



R5 High School Phoenix Gazette

Hello R5 Community,

Happy New Year from all of us here at R5 High School! The first semester at R5 this school year was an incredible success. We had nearly 10 learners graduate from R5 already in this school year which is exciting. Our learners continue to grow each day through the amazing projects they have the opportunity to be involved in. Teachers are challenging them with real-world skills to think creatively and critically on a daily basis and to develop social, personal, and emotional skills that will help them be successful beyond R5. We are looking forward to the start of the second semester and continuing to offer challenging learning experiences for everyone.

As we kick off the third quarter at R5 High School, I want to provide a reminder and emphasis about the importance of attendance. Research shows that less than 90% attendance can lead to learning loss, confusion, and possible challenges with graduation. There are 45 days in a quarter at R5 High School and missing just 5 days results in an attendance rate below 90%. Additionally, missing 10 days is below 80%. This means that learners who miss at least one day each week are chronically absent and face additional challenges with school success.

We care deeply about each learner at R5 and our program is designed to support those who have struggled with school and/or attendance in the past. One of the quickest ways for learners to be successful at R5 is simply to be present every day. We ask for your partnership and support with encouraging your learners to be at R5 every day. If for some reason, a learner needs to be out, please call us and let us know. Alternatively, you will receive a call for each day your learner is absent from one or more classes. Communication is key in helping learners succeed and we can't do it without you. Please call us if you have any questions or concerns at any time. Thank you for being a part of our growing community.

2024



WHAT IS THE DISTRICT 51 FOUNDATION?

The D51 Foundation (D51F) raises money to support our local schools, prioritizing funding for professional learning, technology and innovation, and staff and student wellness. Our mission is to raise funds for academic growth and achievement while promoting outreach to benefit kids and our community.

WWW.D51FOUNDATION.ORG



Frenchtown Rural Fire District

Resident Firefighter Program

Resident firefighters live and work alongside professionally trained Career and Volunteer Firefighters while earning nationally recognized certifications and an Associate Degree in Fire and Emergency Services.



YOUR CAREER STARTS HERE!

100% Tuition Reimbursement Available!

Application Deadline 5/31/24

Contact Us Today!

recruiting@frenchtownfire.org 406-626-5791



SENIOR PICTURES

NOW ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS FOR THE YEARBOOK

Seniors may submit photos via email to Mrs. Casey at sutton.casey@d51schools.org or Ms. Jay at candace.jay@d51schools.org

ALL PHOTOS ARE DUE BY JANUARY 31ST, 2024

Class of 2024 Heights & Weights

Are you graduating in the spring?
Do you THINK you're graduating in the spring?

We need to know your height & weight - please click on the QR code and tell us!



Disclaimer: This DOES NOT take care of your cap and gown order; this simply guarantees that when you do order, your size will be in stock.



STAFF HIGHLIGHT

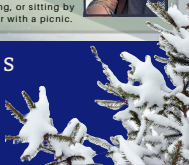
Sherah Dacosta Vocational Paraprofessional

I consider myself incredibly fortunate to be the Aquaponics Greenhouse and Garden Manager/Paraprofessional for R5. I am in college pursuing a degree in Social Work, and I plan to merge this career with Agriculture. I believe that the outdoors and knowledge of how to grow food is vital to our health as human beings. In my free time, I can be found with my son and friends outside hiking, biking, or sitting by the river with a picnic.



IMPORTANT DATES

- January 8th - Teacher Work Day (no school)
- January 9th - In-Service Day (no school)
- January 10th - Beginning of Third Quarter
- January 15th - Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no school)



The
GRAND JUNCTION
HIGH SCHOOL
Mock Trial Team
WANTS YOU!

If you're interested in participating on GJHS's mock trial team, they would love to have you.

Their goal is to have multiple teams for the season and with more people involved, the more fun it will be!

Practices are Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 3:15 pm - 5:00 pm

The cost to be involved is \$20.00

Case can be found here: <https://www.coloradohighschoolmocktrial.com/>



STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Jennifer Reid, SPED Teacher



I was born and raised in Grand Junction. I have worked at R-5 for 10 years, first as a para and for the last five years as a special education teacher. Fun fact: I am an R-5 graduate! I love hanging out with my family (I love spending time with my daughters!) I love my shih tzu- poodle Zoey. I love traveling anywhere a plane or car will take me but especially the beach, and I love going to concerts! R-5 is my passion and I hope to work here for as long as I work!



MTJ | TECH TOURS

R-5 is taking a big yellow bus to CMU Tech on January 19th. We will be touring all of the tech scholars programs. This is a great opportunity for any student considering CMU Tech for August 2024. All students welcome and we will take as many as the bus can hold.

Sign up through
the Field Experience
Sign up Form.



PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE QUARTERLY MEETINGS

CONNECT * DISCUSS * REFLECT
11:30AM - 12:30PM



SEPTEMBER 7TH - NOVEMBER 2ND - FEBRUARY 8TH - APRIL 4TH

PLEASE EMAIL LINDSEY CHITWOOD AT LINDSEY.CHITWOOD@GJSISCHOOLS.ORG, IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING

GRADUATION

R5 High School

2024 GRADUATION INFORMATION

Here are some critical dates for graduation – so mark your calendars!

- **FEBRUARY 23RD DEADLINE** – Parents and/or students are responsible for purchasing learner caps and gowns. You can order your basic package (approximately \$50.00) from Jostens at www.jostens.com or you can call 970-242-5030.
 - Jostens needs your height and weight ahead of your order so they can ensure they have your correct size on hand. Watch for the Height and Weight QR code (on the announcements, in the Phoenix Gazette, and at the front office) and please enter your information as soon as you can. Entering your height and weight in the QR code **DOES NOT ORDER YOUR CAP AND GOWN**.
 - **FEBRUARY 7TH @ 9:45 AM** – SENIOR CLASS MEETING – Meet in the Harry Butler Boardroom (at R5) at 9:45 a.m. We will provide you with important details about graduation; nominating/voting on a class song, flower, and motto. A representative from Josten's will be available for questions regarding caps, gowns, rings, and special orders. **Your parents and/or guardians are welcome to attend this meeting.**
 - **MAY 3RD – DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING YOUR GRADUATION SPEECH.** If you would like to make a speech at graduation, please prepare a 3–5 minute speech, type it out, and email your submission to Mrs. Nesbit @ denae.nesbit@ds1schools.org or Ms. Casey @ sutton.casey@ds1schools.org by this date.
 - **MAY 3RD – LAST DAY TO TAKE WORKKEYS TEST. THIS IS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.**
 - **MAY 8TH** – All assignments that are due for credit, must be turned in to your teachers by 3:00 p.m.
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- **WEEK BEFORE GRADUATION** – Pick up your cap and gown from the front office at R5. **TAKE IT OUT OF THE PACKAGE AND HANG IT UP!** To remove creases: put it in the dryer (on a low setting) for a short time with a wet washcloth.
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- **MONDAY, MAY 13TH, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m. @ Stocker Stadium – GRADUATION REHEARSAL**
 - **BRING YOUR CAP AND GOWN (CLASS PHOTO WILL BE TAKEN).**
 - Young men – please dress in long pants and nice shoes.
 - Young women – please dress in long pants, dresses or skirts, and nice shoes.
 - **PRACTICE IS MANDATORY IF YOU WANT TO WALK IN THE CEREMONY**
 - Once rehearsal is finished, graduate speakers will meet at the stage to go over and practice their speeches.
 - **TUESDAY, MAY 14TH, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m. – GRADUATION DAY!**
 - **BRING YOUR CAP AND GOWN!**
 - Young men – please dress in long pants and nice shoes.
 - Young women – please dress in long pants, dresses or skirts, and nice shoes.
 - Please arrive at Stocker Stadium by 8:30 a.m. for the Graduation Line-Up.

INFORMACIÓN

Escuela Preparatoria R5
2024 INFORMACIÓN DE GRADUACIÓN

¡He aquí algunas fechas importantes para la graduación, así que apúntelas en su calendario!

- **23 DE FEBRERO ÚLTIMO DÍA PARA COMPRAR** - Los padres o estudiantes son responsables de comprar los gorros y capas de graduación del estudiante. Usted puede ordenar su paquete básico (aproximadamente \$50.00) de *Jostens* en www.jostens.com o puede llamar al 970-242-5030.
 - *Jostens* necesita su estatura y peso antes de su pedido para asegurarse de que tienen su talla correcta. Busque el código QR de estatura y peso (en los anuncios, en la *Phoenix Gazette* y en la oficina) y por favor ingrese su información tan pronto como pueda. Al ingresar su estatura y peso en el código QR NO ORDENA SU GORRO Y CAPA DE GRADUACIÓN.
 - **7 DE FEBRERO** – REUNIÓN DE ESTUDIANTES DEL GRADO 12 (Senior) a las 9:45 a.m. en *Harry Butler Boardroom* (dentro de R5). Proporcionaremos detalles importantes sobre la graduación: nominación/votación para elegir una canción, una flor, un lema, etc., para la clase que se gradúa. Un representante de *Jostens* estará disponible para responder a preguntas relacionadas con gorros, capas, anillos y pedidos especiales. **Sus padres o tutores pueden asistir a esta reunión.**
 - **3 DE MAYO - Último día para entregar sus discursos de graduación.** Si desea dar un discurso durante la ceremonia de graduación, por favor, prepare uno que dure entre 3 y 5 minutos, escríbalo en la computadora y envíelo por correo electrónico a la Sra. Nesbit a denae.nesbit@d51schools.org o Srta. Casey a sutton.casey@d51schools.org antes de esta fecha.
 - **3 DE MAYO - ÚLTIMO DÍA PARA TOMAR EL EXAMEN WORKKEYS. ES OBLIGATORIO PARA GRADUARSE.**
 - **8 DE MAYO - Todas las tareas que deben recibir crédito necesitan ser entregadas a los maestros antes de las 3:00 p.m.**
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- **UNA SEMANA ANTES DE LA GRADUACIÓN** - Recoja su capa y gorro de graduación en la oficina de la escuela R5. ¡EN CASA, SÁQUELOS DEL PAQUETE Y CUÉLGUELOS! Para quitar las arrugas: póngalos en la secadora (a temperatura baja) junto con un paño/trapo húmedo durante pocos minutos.
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- **LUNES, 13 DE MAYO DEL 2024 – PRÁCTICA DE CEREMONIA DE GRADUACIÓN en Stocker Stadium a las 9:00 a.m.**
 - TRAIGA SU CAPA Y GORRO DE GRADUACIÓN. (SE TOMARÁ UNA FOTO DE LA CLASE).
 - Hombres - deben traer pantalón y unos zapatos bonitos.
 - Mujeres - deben traer pantalón, vestido o falda y unos zapatos bonitos.
 - LA PRÁCTICA ES OBLIGATORIA SI DESEA PARTICIPAR EN LA CEREMONIA
 - Una vez finalizado el ensayo, los oradores que se gradúan, se reunirán en el escenario para repasar y practicar sus discursos.
 - **MARTES 14 DE MAYO DEL 2024 - 9:00 a.m. – ¡DÍA DE LA GRADUACIÓN!**
 - ¡TRAIGA SU CAPA Y GORRA DE GRADUACIÓN!
 - Hombres - deben traer pantalón y unos zapatos bonitos.
 - Mujeres - deben traer pantalón, vestido o falda y unos zapatos bonitos.
 - Por favor llegue a *Stocker Stadium* a las 8:30 a.m. para formar una fila para la ceremonia de graduación.



2024 Summer Opportunities Seminar



FACTS to enhance the high school summer experience

8th -12th Grade Students, Parents, and Counselors

Join College Outreach for this free event:

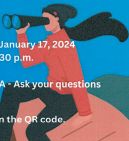
VIRTUAL

Wednesday, January 17, 2024
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Including Q&A - Ask your questions

For more information

visit www.cwcollegeoutreach.org or scan the QR code.



Who: 8th-12th grade students, parents, and counselors

What: Learn the **FACTS** to enhance the high school summer experience

Where: Virtual

When: Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Why: Hear college admissions officers and other experts share their advice on how students can plan their summers.

How: Consider?

Fun-Relax, spend time with family and friends, read, exercise, and explore!

Academics & Activities - Which ones are for you?

- Learn a new subject or a new sport, improve your skills at a sport or activity you love!
- Join a music group, take an art, dance, or theatre class.
- Learn more about the hundreds of academic and other summer programs on college campuses in Colorado, around the country, and internationally. Many are free, offer scholarships, and some are even online.

Career - See how a part-time summer job or internship can help you learn new skills and learn more about yourself!

Travel - Visit your grandparents, attend a program on a college campus, go beyond your comfort zone!

Service - Give back there are 500+ nonprofits in the Western Slope of Colorado, many in your backyard, see how you can help others!

Summer is over 10 weeks long. What are you going to do?

Find out more about this FREE EVENT cwcollegeoutreach.org

Registration available in Spanish



Mr. Michael Hirons

Teacher on Special Assignment

I was born in Colorado Springs. I was adopted when I was 2 months old and have lived in Grand Junction since.

I earned a business degree from CMU and my Teacher Licensure from Western State College. This is my 5th year at R5 High School after teaching middle school and elementary school for 12 years. I love my job at R5.

When I am not at school I love hanging out with my kids more than anything.

I have been blessed to be able to coach both of my kids in sports for many, many seasons. I am currently coaching my daughter's basketball teams and watching her play and helping her is the highlight of my life

STAFF HIGHLIGHT



If you need help outside of regular school hours and this is a crisis situation, please use one of the following resources:

- Call 9-1-1 Emergency Line
- Safe2Tell - call 1-877-542-SAFE to submit an anonymous report to law enforcement and school administration
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline @ 988lifeline.org or call 1-800-273-TALK
- Colorado Crisis: 1-844-493-8255 or Text: 38255



STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Sierra Holtz, Counselor



Hey, my name is Sierra and I am one of the school counselors here at R-5! Originally from Los Angeles, I've always had a deep-rooted love for the outdoors. Now that I've moved to Canada, I've had the opportunity to build a life in the mountains where I fish, hunt, and hike in the beautiful wilderness with my husband and beloved dog, Poker.

I love exploring new places and going on outdoor adventures and even though I'm from sunny California, I've come to love the cold winters of Canada. Living sustainably is also something I've become passionate about and have worked towards that dream by building a house that only uses solar and wind energy. We also plan on having a garden and greenhouse so that we have food all-year round!



If you need assistance with anything at R5, please visit the R5 website or call the main office at 970-254-6880 during the hours of 8:00 am - 3:00 pm M-F

SAVE THE DATES!!

- February 19th - Presidents Day (no school)
- February 22nd - Student Showcases @ Eureka!
- March 13th - Last Day of Third Quarter
- March 14th - In-Service Day (no school)
- March 15th - Teacher Work Day (no school)
- March 18th - March 24th - SPRING BREAK
- March 25th - Beginning of Fourth Quarter

OUR STAFF IS COMMITTED EACH AND EVERY DAY TO THEIR WORK, OUR MISSION.

R5 USES RESTORATIVE PRACTICES AND PROJECT-BASED LEARNING TO SUPPORT LEARNERS IN BECOMING THRIVING CITIZENS. R5 IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING ALL LEARNERS WILL DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS, CULTURAL AND SELF-AWARENESS, AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP THROUGH AN INDIVIDUALIZED WHOLE-PERSON APPROACH, COMMANDING HIGH EXPECTATIONS AND PROVIDING MASTERY LEARNING WITH A COMPASSIONATE, RESPONSIVE, AND COLLABORATIVE ENVIRONMENT. . . TO GUARANTEE THAT 100% OF OUR GRADUATES WILL BE POST-SECONDARY READY.