

GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

May 28, 2009

BALLOTS Attached, you will find your family's ballot to vote for the parent representative to the GCCS board of directors. We want to thank both Laurel Odell and Teresa Worth for their incredible dedication representing you this year on the board! Please get your vote into the ballot box in the office no later than next Tuesday, June 2!

DRESS CODE The weather's finally getting hot and beautiful, but we still have a dress code which requires all students (and school visitors!) to cover all the "b"s! Please help your students dress appropriately and remember that adults are their role models!

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB The club is closed for the last week of school while they prepare for their summer session, so our bus will not be delivering students there next week after school!

LAST WEEK of SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Transition Day – Tuesday, June 2

will be transition day for students who will be going to another teacher next year. Each class will be welcoming their new students with an hour of "get-to-know" you activities at the end of the day!



End of Year Fun Day: Wednesday, June 3

1. **ALL kindergarteners will** start school at 8:40AM this day so they can join the fun. **THIS IS KINDERS LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.** Elizabeth's AM class will end at 11:45AM and Megan's All Day and PM students will receive more information about a family potluck 1:00-2:00PM.
2. **1-6 grades** will start at school as normal and later be bused to the Boys & Girls Club gym and playground from 10AM-1:30PM for carnival games and other fun! This event is being organized by volunteers with Michelle Martinez chairing.
3. **Lunch** will be prepared by Life's Kitchen and charged to the students' accounts OR students may bring sack lunches. We ask for volunteers to bring their own sack lunches or leave a message with Traci no later than Monday, June 1 in the office that they would like to buy the \$3 lunch. We have to give Life's Kitchen an accurate account in advance and don't want to run out of food for the students!
4. **Brenda's 7/8 grade class** will be at the Veteran's Memorial Park 9:30AM-1:30PM for their own event. Laurel Odell and other volunteers will be helping her.
5. **2:15PM – Community Circle** in the Commons Area which will include the **graduation of ten 8th graders. Eighth grade families are encouraged to attend.**

Last Day of School for 1-8 Grade Students: Thursday, June 4.

- **Early release at 1:15.** This day counts as part of the students' attendance record and the teachers have a lot of plans for them on this day. Be sure students have something to pack home all the projects and other items they have accumulated over the year!

LOST & FOUND If your child is missing a coat.....please check out the lost & found by the double doors! We will be donating these items to the Youth Ranch after school is out.

FEES Please be sure you've paid your student(s) balance for lunches and activity fees for this year.

2009-2010 changes: "everyone helps a bit!"

- I've received calls from many of you regarding the increased fees for next year. This \$150 amount per student was a tough decision made by the GCCS finance committee to be a way for "everyone to help a little bit". This will help keep the programs going which make GCCS unique while enduring the end of our grant and budget cuts from the state. It was an idea which resulted from parent, staff, finance committee and board members' brainstorming sessions held throughout the winter. These fees will help fund the visual, music, drama, movement, and environmental programs. Our bookkeeper, Michele, will be glad to work out a payment schedule with all families. A simple form will be available in August. Thanks for being so positive, creative and upbeat to help us create a budget that will keep our wonderful school continuing on its incredible path!
- Lunches will be \$3.50 to help cover the cost of milk. (Students have been receiving the milk at no charge the last three years and it's become a financial burden for the school!)
- Our federal hot lunch program (including free & reduced lunches for those who qualify) will continue to be available Monday – Thursday, with Fridays officially becoming "Sack Lunch Day" where students will have the fun of bringing their own. We are improving our "Healthy Schools" program and will be teaching students how to create nutritious snacks and meals at a low cost.
- Custodian costs will be cut back as the entire school will clean their own class and a specific area of the school.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM You will be receiving more information soon from Special Services Director, Valerie Aker, if you signed up for the GCCS Summer Reading Program. Give her a call if you have any questions.

2009-2010 CLASS LISTS & CALENDAR Please see the attached list that shows you the "tentative class lists" and our official calendar for the upcoming year.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES We have several brochures in the office which offer various summer time activities you might want to try with your children. We will be open for tours every week throughout the summer and still have some openings in various classes, so spread the word! The new playground section will need volunteer help to be ready for school opening, so watch for information requesting volunteers!

This has been a year full of fun and learning for both students and staff! We have enjoyed your children immensely and look forward to another wonderful year! Have a super summer! Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns!

Sincerely,

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