



GHS INTERIM HEADMASTER and PTA NEWS

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

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,

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. 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

INFORMATION/UPCOMING EVENTS TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:

NEW! Security Information for Parents and Visitors to GHS

All visitors to GHS will now have their driver's license scanned in a system called "RAPTOR". This system checks the individual for criminal warrants, outstanding court orders that involve injury to children, and scans the national database of sex-offenders. Once cleared through the system, visitors are given a pass to be worn that portrays their picture and the location in the school being visited. **Please, when checking in make sure to have your driver's license and license plate number available.**

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, April 8, 2019. Ms. Lillian Perone, Program Administrator Physical Education will be our guest speaker.

School Improvement Plan

The 2018-2019 [GHS School Improvement Plan](#) is available. Current and past plans are available on the [GHS Website](#).

National Honor Society Update

The **final deadline** for currently eligible juniors to submit their National Honor Society packet is Tuesday, April 9 by 3:30 pm. Decisions for the Class of 2020 will be released in late June.

Current juniors who did not have the required 3.55 and higher GPA at the end of first semester will be reviewed again in late June after final grades are posted. Any junior who achieves the 3.55 GPA at that time will be invited to submit a packet that will be due in mid-October.

The National Honor Society induction will be in early November with the date to be announced.

GHS Outreach, CODA, and StressLess Club:

April Happenings at GHS: Prevention is BEST!

1. Clothing/ Textile Drive to benefit [the Harris Project](#): Monday, April 1st - Monday, April 29th. Drop off at GHS back gym parking lot and ARCH Street Teen Center. See attached flyer for more information.
2. Annual Health Fair for students and staff: Thursday, April 4th.
3. [Interactive Educational Theatre](#), Assembly for students and staff: Friday, April 5th.
4. Safe Driving Week: Monday, April 22nd - Friday, April 26th:
[Choices Matter](#) Assembly: Monday, April 22nd.
[AAA- Teen Safe Driving- Under the Hood Maintenance 101](#) Assembly, Wednesday, April 24th.
[Click It For Cassie](#) Assembly, Thursday, April 25th.
Safe Driving Day Event, with [Crashed Car Simulation](#), Friday, April 26th.

Athletic Department

**REGISTER FOR
ALL FALL SPORTS!**

Registration will open July 1

Please contact our webmaster with any questions or concerns:

ghsathleticswebmaster@gmail.com

FALL STARTING DATES:

AUGUST 22

**Boys Cross Country
Girls Cross Country**

AUGUST 23

Football

AUGUST 26

**Cheerleading
Boys Water Polo**

AUGUST 29

**Field Hockey
Boys Soccer
Girls Soccer
Girls Swimming and Diving
Girls Volleyball**

SEPTEMBER 3

Dance

Student Activities Information-Graduation Information

Attention Parents of Graduating Seniors - Graduation day has been set for Monday, June 17th. The fee for graduation 2019 is now \$60. Please pay as soon as possible. You may pay the fee through myschoolbucks.com or download the order form from the school website <https://www.greenwickschools.org/greenwich-high-school/student-life/class-of-2019>

Junior Prom Tickets are now on sale in the school store or can be purchased through My School Bucks for \$75.

For all Student Activities information please go to the website [greenwickschools.org/ghs](https://www.greenwickschools.org/ghs) and click on the student activities web page.

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.

Library News

Check out the [March Cardinal Bookmark](#) for students' favorite books, results of the new lunch policy the Media Center, a shout out to the GHS PTA, and a few interesting articles.

UPDATES FROM THE GHS PTA:

Message from the Co-Presidents:

Dear GHS Families,

Our PTA parent speaker series featuring life hacks for a healthier, happier teen continued this month with ***Teen Anxiety: The Hidden Crisis***. We hosted two expert speakers from the [The Southfield Center for Development](#); Behaviorist, Rebecca Strang and Psychologist, Dr. Lindsay Blass. Together with our own Jeff DeTeso, GHS Psychologist, they spoke about the growing epidemic of anxiety in our 21st century youth. Our [Parent Resources page](#) has links to recordings of all our featured speakers and handouts.

The GHS PTA 2019-2020 nominating process is in full swing. Click on our [Nominating web page](#) to see our many Board and Committee positions. Inquiries can be directed to the Nominating Committee at Nominating@ghspta.org.

Best regards,
Anne Pfetsch & Maureen Bonanno
GHS PTA Co-Presidents
ghspta@ghspta.org

Grade 12 Parent Meeting

All senior parents are encouraged to attend the Grade 12 Parent Meeting on **Tuesday, April 9th at 7pm** in the GHS Choral Room 801. We are hosting this meeting along with GHS administrators and will have information about graduation lawn signs, the logistics of graduation day and the graduation party. *Also, coming soon...online auction for 5 VIP Graduation Parking Spaces. Details to come via email.*

Teacher Appreciation Week

To show our appreciation for our GHS teachers and staff, the PTA is funding and serving a catered luncheon on **April 24th** with raffle prizes and gift cards. We are also planning breakfast and sweet treats in the Houses during the week. We made it easy to contribute a \$25 gift card with [one click shopping](#).

We also make it easy to sign up to donate food or other items in your house for the **April 30th Breakfast or May 2nd Dessert Extravaganza**. [Bella](#), [Cantor](#), [Clark](#), [Folsom](#), [Sheldon](#). If you have any questions, please contact yp.programs.services@ghspta.org

GHS PTA 2019-2020 Open Nominations

The GHS PTA nominating process is underway! A brief description of our Executive Board and Committee positions can be found on our Nominations/Volunteer GHS PTA web page at <https://www.greenwichschools.org/greenwich-high-school/pta/volunteer-handbook>. Training and guidance are provided and there are a variety of positions to suit the amount of time your schedule allows. Inquiries and nominations can be directed to the Nominating Committee at Nominating@ghspta.org.

Graduation Party

A memorable highlight of your senior's graduation celebration is the GHS Senior Graduation Party. The GHS Graduation Party is hosted by Greenwich High School and funded exclusively through donations. The GHS PTA coordinates all vendors, volunteers and prize donations. The party is held graduation night from 10pm - 2am and draws around 75% of the 697 graduates. Our fundraising goal to run this party is \$28,000. Please consider giving as generously as you can online via [MySchoolBucks](#) or by [mail](#).

PTAC Essence Award 2019 - Nomination Deadline April 29

The PTAC Essence Awards recognize up to two outstanding PTA members of the Greenwich Public Schools PTA communities, who through exemplary achievement, have inspired others, demonstrated selfless spirit and made a significant difference in our school community (individual school or district wide). The Essence Award Committee will award one traditional Essence Award and may also award a Lifetime Essence Award. There are so many amazing volunteers in our school system and we hope you will take the time to nominate them so they can be recognized for their contributions. It would be great to receive at least one nomination from every school! The application consists of an essay of no more than 500 words, and must be submitted through [this online form](#). The [PTAC website](#) has more information. The awards ceremony will take place on **Wednesday, May 29 at 10am** at the Havemeyer Building, 290 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT. Contact: PTACessence@gmail.com

PTA Online Directory And Parent Portal

PTA members can access our new online Parent Portal via [MySchoolAnywhere](#). Use your email on file at GHS. Click '*Forgot your password?*' and follow the instructions to reset your password. You can access MSA, including the GHS PTA directory, from any internet connected device, including your smartphone and/or download the GHS PTA MSA App. It's more than just a directory. Check it out! For questions and further assistance contact vp.communications@ghspta.org.

Need a Helping Hand? Hire a GHS Student

Need a babysitter, tutor, eldercare, home help, tech assistance, sales help, or office help? Is your student looking for some full or part-time work, or perhaps a community service opportunity? Go to ghs-ses.org for more information on the PTA sponsored and operated Student Employment Service (SES). It's also quick and easy to register a job opportunity. Please list with SES as we are always in need of jobs! SES is located in the GHS Media Center and is available on regular school days from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

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. All you need to do is go to smile.amazon.com, Select *PTSA Connecticut Inc Greenwich High* as your charity and Shop Away! Please email treasurer@ghspta.org for more information.

Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars with these important dates:

- **Headmaster's Forum** - April 8 at 7pm Media Center Rooms 1 & 2
- **Parent Meeting Grade 12** - April 9 at 7pm Choral Room 801
- **Spring Recess** - Schools closed April 15-19
- **Early Release** - Teacher Meetings April 24, 1:15pm

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