

**Subject: Newsome High School PTSA E-Newsletter September 2015**  
**From: Newsome High School PTSA <secretary@newsomehighschoolpta.org>**

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Newsome High School PTSA. Don't forget to add [secretary@newsomehighschoolpta.org](mailto:secretary@newsomehighschoolpta.org) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox! If you have moved, graduated or your student is no longer attending Newsome High School, please let us know so we can take your e-mail off our distribution list. Bleed Blue!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



Carla Bruning, Principal

16550 Fishhawk Blvd.  
Lithia, FL 33547  
813-740-4600

Newsome PTSA Newsletter  
Volume 7 Issue 2  
September 2015

Donna Rayburn, President  
Cyndi Cisneros, Editor

# NEWSOME NEWS

## President's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome and personally thank all parents, teachers, grandparents, aunts, uncles and all students who have already joined our PTSA. Without your continued support along with the support of our community corporate sponsors, we would not be able to provide such a wide variety of benefits to the Parents, Teachers and Students of our school. We are so fortunate to have the highest membership of all Hillsborough County High Schools, year after year! Your membership includes access to our private Facebook page where you can find the most current information about what's going on at our school. Our website and newsletter are also updated regularly for your reference. We are your conduit for important matters regarding our children. If we do not have the information you are requesting, we will find out from administration who the correct contact is for you.



I hope our families are transitioning back into the best year yet! We are always looking for volunteers and new members. So, make sure everyone you know signs up. If you own a business and would like to promote it within our PTSA community, please contact me for more information about our corporate sponsorship program. Seniors will need to be a member to be eligible for our PTSA Scholarship program. All other student members are eligible for our monthly gift card drawings for our student recognition program. Our website has online registration for your convenience. We will be offering programs for our students and parents beginning early fall. More information will be available in our next newsletter.

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1 SEP  
5 pm  
Swimming vs Riverview

I wish every student the best high school experience here at Newsome. If I can assist you with anything, please don't hesitate to contact [me](#). All of our officers names and contact information is listed on our [website](#) as well. Once again, thank you for your support and welcome!

Sincerely,

Donna Rayburn  
Newsome PTSA President  
president@newsomehighschoolptsa.org

## Letter from our Principal



I would like to thank all parents and students for a very smooth opening. What a great start we have had to the new school year! Though we have more students than we have ever had at Newsome, our school is running smoothly.

My number one goal this year is to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all our Newsome students. We are preparing students for life beyond Newsome High School.

Please continue to be patient with our guidance department since we are short one counselor due to the resignation of Mrs. Kitko.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,  
Carla Bruning  
Principal  
Newsome High School  
carla.bruning@sdhc.k12.fl.us

## Bus Transportation

Thank you for being patient with Newsome and the District as we iron out some issues with transportation. Due to the large number of recent registrations, the buses are crowded and some buses are running late.



At Newsome High School we are responsible for ensuring that your students get off the bus safely in the morning and get on the bus safely in the afternoon. We are diligently working with the transportation department to balance the routes and ensure that buses are arriving and leaving on time.

The district transportation office handles all other issues with drivers, routes or stops. Please feel free to contact the transportation office 813-840-7305 with any questions.

As always, your student's safety is our number one concern so please be patient as we work through the first few weeks of school.

Thank you,  
[Newsome Administration](#)

6 pm  
Cross Country  
East Hillsborough Invitational  
@ Plant City

2 SEP  
6 pm  
PTSA Executive Meeting

6:30 pm  
Orchestra Parent Meeting

3 SEP  
SAT Registration Deadline  
for 3 OCT testing date  
(late reg is 18 SEP)

3 pm  
Golf @ Steinbrenner

5 pm  
Swimming vs. Strawberry Crest

6:15 pm  
Volleyball @ East Bay

7 pm  
JV Football @ B'Dale

4 SEP  
7:30 pm  
V Football vs. Strawberry Crest

7 SEP  
Labor Day  
No School



8 SEP  
3 pm  
Golf @ Freedom

6:15 pm  
Volleyball vs. B'Dale

9 SEP  
8:30 am  
PTSA Board Meeting

10 SEP  
Lunches  
Meet the Clubs  
Cafeteria

3 pm  
Golf @ Blake

5 pm

## PTSA Student Representative

Greetings Newsome PTSA,

My name is Sam Talbot and I am the SGA Secretary here at Newsome. My job is to relay any information (that you may not already know) to you in hopes that our student body and parents stay up to date on whatever is going on.



As you all know, the homecoming dance put on by SGA is the 10<sup>th</sup> of October with the homecoming football game the previous day (October 9<sup>th</sup>). More information on ticket sales and spirit week themes will be announced closer to the date. As of right now, it appears that no guests will be allowed at the dance due to the copious amount of our own students.

SGA is also in charge of pep rallies, tailgates, movie on the lawn, and student faculty games. The dates for these events and more are TBD as they come closer to the middle and end of the school year.

If there are any general questions, comments, or concerns regarding student government or Newsome itself don't hesitate to ask. I'm looking forward to a great year and hope all of you are too!

Sam Talbot  
SGA Secretary  
@NewsomeSGA

## PTSA Donation Drive

[Liz Brewer, 2nd VP Ways and Means](#)

The PTSA Cash Donation fundraiser is still open! 100% of your donations go directly to the PTSA, teachers and students of Newsome High School. We need your support to help us achieve our goals each year.



Your dollars help us provide student appreciation, teacher appreciation breakfasts and lunches and dinners, teacher mini-grants, guest speakers for our families and senior scholarships. Last year we distributed \$6,000.00 in scholarships to our students thanks to our donors and sponsors.

To help the PTSA and our school, you can fill out the [donation](#) form and turn it in at the Newsome main office, with ATTN: PTSA.

Or you can visit our [Spirit Store](#) and make a PayPal donation! Thanks for your support!

## Faculty Recognition

[Dawn Ullom and Valerie Hellier, Co-Chairs](#)

The PTSA Teacher Recognition Committee hosted a "Welcome Back Teachers Breakfast" on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015. In addition to a warm, delicious breakfast, teachers also received gift bags and raffle prizes. Thank you to all our PTSA volunteers who made this event a success!



Swimming vs. Durant

6:15 pm  
Volleyball @ Alonso

7 pm  
JV Football @ Plant City

**11 SEP**  
Patriot Day



9:11 am  
Moment of Silence

Lunches  
Meet the Clubs  
Cafeteria

7:30 pm  
Varsity Football vs. Durant

**12 SEP**  
7:30 am  
Cross Country  
Seffner Christian Invitational  
@ Holloway Park (Lakeland)

8 am  
[ACT](#) @ Newsome

1 pm  
Orchestra Retreat

**16 SEP**  
First Club Day  
3:30 pm - 6 pm  
Conference Night

6 pm  
Senior College Seminar Night  
Auditorium

**17 SEP**  
3 pm  
Golf @ King

6:15 pm  
Volleyball @ Durant

6:30 pm  
Diving @ AHN  
(Academy of the Holy Names)

7 pm  
JV Football vs. Riverview

We appreciate our wonderful, hard working teachers and we look forward to a successful year!

## Newsome JROTC

by [LTC Maurice Bolduc](#)

The Newsome High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Wolfpack Battalion begins this year with the largest number of cadets (240 plus) in its eleven year history. Coming off of a very successful tenth year, which included an Air Force Academy appointee, a four year Navy ROTC Scholarship winner, multiple non-JROTC scholarship winners, the "Top Student" at the State Youth Leadership Conference, two District Championship Teams, and over 6,000 hours of community and volunteer service, the Newsome JROTC program has been selected as one of three JROTC programs in Hillsborough County to undergo a rigorous "Formal Inspection" in March 2016.

In addition to preparing for the inspection, the Wolfpack Battalion will continue its mission to "Motivate young people to be better citizens". While JROTC is not a recruiting effort for the United States military, it provides leadership opportunities, team building skills, and prepares students for life after high school. Students enrolled in JROTC are expected to live up to the "Cadet Creed" and the seven "Army Values" of: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honesty, integrity and personal courage. There are several outside of the classroom activities cadets can become involved in to include being a member of the Raider, Rifle, Drill, Color Guard, Academic and Leadership Bowl teams not to mention a myriad of community service and volunteer activities.

To learn more about Newsome JROTC or to follow the exploits of this year's cadets, log onto the [NHS JROTC](#) homepage or click on the JROTC link found under "programs" on the [Newsome](#) homepage.



## Student Spotlight



Graduation Class: 2016

Newsome Activities: Delsie is a Senior member of the Newsome Cross Country and Track & Field teams, Special Olympics and Environmental Clubs.



18 SEP

[ACT](#) Registration Deadline for  
24 OCT Testing date

5 pm  
Chorus Retreat

7:30 pm  
Varsity Football @  
Palm Harbor

19 SEP

8am  
Cross Country  
Bell Creek Invitational  
@ Rogers Middle

21 SEP

3 pm  
Golf @ Plant

6:15 pm  
Volleyball vs. Plant

22 SEP

3 pm  
Newsome Idol

23 SEP

8:30 am  
Senior Panoramic Picture  
Gym

24 SEP

5 pm  
Swimming vs. B'Dale

6:15 pm  
Volleyball vs. Riverview

7 pm  
JV Football vs. East Bay

25 SEP

7:30 pm  
Varsity Football vs. Alonzo

26 SEP

Seniors: Last Sit Date  
to be in the Yearbook

7:30 am  
Varsity Cross Country  
[FLRunners.com](#) Invitational

Leadership Position: She has consistently demonstrated her leadership skills and has been selected by her peers to be the Captain of the Cross Country and Track & Field teams. She holds the school record for the 1600 meters run, provide support and encouragement and is generally the "go to person" on the team.

Hobbies: Her hobbies are centered around her running and she can be seen running in the area almost every day of the year for the past four years.

College: Undecided about her college choice, but is recruited by in-state schools as well as Colleges and Universities in Mississippi and North Carolina.

Future plans: Run for a College team and study to become a physical therapist or a homicide investigator.



@ Titusville

8 am  
Cross Country  
WD Johnson Invitational  
@ Simmons Park

28 SEP  
Underclassmen Pictures

6:15 pm  
Volleyball @ Riverview

29 SEP  
3 pm  
Golf vs. Sickles

30 SEP  
3 pm  
Golf @ Alonso



1 OCT  
6 pm  
College Fair Night  
Brandon HS

9 OCT  
7:30 pm  
Homecoming Game  
Varsity Football vs.  
Steinbrenner

10 OCT  
7 pm  
Homecoming Dance

## Senior Scholarships

[Jill Rintoul, Chair](#)

Newsome High School PTSA works with the community to provide deserving seniors with much needed scholarships. Last year the Newsome PTSA awarded \$6,000 in scholarships that selected seniors used at their college of choice.



This year we are excited to be offering separate scholarships for three categories: students who will be majoring in Performing/Fine Arts students, who will be attending a two-year college students, and who will be attending a four year college.

Newsome Seniors, you must become a member of the PTSA by January 29th, 2016, to be eligible to apply for a Newsome Senior Scholarship. Application deadline will be February 19, 2016. Applications are reviewed by a panel of judges outside of Newsome and include community leaders. Applications will be available on our [website](#) mid-October.

## Reflections

[Vicky Furey, Chair](#)



Newsome Students looking for a way to express your creativity, add an award to your college resume' or just show off your artistic talent, can do just that, by participating in the 2015 Reflections Program. It's easy to enter and everyone gets recognized for their participation.

First, pick one or more of the six artistic categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography and Visual Arts.

Next, choreograph and dance, produce a film, write a poem or story, compose a song, take a picture or create a piece of visual art to show your interpretation of the "Let

## Corporate Sponsorships

[Pam McAuley, Chair](#)

If you would like a business membership, or to be one of our corporate sponsors, please contact [Pam McAuley](#).

Businesses and sponsors receive recognition on our website as well as in our monthly e-newsletters.

Your Imagination Fly" theme.

Then, submit your work by the October 23, 2015 deadline and attend the awards ceremony at the end of the year to be recognized and receive your award.

You can pick up Reflections entry forms and guidelines for submission from the Media Center or print your own from the [FL PTA Website](#) or our own [Newsome Website](#). So, Let Your Imagination Fly!

## Blue Letter Envelopes

[Monica Weaver and Liz Hallman, Co-Chairs](#)

Do you have a graduating senior? Have you heard of the Blue Letter Envelope program? On the morning of the Senior Breakfast, Seniors are given an envelope filled with notes from friends, family, teachers, etc.

It's up to YOU as a parent to make this happen for your child and most parents choose to make this a surprise for their graduating students.



Every student LOVES being handed a large envelope filled with notes of congratulations and good wishes. Newsome is one of few schools to offer this amazing experience to our students!

More information will follow later in the year from your [Blue Letter Envelope Chairpersons](#), Monica Weaver and Liz Hallman.



## Membership

[Elaine Ward 1st VP - Membership and Volunteers](#)

As your PTSA, it is our goal to provide Newsome families with relevant and timely information to help you navigate the year safely.

There are many benefits of PTSA membership. Members receive a monthly e-newsletter and have access to our group Facebook page, which will be updated on October 1st to include only current PTSA members. In order to stay in the group, please be sure to submit your membership dues and application by September 30th.

You can join or renew your yearly membership on our [website](#) at our online [spirit store](#). Make sure to note your student's homeroom number so we can deliver your PTSA membership card and car emblem!

Membership dues support Newsome student activities, student and teacher appreciation events, teacher mini-grants, our Reflections program, Senior Scholarships and many more educational programs we provide throughout the year.

Please consider joining the PTSA. Membership is available to all who support Newsome: students, parents, teachers, grandparents, friends and family! Join the PTSA Today!

## Teacher Mini-Grants

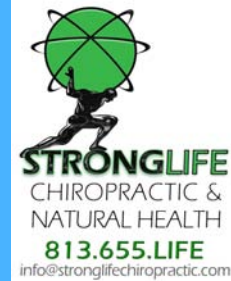
[Kathi Hayes, Chair](#)

Mini-Grant

**CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS**

Thank you to last year's corporate sponsors - our success could not be achieved without your support!

 **VALRICO**  
Spine & Rehab Center



**PINCH-A-PENNY POOL-PATIO-SPA**  
The Perfect People For A Perfect Pool

 **LONGHORN**  
STEAKHOUSE

**Dr Charles DeVine**  
**(813) 689-2466**  
Private Practice  
over 15 Years!

## Mini-Grant

Teachers and staff, as you get back into the swing of things, brainstorm what you would like to ask the PTSA for in the form of a mini-grant. The first mini-grant deadline will be the beginning of October when we will award \$1,000, and another \$1,000 will be awarded in late January.

PTSA Mini-Grants don't need to be Hillsborough County approved vendors. The PTSA Mini-grant committee reviews all applications and approves those having the most impact on the students.

The mini-grant application form is due by Friday, October 2, 2015. The application and project description must be typed, and returned to the PTSA mailbox in the Main Office. Approved funds must be used by October 30, 2015, unless the project or program takes place after this date.

Information and application can be found [here](#). It is a simple one page application. Individual Applicants must be current Newsome PTSA members. All nonperishable items purchased with grant funds remain the property of Newsome High School.

If you have any questions please contact [Kathi Hayes](#).

### Volunteer!

Ginny Harrell, Volunteer Chair  
LaLania Sellers, SERVE Chair

In addition to financial support, we can use your time and talents as well. If you would like to volunteer to be on any of our committees, please contact [Ginny Harrell](#).



All volunteers must have a SERVE application on file at the office before logging hours at school. You can find a SERVE form [here](#). For SERVE questions, please contact [LaLania Sellers](#).

Join the PTSA so you can be a part of your student's high school experience. You can check out the variety of PTSA committees on our website under our [Programs](#) page.



### Courtyard Tiles Project

[Melanie Bentley-Montanaro](#), Chair

MARK YOUR STUDENTS PLACE IN NEWSOME HISTORY!

We are proud to provide the "Paving Your Way In Life" project for all grades. You can buy a personalized tile that will be installed in our courtyard on the walls of the planter. Your student can enjoy seeing these displayed tiles while they are here and many more students will for years to come.

Your participation in this project will allow us to continue providing all the things we do for the students and staff of NHS such as senior scholarships, teacher mini grants, student and staff recognition and sensational speakers on topics important to our teens.

But hurry because this year we are putting a deadline on buying the pavers so they can be installed and still enjoyed during this school year. All orders must be received by Friday, October 30!



Abdoney Orthodontics

Abdoney Pediatrics

Liz Hallman  
AAA Travel

Robin Guess  
Beau Gachis Paris

Ellen Hazel  
Brightstar of Pinellas County

Crossroads Ace Hardware

FastSigns

Fifth Third Bank

Michelle Kase  
FirstLight HomeCare

Liz Brewer  
FBC Mortgage, LLC

Craig L. Oldham, DDS  
Riverview Dental Care

Patty Sisco  
Sketch and Sip

You can find the form [here](#), on our PTSA website or on our Facebook page. If you have any questions email [Melanie Bentley-Montanaro](mailto:Melanie.Bentley-Montanaro).

Melissa Snively  
State Farm Insurance

Tampa Bay Steel

## Student Recognition

[Lisa MacLaren, Chair](#)

As a student you may be asking yourself, "Why should I join the PTSA?" First of all, each quarter 8 student members are randomly selected to receive \$25 in gift cards.



Each year, scholarship money is awarded to Seniors who are student members. Last year the PTSA gave out over \$6000 in scholarship money. The PTSA also coordinates the Blue Letter Envelope program for graduating seniors. Your \$10 membership goes a long way in supporting students directly.



Joe E. Newsome  
High School



## Legislative News

[Tami Schaller, Chair](#)

THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND LAW may be revised soon.

Earlier this spring the members of the Education Committee unanimously voted in favor of revising the "No Child Left behind Law". The replacement law is being discussed by both sides of Congress. A few groups pushing for this change are teachers unions and eight other major education groups including the National PTA.

Read this article and learn more about this proposed new law [here](#).

## Join the Network!

[Sign up](#) to receive alerts on public policy issues that are important to PTA!



**Vision Statement:**  
Joe E. Newsome High School will be one of the top 3 high schools in the SDHC. Measured by: daily attendance rate, graduation rate, and FCAT scores.

**Mission Statement:**  
Our mission is to provide a safe and supportive environment that will promote lifelong learning and prepare students to become productive members of society. Newsome High School will provide experiences and knowledge needed to succeed in a rapidly changing world.



## Article from Road2College Passing on My Top Lessons to High School Freshmen

"If you could change one thing about your high school experience, what would it be?"



I get this question more often than you might think, from parents and students looking to get some perspective on maximizing their child's or their own success in the formative years between ninth and twelfth grade. Although I'm eternally grateful for those incredible four years, I came up with four things that I wish I could change.

### 1. Freshman year grades matter!

As a freshman entering high school, the college process seemed way too far away to think about. Being an anxious teenager fearful of stepping into a completely new environment, I was much more focused on finding new friends and having a good time than joining clubs, working hard, and challenging myself. Once I became more comfortable in my new environment, I started caring more about my homework and extracurricular passions than I had before.

However, once junior spring rolled around, so did my first meeting with my college counselor. I was a little too confident, thinking that I had the perfect qualifications for any



2015 - 2016  
NHS PTSA BOARD

Donna Rayburn  
President



university, comparing my own student profile to those of the ivy-bound graduates of my Massachusetts prep school.

As it turns out-unsurprisingly-this meeting did not go as I had expected. My very average first year in school may have been erased from my mind, but it left an unmistakably large imprint on my transcript. Every kid that I was looking to compete with for admission to top schools, as I was told, would not only have great scores, passions, and extracurriculars, but great grades-great grades from all four years.

## 2. Strike a balance between your schoolwork and social life.

As I said before, my four years in high school were four of the best years of my life so far, and that's not a statement you hear often from kids my age. Sure, I could have absolutely been more studious my first year, but there is a balance between working and having fun that is essential to one's mental stability as an adolescent. It takes a lot of effort and a lot of sacrifice (sleep slowly became one of my lowest priorities), but once you discover it, it will transform the way you feel.

## 3. Lose the FOMO!

I may seem like every little party, dinner, movie night, or sleepover is going to be so fun and memorable that missing it would automatically make you a social pariah. This is beyond false-and I wish someone had told me that. Your friends may not share in your drive for success, but if they can't respect you for wanting to work hard, maybe they shouldn't be your friends. So everyone once in a while, before a big project or test, decide to sit out on an event. If you're still feeling a little left out, start a study group with them. You'll get some work done without experiencing social withdrawal.

## 4. Try everything and anything your freshman year

In terms of extracurricular activities, I would use your freshman year to try everything and anything, because you never know what you may end up feeling incredibly passionate about. Moreover, you want to find that passion early on so you can figure out how to invest a lot of time in exploring it. A big thing I found helpful in the college process was having something I loved-journalism-that I was able to discuss and display commitment too, and I never would've found that if I hadn't applied to my school newspaper in my first month of school.

Public or private, big or small, urban or suburban-high school experiences are wildly different for everyone. You can't put a strict set of rules on how exactly your actions will correlate with experience and collegiate success. Just remember that you only have four years, and every day counts. Don't waste them!

by Elana Golub, a rising sophomore at Northwestern University.  
You can read more of Elana's writing at [HerCampus](#).



## NEWSOME ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Carla Bruning, Principal, Ext. 225  
Mr. Tyvan Lindbeck, Asst. Principal for Curriculum, Ext. 224  
Mr. Paul Lindstrom, Asst. Principal for Administration, Ext. 226  
Dr. Jones, Asst. Principal for Student Affairs A-G, Ext. 227  
Mr. Peacock, Asst. Principal for Student Affairs H-O, Ext. 228  
Mr. Radebaugh, Asst. Principal for Student Affairs P-Z, Ext. 229

[Click Here for Guidance Counselors Information!](#)

**For the strength of the Pack is the Wolf,  
And the strength of the Wolf is the Pack.**

**Elaine Ward**  
1st Vice President - Membership

**Liz Brewer**  
2nd VP - Ways and Means

**Cyndi Cisneros**  
Secretary - Communications

**Shelly Thelen**  
Treasurer

## CHAIR POSITIONS

**Liza Grimm**  
Awards

**Monica Weaver**  
**Liz Hallman**  
Blue Letter Envelopes

**Pam McAuley**  
Corporate Sponsorship

**Melanie Bentley-Montanaro**  
Courtyard Tiles Project

**Dawn Ullom**  
**Valerie Hellier**  
Faculty and Staff Recognition

**Carolann Tompkins**  
**Sammy DeVine**  
Fundraising/Spirit Night

**Lisa MacLaren**  
Historian  
Student Recognition

**Tami Schaller**  
Legislative

**Tracy Kitchiner**  
Parliamentarian

**Kathy McAdam**  
Programs

**Vicky Furey**  
Reflections

**Jill Rintoul**  
Senior Scholarships

**LaLania Sellers**  
SERVE

**Kathi Hayes**  
Teacher Mini-Grants

**For the strength of the Pack is the Wolf,  
And the strength of the Wolf is the Pack.**

*-Rudyard Kipling*

**Ginny Harrell**  
Volunteers

Newsome High School PTSA / [Visit our Website!](#)

We welcome submissions from parents, teachers and students. Articles are due to [Editor](#) by the 25th of the month.

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