

Granby High School Announcements November 19-23, 2018

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

One hundred percent of students will show at least 10% growth in critical thinking skills as measured by results on performance based tasks, unit tests, SOL tests, industry certifications, AP tests, and IB tests.

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.

Looking at Student Work and Owning Our Data

Students should see exemplary student work (for current units of study) as well as data posted in classes and on the halls throughout the building. Students should maintain unit test data forms in each class to track their progress and to set learning goals.

Kagan and Cooperative Learning Strategies Implementation with Fidelity

Students should participate in Kagan and/or cooperative learning strategies in each class on a daily basis. Students should complete JIGSAW, FISHBONE, and RECIPROCAL TEACHING strategies in each class for each unit of study!

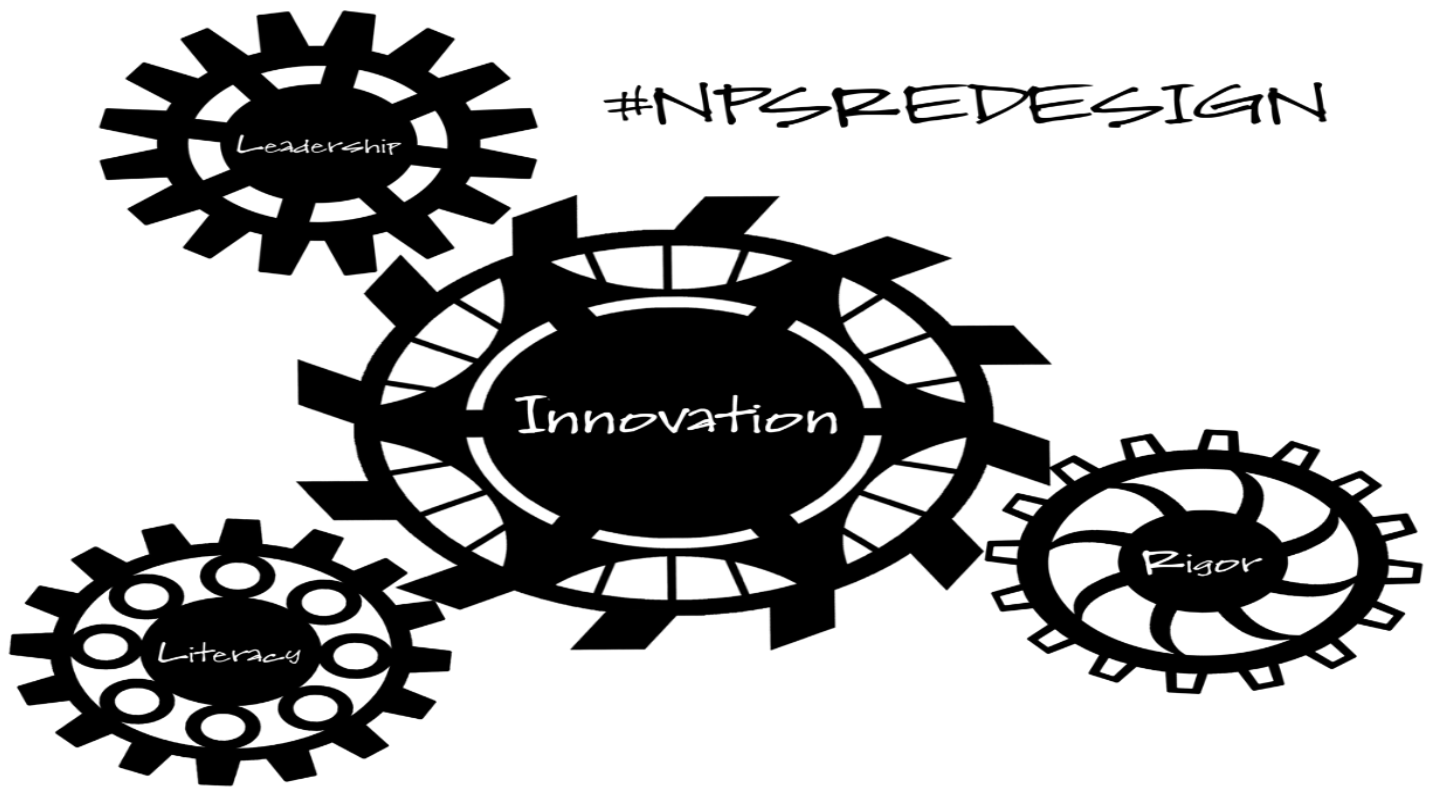
Reading and Writing to Improve Literacy

Every student should engage in focused and/or sustained silent reading activities on a daily basis in every class. Every ninth and tenth grader should be using a writing structure to develop persuasive writing responses in English and Health classes at least 4 times each quarter.

Goal for Improving Attendance

Chronic student absenteeism will be reduced by at least 10% (from 20% to 10%) in order to meet school accreditation in the area of attendance.

Tuesdays and Thursdays ALL YEAR! – We have two t-shirts that highlight our instructional focus. You may wear your instructional focus t-shirt with denim each Tuesday and Thursday. Hope you enjoy!



Theory of Action

Norfolk Public Schools students will develop their individual potential, maximize skills for lifelong learning, and successfully contribute to a global society. All personnel will intentionally facilitate an environment that supports exemplary and innovative teaching and learning opportunities in every school, in every classroom, every day, for every student – no exception.

Leadership

Leadership facilitates and maximizes the efforts of all personnel to effectively promote and support teaching and learning.

Literacy

Literacy is reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking critically.

Rigor

Rigorous teaching and learning opportunities are academically, intellectually, and personally challenging.

Innovation

Innovation promotes the implementation of emerging and transformational ideas and actions to support teaching and learning.

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Second Quarter Underway

First quarter grades have closed, and the first grading period for the school year has ended. Students have begun earning grades for second quarter. Please be mindful that each grading period is worth 22.5% of students' total grades, and final exams are worth 10%. Parents and students are reminded to monitor grades. Teachers are asked to please request parent-teacher-student conferences if needed to discuss student progress. If we all work together, we can help our students succeed!

GRADPOINT – Credit Recovery

Any students currently enrolled in any GRADPOINT courses needs to try to complete the online course(s) before December 30, 2018. Students who have half a credit in a course should see their counselors to determine if they qualify for credit recovery on GRADPOINT. Students who have not earned full credit for any course by the end of the 2018-19 school year will be required to take the full year course when the 2019-2020 school year begins.

Student-Parent-Staff-Administration ILT Meeting November 29th – 2:20-3:20 p.m. –Auditorium

All stakeholders are invited to the monthly ILT meeting, Thursday, November 29th right after school. This hour long meeting will highlight our efforts and work on the school improvement plan. Please come out and be a part of this meeting. Your interest and input are most welcome. Teachers, please come if you are available.

Reopening of School Gymnasium

The schools large gymnasium was closed for repairs at the beginning of the school year. Students and staff are excited to return to the gymnasium for instruction and school activities. The gymnasium will reopen November 19th!

Upcoming Grade Level Family Events - Save the Dates!

January 31, 2019– AP (Advanced Placement Night) and 10th Grade Students' and Parents' Night 6:00 p.m.
Spring 2019 – Date TBD – Junior Night for Students and Parents

Schedule Changes to Address Teaching Loads

I met with department chairs and most teachers on November 14-16. Ms. Hillian and I will process schedule changes November 19-21 and plan to have all changes completed before school ends on November 21st. We will visit classrooms and inform students in large and small groups. In cases where only one to five students need to be moved, I have asked Ms. Patton to assist. I will also supply a list of teachers who are at or over the 150 mark to ensure these teachers do not receive any more students. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks so much.

College Visits

USNA	11/21/18	MF	(8:00) Mangual
James Madison	11/26/18	MF	(8:00) Kirby

Dates to Remember in November

Wednesday, November 21, 2018 is an early release day and REPORT CARD DISTRIBUTION DAY!

There will be no after school activities. All students will be dismissed at 12:05 p.m. Please be excused as soon as the buses leave and students have cleared the halls.

November

20	Department Meetings
21	Report Cards Distributed
	Early Release Day
22-23	Thanksgiving Holiday
27	New Teachers Meet in Room 21 a (2:15-3:15 p.m.)
28	Honorable MENTion and First Ladies Meeting
	ESL Mentoring Celebration Program Room 26aa
29	Instructional Leadership Team Meeting for Students, Parents, and Staff 2:20 p.m.

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Save the Dates for In-Building Professional Development (more dates forthcoming)

November

19 CTE Department Support from Department Chair

December

13 School Writing Initiative (Looking at Student Work)

19 Dowe, Walsh, Francis (9th), Wallace (10th), Rosenthal (11th), Baylor, Gibson
Data Committee Members – Schoolwide Data Checks (details forthcoming)

January

17 AP English Language and AP English Literature

Dowe, Walsh, Gore, Gomez, Rosenthal, Secrest, O'Daniel, Self, Otter

QUARTER 1 REFLECTIONS BASED ON SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOALS BY DEPARTMENT

I have listed reflections from each department regarding our work as it aligns to our goals in the school improvement plan. Please take a moment to review. In cases where someone may feel uncomfortable, I have redacted identities.

English Department Quarter 1 Review

- We have conducted two rounds of SOL and WorkKeys writing remediation through Powercode classes and with Ms. Secrest.
- 42/50 students passed the WorkKeys and/or the Writing SOL retake.
Josephine Watts will visit Eng. 9-11 team meetings this week to assist with data analysis.
- *100 English 10 students will head to Staunton to see production of As You Like It.
- Five English teachers attended AP Language and Literature training on Nov. 5th.

History Department Quarter 1 Review

Pass rates in SOL tested courses from the latest unit test:

- World Geography- 63% overall, 25% for SPED, The overall goal is 70%
- World History I- 72% overall, 26% for SPED, The goal is 85%
- World History II- 87% overall, the goal is 100%
- VA/U.S. History- 66% overall, 41% for SPED, The goal is 80%

Pass Rates in AP classes from the latest unit test:

- AP Psychology- 64%
- AP U.S. History- 52%
- AP Human Geography-73%
- AP Government- 82%
- The planning teams have been developing strategies to help students analyze documents and write PBAs. They are a work in progress. All of the planning teams began the grading process together to ensure everyone is using the rubric properly and consistently. The U.S. History team met with Mrs. Lopez to ensure they were scoring PBAs appropriately. A portion of the October department meeting was spent developing teaching strategies for PBAs. As many teachers have not taught writing before, this is a new challenge.
- Grading the PBAs is a time-consuming process, it took a teacher 6 hours to score all 6 of her classes. This does not include individually entering each student's component score in Schoolnet, which took the teacher an additional 90 minutes.

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- Each teacher is implementing Jigsaw at least once per unit. Mr. Lynch, a new teacher, and Mr. Dunkley have received professional development on Jigsaw, among other teaching strategies.
- Teachers received professional development on *Explicit Instruction* at the September department meeting.
- Teachers are implementing review as warm-ups daily.
- Mr. Lynch and Mr. Hill have received professional development training on implementing vocabulary strategies into their SOL courses. Mrs. Goodman is planning on implementing vocabulary into her co-taught classes.
- Mr. Hill and Mr. Lynch have received training on questioning strategies (warm and cool calling).
- Mr. Lambert and Mr. Schmitt attended the AP workshop Monday, November 5th.
- Mr. Lemieux and Mr. Hill attended a workshop on using Primary Sources last week. Mr. Lemieux also attended an Advanced GIS workshop October 24th.

Math Department Quarter 1 Review

All teachers have implemented Student Data forms in all classes

Algebra 1 unit 1 data:

Regular Ed – goal 75%	2017/2018 84%	2018/2019 68%
Special Ed – goal 70%	2017/2018 67%	2018/2019 66%

Geometry 1 unit 1 data :

Regular Ed – goal 75%	2017/2018 71%	2018/2019 75%
Special Ed - goal 70%	2017/2018 53%	2018/2019 84%

Algebra 2 unit 1 data:

Regular Ed – goal 95%	2017/2018 95%	2018/2019 90%
Special Ed – goal 70%	2017/2018 100%	2018/2019 50%

Unit 2 and Quarter 1 assessment data will be analyzed by teams over the next two weeks

Science Department Quarter 1 Review

The Science Teachers are working on the Tasks/Strategies.

- At least 2 Kagan structures are being used and stated in the lesson plans
- Daily scientific reading of articles, graphs, charts and tables are being used
- Data minutes and analysis are being recorded
- Data binders are being kept for students
- Formal and informal observation notes are being recorded
- The test data is showing that the teachers need to continue to remediate content learned thus far.

Health and Physical Education Department Quarter 1 Review

HPE School Improvement Plan Update

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- fitness - no gym but getting outside for timed runs, a few pacers completed in the commons
- Kagan strategies - think pair share, rally robin, write about,
- 9th grade jigsaw with emotional health
- 10th grade jigsaw with roadway signs
- Writing - 9th grade completing persuasive writing on mental and emotional health/ stress
- 10th grade completing persuasive writing on seatbelts/ driving age/elderly
- Writing samples will be submitted to Eddie on the 20th

Performing and Fine Arts Department Quarter 1 Review

- Each unit of instruction (in Art) addresses one (or more) section of the assessment tool.
- Daily use of Kagan strategies (specifically jigsaw) are found in every music class.
- One (or more) Kagan strategies are implemented in each unit of art instruction.
- The art department currently has 26 students artwork on display (Military Circle Mall) which meets 25% of our goal to date.

Foreign Language Department Quarter 1 Review

Goal: To align assessments to meet the needs of all students/subgroups.

- **Strategy: Use student data to identify and differentiate instruction and assessment to meet the needs of the following subgroups: On-level, modified (to include SPED), above level/pre-AP, and heritage speakers**
 - Teachers are using student self-assessment forms to drive remediation and individualize re-teaching strategies.
 - Teachers analyze assessment data to determine areas of weakness, which are recycled into warm-ups and online practice activities.
 - Teachers use pre-assessments to differentiate instruction and assessments to meet the needs of all levels of learners.
 - Teachers provide enrichment for above level and heritage learners.

Goal: To continue to incorporate cooperative learning activities into instruction.

- **Strategies: Kagan strategies to include Jigsaw, Fishbone, Reciprocal Teaching, Sustained Silent Reading, and others specific to target language use and acquisition.**
 - Teachers incorporate a variety of Kagan strategies into lesson plans.
 - Teachers use Focused Reading to introduce grammar and cultural topics and to enhance reading comprehension in the target language.
 - Teachers use Jigsaw to “chunk” reading and incorporate collaborative learning/presentation skills.

Goal: To assess proficiency of students by using Integrated Performance Assessments (IPAs)

- Teachers assess students in a variety of ways, including PBAs where students are required to use the four skills of language acquisition separately, and IPAs with reading/writing listening/speaking.

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Goal-Students with disabilities: To adjust instruction, practice, and assessments to meet the needs of students with disabilities

- **Strategies: Implement accommodations from IEP/504 plans. Utilize modified assessment practices**
 - Teachers implement accommodations from IEPs/504 plans with fidelity.
 - Teachers modify instruction, assignments, and assessment practices to allow students with disabilities to achieve an appropriate level of success in target language acquisition.

Career and Technical Education Department Quarter 1 Review

Quarter 1 Updates:

- All CTE Teachers will complete VDOE CTE Student Competency Report on each student
 - VDOE CTE Student Competency Reports became available November 1, 2018.
- At least 1 Competency is covered daily, even when substitutes are present
- CTE Industry Certification results: **Pre-Test:** October 7, 2018
- 90% of CTE Teachers are using Jigsaw, Fishbone and Reciprocal Teaching Strategies to begin units and review vocabulary. Quiz-Quiz-Trade is also being used for review.
- CTE Teachers are working with student's Case Managers to ensure 100% of students work towards meeting the required VDOE CTE Student Competency Report and show at least 10% growth in critical thinking skills. Mrs. Wactor is being copied on all email correspondence.

Next Steps

- Work with new CTE Teachers to raise 90% to 100% of CTE Teachers are using Jigsaw, Fishbone and Reciprocal Teaching Strategies to begin units and review vocabulary. Quiz-Quiz-Trade is also being used for review.
- November 19th: Observe all new teachers. Have a planning session with Mrs. Madigan, CTE Specialist and Marketing teachers (Williams, Crespo, and Dandridge) to have each course aligned with each teacher.

Student Activities- GET INVOLVED!

Attention students: Please come to school every day and stay in class. If you are absent, submit a note to the academy right away. Thanks!

SUBMIT up to two poems for the 12th annual Granby Poetry Contest. Cash prizes for winners and publication in the *Cupola* for all finalists. Submit to your English teacher or to Mr. Dowe in 25B.

Extra, extra, your community needs you! Please donate canned foods, cereal, pasta, baby food, diapers, peanut butter for the Local Foodbank. There are drop off boxes around the building or Take your donation to room 04-V - Now until November 20th

Attention Juniors and Seniors!

Another ASVAB test is scheduled for Thursday, December 6 at 8:00 in the medium forum. All interested students must register in Academy B.

Do you have ideas for comics or cartoons? The *Granby Spectator* wants original comic strips or memes to publish in our online newspaper. See Mr. Ford in 32-Bravo.

SENIORS! PAY YOUR DUES! Dues are \$50. See Mrs. Wallace in 30B to pay them.

Please pay your **Junior dues**. The dues are currently \$35. They will increase to \$40 second semester. See Ms. Diaz in 17A.

Students, be sure to come to school every day! An absence is an absence, whether excused or unexcused. Once you miss more than 13 days from school, you will be identified as a chronically absent student. Be here and be counted everyday among the GREAT Comets!

National Art Honor Society (NAHS) will hold the mandatory monthly meeting on Wednesday, 11/28/18 at 2:15 in 1AR. The meeting should run until 3:15 pm, but Ms. Hurst will stay with those that need to take the late bus at 3:45 pm. Dr. Gibson has graciously approved our design for the wonderful mural that you collaboratively designed! Now we can begin our studio hours in the College & Career Center.

Reminders:

The Granby chapter of the NAHS by-laws state that all mandatory meetings must be attended. If you are out due to an excused absence, please bring a copy of your note to me.

Each student must keep a 2.5 GPA or higher- these will be checked quarterly.

Each student must complete 10 service hours (these can be studio hours gained from mural painting as well as our other events).

Please pay your dues ASAP. Thank you to those whom have already done so.

Finally, bring in your 20 EMAIL addresses for our SNAP Fundraiser on Wednesday, 11/28.

From the Athletic Department

Winter Media Guide

The athletic department is working to publish a media guide for winter sports. Please contact AD Travis McClenny if you are interested in having your organization or business support this effort. Granby athletics needs your support. AD McClenny can be reached at tmccclenny@nps.k12.va.us.

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Fall Sports

Fall sports will conclude team celebrations Tuesday, November 20th. Please see the listing of celebrations for fall sports. We will recognize all fall athletes between the boys and girls basketball games on December 4.

Sport	Celebration Time and Place	Sport	Celebration Time and Place
Field Hockey	Nov. 9 Gym Lobby 6:00 pm	Volleyball	Nov. 15 El Azteca 4:30 pm
Golf	Nov. 15 NJROTC Room 4:30 pm	Cheer	Nov. 16 Gym Lobby 6:00 pm
Cross Country	Nov. 19 Gym Lobby 6:00 pm	Football	Nov 20 Commons/Medium Forum 6:00 pm

Winter Sports

Practices for winter sports have begun. Please see the listing of coaches and email addresses:

Varsity Cheerleading – Head Coach Ashley Meeks ameeks@nps.k12.va.us

Assistant Coach – Jacquetta Evans

JV Cheerleading – Head Coach Tracy Boone tboone@nps.k12.va.us

Varsity Boys Basketball – Head Coach Mike Evans emike9541@gmail.com

Assistant Coach – Warren Cherry

Assistant Coach – Frank Powell

JV Boys Basketball – Head Coach Fred Harrison faharrison32@gmail.com

Assistant Coach – Tim Meeks

Varsity Girls Basketball – Head Coach Lina Brown lbrown2@nps.k12.va.us

JV Girls Basketball – TBD

Wrestling – Head Coach Eric Harris [<eharris@nps.k12.va.us>](mailto:eharris@nps.k12.va.us)

Assistant Coach – Hunter Albertson

Assistant Coach – Pat Belgrave

Assistant Coach – Deotis Speller

Swim & Dive – Head Coach Amanda Conley-Powers amanda.conleypowers@redcross.org

Assistant Coach – Erica Bragg

Indoor Track & Field – Head Coach Carmen Wynder cwynder@nps.k12.va.us

Assistant Coach – Kenny McCreary

Assistant Coach – Alex Holley

Assistant Coach – Andre Clark

Assistant Coach – James Sabin

Forensics – Head Coach Jocelyn Carter jcarter@nps.k12.va.us

Scholastic Bowl – Head Coach Robert M. Lemieux rlemieux@nps.k12.va.us

Spring Sports

Softball

There will be a meet and greet interest meeting for softball at 2:30 p.m. on November 19th in the gym lobby. Students interested in playing softball should be sure to attend.

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