The November, 2009 Grandview High School production of *Seussical the Musical* was one of three high school shows selected to perform at the Missouri Thespians Conference held on January 7-9, 2010 at the University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL). The production took place on the Touhill Stage



Seussical at GHS, one of three high school shows selected to perform at the 2010 MO Thespians Conference.

at UMSL on Friday, January 8, before nearly 1,600 attendees. The remaining GHS 2009-10 season will include *Dracula* (Horror Masterpiece-February 24-27) and *The Wedding Singer* (Rock Musical-April 21-24).

All performances take place at 7:00 pm in the GHS Auditorium. Show information and ticket purchasing is available by calling (816) 309-7131, by e-mail at ghstheatretix@aol.com or at www.ghstheatre.com. The 2009-10 GHS Theatre schedule (including cast lists and seating information) is posted on the district website at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/upcomingevents.html.

GC-4 Podcast Training

Joe Dimino, Grandview C-4 Technical Trainer, Technician and Webmaster, for the second year in a row was selected to present his seminar "Creating Distributing Audio/Video Podcasts" at the October 2009 Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet) Instructional Technology Conference held at Tan-Tar-A in Osage Beach, Missouri. Established in 1991, MOREnet provides Missouri K-12 school Internet access, and



Joe Dimino, GC-4 Technical Trainer, Technician & Webmaster, presented his seminar "Creating Distributing Audio/Video Podcasts" at the 2009 MOREnet Instructional Technology Conference.

technical support and training. Joe's seminar is aligned to a curriculum designed to assist GC-4 personnel in creating their own student/staff podcasts. Under his direction, GC-4 was the first metro area district to spearhead a podcast library on their district website.

GC-4 audio/video podcasts (events, news, student/staff interviews) are posted online at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/pocastsandvideo.html. Joe's seminar agenda (including podcast resources) can be viewed at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/morenet.html.

Improved Nutrition Services

The District's decision to contract with the Sodexo Company has resulted in welcome improvements to the Nutrition Services at all schools. Favorable comments have been received from students, parents and staff about the new décor, increased choices and enhanced food offerings. Students now have the opportunity to dine in a colorful age-specific décor that offers improved nutritional offerings such as fresh pizza, fruit and vegetable bar, combo meal deals and made to order sandwiches. Student food costs have remained competitive with other school lunch programs. Also, a la carte items meet or exceed National Child Nutrition Standards criteria for healthy snacks and beverages.

School cafeteria décor and food improvements include:

Kid's Way Café

Elementary cafeteria décor includes colorful images of foods and fresh fruits. Selections include vegetables, chicken nuggets with whole-grain breading and the Offerings Bar.

Energy Download Zone (E.D.z)

Grandview Middle cafeteria (pictured on the cover) is now E.D.z with offerings such as a la carte items, fresh pizza, and burgers and chicken patties with all the toppings.

Crossroads Cafe

Grandview High students can now enjoy items such as made to order sandwiches, fresh pizza, Combo Meal Deals and Fiesta with all the toppings.

Sodexo, started in 1966, is the industry leader for K-12 food service. In addition to GC-4, they provide service for the Belton, Blue Springs and Center school districts. Sodexo believes that well-nourished students perform better in the classroom. Their trained chefs create and kid-test new recipes everyday to make sure students have fresh, delicious food choices. GC-4 school breakfast and lunch menus (along with wellness and nutrition information) are available on the Sodexo web page located at www.csd4.k12.mo.us. This can be accessed by clicking on the Lunch Menus link located within the GC-4 Quick Links section on the home page. For questions about the GC-4 Sodexo Nutrition Services please contact Lisa Casper, Nutrition Director, at (816) 316-5204 or by email at lisa.casper@csd4.k12.mo.us.



GC-4 Nutrition Service improvements include the fruit & vegetable bar offered at Grandview Middle School.



Sodexo, contracted for GC-4 Nutrition Services, offers fresh pizza each day at Grandview Middle & Grandview High School.

SLCs Up and Running At GHS

The Small Learning Communities (SLCs) at Grandview High School have been up and running since the beginning of the 2009-10 school year. SLCs are made up of four theme-based "houses": 1) Engineering Manufacturing Technology, 2) Arts and Communications, 3) Health and Human Services and 4) International Business Management. Each house consists of 200-300 students led by 10-15 teachers. Students remain in their chosen house with the same core/theme/advisory teachers all four years. The focus of GHS SLCs is to unleash the student/staff potential through rigor, relevance and relationships.

Rigor/Relevance: GHS goals include increasing the number of students taking the ACT and increasing the number of students with As, Bs, and Cs (no Ds or Fs) on report cards. The staff is also working on creating pathways/career paths so that more students will graduate with a four year plan that includes upper level classes in core and elective courses. **Relationships:** GHS staff has revamped the advisory program so that teachers will have the same group of advisory students all four years. There is also an emphasis on the staff getting to know the students and parents better in order to strengthen their relationship with teachers, counselors and administrators.

SLCs enhancements this year have included:

- **Back to School Night:** SLCs introduced parents to the new structure at GHS.
- **Homecoming:** SLCs participated in a hallway decorating contest to show their school spirit.
- **PLC Day:** Staff/students offered tutoring and/or make up work assistance. Students participated in enrichment activities with speakers from a range of professions.
- **Planning:** Teachers and administrators meet regularly to plan strategies for student success.



GHS SLCs show their school spirit with their participation in a school decorating competition during the 2009 Homecoming week.

SLC teachers meet weekly to review student progress and to share new teaching techniques and activities. The strength of SLCs is based on the relationships developed between teachers and students and between students and students during their high school career. For more information about GHS SLCs contact Susan Dunham, GHS School Improvement Facilitator, at susan.dunham@csd4.k12.mo.us.

Conn-West YouthFriends

Jamie Brockman (fifth grade) and other Conn-West Elementary students benefit from the YouthFriends program at Conn-West. YouthFriends is a non-profit education foundation



Grandview resident Nancy Vohs (left) has been a YouthFriends volunteer mentor for Jamie Brockman (fifth grade) at Conn-West Elementary for two years.

that works in partnership with school districts to connect students with adult volunteer mentors who provide help in reading, writing, math, science and behavioral problems. Mentors do not have to have an educational background and training assistance is available.

For the past two years, Jamie has been mentored by long-time Grandview resident Nancy Vohs (a mentor at Conn-West for the past four years). The Conn-West program is coordinated by teacher Faith Howard and provides students with academic tutoring, someone to listen and talk with, insight into lifetime careers and experiences and a possible pen-pal or someone special to have lunch with. For more information about YouthFriends or becoming a mentor at Conn-West visit www.youthfriends.org or call Mrs. Howard at (816) 316-5225.

2010 School Calendar

February 10	District PLCs/Prof Dev'l (Early Release For Students)
February 15	No School (President's Day)
February 17	National PTA Founders Day
March 2.....	NEA's Read Across America
March 10.....	District PLCs (Early Release For Students)
March 12.....	Third Quarter Ends
March 15-19	No School (Spring Break)
April 2	No School
April 28	District PLCs/Prof Dev'l (Early Release For Students)
May 12.....	District PLCs (Early Release For Students)
May 28.....	Last Day Of School/District PLCs (Early Release For Students)
May 31.....	(Memorial Day)
June 1.....	Teacher Work Day

Six emergency make-up days are built into this calendar. Should they not be used, or should more than six days be used, the last day of school will be adjusted. This calendar may be altered at the discretion of the Board of Education and/or administration.

High Grove Early Childhood Center 9:05 am to 3:55 pm

Student Schedule – First And Regular School Day:

- All Elementary Schools 9:05 am to 3:55 pm
- Middle Schools..... 8:15 am to 3:05 pm
- Center for Alternative Instructional Resources (CAIR).. 7:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Grandview High School 7:35 am to 2:25 pm

Student Schedule – Early Release School Day:

- All Elementary Schools 9:05 am to 1:05 pm
- Middle Schools..... 8:15 am to 12:15 pm
- Center for Alternative Instructional Resources (CAIR).. 7:00 am to 11:15 am
- Grandview High School 7:35 am to 11:35 am

Student Schedule – Last School Day:

- All Elementary Schools 9:05 am to 12:05 pm
- Middle Schools..... 8:15 am to 11:15 am
- Center for Alternative Instructional Resources (CAIR).. 7:00 am to 10:30 am
- Grandview High School 7:35 am to 10:35 am

GC-4 BOE Candidates Determined

Filing for the Grandview C-4 Board of Education positions ended on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, at 5:00 PM. There are three candidates for the two three-year term positions: Ann Fisher (incumbent), Larry Pulos and Cindy Bastian. An election will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 for these two seats. Additionally, we have one candidate for the unfulfilled one-year position: Amber Woodrome.

There will not be an election for the unfulfilled term in accordance with RSMO 115.124 (1), no election shall be held for such offices if the number of candidates who have filed for the particular offices is equal to the number of positions to be filled. Ms. Woodrome will take her seat at the organizational meeting scheduled for April 15, 2010, along with the winners of the election held on April 6. For more information please feel free to contact Vicki McGraw, GC-4 Board Secretary, at (816) 316-5023 or by email at vicki.mcgraw@csd4.k12.mo.us. Complete information about the GC-4 Board of Education can be viewed on the district website at www.csd4.k12.mo.us.



"Where Kids Come First:
Each and Every One"

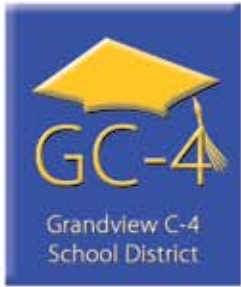
Points of Pride...

—Grandview High School Debate & Forensics team was selected as Overall Conference Champion at the 2010 Kansas City Suburban Conference.

—Martin City K-8 teacher, Tim Moore, received the 2009 OfficeMax "A Day Made Better" award in honor of his continued dedication to educating children.

—Meadowmere Elementary students & staff participated in their second annual Pinwheels for Peace project in September, 2009.

—Barbara A. Tate, GC-4 Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction, received the 2009 NAACP Velma E. Woodson Outstanding Leadership Award.



Board of Education
Grandview C-4 Schools
13015 10th Street
Grandview, MO 64030
www.csd4.k12.mo.us

Grandview C-4 Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity Employer and there shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex, race, creed, national origin, age or disability. The school district is committed to providing appropriate educational services for children with disabilities in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Act. The district is in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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GHS ProStart students Kaila Toombs (pictured), Taylor White & Ariel Anthony (Bronze Medal winners) & Alyssa Green, Destinee Stone & Cassandra Phillips (Silver Medal winners) competed in the FCCLA STAR Culinary Competition held at GHS on January 26.



Martin City K-8 Food Service employees (front-left to right) Kathy Robinson, Rose Potts, Ruby Jackson, Teresa Johnson & Stacy Robinson Homes, received the 2009 "Food Excellence Award" from the KC Health Department. Back (left to right) is Dr. Barbara Schell (MC K-8 Principal) & Dr. Ralph Teran (Superintendent).



GHS students Caleb Rew (pictured), Cameron Webber, Antwon Payne, Christian Johnson, Joey Hill & Sabrina Kramer, led by KC Young Audiences Lead Muralist, Robin Case, completed the "Giant" GHS Mural project (located in the GHS main entrance) on January 15.



Meadowmere third grade students visit the "Life & Times of Buck O'Neil" exhibit (January 15-24 at The View Community Center), a collaborative effort between Meadowmere, the KC Negro Leagues Baseball Museum & the City of Grandview.