

Guffey CommunityCharter School



ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

By Kelli Maguire, Current Administrator

Lynda MacDonald, Current Principal

Teachers: Lynda MacDonald

Prepared in June 2024 to report on the 2023-2024 school year

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

- Support staff who joined us for the 2023-2024 school year
 - Shawna Swindell - 1st grade
 - Paula Bennett- Reading specialist
 - Robin Winters – Middle School Reading and Math
 - Beth Hall - Middle School Science
 - Amy Owen - Middle School Social Studies

- Kathie Bouchet - Middle School Social Studies
- Warren King - Middle School Science and Social Studies
- Angel Dettenrieder - Middle School teacher
- Stefanie Skidmore - School Counselor
- Volunteers who joined us for the 2023-2024 school year
 - Jacqueline Reini - Middle School Math
 - Maria Zehring - Middle School Math
 - Dana Peters - Middle School Art
 - Rita Mick - Zumba
 - Chris Peterson - science teacher and robotics elective teacher
 - Cheri Moehle - 2-4th grade reading
 - Bruce Robinson - PE Teacher
 - Skylar Wickline - PE Teacher
 - Sinia Wickline - Playgroup Leader
 - Flip - Music Teacher
 - Peg Larson - 1st grade volunteer

Events

- Playgroup for 2-4 year olds met weekly
- Students enjoyed their regular trips to the library
- Open House - students in each classroom presented what they learned this year
- Coloring Contest with Bill Soux
- Halloween
 - Colon Orchards
 - Parade
 - Wild Spirit Mtn Lodge Party
 - Mountain Aires party



- Backpack reading/snack program started by local church

- Mtn man presentations - Navajo
- Veteran's Day - cards and letters were sent to local veterans. The VFW had veterans come out a present to teach students the value of serving in the armed forces
- Middle School specials: photography, robotics, art, PE, Zumba
- 1st - 4th specials: music, PE, Zumba
- Santa's Workshop - bakery
- Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony/hayride
- Winter program - The Naughtiest Kid on the List



- 8th grade tea is 2/13 8th grader presented their project to the board
- School field trips: Colon Orchards, High Trails Camp, NightHawk Ranch
- Rotary Club brought dictionaries for the 3rd grade
- Students got to watch the partial solar eclipse

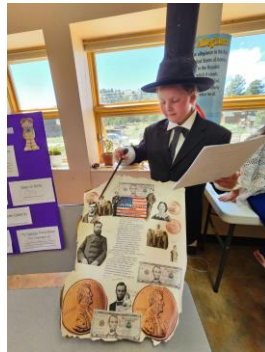


- Peg Larson did her book rescue setting up a book "shop" for students to pick out free books to keep and take home

- Pie Palooza raised over \$6,000



- 8th grade presentation was held on May 16th
- American History Museum presentations May 23



- Students made fire starters for our fall fundraiser
- All students enjoyed a fun field day at the end of the year



- Graduation was May 30 at 11am. We had two 8th grade graduates this year.
- GCCS hosted an Appreciation Celebration for all staff, volunteers and supporters of the school on Friday, May 31, from 1-3pm at the Wild Spirit Mountain Lodge.

Student Achievement

Guffey School measures student's overall and academic achievements using a combination of standardized tests and our school's Ends Policies. It is always our goal that each student achieves at least one year of growth for their grade while also understanding that not all students start the year at their grade level. This year our school used the following standardized testing tools:

- DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills), for grades K-5th. This test is administered individually to students by teachers.
- CMAS (Colorado Measures of Academic Success) Math and English Language Arts for grades 3rd-8th. This is a State of Colorado Assessment.
- PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College Careers) for Science, for grades 5th and 8th. Students test individually online.
- MAP (Measure of Academic Progress), a NWEA test for grades K-8th. Students test individually online.
- NNAT (Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test), grades 2-8. Students test individually online.

Overall Student Achievement

DIBELS:

Every student made significant progress throughout the year, with all of our lower readers more than doubling and even quadrupling their Oral Reading Fluency by the end of the year.

66% of our 1st - 5th grade students are at or above benchmark.

NWEA:

Math - 71% of 1st - 4th grade students are scoring at or above benchmark

36 % of our 5th - 8th grade students are scoring at or above grade level

Reading - 71% of our 1st - 4th grade students are scoring at or above benchmark

45% of our 5th - 8th grade students are scoring at or above grade level

This year we had an influx of new students coming in from other schools. They have all made significant progress. We have plans in place to continue to support their growth.

Our multi-grade/age classrooms, and our small student to teacher ratio allows us to closely monitor the progress of individual students. Because of this, the teachers see significant academic growth for the majority of their students. The students are given many opportunities to succeed, receive 1:1 support when needed, and are offered any other support needed to succeed.

We do not receive the state provided PARCC and CMAS test results until the following school year so we cannot use those tests to measure academic improvement within the school year that the test was taken. We do rely on the DIBELS assessment, the MAP testing, and student report cards each trimester.

The school successfully maintains several intervention plans to help students who might be struggling, academically and/or socially, or achieving outside of their current grade level. They are:

- IEPs (Individual Education Plan)
- ILPs (Individual Literacy Plan)
- READ Plans (Reading to Ensure Academic Development)

- ALPs (Advanced Learner Plan) which has outlined the criteria used to identify students who excel in Language Arts, Reading, and/or Math
- Rtl (Response to Intervention)

Students who have internet access at home are able to work on both reading (LEXIA CORE) and math (IXL) using a school provided log-in. These programs allow our teachers to monitor student activity and access student growth.

School Strategies to Improve Student Achievement

Individual student data is collected from student state standardized test scores and are tracked by the CDE (Colorado Department of Education). This data is how the state measures a school's AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress). However, our student population remains under 100 students, so a statistical measurement of AYP is reported as either, YES or NO. To date Guffey School has always received a YES at both the Elementary and Middle School levels. Guffey School staff and board monitors the school's educational program (EL-13 in September), Academic Accomplishments (E-2 in October and March), Personal Skills (E-3 in September and February), and Social Skills (E-4 in November and April).

This year's PARCC scores (which we received in September of 2023) reflected that 78% of our returning students met or exceeded expectations for English Language Arts (state average was 44%). 44% of our returning students met or exceeded expectations for Math (state average was 33%). Four of our students ranked in the top 20th percentile in at least one area. Our greatest area of need was in middle school math. We are addressing this need by hiring a math aide for both classes for the 2023 - 2024 school year.

Accountability Committee's Year End Report 2023-2024 School Year

The work of our school's accountability committee further supports our school's strategies for improvement.

This year's goals included:

- 1) Support 8th grade project
- 2) Review and give input into social studies curriculum
- 3) Playgroup
- 4) Student enrollment/staffing
- 5) Support school events
- 6) End-of-year parent survey

8th grade project: This goal was met

It was determined that the 8th grade projects are a valuable requirement for our 8th grade students. We did determine that more time needs to be allotted within the classroom to complete this project rather than rely solely on out of class time.

Updating Social Studies curriculum for 3rd - 5th classroom: This goal was met

We looked at a variety of social studies curriculum. It was determined to use the Harcourt Social Studies curriculum which is in alignment with what the k-2 classroom is currently using. We will also continue to use the Studies Weekly newspaper to support this curriculum.

Playgroup: This goal was met

A playgroup was created for our community's 2-4 year olds and their families. This group was a huge success this year. We had 4-5 families attend regularly. It was a great opportunity for the children as well as their parents to mingle and connect, as well as to become familiar with our school.

Student enrollment/staffing: This goal was met

Student enrollment started at 20 and grew to 24 students throughout the year. We are currently still looking to fill the middle school teacher position.

End-of-year Parent Survey: This goal was met

This year we had 100% of our parent surveys returned. The overall response was very positive. Feedback will be used to help us plan for next year.

Support School Events: This goal was met

As a committee we supported the following events:

Open House

Veteran's Day program

Winter Program

Pie Palooza

8th grade Project/Tea/Presentation

Spring Program

Graduation

Fiscal Management

Colorado law requires charter schools to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management, and to annually complete a governmental audit that complies with state requirements. In addition, the law requires all public schools, including charters, to post comprehensive financial information online. Guffey School financial information, both the Fund and Foundation, is reported monthly to the Guffey School Board in the monthly consent agenda. We also have the following current information on our school's website: Adopted Budgets, Audited Financial Statements, Financial Statements, Accounts Payable, Check Registers (Sunflower Bank), Credit Card Statements (VISA), Investment Performance Statements (COLOTRUST) and our Teacher Salary Schedule.

School Consultant Services

Lynette Swanson, supported us for the 22-23 school year as our nurse.

GCCS contracted with local BOCES for IEP services.