



The Bear Essentials

Summer 2017

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Vol. 12 Ed. 1

I cannot believe that the 2017-2018 school year is upon us. I hope that everyone has had a fun, relaxing summer break and has taken the time to be with your family and friends. Gray's Creek High School has been working hard over the summer to get ready for your arrival on August 28th!

I am excited about the opportunity to be your principal and to lead you on your educational journey. There is no doubt that if you continue to put in the hard work with your studies, then you will show growth with your test scores which will equate for academic success! We have worked hard on student schedules to ensure that you are taking the correct classes to keep you on track to graduate.

If you need to make a schedule change, please follow the procedures outlined in this newsletter. (THIS INCLUDES FIRST AND SECOND SEMESTER SCHEDULES.) We will make all efforts to accommodate reasonable schedule changes. If a class is at capacity, then we will not be able to accommodate some schedule change requests.

I want to encourage you, your family, and community to be involved in activities at GCHS to see the great programs that we showcase including our athletic department and our cultural arts programs. Our students work hard and would love your support!

Please make plans to attend Open House on August 24, 2017 from 6 pm - 8 pm.

Always a Bear!

Thank you,
Lisa G. Stewart
Principal Gray's Creek High School



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL AUGUST 28, 2107

The school building will be open at 7:45 am and students will be allowed to wait in the atrium at 8:05 am. The bell to report to class will ring at 8:19 am and the first class will begin at 8:25 am. The last class will end at 3:30 pm. Students will report directly to homeroom on the first day of school.

Homeroom lists will be posted in front of the school on August 23rd.

STUDENT SCHEDULES

Enclosed you will find a copy of your current student schedule. Please understand that these schedules are tentative and may be subject to change. If there is a problem with your current schedule, changes can be made in writing in the main office beginning Monday, August 7th. Changes can be made Monday – Thursday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm until August 15th.

Absolutely NO schedule changes will be made after this date.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

- #2 Pencils/Black ink pens
- Highlighters
- Notebook and Notebook Paper
- All book bags must be clear or mesh
- Additional supplies may be requested by subject teacher



All students must purchase a student ID. Student ID's are \$5 and will be made during all lunches for the first 3 weeks of school.

EXPECTED COST

Prom Dues: \$75

Anyone attending prom must pay a one time cost. (If you paid as a junior, you are eligible to attend prom your junior & senior year. If you did not pay as a junior, then you will be required to pay as a senior if you plan to attend.)

Seniors: Senior Dues — \$75

Cap & Gown for graduation (mandatory)

Senior Pictures (not mandatory to purchase, but required to be taken if you want it in the yearbook)

It is policy of the Cumberland County Public School System not to discriminate on the basis of race, ethnic origin, sex, or disability in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies.

PARKING AT THE CREEK

Students who drive to school may purchase parking permits at the times designated below. **Please pick up the paperwork prior to the designated day and time for parent signature.** This year, the student parking spaces will be numbered and each student who purchases a permit will be assigned a particular parking space. The spaces will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.

Seniors will be given the first opportunity to purchase their permit. **The cost for a permit is \$60.00.**

Friday, August 18, 2017 from 9:00 am until 11:00 pm —Seniors only

Friday, August 18, 2017 from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm —Juniors & Seniors

****All other parking passes will be sold starting the first week of school.****

SCHOOL LOCKS

For safety reasons, **each student must purchase a school lock.** The locks are American locks and will be sold for **\$5.00** each. Any student who has already purchased an American lock (with a key hole that matches the GCHS key on the back) may use it at Gray's Creek High School. Locks can be purchased on August 21, 2017 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm and during each lunch period the first week of school.

DRESS CODE

When preparing outfits for school, parents and students should consider the GCHS dress code.

Common dress code issues faced include:

Students may not wear bandanas, pajamas, or any item which may be considered offensive in nature.

Short/Skirt length - Length must be at longer than mid-thigh.

No holes in pants above the knees.

Female tank tops - Straps must be at least 2" wide.

Female tops - Tops must not expose cleavage, undergarments, or navels.

Female pants - No Leggings, Yoga pants

Males - Sleeveless or altered tops are prohibited.

NO SAGGING PANTS/SHORTS.

If you think your item or outfit might be questionable, then choose to wear something else.

PARENT SUPPORT

The Athletic Booster Club works to support the athletes at GCHS. The organization provides students, parents, and community members the perfect opportunity to become involved at GCHS.

Meetings are the first Monday of every month in the media center. The Athletic Booster Club meets at 7:00 pm.

SUMMER PROJECTS

Summer Projects are due by the due date on the assigned project. (First week of school regardless of whether class is 1st or 2nd semester)

AP Biology

AP English Language and Composition

AP English Literature and Composition

AP Environmental Science

AP European History

AP Human Geography

AP US History

AP Psychology (Miller & Bullard)



ADVERTISE IN THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Advertisements that will appear in the 2017–2018 athletic program are now on sale. Anyone can purchase an ad to be featured in the fall, winter, and spring programs. Advertisements are sold once a year and the booklets are provided at each home athletic event throughout the year. It is the ideal opportunity to advertise your business while supporting the GCHS athletic program. Businesses are not the only ones who may benefit from this opportunity. Parents can also choose to purchase space in which to showcase their child's enthusiasm and participation in their sport(s), the band, theater arts programs, or any other avenue of student interest. Pictures, along with a message for good luck, may be purchased and included in the program for a personal touch. **If you are interested in purchasing an ad, please reference the insert.** If you have any questions about the athletic program, please feel free to contact Troy Lindsey at 424-8589.

DROP/ADD CLASS PROCEDURES

Students should review their schedules carefully for errors. Students who have a **missing period or need a schedule change** should come into the main office and fill out a schedule change request form starting August 7, 2017 through August 15, 2017 during the hours of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm office hours.

Schedules cannot be changed while you wait! An administrator will review your request, and every effort will be made to accommodate schedule changes.



BUS ROUTES

Bus route information will be posted at the school beginning August 24, 2017.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Information about GCHS can be accessed at the school's website. The school website is www.gchs.ccs.k12.nc.us.

OPEN HOUSE

Open House is scheduled for Thursday, August 24th from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Open House is designed to provide parents the opportunity to meet their child's teachers and learn additional information regarding classroom expectations and course objectives. Each teacher will provide an overview of course objectives and classroom expectations! All parents and students are encouraged to attend!

REPORT CARD DATES

First Semester

October 4
November 3
December 12
January 26

Second Semester

March 2
April 13
May 15
June 15

LUNCH INFORMATION

A 22-minute lunch period is built into each student's schedule. Their specific lunch time will be determined by the location of their third period class. Third period teachers will inform students of their lunch time on the first day of each semester.

Students are expected to act responsibly and exhibit proper etiquette at all times while in the cafeteria.

All students must use their student ID number to access their lunch account.

Breakfast	<u>Reduced</u> .00 <small>(pending state approval; otherwise will be \$0.30)</small>	<u>Full</u> .90	<u>Adult</u> à la carte
Lunch	.40	\$2.25	à la carte

Prices are subject to change upon notification from Child Nutrition Services.

At the opening of the school year, your child's status from the previous year can be used for the first ten days. **It is necessary for a new application to be completed and processed for the child to qualify for benefits for the current year.**

In order to receive free or reduced price meals for your child, you must complete an application and return it to your child's school. **Applications must be submitted each year.** Households are able to change or update their application as their household information may change during the year.

For additional information concerning the "Application for Free and Reduced Price Meals", call Child Nutrition Services at 678-2595.

FALL SPORTS TRYOUT INFORMATION

At the high school, fall sports tryouts begin prior to the start of school. The first official tryout date and time for each sport is listed below, along with the name of the head coach responsible for each sport.

Students MUST have a sports physical on file at the school prior to trying out for any sport!

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Coach's email</u>
Football	July 31	7:30 am	David Lovette	Davidlovette@ccs.k12.nc.us
Volleyball	July 31	8:30 am	Lauren Sazama	laurensazama@ccs.k12.nc.us
Soccer	July 31	7:30 am	Bryan Pagan	BryanPagan@ccs.k12.nc.us
Women's Tennis	July 31	6:00 pm	Sam Bullard	Samuelbullardii@ccs.k12.nc.us
Cross Country	July 31	TBD	Rachel Hendrickson	rachelhendrickson@ccs.k12.nc.us
Golf	July 31	TBD	TBD	TBD

STUDENT PLANNERS

On the first day of school, **each student will be given a 2017-2018 GCHS student handbook and academic planner.** Students should use the planner daily to record assignments and manage their schedule. A section in the planner will be used by the GCHS staff to write hall passes when necessary and monitor student movement throughout the building.

BEARS FOOTBALL

The GCHS varsity football team will scrimmage against South Johnston High at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 and participate in the football Jamboree on Thursday, August 10, 2017, at South View High School against Hoke High School at 6:30 pm. The first game of the 2017 regular season will be played at home against Southern Lee High at 7:30 pm. All fall sports schedules are available on the GCHS website and tickets can be purchased online under the **Gray's Creek GoFan Page.**

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

August 8 — Fall Sports Parent Meeting — 6:00 pm in the auditorium
 August 9 — Fall Sports Pictures — check with your coach for time
 August 9 — Football Scrimmage @ South Johnson @ 6:00 pm
 August 10 — Football Jamboree at South View High School against Hoke High School
 August 18 — GCHS Varsity Football at home against Southern Lee — 7:30 pm
 August 18 — Senior parking permits on sale — 9:00 am — 11:00 pm
 August 18 — Junior/Senior parking permits on sale — 1:00 m — 3:00 pm
 August 24 — Open House — 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm
August 28 — First Day of School — classes are from 8:25 am until 3:30 pm
 September 4 — Labor day Holiday
 October 12 & March 8 — Parent Teacher Conferences — 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
October 27 — GCHS Homecoming — Varsity Football at home against WOHS — 7:00 pm
 November 3 — Battle of the Bridge — at South View High School @ 7:30 pm
 April 27 — Prom at the Botanical Gardens
 Graduation ceremony (TBD)

FIRST VARSITY HOME GAME DATES TO REMEMBER

August 15 — Volleyball vs. Pine Forest @ 6:00 pm
 August 15 — Tennis vs. Pine Forest @ 4:00 pm
 August 18 — Football vs. Southern Lee @ 7:00 pm
 August 21 — Soccer vs. Pine Forest @ 7:00 pm

