Improving lives by producing successful, life-long learners

Dear Parents and Students of the Class of 2025,

The purpose of this Senior newsletter is to first thank you, the Seniors, for your continued leadership and resilience, as well as to say thank you to parents, for the continued support throughout this year. It is always difficult saying goodbye to our seniors and this year is no exception.

• Graduation Cap and Gown Pick Up

 All graduating seniors should have their senior orders in. If you have questions on ordering, call Jostens at 616-330-2141. If you did not receive your cap & gown on March 12, please stop by the guidance office to pick it up.

Senior Academic Awards Night (May 5th)

- Students earning academic awards or recognition will receive an invitation to the event with all of the details. If there are any questions, please contact Tracy Bloem (tbloem@gpsbulldogs.org).
- Prom (Saturday, May 3 at the Pinnacle Center)
- Senior Exams (May 14-16)
 - Senior Exam Exemption Policy
 - o Senior Exam Schedule

• Senior Class Photo (April 24)

• Seniors will be dismissed from class at 2:20pm for a class picture in the VanderSlice gym.

Senior Check Out Form

- All Seniors need to fill out the check-out sheet that can be found by clicking on the link below or by stopping in the 2nd floor Counseling Office.
- Forms can be turned into the Counseling Office. Forms cannot be turned in until Senior Exams on May 14-16 when all academic & other requirements are finished. All forms must be turned in by May 16.
- o 2025 Senior Check-Out Sheet

• Student Led Baccalaureate (May 18) (Optional)

- Event will be held from 7:00pm -8:00pm at First Reformed Church in Grandville (3060 Wilson Ave SW, Grandville, MI 49418)
- Baccalaureate is a voluntary student-led and organized religious ceremony
- All students attending need to wear their graduation gown (no cap)
- Be to the church at 6:45pm if you are participating

Senior Assembly (May 19)

- This event will be held in the VanderSlice gym. It is not designed to be a parent event but we have some reserved seating for parents but we cannot accommodate all parents.
- Students will need to be in the gym no later than 7:40 a.m.
- Park in the regular student lot and enter through the Athletic Lobby doors
- The assembly will be held from approx. 8:30-9:30 a.m.

- Graduation gowns must be worn at assembly (no cap). If you have any school issued cords, you should wear them.
- Seniors are excused after the assembly.
- Seniors may go to their Grandville elementary school for a "Senior Walk" following the Senior Assembly. Buses will pick students up at 9:30am and get students to the elementary school around 9:45am. This year we will have busing going to each elementary school. Seniors are expected to ride the bus going to their elementary school. The elementary principal will meet you at the entrance of the school and give you further direction. Afterwards, the bus will drop you off at the high school lot.

• Class of 2025 Graduation Ceremony (May 22)

- The graduation ceremony will take place at Res Life starting at 7:00 p.m.
- Graduates need to be to Res Life at 6:15pm
- o Each student will receive 10 tickets for graduation when they turn in their Senior Check-Out Sheet
- Graduation rehearsal will be required for all students intending to walk at graduation. No exceptions. Rehearsal will be Thursday, May 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Res Life.
- ResLife Livestream Link for Graduation: (https://www.voutube.com/live/-4eZNdvbBhw)

★ Detailed letter on Graduation Ceremony. (linked)

• Graduation Walking Partners (Due Friday, May 2 by 3:00 p.m.)

- Students need to choose ONE walking partner to walk with into the ceremony for graduation.
- Both students need to fill out the form to confirm that you both are confirming your selection.
- Students need to fill out the form linked here by 3:00 p.m. on May 2: Walking Partner Form

• Graduation Requirements and Behavior:

Seniors must complete <u>all</u> academic requirements, community service requirements, fulfill <u>all</u> disciplinary and attendance obligations, and pay <u>all</u> fines in order to participate in Commencement. Graduates in violation of the graduation dress code or with poor behavior will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony or will be removed from the ceremony. **End of year pranks are not tolerated; regardless of the intent**. Students choosing to be involved in any type of year-end prank will face disciplinary action up to and including:

- ➤ In-school suspension until May 22
- > Forfeiture of privilege to participate in graduation ceremony
- ➤ Restitution for clean-up and/or damages
- > Possible police referral

*Due to the Senior All Night Party happening prior to Graduation this year, any behavior that violates the student code of conduct in the handbook may impact a students ability to participate in the graduation ceremony.

• Diploma & Final Grades

- Diplomas will be distributed to seniors after the graduation ceremony at Res Life. Only the graduating senior will be able to pick up their diploma. Tables will be set up for distributing diplomas after the ceremony. If a student receives a Gold or Silver cord at the Senior Academic Awards night, the student will need to pay \$10 to Mrs. Wolf in the Counseling Office by May 19 in order to pick up their diploma the night of the Graduation Ceremony. If a student with a Gold or Silver cord does not pay the \$10 by May 19, they will not be able to pick up their diploma at the Graduation Ceremony. Instead, they will be able to bring their Gold or Silver cord into the Main Office starting Friday, May 23 to receive their diploma. Any student who pre-pays for their Gold or Silver Cord, but doesn't wish to keep it, can bring the cord into the Main Office starting Friday, May 23 and receive the \$10 refund. Gold NHS stoles that were rented upfront may be returned for a refund as well starting Friday, May 23 in the Main Office. Rented NHS stoles must be returned by June 20. Any students that were unable to pick up their diploma after the graduation ceremony, may pick up their diploma in the Main Office beginning Friday, May 23. Please make every effort to pick up your diploma by May 30, 2025.
- Final grades will be available in PowerSchool through June 20.

Final Transcripts & Senior Exit Survey

O Colleges require a final transcript to verify academic progress and graduation. If you have not set up your Parchment account please check your email for the invitation or contact Mrs. Ploeg so she can send you a link. All Seniors must go to www.parchment.com and request their final transcript be sent to the college they will be attending and may need this service for future employment as well. This is a free service until July 31, 2025. After that, Parchment will charge \$4.65 for each transcript. Seniors should change the email address in their Parchment account to their personal email, or a parent email, once logged in to Parchment, as student school email addresses will be inactivated at the end of July. When requesting final transcripts in May please choose "hold for grades" when you place the order. This will ensure transcripts are finalized before they are sent.

Seniors will also be asked to complete an exit survey through Naviance regarding their plans for the future. They need to list the college they plan to attend, scholarships received, or which branch of the military they are enlisted in (if military, please provide written documentation in order to be recognized at graduation).

Community Service Requirement

- Please contact your counselor, your assistant principal, or Mr. Lancto with any questions.
- Forms are due the last Friday in April- If Seniors have a "Y" for community service under S2 grades in PowerSchool, it means that their form has been received.
- Here is the link for the community service document: Community Service Form/Voucher

• Yearbook Information

- Seniors: You may still order your SENIOR YEARBOOK that includes shipped to your home by clicking HERE. You may also call 1-877-767-5217 (order the yearbook direct home shipment package). If you want to pay cash and order at GHS you can stop by room 178 with a payment of \$97.52 (yearbook and shipping to your home address).
- If you did not purchase senior shipping with your yearbook order earlier this year, you will need to mark your calendars to come pick up your yearbooks in early October. If you have questions, you can email Mrs. Peterson at yearbook@gpsbulldogs.org or to add senior shipping to your order before your last day of school to avoid having to pick it up in the fall. All yearbook communication should go to lvanhekken@gpsbulldogs.org after May 31,2025.

Senior All Night Party

- This is a parent run event. All questions can be directed to ghs.2025.sanp@gmail.com or by contacting Michelle DeVries at 616-560-5128. Registration deadline is May 3. You can register HERE.
- Student behavior expectations at Senior All Night Party is subject to the school code of conduct outlined in the student handbook. If a student chooses to partake in any behavior that violates the handbook expectations, the student will need to meet with the high school administration and their ability to participate in the graduation ceremony may be revoked.

I look forward to our last few months together. Have a great day and GO BULLDOGS!

Adam Lancto | Principal Grandville High School