Greetings from the Clipper Ship!

We hope everyone is having a relaxing summer filled with fun, rest and rejuvenation. We are getting excited to welcome back our Clippers and welcome new Clippers to the family!

We are also excited to welcome a new member of our administrative team, George Page. He will be serving as an assistant principal for us. He brings professional experience from NASA and 24 years in education.

Our team is hard at work to ensure you have the best possible experience at Grafton. We are proud of our continued excellence in academics, as well as athletics. We have so many opportunities for you to get involved at Grafton High School with clubs, activities, school events, sports, mentorships and volunteer opportunities.

Make sure you don’t miss any happenings at Grafton High School by following our Twitter account – Grafton High School @ClippersGrafton. Also, please make sure you have signed up to receive our weekly phone dialers and emails.

We look forward to having another successful year together. If you need anything, don’t hesitate to reach out to us! We are a team and more importantly we are the Clipper family.

Best Wishes,

Whitney Cataldo
Principal
New Student Orientation

New student orientation for rising freshmen and all new students will be held on Wednesday, August 29th from 8:30-10:30 am. Parents are encouraged to attend with their students. We will meet in the GHS auditorium for brief opening remarks before distributing class schedules and classroom visitation.

Back-to-School Night

GHS will hold Back-to-School Night at on Thursday, September 13th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet your child’s teachers and to learn more about the exciting academic environment at GHS. The evening’s activities will begin in the gymnasium.

Schedules

A list of all students’ first period classes will be posted on the doors of the school Friday, August 31st. Returning students will receive their schedules during their first period class on Tuesday, September 4th. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding!

Student Information System

The York County School Division provides student information online through the Aspen Family Portal. This secure web-based information management system is password protected and helps to make communication among students, parents, teachers, and administrators more efficient. Families can use the Aspen Family Portal to view student schedules, assignments and grades, as well as daily attendance records and family contact information. Additional information, including Aspen Family Portal account activation instructions, will be provided to students and parents at Open Houses and Back-to-School nights. The Aspen Portal should update on Friday, August 31st. Reference guides and answers to frequently asked questions are also available on the division website, yorkcountyschools.org.

Lunch

There are three lunch blocks. Students are assigned to a lunch block based on his/her 3A and 3B teachers. They may have one lunch block on A days and a different lunch block on B days. Third period teachers will tell students which lunch block to eat. Seats are not assigned for lunch blocks. Students are expected to clean up after eating and to push their chairs under the table when leaving. While in the cafeteria, students may listen to music, etc. using earbuds or headphones but must leave one ear unencumbered to allow for emergency communications. Students must remain in the cafeteria during the lunch block. If he/she needs to use the restroom, he/she should use the one at the end of the 200 hall, near the school counseling and attendance offices.

Lunch Prices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meal</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>$1.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>$2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk (pint)</td>
<td>$.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applications for the free and reduced lunch/breakfast program will be given to all students the first day of school and will also be available in the School Counseling Office throughout the school year.
School Fees
The following is a list of York County High School user fees as established by the School Board. Information will be sent home with students on the first day of school.
Special subject area fees:
- Vocational, Computer, and Art courses:
  - Full year: $15.00
  - Semester: $7.50
- Band Uniforms: $20.00
- Instrument Rental: $30.00

Obligations and Fees
An important part of learning responsibility is meeting obligations on time. It is imperative that any fees (see York County Handbook) are paid in a timely manner. Students who are placed on the Obligation List for lost textbooks, library fines or other monies may not be allowed to attend dances or other school sponsored events.

Clinic Update
Medications: Should your student require medication during the school day, please bring the medication in the original container with an intact label to the clinic. Permission forms are required to administer medication and are available online or in the clinic.

Students may carry an inhaler after parents/guardians submit a completed Virginia Asthma Action plan and meet with the school nurse. Students may carry an Epi-Pen after parents/guardians submit an Allergy Plan and meet with the school nurse. Otherwise, students may not carry medication while at school.

Emergency Update Information: Information provided on the Student Health Update Form is used when your student becomes ill or injured during the school day. Please contact the clinic with any changes in health history or contact information.

Health Screening: Vision and hearing screenings for new students to York County as well as all 10th grade students will occur during the first semester. Parents of 9th graders will receive a permission slip to allow scoliosis screening.

Additional information is available on the GHS website:
http://yorkcountyschools.org/GHS

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you!
Anita Petit, RN
(757) 898 – 0549
apetit@ycsd.york.va.us

Students in Need of School Supplies?
If you have a student that is unable to purchase needed school supplies, please see a guidance counselor or leave a message for an administrator in the main office.

Student Handbooks
Student Handbooks are issued on the first day of school. Please review the handbook and return the appropriate pages to your student’s teacher by the end of the first week of school. Please return the student information sheet your student receives the first day of school. This will allow us to update our emergency contact numbers so that we can reach you in a timely manner.

Media Center
GHS Librarian/Media Specialist - Kristen Falk (kfalk@ycsd.york.va.us)
The Grafton High School Library is open from 6:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each school day. Students may use the library facility and collection, including books, databases, computers, printers, AV materials, graphic novels, charging station, and board games at any time during the day. Students are encouraged to suggest books or other materials to be purchased by the library. The library’s goal is to support students and strives to be relevant and helpful to them for all their academic and personal needs. The library curates a collection to assist students with not only all of their research and academic needs, but also to provide them with access to the latest bestsellers, the most current test prep and college guides, and a large graphic novel and comic book collection. Parents are also welcome to check out materials from the collection at any time. Feel free to stop by anytime to learn more about some of the latest programs that the library offers including virtual reality field trips and thematic escape rooms/breakout boxes!
YCSD Dress Code

The York County School Division recognizes the importance of a division wide dress code in promoting and maintaining an orderly and safe learning environment. The purpose of the dress code is to promote a safe learning environment, which eliminates distractions, increases the focus on instruction, and promotes responsible dress for all students. The following guidelines apply to all students while in attendance at the school or school-sponsored events. The principal or principal designee at each school may also include additional dress code expectations and he/she reserves the right to determine what dress and appearance is appropriate for the learning environment. The school administrators will make every effort to be fair in monitoring and addressing dress code violations.

- Headgear will not be permitted to be worn in the building except for educational, religious, or medical purposes. Headgear refers to a covering worn on the head including, but not limited to hats, caps, sunglasses, and bandanas.
- Footwear: Students must wear appropriate shoes at all times. For safety reasons students are encouraged not to wear open-toes shoes. Shorts, Skirts, and Dresses: Shorts and skirts must not be shorter than 4 inches from the top of the knee. Form fitting clothing, such as yoga pants and leggings, must be worn with a garment that extends to the mid-thigh. Rips in pants must be no more than four inches from the top of the knee.
- Pants: All pants must be worn at the waistline.
- Shirts: No shirts may be worn that expose undergarments or the midriff. All sleeveless shirts must have straps that are at least three inches wide. Necklines shall be modest, not revealing and shall not allow cleavage to show.
- Clothing that is too tight or too revealing may not be worn.
- Examples of inappropriate clothing items include but are not limited to halter tops, pajama-like clothing, bedroom slippers, spaghetti straps, and off-the-shoulder, strapless or backless dresses or shirts.
- Students’ clothing, haircuts, tattoos or other accessories may not display any of the following: Weapons, pictures of tobacco products, drugs, alcohol, nudity, vulgarity, obscene, lewd, or profane words, inflammatory racial statements, items that can be perceived as gang affiliated, and other prohibited expressions as outlined by the principal.

Violation of the student dress code regulation will subject the student to disciplinary action by the school’s administration. The following discipline actions may include but are not limited to a phone call home for first time violators, various in-school discipline actions, to suspension for continuous violation of the policy. Students in violation of the dress code policy will be placed in Alternative to Suspension until the dress code violation has been resolved.

Rules for Student Conduct

1. Any student who brings a cell phone or other portable electronic communication device to school must adhere to the technology guidelines outlined in the AUP and BYOT Policy forms from the time he/she enters the building until the afternoon dismissal bell rings. If a student violates these rules, the device may be confiscated and disciplinary action taken.
2. Students are responsible for securing valuable items.
3. Skateboards, laser pointers and water guns are not permitted on school grounds or on school buses.
4. Extreme public displays of affection are not allowed on school grounds.
5. Students are not permitted in the halls without passes.
6. Students must identify themselves when asked to do so.
7. Students are not allowed in the parking lot unless they are arriving or leaving school or they have a pass from an administrator.
8. Students must ride their assigned bus unless they obtain a bus pass from the main office.
9. Students may not operate any vehicle on campus without a valid parking permit issued by attendance.
Attendance

Students are expected to arrive to school on time and ready to learn each day. Please submit notes (paper or email) to the attendance secretary within 24 hours of each absence. Students who arrive to school tardy are expected to sign in at the back door. Students accumulating 3 or more tardies per semester will receive disciplinary action.

GHS Honor Code

Honor is a combination of ideals such as integrity and respect. At Grafton High School, we hold this quality in high esteem. Regardless of gender, age, or race, honor is vital in everyone’s life. In accordance with the Grafton High School Honor Code, students are responsible for upholding the following:
- Each student is expected to respect the school, staff, each other, him or herself, as well as all property.
- Each student is expected to support the truth in all situations; untruthfulness should be reported and will be penalized.
Each student is expected to work independently on assignments, which are designed to be completed alone, and not give or receive assistance.

Bus and Parent Pick-up/drop-off Information

The 2018-19 school year begins Tuesday, September 4, 2018. Scheduled bus stops, times for pickup and drop-off for grades K, 6, 9 & new students will be mailed to parents in late August. Please download the MyStop app by visiting the yorkcountyschools.org website for bus route and stop times. The buses depart no later than 2:15 p.m. For safety reasons, once buses are in motion, they cannot stop to pick up students coming out of the building late. Students are required to proceed to the bus loop immediately after school to board the bus.

Please note that the student drop off and pick up section is at the back of the building in the loop around the anchor. Please follow these rules for the safety of all students and to create a smoother flow of traffic into and out of GHS.
- It is not appropriate to drop off students at the front curb or near the band room as it creates safety hazards.
- Parents should not turn around in the teacher parking lot or any student parking lots.
Students crossing Rt. 17 on foot or by bicycle, etc. do not have administrative approval to do so. Parents assume responsibility for students walking off school property. Walking permission forms are available in the main office for parents to submit granting approval for students to walk to and from school.

Parking

Students are required to apply and pay for a parking pass. Priority will be given to seniors on a first come first serve basis. The fee is $50/semester. Unauthorized parking in fire lanes at schools is a violation of law. The areas identified and marked as fire lanes shall not be used for personal parking conveniences, but shall be reserved for emergency vehicles providing services and for attended buses or as temporary/short-term authorized loading and unloading of vehicles. The cooperation of parents and/or visitors to the school facilities is appreciated in order to ensure the safety of the occupants and the protection of school property. Vehicles parked in fire lanes are subject to the issuance of fire lane summons/tickets.

Handy Tips for Parents
- If you need to see someone in the school counseling office, the clinic or attendance, you should use the back entrance. You can sign in there and save yourself time and steps.
- Attendance notes have to be signed by a parent. They may also be faxed or emailed within 24 hours of the absence.
- In the mornings, students should be dropped off in the back loop by the anchor only.
- If your son/daughter texts you saying that he/she is sick, please direct them to report to the clinic. Only the clinic staff may sign out sick students. It will save you time and confusion if your child is there waiting for you when you arrive.
- In order to ensure a safe and secure environment for all students, we maintain a 100% ID check. All visitors must show a state issued ID to be signed in to the school.
Summer Reading

Summer Reading For All
In the York County School Division, we believe summer reading should empower students to develop an appreciation for reading and enable them to become lifelong readers and learners. YCSD English classes have summer reading assignments for all students entering grades 6-12. Every middle and high school student is expected to engage in summer reading, and the coursework accompanying this summer reading requirement will be based upon the student’s English class enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year.

Regular English
All students entering regular English in grades 6-12 will read at least one book of their choosing this summer. In September, students will complete an assignment related to their summer reading. To help students and their parents with this requirement, schools sent home information to parents, and teachers reviewed expectations with students in class. Additionally, the division has compiled a list of high-interest, age-appropriate books identified for middle and high school students. The lists are available on the YCSD website.

Advanced/AP English All students entering Advanced or AP English classes will read the book(s) selected for specific courses and complete the assigned coursework for that class. Reading lists for each class, along with the accompanying assignment, are available on the YCSD website.

Questions?
Please contact your student’s school counselor or a school administrator for more information.

2018-2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 29       Rising 9th grade/New Student Orientation
September 4     All Students Report
September 13    Back-to-School Night
October 5       Early Dismissal
October 11      Interim Reports Issued
November 6      Election Day/Student Holiday
November 7      2nd Quarter Begins
November 12     Veterans Day/Student Holiday
November 15     Report cards Issued
November 21-23  Thanksgiving Holiday (Schools/Offices Closed)
December 14     Interim reports issued
December 19     Early Dismissal
Dec. 20– Jan. 1 Winter Holiday
January 2       Students Report
January 21      Martin L. King, Jr Day (Schools/Offices Closed)
*January 22     HS 2AB Exam Regular School Day
*Jan. 23-25     High School Exams Early Dismissal
January 28      Student Holiday
January 29      Third Quarter Begins
February 1      Report cards Issued
February 18     Presidents’ Day Holiday (Schools/Offices Closed)
March 1         Early Dismissal
March 6         Interim Reports Issued
March 29        Early Dismissal
April 1 - 5     Spring Break
April 8         Fourth Quarter Begins
April 12        Report cards issued
May 10          Early Dismissal
*May 20-31      SOL Testing Window
May 16          Interim Reports issued
May 27          Memorial Day (Schools/Offices Closed)
*June 10        HS 2AB Exam Regular School Day
*June 11-13     High School Exams Early Dismissal
June 13         Last Student Day
June 14         GRADUATION
June 20         Report cards mailed home

*Note: Exams will NOT be rescheduled. The principal will only give consideration to extreme circumstances. If absences during exams are not prearranged with prior principal approval, the absence may be considered as unexcused. Please make any requests for changes in writing at least one week ahead of time.
Daily Bell Schedule

Grafton High School rotates between an A and a B day schedule. Students attend 7 classes, 6 classes rotate between A and B days and 1 class they attend daily.

1A/B Block  7:20-9:03
2AB Block  9:08-10:03
3A/B Block  10:08-12:18
Lunch times
10:08-10:38
10:58-11:28
11:48-12:18
4A/B Block  12:23-2:05

Classes begin at 7:20. Students should be in the building prior to 7:15 in order to make it to class on time.

Abbreviated Bell Schedules

**Early Dismissal Schedule (No lunches)**

7:20 – 8:15  1st BELL (Periods 1A/B)
8:20 – 9:15  2nd BELL (Period 2AB)
9:20 – 10:15 3rd BELL (Periods 3A/B)
10:20 – 11:20 4th BELL (Periods 4A/B)

Please see school calendar for early dismissal dates.

**2-Hour Delay (Lunch is served)**

9:20 – 9:54  1st BELL (Periods 1A/B)
9:59 – 10:33  2nd BELL (Period 2AB)
10:38 – 12:23  3rd BELL (Periods 3A/B)
12:23 -- 2:05  4th BELL (Periods 4A/B)

*** Morning SOA and New Horizons classes do not meet when the school division is on a 2 hour delay. Afternoon classes will continue as scheduled.

**Exam Bell Schedule**

7:20 – 9:15  1st Exam
9:15 – 9:25  Break
9:25 – 11:20  2nd Exam

Congratulations to Mr. Wallace Green, Grafton High School Teacher of the Year!
Athletic News

Athletic ticket prices for regular season games for 2018-2019, as established by the Bay Rivers District, are:
$6.00 – Football
$5.00 – All sports except football and those listed below
Free - Cross Country, Debate, Forensics, Golf, One Act Plays, Scholastic Bowl, Tennis

An admission charge is required by the District for children in Kindergarten or older.

Season passes will be sold to all students for $45 and to all adults for $75 this year. This pass admits the bearer to any GHS home game during any season all year long. All post-season tournaments (districts, regionals, etc.) are exceptions to this policy. This is a great value, so parents and students are encouraged to purchase passes in the athletic office or at any home games during the year.

The Bay Rivers District has a Golden Age Athletic pass that is free to any Grafton High supporter over the age of 65. This pass is good for all District games for as long as you want. They are limited in supply.

All pass holders MUST present the pass in order to enter without purchasing a ticket. A $5 replacement fee will be charged for all lost passes.

If you have questions you may call the Athletic Director, Laura Parker, at 898-0563 or email lparker@ycsd.york.va.us.

GHS ALMA MATER
As we sail upon life’s sea
Hope and pride we find in thee
With the red, gray and blue
Our flag flies true
Through the storms that may rise
Still our spirit ne’er dies
As we travel on our way
We will cherish every day
You’ll forever be our anchor and stay
We are Grafton High!

GHS Fight Song
Let’s hear it for our Grafton Clippers
Here to fight and win tonight!
Go Big Red! Our Clippers
Always play with strength and might!
Silver, red and blue – to the Clippers, we’ll be true!
G-R-A-F-T-O-N! Grafton – that’s who!
Come on and show your Clipper pride
and share a victory tonight!
Fight!

School Mascot: Clippers
Also known as “Big Red”
School Colors: Red, Navy and Silver

SCA News
Clipper Crazies!!
All students are encouraged to join the Clipper Crazies this year. This spirit club will be $10 to join and will include a t-shirt and a free ticket to a GHS home sporting event (excluding football and boys basketball). All Clipper Crazies are eligible to purchase a GHS student athletic pass for all home games for $30 (normally $45). You will find Clipper Crazies supporting all of our teams this year - GO BIG RED!
Welcome back from the Grafton Athletic Booster Club!

I hope everyone had a great summer and time off with family and friends.

As we prepare for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year I would like to say thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time with concessions last year, concessions are the mainstay of our fundraising for GABC. Last year the GABC was able to give a record number of scholarships to Grafton student athletes because of your support and we hope that continues in 2018-19 either as a new member or as a returning member to the Grafton Athletic Booster Club. As we continue to improve our processes we look forward to another great year.

We are always looking for new board members to help support the GABC as athletes graduate and volunteers move on. No experience is necessary any position, just a willingness to learn and support the GABC. If you’re not sure where you might be able to help then become a Regular Board Member and come to the meetings to find out.

Our mission:

We were created to support and recognize the efforts of our student athletes. In addition to working with the athletic directors for both the high school and middle school to help provide equipment and/or uniforms for our athletic teams for practice and/or competition; we also support, recognize and celebrate the efforts of our teams with our sports banquets, senior nights, and website.

Please visit our website at: gabc.ch2v.com

Here you can find information about our board members, news, spirit wear, volunteering, team sports, and how to join the booster club.

Keith Zagursky
GABC President
keithz@causeyinc.com

Introducing our 2018-2019 SCA and Class Officers

Representing the Freshman Class, the Class of 2022:
President Yana Vora
Vice President Grace Zhang
Secretary Erin Nicolai
Treasurer Emily Nicholas

Representing the Sophomore Class, the Class of 2021:
President Julie Stonier
Vice President Allison Freedman
Secretary Lauren Campbell
Treasurer Luke Owens

Representing the Junior Class, the Class of 2020:
President Serena Olson
Vice President Caroline Kondek
Secretary Caroline Castellow
Treasurer Hannah Dempster

Representing the Senior Class, the Class of 2019:
President Abby Zwirschitz
Vice President Molly Fleri
Secretary John Lee
Treasurer Pranav Sondhi

Representing the Student Council Association:
President Florence Darko
1st Vice President Whitney Horton
2nd Vice President Aidan Quick
Parliamentarian Haley Sutton
Recording Secretary CiCi Spalla
Corresponding Secretary Mikey Kreuzer
The GHS PTSA board sends a heartfelt welcome to School Year 2018-2019!

Hi Clippers! Clippers respond with glee: Hi PTSA Board! We are absolutely delighted to welcome you back for what we already know will be another successful school year. We are hoping you are getting rest, relaxation and rejuvenation during your summer vacation. The PTSA Board is hard at work over the summer months to ensure we do all we can to continue some of the terrific benefits of being a PTSA member. What are some of those things you ask? Well we are delighted to share. We visit our phenomenal towns local businesses to beg, I mean ask for donations to support our different initiatives, meet to create new ideas on ways to fundraise to be able to support programs in the school effectively, generate new forms for membership as well as maintain our website, hold our annual audit meeting to ensure we are in compliance, attend PTSA training initiatives to learn and also share across regions best demonstrated practices and so much more!

While you are reading this things are already well underway within the school to prepare for the students. Such as many fall athletic sports have met and are conditioning our student athletes. The great sounds of the band/chorus can be heard on school grounds getting those instruments and voices perfected. The Color Guard is hard at work to ensure the display goes as it always does beautifully! Our cheer teams are flipping head over heels to showcase team spirit. The awesome administrative staff is getting all paperwork in order, ordering new books, materials etc. to give each student the tools needed. Our phenomenal Principal, Whitney Cataldo and her awesome support staff is having their hands in all sectors to ensure everyone is equipped to set sail come September and our fabulous Maintenance crew is overseeing the entire school grounds both inside and outside to keep our school beautiful!

As you can see all hands are on deck looking forward to another successful school year working alongside our students, teachers, parents, faculty, family and community is the continuous goal of the GHS PTSA organization. We are a partnership within the school and value the excellent students, parents and faculty that make Grafton High an outstanding school.

We would now like to take the time to share with our rising 9th Grade families about the PTSA within Grafton High School as well as remind our existing members and new members what your membership covers.

**Becoming A PTSA Member**

The cost to become a member is $6.00 per person. All students are also encouraged to become members as they have a voice and we want them to be able to have an inclusive atmosphere. As a member you have access to attend all monthly PTSA meetings where we go over our planning and initiatives. We also are recruiting a student representative from each grade level that can share ideas to promote student morale during the meetings. The Captain (Principal Cataldo) has even shared with me that the student selected can also receive volunteer hours for their time! Woohoo! If this possibly is something your student is interested in please contact me. Our PTSA Board meets generally every third Tuesday of the month in the evening at 6pm. There are only a couple of months that due to the holiday season we may meet earlier in the month or if it conflicts with another school event.

So what does your $6.00 membership cover? It enables us to continue to support the students/faculty and Grafton families in some of the following ways:

- Senior After Prom Event
- Senior Baccalaureate Service
- Reflections Student Art Program
- Indoor/Outdoor Beautification Program
- Monthly Student Members Appreciation benefit known as Red & Blue Crew
- All Senior Members can apply for Scholarships for Excellence in Volunteerism
- All Student PTSA Members 2 homework passes per year (check with the teacher first)
- Student Members all grade level Appreciation Awards Quarterly 3 different categories (Character, Most Improved and Academics) *New this year*
- School Assembly programs such as Don’t text and Drive, Anti Bullying and Internet safety
- All Members receive the weekly Monday Message via email that shares the current weeks events for the school including A/B day schedule
- All Members receive a discount list of local businesses in which showing your card entitles you to discounts (review www.graftonpta.org Programs tab/PTSA benefits
- All members receive national business discounts (review www.pta.org About PTA/Members Benefits)

These are just some examples of the many benefits that becoming a member provides. A portion of the $6.00 includes dues that are directly paid to the National and State PTA who then provides PTA/PTSA members with benefits at national businesses such as Hertz/ AARP/Lifelock just to name a few. You can see the full list of national businesses at www.pta.org. The National PTA lobbies Congress on key legislation on behalf of our children. It is a longstanding organization.

So now that you see how awesome PTSA truly is let us provide you the ways in which you can join or if a returning member can continue the awesome benefits of PTSA as each school year you have to renew membership! Also please let us add that GHS PTSA membership is not just for Students, Parents, and faculty. All family, neighbors, former Alumni of GHS and practically anyone that would like to join can. So we encourage all to join so that we can continue our partnership within our phenomenal school! There are several ways to sign up and we encourage all to find the way most convenient: You can bring the membership form that is enclosed in this edition of The Clipper Nautical, you can bring the membership form along with your payment (we accept cash, check or credit card) to the PTSA table that will be set up at both the Freshman/New Student orientation held on Wednesday, August 29th at 8:30 a.m. as well as on Back to School Night on Thursday, September 13th at 6:30 p.m., or you can put the form and the payment in an envelope with PTSA marked on the front of the envelope and send it in with your student to give to the Main Office or you can sign up and pay online at the following link: www.graftonpta.org/membership

Your membership card/cards will be sent to you via your student so that you can show your support of our great organization.
Volunteers
Volunteers are vital to continue doing all of our innovative initiatives. We absolutely need as many volunteers as we can get to keep us thriving within the school as well as in the community. We encourage and ask to please sign up for our many committees within the PTSA such as Red & Blue Crew, Hospitality, Baccalaureate/AfterProm, Indoor & Outdoor Beautification as well as other committees that always need volunteers who can provide their time for events and/or provide donated items to make various events successful. The Reflections Art Program currently needs an individual that can chair this awesome program and the Scholarship committee needs volunteers to be on a panel of judges. So there is something for everyone to do and no amount of time is too small so please sign up with one of our PTSA Board members, or check the membership form section that states volunteer but let me stress you do not have to be a PTSA member to be able to volunteer in that instance you can feel free to reach out to me directly.

Fundraising
Your awesome membership of $6.00 provides many great things, it however does not stretch across the many spectrums of initiatives we do at GHS throughout the school year. We always want the membership cost to be as low as we possibly can therefore we supplement that by our fundraising campaigns. The fantastic campaign called the Kroger Community Rewards program is one of the best we have as hey everybody has to eat right? Every single time you shop at Kroger a percentage of your completed transaction is sent to us directly from Kroger quarterly as a rebate. How awesome is that!!! Anyone you know can simply register their card along with your household. So all Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, cousins, and neighbors. Absolutely anyone you know can register their Kroger card using the instructions below and shop!

The instructions are below on how to register your Kroger Reward Card and also is available on the PTSA website at www.graftonptsa.org. To our Grafton Middle School rising 9th Grade parents you will need to re-register your rewards card for Grafton High School if you were previously enrolled in the program with Grafton Middle School. The code for Grafton High School and use our code that in which is 91378.

When registering have your Kroger Plus Card handy if you don’t have your Kroger Plus Card but have already created your online account it is available under your profile as well and you can write it down before beginning the below process. If you do not have a Kroger Plus Card no worries as you can obtain one at the customer service desk in person available at all Kroger locations. To register GHS PTSA with your Kroger Plus card you will perform the following steps:
• Go to www.kroger.com
• Click on Sign In/Register
• If you are a new online customer, you must click on SIGN UP TODAY in the ‘New Customer? Box
• Sign up your Kroger Rewards account by entering your zip code, clicking on your favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password, agreeing to the terms and conditions
• You should then receive a message stating to check your email inbox and click on the link within to the body of the email to confirm your sign up request
• If you already have an existing online Kroger account created please sign in with your username and password
• On the Kroger.com website click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step
• Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number
• Enter NPO number(91378) or name of organization
• Grafton High School PTSA is how we are listed, select organization from list and click on confirm
• To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see the organization’s name on the right side of your information page
• Do you use your phone number at the register when making a purchase? If so you can call 1-800-576-4377, select option 4 to retrieve your Kroger Plus Card number

Members will need to swipe the registered Kroger Plus Card or use the phone number associated with the registered account each time shopping at Kroger to have each purchase recorded in order for us to receive the quarterly rebate. We have increased our household participation from the previous year numbers of 47 to 74. Literally we flipped the number! That allowed a rebate increase from $1734.00 to $2325.40! Just imagine how much more we could receive with increased enrollments. This year I know will be fantastic. Kroger requires all members to re-register annually on the anniversary of their sign up. Our code again is 91378. Did I mention our code is 91378? Are you for certain I did not share that our code is 91378? We sincerely appreciate in advance your participation.

PTSA Reflections Program
Every year the National PTA supports a Reflections contest to recognize and encourage artistic creativity within 6 categories. All students are encouraged to submit their work for the contest. Creativity is within each individual so please submit in whatever category you would like to. The theme for this year is “HEROES AROUND ME”. The contest will begin in September with more information to be provided in the weekly Monday Message that all PTSA members receive as a part of Membership. If you would like more details on the different categories please feel free to visit: www.vapta.org/arts_and-education/reflections. Also if you would like to chair this awesome program this year please contact me directly utilizing the information listed below.

In closing, I tremendously want to thank you so much for taking the time to read over the information provided and hope all information provided has encouraged you to join the PTSA program at Grafton High School or simply re-register for membership if your household participated last year. We absolutely need and could do none of this without you so in advance a sincere THANK YOU! I look forward to seeing your wonderful families throughout the school year. I am available always to address any and everything. We encourage new ideas or suggestions you may have in order for us to continue to be successful. I have enclosed my information below. You can always go to our website in which has a wealth of information that is continuously updated throughout the year. Let’s go CLIPPERS! Here’s to a fantastic school year!

Nakeya Green
GHS PTSA President
president@graftonptsa.org
www.graftonptsa.org
The School Counseling Office at Grafton High School would like to help make the upcoming school year as smooth as possible for you and your student. Please do not hesitate to contact your counselor with any questions or concerns.

Students are assigned to counselors alphabetically:

A-C  Melissa Kashy  mkashy@ycsd.york.va.us
D-Ka  Jennifer Ericsson  ericsson@ycsd.york.va.us
Ke-Po  Leah Horrigan-Smith  lhorriganSmith@ycsd.york.va.us
Pr-Z  Joseph Erfe  jerfe@ycsd.york.va.us

Testing: SAT I, SAT II, ACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Test Date</th>
<th>Regular Registration</th>
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<tr>
<td>SAT I &amp; SAT II</td>
<td>October 6, 2018</td>
<td>September 7, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAT I &amp; SAT II</td>
<td>November 3, 2018</td>
<td>October 5, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT I &amp; SAT II</td>
<td>December 1, 2018</td>
<td>November 2, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT I &amp; SAT II</td>
<td>March 9, 2019</td>
<td>February 8, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>September 8, 2018</td>
<td>August 10, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>October 27, 2018</td>
<td>September 28, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The PSAT will be administered on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at GHS. All Sophomores will take this test. Juniors are encouraged to take this test as well, since the PSAT is the National Merit Qualifying test for juniors only. Parents may register their student to take the PSAT at Back to School Night on Thursday, September 13th.

To register online for the SAT go to: www.collegeboard.com

To register online for the ACT go to: www.actstudent.org

College Representative Visits: Many college admission officers schedule visits to meet with GHS students who might be interested in attending their college. Seniors and Juniors may attend these sessions. This schedule is kept in a notebook in the Guidance Office. If there is a college you are interested in, sign up in guidance and you will receive a pass on the day of the visit.
Senior Parents

Graduation Requirements: In order to graduate, a student must complete the course requirements for one of three diplomas offered in York County Schools. Each counselor will meet individually with their seniors early on in the fall to make sure that students are registered for the correct courses, discuss post-secondary plans and help make this important year go well for both you and your student. The School Counseling Office would like to encourage parents to participate in this very important planning conference. Please email your student’s School Counselor as soon as possible to schedule this meeting.

Post-Secondary Plans: 4-year college, 2-year college, apprenticeship, military, vocational/technical training, or work. At this point, you should have a good idea of which way you are headed.

Transcript Requests: Pick up a transcript release form from the Counseling Office and return the signed form to the Registrar. You will need to complete this form only one time, regardless of the number of applications you send. Complete your application on-line either through the Common Application or through Parchment. Get your personal Parchment Code sheet from your school counselor and create your Parchment Account. There is a link on the GHS School Counseling website to access Parchment directly.

To Do’s For Seniors:
- Conference with counselor
- Complete a student activity card
- Register for appropriate tests
- Begin application process for college, vocational and or technical training
- Maintain good study habits and grades throughout your senior year, as post-secondary institutions and employers look at final transcripts.

NCAA form if applicable: www.ncaaeligibility.org

To Do’s For Parents
- Participate in your senior’s counselor conference
- Talk with your student about his/her plans
- Complete the Federal Application for Financial Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after October 1, 2018.

Read the Clipper Nautical for upcoming dates and activities.

** New this year!! Complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at: www.FAFSA.ed.gov

Starting October 1st

A Parent Information Night For Financial Aid will be held on Tuesday, September 25 at 6:30 PM at Grafton High

Best College Deals
www.bestcollegedeals.com

The College Board
www.collegeboard.com

FAFSA on the web
www.fafsa.ed.gov

FASTWEB Scholarship Search
www.fastweb.com

Federal Student Aid Hotline
1-800-4FED-AID (1-800-433-3243)
www.fafsa.ed.gov

Scholarship Resource Network Express
www.srnexpress.com

Wired Scholar
www.wiredscholar.com

The Princeton Review
www.review.com

Pin number registration
www.pin.ed.gov
Freshman Parents

Your School Counseling Office would like to officially welcome you to Grafton High School! All high school students, of course, need their parents’ support, guidance and encouragement throughout their high school career. Here are some tips to help guide and advise your student:

- **Help your student to set realistic academic goals.**
- **Encourage them to be involved in extracurricular activities.**
- **Show your support by attending performances, games, etc.**
- **Make sure they understand that they are to be in school, on time, every day.**
- **Attend all open houses and Parent Information Nights.**
- **Write down the dates that interim reports and report cards come home, and expect your student to bring them home.**
- **Realize that it is your student’s responsibility to get homework done, to prepare for tests, and to follow the school’s rules.**
- **Work together with the school. Teachers and counselors are there to help your student get the best education possible. If you have a question or concern, call the school.**
- **Talk to your student about what is happening in school and be a good listener.**
- **Look for opportunities to praise good grades and extra effort.**
- **Help your student to choose appropriate courses along with their guidance counselor and teachers.**
- **Help them to explore and evaluate a variety of career and educational opportunities.**

Sophomore Parents

**PSAT:** All 10th graders will take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test on Wednesday, October 10th. This will be administered during the regularly scheduled school day. The PSAT provides practice for the SAT and comprehensive information to help students identify skills that need improvement while there is still time to make a difference. Students receive score reports with all of the questions and answers fully explained, to encourage them to learn from this assessment. The Guidance Department will return these score reports to your sophomores with a detailed discussion and power point presentation.

Junior Parents

**Get Involved:** High School is like anything else........the more you put into it, the more you get out. Students who are involved in activities do better academically and they enjoy high school more. Encourage your student to find at least one club or activity at Grafton High School this year!

**Plan and Prepare for the Future:** In order to prepare for the future it is important that your student get the best education possible. Remind them that they are building their high school academic record and every grade counts!

**Get more involved with your extracurricular activities.**

**Sophomore Parents**

**PSAT:** All 10th graders will take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Qualifying Test on Wednesday, October 10th. This will be administered during the regularly scheduled school day. The PSAT provides practice for the SAT and comprehensive information to help students identify skills that need improvement while there is still time to make a difference. Students receive score reports with all of the questions and answers fully explained, to encourage them to learn from this assessment. The Guidance Department will return these score reports to your sophomores with a detailed discussion and power point presentation.

**Junior Parents**

**September**
- Meet with your counselor as necessary to discuss your college plans. Review your schedule with him or her to make sure you’re enrolled in challenging classes that will help you prepare for college.
- Parents register and pay to have their student take the PSAT. This can be done at Back to School Night.
- Practice for the PSAT/NMSQT at collegeboard.com.
- Take the practice test in the PSAT/NMSQT Student Bulletin. This will be distributed to parents who register their student for the PSAT.
- Get more involved with your extracurricular activities.

**October**
- Take the PSAT/NMSQT to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation programs for recognition and scholarships. Be sure to check 'yes' for Student Search Service to hear from colleges and scholarships.
- Make a list of college characteristics that are important to you. Use College Search to find colleges that match your preferences.
- Go to college fairs in your area.

**November**
- Gear up for mid-year finals.
- Learn more about financial aid.
- Talk to your parents about financing college and use the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) Calculator to estimate how much your family will be expected to pay.
- Continue your practice for the new SAT and/or ACT.
Junior Parents cont.

December
- Use your PSAT/NMSQT Score Report Plus for personalized feedback on your academic skills, and to help you get ready for college and the new SAT.
- It’s mid-year crunch season. Sharpen up your time management skills to help you make it through.
- Find out about college firsthand from college friends who are home for the holidays.

January
- Start a file of your college brochures and information. Before you know it, they’ll start pouring in.
- Are you selecting courses for your senior year schedule soon? Consider AP courses. You can get college credit or advanced placement for qualifying grades on AP Exams at most colleges.
- Consider college characteristics - private or public, two- or four-year, close to home or far away? Then use College Search’s Advanced Search to find colleges that match your needs.

February
- Plan to keep your momentum going and avoid senioritis next year by continuing to take challenging classes.
- Plan to visit colleges this spring while they’re in session. Be sure to schedule an interview with admissions officers when you visit campuses.
- Register at collegeboard.com to take the SAT in the spring.

March
- Look for a great summer opportunity -- job, internship, or volunteer position.
- Consider taking a course at a local college, especially if you’re thinking about majoring in a subject for which your school doesn’t offer AP courses.

April
- Check with your counselor for special summer school programs for high school students at colleges and other institutions.
- If applicable, prepare writing samples, portfolios, audition tapes, and other materials for the fall college application season.

May
- Make a resume of your accomplishments, activities, and work experiences.
- Start your summer reading list. Ask your teachers to recommend books.

June
- Finalize your summer plans. Try to find a job or activity that relates to your career interests.
- Explore college majors that you might want to try. Be sure the colleges you’re considering offer the majors in which you’re interested. Use College Majors Search to find out which majors are offered at which colleges.
- If you are considering military academies or ROTC scholarships, contact your counselor before summer vacation.

Selective Service Registration
Federal law requires males to register with Selective Service within 30 days of their eighteenth birthday. Failure to do so may deprive individuals of their rights to state and federal student assistance, state and federal employment, and other benefits. Register online at http://www.sss.gov/.

Military Recruiting
The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires school divisions to provide military recruiters with information about high school juniors and seniors. Parents may opt to not provide this information by completing the appropriate section of the Student Handbook prior to returning it to the school.

Assessment and Compliance Coordinator

The Assessment and Compliance Coordinator works closely with all types of testing, as well as students with 504 plans, attendance contracts, and remediation. If you have questions about AP, PSAT, or SOL testing, or would like information about your student’s 504 plan, please contact our ACC at the number below.

Mrs. Susan Huffines
shuffines@ycsd.york.va.us
898-0411
Administrative Staff

Principal:
Mrs. Whitney Cataldo (wcataldo@ycsd.york.va.us)

Assistant Principals:
Mr. George Page (gpage@ycsd.york.va.us) (A-K)
Dr. Abbie Martin (amartin2@ycsd.york.va.us) (L-Z)

Assessment and Compliance Coordinator:
Mrs. Susan Huffines (shuffines@ycsd.york.va.us)

School Counselors

Counseling Director:
Melissa Kashy (mkashy@ycsd.york.va.us)
Joe Erfe (jerfe@ycsd.york.va.us)
Jennifer Ericsson (jericsson@ycsd.york.va.us)
Leah Horrigan Smith (lhorrigansmith@ycsd.york.va.us)

Contact Us
Main Office  898-0530
School Counseling  898-0550
Attendance  898-0543
Athletics  898-0563
Clinic  898-0549
Fax  855-369-2612

Address
403 Grafton Drive
Yorktown, VA 23692

Follow us on social media for news and updates!

Grafton High School
@ClippersGrafton
yorkcountyschools.org/GHS