
GMS Email Template

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Mon, Oct 8, 2018 at 1:01 PM

Reply-To: P Rice <no-reply@blackboard.com>

To: Grafton Middle School Recipients <recipients@yorkcountyschools.parentlink.net>



Connected, Learner, Independent, Persistent, Purposeful, Engaged, Respectful

October 8th – October 12th

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Monday 10/8

"A" Day

7th & 8th Grade Girls Basketball Interest Meeting, 2:30-2:45

Football @York, 4:30

Volleyball @Tabb, 4:30

PTSA Board Meeting, GMS, 5:00

Tuesday 10/9

"B" Day

Anime Club

Newspaper Club

Clipper Homework Club

*Drama Performances Auditions and Interviews

PTSA General Membership Meeting, Cafeteria, 8:00

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Wednesday 10/10

"A" Day

SCA Officer & Representative Forms Due

Field Hockey vs. Peasley, 4:30

Volleyball vs. Berkeley, 4:30

Thursday 10/11

"B" Day

SAIL Store Opens

Battle of the Books

GMS Recycling Club

*Health and Wellness Club

Math Counts

Poster Club

Clipper Homework Club

*Drama Performances Auditions and Interviews

Interim Reports Issued

Friday 10/12

"A" Day

***See below for more information**

Important Dates

October 15: Student PTSA Rep Application Deadline

October 15: Field Hockey @Hornsby, 4:30

October 15: Volleyball vs. Hornsby, 4:30

October 16: "Reflections" Entry Deadline

October 16: Football vs. Berkeley, 4:30 at Bailey Field

October 17: Krispy Kreme Dollar Doughnut Fundraiser

October 18: Field Hockey vs. York, 4:30

October 19: GMS 6th Grade Dance, 6:00-8:30

October 22: Field Hockey @Queens Lake, 4:30

October 23: Football @New Kent, 5:30

October 24: Wear Red/Unity Day

October 29: Field Hockey vs. Page, 4:30

October 30: Football vs. James Blair, 4:30 at Bailey Field

October 30: GMS Drama Mystery Theater, 6:00-8:00

News You Can Use

Grafton SCA: GMS is looking for leaders among every class! Grafton SCA needs motivated students to make a difference in the school and community! If you are interested in running for grade level President or school wide Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer, please pick up an Officer Application. If you want to be involved, but not run for office, you may pick up a representative form. Applications can be found on each hallway and are due back to Ms. Reed or Ms. Camden by **Thursday, October 10th**.

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Student PTSA Representatives Needed: Students, notice the "S" in PTSA? You are encouraged to get involved and give your input about our school. The PTSA executive board is looking for one student PTSA representative from each grade level. Be a part of our school community and get involved with the PTSA! You must be a PTSA member to apply. Applications are available outside the guidance office. The deadline to apply is **Monday, October 15th**.

October is Bully Awareness Month! Mark your agendas for **Wednesday, October 24th**. It's National Unity Day, and Grafton Unity Day. Let your true colors shine through by wearing red. Red sends the message that we stand together for kindness, tolerance and acceptance.

Also, each Friday Morning during October we will have Public Service Announcement produced and performed by some of our teams/clubs.

The following October 5th Public Service announcement comes from our girls Volley Ball Team:

Here are the cold, hard facts about bullying:

- One in every 4 students has reported being bullied in school. That's 3.2 million students bullied.
- Physical bullying peaks during middle school, but verbal abuse remains constant throughout High School.
 - 160,000 teens skip school every day because of bullying.

- 1 in 10 students drop out of school because of repeated bullying.

The Grafton Girls Volleyball Team isn't going to let these statistics become part of our gmstory!

Grafton Middle School's Career Discovery classes are learning about different career opportunities and booking guest speakers! Come and share your education background and career information with Ms. Jill David's classes during fourth block between 1:30 and 2:30. You pick the date! Thank you for your support and send email to jdavid@ycsd.york.va.us.

Clipper Tech Spotlight: The Clipper Tech Spotlight series is aimed at giving our parents and community a glimpse into how we use technology at Grafton Middle School. We will be featuring videos of teachers and staff using technology to increase student learning, make connections beyond the walls of our classrooms and provide students with rigorous educational experiences. <https://youtu.be/VS-YIjvO-uo>

Top of Form

Fundraiser Update: Our annual fundraiser is underway and students are earning their ticket to the **Big Blast inflatable party** on **November 15th**. If you haven't helped your student register online to send out donation emails yet, please consider:

- We only have **ONE** fundraiser each year!
 - There are **NO** items to sell or deliver!
- Students **win prizes** for just registering and sending emails--even if they haven't received a donation!
- \$50 in donations and students receive a ticket to the party. \$100 and students get the VIP pass with 30 extra minutes at the party!
 - We've already raised \$7,500, but we need your help to reach our goal!

Please support our efforts to raise \$20,000 for technology by registering your student tonight at gabigblast.com/GraftonMiddle/welcome and sending emails to family and friends.

We can't wait to see all of our Clippers at the Big Blast Inflatable Party!

GMS Clubs & Activities: More information on Clubs and Activities has been posted on our website. Starting dates for all clubs have not been determined. Students should listen to the in-school announcements for more information on what clubs are planning to meet. Parents can check this Facebook page and the weekly email but please be aware the schedule is always subject to change. <https://ycsd.yorkcountyschools.org/Page/2378>

NEW CLUB! Health and Wellness Club: Join Ms. Zimmerman and Ms. Keith for Health and Wellness Club on Thursdays! Learn how to create personal fitness goals, track progress, and exercise safely and effectively. Participate in a variety of exercises including walking or running, yoga stretches, and strength training. Our first meeting will be Thursday, October 11 in room 301. Look for sign-up sheets on your hallway!

Drama Performances: Audition to perform, or interview to help, with our upcoming performances “Murder-Off-the-Field and “Dear Santa”. Auditions will be held after school on October 9th and 11th. More information is available outside Room 104.

Activity Buses: YCSD offers Activity Buses on Tuesdays and Thursdays for students who participate in after school activities & clubs. The buses depart GMS at 4:00. Students need to know which neighborhood they live in or near. Buses do not have set stops and may drop students off up to a mile from their home. Please visit the GMS website for [Activity Bus route information](#).

PTSA News

PTSA Meeting: There will be a General Membership Meeting on **Tuesday, October 9th** at 8am in the GMS Cafeteria. All PTSA Members are invited to attend, review the 2018-2019 proposed budget and vote on the budget.

Support the SAIL Store: Clipper Families!! The PTSA is looking to connect with local businesses that would be interested in helping stock the new **Positive Behavioral Intervention & Supports (PBIS)** program shop (aka: SAIL Store). GMS students receive *Clipper Cash* for demonstrating positive behaviors and can redeem the “cash” for a variety of items at the SAIL Store. The students will be able to start redeeming their Clipper Cash this **Thursday, October 11th** and we need your help!

If you own a business and are looking to give back to your community or, if you know of a business (i.e. your employer, local businesses you frequent, banks, dentists, etc.) that would like to support GMS students, please contact PTSA President, Nicole Powell at nicoledpowell@cox.net. [Here is a list of items that we'd love to have in the store:](#)

Sweet treats A bike Basketballs Gift cards to Starbucks, Wendy's, Chick Fil A, Target, etc. Passes to ice skating, Rebounderz, etc. Pencils Notebooks Water bottles Cell phone accessories iPad

anything you think would incentivize a preteen/teenager to do their best...remember we have a student body of over 900 middle school students!! Thank you for your support!

Volunteers Needed: The *SAIL Store* is opening this week and we need 2 volunteers from 10:30-11:40am this **Thursday, October 11th**. You will be monitoring the store and allowing the students to redeem their clipper cash to purchase various items. Please let Erica Richards know if you can help or have additional questions at jperichards@prodigy.net. If you want to plan ahead we will also be having the SAIL Store on Oct. 25th, Nov. 8th, Nov. 29th, and December 13th.

Join the PTSA: Have you joined our PTSA this year? Our goal is to have 100% PTA membership (1 membership per student) before November 1st. The PTSA supports our school and community in many ways throughout the school year.

To become a member, you can fill out the membership form online at <http://graftonmiddle.my-pta.org/>. Each membership is a \$5 fee. Anyone in your family can be a member - aunts, uncles,

grandparents, etc. Students are also encouraged to get involved and join! We accept cash or checks payable to "GMS PTA."

If you have already joined the PTSA, you will be receiving your membership cards in the mail. The cards are being shipped directly from Virginia PTA to your home (you will not have to print your cards). Thank you for your support!

Dollar Doughnut Fundraiser: We will be selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts **Wednesday, October 17th** before school. The funds received from the doughnut sales support the PTSA General Fund and the 8th Grade Celebration. \$1=1, \$5= ½ dozen & \$10=dozen. Thank you!

It's Dance Time! The GMS 6th grade dance is **Friday, October 19th** from 6-8:30pm. This is the only dance of the school year planned *just for 6th graders*. There will be DJ and music in the atrium as well as mini-golf, ping pong, basketball and other games in the gym. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Concessions, pizza, Sweet Frog (\$5) will be available for sale.

Volunteers Needed: Parents, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles? We need volunteers to help make the dance a success. This is a lot of fun and only requires an hour or two of your time. Please visit the link to sign up: <http://graftonmiddle.my-pta.org/content.asp?PageID=2>

Proposed Legislation: PTA MEMBERS-PLEASE VOTE BY OCTOBER 20TH! Each year Virginia PTA's/PTSA's participate in the PLP (Proposed Legislation Program). As PTSA members, you get to weigh-in on legislative items that will be presented to the General Assembly by Virginia PTA. Once the state PTA hears from its membership, they can speak on *our* behalf. It is so important that the Virginia PTA effectively represent its members. They can only do this by educating members on important issues facing our students, teachers and schools and holding a fair and accurate vote. Virginia PTA is asking all their members to vote on **4** possible new position statements on the following topics

- resources for mental health supports in our schools
- implementing and funding school safety measures and the effective use of Threat Assessment Teams
- effective integration of career and technical education
 - recruiting and retaining effective educators.

For more information about the above PLP statements, or to learn more about the Legislation Program, please visit the [Virginia PTA PLP Webpage](#).

Please take a moment to click on the link below to complete the survey prior to **October 20th**. Thanks! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D73XTWY>

Kroger Rewards: GMS parents! Please double check if your Kroger Rewards card is still registered to our school. If you are new to our school, please register your Kroger rewards card with Grafton Middle School!! To date only 90 households have registered their Kroger card! Let's increase that

number!! It's an easy way to give back to your school!! We receive approximately \$500 - \$600 per quarter from Kroger Rewards!!

Shop & earn cash for GMS! Register your Kroger Plus card online: krogercommunityrewards.com,
GMS School Code: **89016**.

Remember, you must re-register your card each school year.

2018-2019 Reflections: PTA Reflections is celebrating its 50th year of encouraging students to share their creativity. The PTA Reflections theme for the 2018-2019 school year is "*Heroes Around Me*". Students can create one original artwork in as many of the following categories as they like: Visual Arts, Photography, Literature,

Film Production, Dance Choreography and Musical Composition.

Deadline is **October 16, 2018**. Please put your artwork in a protective plastic covering (page protector or wrap in clear cellophane) and attach a signed and completed entry form in an envelope to the back of each submission. Check the submission requirements and rules for your chosen category as some of them have changed. Submit your work to the school office. Rules, submission requirements and entry forms can be found at <https://www.vapta.org/arts-and-education/reflections>

Another way to participate is in the Theme Search. Think of a theme for the 2020-2021 Reflections competition and submit your entry to the front office. The entry form can be found on the same website as listed above.

If you have any questions contact the Reflections Chair, Stephanie Schmuck
at butterflyvisions4art@gmail.com

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Helping Hands We need volunteers to help with small projects that have been sent in by the teachers. The projects are usually in the hallways and atrium or on bulletin boards throughout the school. It usually consists of hanging background paper and then posting items students have completed. We are usually done in a couple of hours. We are planning to meet at 9:00 on the **first Tuesday of each month** (unless there is no school then it will be the next week). Hope to see you there!

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NEW PTSA Fundraiser-Dollars for Dough: GMS PTSA has a new fundraiser through Papa John's and all you have to do is enter our online code when you order at www.papajohns.com. The school receives 10% of all net sales every month and a chance to earn up to \$10,000. Help support our school!! Enter online code: **GRAFTONMS**

Please Clip & Save! We want to remind families that we still collect Box Tops & Tyson Labels as a fundraiser. This is one of the few fundraisers we do and the amount we have received has declined over the years. We have a mailbox collection container for your students located near the entrance hall/elevator.

YCSD

YCSD 2018-2019 Calendar Adjustment: The York County School Division has made an adjustment to the 2018-19 school calendar to address the school closings due to the mandatory evacuation order for Hurricane Florence. Wednesday, December 19, will be extended from an early release day to a full school day. A portion of the division's banked time will also be used to offset the missed days. Banked time is "instructional time built into the school calendar that exceeds the 990 instructional hour minimum." If the division experiences school closings during the winter months, as has happened in recent years, additional schedule adjustments may be made using identified early release days, teacher workdays, and student holidays.

Aspen Family Portal: The York County School Division provides private student information online through the Aspen Family Portal. This secure web-based information management system is password-protected and will help 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. For more information please visit the [YCSD Aspen webpage](#).

2018-2019 YCSD Student Calendar:

<https://yorkcountyschools.org/docs/studentCalendar.pdf>

Stay Informed

York County School Board: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/aboutUs/schoolBoard/default.aspx>

*School Board meetings and work sessions are open to the public. Citizens wishing to address the Board may do so at the regular monthly meetings. A sign-up sheet listing name, address and topic will be placed at the entrance to the boardroom. Persons who wish to address the Board are requested to sign up prior to the start of the Business portion of the meeting.

York County Board of Supervisors: <https://www.yorkcounty.gov/101/Board-of-Supervisors>

Local & State Contacts: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/aboutUs/budget/contacts.aspx>

FYI

[Bullying Prevention](#)

[Science Fair Information](#)

[GMS Athletics](#)

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[Community Announcements](#)

[School Breakfast & Lunch Info](#)

[Grafton Athletic Booster Club](#)

[Grafton Spirit Wear Online](#)

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[Office 365: The Cloud for Students & Teachers](#)

[Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families](#)

[Khan Academy: Student Academic Help](#)

[Prongo: Educational Website](#)

[Fact Monster: homework, facts, games and quizzes](#)

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Stay Connected

Grafton Middle School: [Facebook](#)

Grafton Middle School PTSA: [Facebook](#)

PTSA website: <http://graftonmiddle.my-pta.org>

GMS website: <https://ycsd.yorkcountyschools.org/Page/2122>

GMS twitter: @graftonms <https://twitter.com/graftonms>

Aspen Family Portal: <http://yorkcountyschools.org/parents/Aspen/default.aspx>

YCSD: [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [twitter](#)

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