### **GAITHER HIGH SCHOOL** WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL AND WELCOME NEW STUDENTS!

### VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Thomas Morrill, Principal

Rebecca Wickham – Assistant Principal, Curriculum Jackie Eisenhauer – Assistant Principal, Administration Lee Williams – Assistant Principal, Student Affairs Kedric Harris - Assistant Principal, Student Affairs Rubye Dunn – Assistant Principal, Student Affairs John McCarrelll – School Resource Deputy







#### **Our Motto**

Strive for the Top Five

#### **Our Mission**

GHS will provide innovative and rigorous instruction in a collaborative environment to prepare all students to be productive citizens, ensure college, and career readiness.

#### **Our Vision**

Provide rigor, knowledge and skills necessary for students to become responsible citizens and essential components of the community.



#### **Gaither High School**

A Hillsborough County Public School 16200 N. Dale Mabry Hwy Tampa, Fl 33618

#### **Meet the Administration**





Kedric Harris AP Students Affairs AP Students Affairs

Ruby Dunn





Rebecca Wickham ,AP Curriculum



Jonn WieCar

Dr. Lee Williams, AP

- Greetings Gaither Parents and Students,
- Remember me? I am Tommy Morrill, Principal of Gaither High School for those of you who are new to Gaither and I extend a warm welcome back to school to each of you. It has been since last March, the week before spring break, since students last stepped on and inside our campus. Our building has been a very lonely place without you.
- Welcome to our Virtual Open House Powerpoint Presentation. I am very excited to have our students back on campus and for those who will be e-Learning for the year, I am excited that you have an opportunity to be connected, to learn, and to be an integral part of our unique and dynamic curricular program, which is like no other. We have included various slides within this presentation to help re-orient you to Gaither and to help new students and families navigate our campus.
- I am aware that some of you may have some challenges, and perhaps some anxiety and uncertainty, as we navigate through a current and eventually post-COVID-19 time period. Rest assured that my staff has done everything possible to provide a safe and healthy environment for students, staff, and guests for their return. This will be the number one priority throughout the school year.
- As you have probably known by now, the first week next week beginning August 24th is designated as the "set up for success" week, where ALL students will be e-Learning and following their schedule, virtually, just like they would on campus.
- On Thursday August 20<sup>th</sup>, students will be able to view their schedules in the new CANVAS platform and be able to view their teacher's Canvas pages to access important information about the class. All students and families should have received Canvas access information. Canvas can be accessed through the Hillsborough County Schools main webpage and a family and student guide is available, as well.
- On August 31<sup>st</sup>, we welcome our students back on campus who signed up for "brick and mortar" instruction, as well as welcome our students who will be learning through the eLearning platform. Please be reminded that all students returning to campus must wear a cloth mask due to CDC and Hillsborough County guidelines. If a student wishes to wear a face shield, he or she must also wear a cloth mask underneath. This will help prevent the spread of COVID-19. We will be discussing several new protocols for transitioning throughout the day and limiting interaction to meet safety, health, and social distancing rules, where we are able.

- This will be a big change from what students and staff have been used to and will be quite an adjustment; however, it is my belief that we will all get used to the new ways of school to focus on what is most important student learning. We will be preparing students to meet graduation standards and acclimating our freshmen class to the high school way of life. Well planned study habits and organization is most important for students to ensure they are able to keep up with rigorous coursework and meet the expected standards of the curriculum. We will be preparing students to exceed the minimum requirements for upcoming End-of-Course exams in Algebra, Geometry, History, and Biology, as well as on the state FSA English/Language Arts assessment, all of which are graduation requirements. We will also be encouraging and supporting students to complete industry certifications, score three's or higher on Advanced Placement Exams, and earn a B or higher in dual enrollment courses.
- Our fall sports season will be charging back up to include volleyball, cheerleading, golf, cross country, swimming, and our state contending football program. Several student-athletes have already been conditioning and are eager to begin the season. More information regarding how to join a team will be forthcoming from Athletic Director, Jackie Eisenhauer. Also, don't forget to get your spirit gear. Within this presentation is a message from PTSA President, PJ Rosen. We ask all parents and students to sign up to join PTSA starting at only \$5 for membership.
- I am always excited about the vast amount of accomplishments achieved by our students. Be sure to check out the last few slides in this presentation regarding them. Yes, it is true Channing Taturn attended Gaither High School, but he is no longer here.
- ▶ Students and families, if you have any questions, please review the "Where to Go" slide for assistance.
- I wish all of you a great school year and I look forward to seeing you soon on the ranch, whether it be in person or online!
- ► Go COWBOYS!

Gaither is one of the 13 high schools in Hillsborough County, 600 schools worldwide to implement AP Capstone an innovative diploma program that allows students to develop the skills that matter the most for their future college success: research, collaboration, and communication. Gaither is currently working on being a designated NAF certificate academy for its STEM program. 100% of our seniors in 2018-2019 met the Algebra Benchmark a graduation requirement. Gaither is the only high school in HCPS to offer Italian Languages Courses.

Emma Banuelos, Principal Secretary Stephanie Woychowski, APA Secretary Denise Acosta APC Secretary Aida Peguero, Guiadance Secretary Georgia Clemons SAO admin Assistant Brenda Harrold, Data Processor Pamela Foreid, Bookkeeper LoriAnn Bardel SAO admin Assistant Gaither High School offers many courses in performing and fine arts. Such courses include: Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Guitar, Keyboarding, Theatre/ Music Theatre, Technical Theatre/ Stagecraft,TV Production, and many other visual arts such as but not limited to Drawing and Ceramics.



Meet Our Clerical Staff



## MISSION AND VISION

#### School Vision

Gaither High School's instructional practices will provide rigor, knowledge, and skills necessary for students to become responsible citizens and essential components of the community.

#### **Mission Statement**

Gaither High School will provide innovative and rigorous instruction in a collaborative environment to prepare all students to be productive citizens and ensure college and career readiness.



## Strive for the Top 5

Gaither has the potential to be in the top 5 of all high schools in HCPS.

Last year's data was trending upward and showed a promising A or solid B grade. This is OUR YEAR!

## REBECCA WICKHAM

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF CURRICULUM

- Welcome to Gaither High School, we are excited to have you back.
- I am located in the main office.
- My administrative assistant is Denise Acosta 975-7340 x207
- My responsibilities include:
  - Teacher schedules
  - Student schedules
  - Curriculum and Instruction
  - Teaching and Learning
  - Direct report for the Guidance Department



### WHERE ARE THE SCHEDULES?

- ▶ Student schedules will be uploaded tomorrow, Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.
- We are diligently working to ensure students' schedules are ready and correct for our first day of school.
- ▶ We appreciate your patience while we work through that process.
- If there is a concern or need regarding your student's schedule, we have a procedure to follow.
- Schedule Change Request Form Live starting 8/20/2020 (located on next slide)
  - School Website: Gaither.mysdhc.org
  - ► Gaither Canvas Homepage
  - Attached to Parentlink
  - Located below
  - Please submit one form only, counselors will be assessing, correcting, and contacting families as quickly as possible.

## Gaither High School 2020-2021 Schedule Change Request Form

<u>https://tinyurl.com/yy795x51</u>

## MEET THE TEACHERS ON AUGUST 20 VIA CANVAS BEGINNING AT 9AM

- Starting at 9am, Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, log-in to CANVAS
- > Your students schedule will be populated.
- Click each teacher page for welcome information, supply lists, syllabi, etc.
- Please be patient relative to speed of internet as many schools will be online
- Please note that schedules are subject to change

## JACKIE EISENHAUER

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL FOR ADMINISTRATION/ATHLETICS

#### FALL SPORTS

- Varsity Football
- ► JV Football
- ► Cheer
- ► Volleyball
- ► Golf
- Boys Cross Country
- ► Girls Cross Country
- ► Boys Swim
- ► Girls Swim



#### WINTER SPORTS

- ► Boys Soccer
- ► Girls Soccer
- Boys Basketball
- ► Girls Basketball
- Boys JV Basketball
- ► Girls JV Basketball
- ► Competitive Cheer
- ► Wrestling
- ► JV Wrestling





#### SPRING SPORTS

- ► Baseball
- Softball
- ► Boys Track & Field
- ▶ Girls Track & Field
- ► Boys Tennis
- ► Girls Tennis
- ► Flag Football



## ATHLETICS

- All students participating in Athletics will be required to submit an application for extracurricular participation.
- The application for extracurricular participation will only be submitted electronically and can be found on the Hillsborough County Public Schools Athletics Department website at: <u>https://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/doc/list/athletics/student-forms/39-285/</u>
- or can be directly accessed on the Athletic Clearance website: <u>https://athleticclearance.fhsaahome.org/</u>
- All students participating in Athletics will be required to complete, submit, and receive verification of clearance prior to being allowed to participate in extracurricular participation at any Hillsborough County Public School. This includes participation in conditioning, tryouts, practice, contests and approved off-season activities.

## Silver Star Yearbook

The 2020-21 award winning Silver Star yearbook will go on sale August 24 for \$65.

Orders can be placed on line at mypaymentsplus or Balfour.com through January 15.





## OFFICE AREAS/CAFETERIA GUIDELINES

- Grab-and-go breakfast and lunch to help facilitate minimal interaction between students and SNS/Office Staff
- Students should provide cashiers/office staff their student ID number
- Students should carry a card with their student ID number to show the cashiers/office staff
- Students should have their student ID number on their phone and show it to the cashiers/Office Staff
- Students should give the cashier/office staff their last name and the cashier should be able to review the student's information. If student has not been entered into the computer database, the cashier will have to write down the information.



### Bell Schedule #1 Regular

Period Start End Minutes ► All 8:30 AM 3:35 PM 7:05 ▶ Warning Bells 8:20 & 8:25 AM ▶ Period 1 8:30 AM 9:19 AM 0:49 ► Attendance 9:19 AM 9:24 AM 0:05 ▶ Period 2 9:28 AM 10:17 AM0:49 ▶ Period 3 10:21 AM11:10 AM0:49 ▶ Period 4 11:14 AM12:03 PM 0:49 ▶ Period 5 12:07 PM 12:56 PM 0:49 1:00 PM 1:49 PM 0:49 ▶ Period 6 ▶ Period 7 1:53 PM 2:42 PM 0:49 ▶ Period 8 2:46 PM 3:35 PM 0:49



#### Bell Schedule #2 Early Release (Each Monday except May 10, 17, and 24, 2021)

- ► <u>Period Start EndMinutes</u>
- ► All 8:30 AM 2:35 PM 6:05
- ► Warning Bells 8:20 & 8:25 AM
- ▶ Period 1 8:30 AM 9:11 AM 0:41
- ► Attendance 9:15 AM 9:20 AM 0:05
- ▶ Period 2 9:24 AM 10:05 AM 0:41
- ▶ Period 3 10:09 AM 10:50 AM 0:41
- ▶ Period 4 10:54 AM 11:35 AM 0:41
- ▶ Period 5 11:39 AM 12:20 PM 0:41
- ▶ Period 6 12:24 PM 1:05 PM 0:41
- ▶ Period 7 1:09 PM 1:50 PM 0:41
- ▶ Period 8 1:54 PM 2:35 PM 0:41



## STRIVE FOR THE TOP 5

- ► ELA Proficiency
- Math Proficiency
- ► Attendance
- ► Discipline
- School Grade
- Graduation Rate
- ► Acceleration
- Bottom Quartile Strategic Focus
- ► Engagement
- Professional Development
- Incentives for Students





### INITIATIVES

- School Grade Targets (from profile sheet)
- Formative Assessments (trends seen with ALL students at the proficient level? Bottom Quartile?)
- Using data to inform/plan instruction
- Bottom Quartile Progress Monitoring
- ► Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- What concerns arise from a review of data (ASQi? Grades? Exams?)How do we proceed?
- What areas need to be an instructional focus moving forward?





#### Strategic Plan Scorecard

#### Graduation Rate KPIs for Gaither Senior High (1551)



#### Attendance % of Students with 90% Rate (Cumulative)



Behavior

% of Students with 0 Suspensions (Cumulative)

#### Course Performance % of 9th Gr. Cohort Students Passing All Core Math & ELA Courses



9th Grade GPA % of 9th Gr. Cohort Students with 2.0 or Higher

Q3

Q4/EOY

Q2

100% -

90%

80%

70%

60%

50%

Q1



ELA & Algebra I Graduation Requirements % of 12th Gr. Cohort Students Passing



#### Graduation Rate 2020 Target = 90%







F



## **MEET THE COUNSELORS**

Department Head- Marla D. McQuay, Ed.S.

(Students Last Name So-Z)

marla.mcquay@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Myla Uppercue- A-De

myla.uppercue@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Vanessa Caban-Dh-Je

vanessa.caban@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Kelliejo Montes-Ji-O

kelliejo.montes@sdhc.k12.fl.us

**Thomas Mazard-P-Si** 

thomas.mazzard@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Kathryn Branham-College & Career Counselor

Kathryn.Branham@sdhc.k12.fl.us

Guidance Secretary-Aida Peguero

Aida.peguero@sdhc.k12.fl.us





#### **Guidance Department**







Marla McQuay (So-Z)

Myla Uppercue (A- De) Thomas Mazard (P-Sn)

Kelliejo Montes (JI-Oz)

Vanessa Caban (Dh-Je)



Dory Perez. Registrar





Ann Page ESE Specialist

### **GUIDANCE SUPPORT STAFF**

**School Psychologist- Brandy Riviere School Social Worker-Patricia Rampt** Social Worker (itinerant)-Kathryn MacKenzie **Student Success Coach-Alicia Pelaez Student Success Lab-Doris Sanchez** Doris.Sanchez@sdhc.k12.fl.us **Registrar-Dory Perez** Dory.Perez@sdhc.k12.fl.us **Data Processor-Brenda Harrold** Brenda.Harrold@sdhc.k12.fl.us Magdalena.Taylor@sdhc.k12.fl.us



## WHAT IS A SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST?

School psychologists are uniquely qualified members of school teams that support students' ability to learn and teachers' ability to teach. They apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior, to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. School psychologists partner with families, teachers, school administrators, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES INCLUDE



- Individualized psychoeducational evaluations and behavioral assessments
- Support for developing interventions to assist students in both general education and special education settings
- Short-term counseling
- Crisis counseling
- Consultation with parents and educators

### SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES Pattee Rampt, MSW, LCSWI

### *WHY* do today's schools need School Social Workers?

Children today are increasingly victims of many social forces that negatively affect their role as students. The family is in a state of change and until it becomes stabilized, in whatever form, children's unmet physical and emotional needs will continue to interfere with their ability to learn and adjust in school.

### **WHO** are School Social Workers?

School Social Workers are trained mental health professionals with a masters degree in social work who provide services related to a person's social, emotional and life adjustment to school and/or society. School Social Workers are the link between the home, school and community in providing direct as well as indirect services to students, families and school personnel to promote and support students' academic and social success.

**WHAT** are some of the specific services that School Social Workers provide?



### SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

THIS IS A PARTIAL LISTING OF THE AREAS IN WHICH SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS PROVIDE SERVICE. PLEASE SEE YOUR SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER, MRS. RAMPT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE SERVICES PROVIDED AT YOUR SITE.

#### MEET OUR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST AND SOCIAL

## Got Problems?



### Tell a Social Worker

SOCIAL WORKERS



School Psychologist- Dr. Brandy Riviere



School Social Workers- Pattee Rampt

Kathy Mackenzie

**College & Career Counselor** 

College Applications and Planning Career Exploration Technical College Information Bright Futures Liaison General NCAA information Military Recruiter Liaison FAFSA and Scholarship Resource



Kathryn Branham

FAFSA and Scholarship Resource

- Masks will be required for all faculty, staff and students when social distancing is not possible.
- A separate waiting area has been designated for any student experiencing symptoms so that the clinic is not compromised.
- Major student gatherings such as assemblies or pep rallies will take place in alternate fashions.
- We are looking at frequent grab and go/easy options for lunch to reduce long, cramped lunch lines.
- The lunchroom area has been expanded to allow students to spread out more during lunch hours.
- Sanitation and soap checks will occur by our custodial team daily.

#### Student Calendar

#### **Graduation Check**

Have you met all graduation requirement?

4 English 4 Math 3 Science 3 Social Studies HOPE 1 Practical Arts

8 Elective Credits 1 FLVS Course Passed assessments FSA ELA ALG EOC

Contact your school counselor with any questions or concerns.

#### Senior Year Checklist

Take senior photos this summer If not buying the senior package, order your yearbook and yearbook ad at Balfour.com Rack-up Community service hours Take SAT/ACT in the Fall Apply to colleges in the Fall Buy a Homecoming ticket Complete FAFSA Submit your yearbook ad information Buy Grad Bash Ticket Buy Cap and gown in early February Buy Prom ticket in March Complete Final Transcript request

Monday, Aug 24, 2020
Monday, Sep 7, 2020
Friday, Oct 23, 2020
Wednesday, Nov 11, 2020
Monday, Nov 23, 2020 - Friday, Nov 27, 2020
Monday, Nov 30, 2020
Monday, Dec 21, 2020 - Friday, Jan 1, 2021
Monday, Jan 4, 2021
Friday, Jan 15, 2021
Friday, Jan 15, 2021
Monday, Jan 18, 2021
Friday, Feb 12, 2021
Monday, Feb 15, 2021
Monday, Mar 8, 2021
Monday, Mar 15, 2021 - Friday, Mar 19, 2021
Friday, Mar 26, 2021
Friday, Apr 2, 2021
Friday, May 28, 2021
Friday, May 28, 2021

#### Please note:

\* Hurricane Day(s) if needed - November 11, 23, 24, & 25, 2020

This calendar is subject to change due to future actions of the Florida Legislature or Hillsborough County School Board



Print

# **Sehool**

16200 North Dale Mabry Tampa, Florida 33618

(813) 975-7340/

Student Affairs Office - Students' Orientation 2020-2021 <u>Assistant Principals:</u> A – Gd – Ms. Dunn - ext. 210 Ge – Pen – Dr. Williams - ext. 208 Per – Z – Mr. Harris - ext. 209

34

## GAITHER HIGH SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

►Go the extra mile to low ► Arrive on time expectations." Incorporate a positive attitude ► Take school seriously -Calvin Loyd ► Hear what others say ► Engage in class & be cooperative ► Respect all while being responsible

35

## GHS COMMUNICATION TEAM WAYS WE COMMUNICATE

1. BLACKBOARD MESSAGES (ROBOCALLS) WHICH INCLUDE:

TEXT EMAIL VOICEMAIL

2. SCHOOL MARQUEE

3. WEBSITE

4. TWITTER: FOLLOW US @GAITHERCOWBOYS

5. PEACHJAR (FLYERS)

6. CANVAS

IF YOU CHANGE YOUR PHONE NUMBER/EMAIL ADDRESS, PLEASE CONTACT US AT 975-7340, PRESS 2. YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS IF WE HAVE OUTDATED INFORMATION OR IF YOU OPT OUT.


Curriculum/Instructional Concern/Question: Contact Teacher via email/Canvas/phone

> Still Concerned/Question? Contact Child's Guidance Counselor (Alpha by last name)

> > Concern or Question still not rectified? Contact Denise Acosta, APC Administrative Assistant/APC Becky Wickham,

We believe in following the "chain of command" regarding any questions or concerns you may have. Most are rectified by contacting the teacher directly.

Still ongoing? Contact Emma Banuelos (Principal's Administrative Assistant)

Principal Thomas Morrill

### Athletic Concern/Questions: Contact the Coach of the Sport

Still Have An Athletic Concern/Question: Contact Stephanie Woychowski, Athletic Administrative Assistant/Jackie Eisenhauer, Athletic Director We believe in following the "chain of command" regarding any questions or concerns you may have. Most are rectified by contacting the teacher/coach directly.

Still ongoing? Contact Emma Banuelos (Principal's Administrative Assistant)

Principal Thomas Morrill

### Behavior Related Question or Concern: Contact the Teacher

Still Have a Concern/Question: Contact the Assistant Principal, Alpha by last name (Mrs. Dunn (A-GH), Dr. Williams (Ge-Pen), Mr. Harris (Peo-Z)

> Still Have A Concern/Question: Contact Stephanie Woychowski, Athletic Administrative Assistant/Jackie Eisenhauer, Assistant Principal for Administration (Oversees Student Affairs)

We believe in following the "chain of command" regarding any questions or concerns you may have. Most are rectified by contacting the teacher/coach directly.

Still ongoing? Contact Emma Banuelos (Principal's Administrative Assistant)

Principal Thomas Morrill

## ATTENDANCE



- Official attendance for the day is taken in Period 1, the last 10 minutes.
- ▶ If you miss Period 1, you will be marked absent.
- Attendance Issues-See Attendance Clerk, Ms. Clemons (ext. 211) or Mr. Harris, AP (ext. 209).
- Parents will receive a Robo call when a student is tardy to at least one class daily.
- ▶ Please come to school daily for success.

Report all absences <u>before or on</u> <u>the day of the absence</u> by calling the school (813-975-7340 option 1. Your parent or guardian must call the day of the absence, or the absence will remain UNEXCUSED Once you arrive to school, whether you walk, drive or ride a bus, <u>you must</u> remain on campus. No you can not go get Breakfast off campus!



### **GAITHER STUDENT PARKING/LOCKERS**

- Pay \$20.00 on <u>myPaymentPlus.com</u> for a Gaither parking permit.
- Student must submit completed application with parent's signature.
- In order to promote social distanced sales, students must have <u>photocopies</u> of the following docs: permanent driver license (no permit), auto insurance, and registration to drive.
- Application can be found on the school website effective 8/24/20 and completed along with required paperwork and myPaymentPlus receipt when purchasing parking decal.
- Contact Student Affairs Office or Mr. Harris with any questions.

\*There will be no locker sales until further notice.





STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING A BOTTLE OF WATER TO SCHOOL BECAUSE OUR WATER FOUNTAINS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



EARLY RELEASE WILL BE EVERY MONDAY

### MEDICATION Guidelines

In compliance with Florida State law, only prescription medication will be administered at school. Over-thecounter or sample medications must be accompanied by written orders from the physician. Whenever possible, medication schedules should be arranged so medication is given at home. Emergency medication records must be updated yearly.





Natalie Gomillion, Head Nurse Debora Horges, LPN Vonda Dickey, Health Assistant 813-975-7349 ext-257 Clinic

### N/ as the second of the











### <u>Promoting Athletic</u> <u>Experiences</u>

The Athletics Department serves to develop, enhance, and oversee the interscholastic athletic programs at the high school and middle school levels. We strive to promote athletic experiences that contributes to the entire educational process and addresses the physical, mental, and moral welfare of our student-athletes. We provide leadership and serve as an information resource to school administration, coaches, student-athletes, parents, and community members to inform and enforce district and state policies and procedures.



# STUDENT GOVERNMENT (LEADERSHIP/SENATE)

2020-2021 Advisor: Ms. Trumbach Room 213

Teresa.Trumbach@sdhc.k12.fl.us

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA) ELECTIONS

- Due to COVID-19 and CDC guidelines, applications to run for Gaither's Student Government will be available electronically, (Microsoft Forms) after August 24, 2021.
- Once candidates are approved to appear on the ballots, elections will be conducted by class grade levels, also electronically.
- Those students securing a position in Student Government, will be scheduled into the Senate/Leadership class for the school year.

## FOLLOW SENATE AND/OR YOUR GRADE LEVEL ON INSTAGRAM FOR GAITHER NEWS AND UPDATES

Student Government (Senate):

Freshmen, Class of 2024 Sophomores, Class of 2023 Juniors, Class of 2022 Seniors, Class of 2021 @ghsclassof24 @ghsclassof23 @ghsco2022 @ghsclassof202

@ghs.senate

## SPIRIT PACK

Senate will be selling our Spirit Packs, via <u>mypaymentsplus.com</u> after August 24. Each spirit pack will include three spirit T-shirts, one washable GHS face mask, and one GHS spirit bracelet.

T-shirt designs will be posted on Canvas and <u>mypaymentsplus.com</u> once available.

ALL t-shirts within one spirit pack MUST BE THE SAME SIZE. S-M-L-XL will be \$25. Add \$2.00 for each "X" after XL (example: 4XL = \$25 + 6.00 = \$31).

There will be a limited quantity available for a limited time frame.

Follow Senate on social media for updates!

# SENIOR CLASS OF 2021

Advisor: Ms. Trumbach Room 213

Teresa.Trumbach@sdhc.k12.fl.us



## SENIOR CLASS OF 2021 REMINDERS...

1. Schedule your Senior photo with Gigante Productions ASAP, so that your photo will appear in the annual yearbook!

Senior Class spirit T-shirts will be sold via <u>mypaymentsplus.com</u> after August 24, 2021 (details and description to be posted via Canvas and in mypaymentsplus.com). S-M-L-XL will be \$10. Add \$2.00 for each "X" after XL (example: 4XL = \$10 + 6.00 = \$16).

3. Graduation Cap 'n Gown must be ordered through *Herff Jones* only. We will share ordering information with you once it's made available to us.

# FOLLOW SENIOR CLASS SOCIAL MEDIA!

# Instagram: @ghsclassof21 Also—tune into daily GTV announcements!

## MEET MRS. PJ ROSEN, PTSA PRESIDENT

Opening Message From Mrs. PJ Rosen - Click HERE



# FRESHMEN, NEW STUDENTS, AND RETURNING STUDENTS!

# GET YOUR SPIRIT GEAR

<u>Click here to buy your Gaither Spirit Gear!</u>





### **Gaither Accomplishments**

- ➤ Gaither is one of 13 high schools in Hillsborough County, 600 schools worldwide, to implement AP Capstone<sup>™</sup> an innovative diploma program that allows students to develop the skills that matter most for their future college success: research, collaboration, and communication.
- Solution Gaither is currently working on being a designated NAF certified academy for its STEM program.
- The Closed Caption Television Program, GTV, is one of the best in the state of Florida. GTV earned a total of 29 awards from the FSPA 2020 Spring Digital Entries and At-Home Contests. This is the most in school history.

Gaither is the only high school in HCPS to offer Italian Language courses.

- > 100% of our seniors in 2018 and 2019 met the Algebra Benchmark a graduation requirement.
- Gaither's Silver Star Yearbook consistently receives state and national awards for content, photography, writing and overall design.
- Gaither has received top rated marks by the Department of Education. In 2017, Governor Rick Scott sent a congratulations note to Principal Thomas Morrill for improvement in English language Arts (ELA) achievement from 2015-2016 to 2016-2017. In this category, Gaither ranked 267 out of 3239 schools in the state, and was ranked 15<sup>th</sup> out of 459 high schools.

### **Gaither Accomplishments**

- Gaither High School has many Career and Technical Education programs available for students to learn valuable skills that can be used in college or in the workplace, such as vet assisting, automotive, NJROTC, agriculture, child care, business education, engineering, drafting, television production, and family and consumer science. Students are given the opportunity to learn in-demand job skills and achieve industry-recognized certifications in many career fields.
- The Gaither Navy JROTC is one of the Top 5 of more than 600 Navy programs in America. Over 250 Cadets compete on 13 competitive teams, including Academics, Military Drill, Athletics, Air Rifle and Orienteering. The Gaither Battalion routinely, finishes in the Top 10 at the end-of year National Championship meet and was an Academic National Champion. Gaither NJROTC has won the Academic State Championship the past 4 straight years, the Overall State Championship the last 3 years and is the current Overall National Champion!
- Gaither has a community of people who have graduated from this school, including the principal, who stayed in the area and their children have graduated or currently attend. There is quite a community of support for Gaither. When former students return, they are amazed at the beauty our school still possesses.

### **Gaither Accomplishments**

- > There is a heart at Gaither, in the employees, in the students and in the community.
- Gaither's marching band and Starettes represented all of Florida in the Inaugural Parade in Washington D.C. and played at Carnegie Hall.
- Gaither's band, orchestra, and chorus have won countless, superior rated awards throughout the years. All three programs are outstanding!
- Gaither High School offers many courses in performing and fine arts. Such courses include: Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Guitar, Keyboarding, Theatre/Musical Theatre, Technical Theatre/Stagecraft, TV Production, and many other visual arts such as but not limited to Drawing and Ceramics.
- Each year, Gaither hosts the Stampede, our version of the Special Olympics and include many of our local elementary, middle, and high school students. Several of our clubs and organizations, as well as local social krewes, such as the Rough Riders, Knights of Columbus Council #13525 and the Krewe of Ann Jeffries, participate in the event. Paratroopers from SOCOM will jump into the stadium to commence the 2017 event.

- Gaither High School continues to receive excellent, top rated parental support from our booster organizations and the PTSA.
- Data from our graduating class of 2017: Gaither had 241 Honor Graduates this year, an increase in 38 students from last year, with a district grade point average of 4.0 or higher which represents 47% of the senior class, 113 seniors had a grade point average of over a 5.0, 13 seniors had over a 6.0 grade point average, and 2 had over a 7.0.
- Top accepting universities from the class of 2017: The University of South Florida was, again, our top accepting university with 68 seniors planning to attend in the fall. Second, was the University of North Florida, with 15, and the University of Central Florida with 11.
- In 2017, Gaither students took a total of 1,428 Advanced Placement Exams in 23 different subject areas.
- Graduation rate: 2018 91.3%; 2019 94.4%; 3.1% increase from the previous year and ranked tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> blace for largest increase.
- Each year, 11 of the students with the highest grade point averages are inducted into the Honor Circle, a program started in 1993 by Principal Ken Adum. Families are invited to a quaint ceremony as we honor these high performing students.

### Our Best Buddies (Gaither Friends) program, which provides a caring, supportive, friendly, and fun environment for students, is a very popular organization on campus.

- Our Exceptional Student Education Program is one of the best in Hillsborough County. We are proud to provide services for a wide-range of students with autism, deaf and hard of hearing, learning disabilities, and emotional challenges. Our 12++ program allows students to learn about real-life skills they will need when they graduate. Our Inspiration Café is a rolling cart breakfast service that students in the program provide for our faculty and staff. We believe in inclusion and ensuring our students are provided with the highest quality of services needed to be successful.
- Notable sports accomplishments: The Cheerleaders won the FHSAA State Championship Title for the second consecutive year, 2016 and 2017; The baseball team won its' first state title in 2016; The men's soccer team won the district title twice in a row, 2016 and 2017; State champion pole vaulter and state champion hurderler in 2017; State Golf Champion in 2019; 2019-2020 Football team won the district title and made it to the final four-- the best season of GHS history
- Our music teacher, Mrs. Debbie Cleveland, was named, National Music Teacher of the Year, during the 2018-2019 School Year.

### **Notable Gaither Former Students**

Eddie Ababio, Major League Soccer player Adam Bilzerian, winner of the 2009 World Series of Poker Kevin Cash, Major League Baseball catcher and current Tampa Bay Rays manager Fernando Gonzalez, North American Soccer League player Oscar Mercado, baseball player Carlton Mitchell, University of South Florida and Atlanta Falcons wide receiver J.R. Russell, Kentucky Xtreme wide receiver and former Tampa Bay Buccaneer Football Player Brittany Snow, actress Jenn Sterger, sports reporter and model Channing Tatum, actor (transferred to and graduated from Tampa Catholic High School) Chad Zerbe, San Francisco Giants relief pitcher





#### DID YOU KNOW . . .

The Gaither custodial and student nutrition team are among the best employees in our county and their attendance is impeccable. They are a very friendly, supportive, and fun group of people. The principal, Thomas D. Morrill, is a proud graduate of the class of 1987. The former principal, Dr. Marie Whelan, and current Chief of Human Resources, is also a proud graduate of the class of 1993. During the graduation ceremony in 2016, which marked the 30th anniversary of the first graduating class of 1986, all former school principals, including Mr. Ron Allen (Inaugural Principal), Mr. Ken Adum, Mrs. Brenda Grasso, Dr. Marie Whelan (including the current principal, Mr. Thomas Morrill), were present on stage, recognized and honored.



WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

STUDENTS, WORK HARD AND ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS. PERSERVE AND HAVE DISCIPLINE THROUGH CHALLENGING WORK AND TIMES AND YOU SHALL BE REWARDED.

> WE ARE GAITHER HIGH SCHOOL

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

GO COWBOYS!



### Welcome to Gaither High School



Thomas Morrill, Principal