

SPEAKING UP FOR EVERY CHILD
Virgil I. Grissom High School, Huntsville, AL

GHS PTSA loves to let each child know that PTSA is listening and speaking up for them in every way possible. We have our legislative board member who has attended majority of the school board meetings which are held the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. There have been many other meetings that are held related to the students. As many know Huntsville City Schools is in the process of coming out of the desegregation order. We have had numerous other meetings in relation to this situation that have been attended by a GHS PTSA representative.

GHS PTSA board also attended the summer leadership training In July hosted by the Huntsville Council. It was a Saturday event we started off with general information in ways to improve our PTSA. Breakout sessions were available to learn about what was of interest to our respective PTSA's to educate ourselves from what each speaker was presenting and take this information back to our schools.

In February GHS PTSA hosted a Legislative Breakfast where we had approximately 50 guests in attendance. We included Local, County and State officials. From the State officials we were eager to hear information on what will be occurring in Montgomery, Alabama during the upcoming session. This is our 2nd year to include Grissom feeder schools. That requires each feeder school PTSA president to be responsible for decorating a table that will represent their school. Grissom PTSA table was decorated with a tiger paw table cloth and ceramic tigers were placed along with orange and white pom-poms and Reese's peanut butter cups in a brown orange packaging that coordinated with our school colors. Each school PTSA President and Principal is invited to attend and to sit at their respective table. Each Principal from the feeder school gave a brief presentation on what is happening in their school. The Grissom Food and Nutrition students worked diligently preparing the menu. The students also served and greeted our political

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guests. We encouraged each student to dress up and look professional so this becomes a learning experience for them. This year our menu included a vegetable egg casserole, oatmeal stuffed apples, and a breakfast cake. The food was tasty and enjoyed by all. This year we had a little glitch as the Food and nutrition instructor child became ill and had to be out. Two PTSA members stepped up to the plate and worked alongside the students to prepare a delicious breakfast. Those students were recognized during the program and we know we have some great students as they led us through a difficult situation. So that is why WE know the importance of speaking up for every child. In this case these students were helping out and speaking up for PTSA to help us have a great event.

As you can see we love to highlight our students. We believe they are our future and we are always looking for occasions to speak up for each and every one of them.