



**CHILDREN • COMMUNICATION • COLLABORATION Executive Committee**

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The Executive Committee of the Garden City PTA thanks the administration for your time, care, and tireless effort in preparing the budget for the 2022-2023 school year. We also thank the Board of Education for your time and care in reviewing the budget.

We thank the members of our community who attended these budget presentations, asked questions of the administration, and showed an active interest in the future of our schools. As parents, our role as public education advocates cannot be overstated, and we must remain engaged in the school budget process by speaking on behalf of our students here in Garden City, and with our elected representatives in Albany.

We understand that many challenges face an administration in preparing a school budget, and a Board of Education in submitting that budget for public vote. A school budget must uphold our community's high expectations for quality public education while maintaining the Board's commitment to not exceed the allowable tax levy. This year, the budget does just that. It is at once fiscally conservative and academically ambitious, guided by the district mission statement, with a focus on students at its core. Furthermore, for the first time in recent years, this school budget is below the allowable tax rate.

This budget promises exciting instructional additions and enhancements for all students in grades K through 12, including developing and enhancing outdoor learning environments, continuing a focus on project-based and inquiry learning, enhancing cyber security to detect vulnerabilities and continuing to keep students and faculty up-to-date on the latest technological developments. The budget gives assurance on building pre-vocational opportunities for students, working through recommendations to improve the FLES and QUEST programs, continuing the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program, exploring new opportunities to implement current STEAM curriculum at the MS, adopting a new math primary resource in grades K-2 and exploring additional research competitions and internship opportunities for students at the HS. The budget also promises to maintain the district's commitment to enriching professional development, our fine extracurricular and athletic programs, and ensuring our facilities are safe and well-maintained.

We have appreciated the support of Dr. Sinha and the administration as we transition back to a normal school environment. As enrollment continues to grow, we must continue to offer solutions that maintain our classroom sizes. It is imperative for the success of our students that we avoid the implications of overcrowding and less teacher-student attention.

This budget continues the Garden City School District's commitment to inspire and challenge students to accomplish their personal best, while also maintaining the Board's commitment to fiscal responsibility. The Executive Committee of the Garden City PTA strongly supports the 2022-2023 school budget. We urge all community members to vote "YES" in support of our children, public education, and community on May 17th.

We appreciate all of the Board of Education's current and continuing efforts to meet the challenges ahead, and we encourage you to continue to work collaboratively with parents through PTA and SEPTA to tackle future challenges to our budget together.

Thank you on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Garden City PTA.