



GHS HEADMASTER and PTA NEWS

Tuesday, November 7, 2017

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UPDATES FROM GHS HEADMASTER

Thanksgiving Food Drive

The 7th Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and Penny Wars fundraiser House competitions will run from Monday, November 6th, ending on Friday, November 17th at 3:15 pm.

To help those less fortunate than ourselves, the GHS Roots & Shoots Club has set a goal to collect food donations and raise enough money to provide full Thanksgiving meal baskets to nearly 150 families in our Greenwich community. All left-over items will be donated to the Neighbor to Neighbor food pantry. Money raised from the Penny Wars fundraiser competition will help pay for fresh turkeys, butter, fruits, and vegetables.

Delivery Day Information: Meal basket deliveries will be made after school on Monday, November 20th (meeting at the South Loading Dock at 3:30 pm, subject to change). If you would like to volunteer to drive or help on delivery day, [please fill out this form \(click here\)](#) or contact Kathy Mendez (kathleen_mendez@greenwich.k12.ct.us), the Roots & Shoots Club Advisor.

Penny Wars Fundraiser Collection bins/jugs for Penny Wars will be located in each House office during the school day and in the middle of the Student Center during each lunch block from 11/6-11/17.

How "Penny Wars" Works:

- Pennies go in your own house's jar (positive points).
- Silver coins and dollars go in OTHER house jugs (negative points).
- CHECKS do not count in the total tally in Penny Wars jugs... But you can still make a donation via check to the "GHS Roots&Shoots Club" (see below for more information).

Below is a list of needed food items. Collection bins will be located outside each house office.

UPDATES FROM THE GHS PTA

Message from the Co-Presidents

Dear GHS Families,

Please get out and vote today! There are many important local elections and your vote is your voice. Voter turnout will be a critical deciding factor for our local positions in this off-year election.

Paint the Town Cardinal Red was a tremendous success with over 300 attendees! Thanks to the generosity of the attendees and donors, the PTA has raised funds to support student enrichment throughout the year. Please stay tuned to hear about how all of these funds will be used! We are also working on another fun social event in the spring for our parents.

It's not too late to become a GHS PTA member!

The GHS PTA is comprised of parents, staff, and community members. Consider lending your support to the 2017-2018 GHS PTA.

Our goal is 100% participation!

Join online or print a form and mail a check.

Thank you for your support!

Maria Merrill & Anne Pfetsch
GHS PTA Co-Presidents

PTA General Meeting 11/9

Please join us at our next general membership meeting on **Thursday, November 9th in the GHS Media Center Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 at 9:30am.** The PTA meeting will provide current information on the work of YOUR PTA. The program will feature "What Every Parent Should Know About Applying to College"; a panel presentation led by GHS Guidance Staff. Learn about creating a college list, standardized testing and the ACT vs. the SAT, the timeline of tasks to prepare for applying, and an overview of all of the resources available at GHS. Come with questions!

The flier for distribution which includes food items can be found by [clicking here](#).

- mashed potatoes
- yams/sweet potatoes
- stuffing
- cranberry sauce
- canned pumpkin
- pasta
- tomato sauce
- canned fruits
- canned vegetables
- cornbread or other bread mixes
- peanut butter
- beans, tuna, or other proteins
- baby food
- boxed desserts, breakfast items
- snack items (such as cereal bars)

Checks/Monetary Donations:

Checks for donations are to be made payable to "GHS Roots & Shoots Club" and delivered Kathy Mendez in Cantor House or Karen Foster in Student Activities.

Want to help?

If you or anyone you know who would like to help with this incredible endeavor, please contact Kathy Mendez in Cantor House

(kathleen_mendez@greenwich.k12.ct.us).

Community Service hours for students will be provided. We can always use extra help during the school day wrapping and decorating the 150 delivery boxes, counting/sorting/inventory after school 11/6-11/17, or packing delivery boxes on Monday, Nov. 20th.

Guidance Department

GHS Guidance invites you to attend this Thursday's PTA meeting for a presentation by the school counselors on the College Admissions process. This panel presentation will be recorded and the video will be posted on the GHS Guidance website.

GHS Guidance and GHS Athletics encourages all students and parents in grades 8 through 12 to attend our *Get Recruited* presentation by Wayne Mazzoni on Monday December 4th at 7pm in the GHS Performing Arts Center. Wayne is a local author and college coach who will share everything student-athletes and parents need to know about the college athletic recruiting process.

Missed picking up PTA membership incentives?

If you missed the PTA membership table during Open House, incentives can be picked up in the Student Activities office.

Need help to make it through the holidays?

Need a babysitter, gift wrapper, 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? Click [HERE](#) 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

Contribute throughout the year by linking your Amazon account to [AmazonSmile](#)! When you shop on [AmazonSmile](#), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the GHS PTA. Select **Connecticut PTSA Greenwich High** as your charity.

Looking Ahead

Mark your calendars with these important dates:

- **Election Day - Schools Closed** November 7th
- **PTA Meeting - What Every Parent Should Know About Applying to College** November 9th at 9:30am in Media Center Meeting Rooms 1 & 2
- **Headmaster Forum** – November 13th at 7:00pm Media Center
- **Early Release** - November 22nd
- **Thanksgiving Recess – Schools Closed** - November 23rd & 24th
- **Headmaster Forum** – December 11th at 7:00pm Media Center
- **Holiday Recess – Schools Closed** on December 25th and will resume on January 2nd
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Schools Closed** - January 15th
- **Headmaster Forum** – January 22nd at 7:00pm Media Center
- **Early Release** - January 24th
- **SummerFare** – January 24th at 7:00pm Student Center

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

Student Activities

Compass Yearbook

Yearbook pre-orders are available online at yearbookforever.com. Order yours now at the discounted rate of \$55.00. Price increases 1/1/18. Senior Recognition Ads are a great way to honor your student - the deadline is December 15. Place your Ad online at yearbookforever.com.

GHS Theater

Greenwich High School Theater Arts will present the musical, High School Musical on Dec. 13-16 at 4:30 and 7:30 in the Black Box Theater. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be reserved by calling 203-863-8808 or on line [HERE](#)

Unified Sports



Join Unified Sports!

Unified Sports is a school-based program designed to foster a positive inclusive foundation for athletic and social interaction among special and general education students. If you would like to receive more information about this program or be added to the email list, please contact Erin Randall at erin_costello@greenwich.k12.ct.us

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.

Headmaster Updates Continued

Media Center

Check out the October newsletter from the GHS Library - [The Cardinal Bookmark](#) - for updates about the library, Greenwich Reads Together, and the new GPS Library Media Coordinator.

The GHS Library is looking for students who are interested in having more "say" in all things library by joining the [GHS Student Library Advisory Board](#).

Paulette Jiles, the author of this year's Greenwich Reads Together selection, *News of the World*, will speak to students in the GHS Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, November 15 from 10:35 to 11:35 a.m. If you would like to attend, please fill out this [Parent Author Talk Registration Form](#).

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 with an initial focus defined below. All Headmaster Forums will be held in the evening starting at 7:00PM in the Media Center.

November 13: Guidance Focus

December 11: Student Life Focus

January 22: Math/Science/Technology Focus

March 12: General Focus

April 16: Athletics

May 14: Humanities Focus