



May 1, 2017

John Robinson
Principal & Executive Director
robinsonj@grcdc.org

Sarah Cooper
Pedagogista
coopesar@grcdc.org

Rachel Harth
Administrative Assistant
harthrac@grcdc.org

Link Letter

Principally Speaking

Teacher Openings

Thank you for continuing to spread the word about our teacher openings. We are tentatively scheduled to review applications late this week. So if you have people you would like to let know about the position, please do it soon. You can give your contacts this link (<http://grcdc.org/about/employment-opportunities/>) or have them email me (robinsonj@grcdc.org) for more information.

Teacher Appreciation

I'm grateful for all you are doing to appreciate teachers (and staff) this week! We have such an amazing team, working hard for your students. Thanks for all you are doing to show them gratitude for all they do.

Dance, Dance!

Thank you all for the wonderful dance on Saturday. It was an incredible turnout, and a great representation of who we are as a school. I appreciate everyone who participated, got the word out, and planned.



This blurry, but sweet moment between two friends, epitomizes the joy of the Family Dance.

SSSC Proposal This Week

The Strong Schools, Strong Communities Proposal is up for a vote tomorrow. It benefits public schools (although not charters like us unless the laws change). For more information, you can see the resource listed in last week's Link Letter and/or check out the following:

- <https://youtu.be/s35fV26t500>
- <http://wgvnnews.org/post/strong-schools-strong-communities-proposal-set-may-vote>

Alternate Parking May 22-23

Our next step with the greenspace is coming May 22-23! The family lot will be closed those days for rain garden installation. Stay tuned for more details about parking options those days.

That's all for this week. As always, thanks for reading, Be Kind, Keep Discovering, and have a great week!

Coach ☺

John Robinson, Principal/Executive Director/Superintendent
robinsonj@grcdc.org

Family Team Corner

Please join the Family Team in helping to make Teacher Appreciation Week - May 1st-5th - a wonderful week full of gratitude and thanks for our Teachers & Staff at GRCDC!

The Sign Up link below has lots of different opportunities for our families to help make our Teachers feel loved - from bringing in food to manning the Appreciation Station - to help students make thank you notes for their Teachers: <http://signup.com/go/faaGkm>

It is also yearbook Shout-Out and Sponsorship time! For only \$10 you can include a personalized shout-out in this year's yearbook for your special student(s)! There are more Shout Out Forms in the Office. Shout Out Forms are due by Friday, May 19th. Larger spaces like \$50 for a 1/4 page, \$100 for a 1/2 page & \$200 for a whole page are available too! Please email family team, grcdcfamilyteam@gmail.com, to place your order. Every student will receive a yearbook at no cost. We are able to do this with the money generated from the shout outs and sponsorships. The Family Team will host a popsicle & yearbook party on June 8th at recess.

Thank you to everyone that came out to the GRCDC 1st Annual Family Dance! We had so much fun & can't wait for next year!

Calendar

The calendar also available at grcdc.org

ONGOING EVENTS:	
Thru 5/26	M-Step Testing – 4th grade is testing 5/1-5/5
COMING UP THIS WEEK:	
5/1	Girls on the Run M/F Team until 5:00 PM
5/2	Girls on the Run T/Th Team until 5:00 PM
5/3	Early Release Day, Dismissal at 1:10 PM
5/4	Girls on the Run T/Th Team until 5:00 PM Minecraft Club, 5:30—7:00 PM
5/5	First Friday Food, 10:45 AM http://signup.com/go/faaGkm Afternoon Meeting, 3:00 PM Girls on the Run M/F Team until 5:00 PM
EVENTS HAPPENING IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS:	
5/8	GRASP enrollment forms are due (see page 2) GRCDC Board Meeting, 6:00—8:00 PM
5/9	Family Team Meeting, 6:30—8:00 PM
5/17	Booth Reservations for craft and rummage sale DUE
5/19	Yearbook Shout Out and Sponsorships DUE
5/20	GRCDC Craft and Rummage Sale, 10:00 AM—4:00 PM
5/22 & 23	Rain Garden Installation — no parking in family lot for 2 days. Stay tuned for more details about parking options
5/23	IMMERSE Family Night @ Public Museum, 6:00—8:00 PM
5/29	Memorial Day Break— NO SCHOOL
6/7	End of Year Celebration, 5:00—7:00 PM
6/9	Fifth Grade Camp Out (overnight at Camp Rockford)
6/12	Fifth Grade Graduation, 2:00 PM
6/14	Last Day of School, Early Release Day, Dismissal at 1:10 PM

Please arrange for your child to arrive at school between 7:45—8:00 am. Please sign your child in at the office if arrival is after 8:05 am.

Dismissal is 3:15 pm M, T, Th, F and 1:10 pm on Wednesdays

Grand Rapids Nutrition Center The full menu is available on our website: <http://grcdc.org/be-connected/link-letters/>

Breakfast (\$1.50):	Lunch (\$2.75):	Milk only: \$0.50
T—Scrambled eggs	Ham & cheese pocket	
W—Egg & cheese stick	Hot dog	
Th—Egg, cheese, sausage slider	Tony's cheese pizza	
F—Turkey sausage bites	Chicken fajita	
M 5/8—Egg & cheese sandwich	Honey BBQ dippers	

Breakfast time:	7:30AM—7:50 AM
Discovery A & B	Lunch 11:55 AM—12:15 PM Recess 12:15—12:40 PM
Discovery C & D	Lunch 10:55 AM—11:15 AM Recess 11:15—11:40 AM
Discovery E & F	Lunch 11:25 AM—11:45 AM Recess 11:45 AM—12:10 PM

The Philosophy by Sarah Cooper

RAIN GARDEN INSTALLATION - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are installing the rain garden all day on May 23 with the help of the Plaster Creek Stewards. They will guide us through installation during school hours and Discovery D students will be cycling through to help too. But we are in need of volunteers to help plant as well as spread mulch and soil. Sign up for one hour shifts to join the work: <http://signup.com/go/wlEOjuK>

Contact me with any questions!

Sarah Cooper, Pedagogista coopesar@grcdc.org



Updated Testing Schedule 2017

Test Tip #1

Remind your child they can take breaks as needed. Snack, water, gum and stress balls will be available!

Test Tip #2

Tests are not timed. You can finish later if needed.

Test Tip #3

Finishing first does not mean you've done your best. Take your time!

May 1-5:

4th Grade English Language Arts, Math and Science

May 8-12:

**2nd Grade English Language Arts and Math
3rd English Language Arts & 4th Grade Math**

May 15-19:

**Kindergarten Math and English Language Arts
3rd Grade Math**

May 22-26

Make Up Testing Sessions

Central Office Updates

- **Discovery Care Summer Camp** is a great child care option for the summer. For more details, follow this link and go to the article on page 2: <http://bit.ly/2p9OGqj>
- **This week, the M-Step testing begins for 4th grade students this week.** Looking for ways to support your test taker? Check out the Link Letter article by Sarah Cooper from March 20th (page 2) <http://bit.ly/2odlKZI> and this resource from the Michigan Department of Education: <http://bit.ly/2oXQF05>
- **IMMERSE Family Night** is for students (& their families) who participated in the IMMERSE program this school year. Students in Discoveries C, D E and F all participated in IMMERSE this year. Work from GRCDC students will be on display and families will enjoy free admission to the museum on Tuesday, May 23rd from 6:00—8:00 PM.
- We have **applied for a waiver** with the Michigan Department of Education to **start school on August 28th** next school year. For more information see a past Link Letter article about this (page 2): <http://bit.ly/2p9OGqj>

Community Corner—GRASP

The Grand Rapids Academic Summer Program (GRASP) is a 9-week correspondence program for students who have completed grades K-8 that helps students maintain reading and math skills while they are on summer break. It should take you and your child approximately one hour per week to complete each weekly lesson. The enrollment fee is \$20 for one subject or \$36 for both subjects.

New this year! Students who have just completed 4th—8th grade can participate in the program online! Just indicate your choice on the order form that was sent home last week (extra forms available in the office). To see FAQ's, program reviews, and sample pages, go to <http://www.grps.org/grasp>. (Please note that the pricing on the website is more expensive than the pricing you will get through GRCDC.)

Enrollment forms are due Monday, May 8th.

Questions? Please contact Mrs. Rachel: harthrac@grcdc.org

Please arrange for your child to arrive at school between 7:45 - 8:00 am. Please sign your child in at the office if arrival is after 8:05 am. Dismissal is 3:15 pm M, T, Th, F and 1:10 pm on Wednesdays