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PTA ACCOMPLISHMENTS - 2008/2009

PTA Supports Student Transitions...

- PTA-sponsored 5th into 6th Grade Music/Foreign Language Fair
- PTA-sponsored 8th into 9th Grade Parent meeting, timeline, building tours in conjunction with PTA Curriculum Committee
- PTA Curriculum Committee worked on 1st into 2nd Grade transition
- Middle School PTA Meetings featuring Curriculum Coordinators and Ms. Cuttitta discussing transition
- PTA awarded \$10,000 for graduating GCHS seniors

PTA Supports the Arts...

- PTA funds 5TH Grade Metropolitan Opera Trip
 - 200 5th Graders from Stewart and Stratford attended "La Boheme"
- PTA funds 1st Grade Cultural Arts Trip
 - Approx. 310 1st Graders from all the Primary Schools attended the **Magic Tree House** at the Tilles Center
- PTA Arts & Ed Committee provided 38 arts programs to all seven schools in 2008/09
- PTA Reflections Program provides a forum for 355 number of students to showcase their artistic interests and talents in 2008/09
 - Nassau County Reflections Finalist
 - NY State "Theme Search" Finalist

PTA Supports Helping Parents ...

- PTA School Supplies sale to help families at the beginning of school
- PTA Student Assistance Fund
- Regular PTA E-blasts from all schools to provide PTA and district information for all parents at all buildings

PTA Supports Parent Education...

PTA has sponsored and co-sponsored numerous speakers at all levels throughout the district in 2008/09, including:

- Madeline Levine, author of "The Price of Privilege", co-sponsored district-wide presentation
- Gang Presentation, district-wide
- Heroin Presentation, co-sponsored district-wide
- Ira Wolf SAT Presentation at the High School
- Cyber-bullying speaker at Middle School
- "Healthy Lunches" speaker from CW Post @ Hemlock
- "Managing Big Feelings" speaker for Institute for Parenting @ Hemlock
- Presentation from GC Detective Bartkowski – "How to talk to your children about crime" and "Having a family action plan in an emergency situation"
- Garden City Police presented Social Host Law at High School
- Understanding the dangers of Wee World presented at Stewart
- State Testing and Understanding Your Child's Scores
- Technology and Internet Safety
- Quest, Science Club and Dance Club specialists at Stewart

PTA Supports "Go Green" Initiatives...

- PTA Health & Safety Committee's Battery and Cell Phone Recycling
- Reduction of mailings and increased use of e-blasts and PTA Website to communicate with parents
- "Bash the Trash" program at the Primary Schools

PTA Supports the Collaboration within the District and the Community...

- PTA collaborates with district and building administration to coordinate the district's School Calendar to minimize conflicts for parents
- PTA also collaborates with
 - SEPTA
 - Garden City Community Council
 - GC Teachers' Association
 - Board of Education
 - The Men's Association
 - GC Chamber of Commerce

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www.gardencitypta.org American Red Cross – PTA/GCTA Blood Drive; CPR Training for HS and MS students

PTA Supports Parents through the PTA Curriculum Committee...

The PTA Curriculum Committee was instrumental in the creation of the following initiatives at the district level and affects students in all buildings:

- Improved process for summer assignments
 - Delivery of packets, communicating with parents, online support, fall assessments
 - Review of ELA books on all levels
 - Self-contained students now have summer assignments
- Writing and research projects, especially in high school
- 0-period Health at the High School
- More transparent and timely “appeals” process for high school placement
- More effective and timely scheduling for the high school
- Earth Science Regents review now open to 8th graders
- Use of mid-term grades to improve instruction across all departments, and facilitated by curriculum coordinators
- Increased collaboration between primary schools and parents by sending “at level” reading materials home with the students
- “Critical Thinking” skills emphasized in the curriculum across all levels
- After school science club at the elementary schools

PTA Supports Parent Involvement in District Decision-Making...

- PTA facilitates parent representation on the following district committees in 2008/2009
 - Site Based Management Teams in all schools
 - IB Review Committee,
 - Primary Report Card Committee,
 - District Health & Wellness Committee,
 - AIS Review Committee,
 - Curriculum Committees at all schools
 - School Budget Review,
 - District Hiring Committees
 - Ad Hoc Facilities Review Committee
 - District Professional Development Committee

PTA Supports Anti-Bullying Efforts...

- PTA funded the Challenge Program at the High School
- PTA funded the Holocaust Museum project at the Middle School
- PTA featured a Cyber-Bullying Presentation at the Middle School

PTA Supports Healthy Students...

- PTA Funded “Foodplay” at Stratford School
- PTA contributed to purchase of treadmill for Middle School Fitness Center
- School nurses spoke at PTA meetings and worked with PTA directors to provide information to parents on relevant and timely issues affecting our students, including bereavement, MRSA, swine flu, lice

PTA Supports our Teachers, Administrators and School Staff...

- PTA grant money has funded SmartBoards requested by teachers in all buildings
- PTA provides Teacher/Staff Appreciation brunches at all seven buildings
- PTA provides holiday gifts to custodians in all buildings
- PTA provides nurses gifts on School Nurses’ Day in all buildings
- PTA provides retirement gifts to all retiring teachers in the district
- PTA provides holiday cookie trays in all schools, administration building and bus garage
- PTA participates in the Nassau County PTA Principals’ Dinner
- PTA provides hospitality at parent meetings throughout the district

PTA Supports FUN activities for Students and their Parents...

- “Kung Fu Panda” Movie Night/Pajama Party at the Primary Schools
- PTA Freshman BBQ
- PTA 12th Grade Party and Parent Skit Night
- Stewart School Holiday Fair
- PTA provided volunteers and the tent rental for the Promapalooza at the high school pre-prom event

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~~www.gardencitypta.org~~ PTA provided light brunch for teachers, graduates and their families immediately following the graduation ceremony

- PTA Dinner/Fundraiser
- PTA Photo Days at all buildings
- Picnics, ice cream parties, field days at primary and elementary schools
- 5th Grade Pool party
- 7th Grade Pool party
- 6th Grade Bagel Bash
- PTA “100 Day of School” T-shirts for all primary students and teachers
- Primary School Newsletters

PTA Supports Communication Between the District and the Parents...

- PTA provides opportunities for district administrators to address parents on an ongoing basis
 - Town Hall Meeting
 - The superintendent, assistant superintendents, principals and curriculum coordinators held a Q & A
 - Curriculum Coordinators speak at all Middle School and High School PTA meetings
 - Principals give reports at all PTA meetings
 - IB Presentations
 - Colebrook Informational Meeting
 - Transportation Policy Informational Meeting
 - School Budget Presentations
 - Updated and Informational PTA Website provides information

PTA Supports Encouraging Opportunities for Volunteering and Training...

- Site Based Training
- Interview Committee Training; over 25 parents sat on Interview Committees
- Nassau PTA Region Training
- PTA Parent Volunteer Corp (PVC) at the High School
- Restructured PTA Executive Committee to provide for enhanced on-the-job training
 - President/President-Elect
- PTA provides volunteer opportunities in all 7 schools in addition to district committees
 - Class Mothers and Grade Reps at all schools; over 250 class parents and grade reps in all buildings
 - Over 50 Holiday Fair volunteers at Stewart School
 - Parent Volunteer Corp at the High School
 - Inclement Weather volunteers
 - Book Fair volunteers
 - Literary at Lunch volunteers
 - Chess Club volunteers
 - Library volunteers
 - Decorations volunteers
 - Teacher/Staff appreciation volunteers at all buildings
 - Approximately 100 parents volunteered in PTA activities throughout the district in 2008/2009