



**GHS HEADMASTER and PTA NEWS**  
**Tuesday, October 2, 2018**  
*Setting the standard for excellence in public education*  
**(203) 625-8000 [Click Here to go to GHS Website](#)**

**UPDATES FROM GHS INTERIM HEADMASTER:**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the start of the 2018-2019 school year. It was wonderful to see so many parents attend each of our open houses. It was a great opportunity to get to know what your student's day is like at GHS!

Each month, the PTA and I send you news and updates from GHS in the form of this electronic newsletter. We are committing to sending this newsletter in both English and Spanish. Please allow a day or two for the Spanish translation (to be posted on the website). The newsletter will always be posted on our News and [Social Media](#) page found under the GHS Information tab on the GHS website.

Our goal is to keep you informed with the news that you need without burdening you with a lengthy publication. If there is timely news or emergency information, I will communicate that separately through email or a phone message. You can also stay abreast of news at GHS via our Twitter accounts ([@GHSHeadmaster](#); [@GHS CARDS](#); [@GHS MediaCenter](#)). Communication through Twitter does NOT replace other information (no need to worry if you don't have Twitter).

Thank you,  
Richard Piotrkowski, GHS Interim Headmaster

***UPCOMING EVENTS TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:***

**Roots& Shoots/ Hand in Hand Club**

On Saturday, October 6th, **Roots & Shoots and GHS Helping Hand clubs** will be participating in the first charity walk around Tod's Point in Greenwich to benefit **Dana's Angels: DART To the Finish Charity Walk**. Register NOW at [DanasAngels.org](#). Follow the simple steps and register as an individual or as a team. Prizes given for the registrant with the most donations raised. Sign-in starts at 8am at the Clambake area and the walk begins at 9am. Join us for an invigorating walk around beautiful Tod's Point, and help us raise much needed funds to find a cure for Niemann-Pick type C disease. If any student would like to volunteer at the event and earn community service hours, please contact the GHS Roots & Shoots Club ([kathleen\\_mendez@greenwich.k12.ct.us](mailto:kathleen_mendez@greenwich.k12.ct.us)) or the GHS Helping Hand Club ([erin\\_randall@greenwich.k12.ct.us](mailto:erin_randall@greenwich.k12.ct.us)).

**Join Unified Sports and Hand in Hand!**

Unified Sports and Hand in Hand are two school-based programs designed to foster a positive and inclusive foundation among special and general education students. Unified Sports is held on Saturdays (schedule to be determined) and offers three sports throughout the year: indoor soccer, basketball, and track and field. Hand in Hand will be held on Mondays at 3:30p.m. in room 623. If you would like to receive more information about either program or be added to the email lists, please contact **Erin Randall at [erin\\_randall@greenwich.k12.ct.us](mailto:erin_randall@greenwich.k12.ct.us)**

### **Headmaster Forums:**

Headmaster Forums are relatively small gatherings (20-40 parents) with the GHS Headmaster. The topics for discussion are largely determined by the parents in attendance. All Headmaster Forums will be held in the evening starting at 7:00PM in the Media Center. The next Headmaster Forum for all GHS parents is Monday, October 15th.

### **From the Guidance Department:**

College Night, GHS' annual college fair is being held Thursday October 11th from 7pm-9pm in the Student Center. The back parking lot will be reserved for college admissions reps. Shuttle buses will be available from the Central Middle School parking lot, and we recommend carpooling or getting dropped off. College Night is especially suited to students in 10th and 11th grade beginning research into their options. See the GHS Guidance website for the *GHS Planning Guide* with questions and other tips to make the most of College Night.

Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors with learning disabilities, ADD/ADHD, or Autism Spectrum Disorders who are considering the need for a structured support program at the college/university level are invited to attend a speaker pre-session before College Night. Held from 6pm to 7pm in Room 805 (Chorale Music Room), a panel of admissions reps from Adelphi University, Curry College, Landmark College, Marist College and Manhattanville College will speak about "Support Services in Postsecondary Education".

The PSAT is being administered to all freshmen, all sophomores, and previously registered juniors on Wednesday October 10th. For the special daily schedule, please see the GHS website. Students must bring #2 pencils and a calculator. We also recommend they bring snacks and water for during the breaks, as testing runs from 8:30-12:15. Further details will be emailed to each grade level.

**The first Hispanic Parent Meeting (conducted en Espanol) will be held Tuesday October 2nd at 7pm in the GHS Media Center.**

### **Student Activities:**

**Compass Yearbooks:** The 2019 yearbook and Senior Ads may be purchased online at [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com). The deadline for the "early bird" yearbook price is December 31, 2018. Senior Ads are due by December 14, 2018.

**Student IDs:** All students must carry their ID and schedules. Replacement IDs can be purchased in Student Activities for \$5.

**School Store:** School Store is opened every day from 8:00-8:30am and 9:00am-3:00pm. Come to purchase your Cardinal gear and school supplies!

**Intramurals:** Ping Pong is a supervised activity that takes place on Tues. & Thurs. from 3:30-4:30. This is a drop in program and all are welcome. Cancellations will be posted on the white board by the gym area.

### **Library Media Center:**

Check out the [September Cardinal Bookmark](#) for information regarding Ninth Grade Technology Orientations, Library Hours and Tech Help, Book Breakfast for *The Class*, and interesting articles.

[Greenwich Reads Together](#) programming starts on October 7 and concludes on November 6 with [Code Girls](#) author [Liza Mundy](#) speaking at Greenwich High School during the school day and at Greenwich Library at 7 pm that evening. Please encourage students to participate in the [GRT Essay Contest](#), the high school deadline for submission is Tuesday, October 23.

**The GHS Media Center will be closed on Wednesday, October 10 due to PSAT testing.**

### **GHS Dress Code**

We ask parents to help students make wise decisions about the clothing they wear to school. As stated in our Parent Handbook: *Dress Code Students should dress within reasonable limits so that their dress does not jeopardize the health or safety of the wearers or others, or cause distraction or disruption of the educational process as determined by the administration. (Clothing which advertises drugs or alcohol is inappropriate for school wear.) GHS reserves the right to determine what constitutes dress that is disruptive to the educational climate or process. Footwear and shirts must be worn at all times. Clothing should be neat and clean. Teachers may ask students to remove their hats during class time.*

### **Anonymous Alerts**

Anonymous Alerts allows students or parents to anonymously submit any sensitive or urgent student issues quickly to school officials. Students or parents can submit reports such as bullying, cyberbullying, depression, dating violence, drug or alcohol use, threats against the school, weapons on campus and more. All messages submitted remain completely anonymous. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

### **NEW: 2018-2019 Student Drop Off/Pick Up Procedures**

**Parent Drop Off** - Following the same pattern as last year, parent drop off before school will be in the BACK of the school. Parents will be directed to enter GHS through the main entrance, drive behind the building and drop off students by the gym. Greenwich Police will assist us in directing traffic. For obvious safety reasons, parents should not drop students off in the street, in neighbors' driveways, or in other entrances to GHS. For your convenience, students may be dropped off at 7:15. They will be minimally supervised until security and other school personnel arrive at 8:00.

**Parent Pick Up** - Following the same pattern as last year, parent pick up after school will be in the BACK of the school. Parents will be directed to enter GHS through the main entrance, drive behind the building and pick up students by the gym. Greenwich Police will assist us in directing traffic.

## **UPDATES FROM THE GHS PTA:**

### **Message from the Co-Presidents:**

Dear GHS Families,

We hope you enjoyed meeting your child's teachers during our September Open House nights. It's hard to believe Autumn is upon us and the school year is in full swing. Our first PTA General Membership Meeting was a huge success with standing room only. We received great suggestions of items the PTA could purchase to support our students. Additionally, we asked for topics or speaker suggestions for upcoming meetings. Keep the ideas coming! Email us your ideas at [GHSPTA@ghspta.org](mailto:GHSPTA@ghspta.org).

If you missed the PTA membership table during Open House, incentives can be picked up in the Student Activities office beginning **October 8th**. If you joined at or above the \$250 level, please email [Membership@ghspta.org](mailto:Membership@ghspta.org) to arrange pick up. If you have not joined the PTA yet, [click here](#) and **help us reach our goal of 100%**. PTA Members receive access to our online student and faculty directory.

Thank you for your support!  
Anne Pfetsch & Maureen Bonanno  
GHS PTA Co-Presidents



### College Night

The GHS annual College Night is **Thursday, October 11th at 7pm**. Last year, representatives from approximately 250 colleges attended this event which is geared toward our 10th, 11th and 12th grade parents and students. The purpose of this event is to help with the college research and selection process. If you are interested in hosting one to four college admission representatives for an early dinner prior to the event, please [volunteer online through MSA](#). No 12th Grade parents, please. For questions about the event, please contact **Anna Povinelli** at [aspovin@aol.com](mailto:aspovin@aol.com).

### Paint The Museum Red

**Purchase your [tickets](#) for the GHS PTA Benefit Cocktail Party Paint the Museum Red on for Friday, October 19!** Please join us from 6:30-9:30pm at the Bruce Museum to help raise funds for our school. Join us for cocktails, heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, raffle and more. This year the  *bidding will be an online system*, so you can bid comfortably from your phone while you walk around the galleries and enjoy the stunning Bruce Museum. We encourage you to join us in celebrating GHS and supporting the PTA. Come explore the Bruce Museum, bid, mingle, nibble and have fun!

**Make a donation or volunteer to help!** We are currently seeking items to be donated as auction and drawing prizes, such as a golf outing, weekend getaway, case of wine, Broadway or sports tickets. If you would like to donate an item or join the committee to assist with the event in any way, please contact Leila Horn and Leslee Spadone at [Benefit@ghspta.org](mailto:Benefit@ghspta.org).

### Greenwich Odyssey of the Mind

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students K through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the state, and World level. Application deadline is October 5th. For information and application please email Leila Horn at [leilahorn@gmail.com](mailto:leilahorn@gmail.com) or call Leila Horn at 917-257-3256.

### National Voter Registration

Connecticut has several big elections in 2018 and Greenwich residents will be casting ballots for 12 federal and state offices. Election day is Tuesday, November 6. No matter which party you support or which issues matter most to you, please take 2 minutes to make sure you are registered to vote this November. If you recently turned 18, moved, changed your name or became a citizen, you need to register (or re-register). Visit <https://nationalvoterregistrationday.org/>. It's safe, secure and easy to use.

### AmazonSmile

Please consider supporting the GHS PTA throughout the year by linking your Amazon account to AmazonSmile! It is easy to do and once set up, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the GHS PTA, when you shop on AmazonSmile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)). All you need to do is Select PTSA Connecticut Inc Greenwich High as your charity, and shop away! Please email [treasurer@ghspta.org](mailto:treasurer@ghspta.org) for more information.

### Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars with these important dates:

- **Spanish Speaking Open House** - October 2 at 7:00pm Media Center

- **Columbus Day – SCHOOLS ARE OPEN** - October 8
- **College Night** - October 11 at 7pm Student Center
- **Headmaster Forum** - October 15 at 7pm Media Center Rooms 1 & 2
- **GHS PTA Benefit** - October 19 at the Bruce Museum 6:30-9:30pm
- **Homecoming Week** - October 22 - 27
- **Homecoming Dance** - October 26, 6-10pm Student Center
- **Homecoming Parade** - October 27 at 11am Greenwich Avenue
- **Homecoming Football Game** - October 27 at 3pm Cardinal Stadium
- **Grade 9 Parent Meeting** - October 23 at 7pm Media Center Rooms 1 & 2
- **Grade 12 Parent Meeting** - October 23 at 7pm Room 801 Choral Room
- **Election Day SCHOOLS CLOSED** - November 6
- **PTA Workshop “The College Process”** - November 8 at 9:30am Media Center

Additional dates are available on the full School Calendar by clicking [HERE](#).