

An Outlook On The



Palisade

Dan Bollinger, principal

"In our new gym we have new restrooms, locker rooms, a referee changing room, a new training room, and of course, the new gymnasium."

"We have one main building and the west building. Grand Junction is not quite as confusing, but there are still a lot of out-buildings which I don't think is safe. It costs us extra money to connect the new gym to the rest of the school but it was a priority of ours because of safety."

"When you walk into Palisade, it seems new and clean; almost shiny still. Our building is almost 30 years old but it doesn't seem that way."

"I consider Palisade High School a safe school. If anyone were to come onto our campus, they would have to come in through the front."

"I truly worry about Grand Junction High School because there is 360 degree access to the building."



Fruita

Todd McClaskey, principal

Why are you guys deciding to rebuild your school entrance and how will it affect student safety?

"The entrance will be open for the morning and during first hour, but after it will be locked. Visitors will have to check in through the main entry after being buzzed in."

"Seven years ago our administrative offices were relocated to the front of the school. That is the only renovating we have had."

"Our school is clean, but we do have parts of our school that are very ugly."



Central

Lanc Selden, principal

What are some new things being added to the school this year both structurally and technologically?

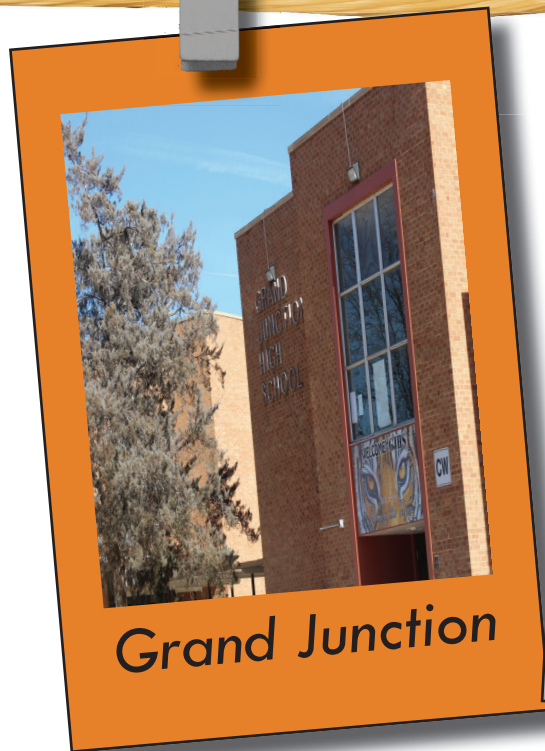
"We've got our tech ed department, we've got another 3D printer, that will put us at five. We're getting a lot of roof issues, and ceiling issues taken care of. We're getting a new parking lot, new bleachers in the old gym, and new seats in our auditorium also new floor tiles and carpets."

What makes your school safe?

"When people come in as visitors, any adult that comes into the building they have to check in through the office. When you walk in to our main doors you're right there at the office. For adults you have to scan your driver's license. Really what it (license plate scanner) does is check for sex offenders, so any adult that comes through if they're on any criminal list or the sex offender list they will be escorted."

Schools In Our Valley

03/12/19 —



Meghan Roenicke, principal

What are some new things that have been added to the school this year both technologically and structurally?

"A tech person who is here to support us and some of our feeder schools. We are also redoing the bathrooms by the gyms. As far as structural changes the difficult part of our building is we have a lot of immovable fixtures."

What is your vision for the building of Grand Junction High School in the future?

"My dream is that this school gets imploded and we get a replacement. Our community really sees the need to rebuild GJHS. The hard part to explain is that in order to replace GJHS with the requirements that we have and the cost per square foot that it takes to build, you can't replace this building for less than 100 million."

How would you consider the condition of the building structure?

"It's awful. For a building that is as old as this building, it is not terrible."



Donald Trujillo, principal

"The new R-5 has been around for three years."

"Since it is a learner-center environment, we do not have traditional school desks in any of our classrooms. Learners are allowed the freedom to move about, get up when they want, and have a more real-world environment."

"We have RESPECT agreements in every room. They have four quadrants that revolve around picking up after yourself, mopping the floors, or cleaning your stuff. They tend to mostly fit most of the learning styles through their flexibilities and freedom in the school."

"You cannot enter our school without swiping a keycard, and we have more of a contained space and there's not lots of exits like there are at Junction. You cannot keep track of all the exits at Junction. Our system is a lot more modern where you have to electronically enter the building with a keycard."

What do other schools think of us?

AspenLeman

Students at GJHS spend most of their waking hours at this school. Everyday we live through the unpleasant smells, unappealing walls, floors, ceilings and more. As events are held at our school the parents and students of other educational centers come to GJHS. What do these people think when they see the collapsing buildings?

Palisade

"Grand Junction High School looks like a prison from the outside and smells like mold on the inside. I think learning there can't be compared to the other schools in the valley" a Palisade student said.

Fruita

"I think it (GJHS) is pretty gross. I've only been in a few parts of it, but it's pretty unsanitary, especially the bathrooms" an anonymous, Fruita student, said.

Central

"There's a lot of tradition in that building. Both my parents taught there and my sister went there. The building isn't in great shape and (GJHS) could definitely use a new one," said Max Marsh, a Central student.

R-5

"GJHS is not most ideal building to put 2,000 kids in, and as much as everyone complains on how bad it is and how they need a new one they all have a small sense of pride knowing that there's a history behind the place," said Talen Valerio, an R5 junior.

Ultimately, the students in our valley strongly believe that GJHS is not in the most ideal condition for the century we are currently in.

Photos by BreckSmith