

Garden City High School PTA Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Location: High School Auditorium

Time: 9:30 A.M.

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by **Donna Kraus, High School PTA Director**.
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2. Announcements (Donna Kraus)

- **Freshman Bash:** Event details and volunteer support needed.
 - **GCHS Parent Volunteers:** Encouraged to sign up and assist at events. - Many positions available
 - **Membership:** Reminder to join both PTA and SEPTA.
 - **Middle School Dance:** Upcoming event noted.
 - **Homecoming Parade:** Scheduled for **Saturday, September 20, 2025**; additional underclassman family volunteers requested.
 - **Spirit Week:** Ongoing events highlighted.
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3. SEPTA Update (Sivan Chapman)

- Encouraged families to join SEPTA membership.
 - Additional volunteers needed for the Homecoming Parade.
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4. Administrative Updates

Mr. Steingruebner, Principal

- **Construction:** Ongoing work reviewed.
- **Homecoming:** Preparations underway.
- **New Motto/Hashtag:** *"Rejection is Redirection"* (#rejectionisredirection).
 - Alumni speaker shared experiences about handling rejection in the college process and in the first year of college.
- **Health Reminder:** Students should not attend school if sick.

- **Events:** College fairs, individual college visits, Club Fair, Financial Aid Night, and Art Honor Society highlighted.
- **Safety & Security:**
 - No food deliveries allowed.
 - Decrease in disruptions noted due to new phone policy.
 - Safety drills completed.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):**
 - Teacher training underway.
 - *Magic School* tool available for teachers and students.
 - Homework guidance framed as a traffic light system:
 - **Red** = Not permitted.
 - **Yellow** = Limited use (editing support).
 - **Green** = Allowed (research and exploration).
 - Students must explain how AI was used in their work.
- **New Staff:** Introduced
 - Mr. Brady – English
 - Ms. Dunn – Business
 - Mrs. Roberts – Special Education
 - Mr. Kranitz – Special Education
- **New Administration:** Leaders introduced for Social Studies, Music & Art, and Literacy.
- **Communication Platforms:** Parent Square, Website, Instagram.
- **Academic Support:**
 - Math Lab & Writing Center open at 6:45 a.m. and during lunch in the library.
 - The Writing Center is by appointment during those times. The sign-up book is available in the library, inside the WC. Math Lab is walk-in, no appointment needed.
- **Lunch Program:**
 - Pre-order available two weeks ahead.
 - Same menu daily, with fresh options prepared each day.
 - Clarification of what is free vs. paid (chips, fries, cookies not included).
 - Students must use ID to track meals—limited to one free meal per day.

Mrs. Stefankiewicz, Assistant Principal for Guidance & PPS

- **College Nights:** Information shared for seniors and families.
- **Academic Deadlines:** Add/Drop deadline set for **September 19**.
- **Guidance Resources:** Available on HS Guidance Department tab and Naviance.
- **Honor Policy:** Reminder provided.

5. Attendance

- **21 people signed in.**
- **8 High School Administrators in attendance.**

6. Adjournment

- Announcements made on Sportswear, PTA Dinner Next Meetings
- Meeting adjourned by **Sivan Chapman**.