

D51 Gifted Education Newsletter

October 2023

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News from our GT Director

As we bring the first quarter of the 2023-24 school year to a close, I wanted to celebrate the tremendous efforts I have observed within our gifted education staff during my first 6 weeks as GT Interim Director in D51. With Heather Baskin's move to her new position as Assistant Director of Gifted Education for the Colorado Department of Education, I am thankful for her coaching during my transition to help me understand the gifted education department support and training within



FOUR CORE BEHAVIORS

D51 focuses on the whole learner to foster growth and high achievement.

D51 believes in the strengths of our people, our schools, and our communities.

D51 values individuality, inclusivity, and belonging.

D51 commits to continuous improvement.

VISION

Engage, equip, and empower each and every student, each and every day.

MISSION

D51 engages our community, families, and staff to deliver individualized, collaborative, and challenging educational experiences to prepare each and every student for their brightest future.

our schools and families. With the assistance of our district GT Coach, Brandy Headlee, I have been able to meet all D51 gifted education staff and observe them within our elementary, middle and high schools. With Brandy's experience and guidance, I have been able to meet with each GT Learning Community during our monthly professional development, and also travel with Brandy to Montrose last week for our quarterly GT Director's meeting (Delta, Montrose, Ouray, Telluride & Gunnison) under the direction of our Gifted Education Regional Consultant, Michelle Barkemeyer.

Speaking of professional development, nine of our staff will be traveling to Loveland, CO on October 8-10 for the CAGT (Colorado Association of Gifted & Talented) Conference. The conference theme of **Imagine, Believe & Grow** will provide the backdrop for amazing presentations, inspiring exhibits, and multiple networking opportunities. Staff attending include: Stacy Feather (Bookcliff MS), Amber Gregersen (Mesa View), Josh Guddat (Orchard Mesa MS), Brandy Headlee (D51 GT Coach), Natalie Lyons (Pear Park), Christena Nelson (New Emerson & Scenic), Elizabeth Paroni (Pear Park), Kim Smith (D51 Math Specialist), and Meredith Thornhill (Monument Ridge & Rim Rock). These nine staff have been networking prior to the conference to create a plan for sharing

conference highlights and learning with their staff and students later in the fall.

Student Spotlight

Submitted by Veronica Daehn Harvey, GT Teacher at Redlands Middle School and Grand River Academy

Mya Poitras is a sixth-grade student at Redlands Middle School. Her favorite subject is science. She is currently learning about cells and how they work. She enjoys reading books, especially in the horror genre. She is interested in paranormal activity and would love to read more about it.

Outside of school, Mya says she is very chill. She likes to relax and play games. She also loves to run and go to the gym, which she does with her family. She and her family also like playing mystery games such as CLUE.

A unique thing about Mya is that she loves to save money. She even saved enough several years ago to buy her own cat, whom she named Ellie and calls "Little Kitten," though she's not so little anymore!

Mya also does archery and has been involved with many sports.

Her goals are to get good grades in school and maybe eventually become an anesthesiologist.



This is Mya's cat, Ellie. She goes by "Little Kitten," though she's not so little anymore!

Community Events

Submitted by Mrs. Gregersen, GT teacher at Mesa View Elementary

Whether you have a family member who is creative and likes to see the creativity of others and demos or whether the visual display of high-speed aircraft doing aerial maneuvers in formation and the sound of afterburners makes you smile, October is the month for you.



Friday night kicks off the [8th Annual Downtown Art Festival presented by Alpine Bank](#). Take a tour of local galleries and shops on Main as they stay open late as part of the Art Center's October First Friday event. Pick up your "passport" after seeing the art at the Art Center and collect stamps at participating galleries for a discount at a local business. This event runs October 6th from 6:30-9:00. There's local music from 5-8 by the plaza at 4th and Main. See live demos at the Space to Create building downtown at 230 S. 5th Street.

Saturday, October 7th, the fun continues as a new set of Art on the Corner is installed starting at 7am. [The Artist Expo](#) runs from 11:00-5:00pm. Come see local artists and vendors and enjoy live demonstrations and performances. Can't make this event? Put the Art Center's Demo Night on your calendar Nov. 3 6:30-9:00. Bring your learner to see many different art mediums being used to create as you watch.

Prefer the art of flying? Come see the [Air Show](#) October 14th and 15th. Gates open at 9 AM. Blue Angels fly around 3:00 PM. Tickets are available online at <https://event.attendstar.com/event/show/grand-junction-air-show-2023/> Feed your student's passions and have some fun being amazed yourself.

Teacher Recommendation

Recommended by Mitch Hamilton, GT teacher at Lincoln OM



Khan Academy is my teacher's recommendation. I have implemented this resource at all levels of teaching and have found it to be the most reliable and well vetted digital resource available. It is light on bandwidth use and can be used on all types of devices. I have used it for students from 1st grade to college level and have had great success with students at all levels. I am currently facilitating the use of this resource at LOM. I currently have over 30 talent pool students putting in 30 minutes or more per week practicing math that is connected to their NWEA results in August. I expect students to use this resource 2-3 times per week for 10 minutes or more. I am also attempting to connect with parents about access at home and how to help facilitate creating habits of practice.

If you have any questions on using this resource feel free to email me at:

mhamilto@d51schools.org

Workforce Development Day (WDD)

Highlighted by Nicole Chaffin, Counselor at Grand Junction High School



Workforce Development Day (WDD) provides an opportunity for GJHS students to network, learn from, and collaborate with local business, community, and education partners. Additionally, WDD allows students to explore career pathways and develop post-secondary workforce readiness skills while community partners can scout future employees from our local talent pipeline!

Lastly, WDD marks the official launch of The Academies at Grand Junction High School. As an Academy Model High School, GJHS aims to provide a relevant educational experience for students that is connected to their current interests and future pursuits. Please browse our website to learn more about [The Academies at Grand Junction High School](#).

Student Review

Submitted by Mrs. Gregersen, GT teacher at Mesa View Elementary



Are you a creative publisher of video content or an animator looking for a strong tool to support your creations? Macie, a 5th grader at Mesa View Elementary recommends you give Kinemaster video editing software a try. Macie enjoys online animation and expresses herself using [Kinemaster.com](https://www.kinemaster.com).

This tool can be used via the website or downloaded for free on the app store. Macie reports that the free version does add a watermark to the exported video but has a bunch of great features. If you'd prefer an ad free experience and no watermark, upgrade to premium which also gives full access to the Asset Store. It is great for making animations like stop motion or claymation or when using online characters such as from Gacha Club. Macie has been using it for over a year now to combine images and video clips from files and camera storage. She recommends it because it helps with resizing and has many options for adjusting how long she wants each clip to be, from 1 second to any length. There's filters for color saturation, and many other ways to customize your video or access and share. It has royalty free music and transparent backgrounds. Kinemaster Corporation is a Korea-based company.

So if you are looking for great video editing software to help you with your next creative project, if you do claymation, online animation, or video edits of people, Macie believes Kinemaster is a strong tool you should give a try!

Teacher Spotlight

Steam at Tope Elementary partners with the Department of Energy

D51 teacher Rochelle Morrison, a dedicated Gifted and Talented & STEAM teacher at Tope Elementary was awarded a \$2,000 grant from the US Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management.



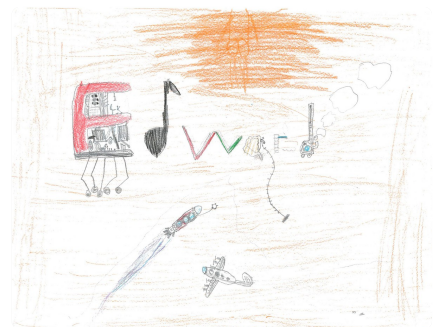
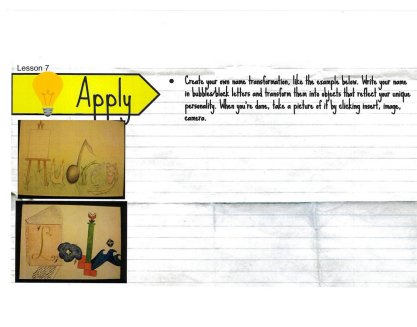
This grant, awarded on behalf of the Waste Management Symposia 2023 STEM Zone, recognized Ms. Morrison for her exceptional work supporting federal initiatives to provide high-quality STEM education for her D51 students. Her collaboration with Legacy Management's STEM program allowed our students to engage in exciting STEM activities, meet scientists in person, and even visit the Atomic Legacy Cabin to learn about its significance in WWII and the Cold War eras.

Ms. Morrison's dedication ensures that our students have a bright future in STEM careers, and we couldn't be prouder of her achievements! Congratulations to Ms. Morrison, the Tope Elementary STEAM Program, and Principal Bollinger on this hard-earned award!

Student Work

Submitted by Kacey Daugherty, GT Teacher at Taylor Elementary

Third grade students at Taylor Elementary transformed their name to show their name and interests in a "Who Are We?" unit.



Gifted Education State Advisory Committee Vacancies

Our state Gifted Education State Advisory Committee is looking for educator, community, parent, and student representatives from our region (CD3 - Congressional District 3). The deadline for application is December 8th, but don't wait! These are three-year terms (students are one-year) to provide input at the state level.

Please reach out to the GT Department if interested:

Summer Allen - D51 GT Administrative Assistant
(970) 254-6903

Summer.Allen@D51Schools.org

An advertisement for the Gifted Education State Advisory Committee (GESAC) 2023. It features a map of Colorado with Congressional District 3 highlighted in purple. The text reads: "ATTENTION! THE GIFTED EDUCATION STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (GE-SAC) IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS. HOW CAN I FIND MY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT?" There are two QR codes, one with the URL "bit.ly/gesaccd" and another with "bit.ly/GESAC2023".

United States Senate Youth Program

[The United States Senate \(USSYP\)](#), a national non-partisan initiative to provide an annual opportunity for talented high school students with demonstrated leadership abilities to deepen

their understanding of America's political processes and strengthen their resolve to pursue careers in public service.



The USSYP brings the highest-level officials from each branch of government to meet with this outstanding group of young leaders—two high school juniors or seniors from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) - for an intensive week-long education and leadership program held in Washington, D.C. The program is merit-based and highly competitive. Each student will also receive a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to pursue coursework in history and political science. Now in its 61st year, the program has been fully funded since inception by [THE HEARST FOUNDATIONS](#) as an enduring commitment to preparing young people for civic leadership in our participatory democracy.

Application Due Date: Friday, October 20, 2023 by 11:59 p.m.

Questions? Please contact:

Patty Gleason

Grants Program Administration

Gleason_P@cde.state.co.us

303-910-5721

Pear Park Elementary Swingset Fundraiser

Submitted by Janelle McGowan, GT teacher at Pear Park Elementary

We are Pear Park Elementary School teachers who also run our school's Student Council program. Here is a quick snapshot of why we are raising money for a swingset for the primary (kindergarten-2nd grade) playground.



- We have 432 students at Pear Park Elementary and 4 swings.
- Our entire student body plays outside before school every day, only 4 students get to swing at a time.
- The swings are on the intermediate side (3rd-5th) of the playground; our primary (kindergarten-2nd) playground does not have a swingset at all.
- Our younger students rarely ever get to get on swings, but swinging is one of their favorite playground activity.
- Our playground and field are also considered a city park, providing more swings allows for more community children to swing when they come to the park.

All donations can be made by either a check made payable to Pear Park Elementary (eliminate the GoFundMe percentage fee for our fundraiser). Please add a memo to your check stating "swing set" or through the [GoFundMe](#) QR code/link. All donors will be documented on a plaque on the swingset as well as a banner on the Northeast side of the building by the playground thanking all businesses who donated to help benefit our community.



Scholarship Application

2023-2024 Scholarship Application.pdf

[Download](#)

88.7 KB

2023-2024 Scholarship Application (spanish).pdf

[Download](#)

76.8 KB

Facebook

Westslope CO Gifted & Talented

This group is to support Westslope Parents of Gifted & Talented and 2E kids.



We share hope, empowerment, ideas, opportunities, and overall support each other.



Las Becas de Bloom Where You Are Planted ya están disponibles



Los estudiantes con necesidades financieras pueden solicitar ayuda para las actividades extracurriculares.

El Fondo de Becas de Bloom where you are planted fue creado por la familia de Karl Bloom. La vida de Karl fue un ejemplo para muchas personas sobre cómo contribuir a la comunidad.



El ultimo día para entregar las solicitudes es el viernes, 20 de octubre del 2023.

Solicite en www.D51Foundation.org

9th Round Bloom Where You Are Planted Grants

Open September 11-October 20, 2023



Students with financial need can apply to help pay for extracurricular activities

The Bloom Where You Are Planted Grant Fund was created by the family of Karl Bloom. Karl's life was an example to so many people about how to give back to your community.



Applications Due October 20, 2023

Apply at www.D51Foundation.org

FMHS ColorRun

WHEN:
OCTOBER 14, 2023
10:00AM

WHERE:
FMHS & 8/9 GROUNDS
START LINE IS AT THE FMHS ENTRANCE

\$40 PER RUNNER - INCLUDES A PAIR OF FUN GLASSES

DONATION BUCKETS WILL BE OUT TO RAISE MONEY FOR BREAST
CANCER AWARENESS.



Food
Fun, & Games!

R5 Fall Festival

OCTOBER 11, 2023
4-7PM

Bring
your families!

R5 High School, 455 N 22nd Street

\$10 for 20 Tickets
Costumes welcome, not required.





College \$ Money Info Night

in partnership with Colorado Mesa University

Learn about

Paying for college

Financial Aid & scholarship opportunities

ASCENT Program & more!



Monday, October 23 at 6pm

English: CMU University Center, Meyer Ballroom

Spanish: CMU University Center, room 213



\$500 scholarship drawing for Fall 2024 students attending CMU or CMU Tech!



Noche de Info Sobre la Universidad y el Dinero

En colaboracion con la Universidad de Colorado Mesa

Aprender Sobre

Como pagar la universidad

Ayuda Financiera y oportunidades de becas

El Programa de ASCENT y mas!



Lunes, Octubre 23 a las 6pm

English: CMU University Center, Meyer Ballroom

Español: CMU University Center, cuarto 213



Sorteo de una beca de \$500 para estudiantes que atenderan CMU o CMU Tech en Otoño del 2024





Loma PTA

FALL Craft Fair

Saturday 10/7
9am-2pm
1360 13 Road Loma

**Shop Small -
Shop Local -
Shop Handmade**



Career Center Holiday Bazaar

November 4th ---- 9:00am-3:00pm

*Free Admission, Local Vendors, Unique Gifts,
Activities, Delicious Treats And Much, Much,
More!*

Crafters and Vendors Wanted

(Limited Spots Available Reserve Your Spot Today)

For application and Information please email

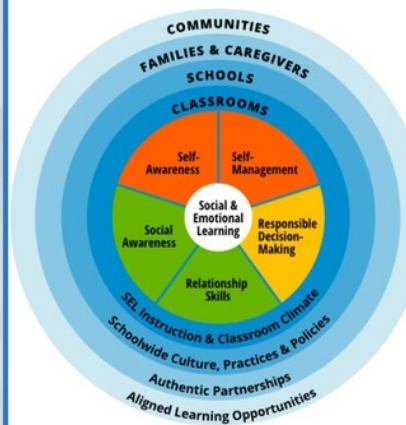
Laura.Jueschke@d51schools.org or call

970-254-6000 Ext. 21100

Social & Emotional Learning Basics

Social and emotional learning, or SEL, helps us all -- children and adults alike -- develop the skills we need for every area of life, from academics and careers to healthy relationships and overall well-being. SEL can help kids stay motivated, communicate effectively, practice curiosity, and work with others to solve problems.

The CASEL Framework:



The CASEL "wheel" is a framework for helping young people learn and practice social and emotional skills. It focuses on five key areas:

- **Self-awareness:** Understanding emotions, thoughts, and behaviors
- **Self-management:** Managing our emotions and actions
- **Social awareness:** Understanding others
- **Relationship skills:** Building and maintaining connections with others
- **Responsible decision-making:** Making caring and constructive choices

It also highlights the four "settings" where young people learn and practice these skills: their homes, classrooms, schools, and communities.

Who is CASEL?

We are the Collaborative for Social, Emotional, and Academic Learning (CASEL), a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization on a mission to support high-quality, evidence-based SEL for all children.



COLLABORATIVE FOR
ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, AND
EMOTIONAL LEARNING
casel.org

Want to learn more about
SEL? Sign up for our three-
part email series.

bit.ly/CASELnewsletter



This event is not sponsored by or endorsed by District 51 and the District assumes no responsibility for the conduct or safety during the event. In consideration for the privilege to distribute this information/hold this event, the organization shall defend, indemnify and hold District 51 harmless from any and all claims, injuries, damages, losses or suites, including attorney fees, arising out of or in connection with this event, except for injuries and damages caused by the sole negligence of the district.

*Healthy School Meals
— for All is —
More than a Meal*

**More than a Meal
Application Includes
For Schools:**

- Extra staff to support teachers
- Discounted internet costs
- Equipment grants to improve meal quality

For Students:

- Discounted utility and internet
- Waived Curricular fees
- Discounted AP test fees
- Discounted bus passes



Scan the QR Code or visit
bit.ly/d51morethanamealapp

D51

*This institution is an
equal opportunity provider*



We can #KeepCOCovered



Get ready to renew your Medicaid coverage now!



Update your contact information and sign up for notifications in the Health First Colorado app and in your PEAK account.



Respond by the date in your letter – you'll get this in the mail and by email.



Don't forget to sign your renewal packet.



Turn in documentation through Health First Colorado app, mail, online at co.gov/PEAK.

What if I don't qualify for Medicaid or CHP+?

You have a limited amount of time to apply for other coverage.

Other health coverage options include:

- **Employer** coverage, check with your employer to learn about options, rules and deadlines.
- Coverage through a **family member's** health insurance.
- Coverage through **Connect for Health Colorado** (Colorado's official health insurance marketplace). You might qualify for reduced premiums. Visit: connectforhealthco.com/we-can-help/
- Coverage through **Medicare**, for people age 65 or older or people under 65 with certain disabilities. Visit: dol.colorado.gov/colorado-medicare-health/drug-insurance-coverage-options
- Coverage for **active or former military, naval, or air service** through Tricare (active) at tricare.mil/ or VA (veterans) at va.gov/health-care/apply/application/

Review Your Options. Stay Covered.

- To get free help enrolling in Connect for Health Colorado marketplace coverage, reach out to a certified assister online at connectforhealthco.com/we-can-help/assisters/ or by calling 855-752-6749. TTY: 855-346-3432.
- To get free help filling out an application for Health First Colorado or CHP+ coverage, or to learn about other coverage options, contact a Certified Application Assistance Site here: apps.colorado.gov/apps/maps/hcpf.map

Get more information on your options:



hfcgo.com/options

KeepCOCovered.com

WE ARE HIRING

NUTRITION SERVICES

- Prepare and serve nutritious, from-scratch meals to D51 students
- The ideal schedule for working parents
- PERA & Health Benefits
- Fuel successful learning

Apply at:

[BIT.LY/D51NUTRITIONJOBS](https://bit.ly/d51nutritionjobs)

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY



FORGET-ME-NOT

Family Grief Support Group

Thursday Evenings
September 21 - November 9
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Ferris Care Center, Room 102
3090 N. 12th Street
Dinner will be provided.

Join HopeWest Kids for Forget-Me-Not, a grief support group that children and family members attend together. The group, open to all ages, provides a safe and caring place to explore grief and its impact on the family.

Forget-Me-Not offers education and support regarding the grieving process through the use of games, art and craft projects and music. Children and teens will work in age-specific groups, and parents will have a separate group, allowing participants to connect with peers facing similar experiences.

At the conclusion of the group, each family will receive a memory bear or pillow, lovingly sewn by a HopeWest volunteer, out of a garment of clothing from the family's loved one who died. It will serve as a special memory object for the family to treasure as they learn along their grief journey.

Space is limited and registration is required.
For more information and to register
call (970) 257-2390.



HopeWest
30 YEARS OF exceptional CARE





Become a Volunteer Storyteller!

Ignite Imagination ★ Encourage
Literacy ★ Connect Generations

Spellbinders® Trained Storytellers share the rich oral tradition of tales that teach and enchant. Spellbinders® trained volunteer Storytellers usually tell (rather than read) stories once a month to students in grades K-5. Working with teachers, Storytellers enhance literacy, stimulate imagination, and broaden multicultural understanding.

A Spellbinders® Trained Storyteller:

- ★ Shares stories in classrooms on a regular and personally convenient schedule to:
 - Enhance students' listening and visualization skills
 - Brighten the lives of young listeners and expand their worldview
- ★ Becomes a "superstar" to an enthusiastic group of youngsters
- ★ Has more FUN than you can imagine!!!
- ★ Stays mentally sharp by learning and sharing new stories
- ★ Meets other interesting people

Receives on-going support during and after training: ○ consultation with a Certified Spellbinders® Trainer ○ access to extensive collections of stories and resources ○ monthly chapter meetings with mini-workshops ○ story ideas and suggestions from fellow volunteers

How do **YOU** join this team? Participation in four, 3-hour training classes is a prerequisite to becoming a certified Spellbinders® storyteller. The cost is \$75.00 which covers training materials, a name badge, and the required background check. You will receive tips on how to find, learn, and tell stories and will hear stories from active Spellbinders. You will practice telling stories and receive constructive feedback. Following the classroom training, you will observe an

experienced teller in a classroom, share a story, and receive feedback from that teller.

CLASSES STARTING SOON!

9:00 AM to Noon

Thurs. Oct. 5, and Tues. Oct. 10 and

Thurs. Oct. 12, and Tues. Oct. 17.

For more information or to register for classes contact:
lauriekollasch@gmail.com

CAGT Happenings



Conversations with CAGT

Conversations With CAGT

Can you believe we have started our 4th season!! We hope you are ready for new and informative "conversations" for the 2023-2024 school year. This season the format is the same as last year and we will be presenting live CWCs on the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

This season, we have new sessions with more amazing, gifted experts from Colorado, the nation, and around the world. If you missed any conversations, or want to view them again, we have archived Seasons 1, 2, and 3 for your convenience. Just click the links below and peruse the many topics available for your viewing. We hope you can tune in live each first and third Tuesday on our Facebook page to view our *Conversations with CAGT* in real time at 5:00. You will be able to ask the CWC guest speaker any questions you might have about their session. Please come join us!

10/17/23 – TBA

To watch all of the wonderful *Conversations with CAGT – Season Archives* scroll down and click one of the green buttons.

To view current sessions from this year's Facebook Live, *Conversations with CAGT – Season 4*, click on the links below:

- Tracy Ford Inman- [*Ode to Joy: Remembering Why We Do What We Do*](#) – 8/15/23
- Paula Prober – [*Understanding Your Rainforest Mind: Guidance for Gifted Adults*](#) – 9/5/23
- Julie Skolnick– [*Gifted and Distractible*](#) – 9/19/23

The best part is that as a CAGT member your questions get priority! Join us on the **first and third Tuesdays of the month** at 5:00 pm MST on [Facebook](#) Live!

Rocky Mountain PBS Kids



No Tricks, Just Treats! Being a Good Neighbor at Halloween

Most people don't remember their first Halloween. Their parents dressed them up in cute puppy or pumpkin costumes before they could walk. But I was 10 years old when I went trick-or-treating for the first time. I had been in the United States for a little more than a year, moving from temporary housing to temporary housing until we finally settled into a house. A few weeks before Halloween, my classmate Liz and her mom, who lived two or three blocks from me, invited me to go door-to-door with them. I raced home from the bus stop and dragged my mom to the fabric store. I carefully poured over dozens of costume patterns before choosing a classic clown outfit. (I can't believe that's what I chose!)

While we roamed the neighborhood on Halloween night, I learned the ins-and-outs of trick-or-treating. At a spectacularly decorated haunted house blaring "Monster Mash," Liz grabbed my hand



and whispered, "You won't believe this — they give out full-sized candy bars!" When the door opened I followed Liz's lead and cheerfully cried out, "Trick or treat!"

Liz and her mom were some of the first who really made me feel welcome and like I was just one of the neighborhood kids. Inviting me to go trick-or-treating was no big deal for them. For me? That Halloween and that gesture was the first time I truly felt like I was part of a community in my new country — that I belonged and was welcomed.

Despite disliking spooky stories or being scared, Halloween continues to be a special holiday for me because of its power to bring a community together. In my neighborhood, a few hours before sunset, we gather at the park for a parade. Kids, adults and pets walk proudly showing their costumes all the while pointing out silly, surprising or spooky costumes. At the end of the parade route, neighbors linger to chat while sharing popcorn and cider. My kids play with their friends before we have them over for a filling spaghetti dinner. In my parents' block, my mom proudly informed me, she and my dad are judges for a pumpkin carving contest. Neighbors bring their own pumpkins and carve their masterpieces together. Their neighbors made sure to include my parents, the oldest members of the community.

All across the country at Halloween, people are out on the streets, greeting and talking to each other and building relationships. Neighbors open doors, greet each other warmly with "Happy Halloween!" and distribute candy as a friendly gesture. This is a great time to help your kids feel a part of the community and learn to be a good neighbor.

Help your child practice being a good neighbor during Halloween with these reminders:

- Greet each other. When a neighbor answers the door, use the Halloween version of hello: "Trick or treat!" I ask my kids to practice so that they can say these magical words with confidence and loud enough so our neighbors can hear.
- Say thank you. Make sure kids express gratitude at every trick-or-treat stop, no matter what: "Remember to say thank you — even though it's not your favorite candy."
- Respect people's property. Encourage your kids to walk on the sidewalk, not through a neighbor's lawn or garden. Explain to your child that your neighbors work hard to take care of their plants.
- Look for the light. Visit homes that have their porch lights on. "Not everyone celebrates Halloween. We should respect that different families do different things."
- Don't take more than what you're offered. This goes along with saying thank you after receiving any candy or treats. "There are a lot of kids out tonight, let's make sure everyone can have some."
- Be a helper. Younger children love to help out and feel like they're contributing to the family, their own personal community. Consider having them fill the candy tray, open the door or help you hand out candy. They then feel more involved and responsible, like a "big kid." It also shows them that Halloween is about giving, and not just receiving.

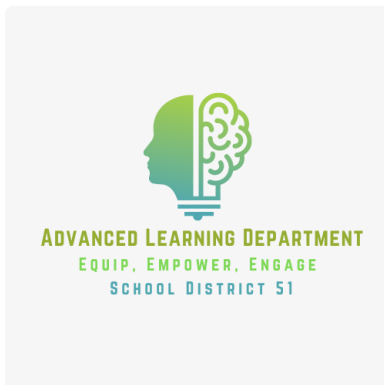
Being a good neighbor also means following good safety rules, especially during a spooky time like Halloween. Here are some quick tips:

- Have a buddy system in place for kids and make sure no one goes off alone. Remind kids that an adult should always be with them.
- Don't approach pets, especially ones you're unfamiliar with. Nighttime can be spooky for animals too, so better to give them their space.
- Bring a flashlight and/or wear reflective clothing. This will help you be aware of your surroundings as well as help people and cars see you.
- Don't enter someone's homes without permission. Unless it's a special neighborhood haunted house!

Author:

As the Director of PBS KIDS for Parents, Mary Hope Garcia oversees the development of resources to support parents as they help their children learn, grow and thrive. When she's not working, Mary Hope dreams of finishing her kids' first-year photo books, organizing the house, and basking on the beach. On weeknights, when her husband of 11 years drives their daughter to dance classes, she runs after their son while also attempting to make dinner. In other words, she lives in Arlington, VA with her husband, daughter and son.

D51 Gifted & Talented Department



*2768 Compass Drive, Suite 200
Grand Junction, CO 81506*

Bill Larsen - Interim D51 GT Director

Brandy Headlee - D51 GT Coach

Summer Allen - D51 GT Administrative Assistant

(970) 254-6903

Summer.Allen@D51Schools.org



D51 - Gifted and Talented

GT Department is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters