



GOOD NEWS

Congratulations to Margaret Jordan who has been recognized as a semi-finalist in the Coca Cola Scholars Foundation competition.

New Chemistry Teacher

Please welcome our new Chemistry teacher, Ms. Desiray Wines. She will begin working with Chemistry students Monday, December 17th.

New Math Co-Teacher

Please welcome Ms. Shawnta Saunders who joined us in November. She co-teaches in the math department.

Urgent News

Grades close December 13, 2019. Please check grades and be sure students are passing all classes.

ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT

In order for Granby High School to maintain full accreditation, we must decrease our chronic absence rates. Please be sure students are in school every day. Students who have missed 5 or more days need to make up their absences. Students can make up absences by attending after school tutoring and Saturday make up dates. Saturday make up dates will continue after Winter Break. Please check attendance and email documentation for unexcused absences to lgibson@nps.k12.va.us.

Our mission is to "Raise the Bar" so that ALL students will be well prepared for college and the world of work. This will be accomplished through rigor, relevance and relationships between all Granby stakeholders.



Have no doubt. Figure it out!

GRANBY HIGH'S SCHOOLWIDE INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS

Our Instructional Focus Statement

At Granby High School, we will improve students' critical thinking skills through use of Kagan and cooperative learning strategies with JIGSAW, FISHBONE, and RECIPROCAL TEACHING as high yield strategies.

Goal Setting for Success in ALL Classes

Students should maintain unit test **Growth and Reflection Charts** in each class to track their progress and to set learning goals.

Literacy Focus

Every student should engage in writing and focused and/or sustained silent reading activities on a daily basis in every class, every day, no exceptions.

Smart-e Goal

Every student will participate in Kagan/cooperative learning strategies every day, in every classroom, no exceptions.

November Instructional Observation Summaries

HISTORY

Lesson plans are presented and are aligned to the curriculum and allow for pacing. Evidence of students being active participants in interactive lecturing is observed. Students' use of technology (Chromebooks, cell phones) is observed. Many of the teachers engage students with thought-provoking questions. Evidence of students monitoring their academic progress is evidenced by the use of data forms. Students participate in sustained silent reading and reflection via note-taking. Collaborative teachers attend planning sessions and lead the planning instructional process. Teachers provide immediate feedback to students while circulating the class during independent and group practice. Teachers use equity cards to call on students. Teachers have done an excellent job in uploading their PBAs.

SCIENCE

In the Science Department all students have data logs. Students are tracking unit assessments and quizzes. In the upcoming month, the department will incorporate Kagan or cooperative learning strategies daily. Teachers are using computers and other technological resources to challenge students learning. Many teachers have assigned student centered projects.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Lesson plans are up to date. Kagan strategies are being utilized depending on the class size, maturity of the students, and the lesson material. Sustained Silent and Critical reading are implemented as part of the daily instructional process. A modified jigsaw was used in 9th grade Health class from November 20 to the 26th.

Data Update: Every student in every class has a student data form with the pre-assessment and all unit assessments recorded. Every student in every class has a student data form with the pre-assessment and all unit assessments recorded.

FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Lesson plans are aligned to the correct curriculum and pacing guide. The learning activities are challenging and show evidence of using the GHS strategies as they pertain to the Fine and Performing Arts department. For the month of November, JigSaw, Round Robin and Fishbone were used for warm-up, closure, and to critique activities. SSR is implemented once a unit and with substitutes. Fine and Performing Arts classes demonstrate use of Studio Practice and Rehearsals in daily activities. Mr. Joel Rudel was a guest speaker in 1AR for Ms. Harp on November 20, 2019. His artwork has been showcased around the country. He is also an art professor at Virginia Wesleyan.

The *Healing and Hope* reception was held in the library of Virginia Wesleyan. The works of 32 GHS students were on display, and Elora Grochowski was interviewed by Dan Kennedy from Channel 13. There was also a viewing at the Hermitage Foundation Museum from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Data Update: Every student in every class has a student goal form with the pre-assessment and all unit assessments recorded.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Kagan and cooperative strategies are being used daily. The department does a fine job of recycling and re-teaching content. Teachers consistently remind student of content learned in previous years and scaffold new content with old. They continue to build a strong foundation for their students. Building confidence with content learned while introducing new content is a high yield strategy. SSR/Critical reading is planned and implemented as part of the daily instructional process.

Data Update: Every student in every class has a student goal form with the pre-assessment and all unit assessments recorded. Other parts of the data form have been completed as well. The data reports have been observed to be thorough; students write in complete sentences.

MATHEMATICS

Math teachers continue to implement JIGSAW, rally coach, think-pair share, warm calling, student experts, and 3 Before Me to engage students in learning activities. All teachers are ensuring students complete data forms with reflections and goals for future learning. The Algebra I, Geometry, AFDA, and Algebra II teams consistently analyze student performance on unit assessments and use data from these assessments to determine what should be re-taught in daily math review activities. Math teachers are teaching students how to read word problems and are making sure students use content vocabulary in explaining and in justifying their answers. Teacher teams participate in collaborative planning on an ongoing basis. Students are using calculators in all classes. Students participate in interactive lectures and take notes each class period. Math teachers use the I DO-WE DO-YOU DO instructional model.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

JIGSAW, Round Robin, Numbered Heads, Fan-n-Pick were implemented in November. All CTE teachers, except one, implemented Kagan strategies. Mr. Thorne has moved the DECA organization forward and is preparing students to participate in the first competition assessment. Student data forms have been implemented by all CTE teachers. The Girls in Engineering Group was featured on the cover of a national magazine. The cover is on display in the showcase.

ENGLISH

All teachers are implementing the 15 minute SSR with fidelity. The classroom libraries continue to grow with fiction and non-fiction. These libraries also contain a very diverse group of authors. Tabernacle Church (Granby Street) will support Granby High's English classrooms with book donations for 10 wish list book titles.

Students have been given a great opportunity to see one the most popular plays in recent history. The cast of Hamilton will put on a special show for high school students on Thursday, December 19. Eighty students and eight chaperones are attending. In order to prepare for the play, students had to read and take notes from primary sources from the Founding Fathers era. Then, those notes became the part of a performance piece, that students submitted to the Hamilton program. Fifteen schools, which range from as far north as Manassas and as far south as Elizabeth City, are attending.

Currently, seniors are completing their Novel Project and are just coming out of a research unit. Teachers are developing a focus that is more "reading and reflection" intensive while reinforcing the formal features of basic (argumentation and description) and advanced (analysis and explanation) composition. The activities primarily consist of two column journals, quick writes, essays, and presentations.

English 10 students are currently working on preparing for success on the PBAs (Performance Based Assessments). Students are utilizing technology, literature, non-fiction text, song lyrics, and writing templates to successfully analyze literature. Teachers currently have students working on a Literary Song Analysis. The students have been provided a model and template to aid in the construction of an effective song analysis. Students are focusing on theme and providing examples to support their topic sentence.

English 10 Honors is currently reading Ta-Nehisi Coates', Between the World and Me. The students are providing weekly TEC paragraphs, demonstrating their understanding of theme and their ability to support their topic sentence, using evidence from the literature. Students are working toward writing a fully, well-developed 5 paragraph essay focusing on one theme they believe that Coates wanted to portray through his text.

Currently English 9 classes are in the process of finishing various short stories/vignettes such as *My Name* by Sandra Cisneros from her novel The House on Mango Street. While reading those short stories, students are to identify examples of inferences about the character using details/evidence from the text, utilizing their annotation skills as well as creating connections in order to have a better understanding of the text, and completing character analysis. English 9 students are also completing biweekly TEC paragraphs, and will begin practice writing exercises for the scheduled PBA in April starting next week. Ongoing daily grammar practice is also being implemented.

The News Production class is split into three groups. They are each working on articles to submit to PBS NewsHour. Students submitted formal pitches two weeks ago. Briget Ganske (liaison in Washington, D.C.) provided feedback last week, so the various groups are revising their pitches and reaching out to potential interview subjects for their stories. The stories at present are: An Article About Next Year's School Time Change; An Article About How Climate Change Affects Flooding in the Area; and An Article About How the School System Affects Students' Mental Health.

Technology being used to support student achievement includes Chromebooks, IXL, Googledocs, Tedtalks and No Red Ink.

Winter Spirit Week December 16-20

Monday - Granby Spirit Day
Tuesday - Ugly Sweater Day
Wednesday - Twin Day
Thursday - Holiday Character Day
Friday - Pajama Day

Make plans now to participate. **Masks cannot covers faces.**



Please plan to attend our upcoming concerts!

Chorus

December 10th: Winter Concert in the auditorium at 6 PM

December 16th: Jingle Bell Jam Performance at MacArthur Mall

March 20th and 21st: District Choral Assessments at Norview High

May 19th: Spring Concert here at 6 PM

February 8th: District Chorus Concert at BTW High School

May 13th: Senior Night Showcase here at 6 PM

June 9th: Graduation at TED Constant Center at 1 PM

Orchestra

Dec 11....Holiday Concert in the auditorium at 7pm

Mar 5-7..Assessments

Feb 19....Pre-Assessment Performance 7pm

May 20...Spring Concert 7pm

IB Graduation for the Class of 2019

The IB graduation ceremony will be January 6 beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the school's auditorium. Contact Ms. Gardner if you have questions.

ACCESS Message from Ms. Ulanich

Seniors, please make sure you are finishing up your college applications, and filling out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) before your college deadlines. You must file the FAFSA to be considered for financial aid to attend college, this includes institutional grants! If you need help, or have questions, please see Mrs. Ulanich, ACCESS Advisor in 09B.

Juniors, it's not too early to start planning to take the SAT, or ACT in the spring. Please see Mrs. Ulanich, ACCESS Advisor in 09B to see if you qualify for free test waivers. ACCESS has partnered with College Board, and we are encouraging Juniors to participate in Khan Academy for free SAT test help. ACCESS has prizes, and free test fee waivers available when you reach a certain amount of hours! See Mrs. Ulanich for more details!

DECA Club News from Mr. Thorne

DECA club will have a meeting December 11th in room 11V. All members who are competing in the District Level Competition on December 18th must be at the meeting to take the Test before the competition. If you do not take the test you will not be able to compete. I repeat, "IF YOU DO NOT TAKE THE TEST ON December 11, IN ROOM 11V, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COMPETE."

Mentoring Opportunity for Young Men

So far, 10 young men have responded! What about you?

Young men who are interested in being mentored by a fraternity organization should write their names and their parents' names with email addresses and phone numbers on a piece of paper and turn it in to the main office. You will be informed on next steps beginning Dec. 7. Representatives will be available to meet during lunch.

Young Democrats Club

The Young Democrats will meet in 19A on Wed., Dec. 11th after school. People of all political backgrounds are welcome. Please bring with you an article which addresses one of the issues that you are most concerned about and a friend. We will discuss different candidates' plans for the issues as well as ongoing political events. Even if you can't bring an article or a friend, come on. Be ready to listen and to discuss issues that affect us all.

Model United Nations

The next Model UN meetings will be Wednesday, December 11 and 18 at 2:15 in the Media Center.

Chess Club

Come learn to play and/or show off your chess game with the Norfolk Police Department every Wednesday in room 26A. Games begin at 2:15 p.m. All are welcome.

After School Tutoring

Olive Grove Baptist Church (located at 1034 Albert Avenue Norfolk, Virginia 23513) will offer homework help/assistance to youth from our community followed by a free dinner every Wednesday evening 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

Annual Poetry Contest

Students, please submit up to two original poems on any theme to your English teacher or to Mr. Dowe in 25B for the 13th Annual Granby High Poetry Contest. Cash prizes and publication in the May volume of the *Cupola* for the winners and all entries will be considered for publication. The deadline is December 20th.

Drama Club

Want to warm the world with your talents? The drama club is looking for new members! Crew, make up artists, actresses/actors, costume designers, technicians, light crew, and general crew openings as available. Please come and share with us on December 11. Come and perform with us! See Ms. Cook for more information.

SENIOR PICTURES

Seniors who have not had their senior pictures taken need to schedule an appointment with Hayne Photography. Please call 757 201-7973. Individual appointments can be scheduled. In order to take pictures at school, seniors must sign up outside of room 19B for the December 17th date. Senior must also call 757 201-7973 to schedule an appointment for the in-school dates.

Class of 2020 – SENIORS

The Class of 2020 will only take **cash and checks** for payments this year. Please be mindful of this as you come in to pay your dues and other fees. Dues are currently \$30 and cover graduation expenses only. The senior package includes dues, t-shirt, prom ticket, and senior picnic and has increased to \$70. Please see Ms. Diaz in room 17A with cash, check, or money order made out to Granby High School.

Class of 2021 - JUNIORS

Any juniors interested in running for Mr. and/or Ms. Juniors, see Ms. T. Ellis in 34B for information. Class dues is \$25.00 and will increase to \$35.00 in January 2020.

Upcoming Fieldtrips

December 13th – NTC Fieldtrip with Mr. Burnette

December 17 and 18 – History Department to Chrysler Museum – departs at 9:30 each day (Mr. Lemieux)

December 19 – *Hamilton* at Chrysler with Ms. Secrest and Selected English Teachers 8:30 a.m. departure

January 23 - Strolling Strings to Richmond with Mr. Larkin

February 21 – Washington, DC with Ms. Stocks 7:00 a.m. departure

Granby Athletics

Signing Days - February 5

Dec. 9

7pm Varsity Girls Basketball @ Kempsville HS

Dec. 10

3:30pm JV Girls Basketball @ Wilson

5pm JV Boys Basketball @ Wilson

5:30pm Varsity Girls Basketball vs Wilson

7pm Varsity Boys vs Wilson

Dec. 11

2pm Indoor Track @ Boo Williams

5pm Swimming at Maury Pool

Dec. 12

4:30pm Scholastic Bowl @ Churchland

Dec. 13

3:30pm JV Girls Basketball @ Norcom

5pm JV Boys Basketball @ Norcom

5:30pm Varsity Girls Basketball vs Norcom

7pm Varsity Boys vs Norcom

ASVAB Testing

The school counseling department has scheduled the next ASVAB test administration for Monday, December 9. The test will start at 7:45, in the medium forum. Interested students should register for the test in Academy B.

Granby High School Counseling Updates

Scholarships Reported as of November 11th – \$4.4 Million

SAT Testing Dates for the Remainder of the School Year: **March 14, 2020** **May 2, 2020** **June 6, 2020**

BE SURE TO MEET REGISTRATION DEADLINES. YOU MUST REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH COLLEGE BOARD!

Transcript Request:

Any senior applying to colleges using any platform other than the Common Application should make sure to request a transcript by doing one of the following:

1. Access the Guidance page on the Granby website and fill out the transcript request form under the transcript request button on the left.
2. Visit the School Counseling Office (Academy A or B) and request a transcript in person.
3. Email your school counselor to request a transcript. Be sure to include the specific school or email information needed to make sure the transcript is sent where you intend it to be sent.

Requesting Recommendations:

Please submit your requests for letters of recommendations to teachers and administrators at least one week in advance. Be sure to include your request for a letter of recommendation form and/or scholarship information form so that your recommendation letter will highlight your personal qualities.

Scholarship Information:

The School Counseling Office would like you to have scholarship information and updates to assist your students with scholarship opportunities through NPS. Please consider accessing one or more of the following sites to view scholarship information or to receive periodic scholarship updates. Your senior students can also use these sites/tools for information or they can see their school counselor.

Instagram: @757granbyscholarships, Scholarship Station or access the Granby HS Senior Newsletter on the Granby Guidance webpage.

College Visits

ECPI	1/15/20	Commons During Lunches	Patton
ECPI	1/16/20	Medium Forum	Patton
Norfolk Fire and Rescue		TBA	Burnett

Granby High's Outstanding Team Members of the Week

From the CTE Department

Mrs. Peney Williams:

As one of two Work Based Learning teachers, Mrs. Williams brings her experience from the business world to the classroom. Last month, she partnered with the “Raising Cain Chicken Fingers”, District Manager to conduct student interviews at Granby. She had it announced, signed up students in advance, and gave interviewing tips. As in past years, she still assists the DECA Marketing Student Organization at the regional level. With high expectations for all students, thank you Mrs. Williams, for cultivating partnerships that ensure our students have opportunities to secure employment, make career choices, and learn about colleges and military opportunities.



From the Social Studies Department

Mr. Schmitt:

Mr. Schmitt has organized and help found the Granby Chapter of the Key Club. **Key Club** International is the oldest and largest student-led service program for high schools. The process requires an application and approval to start in any school. This summer Mr. Schmitt initiated the process of starting a chapter at Granby and has received approval. Tomorrow will mark the first meeting of this prestigious program.

