



***PTSA Monday Message
January 6, 2014***

1. Upcoming dates:

- Jan 6** – “B” Day
- Jan 6** – Financial Aid Workshop
- Jan 9** – After Prom Meeting
- Jan 20** – School Holiday
- Jan 21** – PTSA Board Meeting
- Jan 21-23** – Early Dismissal – Exams
- Jan 24** – School Holiday
- Jan 27** – School Holiday
- Feb 1** – GABC Cold Feet 5K run/walk
- Feb 13** – ASVAB Career Exploration Program Exam (sign up in Guidance)
- Mar 6** – ASVAB Interpretation

2. Administrative/School Counseling News:

- **January VSBA Bullying Prevention Month.** There will be several school-wide events in January to observe VSBA Bullying Prevention Month (Virginia School Boards Association). Our theme for the month is Promoting Empowerment: Stand UP/Step IN. It has a two-part intent. First, to encourage bullying victims to have the confidence to seek help and speak out (Stand UP). Secondly, equally as important but maybe with even greater impact, it communicates the vital role of bystanders in providing support to classmates and establishing what is peer acceptable behavior at Grafton High School (Step IN). A central component of the month involves three interactive classroom sessions on Jan. 7, 14, 28 in the place of channel one. Other January events also include distribution of “Be An Active Bystander” bookmarks, a poster contest, “Mix It Up” day in the cafeteria to transcend cliques, shirt/bracelet day, and student-led morning and afternoon announcements. The Friends of Rachel (FOR) Club is taking the lead in event planning and is assisted by other school clubs. The FOR Club was established nationwide in the aftermath of the Columbine High School shootings in 1999 and the subsequent school assembly program, Rachel’s Challenge. Other high-profile school shootings since Columbine continue to address the issues of school climate, bullying prevention efforts, and mental health concerns. If you have questions, please contact any GHS administrator, Mr. Fred Hilder or Ms. Shakenya Chamblee.
- **Financial Aid Workshop:** Monday, January 6th, 6:30 pm in the Cafeteria. A financial aid advisor from Christopher Newport University will be at GHS to discuss financial aid programs, how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and to answer your questions.
- **Now Taking Applications!:** It’s that time of year to register for classes; register for Marketing I and enjoy all the great benefits! This course prepares all students for their future careers and college endeavors. Students learn important career skills such as professional job interviewing, resume writing and presentation skills. The course helps students develop a strong work ethic and develop a career understanding. During the year students have the opportunity to explore and research career opportunities and college offerings through projects, hands-on experience, and guest presenters from colleges and industry. See your Guidance Counselor for an application. Contact Mrs. McDonald at 833-7128 or amcdonald@ycsd.york.va.us for details.

- **Attention parents of Seniors:** Please have your student bring all of their college acceptance letters to Mrs. Bowles in the School Counseling Office. We will happily make a copy and return the original to your student! We want to proudly post all of your student's acceptances on our banner...." Look Who has been Accepted Where". Also, if your student is offered any scholarships, even if they are not going to accept them, please have them bring a copy to us as well. The Graduation Program will recognize all of the scholarships offered to your student.

3. PTSA News:

- **After Prom 2014** - only 19 weeks to go!! Grafton Parents and Students, the next After Prom meeting is Thursday 9th January at 6:30pm AT TABB LIBRARY. Please come along and volunteer where you can. We need to get the Solicitations moving along as without donations from local companies we cannot put together a budget for After Prom.
With no money there will be no After Prom!!

After Prom fundraisers for January:

- Belgian Waffle and Steakhouse at 14700 Warwick Blvd - 17/18/19 for breakfast, lunch and dinner
Please consider taking a night off cooking and visiting our After Prom supporting restaurant.
- **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:

5. Athletic News:

- **GABC Cold Feet 5K run/walk**
Saturday, February 1, 2014 10:00am
Fee: \$20 by 1/21/14, Late Fee: \$25 after 1/21/14.
Register with the attached form or register on-line: <https://www.raceit.com/register/?event=24052>
Race inquiries: GraftonColdFeet5K@cox.net or Elaine Jones, (757)618-0420

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:

"Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other."
-Abraham Lincoln

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://ghs_ptsa.digitalpta.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