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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Garden City Sixth Graders Become *Kidsday* Reporters
By Trish Roberts, teacher

Garden City's sixth graders were excited and very busy getting ready to become *Newsday's Kidsday* reporters and awaiting a visit from the editor, Mr. Pat Mullooly. In preparation, Mrs. Nardone and Mrs. Roberts' English Language Arts (ELA) students read and analyzed a wide variety of *Kidsday* articles from both the reader and writer's perspective. During group discussions, the students critiqued and annotated the headlines, leads, and information from each article. They also enjoyed making specific suggestions on how they would make improvements if they were writing the articles themselves.

On Wednesday, November 16th, the Nardone/Roberts' students welcomed Mr. Mullooly into their classroom. Pat's wonderful sense of humor immediately put the students at ease and motivated and encouraged them to develop unique and interesting topics for their own articles. The positive and collaborative atmosphere enabled students to help the editor to decide whether a topic was worth considering. Laughter often filled the room as Pat pushed the students to dig deeper to generate great ideas. They worked hard and brainstormed some very interesting topics

including exploring superstitions, analyzing sports programs for students with disabilities, and surveying what students eat for lunch. In addition, students were interested in reviewing several restaurants including *The Well-Seasoned Chef*, Garden City's new culinary arts facility.

Pat motivated the students further when he introduced new books, technology games, sports equipment and toys that needed to be reviewed. They had a hard time containing themselves when he gave each of them a *Kidsday* baseball cap and began discussing the possibility of interviewing a celebrity. Although the students suggested a wide range of celebrities including Stephen Curry, Ariana Grande, and Michael Phillips, it was extremely challenging for them to select someone who hadn't already been interviewed by former *Kidsday* student reporters. Mr. Mullooly concluded his visit by confirming the student's article ideas, and promised to schedule an exciting celebrity interview.

There is no doubt that Mrs. Nardone and Mrs. Roberts' ELA students are very excited to be the new Garden City *Kidsday* reporters.

Watch for the *Kidsday* feature in *Newsday* around April 8, 2017!