

F.A.C.E. TO FACE

SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



P.A.L. (PARENT ACTION LEADERS)

GRPS PALs are working together to support leading leadership, school families, and community partners for the good of all scholars. The new FACE Team is excited to work together with everyone. Our first required orientation meeting for assigned PALs will take place on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. Please monitor your email for additional information.

TASTE BUDDIES LIVE

We will continue to host Live events by popular demand. This chance to work together and enjoy a meal is priceless for our district community. Please continue to check Parent University to learn more about this upcoming event. The same format of working with a local chef will continue.

DID YOU KNOW?

“Family engagement is not a single event. It is a shared responsibility in which regular two-way communication will ensure the student is on track to meet grade-level requirements.”

- Heather Weiss
Harvard Graduate School of Education

FINDING RESOURCES ON PARENT UNIVERSITY

Stay connected with our online resource for support in areas of parenting, school support, community connections, social emotional learning, and more.

Power Parent — Parent University (parents.grps.org)

This month in Power Parent Magazine the focus is on:

Supporting your scholar with strategies to start the school year strong.

- Attendance Awareness & Strategies
- Setting Back to School Routines
- Healthy Sleep Habits

SPOTLIGHT EVENTS:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Coit Creative Arts Academy Playground Ribbon Cutting & Celebration

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Civic Theatre Family Fun Engagement Workshop - Please be on the lookout for more details and a Google Form for sign-ups!



The office of the Ombuds has been a confidential and impartial resource dedicated to supporting scholars, parents, staff, and community members across Grand Rapids Public Schools.

This office plays in fostering a positive and inclusive school environment. The Ombuds office is here to assist with a wide range of issues, from navigating conflicts and addressing concerns to offering guidance on both simple and complex situations. Together, we can ensure that our district places where every individual feels valued, supported, and empowered to succeed. To learn more about this available resource go to grps.org/ombuds.



The first day of school will be Monday, September 9.

Staff will be conducting Home Visits the week of September 3.

Families interested in enrolling their preschool scholar who have not applied can do so at freepreschoolkent.org.

This is only the first step in enrolling. A completed application does not guarantee a placement. After completing the initial application, families will still need to complete program enrollment forms and provide documentation to verify eligibility.



LincUp Partnership as a Promise Neighborhood Connection

This is an “equity in action” organization in which resources are connected for the growth and benefit of all neighbors. There are five pillars in which LincUp operates: Systemic Change, Relationships, Transformation, Diversity, and Integrity. The rich resources embedded in this organization are available to our GRPS families. Take a moment to explore the link for more customized support lincup.org.



WELCOME BACK!

Scholars are back in class for the start of the 2024-25 school year!

The first day of school was a chance for scholars to reconnect with classmates and staff following the summer break. It was also an opportunity for scholars to experience some of the work underway to Reimagine GRPS.

“

I welcome the challenge of leading and collectively elevating family and community engagement to new heights of excellence.



- Jennifer Williams,
Director

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FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Jennifer Williams, Director

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PARENTS.GRPS.ORG

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Grand Rapids Public Schools