



**2011-2012**

**Saturday Morning Coffee with the Superintendent**

**~ Parent & 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 on the dates listed below from 9:00 am to 12:00pm with the location on campus to be announced.

**October 15, 2011**

**9:00am to 12:00pm**

**Jack Agati ~ The Art of Encouragement**

How do we encourage a discouraged child? This often asked question must be answered if we hope to bring about long term changes in another's way of behaving. We need to look upon encouragement as a skill, an art that needs to be understood and practiced to be successful. At the end of this session, the participants will be able to distinguish between praise and encouragement as motivational tools, identify the three techniques that others will use to discourage us from encouraging them, and explore ways to avoid becoming discouraged in our efforts to encourage others.

**November 19, 2011**

**9:00am to 12:00pm**

**Legal Issues and Updates in Education**

**Edward J. Sarzynski~ Senior Partner**

The presentation and discussion will include recent updates in areas of education law and the opportunity for Q & A on the topics presented by Mr. Sarzynski.

Edward J. Sarzynski, Partner, has been practicing in the field of Education and Labor Law since 1975. He received his J.D. degree from Cornell University, and was admitted to the bar, 1971, New York State and U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York; 1978, U.S. Supreme Court; 1980, U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit; New York State Bar Association and Broome County Bar Association; member of New York State Management Advocates for School Labor Affairs (MASLA). Member of NYS Council of School Attorneys, NYS School Boards Association, National Council of School Attorneys and National School Boards Association. Ed Sarzynski considers himself fortunate to have been involved in education law pretty much since it began. After graduating law school, he was affiliated with the largest firm in Binghamton when John Hogan, a noted expert in the emerging field of education law asked Sarzynski to join him. Sarzynski says his decision to do so has made his career tremendously satisfying. "We thrive on avoiding confrontation," he says. "Instead of constant litigation, we provide advice and solve problems." This strategy goes a long way toward building relationships and Sarzynski notes he's worked with some school districts for years. "In matrimonial or criminal law you may see a client once, then never again," he observes. "Here, we've not only developed professional consistency over the years, but genuine friendships, as well."

**December 3, 2011**

**9:00am to 12:00pm**

**Update on District Master Plan**

Stieglitz Snyder Architecture and the District have been outlining a master plan for the school district campus and facilities to support an educational program for now and into the future over a thirty year time period. As a result of input from faculty, staff and various community stakeholders, discussion at this meeting will provide participants with the design and status of the plan to date.

**January 14, 2012**

**9:00am to 12:00pm**

**Shared Services ~ CASDA Study**

Discussion will focus on the first results of a study completed by CASDA for five school districts in Greene County to explore and research all short-term and long-term options that will:

- Reduce operating and/or capital expenses
- Enhance educational programs
- Improve the quality, efficiency and/or scope of current services

Districts participating in the study included Catskill, Cairo-Durham, Coxsackie-Athens, Greenville, and Windham-Ashland-Jewett.

**February 4, 2012**

**9:00am to 12:00pm**

**Dignity for All Students Act**

This will provide information and discussion regarding what and how Greenville CSD should address the New York State legislature's mandated "Dignity for All Students Act," which aims to establish an environment free of discrimination and harassment in New York State schools. The Act (effective as of July 1, 2012) applies to harassment and discrimination based on a student's disability, race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, gender, and sexual orientation. Legal counsel for the District will also be present to outline requirements and guidance for our school district community.

**May 5, 2012**

**9:00am to 12:00pm**

**Instructional Programming Options for Students**

Topics will include the instructional programs available to students at Greenville CSD, Gifted and Talented; Career and Technical Education at BOCES/Questar III Tech Valley High, and online learning.