

# JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 365

BRUNEAU – GRAND VIEW

Rimrock Jr. Sr. High



## 6th Grade Transition Plan

May 2017

Dear Bruneau - Grand View Parents,

At the request of the BGV community, a review of research was conducted in 2016, to help the BGV School District make a data-based decision regarding the educational environment for 6th grade students in the BGV District, and facilitate a discussion regarding best practices.

Across the country, many students experience a significant drop in achievement during their first year of middle school, regardless of whether they transition in 5th, 6th or 7th grade (Cook, 2007; Lockwood, 2010). The reasons for this drop are numerous, but studies indicate that there are key activities that can promote *positive* transitions between the elementary and middle school setting.

In the spring of 2016, BGV staff and administration reviewed current literature, met with community members and worked in teams to identify key areas of focus in order to facilitate a healthy transition from 5th to 6th grade (from elementary school to middle school).

BGV's 2017 5th grade transition plan includes the following:

1. BGV will identify 5th grade student concerns through (a) student survey and (b) student essay.
  - Survey questions: <https://goo.gl/forms/DHwXAYH9M8OUgvTU2>
2. 6th grade teacher will come to Grand View Elementary and Bruneau Elementary to introduce herself and meet the students in their own environment, as a means to meet the students and introduce themselves.
3. Current 5th grade students will shadow 6th-grade classes on May 19
  - Students will shadow a 6th grade class, period 3 starting at 9:45, then transition to period 4 (10:14-10:47)
  - During 5th period, students will tour the Rimrock campus with staff
  - Lunch will be served 11:25-11:44, and supervised by 5th grade teachers
  - 5th grade students will attend band class 6th hour (11:49-12:22), in order see their options for attending band as 6th graders
  - Rimrock Seniors Q & A (12:27-1:00)
  - Color Run activities will begin shortly after 1:00.
  - Following the Color Run, 5th grade students will leave Rimrock at 2:00 to return to the elementary school for 'typical' dismissal routines.
4. Rimrock will host a Fall 2017 Parent Night, for incoming 5th grade students.
  - August 16, 2017
  - Dinner provided to families
  - Students will have their schedule, in order to physically walk through their day with their parent.
  - Lockers will be assigned, and students can practice using their lockers.

Sincerely,