Dear Community Members,

With the arrival of spring, we are in the home stretch of the 2018-2019 school year. Exciting things are happening in our schools -- art shows, spring concerts, spring athletic events, and, in two short months, we will be enjoying all of our wonderful end of year celebrations.

Please take the time to read this newsletter which is filled with many of our student accomplishments.

The District Administration and the Board of Education have been hard at work developing the budget for the 2019-2020 school year. The Board and administration have worked diligently to present a budget that provides expanded learning opportunities for students at all levels, supports our students’ social-emotional development, and secures funding for staff development. Most importantly, the budget includes our students’ voices. We have made them part of the process.

Community members will have the opportunity to vote on the budget on May 21st. Please take a moment to review the information. All budget and voter information is also posted on our website: www.gardencity.k12.ny.us.

Please remember to join us on Budget Vote Day and view the K-12 art show in the high school hallways, and to hear our Elementary String Ensemble perform at 6 p.m. and our high school Jazz Ensemble at 7 p.m. And, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., our K-5 students are invited to vote for their choice of exciting things for Special Event Day.

We look forward to seeing you at our future events or celebrations.

Kusum

Kusum Sinha, Ed.D.

* Georgia O’Keeffe pastel flowers by Stewart fourth graders, Melissa Pashayan, art teacher.
Please join us at the June 4th Board of Education Work Session when the District’s STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics) Committee, pictured here at a recent meeting, presents its Spotlight Year findings, conclusions, and recommendations. In classrooms across the District, units of study anchored in STEAM have been taking place. For example, at the primary level, art teacher Nicole Leyland taught first graders about robots and circuitry. They created metallic paper robots that light up using a small battery and LED light like the ones being displayed above at Locust.

At Stewart School, the Pennies for Patients program to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society raised $14,348.40 during the program (top - students with LLS representative Keri Stein), culminating in the March 29th whipped cream pie and “Stuck for a Buck” events. Below, Assistant Principal Keri Hand (left) and Principal Linda Norton enjoy a moment after the top fund had the opportunity to toss a whipped cream pie their way.

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Service learning is an important part of the culture of our school,” said reading teacher and event organizer Mrs. Brenda McCarthy.

Teachers Kelly Donnelly and Robert Townsend lent their support by being “Stuck for a Buck” (above) by students. “We are extremely grateful to the students and their families who continue to support our Pennies for Patients campaign. Our eleven year total is over $161,000! Thanks to schools like ours, LLS is funding lifesaving research and making cures happen!”

At Garden City High School, students in the Fashion Club organized a dress and accessory drive to benefit girls in need of formal dresses and accessories to wear for prom and graduation. In addition, Fashion Club members had the opportunity to assist with the preparation for the 25th Annual Prom Boutique at Nassau Community College on Saturday, March 30th (above), the event which distributes the dresses and accessories. This year, the Prom Boutique benefited nearly 5,000 young women. Many thanks to this year’s donors and volunteers, and to Club Advisor Dr. Erin McKinstry.

Several schools marked Earth Day with lessons to raise awareness about the health of our planet. Below, second grade art students in Torie Zimmerman’s art classes at Stratford worked together to recycle throwaways to create robot sculptures.
We are so proud of our Student Leaders and Student Achievers!

Class of 2019 Top Students
Congratulations to Garden City High School’s Class of 2019 top students. Pictured here being honored at the March 12th Board of Education meeting by President Angela Heineman (left) and Superintendent Sinha (right) are (left to right) Salutatorian Aidan Padala (weighted GPA 100.12) and Co-Valedictorians Cassidy Go and Elsie Schaubek (tied with weighted GPA 100.37).

Nat’l Merit Scholarship Finalists
Four Garden City High School seniors were named as 2019 National Merit Scholarship Finalists. Pictured above are (left to right) guidance counselors Karen Whiston and Natasha Khan, National Merit Scholarship Finalists Aidan Padala, Aidan Coyne, Chloe Rogers, and Patrick Heavey, with guidance counselor Patrick Doyle and Assistant Principal Kevin Steingruebner.

Nat’l Literary Magazine Award
“Inkspots,” Garden City High School’s literary magazine, was awarded a “Superior” ranking for its 2018-19 edition by the National Council of Teachers of English. Congratulations to (left to right) library media specialist Margaux Calemmo, Carolyn Kiely, Kelly McDonald, Allison McDonald, Alexandra Adams, Julia DiCaprio, and English teacher Catherine Oriani.

Nat’l German Exam Medalists
Congratulations to GCHS German Language students who achieved Gold Medals on the 2019 National German Exam. The medalists are pictured with German teacher Frau Galvez (left), “GCHS had 14 Gold, nine Silver, seven Bronze, and 17 Achievement Award winners,” said world languages coordinator Peter Giacalone (far right). “Also, five students were eligible for Study Trip Awards, a 3-4 week trip to Germany.

Best Communities for Music Education
Once again, Garden City has been designated as one of the nation’s Best Communities for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation. Congratulations to music and the arts curriculum coordinator Dr. Nina Prasso, the district’s music teachers, and Garden City’s outstanding and dedicated student musicians!

Nat’l ExploraVision Regional Winners
Congratulations to the team of the GCHS freshmen for being named regional winners of the 27th annual Toshiba ExploraVision competition. The all-girl team of (left to right) Abigail Benzinger, Sophia Bernardo, Julia Conroy, and Ryann Henry are pictured with Assistant Principal Kevin Steingruebner, science coordinator Dr. Elena Cascio, and science research teacher Dr. Steven Gordon.

LI Science & Engineering Fair - HS
Ian Bailey, a sophomore at Garden City High School, won a First Place Grand Award in the Animal Science category at the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair (LISEF) held on Thursday, March 14th. Ian, pictured here with teacher Dr. Steven Gordon, earned an all-expense paid trip to Intel’s International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Arizona from May 12th to 17th, 2019.

LI Science & Engineering Fair - MS
On March 14th, Caroline Crouchley, a seventh grader at Garden City Middle School, won a First Place Award at the middle school level of the Long Island Science and Engineering Fair (LISEF). She is among the selected group of top Long Island students who are invited to participate in Broadcom MASTERS engineering competition for middle school students.

LI Chemagination
Congratulations to sophomores Corina Henke, Jenna Matarazzo, and Paige Matarazzo (absent from photo as she was competing at another science event), who won first place for their project in this year’s Chemagination competition. They will move on to present at the Regional and National level in Baltimore, MD where they will compete with other first place winners.
The small cast production of *Play On!* presented by Garden City High School's Masquers on March 7th, 8th, and 9th, drew over 500 audience members, including many senior citizens who were treated to the British murder mystery spoof and a buffet dinner by the GCTA. An album of photos is posted to the high school website's "Photo Gallery."

Talented students from Garden City Middle School presented wonderfully exuberant performances of *Aladdin, Jr.* on March 15th and 16th. To view an album of photos, visit the "Photo Gallery" on the middle school website.

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**You’re Invited!**

Please join us for the upcoming events:

On **May 9th, 7 p.m.** in the hallways of Garden City Middle School, as the eighth grade art students’ self portrait installation is revealed.

From **3 - 9 p.m. on Budget Vote Day, May 21st**, please enjoy the district’s K-12 art show in the halls adjacent to Garden City High School’s gymnasium. Also, enjoy music by the Elementary String Ensemble at 6 p.m. and **Jazz Night at 7 p.m.**

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**Middle School:** Claudia Yu (8), acrylic painting on canvas board. “Claudia is a hardworking and artistic student,” said art teacher Joe Wilkinski. “She did a beautiful job on her self-portrait.”

**High School:** Cathryn Tateosian (12), colored pencil. “Cathryn’s concentration is candy and focusing on the reflective nature of sugars in highly detailed pieces,” explained Advanced Placement teacher Shawn Uttendorfer.

**High School:** Maggie Connolly (11), silver gelatin prints. “Maggie’s photo is the definition of ‘Human Mystery’ - a perfect example of multiple exposures,” said photography teacher Jason Karp.

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Visit: [www.gardencity.k12.ny.us](http://www.gardencity.k12.ny.us)
High School: Molly Psaki (9), darkroom photography. “This drawing focuses on mark-making and value,” said teacher Dennis Fediw. “The grid system was used to create the drawing. Once the drawing was created, each square allowed for the opportunity to explore a variety of original mark-making, while focusing on the values present in that section. This is a truly exquisite work of art!”

High School: Kate Pappas (9), pencil. “This drawing focuses on mark-making and value,” said teacher Dennis Fediw. “The grid system was used to create the drawing. Once the drawing was created, each square allowed for the opportunity to explore a variety of original mark-making, while focusing on the values present in that section. This is a truly exquisite work of art!”

High School: Marisa Bommarito (9), acrylic painting. “Studio Art 1 students learned two different techniques with this project,” said teacher Amanda Marino. “They first learned about adding value to a portrait to give it a realistic appearance using different shading pencils. Once the self portrait was complete, they sealed the drawing with a clear varnish and added a light acrylic wash for color.”

Stewart: Collaboration by Daly Prylbylski, Emily Pulver, and Wallace Lieu (5), collage/paper. “Students explored radial symmetry and learned basic origami folds,” said teacher Melissa Pashayan. “They learned the importance of fractions in their art work while creating symmetrical designs.”

Stewart: Collaboration by Daly Prylbylski, Emily Pulver, and Wallace Lieu (5), collage/paper. “Students explored radial symmetry and learned basic origami folds,” said teacher Melissa Pashayan. “They learned the importance of fractions in their art work while creating symmetrical designs.”

Homestead: Madeleine O’Donnell (K), crayons/tempera paint. “Kindergarten artists learned about portraiture through studying the self portraits of Norman Rockwell, Frida Kahlo, and Vincent Van Gogh.”

Hemlock: Matthew Lehmann (1), crayon resist painting. “Our first grade artists created a work of art inspired by the artist Paul Klee to be put on display for our upcoming spring concerts.”

Primary - Nicole Leyland, art teacher (left to right) - Locust: Ishan Rajpal (1), printmaking. “First grade artists explored the element of space by creating a dynamic composition using positive and negative space.” Homestead: Madeleine O’Donnell (K), crayons/tempera paint. “Kindergarten artists learned about portraiture through studying the self portraits of Norman Rockwell, Frida Kahlo, and Vincent Van Gogh.”
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Science Fair & NYSSEF
GCHS sophomore Farah Kabir’s research team project was selected as a winner of the 2019 Kathy Belton Science Fair at Molloy College held on March 15th. Farah’s project was conducted with Elisa Xu (St. Anthony’s) and Dylan Keskinian (Half Hollow Hills). The same team’s project won 3rd Place in their category at the New York State Science and Engineering Fair (NYSSEF).

Girls State
Congratulations to Garden City High School’s 2019 delegates to the American Legion Auxiliary Empire Girls State Program. Pictured here are juniors (left to right) Olivia Pappas (alternate), Mary Foxen, and Alexandra Kucich with Principal Nanine McLaughlin. They will be attending SUNY Brockport from June 30th to July 6th with other student representatives from across New York State.

Medical Marvels
Madison Matarazzo, Paige Matarazzo, Farah Kabir, along with Corina Henke, Jenna Matarazzo, and Cecilia Rodriguez, earned 2nd Place for their research work on vaping and e-cigarette devices at the Medical Marvels competition at the Northwell Health Feinstein Institute. The students competed against 38 teams, with over 200 students, at the March 8th competition.

Boys State
Pictured here with Principal McLaughlin, Garden City High School juniors (left to right) James McQuaid, Riley Bauer, and Michael Cerenzia were selected as this year’s representatives to the American Legion’s Boys State. They will stay at Morrisville State College from June 27th - July 2nd and attend a variety of workshops and events.

Future Business Leaders
Members of GCHS’s Future Business Leaders of America Club placed in the top three in various categories at the spring meeting at Hofstra University. Pictured are (left to right): Matthew Jordan (1st), Vincent Aversa (2nd), Max Genova (2nd), Stephen Michael (2nd & 2nd), Chase Gladd (1st), Nicholas Krawiec (1st & 1st), Mr. Steve Bilello, Caroline Feryo (3rd & 3rd), and Madeleine O’Connor (2nd).

AATSP Design-a-Card Winners
Designs celebrating Spanish culture were submitted to the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) Design-a-Card contest by two students who received awards. Congratulations to Emily Kang, a fifth grader at Stewart School, pictured at left with teacher David Strauzer, and GCHS junior Claire Van Wallendael, with teacher Michael Berg and world languages coordinator Peter Giacalone (right).

GCMS Debate Team Wins City Cup
GCMS’s Speech and Debate Club triumphed over West End Secondary School (WESS) of Manhattan to capture the City Cup at the second annual event. Pictured above are (left to right): Tara Murphy, Entong Guo, Laila Smith, Juliana Cherchever, Sophia Wang, Mr. John W. Cronin (Club Advisor), Raymond Byrnes, Erin Gately, Celia Hearon, and Elaine Wang.

Poster Winner
Congratulations to Adrian Pinto, a third grader at Stratford Avenue, for being named as a winner in the CAPS Bully Prevention Calendar Contest. Adrian is one of twelve students selected from across Long Island whose posters will be featured in the 2019-2020 calendar. He is pictured with teachers Mrs. Erin Grusso (left) and Mrs. Maureen Tricarico.

All-County Art Scholarship
Congratulations to Garden City High School senior Lauren Feijoo, pictured here with Advanced Placement art teacher Shawn Uttendorfer, at the March 10th All-County Art Exhibition at Farmingdale State College. Lauren received this year’s Art Supervisor’s Scholarship. K-12 art students’ works from across the District were also featured in the exhibition.

www.gardencity.k12.ny.us
Congratulations to Garden City High School junior Jake Newmark for his outstanding achievements this season. Named Most Valuable Swimmer at the 2019 Nassau County Finals, Jake carried his 200m and 500m freestyle record wins to the state championships hoping for a top three placing. What he did was post automatic All-American times of 1:38.15 in the 200m and 4:27.10 in the 500m, clinching the NYSPHSAA state individual title for both. Jake was named Nassau County Conference 2 Swimmer of the Year, All County, All American and Newsday’s All Long Island Swim Team. Also, congratulations to the 400m freestyle relay team of Jake Newmark, John Protano, Liam Gaffney and Chris Reilly for capturing the Nassau County Championship. The team is pictured below at right with coach Anne Sullivan.

County Champion

GCHS junior Zach Ortiz captured the Nassau County Gold Medal in foil at the final meet held on February 2nd at Great Neck North High School. Individuals who advanced to the boys and girls finals competed in foil, epee, and saber. Zach is a team captain and coached by Kevin Oliver.

William Davila Award

While the Varsity Boys Basketball team won their conference title (see below), senior Patrick Reilly was selected to receive the George Davila Award for Perseverance at the Nassau County Boys Basketball Dinner held on March 19th at the Marriott Hotel. “I was surprised and honored to receive this award,” commented Patrick.

Conference Champions

Three GCHS Varsity teams won their Conference titles during the winter season: Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, and Girls Bowling. About the Girls Basketball conference win (left), coach Steve Bilello said, “I’m proud of this team - they worked hard all season as we continue to build the program.” Boys Basketball also captured their conference title under coach James Hegman (center). And Girls Bowling (right) won their conference with coach Mike Heedles.

Most Improved Team

GCHS’s Rifle team, coached by Kathy Dubuke (right), was awarded the Alex Baldwin Award for Most Improved Team. Junior Katharine Jushchenko (third from left) finished 3rd in the Coach’s Tournament. She received the trophy for being picked for 2nd All-County team.

128th Woodstick Classic

April 27th

Garden City vs. Manhasset at Manhasset HS

JV Boys: 10 a.m.
JV Girls: 10 a.m.
Girls Varsity: 4 p.m.
Boys Varsity: 7 p.m.

www.gardencity.k12.ny.us
**REMIN DERS**

**Regular School Day**
Due to the weather-related school closing this winter, **Tuesday, May 28th** will be a regular school day.

**Testing Schedule**

**Stewart, Stratford, & Middle School**
Grades 3-8 NYS Assessments

- **Mathematics**
  - May 1st & 2nd
- **Science (Grades 4 & 8)**
  - May 22nd - 23rd & May 29th - 31st

**High School**
Advanced Placement Exams
May 6th - 17th

**Middle School & High School**
Final Exams & Regents
June 17th - 25th

**Science Symposium**
Please join us to hear from our talented Science Research students about their research studies on May 29th, starting at 7 p.m. in the Garden City High School Library. Dozens of fascination projects will be on display. Also, our senior researchers will present their project overviews beginning at 7:45 p.m.

**Afternoon Tea**
Tickets have been mailed for the **2019 Afternoon Tea** on May 2nd. If you have received a ticket and cannot attend, please contact Dr. Catherine Knight as soon as possible at (516)478-1079; knightc@gcufsd.net.

**SCOPE**
Summer Enrichment Program at Garden City Middle School for rising K through 9th grade students from July 8th through August 2nd (no classes July 4th), 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For more information, contact SCOPE at: 631 360-0800 ext. 133.

For GCCHS juniors, the District’s Continuing Education Program is offering two courses: Writing Your College Essay & Jump Start the College Application Process. For more information, visit the Continuing Education page on the District website: www.gardencity.k12.ny.us.

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Summer’s almost here, . . .
Garden City Public School’s summer learning for young inventors will take place at Stewart School, June 27th, 28th, July 1st and 2nd at Camp Invention. Registration is ongoing: Register at INVENT.ORG/CAMP or 800-968-4332.

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