

**WELCOMING ALL FAMILIES**  
Virgil I. Grissom High School, Huntsville, AL

The fall at Grissom High School (GHS) gets off to a busy start. Our first event was our PTSA open house. This year we decided to incorporate a pizza dinner available for purchase. PTSA advertised the dinner on the GHS marquee and printed flyers were handed out in the afternoon carpool line. Since it was the first time PTSA hosted this type of dinner we were not sure what to expect. To purchase the pizza dinner it was five dollars for all you could eat pizza and a drink. We grossed over 450 dollars. PTSA worked alongside Marcos pizza. They were so gracious to split their profits 50/50. At the dinner PTSA had tables set up for our clubs and organizations to sale their wares; T-shirts, magnets, and many other items. PTSA also invited community businesses to participate. A mortgage company, Schwan's foods, and several other local businesses were in attendance to get their information out to the community. The PTSA membership table was set up in the Lunchroom to encourage parents to become a part of this wonderful organization. It was displayed with a beautiful orange flower arrangement and Grissom table cloth and informing parents were the membership chairs. The business meeting began promptly at 6:30 p.m. It was very short but informative meeting knowing all parents were anxious to meet their students teachers. There was a second PTSA membership table set up in the lobby of the auditorium to catch parents who had not attended the pizza dinner to make them aware of the importance of PTSA membership. The open house was very well attended and it was a busy fun filled evening. PTSA worked hard to make all our families feel welcomed to the GHS Tiger family.

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In December PTSA held our First “Meet your PTSA”. PTSA served a delicious breakfast casserole, rolls and fruit with a Christmas theme. Several parents attended and were made aware of the ways to become involved. All in attendance were very receptive that PTSA wanted them to feel included. GHS PTSA strives hard to make all our families feel welcome and that we encourage all parents to work alongside the students and teachers.

PTSA recruits a fair amount of volunteers when our fall information packet comes out and we try to have volunteers fill out this form and return it with information marked with what they are interested in participating in. We also have this information online and we continue to keep a basket with PTSA information in the front office our volunteer form is one of these. A PTSA board member compiles the information into the different categories and it is distributed to the different committee chairs. When a new student is registering the family is handed a PTSA packet that has all the pertinent information on how to become an Involved PTSA Member.

Grissom Will be hosting a volunteer Breakfast March 13, 2015 from 7-9am hoping parents can attend before they go to work. We will be inviting all two parent representatives from each group that is represented on campus. These parents work numerous hours for their groups and organizations. PTSA feels that it is so important for us to network together and see how PTSA can assist these organizations We hope to as a PTSA see what we can learn from networking with the different groups .

Welcoming all families is a top priority for GHS PTSA that continues all year long.