



**The Graham School**

encounter the world, engage the mind

Celebrating 20 Years!



**2020**

# News O'Graham

# January

## Important Dates

Jan. 20	Jan. 22 at 6:00pm	Jan. 23 at 5:30pm	Feb. 5 at 6:00pm	Feb. 6-7	Feb. 17	Feb. 19 at 6:00pm	Feb. 28	March 4 12:30pm early release	March 5-6
No School Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Enrollment Information Session	College Access and College Credit Plus Information Night	Enrollment Information Session	No School PD Days	No School Presidents' Day	Enrollment Information Session	End of Quarter 3	SAT 11th graders	No School - March Break

Dear TGS Families,

Greetings! We hope that you and yours enjoyed a peaceful and joyous holiday season and that 2020 brings you more of the same.

We are off to a terrific start for second semester! As seniors embark on Walkabout we want to wish them the best of luck. We also have several juniors who will be participating in exciting internship opportunities this semester. Both Walkabout and internship sites provide students with the chance to embody our school motto: *Encounter the World, Engage the Mind* and we are proud of all they have done to get to this point in their education.

In December we sent you a letter addressing steps that we are taking to reduce disruptions and support a more calm learning environment at The Graham School. We are focusing on smooth transitions throughout the day for all students. We are already seeing benefits from our concerted efforts to encourage a culture shift and we thank you for your support at home. *We are Crew not Passengers!*

- **The Graham School will automatically close when Columbus City Schools close for inclement winter weather.** We will post this information on channels NBC4, WBNS10, and WSYX6.
- **Busing policy change:** CCS has implemented a new policy that affects our students. This new policy states that only students who are on the driver's roster will be permitted to ride that bus. Notes from home and/or the school will no longer be accepted to allow students to ride home with friends on a bus they are not assigned to. We apologize for any inconvenience this might cause. If you have any questions, please contact CCS Transportation at 614-365-5000.

We thank you for your support and for entrusting us with your students.

Sincerely,

Amy Vickroy, Sarai Correa, RJ Larry; Deans  
Gheon Selemon; Positive Behavior Specialist

**The Graham School** 3950 Indianola Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43214 614-262-1111  
www.TheGrahamSchool.org Front Office Hours - 7:45am-4:30pm

Follow Us:



[www.TheGrahamSchool.org](http://www.TheGrahamSchool.org)

### TGS Needs Your Support!

You should have received a letter about The Graham School Annual Fund. The Annual Fund provides essential resources for our school. We hope to have parents, community members, and local businesses support this important effort. [Click here to make your donation.](#) Or mail in your reply envelope. Thanks in advance for your participation!

[Click here to show your support!](#)



### TGS and TGFS T-shirts For Sale!

To celebrate 20 years at TGS we made t-shirts! They are located at TGS front desk for purchase. They are 100% cotton, sizes S-XL and are \$12.00 per shirt. Stop by the TGS front desk to purchase your shirt! You can pay with cash, credit card or check (made out to The Graham School).



#### \*Reminder\*

#### Cell Phone Policy

#### \*Reminder\*

Our cell phone policy prohibits the use of electronics in the classroom unless being used for teacher-approved activities. Please remember that if you need to contact your student during class time, the best way to do so is through our front desk associates at 614-262-1111. At The Graham School we believe that learning is a priority and time spent fully engaged in classes and community is essential. We appreciate your cooperation and support.

### TGS Online Store is Open

The TGS Store is open! You can now pay school fees (\$35) and lunch balance online at the Store.

[Click here to pay online at the Store.](#)

TGS is a School-wide Title 1 program, enabling us to receive Federal Funds to ensure that our students receive the support they need to reach and exceed grade level goals in reading and math. We welcome parent involvement in planning, review and improvement of Title 1 programs including the family engagement policy and the schoolwide program plan. Please contact Debbie Addison at [addison.2@thegrahamschool.org](mailto:addison.2@thegrahamschool.org) with any questions.

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[www.TheGrahamSchool.org](http://www.TheGrahamSchool.org)

## Silent Auction Items Needed

We are seeking items for the Have a Heart silent auction. Items could include gift cards, art work, jewelry, crafts, event tickets, and more! As you shop and talk with your friends and family please think about items that might help with this wonderful event. Please contact Jennifer Waddell, [waddell.1@thecharlesschool.org](mailto:waddell.1@thecharlesschool.org) or 614-643-5068 with any questions or to donate items.

Funds raised at Have a Heart will support expeditions.

## College Access and College Credit Plus (CCP) Information Night

January 23rd - 5:30 - 7:15PM at The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University

The Graham Family of Schools is hosting our annual College Access and College Credit Plus (CCP) Information Night on January 23rd from 5:30 - 7:15PM at The Charles School (1270 Brentnell Avenue, Columbus, OH 43219). Families and students are invited to come learn about participating in the CCP program and talk to representatives from some of Central Ohio's CCP Programs. In addition to learning about opportunities for students to earn college credit free of charge while in grades 7 - 12 through CCP, there will be sessions on Ohio Dominican's Early College Program at The Charles School (grades 11 - 13), and conversations about high school graduation pathways. There will be refreshments and raffle/door prizes, so don't miss this great session on college opportunities for your student!

## Help Graham Raise Money For Expeditions!

When you shop at Kroger, Giant Eagle, and/or Amazon you can help TGS raise money!

### Kroger

Go to: [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) or call 1-800-837-4483 to enroll in the program. **If you enrolled last year you must re-enroll each year to help Graham.** Add Graham to your card. You can search for Graham by name or use our (NEW Code) school code: IE209 Shop! Every time you shop and use your Kroger Rewards Card Graham gets rebates. Kroger totals those rebates and sends Graham a check.

### Giant Eagle

Go to: <https://www.gianteagle.com/schools/apples-for-students> to sign up online or call 1-800-474-4777. Add Graham to your card. Our school ID number is 5089. Shop! Every time you use your Giant Eagle Advantage Card Graham earns money.

### You shop. Amazon gives to The Graham School!

When you make a purchase on Amazon Smile they will now donate 0.5% of your total purchase to The Graham School. Go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-1713840> to get started!

## RESIDENCY VERIFICATION NOTIFICATION

Per House Bill 21 community schools are now required to perform a monthly review of student files and randomly select families for residency verification. **Please be sure to contact the school immediately in case of an address change.** Proof of residency must be submitted within two weeks of an address change. If evidence is not provided, requests for additional documentation or a home visit may occur.



## January Culture Reset at The Graham School

The Graham School seeks to provide the environment and instruction for students to advance academically as well as participate as good citizens within the school community and the larger community. During the first semester of the 2019-2020 school year we experienced an uptick in disruptive and inappropriate behaviors that were not in line with the way students at The Graham School are expected to behave. This did not support the calm learning environment that all students need in order to learn well, nor did it reflect the **Habits of Learning** that all students are familiar with at TGS:

**Adventure & Risk      Perseverance      Self-Direction      Service & Stewardship      Teamwork & Collaboration**

After thoughtful reflection, our staff made the decision to more clearly articulate our behavior expectations to our community and improve accountability at the start of the second semester. We have now held conversations with students in crew about these expectations and put in place consequences for disruptive behaviors that follow the directives of the School Positive Behavior Intervention Plan.

Already we are seeing positive changes. Students are getting to class on time and staying in class once there. Teachers are reminding them on a regular basis about expectations at both the beginning and end of classes. Students are hearing phrases like: Calm Tone, Considerate Language, On time to class as well as a few others. We are feeling some of the calm returning to our environment.

### Expectations in The Graham School Culture

In order to have a Calm Learning Environment

#### **We are kind to one another.**

- We speak with a calm tone and considerate language.
- We do not use profanity.
- We do not yell in class or the hallway.
- We do not use slurs of any kind.

#### **We solve problems through safe-talking protocols (circle conversations).**

- We work out our conflicts with words
- We do not fight.
- We do not play fight.

#### **We get to class on time.**

- We don't leave class without permission
- We return after using a bathroom pass within 4 minutes

#### **We persevere when things are tough.**

- We stay in class.
- We use coping skills.
- We seek support without causing disruption.

#### **We sit in circles in crew.**

**We put cell phones and headphones away in all classrooms and at Town Meeting.**

#### **We take care of the space around us.**

- We throw trash away.
- We use class materials only for their intended purpose.
- We clean up messes.

Follow Us:



[www.TheGrahamSchool.org](http://www.TheGrahamSchool.org)



Please join The Graham Family of Schools for

# Have a Heart

Celebrating 20 years of Experiential Education and Honoring our Board members, past and present

Saturday, April 4, 2020 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

at

\*New Location\*

**The Boat House at Confluence Park**

679 West Spring Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

Please contact Jennifer Waddell, [waddell.1@thecharlesschool.org](mailto:waddell.1@thecharlesschool.org) or 614-643-5068 with any questions.

**\*Attendance\***

**Attention Parents/Guardians**

**\*Attendance\***

Attending school daily is critical to student success. Ohio's House Bill 410 law requires a preventative approach to excessive student absences. An Attendance Team has been established to work with our students and families to help improve daily attendance. Note \* - Missing as few as 2 days per month is considered chronically absent!

**We want to see your student in school every day!**

## Enrollment Information!

Please be sure to spread the word to friends and neighbors about our upcoming enrollment information sessions. If you know of students who might be interested in attending The Graham School, The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University, or GEMS, please let them know about our upcoming enrollment information sessions.

**Wednesday at 6:00pm**

January 22

February 5 & 19

AT

The Graham School  
3950 Indianola Ave.

The Charles School at Ohio Dominican University  
1270 Brentnell Ave.

GEMS  
140 E. 16th Ave.

For more information please visit the school's websites

[www.thegrahamschool.org](http://www.thegrahamschool.org)

[www.thecharlesschool.org](http://www.thecharlesschool.org)

[www.gemsschool.org](http://www.gemsschool.org)