Dates to remember
Friday, November 17 – Pay It Forward Jeans Day (Thanksgiving Adopt-a-Family Benefit)
Friday, November 17 – Parent-Teacher Conferences, 12:30-3:10 pm Elementary, 12:30-3:00 pm Secondary
Friday, November 17 – Staff vs. Student Volleyball Showdown & Chili Cook-Off Tailgate Party (Tailgate Party, 5:00 pm/Volleyball Game, 7:00 pm)

Wednesday-Friday, November 22-24 – NO SCHOOL or Quality Care, Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, December 7 – Holiday Band Concert, 6:00 pm Junior High, 7:30 pm High School, Big Gym

Friday, December 8 – Holiday Choir Concert, 6:30 pm, Big Gym

Friday, December 15 – HS Elk University Registration Deadline, Orange 1 (or email lazarj@mygta.us)

Veterans Day activities
Grand Traverse Academy students learned about Veterans Day and showed their appreciation for our local service men and women in several ways, including the following:

Students (and parents) created greeting cards on Pay It Forward Night for the Rico’s Café Veterans Appreciation Day meal.

Secondary science teacher and veteran Mr. Smith visited Mrs. Layne's Upper Elementary class to discuss the history of Veterans Day and various aspects of daily life in the Marines. He shared several items from his pack, including a bullet-proof vest, a homemade ghillie suit (with an explanation of how to make one), an MRE, a compass and a space blanket. The class was very intent and truly appreciated his presentation!

Our social studies department hosted a pancake breakfast in appreciation of GTA family members and staff who are military veterans. Guests of honor included our own Mr. Coneset, Mr. Smith and Mr. Andersen. Thanks to everyone who participated in putting on this event, and especially to the veterans for their service to our country!

Be sure to visit our Facebook page for more photos.
Enter MAPSA’s 2017 Thankful Contest!
It’s that time of year, and the Michigan Association of Public School Academies wants to recognize the amazing work of charter schools – so they’re inviting parents, students, teachers and staff to share why they’re thankful for their charter school. Whether it’s the exciting technology, engaging classes, or dynamic learning environments, MAPSA wants to hear about the great things happening in charter school classrooms. Participants can showcase our school by tagging MAPSA in a social media post and mentioning Grand Traverse Academy and why they love it. Photos are encouraged!

Submissions will be collected through next Wednesday, November 22, after which time the winner of a $100 gift card will be randomly drawn by MAPSA. The school that receives the most “thankful” nominations will also win a gift basket following the competition. For more information on how to enter, see the attached flyer or our Facebook page.

GTA High School VEX Robotics team to host tournament, volunteers needed
The GTA Winter Luau "In the Zone" robotics tournament is planned for Saturday, December 16. Help is needed for set-up the afternoon and evening before; student volunteers are needed to reset the three competition fields after each match; adult volunteers are needed to help run the event; and clean-up help is needed after the event. Those with an engineering or robotics background are needed as judges. The day starts at 7:00 am with a volunteer meeting, and clean-up will start at 6:00 pm. Help is needed all day, and can be broken into morning or afternoon shifts. Please contact Mr. Alderman at aldermannm@mygta.us if you are interested and available.

Don’t throw away those grocery bags!
Mrs. Kladder is looking for large brown paper grocery bags for an upcoming Upper Elementary art project. The bags may be dropped off in the Elementary Art Room (Aqua 4) or in either office. Be sure to let the office staff know where to deliver them. Thank you for your help with this project.

Upper Elementary classes hold a Grateful Gathering
Students in Mrs. Dix’s and Mrs. Dancer’s classes invited family members to join them in a Grateful Gathering last week to reflect on the special people in their lives and the things and the experiences they get to share with them. Everyone enjoyed some fellowship over a delicious potluck lunch.

If your child will be late for school or absent for the day, please notify the office by 8:30 am. Parents will be called to verify any unexcused absences after that time.

Elementary 995-0665 / Secondary 932-6038
First-ever Student Achievement Pep Assembly held
Two hundred thirty-five students who made the first quarter honor roll (Junior High: all A’s & B’s, High School: 3.4+ GPA), 52 who had perfect attendance for the quarter, and two “turn-around” students (Logan Rosinski and Arianne Lawson) who made significant academic progress were honored on Thursday at a Secondary Pep Assembly. A bubble machine made for a festive atmosphere, and music was provided by DJ Sgt. Rodney Saintil of the 182nd Army Reserve Unit, who generously volunteered his services.

New Secondary peer tutoring program off and running
A group of Junior High and High School students have just joined our newly launched peer tutoring program. Higher performing students are matched with lower performing students in a one-on-one arrangement that can benefit both. If your Secondary son or daughter is interested in becoming or enlisting the assistance of a tutor, application forms are available from teachers or in the Secondary office.

Next Tuesday is deadline for Crystal Mountain School Program registration
Crystal Mountain Resort has announced the details of their 2017-18 School Program. Discounted program passes, which include lift, instruction and rental, are available to GTA students and adult chaperones. For complete details and to purchase passes, visit http://www.crystalmountain.com/snowsports/overview#School-Program. For online purchases, use gta for the Group and GTA1 for the Password. Passes may also be purchased with a personal check attached to the required forms. The following forms (attached) must be completed and turned in to either office for pickup by our program coordinator: 1) School Program Pass Application, and 2) School Program Rental Release Form (only if skis will be rented from Crystal Mountain). The deadline for registration is next Tuesday, November 21 at the end of the school day. Please contact Mark Hansen, GTA parent and program coordinator, at skigta@aol.com, (231) 357-5576 with any questions.

Ongoing events
Secondary Pizza Sales – Tuesdays during Junior High & High School Lunch ($1.50 per slice – tickets must be purchased in advance Tuesday mornings)

NHS Doughnut Sales – Fridays, 7:40 am, Outside Secondary Office ($1.00 each)

Secondary Taco Sales – Thursdays during Junior High & High School Lunch ($1.50 each – tickets must be purchased in advance Thursday mornings)

Key Club Meetings – Every Thursday, 7:40-8:05 am, Silver 3 (high school students)

Builders Club Meetings – First & Third Thursdays of the Month, 3:45-4:15 pm, MPR 4 (junior high students)

NJHS Meetings – December 13, January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16

Student-Run Credit Union – December 8, January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13, May 11 in Elementary Lobby (no make-ups for snow days); 8:00-8:30 am, Elementary Lobby

“"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”

-Thomas Edison
2017
THANKFUL CONTEST

What is it?
An opportunity for you to share why you’re LOVING your charter school AND a chance to win a $100 gift card or a gift basket for your school!

How to enter:
1. Tag MAPSA in a post on one of your social media channels:
   - Facebook / MICHarters
   - Twitter / MICHarters
   - Instagram / charterschools

2. Tell us why you’re LOVING your charter school - include your school name, photos/videos and any shout-out’s.

3. Like our page, or follow us on the channel that you shared your story for a DOUBLE entry. A winner will be randomly drawn by MAPSA.

SHARE YOUR STORY BY NOV. 22!
CRYSSTAL MOUNTAIN  
2017-2018 School Program Pass Application  
(Please complete one form for each participant)

Online Confirmation # __________

Participant Name ___________________________________________  
School Advisor _______________________________________________  
Parents Name _________________________________________________

Date of Birth __/__/___ Age _____ Grade Level _____

Address ______________________________________________________

City ___________________________ State ______________ Zip ________

Home Phone ______________________ Alternate Phone ____________

Email ____________________________ ____________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Program Pass</th>
<th>Online and before Advisor Deadline</th>
<th>Paper Filing and After Deadline</th>
<th>Single Trip Rates</th>
<th>Amount Enclosed</th>
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<tr>
<td>Young Student Package (ages 6)</td>
<td>$99</td>
<td>$119</td>
<td>Young Student (ages6)</td>
<td>$12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Package (7 and 18)</td>
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<td>$139</td>
<td>Student (ages 7-18)</td>
<td>$15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chaperone Package (19 and up)</td>
<td>$199</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>Chaperone (19 and up)</td>
<td>$25</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Lift Access and Instruction:**  
Young Student (ages 6) | $49 | $59 | Ski/Snowboard | $15 | N/A |

Student (ages 7-18) | $69 | $89 | Helmet | $5 | N/A |

Chaperone (19 and up) | $129 | $139 | SEE ADVISOR FOR SINGLE TRIPS |

**Instruction Only:** (For those with Premier Pass)  
$35 | $35 | SEE ADVISOR FOR SINGLE TRIPS |

**Rental equipment:**  
Ski/Snowboard | $79 | $99 | Student (ages 6-18) | $5 | N/A |

Helmet Rental | $25 | $35 | Chaperone | $5 | N/A |

**X-Country Rental:**  
Student (ages 6-18) | $20 | $25 | Student (ages 6-18) | $5 | N/A |

Chaperone | $25 | $30 | Chaperone | $10 | N/A |

**X-Country Trail Pass:**  
Student (ages 6-18) | $20 | $30 |

Chaperone | $30 | $35 |

**Sunday Upgrade:** (see description below)  
Ages 7 and up: | $39 | $49 |

Ages 6: with participating adult: Free | Free |

**Sunday Upgrade Program:** School Program Pass Participants may add SUNDAY to their school program LIFT ACCESS. This exciting program allows school program participants to ski on select Sunday's after 1pm. Simply add the upgrade to your total and show your upgraded School Pass at the lifts on select Sundays to enjoy this added benefit.

- RENTAL Equipment is NOT INCLUDED in this offer, but may be purchased at posted single trip rates.
- Excluded Sundays are: All December Sunday's, Jan.14 and Feb.18.

Please make checks payable to: CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN (include DL # and Phone # on check.)

All participants must have a signed RELEASE of LIABILITY form on file before passes will be issued. Participants renting equipment for the season must also have a signed CONTINUING RENTAL form on file before equipment will be issued. Forms must be returned to your group's Advisor prior to your visit to Crystal Mountain.
CONTINUING RENTAL & LIABILITY RELEASE AGREEMENT * 2017-2018 * CRYSTAL MOUNTAIN
PARENT/GUARDIAN: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING.
THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND WAIVER OF CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS.

I, ____________________________ (hereinafter "user") accept for use AS IS all equipment to be provided during the multi-week program, and I agree to accept full financial responsibility for the care of the equipment while it is in the user’s possession. I will be responsible for the replacement at full value of any equipment provided under this form, but not returned to the rental facility. I agree all rental equipment will be returned by the agreed date. I agree that either I, or an authorized designee, will execute the verification on the front of this form. All user information I provide will be true.

I understand that the binding system cannot guarantee the user’s safety. In downhill skiing and snowboarding with snowboards equipped with release bindings, I understand that the binding system will not release at all times or under all circumstances where release or retention may prevent injury or death, nor is it possible to predict every situation in which it will release or retain, and I agree that these features are inherent risks of skiing and snowboarding. In snowboarding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and other sports utilizing equipment with non-release bindings, I understand that the binding system will not ordinarily release during use; these bindings are not designed to release as a result of forces generated during ordinary operation and I agree that these features are inherent risks of these activities.

I understand that the sports of skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing and other sports (collectively "RECREATIONAL SNOW SPORTS") involve inherent RISKS and DANGERS, including but not limited to: changing weather conditions, changes in terrain, boarding, riding and disembarking lifts, variable and difficult snow conditions, collisions with persons, objects and/or vehicles, the presence of snow making or grooming equipment, the limitations upon the ability of bindings systems to protect the user, and unmarked natural and unnatural hazards, any of which may lead to INJURY and DEATH. In consideration of the user being allowed to participate in the school program and preparatory training, I HEREBY EXPRESSLY ASSUME AND ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS AND DANGERS ASSOCIATED WITH MY AND/OR THE MINOR’S PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM AND USE OF EQUIPMENT INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE POSSIBILITY OF SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURIES, DEATH AND PROPERTY DAMAGE that may result from or are alleged to result from the user’s participation in this multi-week program, in RECREATIONAL SNOW SPORTS or which relate in any way to the use of the equipment issued to the user ________ (Initial here).

I understand that a helmet designed for RECREATIONAL SNOW SPORTS use may help reduce the risk of some types of injuries to the user at slower speeds. I recognize that serious INJURY and/or DEATH can and do result from both low and high energy impacts, even when a helmet is worn and I understand that helmets do not protect against trauma to the face, neck and spine and that these features are inherent risks of using this equipment. I understand that to function at its full capacity the helmet must fit correctly and I agree that the helmet provided properly fits me and/or the minor(s).

In further consideration, and to the fullest extent permitted by law, I agree to Release, Hold Harmless, Indemnify, and Defend Crystal Mountain, the equipment rental facility, their employees, owners, officers, representatives, directors, shareholders, agents, vendors and the manufacturers and distributors of the equipment and their successors in interest (collectively "Crystal Mountain Resort") from any and all claims, actions, losses, suits, damages, and allegations, including claims or actions brought by the Minor (if applicable) which relate to or arises from participation in RECREATIONAL SNOW SPORTS, in this multi-week program, or is in any way related to the use of the equipment, and claims related to or arising from incidents that occurred prior to and/or following the date of this release, including but not limited to: allegations of negligence, including negligence of Crystal Mountain Resort, breach of contract, breach of any statutory or other duty of care and breach of express or implied warranty. I further agree to Indemnify, Hold Harmless and Defend Crystal Mountain Resort from any damage, costs or expenses, including actual attorney fees and costs, without limitation, which Crystal Mountain Resort may sustain in relation to or arising out of the Student’s participation in the Program. ________ (Initial here).

I consent to and authorize the taking of photographs and/or videos during my and/or the minor’s visit to Crystal Mountain. I grant permission to Crystal Mountain Resort to use said photographs and/or videos in advertising, displays, web sites, brochures, other forms of electronic media, illustrations or publications without notifying me. I hereby waive any and all rights to privacy in the photographs/videos and to compensation related to the use of the photographs and or videos ________ (Initial here).

Continuing Rental & Liability Release Continued on the Back

JB 9/2017
I recognize that emergency or emergent medical or dental care may be necessary for the user during his or her participation in the Crystal Mountain School Program. I authorize Crystal Mountain Resort to render first aid and to call for medical and/or dental care of the user if, in the opinion of Crystal Mountain, its employees, owners, officers, representatives, directors, shareholders, and vendors such medical or dental care is needed. I agree to be financially responsible for all expenses and costs associated with such care and related transportation. I understand this Release and Indemnification Agreement shall be binding upon my assignees, subrogors, distributees, heirs, next of kin, executors, personal representatives and administrators and may be pled by Crystal Mountain Resort as a complete bar and defense against any and all claims, demands, or causes of action by or on behalf. Any provision of this Release and Indemnification Agreement which shall prove to be invalid, void or illegal in any way affects, impairs or invalidates any other provision hereof, and such other provisions shall remain in full force and effect. I acknowledge that this activity is taking place in the State of Michigan and I further agree that only the laws of the State of Michigan shall apply in the construction or application of this Agreement.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THE FOREGOING RELEASE OF LIABILITY, INDEMNITY AGREEMENT AND MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION, I UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS AND THAT IT IS BINDING DURING THE ENTIRE 2017-2018 SKI SEASON. I HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO IT AND I VOLUNTARILY SIGN IT WITH NO RESERVATIONS AND WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

Parent/Guardian name (PLEASE PRINT): ____________________________________________

Parent/Guardian’s Signature: ________________________________________ Date: ____________

School/Group Name: ____________________________________________________________ RENTAL

Parent/Guardian must complete this section prior to user’s participation in multi-week program.

Participant Name: ______________________ Last First Middle Initial

Address: ________________________________________________________________

City: ______________________

State: ______________________ Zip: __________ Home Phone (____) __________

Age: ____________ Male [ ] Female [ ] Height ______ Weight ______

Shoe Size: ________ Downhill Skier Type: I II III Snowboard Stance: Regular [ ] Goody [ ]

Ski/Snowboard Length: [ ] Boot Sole Length: [ ] Boot Size: [ ] Poles: Yes/No Size: [ ]

Visual Indicator Settings: __________ Requested Settings: __________

Technician’s Signature: ______________________ Date: ____________

VERIFICATION OF EQUIPMENT INSTRUCTIONS & VISUAL INDICATOR SETTINGS

I have represented the above information and it is true and correct. I agree that the equipment user will not use the equipment provided for this session until I confirm that the user has received instruction on use of the equipment and fully understands the use and function of that equipment. My signature on this form affirms I have verified that the visual indicator settings on this form (if any) agree with settings on the equipment being provided.

I understand, authorize and acknowledge that the information contained on this form will be used to set the ski binding or ski boarding release settings for the entire season. I agree to notify Crystal Mountain Resort, in writing of any changes that may affect the binding settings, including but not limited to changes in the child’s height, weight, the child’s skier type, or boot size. It is my understanding that any such changes must be delivered in writing to the Crystal Mountain rental shop and that I will then be asked to fill out a new Salomon Rental Form and Rental and Liability Release Agreement which will reflect any such changes.

Parent/Guardian name (PLEASE PRINT): ____________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ______________________________________ Date: ____________