

Garden City PTA
Joint Elementary PTA Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2020
Stratford School Cafeteria

Call to Order: 7:19 pm by Stratford PTA Director Amy Mueller.

General Meeting:

Quorum: a quorum of 30 members was met.

Handouts: Agenda, Parent University/Community Support Services Fair handout, Stewart School Update – January 13, 2020, Legislation Committee HPV Vaccine legislation summary.

Sign-ups: None

Approval of previous draft minutes: None

Guest Speaker: Laura Campbell, Long Island Crisis Center, Director of Education

- LICC is free, anonymous, and confidential – 24/7 Hotline (516) 679-1111
- Allows parents to talk about issues facing their children without “stigma.”
- “No Health Without Mental Health” – need to focus not just on physical health
 - Diagnosable mental health disorders are on the rise.
- Anxiety is an issue. Schools try to recognize early warning signs and identify children at risk. Long term anxiety can lead to depression, so early intervention is important.
- Empathy v. Sympathy for your children
- “Helicopter Parents” are being replaced by “Snowplow Parents” who clear out obstacles for their children. You can’t fix everything, and it takes away problem-solving opportunities. Let your children know you believe in them.
- Encourage connections. Every child should have “one trusted adult.”
- Let children know failure is ok. They need to get out of their comfort zones. It is better to start now than later.
- Promote a “Growth Mindset” (failure is an opportunity to grow) vs. a “Fixed Mindset” (failure is the limit of my abilities).

Committee Reports and Event Announcements:

Parent University: (Lauren Kennedy, PTA Director, Homestead) Two events on January 30, 2020 at 6:00 pm in the GCHS Library. (1) Community Support Services Fair and (2) Parent University. Sign-up by January 26, 2020. Limited childcare for ages 4-12 will be available.

SEPTA: (Martha Yasso, Stratford) Please attend the Community Support Services Fair on January 30, 2020 and the SEPTA General Meeting on January 16, 2020 in the GCHS Library regarding “Preparing for your Annual Meeting” re: 504 Plans and IEP’s.

Health & Safety: (Kristen Pappas)

- Focus on Bus Safety—magnets, lawn signs, online quiz.
- Each class in Stratford School now has a themed play-bin to be rotated through the classes. Will be coming soon to Stewart. Look for an email from your class parents regarding donations.

Legislation: (Colleen Ciullo)

- Dyslexia legislation petitions were sent out last week. Please review and send to our legislators
- Review the NYS PTA statement regarding HPV vaccine legislation.

Upcoming PTA Meetings: All Schools PTA meeting on February 3, 2020 at GCMS will have a social media presentation and discussion of the “Wait Till 8th” Pledge. Check agenda for additional events.

PTA Dinner: (Amy Mueller) March 26, 2020 at the GC Hotel. “Old School” band will perform. Tickets go on sale February 3, 2020 with an early incentive until February 28, 2020. Last year it was sold out!

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Minutes submitted by Joy Jankunas, Stewart School PTA Secretary