



Homecoming at Greenville

Students, faculty, parents and community members participated in a variety of Homecoming activities throughout the week of September 28th. During Spirit Week High School students demonstrated their school spirit with a variety of “themed” days including class color day, be a twin day and “decade” day. Students in grades nine through twelve participated in a Pep Rally on Friday, October 2nd during 9th period where sports teams were introduced, the Jazz Band performed and faculty members competed in a series of creative athletic contests.

Friday afternoon involved a number of activities for students and the community including food and game booths, a free climbing wall, girls’ JV and Varsity soccer games, volleyball and football games for students and a bonfire at dusk. A highlight of the evening was the annual “Pie in the Face” contest where administrators and teachers raised money for “Caring for Others” Ovarian Cancer by taking pies to the face from students. Evening events also included an Activity Night at Scott M. Ellis Elementary where students played basketball, chess, bingo, painted pumpkins and painted faces. Also taking place Friday evening were the High School Student Council dance and a community concert by the Michael Benedict Jazz Vibes.

Saturday began with a buffet breakfast at Ellis Café with proceeds benefiting the Greenville Educational Foundation. Additional activities included a Superintendent’s Community Forum featuring a presentation from Jack Agati on “Raising Children Responsibly”, campus tours, athletic games and a field dedication in honor of Coach Donald Mabee.

We thank everyone involved for their hard work again this year and we look forward to next year!



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Forensics at GCS High School

Students in Ms. Pizarro's High School forensic class experienced their first laboratory experiment involving an investigation of a "mock crime scene". Students established their own search patterns for a twelve by twelve area within the classroom. A written lab assignment was provided which included information on the importance of protecting and preserving the site from destruction or contamination and what that could mean for legal proceedings that may follow. The final product, a formal lab report, included students' search design, formal sketches of the scene, the analysis of the crime scene and a discussion of the application of the skill. Students enrolled in this course receive college credit for Syracuse University. This course offers a rigorous curriculum for our students while also providing relevant, real-world applications of science.

Character Development in the Middle School

Last Spring, the Middle School Building Level Team recommended and the PTSA purchased a character education program called "Project Wisdom". Project Wisdom is one of the oldest and most respected character education programs in the nation. The program's vision is to meet three main objectives. First, to build character by encouraging ethical thinking; second, to build confidence by motivating students to do their personal best; and third, to build community by inspiring students to contribute to the world around them while honoring the diversity that makes our country great.

Each morning a thought-provoking message, designed to teach and inspire, is read to all middle school students and faculty. Teachers have commented on how they have started discussions with students about the message that was read for the day. Some examples of the character traits from the morning messages are: respect, caring, citizenship, responsibility, honesty and tolerance.

Data from Project Wisdom indicates schools that broadcast the messages daily experience the greatest results. At the Middle School we are very excited to be using Project Wisdom and look forward to seeing the impact it will have on our students and staff.



GCS Students Learn with Colonel the Dog

Colonel, a therapy dog, has been working with students at Scott M. Ellis Elementary School since 2004. Colonel and his owner, Maureen Pulice, are both certified by Therapy Dogs International to work with the public in a variety of ways. Ms. Pulice explains that “Colonel will visit anywhere people need happiness”. She wants students to have the opportunity to share experiences with Colonel.

Ms. Pulice is a Special Education teacher at Scott M. Ellis and brings Colonel to school every day. Colonel is a reading partner for many students and at least five times a week has a “play date” with many students. Colonel has received awards for over fifty (50) visits with the Active Outstanding Working Title and also was acknowledged in 2007 as the Hometown Hero by the American Red Cross.

National FFA President Visits Greenville HS

“Your boundaries are limited only by your beliefs”, was a key phrase in a presentation given to Greenville High School Students by National FFA President, Paul Moya. Greenville CSD was chosen for a chapter visit as part of Mr. Moya’s Nationwide National Officer Tour. On September 24th students in ninth and tenth grade participated in an interactive motivational assembly focused on responsibility, respect and individual goal setting. The focus of Mr. Moya’s presentation was to help students feel empowered and enthusiastic about setting and achieving personal goals. The message given to students at this event reflects those of the High School’s Developing Character Assembly series.





The Ride for Missing Children at Greenville Elementary

Students at Scott M. Ellis had the opportunity to greet, talk with and learn from participants in the Greater Capital District Ride for Missing Children. The Ride for Missing Children is an event that honors the memory of missing children, raises public awareness for missing and exploited children, educates children on safety, and raises funds to support missing children poster distribution. On Friday, September 25th several hundred volunteers biked 100 miles starting and ending in Albany, NY. Greenville CSD was honored to be one of several stops along the route.

While at the school bikers took a short break to eat lunch and prepare for the ride back to Albany. Most importantly the stop included a safety presentation for students. The presentation focused on teaching children how to safely ride a bike using protective gear and to be aware of their surroundings. Students also learned about general safety precautions they should take while biking in their communities.

Annual College Fair

On Thursday, September 24, 2009 the Greenville High School Guidance Office held its 7th Annual College and Career Fair in the High School gymnasium. Students and their parents had the opportunity to talk with college admissions professionals and financial aid representatives. Representatives from several technical schools, colleges, universities and the military were present to answer questions regarding admissions, degree options, and student life.



Eighth Grade Students find Local Link to Civil War History

Several eighth grade students in Mr. Thorman's American History class had the opportunity to explore local links to Civil War history. During a historical visit to the Greenville Cemetery students were asked to locate the Civil War era tombstone of Captain Ayers G. Barker. Working as a team, students quickly located the tombstone along with others from the Civil War era. Seen here are students Sean Albert, Christian Allen, Wyatt Beaumont, Claire Collins, Stuart Gardner, Jacquelynn Hicks, Danielle Salisbury, Corrina Zapata.

Meet the Greenville Varsity Cross Country Team

It has been a fun and exciting season for the Greenville Spartan's Varsity Cross Country teams. On the girls' team, Junior Sydney Carella has worked extremely hard and has proven to be an effective leader in practice and at races. Sydney, along with Marjorie Perezella, Emily Bobrick, Diana Waldron and Sara Davis, has shown significant improvement throughout the season.

On the boys' team, Senior James LoPresti ran his last home race on September 29th and has proven to be an active team player throughout the season. Junior Pat Ostoyich has won every dual meet this season and finished in the top ten in all four of our Saturday invitationals. Pat set a new personal record of 16 minutes 51 seconds for 3.1 miles on October 10th at the Maple Hill Invitational. John Hicks, Brad O'Keefe, Andrew Fishlinger, Scott Macpherson and Kevin Bobrick have also improved their times throughout the season.



Elementary Students Explore Their Literary History

On the morning of September 16th fifth grade students arrived at Scott M. Ellis Elementary school carrying with them a piece of their own Literary History. Students were asked to think about a special book, poem or photograph that represented a special reading or writing memory in their life. This "artifact", along with a brief description of why this item was important to them, was displayed in a Literary Museum at the school. Students toured the museum exploring the literary artifacts of their classmates. Finally, students created journals documenting their experiences for the day and how the artifacts of their classmates related to their own life.

Greenville Makes Strides

Eight walkers from the Greenville Central School Community participated in the American Cancer Society's annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk on Sunday, October 18th at Albany's Washington Park. Over 12,000 walkers raised more than \$1,000,000 to aid in the research, treatment, advocacy and care of breast cancer survivors. Making Strides Against Breast Cancer is an opportunity to honor breast cancer survivors, educate women about prevention and early detection and raise funds and awareness to help eliminate breast cancer. Seen here are Alenore Cusick, Kathy McAneny, Krystal Cannon and Wendy Ward. Also shown are Annalee Ruot (with her dog Benny), Susan Knott, Donna Bartlett and Shirley Bartlett DiRusso.



**2009-2010
Superintendent ~ Parent and Community Forums**

Superintendent Dudley meets with GCS parents and community members to hear views about and suggestions for our schools. In addition for this year several special presentations have been scheduled for parents and community members on topics relevant to the District and our students. These are scheduled for Saturday mornings from 9:00 am to 11:00 am and will be held at Ellis Elementary School Café.

**November 7 Beth Bourassa, Partner
Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP**

“The Dark Side of Technology in our Schools and Cyberbullying”

This discussion will include use of cell phones, instant messaging and emails including proper and improper use of school computers and technology and the changing world of technology available to our students and its impact and implications for parents and school personnel.

Letter sent to parents on October 28, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As many of you know, this year’s flu season is especially challenging with the anticipation of a second wave of H1N1 virus in addition to the seasonal flu. Greenville Central School District personnel have been working with our partners at NYSED and Greene County Department of Public Health to reduce the spread and severity of the illness in the education community. We emphasize the importance of precautionary measures with the following steps that everyone can take to be prepared:

Stay informed: Please visit the Greenville Central School District website for updated information.

Practice good health etiquette: See the general recommendations below to avoid spreading the flu.

Get vaccinated: NYSED recommends that everyone get both the seasonal and H1N1 flu shots, especially those in high-risk groups.

Care for yourself and for those who have the flu: If you are sick, stay home and limit contact to avoid infecting others. Keep your children home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone. Fever should be gone without the use of fever-reducing medicine.

General Recommendations for the Prevention of getting or spreading the flu:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water or use a hand sanitizer.
- Avoid people who are ill and stay home if you are sick.
- Use tissue when you cough, sneeze or spit, or cough and sneeze into your elbow/upper sleeve.
- Dispose of the tissues in a no-touch trash receptacle.
- Keep hand away from your face. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Clean shared space more often such as phone receivers, keyboards, steering wheels and office equipment.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in this matter. Please contact your health provider if you have specific questions regarding the seasonal flu or H1N1 flu.