



Garland High School PTSA

Sherry Orman, PTSA President

February, 2008

Diana Cooley, Newsletter Editor

# GHS PTSA Newsletter

## DESSERT WITH THE PRINCIPAL



Please join the Garland High School PTSA on **Monday, February 18th**, at 6:30 pm for "Dessert with the Principal."

We will have a short PTSA meeting and elect a Nominating Committee for the 2008-2009 school year, along with some coffee and cookies to 'sweeten the deal.' Mr. Morris will present the Garland High School Report Card and be available to answer questions. This informative meeting will be held in the cafeteria at Garland High School. We hope to see you there!

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL - JOHN MORRIS

I am proud to announce that Garland High School has been selected as one of the top 30 high schools in the nation for College Readiness. We were selected by the Educational Policy Improvement Center from Eugene, Oregon for our successes for graduating seniors. The EPIC site team will visit GHS on March 24 and 25 to talk with teachers, students and parents. The EPIC funding is a part of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Education.

We were selected because of our passing rates on AP/IB Exams at 72.1% compared to the state average of 47.2%; SAT average score of 1105 compared to the state average of 991; ACT average score of 23.4 compared to the state average of 20.1; and our English Language Arts College Readiness score which is 10 points above the state average.

February 15 was the deadline for signing up for Advanced Placement testing in May. Parents, if your student has not signed up for an examination by the time you receive this newsletter, they will need to see me to get signed up for an examination. I must have the names early enough to complete the schedule and order the tests for students who will have conflicts.

*"Words to live by are JUST WORDS... unless you actually live by them." (Unknown)*



**REMEMBER:** Your bright green Choice of School forms are due in the school office **by February 29**. If you don't select a school for next year, the district will make the choice for you and it remains binding for the next school year.

### Upcoming Events

Feb. 18 - Dessert with the Principal, 6:30, cafe, PTSA Assoc. meeting

Feb. 21 - Celebration Assembly, B2

Feb. 22 - Fashion and Design Show, 7 pm

Feb. 23 - Class of 2009 2nd Chance Prom, 7 pm (cafe, coms, OP)

Feb. 25 - SHARE Team training 2:45, Rm 914; Job Fair @ Rowlett HS, 6:30 - 9 pm

Feb. 29 - End of 6 weeks; School Choice forms due to office

Mar. 1 - SAT Test, IB TOK Retreat, GT Parent Conference (Plano)

Mar. 3 - 5th Six Weeks

Mar. 5 - All-GHS TAKS testing for ELA, Senior Class Fair, 10 - 12 (Bgym)

Mar. 7 - Deadline for MDO Baby photos

Mar. 8 - Teens in the Driver Seat @ Firewheel

Mar. 10 - PTSA Membership Deadline

Mar. 10 - 14: TWIRP Week Activities

Mar. 13 - Donkey Basketball, A2 (Bgym)

Mar. 14 - NHS Man Show, 7 pm (aud.)

Mar. 17 - 21: SPRING BREAK and Easter Holidays

## DONKEY BASKETBALL IS COMING!!



On Thursday, March 13, the gym will be filled to bursting for these much-anticipated basketball games. No, it's not a play-off game – these players ride **REAL DONKEYS** up and down the court and must score baskets without getting off the donkey's back. Juniors and seniors are eligible to ride the donkeys and sophomores, too, play a very important role by keeping the gym floor clear of 'debris' during the game. Also, the TWIRP King and Queen will be crowned during halftime. Tickets for this event are \$5 each (remember, only cash is accepted) and will be available during lunches starting on March 6. This is the biggest fundraiser PTSA puts on for the year and proceeds are shared with March of Dimes. **IMPORTANT NOTE: All Donkey Ball participants MUST be members of the PTSA.**

### "It's never too late to join."

It's true, but if you want your membership to count for this year and be able to ride the donkeys or apply for PTSA Scholarships, you must join **before March 10th.**

### VISIT PTSA WEBSITE FOR MEMBERSHIP FORM:

<http://sites.garlandowls.com/PTSA/docsdnlds.asp>

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers to help sell tickets for Donkey Ball during lunch. Please contact Sherry Orman at [orman4789@msn.com](mailto:orman4789@msn.com) or 972-240-0767 to sign up for a shift. Tickets are \$5.

**Dates:** March 6, 7, 10, 11, or 12th

**Times:** 10:15 - 11:15 am, 11:15 - 12:15, or 12:15 - 1:15 pm

## TWIRP WEEK: MARCH 10-14

TWIRP Week adds a little fun to school the week before spring break while helping to raise funds for the March of Dimes campaign. Each day of the week has a different theme and ladies are encouraged to ask a guy out for the week's concluding "Man Show" sponsored by NHS. Therefore, TWIRP has come to stand for "The Woman Is Responsible for Paying," although other definitions for the acronym may have developed over the years. Traditionally, seniors vote for a TWIRP King and Queen throughout the week, with the coronation taking place at halftime during donkey basketball on Thursday. This year, there will also be TDS (Teens in the Driver Seat) awareness activities during 2nd period.

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| Monday - Pajama Pants and Slippers Day:    | 2011 Day with Pillowcase Races at lunches B3 |
| Tuesday - Celebrity Day (wear sunglasses): | 2010 Day with Musical Chairs at lunches A3   |
| Wednesday - Twinkie Day (dress alike):     | 2009 Day, Matching Outfits contest at lunch  |
| Thursday - Collegiate Spirit Day:          | 2008 Day, Spin Wheel of Chance during lunch  |
| Friday - Flashback Friday (dress retro)    | Stu Co Day: Dancing contests at lunch        |

TWIRP King and Queen voting takes place March 3 - 12. The NHS "Man Show" is at 7 pm Friday, March 14, in the auditorium.

## FROM THE PTSA PRESIDENT - SHERRY ORMAN

Please join us February 18th at 6:30 pm for our PTSA Association meeting. We will elect a nominating committee and enjoy "Dessert with the Principal" as Mr. Morris shares information about the AEIS Report Card for Garland High School.

We received the Outstanding PTSA of the Month in December from Council PTA for our Teacher Scholarship program, and again in January for our Recycling Program. Thank you to Jacki Hulm and Patti Clark for coordinating these projects.

As part of our desire to be of service to the community, the PTSA is in the process of buying lighted safety flags to be given to 12 of our nearby middle and elementary schools. These flags have been designed to make students in crosswalks more visible during non-daylight hours and have been purchased using PTSA Enrichment funds.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year is Donkey Ball, scheduled for Thursday, March 13 during A2 period. Profits are split with the March of Dimes, so please help us sell tickets during lunch the week before spring break.

<http://sites.garlandowls.com/PTSA/initiatives.asp>



Of the 12 GHS entries that advanced from district to the Area 14 level of judging, five have been selected to continue advancing to the Reflections State level. Congratulations to **Aaron Sopoco** (Photography), **Morgan Hallmark**, **Aaron Hernandez**, **Sun Paek** and **Rita Yeung** (Visual Arts).



**Remember to reduce, reuse and recycle by donating your used consumer electronics!**

PTSA is conducting an ongoing recycling fundraiser. Help protect the environment by donating your used:

- **PALM-SIZE Ink Jets**
- **DVDs**
- **Cell Phones**
- **Laptops**
- **MP3 Players**
- **Digital Cameras**
- **Portable DVD Players**
- **Video Game Consoles**
- **GPS Devices**

Drop off your recyclables in the office.

## CLASS NEWS

**Class of 2008** - Senior /Baby pictures for the Prom Slideshow need to be delivered to Melanie Hensleigh-Parson's office or e-mailed to [GHSOWls2008@gmail.com](mailto:GHSOWls2008@gmail.com) by **March 5th**.

**Class of 2009** - Join us for a **2nd Chance Prom** and help raise money for next year's prom! If you missed your own Prom, have a different date you would like to take to a Prom, enjoyed your first Prom so much you want to go to a Second Prom, or just enjoy dancing and want a night out, plan to attend the "Paris Nights" on **Saturday, February 23rd**, from 7-11 pm in the GHS cafeteria. Cost is \$45 per couple or \$25 per individual. Contact Naomi Kennedy at [nlalk1103@verizon.net](mailto:nlalk1103@verizon.net).

**Class of 2010** - Golf Tournament Brochure is now available on the website. Mark your calendars for Friday, March 28, 12:30 - 5 pm at the Woodbridge Golf Course in Wylie. [http://www.garlandowls.com/pages/organizations/Class\\_10/default.asp](http://www.garlandowls.com/pages/organizations/Class_10/default.asp)

**Class of 2011** - Check our new class website for information on upcoming activities at <http://www.garlandowls.com>.

## JOB FAIR FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Rowlett High School is sponsoring a job fair for students on **Monday, February 25**, from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at Rowlett High School (4700 Kirby Rd., Rowlett, TX). Students must be 16 years of age and will be charged \$3.00 at the door to attend. For more information and a generic job application, visit <http://www.garlandisdschools.net/RowlettHighSchool/index.asp>.

## SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS

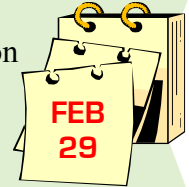
The GHS PTSA will be offering **FIVE** student scholarships for \$250 each to be used toward tuition or expenses at a college or technical school. Please go to the PTSA Website or the Counselor's Office to get an application form and eligibility rules. If you have questions, contact Jacki Hulm at [jhulm@msn.com](mailto:jhulm@msn.com). **The deadline for submitting applications is April 18, 2008.**

## SHARE TEAM TRAINING

Each spring, GISD High Schoolers travel to middle schools and speak with 8th graders to inform and prepare them for the transition to 9th grade. SHARE stands for Senior High Advice Reaching Eighth Graders. Teams from GHS will visit Sellers, Sam Houston, Austin and Bussey Middle Schools in March. There is a mandatory training session for team members Monday, February 25th at 2:45 pm in room 914.

## LEAP DAY DEADLINES

Every four years we get one extra day in February. This year, you get that extra day to turn in your Choice of School form, get all your work turned in before the end of the six weeks grading period, pay for your Team Shirt sponsorship for March of Dimes, and "Jump into March" with the Faculty Dessert Auction during B1-B3 all on Friday, February 29th. What else will you do with your day?



## GT PARENT CONFERENCE

The Texas Association for Gifted and Talented is holding the annual GT Parent Conference in our area this year! It will be **Saturday, March 1st**, from 9 am - 3 pm at the SMU-in-Legacy campus, 5236 Tennyson Parkway, in Plano. The conference is specifically for parents and offers a wide variety of topics including the classes listed below. Registration is \$45 and includes lunch. Register online at [www.txgifted.org](http://www.txgifted.org).

- Summer Program Opportunities
- Focusing on Young Adult Literature
- Encouraging Your Student in the Performing Arts
- The Teenage Brain
- Drugging our Best and Brightest (gifted and ADD/ADHD, etc.)
- Mythbusting: Separating Scholarship Fact from Fiction (misconceptions about college scholarships and financial aid)
- and more...

Register online at [www.txgifted.org](http://www.txgifted.org) by February 27th.

*Remember to visit the school website often for current information and to view the daily powerpoint announcements at [www.garlandisdschools.net/GarlandHighSchool/index.asp](http://www.garlandisdschools.net/GarlandHighSchool/index.asp)*