



PTSA Monday Message
February 10, 2014

1. Upcoming dates:

Feb 10 – “B” Day

Feb 11 - Chick-fil-a Fundraiser

Feb 12 - Sweet Frog Fundraiser

Feb 13 – ASVAB Career Exploration Program Exam (sign up in Guidance)

Feb 21-23 – Belgian Waffle & Steakhouse Fundraiser

Feb 22 - Bass Pro Fundraiser

Feb 24-27 – Vinny’s 2 Fundraiser

Mar 6 – ASVAB Interpretation

2. Administrative/School Counseling News:

- **AP Testing Information:** AP registration forms have been given out in AP classes. Only 1 form is need from students and the deadline is Friday, February 21. The cost is \$89 per exam, with checks payable to Grafton High School. Mrs. Huffines is collecting registration forms/money in her office (Rm 411) and during all lunches on Feb. 5-7 and Feb. 18-19th. Please email Mrs. Huffines shuffines@ycsd.york.va.us or call her at 898-0419 if you have any questions.
- The **University of Virginia** offers an exciting summer opportunity for high school students. Rising juniors and seniors are eligible to participate in **UVA’s Leadership on the Lawn**. Leadership on the Lawn is a week-long summer program designed to develop and strengthen the skills of students who have displayed leadership interest and potential in high school. Students who participate in Leadership on the Lawn will engage with UVA students, staff, and faculty through pointed lectures and interactive problem-based activities. The program will take place from July 6th- July 11th, 2014. Visit the website for up-to-date information and application materials: www.leadershiponthelawn.com. The final application deadline is May 1st but they will be accepting and reviewing applications well in advance of this date. If you have any questions, contact Whitney Ezell via email at wbe5n@virginia.edu or by phone at (434) 924-7181.
- Greetings from **Jefferson Lab!** Just spreading the news that the High School Summer Honors Program deadline is fast approaching. Completed applications must be postmarked by Monday, 24 February 2014. Selected students will work with a staff scientist or engineer on a real lab project during this paid, six week internship. Requirements are that the students live locally, be at least 16 years of age and maintain a 3.3 GPA. You can find more information on our website <http://education.jlab.org/hsapplication/index.html> Contact Brita R. Hampton, Jefferson Lab Science Education Administrator, if you have any questions (Office: 757-269-7633 hampton@jlab.org)

3. PTSA News:

- **Hospitality Help**

The Hospitality committee will be hosting a Valentines event for the Grafton staff on February 14th. We're still short on cookie donations for a lunchtime treat. Valentine themed cookies are hoped for, but we'll take anything. If you can help us with a dozen or two, please contact Cindy Howard at mrshtduck@cox.net to get details. Thank you for your continued support! Remember cookies do sweeten the spirit, and your kids will be thankful for that when those afternoon classes hit and their teachers come back from lunch with smiles on their faces! :-)

- **After Prom Needs You!**

The Grafton High School After Prom Party, sponsored each year by the PTSA, provides a fun, safe alternative to drugs and alcohol at a fun-filled party following Prom. We hope that if you are interested in providing a safe, alcohol and drug free party for your graduating senior, you will plan to **become involved** in some way with this event. An event this big needs many, many hands to be successful!

At this point, all committees are filled except **Logistics**. The Logistics chair works hand-in-hand with the decorations chair to transform the YMCA into a fun, filled venue for our Seniors.. We also still need people to solicit businesses for donations. We still need help with our fundraisers. And, every chaired committee needs volunteers to help them do all of the work that needs to be done.

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator Cindy Howard mrshtduck@cox.net to volunteer your time for this worthwhile event.

And don't forget to come to our next After Prom meeting Thursday, March 13th in the Cafeteria at the High School. Bonus: this is also the Outback dinner night! We look forward to seeing you all there!

- Don't forget this **Tuesday night, February 11** is the make-up date for the January 29 **Chick-fil-a** night. You do not need a flyer, but please mention that you are there for GHS After Prom.
- February Fundraising Feasts are as follows:
 - **Sweet Frog** - Grafton location - Wednesday, February 12th - all day. You do not need to have a flyer to participate, just please tell them you are there to support GHS After Prom.
 - **Belgian Waffle & Steak House** - located at 14700 Warwick Blvd, Newport News - starting Friday February 21st and going through the weekend until Sunday the 23rd. You will need the attached flyer for After Prom to receive the donation from Belgian Waffle and Steak House.
 - **Vinny's 2** - Grafton location - Monday February 24th through Thursday the 27th - all day. You do not need a flyer, but you do need to let your server know that you are there to support GHS After Prom.
- We have added a fundraiser on February 22 at the **Bass Pro Shop** in Hampton. We will be there from 9am until 4pm. Come out and help us sell or buy a freshly grilled hot dog.
- Are you Ready to DYE???
Color Me Red & Blue 5k Fun Run/Walk on April 19, 2014. This awesome event is being held at Grafton High School and all proceeds are to help fund After Prom. The cost is only \$35.00 and you get an event t-shirt if you are one of the first 300 to register. You can do that on-line at www.graftonafterprom.com anytime from now until the day before the race or you can mail it in. Registration information is all found on the After Prom website.
- *****NEW DATE - MARCH 29th!!!***** After-prom's Annual Fundraiser, **Mr. Grafton**, will be held on Saturday, March 29th at 7:00 pm. We are hoping to have 3/4 contestants from each grade level this year. There will be a few practices prior and a mandatory dress rehearsal on Friday, March 28th. If your son is interested, please have him stop by the front office and sign up ASAP! Please email Sandy Cherry at RSAAGcherry@cox.net if you have any questions!
- Order your **graduation flag and yard sign** and show your school spirit! The order form is attached, so please fill it out and send it to the main office to be put in the PTSA box. Proceeds for this fundraiser goes to support the GHS after prom. The flags are \$20 and the garden signs are \$25. We only have 3

garden signs left, so order yours today! Thank you for supporting the after prom! Any questions, please call Deanne Wagner at 757-951-3085.

- **Attention Grafton Parents:** The After Prom Committee is selling "Grafton Parent" t-shirts and t-shirts for parents of Seniors that say "I'm having a SENIOR Moment, My child is Graduating." Shirts are \$10 each. Pictures of the shirts and an order form are attached to this email. All money raised will go to After Prom. Please feel free to contact Courtney Engel at JGRacn24@aol.com if you have any questions! Thank you for supporting After Prom!

4. Clubs/Activities News:

- The next **FCA** meeting will be held Monday, Feb 10 at Hannah William's house beginning at 7:00. Please arrive between 6:30 and 7:00 for food and fellowship.

The week of February **10-14**, FCA will be sponsoring the **SOUPERBOWL of Caring** campaign. This is our 6th year participating in this community survive project. We need your help by donating money and non-perishable foods during that week. All money and food collected will be donated to a local food pantry. This campaign is scheduled close to the NFL Super Bowl to bring attention to food needed in our community. We need to step up and help restock the food bank pantries that have been depleted during the holiday season. Please help, by making food and or monetary donations Feb 3-6, 2014 and help GHS FCA TACKLE HUNGER!

If you have any questions, please contact Deborah Wright, Huddle Leader, at dwright@ycsd.york.va.us

- **Study Abroad Opportunity: July 2014:** The William and Mary Confucius Institute offers a summer study opportunity for students who would like to go to China for two weeks. More information is available on the WMCI website:
<http://www.wm.edu/sites/confuciusinstitute/communityprogramming/summercamp/index.php>.

The purpose of the trip is "to promote exchange between the youth of China and the United States and enhance the understanding of American high school students of Chinese language and culture, thus to stimulate their interest in Chinese learning." It is an amazing opportunity for 2,500 dollars.

I am planning to serve as a chaperone for the 2014 trip. I also accompanied the 2012 group to Jilin and Beijing, China. I can say that the trip was eye-opening and life-altering for the 22 students who made the trip. They were able to form genuine friendships with Chinese students and to understand important components of culture and the human experience. (This was also true for me.) There are photographs from our trip on the website.

The fee covers international flights, visa fee, and registration fee. The students are responsible for the flights to the meeting point, Richmond or Washington, DC and travel insurance throughout the journey. Hanban/Confucius Institute will provide accommodations, local transportation, and all group activities and sightseeing for students and chaperones during their stay in China. Students will tour major sites in China. Also, they will need to bring spending money with them.

Finally, the trip is very safe as well as enriching. Students are with American chaperones and Chinese educators, and we set up procedures for the safety and enjoyment of all students throughout the two-week period.

Registration must be submitted by February 28. If you or students have any questions, please email me at mnoobile@ycsd.york.va.us . Thanks! Mary Flaherty-Nobile, GHS Teacher

5. Athletic News:

6. Helpful Websites:

The following is a list of useful links regarding guidance, calendars, and school board meetings:

1. Grafton High: <https://www.edline.net/pages/GraftonHS>
2. GHS Faculty & Staff Listing: <https://www.edline.net/pages/GraftonHS> (*Teachers/Staff link*)
3. Guidance: <https://www.edline.net/pages/GraftonHS/Guidance>
4. Clinic: <http://www.edline.net/pages/GraftonHS/Clinic>
5. Band: www.graftonband.com
6. Athletics: <https://www.edline.net/pages/GraftonHS/Students/Athletics>
7. Clubs & Activities: <https://www.edline.net/pages/GraftonHS> (*Clubs/Activities link*)
8. YCSD Calendar: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/docs/studentCalendar.pdf>
9. School hours: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/schools/schoolHours.aspx>
10. Attendance Requirements: https://www.edline.net/pages/GraftonHS/School_Info/Attendance
11. School Board Meetings & Dates: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/aboutUs/schoolBoard/meetings.aspx>
12. Lunch Prices: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/parents/studentInfo/lunchMenu.aspx>
13. Curriculum Info: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/parents/parentResources/curriculumGuides.aspx>
14. YCSD website: <http://yorkcountyschools.org>
15. Videos on math topics: <http://www.khanacademy.org/>
16. Step-by-Step homework problems review: <http://hotmath.com/> ** – Username: Clippers123 – Login, then search for your book
17. Explanations & examples for math topics: <http://www.sosmath.com/algebra/algebra.html>
18. Free graph paper: <http://www.printfreegraphpaper.com/>

7. Closing Thought:

1. “Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit. We are all the same in this notion: The potential for greatness lives within each of us.”
2. — *Wilma Rudolph, American runner and three-time Olympic gold medalist.*

Have a comment for the GHS PTSA or the school? Want something added? Reply and let us know! Input remains confidential.

Monday Message: themondaymessage13-14@cox.net

GHS PTSA website: <http://ghsptsa.digitalpto.com/>