

D51 BY THE NUMBERS >

21,315 Students



2,815 Teachers & Staff

1,526 Licensed Staff

1,148 Support Staff

141 Administrative Staff



47 Schools & Programs

- 25** elementary schools
- 8** middle schools
- 4** comprehensive high schools
- 1** middle/high school
- 3** charter schools
- 2** alternative high schools
- 3** K-12 schools
- 1** vocational school program

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT SIRKO >

We are now more than halfway through the 2021-22 school year, and I want to congratulate everyone on the success we've seen in schools across the valley! This has been a year of academic triumphs, athletic accomplishments, and individual celebrations for our students and staff.

It has also been a year of great change. So far this school year, we have welcomed four new School Board members, adjusted COVID-19 protocols

to fit changing health guidance, passed a Bond Measure to give Grand Junction High School a brighter future, and begun the process of implementing a Strategic Plan.

As my lifelong career in public education comes to a close this summer, I look forward to spending my last semester with you and our community!

Diana



POINTS OF PRIDE: CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS >

All State Choir

Isabell Eldridge
Central High School



Ryan Davis, Jordan Dehmel, Tyra Forsgren
Fruita Monument High School

Izzy Cornelison, Jenna Cox, Caymie Crone, Johnny Flanagan, Corran Gandy, Charles Reilly, Pierson Worley
Grand Junction High School

Erin Dickes, Elijah Stammer, Kai Symons, Parker Virden, Sean Williams, Russell Willow, Domenic Wolfe, Maya Znamenacek
Palisade High School

WSL Football Honors

Defensive Player of the Year - Kevin Sjogren
Palisade High School
Co-Offensive Player of the Year - Malakhi Espinosa
Palisade High School

AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award

Fruita Monument High School



SWL Softball Honors

Coach of the Year - Windi Serrano
Grand Junction High School
Player of the Year - Kennedy Vis
Central High School



All State Orchestra

Cody Bailey
Fruita Monument High School
Brynne Berry, Nicholas Berry, Thomas Berry
Grand Junction High School

Co-Ed Cheer, 2nd Place at State

Central High School (Class 4A)



State Marching Band Bronze Medalists

Class 3A

Palisade High School

WSL Volleyball Honors

Player of the Year - Gabriella Yanowich
Palisade High School
Coach of the Year - Wendy MacAskill
Palisade High School



Chatfield Elementary School

Moved from Turnaround status to Performance status

D51 STRATEGIC PLAN ADOPTED >

After months of hard work, the D51 Strategic Plan is ready! The plan sets measurable expectations and goals for the district to achieve over the next three years. The plan is centered around three areas: nurturing prepared and supported students through a focus on student wellness, academic success, and robust and aligned options for learning experiences; growing prepared and supported staff through professional learning, diverse and growing pipelines, and staff wellness; and fostering engaged and supportive community partners with effective community partnerships to advance strategic goals, transparent and effective resource allocation, and communication and connection with families. [Click here to read the entire plan.](#)

The Strategic Plan work also built a vision for the district (engage, equip, and empower each and every student each and every day) and helped the district arrive at a mission statement for how to reach that vision: 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. In addition, the plan includes a Graduate Profile that details what values and skills a D51 graduate should have beyond the academic knowledge they have mastered.

STRATEGIC PLAN CORE BEHAVIORS

1. D51 focuses on the whole learner to foster growth and high achievement.
2. D51 believes in the strengths of our people, our schools, and our communities.
3. D51 values individuality, inclusivity and belonging.
4. D51 commits to continuous improvement.

Thank you to the many people who participated in public listening sessions in 2020 and 2021 to offer input for the plan. Thank you as well to the 50-member Strategic Plan Steering Committee that met for three months to find trends in that input and summarize the goals and priorities of the D51 community. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the Colorado Education Initiative, who facilitated these meetings and guided the drafting of the plan. ♦

GJHS UPDATE >



Thank you to everyone who helped pass the 2021 Bond Measure by the largest margin in D51 history! The bond measure will fund construction of a new Grand Junction High School and demolition of the old school (with the exception of the east gym and the art building). Construction is scheduled to begin this year, and the new school is slated to be move-in ready in time for the 2024-25 school year! ♦

NEW CALENDAR >

The District 51 Board of Education has adopted a new calendar for the 2022-23 school year!

The calendar starts the school year on Aug. 10 and ends the school year on May 23. To see the full calendar, [click here.](#) ♦

July 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Adopted: February 3, 2022

Classes Begin August 10

August 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2023						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

March 2023						
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

October 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2023						
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

May 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

December 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

D51 GRADUATION RATE CONTINUES UPWARD TREND >

While many Colorado school districts saw a dip in graduation numbers last year, School District 51's four-year graduation rate continued to climb year-over-year for the second consecutive year in 2021.

District 51's four-year graduation rate for the Class of 2021 was 81%, up from 80.2% for the Class of 2020 and 79.6% for the Class of 2019. The four-year graduation rate measures how many students who started ninth-grade in the 2017-18 school year earned their high school diploma in 2020-21.

The upward trend in graduation rates over the past two years is due in no small part to D51 having minimal disruptions in in-person learning, according to D51 Assistant Superintendent Brian Hill, Ed.D.

"While our goal is to graduate all D51 students ready for college, career, and life, we are encouraged to see the district's graduation rate trending upward, and we will continue our efforts in order to see this trend continue for years to come," Dr. Hill said. "The hard work our students, teachers, and staff put in last year to return to in-person learning and stay in-person is paying off."



While the district's dropout rate increased slightly from 1.7% in 2019-20 to 1.9% in 2020-21, D51 dropout statistics remain on par with the state average, which was 1.8% both this year and last year. The gap between the district and state dropout rate has greatly narrowed since 2018-19, when the state dropout rate was 2% and the district dropout rate was 2.7%.

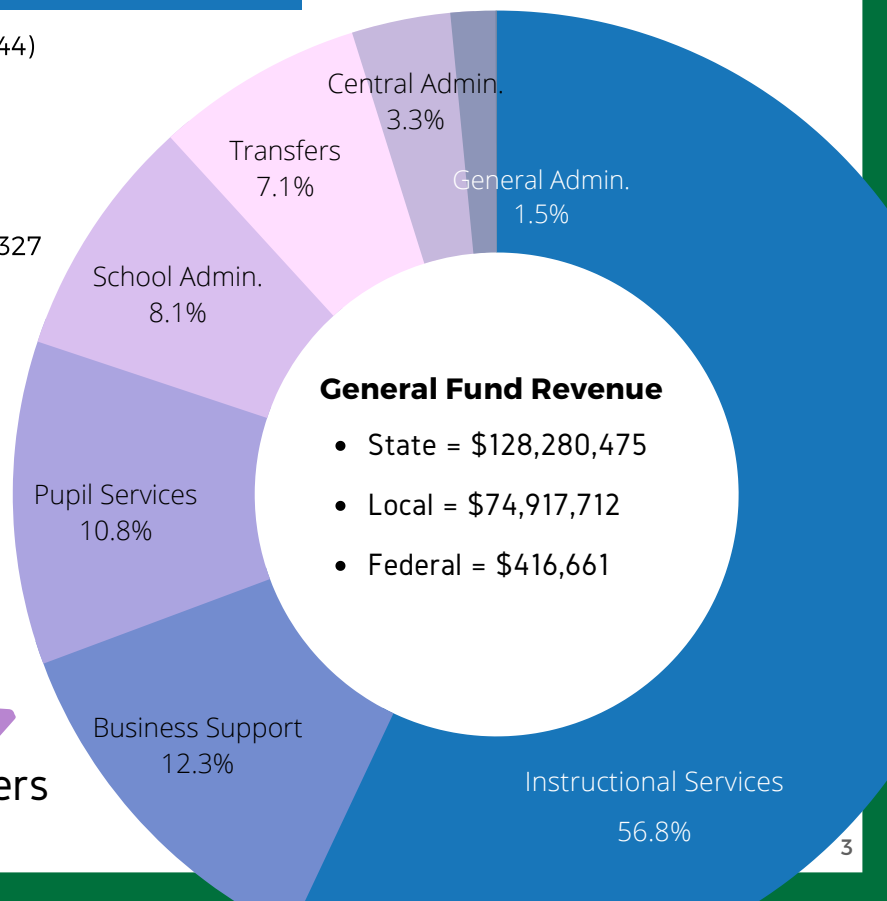
Students who do not graduate with their class don't always drop out - some get a GED or earn their diplomas at a later time (students can attend high school until age 21). In addition to the four-year graduation rate, the state tracks five-year, six-year, and seven-year graduation rates, as well as completion rates that include GED-earners.

2021-2022 READOPTED BUDGET >

General Fund Expenditures/Transfers (\$203,493,244)

- Instructional Services = \$115,544,395
- Business Support Services = \$24,990,441
- Pupil Support Services = \$21,912,250
- School Administration Support Services = \$16,510,327
- Transfers to/from other funds, such as charter schools, capital projects, insurance, and physical activities = \$14,704,663
- Central Support Services = \$6,764,439
- General Administrative Support = \$3,001,997
- Community Services, Other Support Services (0.04%) = \$64,732

General Fund Expenditures & Transfers



General Fund Revenue

- State = \$128,280,475
- Local = \$74,917,712
- Federal = \$416,661

NEW BOARD OF EDUCATION >



Andrea Haitz
Board President

District: C
Term: 2021-2025
Career: Realtor



Will Jones
Vice President

District: D
Term: 2021-2025
Career: Youth football coach



Angela Lema
Secretary/Treasurer

District: E
Term: 2021-2025
Career: Academy owner



Doug Levinson
Board Member

District: A
Term: 2015-2019, 2019-2023
Career: Retired principal



Kari Sholtes
Board Member

District: B
Term: 2021-2023
Career: CU/CMU professor

CHS MASCOT CHANGE >



Following the passage of Colorado Senate Bill 21-116, all Colorado schools with a Native American mascot must change their logo, including Central High School. The penalty for not doing so before June 1, 2022, is \$25,000 per month.

Central students, staff, and alumni saw this new law as an opportunity to re-brand the school and worked diligently for months to create a new logo. A committee narrowed down the many suggestions offered by more than 1,000 respondents to a public survey that asked students, staff, alumni, and community members what values they believe a warrior symbolizes.

While, the Warrior moniker is sticking around, the new logo is a C on a shield. The C stands not just for Central, but for courage - a value every warrior embodies. Central will spend the next few months changing over logos on signs and uniforms. ♦



Grand Junction High School Family, Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and American Sign Language (ASL) students recently visited Creative Avenues to read to children, teach them some sign language, and take their drawings and turn them into hand-sewn creations. ♦