

F.A.C.E. TO FACE

JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

CAREGIVERS PLEASE PLAN AHEAD:

January 6: Return from Winter Break /
Theme School Application Opens
January 20: No School (MLK Day)
January 29: GRPS Expo & Information Fair
February 24-25: Mid-Winter Break

View the GRPS District Calendar at
grps.org/calendar.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION - GRADY'S GARDEN



Grady's Garden is a food and nutrition company offering delicious foods

geared towards people and families incorporating a healthier lifestyle. The products are packed with good-for-you veggies and contain zero added sugars, colors, or artificial flavors.

There is an animated show of the same name, Grady's Garden, provides children with an understanding of how a garden provides access to self-grown food that nourishes them and their communities. Products are sold locally in Meijer and Fresh Thyme Market. The Co-owner Michael Wheeler is an involved supporter of Grand Rapids Public Schools.

QUOTE:

"Intelligence plus character. That is the goal of true education."

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

PARENT UNIVERSITY:



Check us out: *Power Parent* — *Parent University* (parents.grps.org)

This month in *Power Parent Magazine* the focus is on:

- Indoor activities for families to connect
- Movement activities for Kids' to release their energy
- And More...

SPOTLIGHT EVENTS:



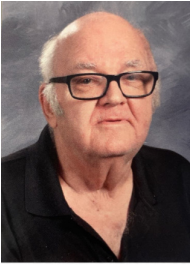
Parent University Course - Count Me In Math (Fractions) support for caregivers
- January 28, 2025 at GRPSU

Scan the QR code to register or visit grps.org/countmein.



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EXPO & INFORMATION FAIR
JANUARY 29, 2025 | 4:30 – 6:30 PM
GRPS University

Learn more at grps.org/expo



Say Hello to one of our Awesome PALs at Harrison Park!

In the heart of the West Side community, there lived a man named Mike Swartlander. Known for his warm smile and unwavering dedication, Mike had been a pillar of the community long before the PAL program was even conceived. His deep-rooted knowledge of the area and its people made him an invaluable asset to everyone around him.

Years ago, when the PAL program was introduced, Mike was one of the first to volunteer. His passion for helping others and his extensive experience made him a natural fit. As a PAL, Mike dedicated countless hours to mentoring and guiding the scholars at Harrison School. He knew the challenges they faced and the potential they held, and he was determined to make a positive impact on their lives.

Mike's approach was simple yet effective. He believed in the power of listening and understanding. He took the time to get to know each scholar, learning about their dreams, fears, and aspirations. With his deep understanding of the West Side community, he was able to connect with them on a personal level, offering advice and support that resonated with their unique experiences.

FAMILY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES:

[Free Winter Activities in Grand Rapids](#)

Activities to Try:

- [Activities for Upper Elementary](#)
- [High School online math games](#)
- [24 hour colorful video/audio books for everyone](#)

Theme School Application Opens January 6, 2025

Learn more about our Theme Schools and the application process at grps.org/apply.

REGISTER TODAY >>

GRPS PUBLIC SAFETY & SCHOOL SECURITY TRAINING FOR PARENTS, SCHOLARS, PTA & COMMUNITY MEMBERS

GRPS Safety & Security training sessions for Caregivers:

We invite everyone in the GRPS community to sign up for a GRPS Safety & Security training session.

Topics covered during the sessions will include components of a safe school, social-emotional learning, safe gun storage, and school violence prevention.

Register now at [grps.org/safety!](https://grps.org/safety)

The sessions are from 6pm-7pm at **GRPS University, 1400 Fuller Ave. NE, on the following dates:**

- January 14, 2025
- February 11, 2025
- March 11, 2025

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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[PARENTS.GRPS.ORG](https://parents.grps.org)

