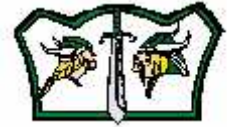


Grayling High School

Parent Newsletter

Volume V

April 17, 2009



Relationships:
Teaching & Learning

Notes from the Principal

Dear GHS Families,

I sure hope that everyone had a great Spring Break! The Pummell family did! The highlight of our vacation was the addition of a used, but new to us John Deere tractor. We have been searching and saving for this for three years! It will really help out at our farm, Dream Acres. We have horses, egg laying chickens, and we raise feeder pigs too. We also took a trip to TC and tried out a place called "Wilderness Crossing." It was great! We played several games of laser tag, and if you have not tried it, you should. It is literally a "blast!"

Please be sure to draw your attention to the **YELLOW** sheet in this mailing! We stole the concept from GMS as it was such a great idea. We hope to have many of those sheets returned. Remember "staff" includes any and ALL people here at GHS. Please take a moment to say **THANKS** to those that make school great for your kid(s)!

We are on the tail end of the year now, but don't let one event pass without your participation! Be sure to check and re-check the school calendar, our GHS website, this newsletter, daily announcements, and quiz your student(s) daily! Many exciting and important events will occur during this last trimester. We do not want YOU to miss any of them! Be sure to call any of our offices if you have questions.

Summer school information is included in this mailing. It will be mandatory for freshmen that need it and available for others. We want to ensure that our students stay on track for graduation and academic success!

GHS staff have worked with students to increase achievement this year by setting a goal of decreasing the percentage of failing grades each trimester as compared to last year's totals. Thus far, students are achieving more passing grades! Great work everyone!

Have a great third trimester!
Mrs. Pummell

Dates of Interest

- **April 18:** Junior/Senior Prom 8:30-11:30 p.m.
- **April 22:** Parent/Teacher conferences, **high school only**, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- **April 24-25:** High school play, *Murder Takes The Stage*, auditorium, 7 p.m.
- **April 28:** Spring HS Band Concert & Awards Night, 7 p.m.
- **April 29:** Academic Awards Dessert Reception, 6 p.m.
- **May 4 & 5:** Freshman vision screening
- **May 5:** School board election
- **May 5:** Spanish AP Test Date
- **May 6:** Calculus AP Test Date
- **May 7:** English Lit. AP Test Date
- **May 8:** European History AP Test Date
- **May 11:** Biology AP Test Date
- **May 13:** English Comp. AP Test Date
- **May 13:** Senior Honors Night, 7 p.m., auditorium
- **May 19:** Spring Choir Concert & Awards Night, 7 p.m., auditorium
- **May 20:** Fine Arts Award Night, 7 p.m., auditorium
- **May 21:** Senior Athletic Banquet, 7 p.m.
- **May 22:** Seniors last day of school
- **May 27:** Baccalaureate, 7 p.m., auditorium
- **May 31:** High School Commencement, 2 p.m.
- **June 5:** Last day of school, early dismissal at 12:16 p.m.

Grayling High School Highlights

The GHS Players present *Murder Takes The Stage*, April 24 and 25, at 7 p.m., in the GHS auditorium. Tickets are \$5 apiece and are available from Mark Binert at the high school, or at the door. We hope to see you there.

Fight the End-of-the-Year Slump! As summer approaches, kids



are often more restless and distracted at school. You can help make sure that their last weeks of school are productive by ensuring that they begin the day with a nutritious breakfast. A good breakfast has been proven to make kids more alert, less distractible and better behaved in school; it even improves their test scores! Let's keep our students focused

by making sure they begin every school day with a balanced meal at home or at the School Breakfast Program. **Breakfast Prices: Free** (if qualified for free meals), **Reduced \$.30** (if qualified for reduced meals) **Full pay \$1.65** **All media center books** and fines must be taken care of before May 20th. Lost books must be paid for and fines must

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Grayling High School

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Phone: 989-344-3508
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Grayling High School

Doniel Pummell, Principal
Donna Boughner, Dean of Students
Tim Sanchez, Athletic Director
Lynn Thompson, Counselor
Jennie Walker, Counselor



Be sure to check out the district website for information on everything from menus to senior information to the high school daily announcements.

Counselors' Corner



JUNIORS/ACT

Juniors recently completed an ACT test as part of the MME testing in March. They should each have received their individual score reports by now. If any student feels that their score is not adequate for their college plans, there is another ACT opportunity coming up in June. May 8 is the deadline to register for that test. You can register for the ACT by mail or on-line. **Important note:** it has come to our attention that some students are not putting our Grayling High School Code (**231785**) on their registration forms. If the code is not given to ACT or SAT, the results will not be sent to us. It is very important that they are sent to us if we are to be able to send that information with your transcript when you apply for colleges or scholarships. In addition, the absence of your ACT or SAT score will mean that we will not know which students are eligible for such honors as the LMC All-Academic Team, the Presidential Academic Awards, the Michigan Tuition Grants, the Merit Award or certain competitive college scholarships.

SCHEDULING

At this time, all schedule requests are being reviewed and approved by the counselors. Students who fail to turn in

a schedule request form will have a schedule made for them; these schedules will not be subject to changes.

SENIOR HONORS

Information is being collected regarding seniors' future plans, and scholarships and honors they have earned. Senior Honors Night will take place in the Joseph Stripe Auditorium on May 13. Parents: if your son or daughter has been awarded a scholarship from the college they will be attending, please make sure that they inform us of it.

COLLEGE

The counselors are planning to meet with all seniors who have been accepted into college for next year on Thursday, May 21. The idea is to hold a surviving your freshman year presentation. We will be discussing such issues as scheduling classes, living in dorms, homesickness, study habits, time and money management, test tips, getting the most out of lectures, and making the most of campus resources.

PLANNING AHEAD

Summer vacation can be a great opportunity to do some exploring and planning for the future. Our career websites, www.careercruising.com

GHS Highlights continued...

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be settled.

Attention Freshmen: Class dues are due by May 1st and should be paid to Mrs. Hollingsworth. Please see her if you have any questions.

Freshman Vision Screening will be held on May 4 & 5 from 8-3 p.m. Other students wishing to have their vision tested may do so.

Yearbook Reminder: Purchase your yearbook now for \$35. It will cost \$50 when they arrive in late May and limited quantities were ordered.

The Back on Duty - Grandparents Raising Grandchildren group meets at the Grayling Senior Center located at 308 Lawndale St. from 9:30-11:30 a.m. every Monday until school's out. Child-care is provided for those with kids who are not in school. To register or to get more information, contact Alice Snyder at 348-7123.

Attention Juniors: Your senior portraits for next year are due September 30th, 2009. Be sure to have your senior photos taken in time to meet this early deadline. Seniors are required to turn in two photos: one for the yearbook and one for the class composite.

Senior parents: Reminder to please make sure you review the Senior Attendance Policy in the Student Handbook, page 12.

Parents and guardians: Please excuse your son or daughter within 24 hours of their absence. We have close to one hundred students per week who appear to have unexcused absences. We write a warning to each of these students. They are allowed a "grace period" to clear up their unexcused absences, by getting them excused or fixing any mistakes. Next, we assign approximately 50 students per week a consequence for their unexcused absences, and we notify

their parents by mail. This causes many parents to call in and excuse their students, and we end up with about 25 actual "skippers" per week. This process is effective; however, it is taking up too many resources. Our goal is to notify you when your student is out of the building without permission. We would like to be able to do that daily, however, with this high volume, it would be impossible. Please help us be more effective by contacting the high school office within 24 hours of your child's absence by calling 989-344-3508 or 989-344-3528.

E-waste recycling program: The high school has started an e-waste recycling program which includes printer cartridges plus used cell phones. The high school will earn a few pennies for each cartridge returned and you can help the environment at the same time! A cartridge drop box will be located in the main office and the media center.