## December 2020 Issue No. 1

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- Family Resources
- Family Fun
- Table talk topics
- Dessert
- Family movie ideas
- Family games
- Happy Holidays From CSS

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### December Calendar

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<th>Sun</th>
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<td>GRPS Board of Education Foundation Scholarship Applications Open</td>
<td>GRPS Board of Education Academic Achievement Committee: 6:30pm</td>
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<td>GRPS Board of Education Meeting (virtual): 6:30pm</td>
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<td>No LOOP Programming: NO SCHOOL - Winter Break</td>
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*Follow Us on Social Media*

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*Grand Rapids Public Schools*
The mission of Grand Rapids Public Schools Homeless Liaison is to assist GRPS students experiencing homelessness through direct support and advocacy. The primary objective is to remove educational barriers to help ensure students engage successfully in school and cultivate heir unique strengths and talents.

The Liaison focuses support on school readiness and student success to include:
- School enrollment and advocacy
- Backpacks/school supplies
- School meal assistance
- Uniform assistance
- Basic-need supplies
- Community resources
- School transportation

Students and families may qualify if they are living in the following situations:
- Shelter or Transitional Housing Program
- Motel/Hotel
- Doubled up with a friend or relative due to loss of housing and economic hardship
- Unsheltered – parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings
- Unaccompanied youth not in the physical custody or presence of a parent or legal guardian and living in one of the above situations.

For more information and resources visit our HOMELESS PAGE or contact STEWARTE@GRPS.ORG
The holiday season is all about family!

Here are some suggestions for family fun during the holiday!

Sweet Treats
Holiday Chocolate Chip Cookies

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. In a large mixing bowl, beat together the butter and sugars. Add in the eggs and vanilla extract and mix well. Scrape down the sides of the bowl before adding the dry ingredients.

2. Add the flour, baking soda, and salt, and slowly mix in to the wet batter until the dry ingredients are fully incorporated.

3. Fold in the chocolate chips and mini M&Ms until they are evenly distributed. Chill the dough in the fridge for at least 15 to 20 minutes to firm up. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F during this time.

4. On a sil-pat or parchment-lined baking sheet, use a medium cookie scoop to place even-size balls of dough at least an inch apart. Press down lightly with your fingertips to flatten a bit, and top with a few chocolate chips and mini M&Ms. Bake at 375 degrees F for 9 minutes, until the edges are lightly golden.

5. Let the cookies sit on the tray outside the oven for a few minutes to firm up before transferring to a wire rack to cool. Enjoy!
**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**

Here are a few of our favorite movies to watch! Check them out during winter break!

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**TABLE TALK**

Topics to discuss at the dinner table

- What would you do if you won $1Million Dollars?
- What Super Hero would you want to be for one day? what would you do?
- Tell your BEST joke!
- What is one thing you would change about the world? Why?
- What is your favorite song?
- If you can have any animal as a pet, what would it be?
- If you could meet a famous person, who would it be?

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**GAME NIGHT**

Need something else to do during winter break? Plays some games! Here’s a few to get you started!

- **60s Minute to Win It**
- **Phase 10**
- **UNO**
- **Karaoke FAMILY STYLE**
HOLIDAY GREETINGS GRPS FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

Holiday Greetings GRPS family and friends. The Office of Community and Student Services would like to wish you all a happy and prosperous holiday season. This year has been one like we’ve never seen before, and we should all be thankful for the little things that matter most; family, health and peace of mind. As we close out this year and begin a New Year, let us remember to keep our students at the forefront of everything that we do. Our students need our support like never before, so let us take advantage of all of the opportunities we have to engage them in innovative ways to ensure their educational success, and overall well-being. We encourage you to take this time to challenge yourself and others to make sure that our students are heard, affirmed and supported. Be safe and be blessed during this season!

-Parris L. McMurray
Community & Student Services, Supervisor

Happy Holidays!
FROM
Community and Student Services