

GULF HIGH GAZETTE

Volume 7, Issue 2

Anchored in Excellence, United in Pride

October 2008

MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN

Dear Buccaneers,
As we close the first quarter of this school year, I want thank everyone for their outstanding effort. We are off to a terrific start this year! Our students, teachers, and staff are working together to transform this great school into the best high school in Pasco County. Gulf High School provides an educational setting of excellence and we offer a varied and challenging curriculum including honors, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, college preparatory, elective, and career and technical courses. This year marks the first graduating International Baccalaureate class and the second year for our Health Careers Academy. We are committed to providing all students with quality learning experiences so they can compete in a global economy. Students have an abundance of opportunities to participate in a full range of extra and co-curricular activities to make their educational

experience at Gulf exciting and meaningful. Our school slogan is ***"Anchored in Excellence, United in Pride."*** Student success is possible through the support of our families, community partners, and dedicated faculty and staff. Our school offers you and your family many events and activities throughout the school year. Use our website daily to view our calendar for up to-date events and information. You can also e-mail our staff and faculty through the website at: <http://www.gulphigh.org>.

Anchored in Excellence, United in Pride
Steve Knobl
Principal



Out-of-Field Teaching Assignments

Individuals who are teaching out-of-field are certified in at least one area and are qualified to teach but are required to take additional course work or testing to add a coverage/endorsement to their certificate. The state also requires a teacher to take coursework/inservice towards an English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) endorsement, when the teacher is the primary language arts provider and/or reading teacher for an ESOL student.

The following teachers have agreed to teach out-of-field while completing course work/testing: Jennifer Cooper - Reading Endorsement, Ann Donlon - TC Coop Ed Endorsement, Steven Franks - Reading Endorsement, Merlin Redfield - Math 6-12, Chad Stoneking - Business Education, Rosanne Tomaselli - Earth/Space Science, Social Sciences 6-12, Tina Wallace - TC Coop Ed Endorsement.

The following teachers have agreed to work towards the ESOL endorsement: Debora Foote, Steve Franks, Rebecca Gedraitis, Samuel Jackson, Jeannette McCabe, Wanda McClellan, Joel Murray, April Wright.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October

10/13: FCAT Reading
10/14: FCAT Math
10/16: Renaissance Faire
10/16: End of 1st Quarter
10/17: No School - State Inservice Day
10/20: No School - Teacher Planning Day
10/24 & 10/25: Alumni Invasion Weekend
Week of 10/27: Red Ribbon Week
10/29: Report Cards Distributed

November

Week of 11/10: Homecoming Week
11/11: No School - Veterans Day
11/14: Early Release 12:10 PM
(Homecoming Parade at 2 PM)
11/15: Homecoming Dance 7:30-11:30 PM
at Gulf High School Activity Center
11/17: SAC meeting, 7:00 AM
11/26 to 11/28: No School - Thanksgiving

December

12/15: Semester Exams, Periods 1, 4
12/16: Semester Exams, Periods 2, 5
12/17: Semester Exams, Periods 3, 6
12/18 & 19: Semester Exam Make-ups
12/13: ACT test at GHS
12/15: Holiday Concert
12/19: End of 2nd Quarter/1st Semester
12/22: Winter Break Begins

TEACHER HOURS

7:30 AM - 3:00 PM

CLASSES IN SESSION

7:50 AM - 2:00 PM

STUDENT SERVICES

7:15 AM - 3:15 PM

ADULT EDUCATION (STUDENT SERVICES)
MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY UNTIL 6:30 PM

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE HOURS

7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

GUIDANCE NEWS *Written by Kathy Trapp, Career Resource Specialist*

The following events/presentations will take place during October, November and December.

October 1-8- Career Exploration in HOPE classes
October 9 & 10- 11th Grade Credit Check with all juniors
October 13 & 14- FCAT Retakes for 11th and 12th graders
October 15- PSAT Test at GHS
October 24-31- 9th grade Guidance/Career Center Orientation
November 4 & 5- 10th Grade Credit Check
November 24- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery at GHS- available to 11th and 12th graders who are either interested in the military and/or career exploration
December 2- Marchman Technical Education Center presentation for 10th graders
December 9-11- Foundation/local scholarship information and Bright Futures applications with 12th graders
December 19- End of semester one

First quarter report cards will be given out on October 29. Second quarter progress reports will be distributed on November 19. Remember to check eSembler to monitor student progress in all classes. Parents and students can register for an account on gulphigh.org under Grades Online. All volunteer hours should be turned in to Mrs. Trapp in the Career Resource Center. Forms are available in the Career Resource Center (CRC), and on the Gulf High School website under the guidance area. The Great American Teach-In will be held the week of November 17.

Anyone interested in participating as a speaker should contact Kathy Trapp, GHS Career Specialist, at 774-3351.

Guidance has kicked off a Character Education Program this year. Each month a different trait will be highlighted. Students are able to participate in school wide competitions and earn "Character Cash." More information can be found on the GHS website.

The Peer Mentor Program is a year long initiative that matches upperclassmen with ninth grade students. Weekly lunch meetings, club days, and pizza

parties are among the fun activities planned! The goal of the program is to help the transition into high school.



Gulf High School has implemented a new Peer Mentor Program this year.

INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY *Written by Sharon Oster, Team Coordinator*

In the Business classes of the IBT, students have studied units on careers and employment, personal checking, finance, and foundations of global business. Computer applications for Microsoft 2007 will include word processing, databases, spreadsheets, and PowerPoint presentations incorporating principles of business in these applications.

The Gulf Chapter of FBLA will be participating in the District and State Fall Leadership events in October, the state project - the American Heart Association, the state activity - the National Down Syndrome Society, local community events, and district, state, and national competitions. FBLA provides opportunities for students to become leaders.

The Grand Opening of the Buccaneer Branch of the Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union for 2008-09 was October 1. The branch is open during lunches on Wednesday of each week. Only \$5 will open an account for a student, a family member, faculty, and staff. Open an account today and realize the rewards.

INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES *Written by Carol Hlad, Team Coordinator*

The Institute of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Health Careers Academy, kicked off the year with its first event on September 18th with a blood drive. With the assistance of the Career Academy students and Ms. Butler's senior clinical students and the Florida Blood Services, Gulf High School's students and staff contributed 115 pints of blood to the blood bank. Another blood drive is scheduled in February. Other events slated to be

sponsored by the Institute and the Academy this school year include two health fairs (for the ninth grade HOPE classes), a food drive in November and December, and the annual Gobbler Gallop, a one-mile fun run/walk before Thanksgiving (the donations going to Gulf's ABC Fund to help Gulf High's families in need).



Ms. Butler and her students at the first blood drive of the year. Photo by Jeff Miller.

NAVAL JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS

Written by Steve Nesthus, Commander



Welcome back to our returning cadets and those new to our program. We have nearly 110 cadets in the program so far this year and expect to have another five or six at the beginning of the second semester.

The school year brings with it a host of events and much excitement. The cadets are returning after a very successful year of competition in a number of areas. Among these are Academic, Athletic, and Drill competition where our team placed **6th at the State Championship**, and

another in the Secretary of the Navy's National Academic Exam where one of our teams placed **9th in the Nation** (out of more than 1500 teams)! That was HUGE!

They will travel to a number of areas within Florida (e.g., Brooksville, Orlando, Daytona Beach, Tampa, Titusville, and more) to compete against other schools in various events. They also plan to visit Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base later in the year, as well as, participate in an overnight "fun" event at Weeki Wachee.

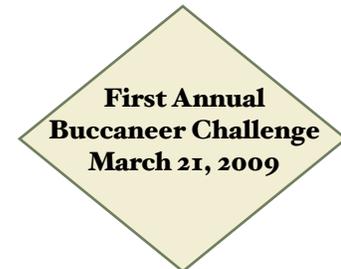
The cadets will also host our first annual Buccaneer Challenge on March 21st, 2009 - a meet that includes numerous fun events like Obstacle Course, Basketball Throw, Klackerboard, Shot Put, Sled Pull, Tractor Tire Roll, Three-legged Race, and much more. There will be between eighteen and twenty teams (1000 cadets) participating in this competition.

The kids have set their community service goal this year at 5,000 hours. That is approximately 50 hours per cadet, something not at all unreasonable for the "go-getters," but difficult for

those just getting by. We encourage all students to give time for the many good causes we serve.

We fully expect this to be our best year ever. We will build upon past successes and attempt to achieve those even greater. Our academic, athletic, color guard, drill, orienteering, and position air rifle teams have begun practice; this will extend throughout most of the school year. Remember, this is a program (NJROTC), not just a curriculum (Naval Science). There are so many opportunities!

Some perks: If you successfully complete **two years** of Naval Science, you may receive the following credit: Hope, Physical Education
PHYSICAL EDUCATION



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

Hello from the Pre-IB and International Baccalaureate Community,

Guest speaker Cecelia Boyce spoke to our community in August, an excellent kick off to the year. She presented CAS information and answered questions about her experience teaching International Baccalaureate students.

During the first week in October the senior IB students' Silver Platter Ceremony took place, reflecting another important achievement in the completion of the extended essays.

Dr. Lepley has encouraged the use of two important computer tools, Turnitin.com and

Questia .com for IB students.

Another important tool, money, is also available through FLIBS grants in the state of Florida.

Sophomore Pre-IB students will hold their Renaissance Faire on October 16, and the excitement is growing. They will present their wares on the GHS lawn all day on the last day of the first marking period.

On October 17 an IB Global Lesson on global poverty will take place. Please see Mr. Griffith with additional ideas for the forum.

We're looking ahead to May and the exam schedule. Already test sites, rooms, and proctors are being defined and recruited. Also, since GHS is an official SAT-ACT test site, proctors are needed for administration of those tests.

Written by De Winslow, Co-Coordinator

As Garrison Keillor says, ". . . do good work" and enjoy a colorful autumn.



Smiling students at the Silver Platter Ceremony. Photo by Jeff Miller



ANCHORED IN EXCELLENCE, UNITED IN PRIDE

BUCCANEER BAND

Written by Bill Rutherford, Band Director

The Gulf High School Buccaneer Band spent many hours this summer working on their halftime show that hopes to provide fun and entertainment for audiences this football season. The GHS Band has been working hard at preparing the music of famed movie composer Danny Elfman, who is best known for writing the soundtracks to movies such as Spider-man, Tales from the Crypt, The Nightmare Before Christmas, Edward Scissorhands, and Beetlejuice, amongst many others, mostly for movie director Tim Burton. The students are excited about this year's show and hope that it

CHORAL BOOSTERS

The Choral Boosters is made up of parent volunteers who give their time to support the Gulf High Choral Department by chaperoning events as well as raising money to help supply the two choral groups, Concert Chorus and Total Sound, with music for performances, uniforms, transportation to and from different events, etc.

The choral groups are involved in many community activities. For example, Total Sound performed at the September 11th memorial in Sims Park and they will be singing at nursing homes during the

will give continued success in their annual Marching Performance Assessment held at River Ridge High School on November 8th.

Our Band Booster Organization has also been raising funds for the band program by working concessions at the Raymond James Stadium in Tampa for the USF and Tampa Bay Buccaneers home games. They have been working very hard and have already raised \$3000 for the month of August and September. The Band Boosters are looking forward to working at Super Bowl XLIII in

Written by Amy Riddle Choral Director

holidays. We will also be having our annual Dinner Theater in December. Check gulphigh.org for dates and ticket information.

Both groups also compete at district and state level. The groups, as well as individual members, have received many medals over the years for their superior performance. Gulf High has some very talented students!

If you are interested in joining our booster organization, please contact our choral director, Amy Riddle, at 727-774-3374 or ariddle@pasco.k12.fl.us

February of 2009! All band parents are invited to help us achieve our goals this year and we encourage you to join us for the fun! Please visit our website at: <http://ghs.pasco.k12.fl.us/ghsband> for more information!

**The Annual
Marching Performance
Assessment
will be held on
November 8, 2008
at
River Ridge High School.**

[k12.fl.us](http://ghs.pasco.k12.fl.us) to see how you can help. Thank you for all your support of chorus at GHS!



INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL SCIENCES

Written by Craig Judy, Team Coordinator

The ITS Learning Community has decided to study two aspects of severe weather – causes and preparedness. We hope to tap into resources at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In addition, we're looking forward to presentations from emergency services at MacDill Air Force Base and local Pasco County officials. Students should gain a deeper understanding for

what factors have to be present to produce severe weather. Pupils will also develop a deeper appreciation for not only being self-reliant, but also for those individuals that provide emergency services for people in need.



Students in the ITS learning community will be studying severe weather emergency preparedness.

CYBERSAFETY TIPS FROM THE SRO

Written by Corporal Jeff Fichtemaier

Parents,
Are you aware of what your kids are doing online? Does your child have a Myspace or Facebook page? Have you looked at it? If not, why? In case you didn't know, many arguments begin on Myspace with ex-friends. You may be shocked at what your child is writing! Teenagers have a lot more knowledge

available to them than we ever did at their age, so:
Know who they are communicating with online.
Check on what they are writing. It's not only your right, it's your job!
Statistics state that if you child is online participating in chat forums or meeting sites, there is a 100% chance at one time

or another they will be contacted by a sexual predator or offender. Keep them safe online, be informed, get involved...

**For more information on
Cybersafety, go to:
<http://www.netsmartz.org>**

INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS

Written by Ken Weightman, Team Coordinator

Gulf High is proud to announce its new chapter of the National Art Honor Society! Recently elected officers are: Jamielee Hyatt, president; Johanna Falzone, vice president; Arielle Phillips, secretary; Melissa Morlan, treasurer; Christina Pilat, scrapbook; Lindsey Van Etten, photographer; Felicia Kaylor, photographer; and Allyson Staggs, fundraising coordinator. The society is in the process of raising funds for art materials and activities. Members recently had a car wash, and they are now selling unique magnetic buttons they created themselves. In addition, a "silent" art auction is planned for December, and the Honor Society is seeking donations of paintings, drawings, photographs and sculptures. Any art you'd like to contribute, from an original Jackson Pollack to a black velvet Elvis, would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Mrs. Barrus at the school (ext. 3474). Upcoming student art shows include: Sims Park, New Port

Richey (December); Pasco County Fair, Dade City (February); and the annual exhibition in the media center (April).



Mrs. Barrus and students in the new chapter of the National Art Honor Society pose for a picture in the Senior Courtyard on September 3, 2008. Photo by Lynsi Bloye.

END-OF-SEMESTER EXAMS

District School Board of Pasco County 2008-2009 End-of-Semester Exams



During the weeks of December 8, 2008 (First Semester) and May 11, 2009 (Second Semester) students currently enrolled in the courses below will participate in a district-wide end of Semester exam.

Mathematics

Algebra I
Algebra IA
Algebra IB
Geometry

Language Arts

English I
English I Honors
English I Pre-IB
English II
English II Honors
English II Pre-IB

Science

Integrated Science I
Integrated Science I Honors
Biology I
Biology I Honors

Social Studies

World History
World History Honors

These exams, designed with both teachers and content supervisors, measure the Florida standards covered in the course. Results of the exams will be used for curriculum and instructional planning. This year's exam grade will be used to replace a second and fourth quarter test grade. Scheduled classroom exams will continue as planned for all students; the district exam will not replace the scheduled semester or quarter exams. The list of standards covered on each exam can be found on the Research and Evaluation Services Website. www.pasco.k12.fl.us/rande.edu. Please contact Sarah Bombly at 727-884-2346 with any questions you may have.

ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

Written by Shari Schau, Girls Varsity Soccer Coach

The Buccaneer Invasion is Here! Calling all GHS Alumni !!

WHAT:

GULF HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI
INVASION

WHEN:

OCTOBER 24-25, 2008

WHO:

GO TO BUCCANEERINVASION.COM
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WHY:

TO RAISE MONEY FOR ACADEMIC
AND ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

On October 24th and 25th the city of New Port Richey is going to be invaded by Gulf High School Alumni! Friday evening there will be a pep rally held at Sims Park in downtown New Port Richey. After the pep rally there will be a party at Fatty and Mabel's on the water. Saturday morning there will be a golf outing for all interested alumni.

A barbecue sponsored by Pit Boss will take place on the practice fields prior

to the game on Saturday night. Tickets for the barbecue are \$15.00 per person. Contact Shari Schau or Barb Munday at Gulf High School at 774-3300. Prior to the start of the game we will attempt to "fill the field" with alumni so make sure to arrive early! Organizer Bill Phillips promises to throw in a few surprises as well. Come join the fun and see what your classmates have been up to!

Come join us for our monthly meetings! We want and need your input. Volunteers are needed to help with concessions and various other fundraising opportunities. If you can help, contact Michelle Worley at (813) 376-2861. With plans ongoing for the Invasion, **our first general meeting will be held November 3rd at Beef O' Brady's (behind IHOP on U.S. 19) 7:00 PM.**

Meet the New Executive Board:

President:

Michelle Worley (1st year)

Vice-President:

Lisa Tinker (1st year)

Secretary:

Carrie Mathewson (4th year)

Treasurer:

Peggy Facemire (4th year)

WINTER TEAM NEWS

GIRLS SOCCER - TRYOUTS OCT. 13
1ST GAME 11/4

BOYS SOCCER - TRYOUTS OCT. 20
1ST GAME 11/17

WRESTLING - BEGINS OCT. 27
1ST MATCH 11/16

GIRLS BASKETBALL - TRYOUTS OCT. 27
1ST GAME 11/19

BOYS BASKETBALL-TRYOUTS NOV. 3

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF PASCO COUNTY
GULF HIGH SCHOOL
7227 LAND O' LAKES BLVD
LAND O' LAKES, FL 34638

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