



Fall 2024

GRAFTON SENIOR NEWSLETTER

CLIPPER CLASS OF 2025



Grafton High School Counseling Department

Mrs. Jennifer Ericsson, Counseling Director (A-B)

jericsson@ycsd.york.va.us or 757-898-0551

Mr. Scott Markland, Counselor (C-Ho)

smarkland@ycsd.york.va.us or 757-898-0552

Mrs. Andrea Ross, Counselor (Hu-Pl)

aross@ycsd.york.va.us or 757-898-0553

Mrs. Erin Fitzpatrick, Counselor (Po-Z)

efitzpatrick@ycsd.york.va.us or 757-898-0554

Mrs. Debi Johnson, Counseling Secretary

djohnson3@ycsd.york.va.us or 757-898-0550

In this Newsletter:

Senior Year Meetings

VA Opportunities Guide

SAT & ACT

Scholarships & FAFSA

SchoolLinks

College Applications

Community Service

Military/ASVAB

Community College

...and more!

Schedule your Senior Meeting

Click

Preparing for College Guide and Workbook: Opportunities 2024-2025

STUDENTS: Sign in through your 365 account to book a meeting with your counselor!

PARENTS: School Counselors will begin meeting with seniors the week of September 16, 2024 to discuss credits needed to graduate, post high school goals and plans, including but not limited to the college application process! If you'd like to be included in the meeting (in person/Teams) please contact your school counselor.

Senior Activity & Information Sheet

When requesting a letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor or employer, please give them at least 1 month notice verbally and in writing (email them after they agreed in person), followed by a 2-week reminder of your deadline. More time is always appreciated, especially in October and November for early applications! You should provide there recommender with a resume and/or a "Senior Activity & Information Sheet"(GHS Counselors require this to be completed, in detail, before they can write you a letter of rec.



Using Common App and SchoolLinks

Click HERE to navigate the Common App through SchoolLinks

Click HERE to learn how to request teacher recommendations through CommonApp

SAT & ACT

Grafton does not send SAT and ACT scores to colleges!

Student will send their scores directly from:

www.collegeboard.org

www.actstudent.org

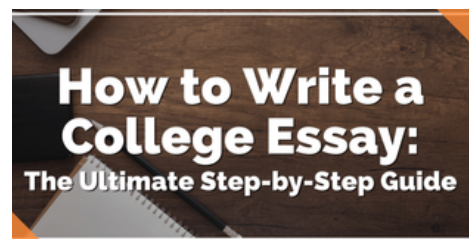
FAFSA

FAFSA.GOV Students should research scholarships and grants from the schools they are interested in, by utilizing the specific institution's financial aid department and website! All universities have different requirements for their financial aid and students must pay attention to the deadlines and applications of the specific schools to which they are applying!



Click on the link above to be taken to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid
AVAILABLE AFTER DECEMBER 1, 2024!

CLICK TO SIGN UP FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION VISITS TO GHS





SchoolLinks is a modern, college and career readiness platform to prepare students for what comes after graduation. SchoolLinks helps students discover their interests and strengths, explore colleges and careers, and create a personal graduation plan that best reflects their post-secondary goals. In addition, SchoolLinks will serve as a central place for student post secondary planning including *all transactions for the college application process*.

Using SchoolLinks, 12th graders will be able to:

Track college applications and request transcripts

Request Letters of Recommendation

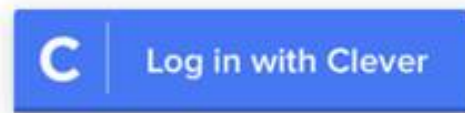
GETTING STARTED

Click [Here](#) for a video on what to expect the first time you login

Student Login:

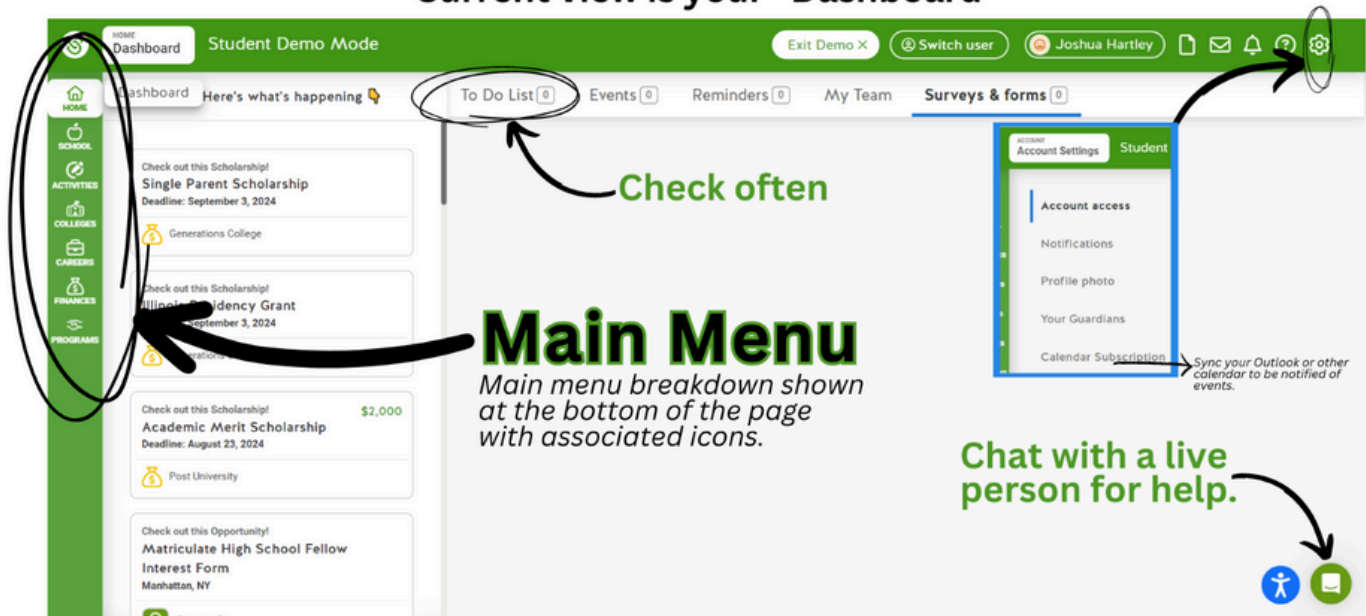
Students will login to SchoolLinks via Clever

Then select SchoolLinks logo



SchoolLinks CHEAT SHEET

Current view is your “Dashboard”





Instructions for Parent Access to SchoolLinks

See below on how you can get your “claim code” and create your account

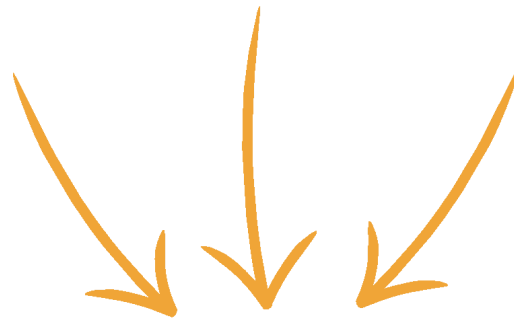
1. From the homepage of the Aspen Parent Portal select the Family Top Tab
2. Select a student
3. Your Claim Code is in the right-hand column

This screenshot shows the 'Family' tab selected in the top navigation bar. Below the navigation bar, the 'Students' section is highlighted with a red box and a '1.' annotation. A table lists two students: 'Monkey, Luffy D' and 'Zoro, Roronoa D'. The student 'Monkey, Luffy D' is selected, indicated by a red box around the name and a '2.' annotation. The table columns are Name, DOB, Grade Level, and School > Name.

Name	DOB	Grade Level	School > Name
Monkey, Luffy D	1/1/2007	08	Grafton Middle School
Zoro, Roronoa D	5/5/1975	12	Bruton High School

This screenshot shows the 'Details' page for the student 'Monkey, Luffy D'. The 'Demographics' tab is selected. The page displays various student information in a table format. The 'Schools Claim Code' is highlighted with a red box and a '3.' annotation. The code is 'fedcba'.

Field	Value	Field	Value
Name	Monkey, Luffy D	School > Name	Grafton Middle School
Middle name	D	Year of graduation	2027
Suffix		Grade Level	08
Local ID	268877	Enrollment status	Active
Unique State ID		Homeroom	
Gender	F	State Growth Assessment Claim Code	
Date of birth	1/1/2007 Age 17	Schools Claim Code	fedcba



Once you've created your account see what you can do on SchoolLinks by clicking here

Senior Year Fall Checklist

☐

Sign into SchooLinks using the instructions above. Explore the college search, career exploration, scholarship, and scholarship informatoin

☐

Meet with your School Counselor to discuss credits needed to graduate and post-secondary plans

☐

If you plan to apply for a 4 year college or university, create a well-rounded college list. Remember to check application requirements and deadlines.

☐

If you need a recommendation, complete the “Senior Activity & Information Sheet” and return it to your counselor and/or teachers

☐

Begin completing your college applications. Use SchooLinks to enter all the schools you are applying to.

☐

****Add the schools you are applying to on SchooLinks. Transcripts will be uploaded and letters of recommendation will be completed through SchooLinks**

☐

Be sure to ask teachers to write a letter of recommendation before adding their email address. This is common courtesy and teacher take a lot of time to write a thorough letter.

☐

If needed take the SAT and/or ACT. Register to take them through collegeboard.org or actstudent.org. Send your scores directly to the schools via those websites.

☐

Keep your grades up but take time to enjoy your senior year! Self-Care is vital to combat senioritis and burnout



Community College



Community Colleges offer specialized courses of study where a student can earn a certificate in one year or less in an intensive training program. Many student often make the choice to attend community college before transferring to a 4-year institution allowing them to save money on general education courses, stay close to home and have smaller class sizes! Click the link below to learn more:

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Community Service

Click on the "Community Service" link above to record your community service hours for graduation seals and programs by March 1st! Students need 20 hours for the Honor's Program, 50 hours for the Excellence in Civics Seal and 150 hours for the YCSD Community Service Seal in addition to other requirements, see the Program of Studies for more information.



Military



Opportunities for enlistment in the military are plentiful. The five services offer hundreds of schools and thousands of areas of instruction. This training and the experience that follows gives the military veteran a real advantage in the civilian world.

* Career Training * Education * Income * Service to Country
Each service sets its own enlistment qualifications. Local recruiters may be contacted for more information or click the links below for information regarding program opportunities and qualifications:



Air Force



Army



Marine Corps



Coast Guard



National Guard



Navy

ASVAB

GHS will offer ASVAB testing twice a year, The first is November 15th and sign up will be in the counseling office

Employment

If you have decided to work full time immediately after high school:

- Contact the Virginia Employment Commission online at www.vec.virginia.gov to learn more about opportunities in VA.
- Create a resume!
- Consider the opportunities for advancement available through the positions you are considering.
- Consider an internship to gain work experience.
- Meet with the GHS Career Coach, Ms. Garnett at rgarnett@ycsd.york.va.us

SEND RESUME

