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CHILDREN COMMUNICATION COLLABORATION

Garden City*everychild.one voice.*[®] www.gardencitypta.org

In This Month's Newsletter:

- School-specific Updates & News
- Reflections Contest Details
- Spirit Week Themes
- School Supply Parent Survey
- Health & Safety Oct. Events
- Dinner Save the Date!

Autumn Greetings

In a blink of an eye, October is here! You probably have seen all our amazing volunteers busy at Back to School Nights, and Sportswear sales supporting our schools and already hosting PTA Meetings.

October is filled with activities as well. First, we will be celebrating [Reflections!](#) This

national contest encourages students of all grades and all abilities to explore a common theme through one of several art categories, including music, dance, and filmmaking. This year's Reflections theme is "I am Hopeful Because," and entries must be submitted by **Tuesday, October 31**. Entry forms are available on the [PTA website](#). Last year we had winners not only at Nassau County and New York State but also at the national level. We cannot wait to see how "Hopeful" our children are!

Get ready for **Homecoming! Spirit Week** is **October 16-20**. This year's exciting Spirit Week themes are detailed below -- don't miss them! The Homecoming festivities will start with the Parade followed by the Homecoming Game on Saturday, October 21st. Wear your maroon and gray and come support our Marching Band, Kickline, Cheerleaders and Football teams, connect with old friends and make new ones.

We have begun to hold our school PTA meetings, and we encourage you to join. Each meeting agenda is carefully curated to cover topics that parents have brought up. Our first All Schools PTA meeting of the year is on **Tuesday, October 18, at 7:00 pm** in the Middle School cafeteria. At this meeting, we are excited to welcome **Les Bernal and Rob Minnick who will be speaking about the dangers of underage gambling**. We will also vote on our 2023-24 final budget at this meeting. We hope to see you there!

Lastly, thank you to everyone who joined the PTA ahead of our October 1 Early Bird deadline. The winner of the \$100 Amazon gift card is announced in the newsletter below. For those who have not yet joined for the new school year, [you have not missed the boat!!](#) PTA membership provides you with access to information and strengthens the role of parents within our school community. By joining the PTA, you enable us to continue offering enriching services and programming to ALL students and families. Thank you for your continued support.

Donna Kraus
PTA President

Join Us

All Schools PTA Meeting

Date: 10/18/23
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: GCMS

STAY INVOLVED

Check Out the News in Your Schools!

Click the links below to read all the latest updates for each school in the District, updated monthly by each school's PTA Directors. There is a place for everyone in the PTA!

- [Hemlock](#)
- [Homestead](#)
- [Locust](#)
- [Stewart](#)
- [Stratford](#)
- [Middle School](#)
- [High School](#)





REFLECTIONS Annual Contest Ends on 10/31!

For over 50 years, students have been creating original works of art that Reflect their hopes, their feelings, and worlds. This year's *Reflections* theme is **"I am Hopeful Because..."** The **National PTA Reflections Program** welcomes students of all grades and abilities to explore and be involved in the arts. Students reflect on a theme and create original works of art in the areas of Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography and Visual Arts. Students earn positive recognition for their achievements. [Click for details](#) to get your own student started on this year's entry!

If you are interested in volunteering for this year's Reflections Program, please contact **Wa Phung** and **Hana Noble** at reflections@gardencitypta.org.

Garden City

Spirit Week

OCT 16-20, 2023

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16

Comfy-Cozy Day: Wear your most comfy clothes and fun socks

tues
17

America Day: Wear Red, White & Blue, Military or Patriotic Colors

wed
18

Positively Pink Day: Wear Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

thur
19

Jersey Day: Wear a fave team jersey or t-shirt
Class Colors Day: Wear your class color and t-shirt (HS ONLY)

fri
20

Spirit Day: Wear your Spirit Day T-Shirt or Maroon & Gray

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Share Your Feedback!

Did you order school supply kits from the PTA's annual sale in Spring 2023? Maybe you missed the order window or didn't even know about it. Either way, we want to hear from you! Please share your feedback in our [short survey](#). Your responses will help us improve this important fundraiser, and make school supply ordering even easier for you. Thank you for sharing your thoughts!



Share your Fast Feedback Here



HEALTH & SAFETY Get Smart on Fire Safety

October marks Fire Prevention Week, and members of the GCFD invite families and community members from across Garden City to learn more about how to stay safe all year long. The Department's annual Fire Prevention Day and Open House will be held on October 15th. Stop by this family-friendly event to meet members of the Department, see and participate in demonstrations & more! Check out the GCFD website and social channels for all the details.

HEALTH & SAFETY Red Ribbon Week for HS & MS

GC High School & Middle School students will participate in National Red Ribbon week events from October 23-31, with support from the PTA's Health & Safety Committee. Red Ribbon Week programs are designed to directly support & reinforce the drug-free messages shared with students by parents and educators all year-round. Visit RedRibbon.org to learn more about this nationwide program.



PTA DINNER Be Our Date for Dinner!

The annual PTA Dinner will take place at the beautiful Garden City Hotel on April 3, 2024. Save the date -- and when tickets go on sale reserve your place early! Tickets consistently sell out for this fantastic event. We can't wait to see you there in support of our GC schools!



EVENT & MEETING SCHEDULE

Mark Your Calendars!

Fall is here and loaded with PTA events! Mark your calendars now and join us to get the school year off to a great start.



- **October 3 | 9:30 am** - Hemlock PTA Meeting
- **October 6 | 9:30 am** - Stewart PTA Meeting
- **October 9** | School Closed
- **October 12 | 9:30 am** - Stratford PTA Meeting
- **October 13 | 9:30 am** - Locust PTA Meeting
- **October 16-20** | Spirit Week
- **October 17 | 9:30 am** - Homestead PTA Meeting
- **October 18 | 7:00 pm** - All Schools PTA Meeting
- **October 21** | Homecoming



Thought we were out of Taylor Swift puns after last month? *Get Ready For It*, because this Era is ready to *Begin Again*. That's because we're *Fearless* in our support of the GC schools, *Forever & Always*!

As one of the only districtwide PTAs in New York, your annual membership covers all of your children, allowing us to limit our fundraisers and provide valuable programs for all. From school grants and program support to student recognition and parent education events, we cover it all.

There's a *Place in this (PTA) World* for everyone! So when you're ready to watch *Sparks Fly* between us, [join or renew your annual PTA membership today](#).

And congratulations to **Bob Bedford**, who is having *The Best Day*! He joined the GCPTA ahead of our 'Early Bird' deadline and is now the lucky winner of a \$100 Amazon gift card.

Join or Renew the Garden City PTA Today!

SEPTA
School's Out, Get Creative!

GC SEPTA will host a fantastic drop-off Storytelling & Arts program on Tuesday, Nov. 7, while schools are closed for Election Day. SEPTA and the Back Yard Players will host multiple classes for children grades K-2 and 3-5. Visit SEPTA's event page [here](#) for more details and to register.



PTA SPONSORS

Thank You to Our Sponsors & Come Onboard!

The Garden City PTA is thrilled to be supported by wonderful sponsors from across our community and Nassau County year after year. We've begun a new year of sponsor activity, and welcome all Garden City businesses who want to support the PTA year-round. More information on the sponsor program can be found [on our website](#) or by emailing sponsorships@gardencitypta.org.



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