

TITANS

LEARNING FOR A LIFETIME



**GRAETTINGER-TERRIL
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Developing competent citizens
who will be successful participants
in a rapidly changing world.

**NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2021**

LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



The completion of the first quarter of the year has meant parent-teacher conferences, the culmination of Fall sports' seasons and the changing of the weather. It has also been a time of building new relationships and enhancing existing friendships. Our students at GTRA not only come to school to grow academically, but socially and emotionally as well. They experience opportunities to excel, to fail, to lead, to follow and to grow. The primary purpose of our school system is to guide students as they become citizens of tomorrow and that includes preparation for employment, community involvement, and personal success.

The Graettinger-Terril mission statement highlights the importance of future citizenship, involvement and adaptation to a life we do not yet know.

The mission of the Graettinger-Terril CSD is to develop competent citizens who will be successful participants in a rapidly changing world.

This will be accomplished by providing each student with a challenging, progressive curriculum taught by a dedicated staff in a nurturing environment.

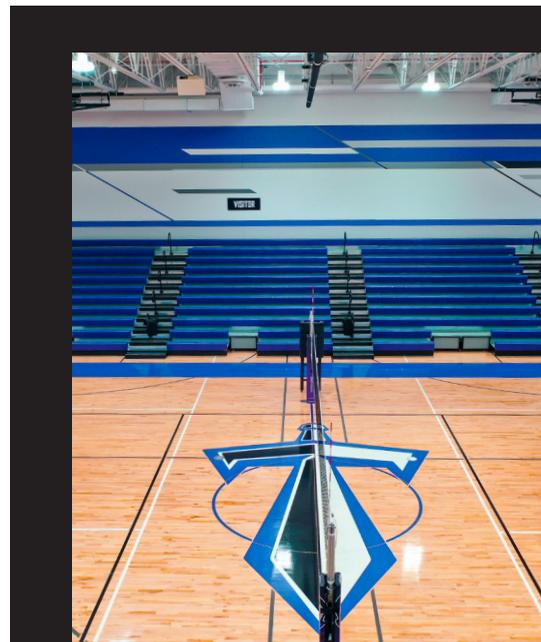
As featured in the Ruthven-Ayrshire Mission Statement, the education of students is not done in isolation and requires collective community participation.

The Ruthven-Ayrshire Community School, together with parents and the community, will provide a supportive and caring yet challenging environment. Students will have a variety of opportunities to acquire knowledge and skills, to learn, to think creatively and to act responsibly in order to meet the challenges of today and the opportunities of tomorrow.

It is with these foundations that we are reminded of the intertwining of efforts to support the perpetual growth and development of children. From the local businesses that serve our patrons, to the governmental services and leadership that guide us, to the volunteer organizations that keep us involved, GTRA is proud to work alongside the entities and individuals that are focused on future opportunities and dedicated to enhancing the quality of our community.

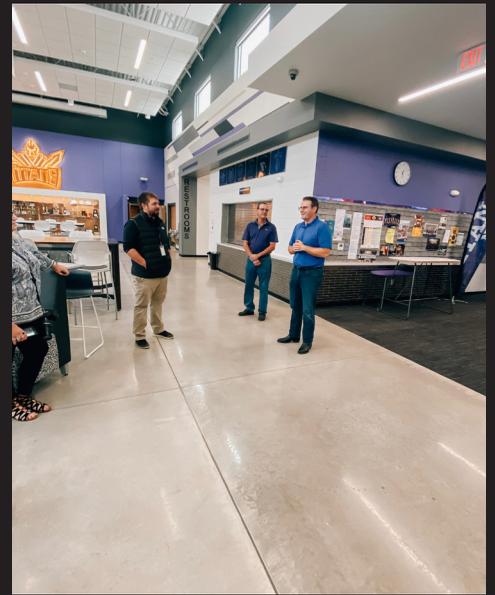
Thank you for your role in guiding the youth of GTRA in this collective endeavor to make Titan Nation a shining example of Iowa small town collaboration and pride.

Marshall Lewis
Superintendent



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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Lieutenant Governor, Adam Gregg visited the Graettinger campus to tour our facilities on September 14th. Administration along with School Board President, Kevin Jensen took him around the school and discussed how statewide initiatives can support rural school districts.

“Small Schools are important to Iowa, and I’m impressed by the investment that has been made by these communities to have first class facilities so that kids can have all the opportunities and perhaps more than they would have in some larger schools.”

- Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

BE RESPONSIBLE
BE RESPECTFUL
BE SAFE

PBIS HOUSE SYSTEM

PBIS [Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports] is an approach schools use to promote school safety and good behavior. The focus is on prevention, not punishment.

At the beginning of the year, our Elementary introduced this year’s expectations by implementing a House System, following Ron Clark Academy methods.

K-5th graders belong to one of 6 houses [Red, Yellow, Blue, Pink, Gray, Green] with staff as the House Leaders. Each student spun the wheel to determine which house they would be a member of. Each house has unique properties such as: its own color, symbols, house name in foreign language, nation of heritage, history, character trait, and more. Over time, each house also starts to take on its own values and personality driven by the culture of the students and staff within.

The Ron Clark Academy House System is a dynamic, exciting, and proven way to create a positive climate and culture for students and staff. These methods will help our district confidently implement processes that build character, relationships and school spirit.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

KATHY BATES,
GRAETTINGER CLASS OF '82



CURRENT ROLES:

Senior Director of Business Development for the Laboratories at Mayo Clinic

Administrator of the Advanced Diagnostics Laboratory in One Discovery Square

EDUCATION:

Master of Business Administration, University of St. Thomas

Bachelor of Science, Nutrition & Chemistry, Mankato State University, Mankato, MN

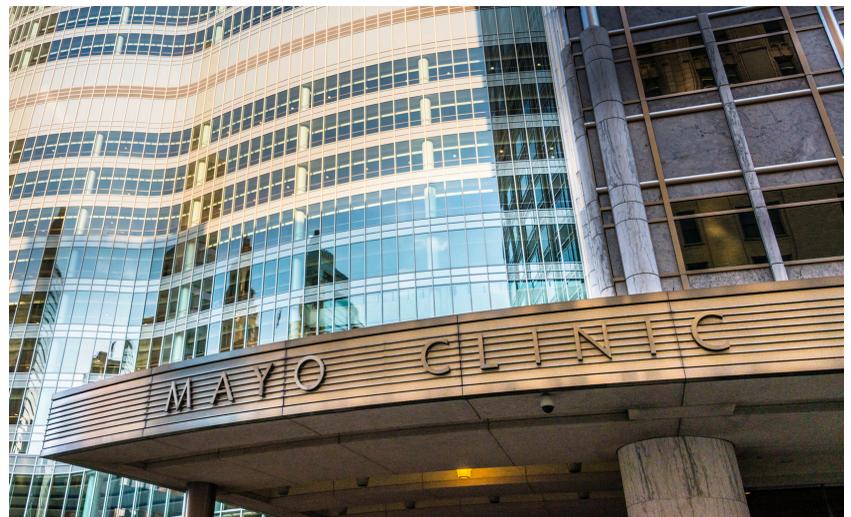
AT GRAETTINGER:

Grew up in Graettinger and attended K-12 as a Pirate.

LEADING THE WAY IN MAYO CLINIC DIAGNOSTICS

Kathy Bates is the Senior Director of Business Development for the laboratories at Mayo Clinic and Administrator of the Advanced Diagnostics Laboratory in One Discovery Square. Kathy leads a team responsible for the evaluation, acquisition and implementation of novel diagnostic technologies and services to sustain and grow Mayo's clinical practice and Mayo Clinic Laboratories. This involves business partnerships with numerous advanced technology companies and academic centers of excellence. She is the Administrator for the Advanced Diagnostics Laboratory in One Discovery Square, focused on advancing innovation in laboratory diagnostics.

Most recently, when COVID-19 spread across the U.S., Mayo Clinic's Advanced Diagnostic Laboratory (ADL) was at the forefront of innovative COVID-19 diagnostics. Some of the teams' innovations include antibody (blood) and viral antigen testing, patient immune response stratification, point-of-care diagnostic testing, tissue diagnostics, self-collection kits and data analytics/bioinformatics.



KATHY'S ROOTS

"I grew up in Graettinger and attended K-12 as a "Pirate". We lived on a farm 3 miles west of town and my mother, Lois Platter, lives there today. I have very fond memories of the farm, the Graettinger community and attending school there. I was a lifeguard and also worked at the Hillcrest. Mr. Worley was my favorite teacher who taught me how to study which prepared me for college. The school was also nice as I could participate in so many different activities including speech, music, volleyball and track. My father was Lowell Platter who died in 2018. He also graduated from Graettinger High School. I graduated in 1982, yikes!"



Photo Credit: Matt Heinrich

GAME ON!

FOOTBALL



It was a record-breaking year for the Titan football team. Competing in 8-man District 2, the Titans went 5-1. They advanced to playoff action, taking down Gladbrook-Reinbeck 58-28 in the first round. Junior QB Max Hough recorded a dominant year, amassing 22 touchdowns on 77 completions and 1,212 total yards heading into second round playoff action. On the receiving end, Cormick Currans pulled in 35 receptions and 15 TDs. **-Head Coach Todd Hough**

VOLLEYBALL



The Titans showed steady growth in a tough Twin Lakes conference this season, finishing the year with a 5-23 mark. Junior Adri Krieger led GTRA with 107 kills, while senior Kate Sorenson dished out 312 assists. McKenzie Hoffman picked up a team best 247 digs on the year.

-Head Coach Scott Tschetter

CROSS COUNTRY



Season four of Titan cross country was our most successful on the boys' side. While our numbers were not high, we were blessed with good health this season. We were able to compete as a team in every meet this season, becoming more competitive as the season went on, and we began to learn to run as a pack. Aiden Egertson was our first all-conference runner and came up just short of being an individual state qualifier. For the third straight season, we had one girl compete. Karima Rostom improved as the season progressed and enjoyed her season. While we would like to see numbers grow for both boys and girls, we'd really like to see that happen on the girls' side.

-Head Coach Mike Nichols

CHECKING IN: GTRA FFA

A BUSY FALL FOR THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

This fall, the GTRA FFA participated in a variety of events. With a busy schedule and an even busier impact, let's catch up with a few highlights from their journey.

1. They started the school year with an officer retreat and Chapter Officer Leadership Training. The officers set goals for the chapter, worked on leadership skills, and created a plan of action for the year to come.
2. In August, members participated in the Iowa State Fair. The Titans showed and volunteered as ushers throughout the two weeks.
3. The first week of school, we had 4 students compete at the State Livestock Judging Career Development Event, ranking silver.
4. The third week of school, we had members help put on the annual Labor Day FFA Barnyard and had a float in the parade. We also sold Labor Day raffle tickets as a little fundraiser.
5. The next week, we had members show and judge livestock at the Clay County Fair. We also had four members in the Plant Science class attend the District Soil Judging CDE.
6. In October, our FFA team organized a 'Feed-A-Farmer Day' to provide sack lunches to farmers at the Wallingford and Ruthven coops.

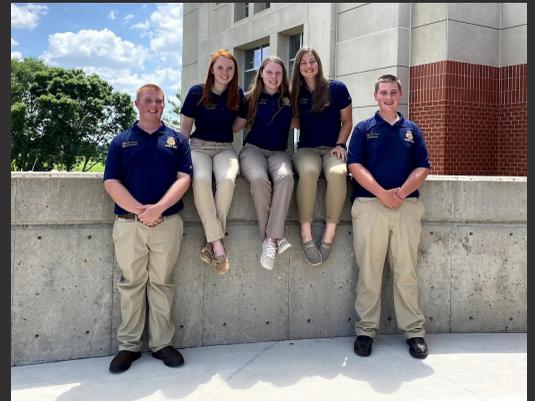
COMING UP

The National FFA Convention took place the last week of October in Indianapolis, IN with 13 GTRA FFA members attending. Members had an opportunity to connect with agricultural companies, colleges, FFA members from across the country, tour agricultural industries, and learn from National FFA officers and other leaders.

This fall/winter, members have an opportunity to attend one of three conferences designed for different age levels: Ignite for freshmen, Amplify for sophomores and juniors, and Transform for seniors. The conference is held in Ankeny at the FFA Enrichment Center in November and January.

GTRA FFA members have been showing great leadership and excitement to help the local organization and agricultural industry grow and prosper in the future. All of these events are a great way to wrap up the calendar year before we head into the busy FFA season for this spring!

As of this fall, we have 54 members in the GTRA FFA Chapter.



Officer retreat and Chapter Officer Leadership Training



Members help put on the annual Labor Day FFA Barnyard



Members attend the District Soil Judging CDE



Members show and judge livestock at the Clay County Fair

COMING UP

DEC. 2 WRESTLING TRIANGULAR | HOME
 DEC. 3 JV/V GIRLS & BOYS BBALL | HOME
 DEC. 4 WRESTLING INVITATIONAL | AWAY
 DEC. 6 MS BAND/VOCAL CONCERT | 7 PM
 DEC. 7 JV/V GIRLS & BOYS BBALL | HOME
 DEC. 9 ELEMENTARY CONCERT | 7 PM
 DEC. 9 WRESTLING QUAD | AWAY
 DEC. 10 JV/V GIRLS & BOYS BBALL | HOME

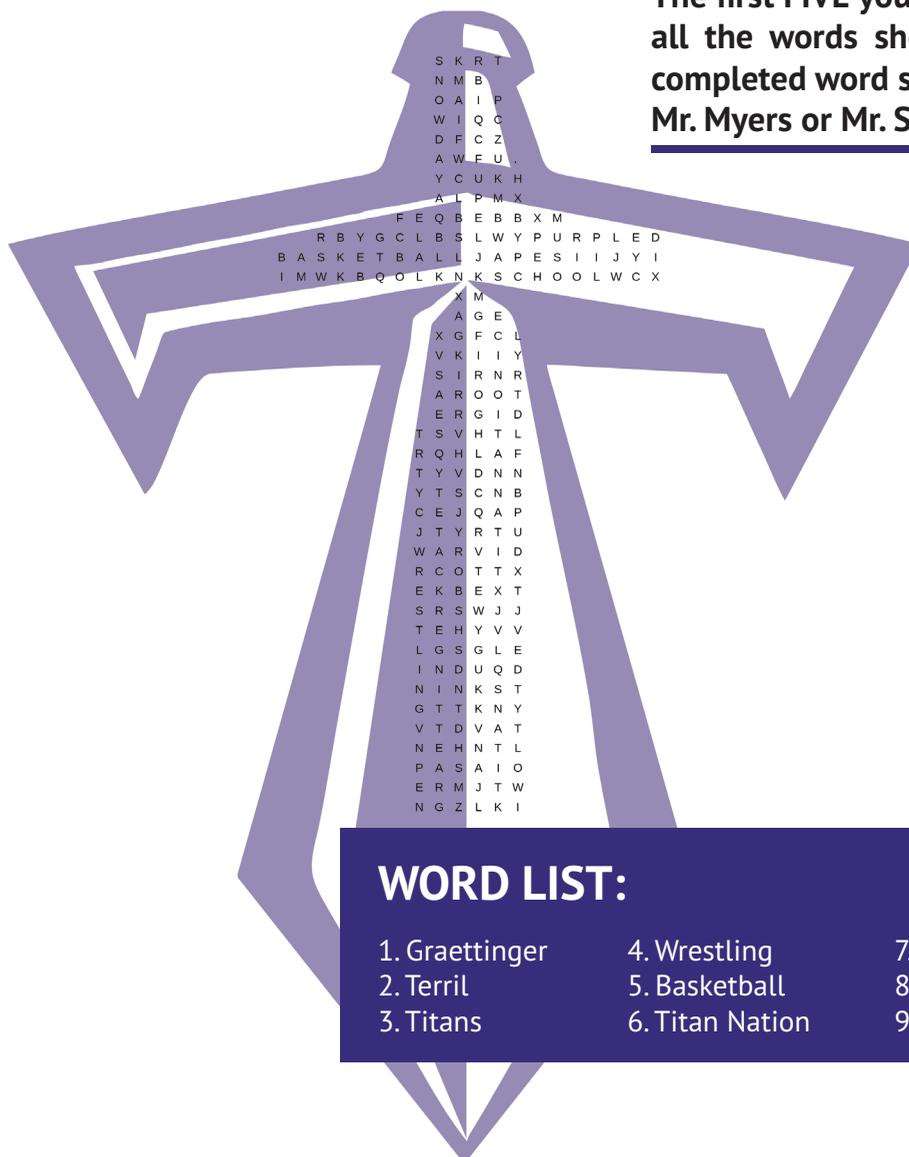
DEC. 14 WRESTLING QUAD | AWAY
 DEC. 16 WRESTLING TRIANGULAR | AWAY
 DEC. 17 JV/V GIRLS & BOYS BBALL | AWAY
 DEC. 18 WRESTLING INVITATIONAL | AWAY
 DEC. 18 JV/V GIRLS & BOYS BBALL | HOME
 DEC. 20 HS BAND/VOCAL CONCERT | 7 PM
 DEC. 22 2ND QUARTER / 1ST SEMESTER END
 DEC. 22 - JAN 3RD | WINTER BREAK

JANUARY 4 | SECOND SEMESTER BEGINS

TITAN NATION

SOLVE OUR WORD SEARCH!

The first FIVE young Titans to find all the words should bring their completed word search to either Mr. Myers or Mr. Simington.



WORD LIST:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1. Graettinger | 4. Wrestling | 7. School |
| 2. Terril | 5. Basketball | 8. Purple |
| 3. Titans | 6. Titan Nation | 9. Snowday |



GRAETTINGER-TERRIL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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