

Garden City Community School Council Meeting

April 9th, 2008—6pm

Agenda Items:

Notes:

Open Meeting	
Check In - Additional Agenda Items?	
Minutes from March Meeting	
Treasurers Report Final Auction Numbers	
Director Summary Cindy Hoovel	
Report From Board	
Parent Education Presentation	
Old Business	
Fundraising - Victoria (Chair) Book Fair- Cartridges for Kids - Campbells - Box Tops – End of year Garage Sale	
Playground Update New Coordinator(s) Needed	
Rebecca Harris Music Programs and PE Updates	
Sexuality Education at Garden City School Open Discussion	
New Business	
Spring Fling June 4th	
Misc Business	
Parent/Staff Sound-off	
Motion to Dismiss	

Proposed Agenda, Subject To Change

President
Editor Teresa Worth
GCCS Council



April 04, 2008

Garden City Community School Council Newsletter

2008-09 APPLICATIONS & LOTTERY

Applications to apply for enrollment for next year are due by noon April 11. The lottery to determine students who will have a place on next year's enrollment and waiting list will take place Saturday, April 19, 2008. See our link APPLICATIONS on our website (<http://www.gardencityschool.org/>) to download the necessary application form. More information and tours are available upon request.

Just call the GCCS office at 377-0011.

If you miss this application deadline, be sure to contact us to see if there are any opens remaining or to have your name added to a waiting list!

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

It's time for one of our favorite events at GCCS... students sharing what they have learned with their families!

Student-led conferences will be held Thursday, April 10 from 4:00 - 7:00PM and Friday, April 11 from 1:00 - 3:00PM. Be sure you've scheduled your turn.

The students are so proud to share their goals and projects with their families. It's a great way for you to learn more about their learning and to ask them questions about their future plans.

If you want to have a conference with their teacher, please make an appointment with them for the following week to ensure a longer, more private time than these conferences will allow. Be sure to take time to see the art displays throughout the Community Area.

ACHIEVEMENT REPORTS

(formerly known as report cards!) will be sent home with the students Friday, April 4.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Classes are again busing to the Boys & Girls Club for PE each week. They hope to have them using the outside fields for activities now that the weather is improving. We are very fortunate to use their facilities free-of-charge and share their PE teacher!

ENROLLMENT COMMITMENT FORMS

All currently enrolled families need to turn in these forms by April 11 to ensure their children's places in GCCS for the 2008-09 school year! This will determine how many openings are available for new families to apply and the staff/classes needed for the enrollment.

EARLY RELEASE

Friday, April 11 will be an early release time for students at 12:15PM. Teachers will use this time to help you and you child complete their student led conferences from 1:00-3:00PM.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 9 @ 6PM

Be sure to meet with other parents, teachers, board and community members on April 9 in the GCCS Community Room.

Contact CC President, Teresa Worth (412-7044), for more information or to be on the agenda. This meetings' agenda will include discussion on how the school stakeholders want to include sexuality education in next year's curriculum.

Be sure to attend to learn more and give your opinion. This meeting time is being tested to see if it is more convenient for families to attend. Give the Council your feedback on best times to meet.

GCCS SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

These are always held the third Monday of the month starting at 7:00PM. Please join us at the next meeting on Monday, April 21 at 7pm.

The agenda will include the proposed 08-09 school calendar, budget considerations, sexuality education curriculum, and teacher pay scale.

The beauty of our school is that parent, staff, and community input is wanted and is always considered before any decisions are made.

Board meetings are very open and friendly! Come join us!

AFTER-SCHOOL READING PROGRAM

We have welcomed Jennifer Hart as our supplemental after-school reading program coordinator for grades K-3. Qualifying students have been participating in a fun, one-hour reading program called "I Can Read" thanks to reallocated Title I funds we recently were awarded from the federal program.

The program includes snacks and transportation. The students are making great progress through the help of Jennifer and the K-3 teachers who are taking turns helping her. It's fun to see their huge smiles and enjoyment of this hands-on program as there are lots of interactive games and activities included!

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

We are excited to have become part of the Garden City Boys & Girls Club outreach program and are now partnering with them!

They have generously let us use their facility free-of-charge for our PE program, retreats, trainings, and our recent Dancing Through School music performance.

Each GCCS student has been given a free year's membership.

If you want your child to ride the GCCS bus after school - and it is not part of their normal routine we have in their school file - we must receive a signed written letter from you that day.

Goose Boxes

Governor Otter's wife has asked us if we are interested in building some goose boxes for their ranch as part of our environmental focus. They will buy the materials. Ms. Tawnia has the building plans for these, but needs someone who is handy with a saw and hammer to be the leader for the project. Please contact her @377-0011 if you can help. We'd like to start as soon as possible but need some awesome volunteers to help!

Children's Dance Institute's Summer Performance Camps!

These week-long camps run July 7th through August 16th and are designed to foster teamwork, creativity, self-expression and a sense of accomplishment. This is the group who worked with our students last month for our Dancing Through Schools program. Boys and girls age 3 - 12 (grouped appropriately) meet Monday through Friday for a daily dance class with live musical accompaniment, learn and rehearse choreography, help design and paint a backdrop, and perform on Saturday morning at the Downtown Boise Farmer's Market. Camps are held in Hyde Park and include neighborhood dance walks, hilarious story times and healthy daily snacks.

Dates: Weekly from July 7th - August 11th

Time: 10am - 12pm or 1:30pm - 3:30 pm

Age Groups: 3-5, 5-7, 8-12

Location: Hyde Park Studio, 1520 N. 12th St.

Cost: \$190/wk. (Financial assistance is available)

For more information, please contact Lisa Lechner @ TrICA, 484-0142

LUNCH MONEY

Please make sure that students are dropping off lunch money to Michele Roth either before school or after school.

It is hard to make sure that accounts are properly credited when money is handed over in the hustle and bustle of the lunch room or during other activities.

LOST & FOUND

The end of the school year is quickly approaching and our Lost and Found is overflowing! Please take a moment before/after school or even during the student led conferences to claim any items that may be yours.

Crochet Club

We have been delighted with the turnout! However, if your children have taken a crochet hook home to work on their new skill - please be sure they bring it back on Tuesday, or they may not be able to crochet during club time, because we have a limited supply. Thank you!

SPREADING the WORD!!!

We want to spread the word about what a great school we are creating with GCCS! Charter schools present such wonderful opportunities to meet the needs of many children not fitting a traditional public school. We have a very creative, innovative educational approach with real-life, hands-on learning approaches that are bringing back the love of learning to students.

Let us know if your group would like to have us make a short presentation about Garden City Community School!

MUSIC PROGRAM

Rebecca Harris and Marin Ramey have been working hard to develop the music program which started yesterday and will run every Thursday afternoon through May. We appreciate the teachers and community members who are helping make this possible! Students will perform during the May Celebration at the end of the school year. The following are the choices the students chose from for their personal programs:

How to Form and Participate in a School Band- Ken Harris

GCCS Performance Choir- with Barbara Hamon and Marin Ramey

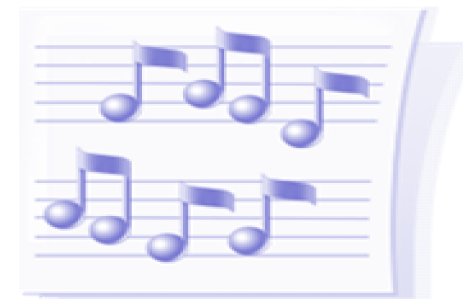
African Percussion- Carolyn Failla, Drum Central

Music History: Rock and Roll- with Ben Miller & Shari Heath

Penny Whistle- with Barbara Littlejohn & Matthew Shapiro

Sound Exploration and Instrument Discovery- Lisa Courchane and Tawnia Santos

Kid Moves- with Mhari McLaughlin



STAFF TRAINING

Our staff continues to gain more information to help our students learn.

APRIL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT for STAFF includes:

All-staff training by the Discovery Center as part of grant money awarded to the school from Micron. New science kits will be explored to develop science curriculum for all grades.

Team attending the Crayola Arts Integration workshops presented by Cathy Mansell, Boise school district art specialist

Rebecca will be attending the Michael Clay Thompson's gifted and language arts education workshop in Kuna.

Director Cindy will attend the Idaho Education Law Institute.

A team will attend the State Department of Education's Self Assessment and Title I workshops this month to keep our special needs programs current.

ALL-SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEETINGS

The entire school meets every Thursday at 9:00-9:30AM to celebrate birthdays, share news of events and special projects, perform, or introduce Garden City Community members.

Parents and community are welcome to join. April will include a presentation by the Youth Action Council to spread their Kindness Campaign throughout the school.

If you have a suggestion of a topic, please let us know! We are especially interested in getting to know our community of Garden City!