

The School Report

Grandview C-4

www.csd4.k12.mo.us

COUGARS
CME Student Council 09-10

Winter
2010-11



Conn-West Elementary
teacher Anika Williams
receives the 2010
Milken Educator Award
on October 14, 2010...page 3

FALL 2010 DATE

PAY TO THE ORDER OF **Anika Williams** \$ **25,000.00**
TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND and 00/100 DOLLARS

FOR 2010 MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARD

Lowell Miller

GHS A+ Program & Virtual Academy

GHS initiated MO A+ & a Virtual Academy at the beginning of the 2010-11 school year...page 4

"Continued Success"

Superintendent Ralph Teran comments on the GC-4 APR increase and the productive 2010-11 school year...page 5

Parent Input Appreciated

BOE President Ann Fisher thanks parents for participating in the recent Input Meetings & discusses possible changes in the MO education system...page 2



"Where Kids Come First:
Each and Every One"

Points of Pride...

—Conn-West teacher, Anika Williams, received the 2010 Milken Educator Award and is Missouri's only Milken Family Foundation award winner for 2010.

—GHS Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) instructor, Stephanie Krupa, was awarded the 2010 Missouri Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (MoEFACS) Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher of the Year.

—GMS 8th grade football A team finished the 2010 season with a 4-2 record for a second year in a row.

—Belvidere Student Council members collected 250 canned food items and delivered them to the Grandview Assistance Program (GAP) in December 2010.



Ann Fisher, President
Board of Education
ann.fisher@
csd4.k12.mo.us

"Parent Input Is Appreciated" Ann Fisher, President, Board of Education

As the second semester of the 2010-2011 school year begins, your school board extends our "thanks" to those parents who attended recent Community Input Meetings held at all schools (see the article on page 5). Board members value your input, and we look forward to continued opportunities to hear from you and to review what you tell us. We are also grateful to have such dedicated Grandview C-4 staff members, and we appreciate the fact that parents continue to recognize the efforts of staff as one of the "positives" in our district. Staff continues to tell us the great students they teach are what keep them motivated.

One immediate response to suggestions from parents is that our district hopes to implement "MySchoolBucks" in the very near future. This program would allow parents to check balances in their student's lunch account, and would permit parents to make remote money transfers into those accounts. Program details should be forthcoming in the next few weeks. We hope to continue to review suggestions as summaries are received, and we welcome input from parents who were not able to attend a formal meeting. Let us know what you think.

On another note, after all the discussion about MAP assessments, standards, and AYP, we may see more changes coming to the educational system as Missouri funding issues continue. Early in November, Missouri's Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) announced that cuts will be made to their department's budget. Those cuts will "suspend" portions of grade-level and end-of-course assessments, which will shorten the MAP assessments given to our students in April of 2011 and 2012 (DESE hopes to save about \$2.6 million over two years). These changes may once again affect how district results are measured and may make year-to-year comparison of MAP scores even more difficult (see www.dese.mo.gov for more information).

May the Winter break bring rest and peaceful moments to our students and staff, and to all.

Board of Education Election Filing

The filing dates for the April 5, 2011, General Municipal Election for Grandview C-4 School District Board of Education candidates are Tuesday, December 21, 2010 through Tuesday, January 18, 2011, as required by state statute. Interested persons may file between the hours of 8:00 am to 9:00 am on December 21 2010, 800 am to 4:30 pm on regular working days, and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on January 18, 2011, in the Board of Education Office at 13015 10th Street, Grandview, Missouri. Three (3) three-year term positions are up for election. Candidates will be placed on the ballot according to the order of filing. **A calendar of the filing dates is as follows:**

December 21, 2010	<i>Open for candidate filing only</i>	8:00 am to 9:00 am
December 22-24, 2010	Winter Vacation	Office Closed
December 27-31, 2010	Winter Vacation	Office Closed
January 3-7, 2011	Office Hours	8:00 am to 4:30 pm
January 10-14, 2011	Office Hours	8:00 am to 4:30 pm
January 17, 2011	Holiday	Office Closed
January 18, 2011	Office Hours	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
<i>Except on the first day (December 21) and last day (January 18), the Board of Education Office will not be open for filing if school has been cancelled on a regular working day.</i>		

Grandview C-4

Board of Education:

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Ann Cook, Director of Business and Finance

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.

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816.316.5500

Belvidere Elementary School
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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):
(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

GC-4
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Get the latest Grandview C-4 news in your email box. Register to receive the "GC-4 E-News" on the home page of the district website at www.csd4.k12.mo.us.

Conn-West Teacher Receives 2010 Milken Award

Conn-West fifth grade teacher Anika Williams was honored on Thursday, October 14, at an all-school assembly with a surprise announcement: she is the winner of a 2010 Milken Educator Award, which includes an unrestricted cash prize of \$25,000. Many have called the award the "Oscar of teaching." Williams is Missouri's only Milken Family Foundation award winner for 2010. The event received extensive coverage from metro area television, radio and news papers. Williams has been teaching for 15 years and has spent 12 years at the Grandview C-4 district. Last school year she was named "Teacher of the Year" for her building.



Conn-West fifth grade teacher, Anika Williams, gives her acceptance speech for receiving the 2010 Milken Educator Award on October 14. Next to her (at left) is US Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II and Dr. Jane Foley, Senior Vice President of the Milken Educator Awards.

Dr. Jane Foley, Senior Vice President of the Milken Educator Awards, presented the award with assistance from Commissioner of Education Chris L. Nicastro. The event included a special visit from US Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II, who publicly extended his congratulations to Williams. Other noted attendees were Missouri State Representative Jason Holsman, Grandview Board President Steve Dennis, the Grandview C-4 Board of Education members and GC-4 Superintendent Dr. Ralph Teran and Assistant Superintendent Barbara Tate.

Sponsored by the Milken Family Foundation, the Milken Educator Awards recognize teachers, principals and other specialists for furthering excellence in education. The 2010 winners receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Los Angeles to participate in the annual Milken Educator Forum, where educators from across the nation discuss innovative teaching strategies. Winners may also join the Milken Educator Network, an association of more than 2,500 individuals serving as a resource for fellow educators, legislators, school boards and education professionals. The event media coverage and photos can be viewed online at <http://www.csd4.k12.mo.us/cwe.html>. For more information about the Milken Foundation and the Milken Educator Awards visit mff.org/mea.

GAP Needs Support

The Grandview Assistance Program (GAP) has provided help to families in the City of Grandview and the Grandview C-4 School District since 1992, when it was established by Grandview and GC-4. In 2009 GAP provided assistance to nearly 2,000 Grandview area residents (more than half were children) which included rental, utility, food, clothing and school supply assistance. Nearly 200 families received holiday assistance in 2010. GAP is the only emergency services agency devoted exclusively to the welfare of Grandview area residents, many of which are GC-4 families.



Sharon Kinder (at front), Executive Director of the Grandview Assistance Program (GAP), and volunteer Denise Evans inventory food donation items at the GAP office in Grandview.

Although hundreds of individuals and families received assistance in 2010, many were denied due to limited funds. GAP does not receive any taxpayer or government support. All funding comes from the generous donations and grants received from

community individuals, businesses and organizations. As economic uncertainties continue, the need for GAP services is greater than ever. To learn more about GAP and/or how to provide support contact Sharon Kinder, Executive Director, ((816) 761-1919, gapcrew@kc.rr.com) or visit www.grandviewassistanceprogram.org.

A+ & Virtual Academy At GHS

Grandview High School initiated the Missouri A+ Schools Program and a Virtual Academy program at the beginning of the 2010-11 school year. Missouri A+ was created by the Outstanding Schools Act of 1993 as an incentive for improving Missouri's high schools. Beginning with the class of 2012, qualifying GHS graduates will be eligible to receive state-paid tuition and general fees to attend any Missouri public community college or career/technical school for two years. Currently, 277 students (grades 9-11) are enrolled in the GHS A+ Program. Complete information about the program can be viewed on the district website at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/ghs_Aplus.html.

The Virtual Academy currently provides online learning for 127 GHS students. Each of them can address individual learning needs and obtain teacher assistance while proceeding at their own pace online. The program covers all areas of curriculum. It is also being used to provide tutoring outside of the school and to help students prepare for taking the ACT. Virtual learning will also be offered in some 2011 summer school courses. For more information about the Virtual Academy contact Sharon Wagner at (816) 316-5800.



The GHS Virtual Academy program, initiated at the beginning of the 2010-11 school, year provides online learning for students.

State Rep. McManus Visits Meadowmere Literacy Night

The 4th annual Meadowmere Family Literacy Night (Thursday, November 18, 2010) included a special visit from Missouri State Representative Kevin McManus (District 46). Mr. McManus toured the interactive reading and writing stations;



MO State Representative Kevin McManus (right) with Lisa Walker, Meadowmere Principal (left), Cat in the Hat, and a Meadowmere family at the Meadowmere Family Literacy Night (November 18, 2010).

including *Fishing for Literacy*, *Reading in the Bubble*, *Reading under the Ocean* and *the Critic's Corner*, and viewed the student presentations (kindergarten and fifth grade) of original poems and stories in the *Brewing Writers Café*. He also spoke with Meadowmere Families about their school and community.

Other features of the event included a drawing for a \$25.00 gift card from Borders Books and a visit from Cat InThe Hat. All attending students received a free book and the opportunity to sign up for a library card from the Grandview Mid-Continent Public Library.

School Input Meetings

As a part of the efforts to continuously improve student performance, the district conducted Community Input Meetings (taking place in November and December, 2010) with parents at each school to discuss findings from the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) Advanced Questionnaire. Attendees also responded individually and in discussion



Discussion group school & district question responses are recorded by a parent attending the Belvidere Community Input Meeting on December 6, 2010.

groups to the following three questions (for both their school and the district): "What is going well which highly impacts academic achievement", "What needs to improve to highly impact student achievement" and "What is the most critical area that needs to change to impact student achievement".

The meetings were facilitated by the school principal and district administration. Discussion groups presented their school and district responses to all attendees. District administration is in the process of analyzing all input to determine the appropriate use and action. A follow up electronic survey will be submitted to all participants in the spring of 2011.

"Continued Success In 2010-11"

Dr. Ralph Teran, Superintendent of Schools



Ralph Teran, Ed.D.
Superintendent
ralph.teran@
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We are more than midway through an exciting and productive 2010-11 school year. First and foremost, the district has experienced six consecutive years of increased student academic achievement demonstrated by increasing from 9/14 to 11/14 on the Missouri Annual Performance Review (APR). All indications are that we should achieve higher levels next year. Additionally, Meadowmere Elementary and Grandview High School met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Very few high schools in the metro area (Missouri) met AYP. **Highlights so far this year have included:**

Fiscal Responsibility: The district has positioned itself to address continuing economic challenges. Our general fund reserves have increased from 9.29% to 12.43% during the last year. Increasing financial efficiencies district-wide, while simultaneously minimizing impacts on student academic programs is our primary goal.

GHS Small Learning Communities (SLCs): The GHS SLC program is defined by four "Houses" each with a respective color and academic focus (Orange—Arts and Communications, Green—Engineering and Manufacturing Technology, Gold—Health and Human Services, and Blue—International Business Management House). Each house has approximately 250 students and is staffed by teachers from every core area and several elective teachers who support the house theme. Houses have assigned counselors and administrators. We believe the SLC's are a driving factor in increased student academic achievement at GHS.

Missouri's A+ Schools Initiative: Beginning with the class of 2012, qualifying GHS graduates have the opportunity to attend selected Missouri community colleges and vocational/trade schools for their first two years of post-secondary school free of charge. Approximately 277 GHS 9th to 11th grade students are presently in the A+ Program.

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.

Summer School: Summer Explorations 2011 will run from June 6, 2011 through July 1, with potential enrollment of 900 students. Courses will include rigorous and interactive activities aligned to district curriculum and state standards. Band and fine arts will also be offered. Virtual learning will be a new option for students in some courses.

Virtual Academy: Initiated at the beginning of the 2010-11 school year, the program presently provides online learning for approximately 127 GHS students. Individual learning needs can be addressed and students can obtain teacher assistance while proceeding at their own pace online. The program is also being used to provide tutoring outside of the school and to help students prepare for taking the ACT.

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 2010-11 the best.

GEF Hosts Walk/Run & Trivia Night

Grandview Education Foundation (GEF) 2010 fundraising efforts included the ninth annual Grandview Triangle Walk/Run & Health Fair (September 18), and the second annual Grandview C-4 Trivia Night (November 11). GEF hosted both at Grandview High School. The combined events raised approximately \$10,000 which will benefit the funding of GEF teaching grants and student scholarships at GC-4. The Walk/Run, co-hosted by the GC-4 Physical Education and Health teachers, had over 400 participants (student, staff and

community members). The event offered a 3 mile run and a 1-2 mile walk/run and a free Health Fair.

Trivia Night featured 32 teams (a 50% increase over 2009) comprised of student, staff and community members. Fox 4 News meteorologists Don Harman was the event MC. Other features included prize drawings, special student



Grandview C-4 Trivia Night (November 11, 2010), hosted by the Grandview Education Foundation (GEF), featured 32 teams.

participation and musical entertainment from the GHS Jazz Ensemble. The First Place team was "Got Brains" sponsored by the Medicine Shoppe in Grandview. GEF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization formed in 1997 for the purpose of enhancing education opportunities for GC-4 students and staff. For more information about the above events and GEF visit www.csd4.k12.mo.us/educationalfoundation.html.

Teachers Author Study Guide

Grandview C-4 School District teachers, Amy Cameron (Grandview High School) and Judith Robben (Butcher-Greene Elementary), recently co-authored *A Dog's Purpose Study Guide for Grades 8-12* to be used with the New York Times bestselling book, *A Dog's Purpose*, authored by W. Bruce Cameron (Amy Cameron's brother). The guide is being offered by the Scholastic Company to teachers across the nation for classroom use. The book is the remarkable story of one endearing dog's search for his purpose over the course of several lives. It touches on the universal quest for an answer to life's most basic question: Why are we here?

W. Bruce Cameron is also the author of *8 Simple Rules for Dating My Teenage Daughter*, which was turned into the hit ABC sitcom, and a nationally syndicated columnist. The study guide can be viewed at <http://us.macmillan.com/adogspurpose> (under "Related Links" at the bottom of the page).



GC-4 teachers, Judith Robben (left), Butcher-Greene Elementary, and Amy Cameron, Grandview High School, co-authored "A Dog's Purpose Study Guide for Grades 8-12" (held by Robben) to be used with the New York Times bestselling book, "A Dog's Purpose".

GHS 2010-11 Theatre Season

Grandview High School Theatre presented their first production of the 2010-11 season, *Chicago The Musical* (the hit Broadway musical), on November 18-20, 2010. The remaining season will include *A Year With Frog and Toad* (a musical based on the *Frog and Toad* children's stories- February 17-19, 2011), *Proposals* (A nostalgic memory play by Neil Simon- April 13-16, 2011) and a Student Directed Play on May 12,



A scene from the GHS production of "Chicago The Musical" (November 18-20, 2010).

2011. *Proposals* will be a dinner theatre production, catered by the GHS ProStart students, on April 13.

All performances take place at 7:00 pm in the GHS Auditorium. Show information and ticket purchasing is available by calling (816) 809-1028, by email at ghstheatretix@aol.com, or online at www.ghstheatre.com. GHS Theatre will also present their annual Children's Theatre Workshop on February 19, 2011.

2011 School Calendar

January 3	Teachers' Professional Work Day
January 4	Second Semester Starts (Full day)
January 12	District PLCs (Early release for students)
January 17	No School (Martin Luther King Day)
January 18	District C&I (No school for students)
February 9	District PLCs/Classified Prof Dev'l (Early release for students)
February 21	No School (President's Day)
March 9	District PLCs (Early release for students)
March 11	Third Quarter Ends
March 14-18	No School (Spring Break)
April 22	No School
April 27	District PLCs/Classified Prof Dev'l (Early release for students)
May 11	District PLCs (Early release for students)
May 27	Last Day for Students & PLCs (Early release for students)
May 30	Memorial Day
May 31	Teacher Professional 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

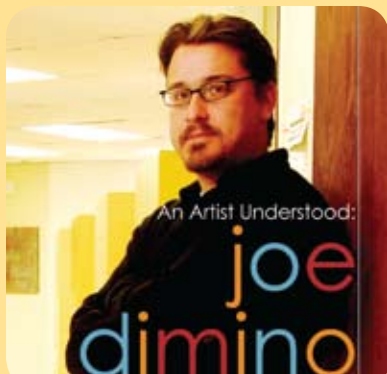
Student Schedule – Early Release School Day:

- 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 Webmaster's Artwork On Display



The artwork of Joe Dimino, Grandview C-4 Technical Trainer, Technician and Web Master, will be on display at The View Community Center (13500 Byars Road in Grandview) from January through February 2011. Joe has been painting since 1996; his artwork is diverse, from portraits to landscapes, including such mediums as canvas, oil, acrylic, and water colors. Joe's art display can be seen at The View Monday through Sunday during normal business hours. You can find out more about Joe and his artwork at www.joedimino.com.



"Where Kids Come First:
Each and Every One"

Points of Pride...

—Belvidere teacher, Lori McIntyre, received the 2010 OfficeMax "A Day Made Better" award, honoring her continued dedication to education.

—The GHS debate program has membership in the National Forensic League (NFL) Chapter prestigious 100 Club.

—GMS student, J.P. Haley, was one of nine area student winners selected in the 2010 Kansas City Area Price Chopper "Bag Your Favorite Book" contest for designing an original book cover.

—GHS student team members, Jazmin Burrell, Taylor White, and Jamel Reynolds and Rachel Evans, were award recipients at the 2010 20th annual Science and Mathematics Challenge for Young Women in Kansas City, MO.



Board of Education
Grandview C-4 Schools
13015 10th Street
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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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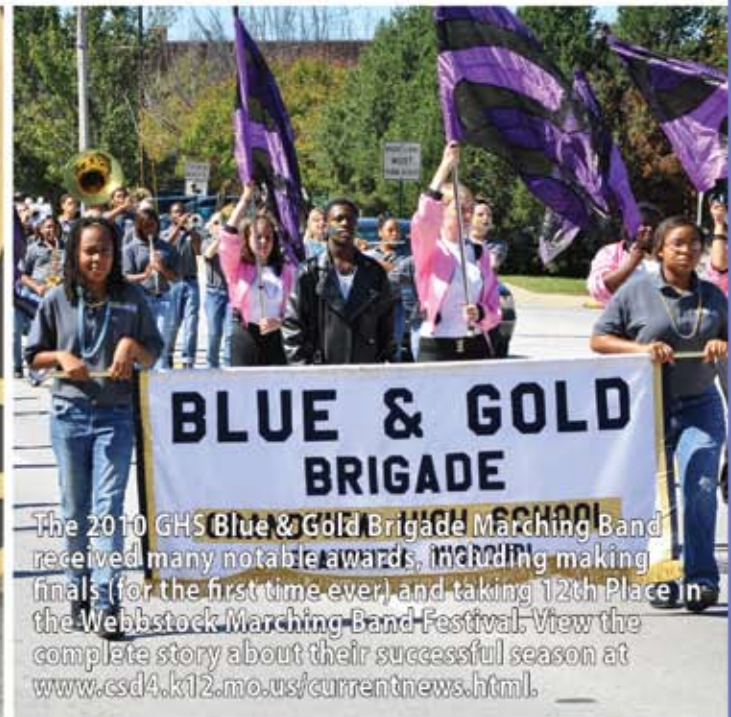
GHS coach Andy Leech was named the Chiefs MO High School Coach of the Week on October 27. Former Chiefs linebacker Gary Spani presented the honor on the GHS football field. View the complete story at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/currentnews.html.



GMS student J.P. Haley (front-left) was one of nine student winners of the 2010 KC area Price Chopper "Bag Your Favorite Book" contest for designing an original book cover. View the complete story & his design at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/currentnews.html.



GHS student Christeen Walker was selected as the Grand Prize winner for the 2010 KC Shriners Make A Difference "Good Always Wins" essay contest. Other GHS winners were Robin Marshall (1st-Runner Up), James Smith Jr. (4th), and Aleeya Baston & Whitney Hollingsworth (5th). View the complete story at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/currentnews.html.



The 2010 GHS Blue & Gold Brigade Marching Band received many notable awards, including making finals (for the first time ever) and taking 12th Place in the Webbstock Marching Band Festival. View the complete story about their successful season at www.csd4.k12.mo.us/currentnews.html.