



**PTSA Monday Message
March 31, 2014**

1. Upcoming dates:

Mar 31 – “A” Day

Apr 1 – YCSD 2015 Budget Presentation, 7:00 pm, Grafton HS

Apr 3 – YCSD 2015 Budget Presentation, 7:00 pm, Bruton HS

Apr 16 – Sweet Frog Fundraiser

Apr 19 – Color Me **Red & Blue** 5k Fun Run/Walk

Apr 19 – Plaza Azteca, Yorktown location Fundraiser

- **Virginia PTA Citizenship Essay Project:** Congratulations to Nathan Kaw-uh, GHS Freshmen, who placed 3rd in the Peninsula District competition and won a \$250 Savings Bond. We have no doubts this enterprising young man will be a future civic leader and entrepreneur!
- **Message from the President – Public Forum on YCSD Budget @ Grafton High School, Tuesday, 1 April @ 7pm**

We know you are getting bombarded with Budget information and request to contact your elected officials. Please understand that it is part of our responsibility as PTA leaders to get the information out to our membership lists. PTA is NOT just about Carnivals, hospitality events, and After-Prom. We are the largest children’s advocacy group in the nation, and need to make sure that all PTA members have all the information about what is happening in their school division.

The York County School Board passed the superintendent's proposed budget at its meeting on Monday, 24 March, to meet the required April 1st deadline. For more information about details in the YCSD FY15 Budget, please check out

http://yorkcountyschools.org/aboutUs/budget/FY15_Budget/default.aspx ALSO, I have attached YCSD Budget Infographic, and background information from both School Board Chair Mark Medford and Member Cindy Kirschke that provide a few interesting talking points about our school division's budget.

YCSD will now hold two forums about the FY15 budget: Tuesday, April 1st at 7pm at Grafton High School and Thursday, April 3rd at 7pm at Bruton High School. Please come out to one of these forums to ask questions and provide comments about the school budget.

THEN, our Board of Supervisors need to hear from parents in York County so that they understand the importance of quality education. Right now they are hearing from the retired population in York County who do not want them to fully-fund the schools. Make your voice heard! Here are the emails for the Board of Supervisors:

noll@yorkcounty.gov

shepperd@yorkcounty.gov

hrichak@yorkcounty.gov

wiggins@yorkcounty.gov

zaremba@yorkcounty.gov

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Respectfully

Chuck Cooper, President
GHS PTSA, 2013-2014

2. Administrative/School Counseling News:

- The **York County School Division** will hold two community engagement meetings to discuss the **2014-2015 budget**. Employees, parents and community members are invited to come learn more about the latest budget updates and have your questions answered.
 - Tuesday, April 1, 7:00 p.m., Grafton High School Kiva
 - Thursday, April 3, 7:00 p.m., Bruton High School Kiva
- **Hampton University Business of Engineering Summer Program:** The Business of Engineering program at Hampton University is a 2-week day program for 2013-14 9th grade students and will be held on July 14th – July 15th at Hampton University. The program's tuition is covered through the sponsorship from the US Department of Energy. There is a \$25 application/registration fee for the program that is due at the time of application. For pre-registration, application forms, and additional information for this worthwhile program, please visit <http://busofeng.weebly.com>
- **SCAD Visit April 14.** An admissions rep from Savannah College of Art and Design will be at Grafton on April 14 at 8:30am in the atrium for any interested students. She is also available for individual portfolio consultations or admission interviews. Sign up in the school counseling office.

3. PTSA News:

- 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 register on-line at www.graftonafterprom.com anytime from now until the day before the race or you can mail it in to Grafton High School, PTSA After Prom 5k Fun Run/Walk, 403 Grafton Drive, Yorktown, VA 23692. Registration information is also found on the After Prom website. Get a group together and come have some fun.

We are looking for a DJ to offer their services for the duration of the Fun Run. Do you own a DJ business or are there any Grafton students out there who DJ in their spare time and would like to show off their skills? If so please contact Sandra Di Gangi at sandradigangi@cox.net.

The fun run needs volunteers to make it a success! If you're not running/walking, please consider volunteering! Visit <http://mysignup.com/graftonafterprom-5k> to sign up for a slot that fits into your busy schedule!
- No plans for the week of Spring Break? Paint your own pottery at the Starving Artist Studio in Port Warwick anytime from **April 4 through April 13**. A portion of your pottery purchase will go to benefit the GHS After Prom! Please see the attached flyer for more info.
- **April Fundraising Feasts:**
 - **Sweet Frog Fundraiser** - Yorktown location on Route 17 - all day April 16th.
 - **Plaza Azteca/Yorktown location only** - April 19th - all day. You will need the attached flyer for the GHS After Prom to receive the donation. Come to the 5K Fun Run/Walk and treat yourself to lunch at Plaza on the way home.
 - **Belgian Waffle & Steak House** - located at 14700 Warwick Blvd, Newport News - starting Friday, April 25th until Sunday the 27th. You will need the attached flyer for After Prom to receive the donation from Belgian Waffle and Steak House.
- Attention seniors and parents of seniors: If you have had your senior pictures (cap and gown as well as drape/tux) taken by someone other than Candid Color, please contact Julie Martin @

paujalmart@netzero.net . She is in charge of decorations for after prom and is making something special for the kids with senior pictures. Thank you.

- **Graduation flag and yard sign** - Show your GHS spirit and order one today! Any graduating year can be sewn onto the flag. 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 supports the GHS after prom. The flags are \$20 and the garden signs are \$25. Thank you for supporting the after prom! Any questions, please contact Deanne Wagner at 757-951-3085 or wagsvegas@aol.com.
- 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. 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:

- Select Choir and Women's Choir both received 1st place at the Big Apple Music Classic competition last weekend in New York City.
Congratulations to Select Choir for being named Grand Champion at the Big Apple Music Classic!

5. Athletic News:

- Spring Sports Season is here!! Purchase a warm blanket for those cold games for \$50. Contact the athletic director.

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: *Baseball's Opening Day!*

1. "The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination."
2. ~Tommy Lasorda

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/>

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