



**PTSA Monday Message  
February 17, 2014**

**1. Upcoming dates:**

**Feb 17** – “A” Day

**Feb 22** – After Prom Car Wash

**Feb 21-23** – Belgian Waffle & Steakhouse Fundraiser

**Feb 24-27** – Vinny’s 2 Fundraiser

**2. Administrative/School Counseling News:**

- **AP Testing Information:** AP registration 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 Feb.18-19th. Please email Mrs. Huffines [shuffines@ycsd.york.va.us](mailto:shuffines@ycsd.york.va.us) or call her at 898-0419 if you have any questions.
- Mariner’s Museum needs assistance March 7-9<sup>th</sup> with greeting the public, working craft tables, helping with lunches for the re-enactors, etc. Anyone needing additional information can email [lfurey@marinersmuseum.org](mailto:lfurey@marinersmuseum.org) or go to [www.battleofhamptonroads.com](http://www.battleofhamptonroads.com).
- 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 6<sup>th</sup>- July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Visit the website for up-to-date information and application materials: [www.leadershiponthelawn.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:hampton@jlab.org) )

**3. PTSA News:**

- **CAR WASH** – Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9-3. Location is at One Stop Auto on Route 17 which is situated right next to Walmart and McDonalds. Get that salt washed off your car from the recent snow storms, and enjoy a hot dog while you wait!

- **Hospitality Help**

Thank you so much for all of the cookie donations for our staff Valentines cookie event. Everything was so pretty and yummy and the teachers were so appreciative. We appreciate all of your support!

- **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!

**How can you help?**

We are still actively searching for a Logistics Chair to work 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 need volunteers to help with the Outback dinner fundraiser coming up on March 13th at the school.

We need volunteers to help with Mr. Grafton which is coming up on March 29th.

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](mailto:mrshtduck@cox.net) if you can help us out in any way.

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!

- February Fundraising Feasts are as follows:

- **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.

- 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](http://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.

- After-prom's Annual Fundraiser, **Mr. Grafton**, will be held on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto: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](mailto:JGRacn24@aol.com) if you have any questions! Thank you for supporting After Prom!

#### **4. Clubs/Activities News:**

- Grafton High School Band presents The **2nd Annual Bazaar Craft and Vendor Show**  
March 1st 9:00am-2:30pm Grafton High School Cafeteria  
Come support this wonderful community event showcasing a variety of goods; Greek pastries, a variety of jewelry, cosmetics, bags, handmade crafts, kitchenware and much more.  
Please direct any additional questions to Claudia Hoyes @ 652-8922 or [claudiahoyes@gmail.com](mailto:claudiahoyes@gmail.com)
- **GHS Clipper Band Spirit Night at SWEET FROG!**  
Join us this Thursday, February 20th from 4 -10pm at the Grafton Sweet Frog for Spirit Night. Just let your cashier know that you are there for the Grafton Band Spirit Night and we will receive credit.  
Get together with friends and enjoy some great yogurt and good company! See you Thursday!
- **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](mailto: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](http://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](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. “No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.”
2. — *Eleanor Roosevelt*

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](mailto:themondaymessage13-14@cox.net)  
 GHS PTSA website: <http://ghsptsa.digitalpto.com/>

PTSA Board:

### **GHS PTSA Board 2013-2014**

President – Chuck Cooper  
 Vice President – Helen Dennie  
 Treasurer – Linda Anderson  
 Recording Secretary – Mary Catherine Fralich  
 Corresponding Secretary – Heba Elkobaitry

### **GHS PTSA Committee Chairs 2013-2014**

After Prom – Courtney Engel & Sandra DiGangi  
 Baccalaureate – Val Fendrick  
 Hospitality – Carol Caraballo & Cindy Howard  
 Membership – Courtney Engel & Sandra DiGangi  
 Monday Message – Sue DeLong  
 Reflections/Awards – **VACANT**  
 Student Directory – Liz Hamilton  
 Volunteers – Deanne Wagner  
 Web Page – Jeff Satterfield