

# F.A.C.E. TO FACE

## MONTHLY UPDATE

## PARENT UNIVERSITY SPONSORED EVENTS/COURSEWORK

Sign-up for upcoming family engagement events and courses at [Parent University](#).

### ELEPHANT & PIGGIE “WE ARE IN A PLAY”

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023**

2:00-4:30 pm – GR Civic Theater (30 Division Ave. N)

Watch the hilarious live performance of Elephant and Piggie, in *We are in a Play*, written by Mo Willems, at the Grand Rapids Civic Theater.

### ATTENDANCE MATTERS: INCREASING SCHOLAR ACHIEVEMENT & ENGAGEMENT

**PART III - TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023**

4:30-5:30 pm – [Register by Google form](#) or email Sarah Ramirez [ramirezs@grps.org](mailto:ramirezs@grps.org)

Attendance is a leading indicator for scholar success. More than 6.5 million students, or about 13%, miss three or more weeks of school. This is an ample amount of time to threaten a scholar’s academic achievement and chance of graduating. Learn proven, evidence-based, tiered strategies that promote attendance.

### PLAY & LEARN

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023**

5:00-6:30 pm – GRPS University (1400 Fuller Ave. NE)

This 90-minute opportunity is for caregivers and young children, ages 0-5 years old, to learn, socialize and interact with each other. Play & Learn GRCC activities are made possible because of the generosity of Kent County taxpayers and the voter-approved Ready by Five Early Childhood Millage.

### CRIMINAL RECORD EXPUNGEMENT EVENT

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023**

4:00-7:00 pm – Straight Building (850 Chatham NW)

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023**

4:00-7:00 pm – Linc Up Gallery (341 Hall St, SE)

The GRPS F.A.C.E. and Title VI Native American Education departments, as well as the Clean Slate for Michigan organization, are excited provide legal representation to discuss expungement eligibility and options.

### MENTAL HEALTH & HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

3:00-4:00 pm – Virtual

At-risk youth have an increased chance of experiencing human trafficking. Attend this virtual Human Trafficking class facilitated by the Kent ISD HTYPE team. [Registration is mandatory](#).

### CREATING & MAINTAINING A SAFE SCHOOL – COMPONENTS OF A SAFE SCHOOL

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

6:00-7:00 pm – GRPS University (1400 Fuller Ave. NE)

Attend this GRPS security training, led by Chief of Staff, Mr. Larry Johnson, and learn about school safety systems.

### MUSICAL THEATER FAMILY DANCE CLASS

**TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023**

7:00-8:00 pm – Civic Theater (30 Division Ave. N)

A 5,6,7,8! It's time to dance! Learn a fun, interactive family dance and perform it on Civic Theater's stage! [Registration is mandatory](#).



## F.A.C.E. & COMMUNITY

Throughout the month of January, F.A.C.E., along with the GRPS Early Childhood Department, partnered with Ms. Janaya Jones, author of **ABC AFFIRMATIONS**. Ms. Jones visited every GRPS classroom and demonstrated how to use her book. Young scholars practiced affirming themselves stating: “I am brilliant.”, “I am confident.” “I am enough.” In addition, they participated in **ABC AFFIRMATIONS** games that incorporated positive affirmations, large motor skills, color recognition, and letter identification.

F.A.C.E. and Network 180 have partnered to provide GRPS caregivers with strategies to support their scholar’s social and emotional needs. These courses will be offered through Parent University and they will launch this spring.



### TASTE BUDDIES

On Thursday, February 16, 2023 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm, registered GRPS families will participate in TASTE BUDDIES.

These families, with guidance from **Chef Staci Obrien, will prepare vegetable stir fry!** Chef Obrien is a part of the Michigan State University Extension program.



The PALs attended their second quarterly meeting. Mr. Jose Rodriguez, one of the newest members of the Grand Rapids Public School’s Board of Education, was the guest speaker. He shared information about the BOE, the importance caregiver advocacy, and the Facilities Master Plan. The PALs were incredibly grateful for the opportunity to dialogue with Mr. Rodriguez. Thank you, Mr. Rodriguez, for supporting the PAL program.



February’s Power Parent Magazine focuses on **BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS**.

- Did you know that GRPS is one of the most diverse school districts in Michigan? GRPS families represent over 70 countries! Read more in **GOOD TO KNOW - Did you Know?**
- Browse **SETTING GOALS - The Power of a Caregiver** and learn how to support your scholar as they build, nurture, and sustain caring relationships.
- **CHECK IT OUT - Celebrate your History** focuses on African American History Month. Within this module, readers will discover a guide, created by the GRPS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion office.
- Life lessons can be rewarding and challenging. Discover ways to support your scholar as they navigate their way through different relationships and life lessons in **NETWORK FOR SUCCESS - You've Got a Friend in Me.**
- In **NAVIGATING ACHIEVEMENT - Honoring Cultural Identities**, watch the video called “Kids Share Their Cultural Tradition”, and peruse hands-on cultural activities.
- Check out **FAMILY CONVERSATIONS - A Caregiver's Introduction to Social and Emotional Learning.** This module reveals at-home and at-school strategies to support your scholar’s well-being.

## FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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