



Grand Junction Area
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

gjchamber.org

YOUR LINK TO BUSINESS

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CMU20000 Gains Momentum

The CMU 20000 initiative to achieve a university enrollment of 15,000 student and a community of 5,000 supporters continues to gain momentum and supporters. During the month of September, a presentation on the initiative was presented to two Rotary Clubs and all subcommittees met.

The Visibility Committee, which distributed over 1000 "We are CMU" stickers in August to area businesses staffed an information booth on campus at the CMU Farmers Market on September 21st.

The Student Recruitment Committee on September 19th had a chance to observe firsthand the current communications prospective students receive and experience an on-campus orientation/tour. With an average of 15 student visits a day in the fall this committee's work to help encourage campus visits and enrollment is needed now.

The Engagement Committee is continuing to encourage internships and other ways for businesses to engage with the students. They have also been active in elevating the initiative at events such as home football games.

In October businesses are reminded to get in the spirit of Mav Month by decorating business windows and customer waiting areas along with participating in the Homecoming parade.

If you are not yet a supporter, sign-up online at www.cmu20000.org. If you would like to help out with a committee, email us (diane@gjchamber.org). Many hands make light work!



Colorado Mesa University Career Services Ribbon Cutting

Follow the Grand Junction Chamber on    and on gjchamber.org

2017

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of Commerce

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Chairman's Column

Jeffrey Hurd

2017 Chairman of the Board

This Is Your Organization

The Grand Junction Area Chamber is not a building, it's not a staff, and it's not a Board. The Chamber is **YOU**, the business owners and managers who invest in our organization every year because you believe in the Chamber's mission of promoting a strong economy and serving as the voice of business. And it is the people in your businesses who you allow to volunteer for various Chamber initiatives critical to that mission. Without **you** there is no Chamber of Commerce.

As the Chamber Board prepares for its annual planning session in early November, it is critical that we hear from you! That is why we are conducting an online membership survey this month. The survey was developed and will be administered by the Western Association of Chamber Executives: keep an eye out for it (and check in your junk mail folder if you don't get it), as the survey will come directly from the Western Association of Chamber Executives.

We greatly value your honest feedback—good and bad—as well as any suggestions you may have. Hearing from our members through this survey is one of the important ways we know if we are on track, off track, or side-tracked.

We also recognize that with the size and diversity of our membership, there may not be complete agreement on anything we do (or don't do). But we hope to at least get the pulse of what matters to you as business people in the Grand Valley. And even if your view is not the prevailing view, it is still important and we value it.

As Chairman of the Chamber Board, I have consistently emphasized the importance of having a diversity of opinions both within our membership and on our Board. It



makes for richer conversation and more thoughtful decision making. But that means we need to hear from all of you. I urge you to take just a few minutes to help us determine the future direction of this Chamber.

Speaking of other ways in which you have a voice, November's election is fast approaching. I would encourage you to review the voters' guide in this month's newsletter. It contains the Chamber's positions on the various candidates and issues that you will see on this November's ballot. And by all means, please take time to vote! The majority of School Board seats are up for election, and key ballot questions affecting K-12 education and public safety will be decided by those who take the time to exercise this important right as citizens.

Your voice can make a difference, but only if you tell us what is on your mind by completing the survey and by voting in this election.



Economic Development Excellence Award Presented for Second Year

The Grand Junction Area ED Partners received a Bronze Excellence in Economic Development Award for its 2017 project in the category of Economic Development Week. This marks the second year in a row that the efforts of ED Partners have been recognized by the International Economic Development Council, a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 5,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. The award was presented at an awards ceremony on Tuesday, Sept. 19th, during the IEDC Annual Conference, which was held Sept. 17th to the 20th in Toronto, Ontario.

During ED Week held locally in May, a successful campaign was launched to let the business and community at-large know what the partnership has done and will continue to do for the community.

The campaign included videos highlighting community leaders involved in joint economic development efforts including the development of Las Colonias Business Park, an appreciation barbecue for small businesses, and a billboard highlighting resources for existing business growth.

IEDC's Excellence in Economic Development Awards recognize the world's best economic development programs and partnerships, marketing materials, and the year's most influential leaders. These awards honor organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.



Diane Schwenke accepts the Bronze Excellence in Economic Development Award for the "Celebrating Colorado's Grand Valley" video campaign.

CDOT Open House on Highway 6

CDOT is currently in the planning phase of a project on the US 6 corridor, beginning at I-70B and ending just east of Clifton Elementary School. This section of US 6 is a congested urban corridor through the unincorporated Mesa County neighborhood of Clifton and serves as the community's main street. The US 6 corridor is a multimodal facility, which provides commuter access as well as access to an elementary school, the U.S. Post Office and other local businesses.

CDOT completed a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study in 2015 that examined the need for transportation improvements along the US 6 corridor through Clifton to improve:

- mobility and reduce congestion;
- corridor and intersection operations;
- multimodal facilities; and
- safety for all users

Following completion of the PEL, CDOT has refined and further developed potential improvements to the US 6 corridor to reduce right-of-way impacts while also improving operational performance, safety, and reduced congestion.

CDOT will be conducting an open house for the project **October 12th, 5:30 to 7:30 at Clifton Community Hall - 126 2nd St., Clifton, CO**. The meeting is to allow the public and stakeholders to participate in the project and share their opinion on the potential improvements, suggest changes, or point out issues. Constructive comments will all be taken into consideration toward a final design. For more information on the project and details on when the open house will occur, please contact Tara Bettale (tara.bettale@hdrinc.com) or Jason Longsdorf (jason.longsdorf@hdrinc.com).



COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Electric Grid Topic of October 11th Energy Briefing

Each and every day, people across the United States use electricity in millions of ways, usually without even having to think about it. From flipping on light switches to powering televisions and smart phones, electricity is so readily available.

Electric companies have been committed to delivering clean, reliable energy to their customers in Colorado. Recently, part of that commitment included making upgrades to infrastructure. These modernization projects were needed to meet current and future regulatory requirements—and to ensure that customers will have affordable, reliable service now and in the future. Coloradoans for Reliable Energy (CRE) is an education and advocacy forum for Colorado's electricity industry that is undertaking a grassroots and key stakeholder outreach effort to educate Coloradans about the rapid evolution of Colorado's electric industry and the key role it plays in Colorado's economic growth.

CRE will brief Chamber members on overall electric grid modernization efforts, the movement toward renewable energy, the intersection between energy technology and information technology, decentralization trends and overall investment needs – and will focus on how that



will impact the ordinary citizens and businesses that make up your membership.

Join us **Wednesday, October 11th, 12:00 PM at the DoubleTree by Hilton** for this event sponsored by WBS Coatings. Cost is \$15 and reservations can be made by calling 970-242-3214 or emailing info@gjchamber.org.

Sponsored by:



Introducing our NEWEST Event

The Grand Valley
SCHMOOZ-A
Palooza

formally the Grand Junction Business Showcase

Presented By



OCTOBER 24, 2017

Two Rivers

Convention Center

4:30pm - 7:30pm

Contact us TODAY

for more information or to
reserve your space!

candace@gjchamber.org or 970-263-2919

Participate in the **BIGGEST** mixer of the year!
Visit business booths, network with peers, and explore the local business community.



Total Resource Campaign Passes 25% Mark!



The Chamber Total Resource Campaign began September 11th with a dedicated group of volunteers charged with a goal of securing \$200,000 of funding in the form of initiative support and sponsorships for the upcoming year. As of our printing deadline \$50,000 had already been secured.

This year the Chamber has a robust number of opportunities for businesses to underwrite and sponsor what might appeal to them from the Young Entrepreneurs Academy to the Mesa County Leadership Summit to Sunrise Seminars. Initiatives include funding to support the CMU20000 effort, Workforce Development programming, and Existing Business Retention and Expansion efforts. By focusing on these “asks” during the next ten weeks with the help of knowledgeable and connected volunteers, the Chamber staff is freed up to focus on delivering programming for most of 2018. And businesses can plug requests into their budgeting cycle for the upcoming year as well.

If you are interested in having Chamber volunteers and staff schedule a time with you to discuss how you can be part of this effort, call Trish (970-263-2912). Our campaign co-chairs are Donna Hardy, Dalby Wendland and Susan Alvillar, James Alvillar Law Office.

New Board Members Elected

At the September board meeting your directors ratified the following slate of candidates for service on the Board of Directors beginning in January of 2018. They are:

- **Kimberly Clemmer**
Clemmer Welding, LLC
- **Jerome Gonzales**
JG Management Systems
- **Mark Miller**
Ed Bozarth Chevrolet & Buick, Inc.
- **Chris Thomas**
Community Hospital
- **Janie VanWinkle**
VanWinkle Ranch
- **Vance Wagner**
ANB Bank

"2018 By The Numbers" Presented December 18th

Richard L. Wobbekind, Dean of the Leeds Business School, University of Colorado will present his very popular annual Economic Outlook on Monday, December 18th, 12:00 PM at the DoubleTree by Hilton during our last quarterly luncheon of the year. The event is sponsored by Bank of Colorado and reservations are now being accepted.

Wobbekind will be providing an economic outlook for the nation, the state and Mesa County for the seventh year in a row at this event. This will mark the 53rd anniversary of the Colorado Economic Outlook that he authors so you won't want to miss it.

Expanding businesses will be recognized as well. If you are a company that has added jobs or made a capital expenditure please complete and return the business expansion form found on the chamber website, www.gjchamber.org.



Richard L. Wobbekind
Dean of the Leeds Business School
University of Colorado

Mark Your Calendar ~ Details & Registration online at gjchamber.org

OCT 4 | 6:30 AM
YPN Before Hours
My Favorite Muffin
 Register at
ypnmesacounty.org

OCT 4 | 7:30 AM
Sunrise Seminar: Cyber Security Tips
GJACC Conference Room
 Advance Registration Requested. No cost for GJACC members.

OCT 11 | 12:00 Noon
Energy Briefing: Energy Grid
DoubleTree by Hilton
 Pre-registration: \$15 for GJACC members or \$20 at the door

OCT 18 | 12:00 Noon
Networking@Noon
Famous Dave's
 Advance Registration Required: \$18 for GJACC members.

OCT 18 | 2 - 4 PM
Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
GJACC Conference Room
 Advance Registration Requested. No cost for GJACC

OCT 24 | 4:00 PM
Schmooz-a Palooza (fka Business Showcase)
Two Rivers Convention Center
 Booth Prices Vary, contact Candace at 970-263-2919 for details.

NOV 1 | 7:30 AM
Sunrise Seminar: Beyond Bookkeeping, Preparing for Year End
GJACC Conference Room
 Advance Registration Requested. No cost for GJACC members.

NOV 2 | 7:00 AM
YPN Before Hours
Enstrom Candies
 Register at
ypnmesacounty.org

NOV 13 | Time TBD
Energy Briefing
DoubleTree by Hilton
 Pre-registration: \$15 for GJACC members or \$20 at the door

NOV 8 | 4:00 PM
How To Market Shop Small Saturday For Your Business
GJACC Conference Room
 Pre-registration: \$15 for GJACC members or \$20 at the door

NOV 15 | 12:00 Noon
Networking@Noon
Career Center/Coyote Cafe
 Advance Registration Required: \$18 for GJACC members.

NOV 15 | 2 - 4 PM
Mesa County Libraries Business Connect
GJACC Conference Room
 Advance Registration Requested. No cost for GJACC

NOV 28 | 5:30 PM
Business After Hours
TBD
 Pre-registration: \$10 for GJACC members or \$12 at the door

DEC 18 | 12:00 Noon
Quarterly Membership Luncheon / Annual Economic Outlook
DoubleTree by Hilton
 Pre-registration: \$18 for GJACC members or \$23 at the door

DEC 20 | 12:00 Noon
Networking@Noon
SpringHill Suites
food provided by Zoup!
 Advance Registration Required: \$18 for GJACC members.

SAVE THE DATE
Friday, January 26, 2018
2018 Annual Banquet

GJACC Events Registration Form: October - December 2017

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunrise Seminar - 10/04/17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Briefing - 11/13/17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Luncheon - 12/18/17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Briefing - 10/11/17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Market Shop Small - 11/08/17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Networking@Noon - 12/20/17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Networking@Noon - 10/18/17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Networking@Noon - 11/15/17 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Connect - 10/18/17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Connect - 11/15/17 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Schmooz-a Palooza - 10/24/17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business After Hours - 11/28/17 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunrise Seminar - 11/01/17 | | |

Company Name: _____ Contact Person: _____

Attending (Names): _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Payment Method: Bill my Chamber Account Check Enclosed

Charge my MC/VISA/Discover/AMEX # _____ Exp Date _____

Security Code _____ Authorized Signature: _____

Join Us For Schmooz-a Palooza October 24th



Who doesn't enjoy "schmoozing?" It's fun and a lot less stuffy than a business showcase which is why the Chamber is shaking up an event it has hosted for over 20 years to inject more collaboration, more celebration and more fun! Honoring the relationship that our chamber and our members have with other chambers in the Valley the Schmooz-a-Palooza, sponsored by Restoration1, is hosted not just by the Grand Junction Chamber but by the Fruita and Palisade Chambers as well on **Tuesday, October 24th, 4:30 to 7:30 PM at Two Rivers Convention Center** and is open to the public. Booth spaces will now come in a greater variety of sizes and prices to meet business needs. The floor layout will feature clusters of exhibitors (not "rows"), comfortable networking spaces and a central staging area for announcements and prize giveaways.

For exhibitor information and more details, contact Candace at the Chamber office (candace@gjchamber.org or 970-263-2919). And if you are not planning to exhibit, mark your calendar now because you won't want to miss **Schmooz-a-Palooza!**

It's Verification Time!

Each fall, the Chamber conducts a major effort to update the information we have on file of its members. This is the information that is printed in our online and hard copy directories **so customers can find you.**

This month you will receive a phone call or a visit from a Chamber volunteer making sure we have the most current information for your listing.

Your timely response to our request for this information will be most appreciated. If you need assistance updating your information or have questions, please contact Shari Brokenicky at 970-263-2914 or shari@gjchamber.org.

Chamber Supports Safety and K-12 Ballot Issue

The Chamber Board of Directors has voted to support the following ballot initiatives:

- Public safety is key to a favorable business climate which is why the Chamber Board supports the .39% increase in the county sales tax to primarily support the work of the Mesa County Sheriff's office and District Attorney's office. It is unfortunate that we currently face shrinking revenues and a rising crime rate in Mesa County. This measure will help insure that law enforcement has the resources needed.
- School District 51 Bond Measure is an investment in infrastructure that is key for maintaining a learning environment that encourages student growth and development. Many buildings in the District are over 40 years old and the time to address their maintenance issues is now before they further deteriorate and costs to cure escalate.
- School District 51 Mill Levy Override. There simply are not enough dollars to support new

textbooks and add learning days to the school calendar without additional funding. The District is committed to wise stewardship and has put a sunset on this measure to demonstrate that commitment.

Members are urged to vote in the upcoming election.



Join a Chamber "SIT IN"

Inspired by a recent **Sirius Radio** campaign where they allowed everyone to listen to all channels for two weeks, the Chamber will be hosting a "Sit in" Campaign during the month of October. Grand Junction Area Chamber members are invited to "Sit in" on a committee meeting without feeling compelled to join the committee.

"Sit in" on one of the CMU20000 Committees, the Chamber Diplomats, the CareerLink Committee or visit a Chamber Leads Group to see if one of our programs will interest you.

Contact the Chamber office at 970-242-3214 or info@gjchamber.org and let us know your areas of interest. The Chamber staff will let you know which committees have a scheduled meeting and the details on when and where they are meeting.

Upcoming YPN Events



YPN Before Hours

October 4 | 6:30 AM

Location: My Favorite Muffin

Piping hot coffee or tea, with a little mix and mingle. Join YPN members and guests (are free) for this monthly morning event. What a great way to start your business day with friends at this wildly popular event. Before Hours is held at various locations in Grand Junction. No RSVP required, just your smiling face.

YPN on the Issues

October 6 | All Day

Location: Facebook

Do local elections matter? Should you pay more taxes for public safety in Mesa County? And why would a better k-12 education affect you as a young professional?

YPN has invited panelists invested in this November's elections to come talk to us at 970WestStudio about what's going to be on the ballot and why young professionals should vote. The whole thing will be taped and aired on Facebook on Friday, October 6. Watch it here: <http://www.facebook.com/yPMC/>.

YPN Before Hours

November 2 | 7:00 AM

Location: Enstrom Candies

For additional events or to find out more about the Young Professionals Network, visit the YPN website at www.ypnmc.org.

Be a Read with a Child Volunteer

The Mesa County Business Education Foundation in association with School District 51 sponsors a program that requires little of your time but can make a world of difference and potentially change the life of a child. Each Wednesday afternoon beginning in October volunteers are needed to work one on one for about 40 minutes with a third or fourth grader developing better reading/comprehension skills. Research locally has shown that this small effort has led to better test scores for students who have had this time of one on one time with an adult.

The District offers a two-hour training course and assigns the volunteers to one of nine schools where teachers select students to participate. The Foundation pays for the required background check. Volunteers can sign up for one semester or for the entire school year. The Chamber urges area employers to consider giving time off to their workers who may want to participate. To learn more about the program, you can call Darcy at the Grand Junction Chamber office (970-263-2916 or darcy@gjchamber.org) or speak directly to April Hart at Mesa County Valley School District 51 (april.hart@d51@d51schools.org or 970-254-5114).



Grand Junction Area
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**4th Quarter 2017
Ribbon Cuttings**

Reserve Your Date Now!

**Grand Opening * Groundbreaking
New Location * New Owner**

Call 970-242-3214



Grand Junction Area
**CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**

MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT 51 BOARD

VOTER GUIDE 2017

This guide is designed to provide voters with a brief introduction to the candidates for the 2017 Mesa County Valley School District 51, School Board election. The County Coordinated Election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 and will be conducted by mail ballot.

Each candidate responded to following questions. Candidate responses are listed in this Voter Guide.

1. What do you hope to achieve in the next four years as a school board member if elected?
2. How would you partner with area employers and post-secondary institutions in order to insure students graduating from School District 51 are prepared for the future?
3. How would you build trust with parents, employers and other stakeholders of the District?
4. Why should members of the Grand Junction Area Chamber vote for you?

DISTRICT C



JOHN WILLIAMS

1. District 51 must continue to develop and maintain cutting-edge instructional models and initiatives. Performance-based Learning, where each student progresses at his/her own pace and cannot move to the next level until

the student has mastered the subject, needs to be expanded district-wide. Seat time in class no longer leads to promotion through grades. Strategic Compensation is now in place for teacher salaries. A teacher must be proficient in classroom instruction and attend professional development education that is relevant to, and then demonstrated in, the classes the taught to get an increase in salary. We need to add to

the relevant educational opportunities for teachers as a key piece of Strategic Compensation.

District 51 must get all kids to grade-level reading proficiency by the end of third grade.

Most of the challenges students face in later grades are caused by the lack of reading proficiency.

District 51 must invest more on literacy in early years. Things like reading coaches embedded with regular classroom teachers works. We need to change our culture of celebrating modest improvements and move to the real goal - all third grade kids reading at third grade level.

We need to get all graduating seniors prepared for college, the military and/or the work force.

District 51 needs to aggressively pursue workplace collaborations already started with business organizations like the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce. Expanding the new Career Wise apprenticeship program, business internships and student attendance at WCCC and CMU are a must. Not all kids need to be on a trajectory for college. But all need to be on a trajectory for good paying jobs.

2. District 51 needs to continue to pursue, in earnest, existing collaborations with employers, WCCC and CMU. We need to focus on Career Wise and enroll all interested students in the spring of 2018. District 51 needs to expand student enrollment in WCCC where 500 District 51 students attend WCCC classes in 10 different program areas and earn both high school and college credit while gaining a certification that tells employers that the student is certified in a job skill.

We should also develop with CMU a “principal academy” where District 51 teachers who want to become building principals can be trained in management and leadership skills to help insure success as principals. The list of possibilities is endless.

3. Trust is earned. It is earned by always being open, transparent and accountable for the money entrusted to the District by tax payers. Trust is earned by always doing the right thing for kids, not making the adults in the District feel comfortable. Obviously the Board of Education members lead by their actions. The BOE must expect and insist this standard from all of District 51.

4. I have a track record of leading the District forward with initiatives like Performance-based Learning, instituted 2 years ago, where every student learns at his/her own pace, but must be proficient in each subject to move forward. I am proud of the constructive relationship developed through hard work with MVEA that benefits kids. An example of this effort is our strategic compensation model. Teachers and staff must be proficient in the classroom and their jobs, and also take relevant professional development course work, to earn an increase in pay. Last, I have been a leader in the current bond and mill levy override effort because of the financial needs of the District. I strongly believe that a great school system is the most important element for a thriving community and that funding matters.

The Chamber endorses John Williams.

District D



DUSTI REIMER

1. I want to be a financially responsible steward of public money entrusted to the district. I plan to establish and execute clear communication of goals and plans with the parents, students and the community to build trust and engaged

support. I also hope to create a long-term strategic plan for this school district. I feel that right now we have a lack of vision and leadership as to where we are going with education, and I believe we need to set our standards high and create a thriving, supported student population that is confident in their education and clear about their future.

2. I would like to see more opportunities for OJT (on-the-job training) and internships for students with local community organizations. I feel that giving them real hands on experience in various work environments will help them to understand the career fields that are available and help them to take the necessary classes or steps to get into the area of work that interests them the most. I believe that having the students be involved with local businesses also gives them a bird’s eye view of local issues that we have as a community and helps establish and create more civic responsibility in students.

I think that the Grand Junction Chamber and Colorado Mesa University have already done a wonderful job in partnering to bring this into our community on a larger scale and I would like to help foster that relationship and see continued participation from the School District with our students.

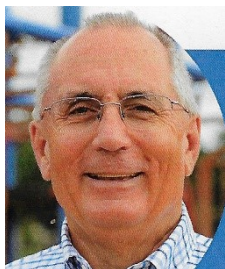
3. I think you establish trust by setting clear objectives and goals for where we need to go as a school district. By setting a clear long-term goal and building strong partnerships with parents and community, we will be able to all move in the same direction as a school district.

Also, I believe that as a Board member, we need to ask the hard questions about accountability to make sure that we are truly making decisions in the best interests of the students.

5. By creating educated and supported students in the Grand Valley, we will be able to see these benefits ripple throughout our community. We are only as strong as our weakest area. I believe that in the past years, there have been no clear goals or plans established to create a positive learning community and environment for our students to

thrive in. I feel that instead of creating a strong foundation, there has been a strong ceiling in which the students have been stunted in growth and development. I want the children in our community to come out of School District 51 with the pride of knowing that they received an education that was one of the top in the state and nation. I want them to go forth into the future knowing they have the support of our community and can be the best at whatever they choose to do.

The Chamber endorses Dusti Reimer.



Tom Parrish

1. For four years, I've been working hard to build a strong and diverse team for full implementation of the School District 51 Learning Model (Performance Based Learning). Together with input from parents, teachers, businesses and students, we're reinventing the old assembly-line model of education with a system more suited to getting kids the 21st century skills they need to get ahead in today's world. We need to move toward full implementation of the District 51 Learning Model (Performance Based Learning). It is important that we develop a stronger partnership with Western Colorado Community College and Colorado Mesa University to leverage and maximize pre-kindergarten through 16 educational opportunities to create a full range of educational possibilities for students. In the current environment of teacher shortages we need to recruit and retain high quality teachers to prepare our students for personal success on their pre-kindergarten through 12 educational journey. We need to work with our community and businesses to provide and maintain high quality schools which will attract businesses and jobs to our community.

2. Over 33 years as a teacher, principal, administrator, and School Board member, I've learned a lot about the difference between rhetoric and results in building strong partnerships. The future of our students and the future of our business community are two sides of the same coin. Neither

can prosper without the other, and our School District has to play an active and accountable role in building bridges. This partnership results in a quality education for students and a qualified workforce for local business. Our school district must collaborate with other community entities to leverage and maximize resources to create as many educational opportunities for students as possible. I'm committed to closing the deal on the great partnerships we have been building together. Our existing business partnerships have introduced our students to necessary entrepreneurial skills and entrepreneurial mindset. Students have been exposed to the workplace skills of responsibility, dedication, interpersonal skills, and discipline on the job. Currently our partnerships involve Colorado Mesa University (CMU), Western Colorado Community College (WCCC), The Work Force Center, Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce and our school district. The focus of this joint work has been Kick Start, Career Link, Hire Me First, STEM, Young Entrepreneurs Academy, Work Keys Assessment and Career Wise. Each of these initiatives involves and impacts local employers. The move to our District 51 Learning Model and the need to prepare our students for tomorrow's workplace requires that our business community and school district be involved and support the effort to expand these programs to reach a greater number of our students. I think it is essential that our school district begin to change its view of a student's educational journey from pre-kindergarten -12 to pre-kindergarten -16. How do we collaborate with CMU and CWCC to create more pathways for students to benefit both from the high school setting and learning options at both WCCC and CMU? This focus will offer our students the opportunity to seamlessly transition from the school district to higher education on his/her pre-k – 16 learning journey. This collaboration is essential if our school district is to address the low number of our students who move on to higher education and prepare students for tomorrow's workplace. A workplace where our graduates will need the ability to learn and use new

technology, have the ability to communicate across generational gaps, and the ability to reinvent themselves for new jobs.

3. From a lifetime of serving parents, kids, and community, I know how indispensable trust and strong communication are. It is essential that our school system:

- be open, honest and timely with accurate information at all times.
- have the courage to own the negative when necessary and always share and celebrate the system's successes.
- leadership be visible and actively involved in the community.
- respect and involve parents and community members in personal conversations around system issues and needs.
- Be effective, efficient and transparent with resources.

4. It has been my great fortune to have served in all aspects of public education for over 33 years, having served on seven different community boards all focused on the youth of our community, been employed at Colorado Christian University for the past seven years, served on the Board of Directors for the Colorado Association of School Boards, and currently finishing a four year term as a member of our local school board. In my recent capacity as a school board member I have been directly involved in the implementation of the District 51 Learning Model (PBL) and the move from a time based teacher compensation model to a performance based compensation system. Demonstrating my ability to seek out fresh and innovative programs and processes to improve the quality of our school district in meeting the educational needs of our students for the 21st century. I believe in the promise of our children, the potential of our school district, and the future of our community, and I am committed to making the changes necessary in our school system to see that our children receive a quality education and are prepared to successfully meet the educational and work force challenges ahead of them.

DISTRICT E



AMY DAVIS

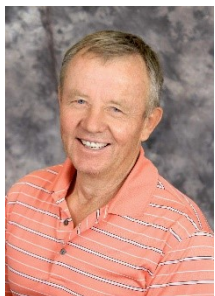
1. Every student deserves the opportunity to meet their potential. They need to be prepared for and competitive in the workforce or college. The district has instituted a new program called Performance Based Learning. I want to closely follow outcomes and assure that we are using a quality, evidence-based program to boost our literacy and math proficiencies and reduce remediation for our students who attend college. I am also very concerned about school safety issues. Specifically, mental health issues and substance abuse in our schools are of critical concern. The school district is in a position to champion interdisciplinary and interagency collaboration to tackle this problem. I would advocate that the school district take the lead in forging an unsiloed, collaborative approach to finding solutions. We are currently facing a teacher shortage in Colorado and in Mesa County. Our teachers are the heart and soul of our district's educational programs. I am interested in exploring recruitment and retention strategies so that we can cultivate a talented and committed teacher workforce.

2. I am a firm believer in bidirectional inquiry, input and communication. The district needs to have a finger on the pulse of the skills and competencies which are needed by employers. It is critical that community businesses continue to inform the school district about what is needed from its future workforce. Similarly, we need to solicit feedback from Colorado Mesa University regarding how our students are performing. Additionally, we need to know about how to prepare our student for jobs which may not even exist yet.

3. There is no substitute for listening honestly and openly to feedback from stakeholders with subsequent decision making that takes into account these interests. I also firmly believe in

transparency such that the decision making process is clear to all. Trust takes time, accountability, and integrity. I bring these characteristics to work every day; and I would do so on the school board.

4. I have a unique skill set which I would bring to the school board. I am an independent thinker and problem solver. As a physician, I solve both small and large problems every day. I have training in public health and education giving me experience at solving problems at a community level. I have also been in medical education for over 20 years and have experience in critical review of curriculum and learner outcomes. I am a leader and collaborator and have worked in both leadership and managerial roles in both healthcare organizations and on community boards. I have worked to help manage multimillion dollar budgets and understand the balance of mission and margin. Last, but certainly not least, I am a parent of three successful District 51 graduates and have over 20 years of experience in advocacy of our schools. I am passionate about public education and 100% committed to its success. If our students are successful, then our businesses and community will be successful.



THOMAS KEENAN

1. Accountability in the Classroom for students, teachers, and parents. I want to get with performance base model and provide the students, teachers and principals with the materials and support needed. **Promote the profession of Teacher and expectations required to earn that respect.** Test results that are meaningful to the student, parent, and staff. What are the students strengths and weaknesses and know it now! Eliminate the radical empathy in the schools and develop relationships based on **challenging directly** and **caring personally** as referred to in Kim Scott's book "Radical Candor". I want to be a financially responsible steward of public money entrusted to the district. I want create a vision for this

school district and a focused budget plan that reflects the vision.

2. Establish required student activities that would create interests, knowledge and focus on Career

Readiness for all students. This would begin with activities that would not cost the district money or class time. Teaching eye contact, proper handshake, **character development, covered with dressing for success** in the hall during passing period. Activities required for graduation and completed during the 200 days the student is not in the classroom. Business community and parents would mentor and assist the student with their desired career path. As a Career Coordinator for 10 years I know the school and community interest.

3. I believe that through building strong partnerships with parents and community, we will be able to all move in the same direction and understand the needs, and as a Board member, we need to focus on accountability and that we are truly making decisions in the best interests of the students.

4. I have own business budgeted and meet payroll, received a Masters degree in K-12 education, built and lead field agents in the marketing and sales industry, and cherish the 30 years + of teaching and coaching.

If you are alarming by the fact that of the 49% of District 51 2016 graduates that went on to pursue some sort of higher education (everything from career and technical trades, 2 year degrees, 4 year degrees, etc.). And the best result is 48 % to over 50% required remedial courses. Them we are on the same TEAM!

The Chamber endorses Thomas Keenan.

Ballot Measures

Bond Measure/ Mill Levy Override

If approved this bond measure would allow District 51 to allocate \$118.5 million in bonds that would be paid off through property taxes, and would be used for the specific purposes outlined below.

- Maintenance across District 51, (\$55 Million)
- Replace Orchard Mesa Middle School (\$40 Million)
- Technology Upgrades (\$11 million)
- Build a gym at Dual Emersion Academy (5 million)
- Palisade High School auxiliary gym (\$5 million)
- Add security features to schools across the district (\$2.5 million)

The bond measure can only be used for these specific reasons that were outlined.

The **Mill Levy Override** is asking voters to raise \$6.5 million annually for 10 years. This would be raised through property tax revenue, and could only be used with the District 51 boundaries. The money would contribute to the following:

- 5 additional student contact days added to the school year calendar (\$3.2 million)
- Instructional materials and educator training (\$ 2 million)
- On going maintenance projects (\$1 million)
- Technology support (\$300,000)

If passed this is the general increase a resident can expect.

The median home price in Mesa County is \$200,000, would pay \$9.89 per month if both the bond measure, and mill levy passed. According to the District 51 website.

As for business owners, for every \$100,000 of their commercial property value they own they pay \$18.01 a month. \$9.42 goes to the mill levy override and \$8.59 goes for the bond measure. According to the District 51 website.

Chamber's Position: Vote YES.

Public Safety Measure

This measure is asking voters to raise sales taxes by 3.7 cents on the dollar in order to provide more funding to the sheriff's and district attorney's office, along with 14 other agencies. This tax is projected to reach \$7.2 million annually if passed. The breakdown of allocation is:

- 67.29% would go to the Mesa County Sherriff's Department.
- 16.83% to the District Attorney's office
- The rest would be divided among the 14 other agencies

This measure is to make sure there is enough funding to keep crime rates down and public safety up. The agencies are in a safe place with budget temporarily, but are urging voters to pass the Public Safety Measure.

Chamber's Position: Vote YES.





Grand Junction Area
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following companies recently invested in the Chamber, demonstrating strong support of the Chamber's efforts to drive the region's economy.

A Clean & Simple Laundry
2648 Patterson Rd
Grand Junction, CO 81506
Tanya Giard - (970) 433-7809
<http://cleanandsimplegj.com>
Laundry

Gelu Italian Ice LLC
300 Main St Ste 201
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Karin R. Gookin
(970) 986-9535
www.lovegelu.com
Restaurants

KN Design Group, LLC
1227 N 23rd St Ste 101
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Kitty Nicholason
(970) 778-8427
Graphic Design

Todd D. Hildebrandt Law
102 N 4th St, Ste 107
Grand Junction, CO 81501
Todd D. Hildebrandt
(970) 986-6529
todddhildebrandtlaw.com
Attorneys

RECENT RIBBON CUTTINGS



Coldwell Banker Commercial
131 N 6th St Ste 300, Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 244-6602 - **New Location**
Commercial Brokerage



Colorado Mesa University Career Services



Visit Grand Junction
740 Horizon Dr, Grand Junction, CO 81506
(970) 244-1480 - **Business Name Change**
Tourist/Visitor Information Center

Mesa County Workforce Center

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- Ameristar Hotel and Resort
- Andy's Liquor
- Aspen Golf Club
- Bananas Fun Park
- Big O Tires
- Bookcliff County Club
- Bridges Golf & Country Club
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Cabela's
- Callaway
- Club | House No. Twenty-Three25
- Cobble Creek
- Colorado Mesa University
- Crested Butte Mountain Resort
- Dalton Ranch
- Deer Creek Golf Course
- SpringHill Suites
- Epic Escape Game
- Fisher's Liquor Barn
- Freeway Bowl
- GJ Golf
- Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park
- High Country Beverage
- Iron Mountain Hot Springs
- Isle of Capri Casino, Blackhawk
- Kannah Creek Brewery
- Red Cliffs Lodge
- SAM's Club
- Spin City
- SpringHill Suites
- The Golf Club at Redlands Mesa
- Tiara Rado Golf Course
- Townsquare Media
- Warehouse25sixty-five Kitchen + Bar
- Wind River Casino & Lodge

CORPORATE TEAMS & HOLE SPONSORS

- Alpine Bank
- ANB Bank
- Audio Video Experts
- Bank of Colorado
- Bechtel & Santo
- City of Grand Junction
- Community Hospital
- CommWest
- Dalby, Wendland & Co., P.C.
- EIS Solutions
- Elwood Staffing
- Enstrom Candies
- Enterprise Products
- FCI Constructors
- Hilltop Community Resources
- Home Loan Insurance
- HRL Compliance
- Mays Concrete
- Moody Insurance
- People Care Health Services
- Restoration I
- Rocky Mountain Health Plans
- Rocky Mountain Sanitation
- Sequent Information Systems
- St. Mary's Hospital & Regional Medical Center
- StarTek USA
- The Trophy Case
- Timberline Bank
- United Rentals
- US Bank
- VectraBank
- Wells Fargo
- Xcel Energy

SWAG DONORS

- Allstate Insurance and Financial Services - Carlston Agency
- ANB Bank
- Audio Video Experts
- Cabela's
- Capital Business Solutions
- Cherry Creek Mortgage
- CommWest
- Crossroads Fitness
- Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park
- Grand Mesa CPA's
- Hawks Air Service
- High Noon Solar
- Iron Mountain Hot Springs
- Landmark Staffing
- Nick N' Willy's Pizza
- Rocky Mountain Health Plans
- Rocky Mountain Promotions
- Rocky Mountain Sanitation
- St. Mary's Hospital & Regional Medical Center
- Wind River Casino & Lodge

Annual Banquet Planning Begins

Yes, we know the leaves are just beginning to turn and we have an entire holiday season to enjoy but planning is already underway for the 2018 Chamber Annual Banquet slated for January 26th! We invite our members to get involved in several ways:

- Join the Auction Committee and help us make the Chamber's Auction (which benefits the YEA! program and Mesa County Leadership) truly unique and successful.
- Begin thinking about who would be deserving of our Citizen and Business Awards. You don't have to wait till December to nominate someone. Contact the office and we will get you the simple one-page form.
- As you do your fall cleaning or complete your business marketing plan for the next six months consider sponsoring a portion of the evening or donating an item for the auction.

Call or email Diane (diane@gjchamber.org, 970.263.2915) or Candace (candace@gjchamber.org, 970.263.2919) to get involved!

Congratulations Expanding Businesses!

At the third quarter membership luncheon the following businesses were recognized for adding jobs and capital investment to make our local economy stronger:

Company	Contact	Employees Added	Capital Investment
Epic Escape Game	Kathy Kell	1	\$13,000
LaQunita Inn & Suites	Mya Beckley		\$2,500,000
Sunshine Rides	Katie Thomas	7	\$1,000,000
TOTALS:		8	\$3,513,000

Is Your Business Growing?

Did you build a new building, open a second location or add employees in the past year? If so, the Chamber wants to know!

If your business is growing and adding employees, we would like to congratulate your company on that achievement and buy you lunch!

Every three months during our Quarterly Membership Meeting, we take time to share good business news and present a small award to company representatives that tell us they have grown. It is good publicity for the businesses being recognized and good news for the rest of us as we look for signs of a strengthening economy.

Please take the time to submit the expansion form you can find online at www.gjchamber.org or by calling 970-242-3214 and letting us know how your business has expanded and who from your company will be joining us for lunch on **Monday, December 18th at the DoubleTree Hotel.**

Use the Chamber Membership Directory to Gain Business

Consistently, year after year, Chamber members point to the Chamber Business Directory as one of the most useful publications the Chamber offers. It can be used as your personal connection tool to assist you in finding almost any service or product you need, while at the same time helping you to make connections with fellow chamber members.

We are in the process of confirming advertising space for this in demand piece with a shelf life of over a year. Did we mention it is hand delivered to members? If your potential customers include other businesses and/or those interested in relocating to the community, contact Trisha today to reserve your spot. She can be reached at 263-2912 or via email trisha@gjchamber.org

Annual Publication of Postal Form Statement of Ownership

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I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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Business Barometer

August 2017

A gauge of Grand Junction's economic indicators published by the Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce.

info@gjchamber.org 970-242-3214

Sales Tax Revenue Collections			
August	2017	2016	% Change
City of Grand Junction	\$3,574,366	\$3,380,143	5.7%
Total YTD	\$29,204,480	\$28,111,971	4.5%

Source: City of Grand Junction

MESA COUNTY Building Permits Issued				
August	2017	Total Value	2016	Total Value
New Single Family Residence	64	\$10,665,077	37	\$9,125,079
New Commercial	3	\$253,236	1	\$18,000
Other	337	\$8,381,519	278	\$19,842,046
Totals	404	\$31,425,411	316	\$28,985,124
YTD Totals	2585	\$188,392,090	2065	\$176,724,375

Source: Mesa County Building Department

MLS Statistics - Quarterly		
1st Quarter	2017	2016
Total Sold	775	659
Dollar Volume	\$170,949,550	\$141,083,499
Total Sold YTD	1861	889
Dollar Volume YTD	\$434,104,354	\$200,950,620

Source: Grand Junction Area Realtor Association

YTD Mesa County Foreclosures			
August	2017	2016	2015
Foreclosure Filings	25	39	57
Foreclosure Sales	23	27	35

Source: Mesa County Public Trustee

G J Regional Airport		
August	2017	2016
Enplaned Passengers	19,860	19,643
Deplaned Airfreight	534,192	632,713
Enplaned YTD Passengers	159,277	146,219
Deplaned YTD Airfreight	4,514,414	4,574,713

Source: Grand Junction Regional Airport

Hotel/Motel Occupancy		
August	2017	2016
Occupancy Rate	88.3%	78.2%
Average Daily Room Rate	\$74.4	\$88.76

Source: Grand Junction Visitor and Convention Bureau

*Please Note: Starting January 2017, the Hotel/ Motel Occupancy statistics are

Labor Market Statistics		
August	2017	2016
Civilian Labor Force	72,263	72,638
Total Employment	70,064	68,818
Total Unemployment	2,199	3,820
Unemployment Rate	3.0%	5.3%

Source: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment

The 2017 Business Barometer is sponsored by



* Statistics Were Not Available at Time of Print

2017 Chairman Circle Members

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ANB Bank

Bank of Colorado

Community Hospital

FCI Constructors, Inc.

Grand Junction City
Government

Rocky Mountain Health
Plans

St. Mary's Hospital
& Regional Medical
Center, Inc.

US Bank

Wells Fargo Bank

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION:

"The Grand Junction Area Chamber of Commerce will represent business and promote economic growth."

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- A Healthy Business Climate Creates A Sustainable Community
- Representing and Advocating for Business is a Member Expectation
- Professional Connections and Networking Opportunities Build Business
- Quality of Life is Integral to our Economic Vitality
- The Success of Colorado Mesa University is Key to Economic Development

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YOUR LINK TO BUSINESS

VOLUME #34 • ISSUE #10

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Chamber of Commerce
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