

GULF HIGH GAZETTE

Volume 7, Issue 4

Anchored in Excellence, United in Pride

February 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN

As we begin a new year, I want to remind and encourage all of our students to set goals for themselves and to personally strive to help make Gulf High School the best it can be! Each one of us, working together as a team, can make our goals a reality. I am confident that we can make amazing transformations at Gulf High School.

My deepest conviction is that we are one school, one community, with one goal. I am confident that our student body will embrace both personal and school pride as we approach this year's testing cycle. I challenge all of

our students to do their best each day. I want to close by congratulating our student body for their efforts first semester. We have made some excellent improvements and our school year has been outstanding so far.

Anchored in Excellence, United in Pride

Steve Knobl
Principal



CLINIC SERVICES

The Clinic at Gulf High is for students who are ill or in need of First Aid. All students **MUST** have a blue emergency card on file and need to come to the clinic with a pass from their teacher. If they are too ill or injured to remain in school, the clinic will call the parent or guardian listed on the emergency card and arrange for them to go home. Any student who calls a parent from a classroom or with a cell phone will be issued an unexcused absence.

Gulf High students may participate in the Healthy Student Program. The main purpose of this program is to improve attendance and to reduce health problems that occur during the school day. Services are offered at no direct cost to the parents and all students are eligible with a signed parent consent on the application form. A registered nurse is available most days, and services available include:

-Assessment of acute illness or injury and the administration of limited medications following physician guidelines and protocols

Written by Susan Girardi, School Nurse

-Assessment and follow-up of communicable diseases
-Physical exams for school entry, sports, and other activities by an ARNP
The ARNP also sees sick students upon referral from the school nurse.
The ARNP will be at GHS on the mornings of February 9 & 25; March 9 & 25; April 22; May 4 & 27.

The school nurse, Mrs. Girardi, RN, can be reached by calling 774-3356 daily 7:30-3 for any questions or health concerns regarding your student. Students who are ill or not attending cannot learn. Please keep us informed of all your concerns and keep your children in school.



Go to
the Student Services link at
gulphigh.org for additional
resources

DATES TO REMEMBER

February

2/7: ACT at GHS
2/10: FCAT Writes-10th Grade
2/12: 3rd Quarter Progress Reports
2/16: No School-President's Day

March

3/10: FCAT Reading-9th, 10th, Retakes
3/11: FCAT Math-9th, 10th, Retakes
3/12: FCAT Science-11th Grade
3/20: Model Congress-All Seniors
3/26: End of 3rd Quarter
3/27: Teacher Planning Day

April

4/6-10: Spring Break
4/14: 3rd Quarter Report Cards
4/25: **Grad Bash @ Universal Studios***

May

5/1: **Prom***
5/20: Last Day for Seniors
5/29: Graduation

***See Attendance Policy Info below**

*ATTENDANCE POLICY

If a student record exceeds *five unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a calendar month* or *10 unexcused absences, or absences for which the reasons are unknown, within a 90 day calendar period*, the student will lose the privilege of participating in extra-curricular activities open only to students. These include but are not limited to field trips, dances, special events, club activities and participation in athletics, until the end of the following grading period/quarter. The principal or designee may review extenuating circumstances brought forth by a parent/guardian. **The principal's decision is final.**

Florida Statute 1003.26

CHORUS

Written by Amy Riddle, Choral Director

The Choral Department had a very successful Dinner Theater in December. Thank you to all the parents who came out and supported us. The kids did a fantastic job. Total Sound is busy preparing for their Solo & Ensemble Evaluation that will be held on Friday, February 6th, at West Port High School in Ocala. In addition to singing and dancing they will also perform in the first ever GHS Madrigal Group. We also have 13 soloists and 1 duet performing for evaluation. Each group that receives a superior will travel to state evaluation in April.

Concert Chorus and Total Sound members will combine for the Annual Music Performance Assessment that will be held on Friday, March 6, 2009 at Wesley Chapel High School.

Our booster organization will be busy selling ice cream at the annual Chasco Fiesta, March 19-29 in Sims Park. Any booster parents who would be willing to help, please contact Mrs. Riddle. We will have our monthly booster meeting on Monday, February 9, 2009 beginning at 6:30 PM in the Chorus Room where we will provide more information. Finally, our end of the year show will be held on Sunday, May 17, 2009 at 1:00 PM at the River Ridge Performing Arts Center. More details will be posted on the Gulf High School Website.

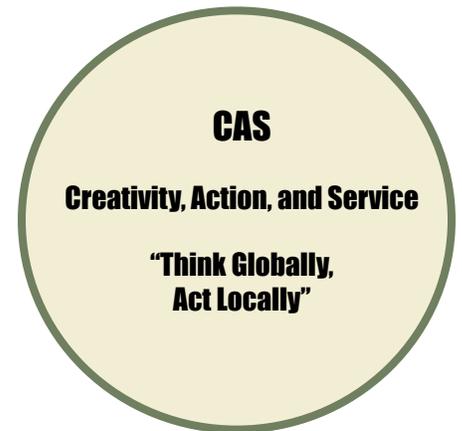


INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

Written by De Winslow, Co-Team Coordinator

Greetings from Pre-IB and IB, At our meeting on January 5, Kathy Trapp discussed new hardware for the Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) class. This online management system will cut down on paperwork and help organize hours and activities better. For CAS the motto is as follows: "Think globally; act locally." Teachers Anne Currelly, Jan Ledman, and Doug Stobbs, as well as our IB leader, Dr. Lepley, will attend a TOK workshop in June to begin the process of integrating Theory of Knowledge into other pre-existing classes. The ultimate goal is for IB teachers to become TOK teachers so that the separate class time necessary to present TOK material will not require an additional period of time in the class day. Incoming Pre-IB candidates took their writing test on January 10. The writing

component is just one of several activities required to complete the Pre-IB application for entry in August into ninth grade. A panel of Pre-IB and IB teachers will meet near the end of January to review the completed applications and to make decisions that will form the IB class of 2013. Dr. Lepley presented a due date chart to each teacher present on January 5; the chart maps out activities for the entire year of 2009, a very helpful tool in planning and anticipating. In the next few months we look forward to such events as the very rigorous testing schedule, the exciting pinning ceremony, and a luncheon for IB teachers at Seven Springs Country Club. It definitely IS a good thing to be IB!



PARENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

In February, you will be asked to participate in a parent survey which will ask you for your feedback about our school. The survey will be available online. You may access the survey by visiting the District School Board of Pasco County Home Page at (<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us>). Under the heading "What's New" click on the link called District Parent Survey. The survey is available in either Spanish or English. We hope you will take the 10-15 minutes to complete the 25 questions on the survey. Once the window closes, the Research and Evaluation Services Department at our District Office will compile the results and share them with our school in the spring. These results are very important to us because they

will be used to help us develop our School Improvement Plan (SIP) for the 2009-2010 school year.

We will have computers available at the school during this time frame for you to complete your survey. You may also access the survey through your home computer or any computer with Internet access. If you are unable to access a computer, we have a paper-and-pencil version of the survey for you to complete and return to the school. Thank you for your support.

GUIDANCE

Written by Kathy Trapp, Career Specialist.

The following events will take place during the third and fourth quarters:

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|-----------|--|
| 1/22-2/11 | Electronic Educational Planning (ePEP) through FACTS.org with 9 th , 10 th and 11 th grades |
| 2/10 | FCAT Writes for the Class of 2011 |
| 2/10 | Florida Ready to Work Test- interested seniors |
| 2/12-2/19 | 2009-2010 Online Registration for grade 9 |
| 2/20-2/25 | 2009-2010 Online Registration for grade 10 |
| 2/26-3/2 | 2009-2010 Online Registration for grade 11 |
| 3/10-3/18 | FCAT Testing |
| 3/26 | PHCC Senior Blitz for interested seniors |
| 4/30 | Post-secondary Fair for grades 11 and 12 |
| 5/4-5/21 | Advanced Placement & IB Examinations |
| 5/12 | Scholarship Night for Class of 2009 |
| 5/29 | Graduation |

Juniors: Now is the time for college-bound students to sign up for the ACT and SAT college admissions tests. Information is available in the Career Center. Those students considering four-year schools should plan to visit colleges of interest.

Seniors: During second semester seniors who plan to attend community college should complete applications. Paper applications are available in the

career center. Students may also check college websites for applications. Seniors seeking scholarships are reminded to check the Scholarship Scoop for any scholarships for which they may be eligible. See Mrs. Romano in guidance for applications. The Scholarship Scoop is posted on gulphigh.org. Students who wish to apply for need based financial aid should complete the FAFSA at FAFSA.ed.gov.

All Students: Any student who volunteers in the community is reminded to turn in volunteer hours to Mrs. Trapp in the Career Center. Forms are available in the CRC or on the Gulf High School website for those that need them.

INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY

With FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) District Competitions completed, FBLA members are planning for Orlando in April for Florida State Competition and hoping for National Competition in Anaheim, California in June.

The Buccaneer Branch of the Suncoast School Federal Credit Union is open each Wednesday during both lunches . . . "Where Smart People Keep Their Money."

On **Saturday, February 7**, Gulf High's FBLA chapter is hosting a **CAR SHOW**. Enter and compete or drop by and see the cars from **3 PM until 8 PM**.

Car Tunes is sponsoring the event and additional information is available at Car Tunes (727) 841-9999 and Gulf High (727) 774-3300, Monday thru Friday.

PowerPoint is "all the talk" in the Business Education classes this quarter. Students selected topics to develop for PowerPoint presentations to show their peers. Two PowerPoint intro slides developed by students are illustrated here:

Written by Sharon Oster, Team Leader

Street Fashion



Strickland,
O'Hara,
Bodie

SUPERBOWL XLIII

Zakk Jones, Khanh Nguyen



DCT/CECF (Career Education Clubs of Florida) students competed in district written and performance competitions during the months of December and January. The following students placed in the top six in their category and are eligible to compete at the state competition in Orlando from March 5-8, 2009: Alexandria Banciski, Kenneth Booth, Christine Burns, Samantha

Camerieri, Autumn Caravona, Michael Centanni, Bethani Crowther, Amy Frigano, Aquiria Johnson, Jantz Meyer, April Muss, Daiquiri Neutzling, Felicia Parker, Lauren Penzkofer, Fredrick Phillips, Linda Presinzano, Caitlyn Rankel, Kristen Smallidge, Keri Whiteman, and Racheal Whitlatch.

Support our CECF students!

We're raising funds to pay for students to participate at the state competition in March.

Car Wash

February 21, 2009

9 AM to 2 PM

Southgate BP Amoco
US 19 & Marine Parkway

ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

Written by Shari Schau, Girls Varsity Soccer Coach

The **Girls Weightlifting** team has qualified 2 athletes for the Florida State Weightlifting Finals – Ashley Mizrahi and Jordyn Roberts. They finished 4th in the conference which was a record for the GHS girls!

**Congratulations to all the girls and Coach Buonsanto!
And Good Luck at the State Tournament!**

The **Girls Basketball** team enters the Class 4A – District 8 Tournament as #2 seed. Their overall record is 21-4. Led by point guard Nicole Adams and forward Kianna Mills the girls are looking for another championship run!
Great job Lady Bucs!

Good Luck to Coach Quarto & the Lady Bucs in the State Tournament!

The **Wrestling** team won the Sunshine Athletic Conference Tournament and were unbeaten this season in dual meets. Individuals who won conference championships are Jarrod Carpenter, RJ O'Connor, Anthony Ayers, and JD Jackson. Good Luck in Districts!

Congratulations to Coach DeWalt and all the wrestlers!

Booster Club Looking for Officers!

The Booster Club is looking for two officers, a secretary, and a treasurer, to fill out its executive board for the 2009-2010 school year. We meet once a month in the evening. The secretary takes the minutes of the meeting and distributes the minutes to be approved at the next meeting. The treasurer keeps the bank books and is in charge of handling all deposits and writing checks. Anyone interested should attend our next meeting or call Michelle Worley at 813-376-2861.

We must fill these positions in order for the Booster Club to continue assisting our programs and athletes. Please help out!

Team News

Girls Soccer
Finished 11-8-4
Boys Soccer
Finished 13-3-6

Girls Basketball
24-3; Seeded 2nd in 4A-8
Boys Basketball
Kyle Sciana scores 1,000th point

Wrestling
SAC Team Champions
Girls Weightlifting
4th in the conference

GOOD LUCK BUCCANEERS!!

Next Meeting: March 2, 7:00 PM

Where: Beef O' Brady's on US 19 (behind IHOP)

Come join the fun and give us your input into how we can help our athletes and teams!