

Genesee Hill News

April 5, 2022 | Volume 2, Issue 8



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Mark Your Calendars

April 6: 6:30 pm, PTA General Meeting

April 11-15: Spring Break - No School

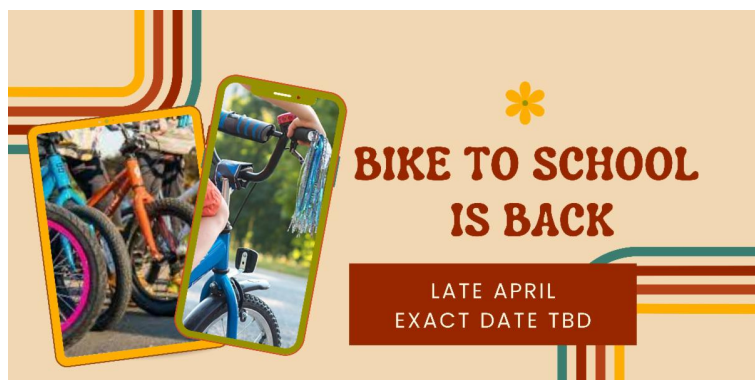
April 26: 3:00-10:00pm, School Nights @ the Good Society

Late April: Bike to School Day, exact date TBD



You're Invited! April PTA General Membership Meeting

Please join us for our next general membership tomorrow, April 6th at 6:30 pm. We will hear from the nominating committee about open board positions for next year. We will also discuss the budget, including the reserves we have, if there are one-time projects we want to explore funding, and what our philosophy should be for fundraising and spending in the future. Finally, come hear about some fun spring events we have planned like bike to school and move-a-thon! Find the link to join in the Thursday Bulletin. We hope to see you all there!



Coming Soon: Bike to School Day

Dust off those helmets and pump up those tires! Bike to school day, a well-loved Genesee Hill tradition, is coming later this month. Stay tuned to the Thursday Bulletin for all the details.

Staff Spotlight

This month we are pleased to highlight GHE Reading Interventionist Gina Frazzini!



What drew you to this type of work?

I knew I wanted to be a teacher since my undergraduate work. I started off wanting to be a middle school math teacher because I loved math and I wanted others to love it too! Along the way, I switched gears to elementary teaching. Through some amazing teaching colleagues, I became interested in how children learn to read. There is so much to learn about it and I love working with young children and seeing them develop along so many dimensions.

What is your favorite part of your work?

Seeing children see themselves as readers! I get to help students with something that is challenging for them. When I can get them to the place where they have success and find the joy of reading, it is so fun.

When you're not at GH, how do you spend your time?

I have three children 12, 17, and 18. As a family we spend a lot of time outdoors. All three kids have different sports that keep us on the move. On the weekends, I love to hike, ski, and stand-up paddle board.

Anything else you'd like the GH community to know about you?

I am so grateful for the Genesee Hill community! My colleagues are masterful teachers. I feel so lucky to learn and teach alongside of them and that all my own children started their first 6 years of education being inspired by the Genesee Hill community.

Spotlight on PTA Budget Reserves

We are starting PTA budgeting planning for next school year and would like you to join us at the upcoming meeting to learn more. Using input from PTA membership and school administration, a budget committee will propose a detailed budget, which must be approved by our board and membership before the end of this academic year.

We have five main areas of our budget:

- Community Building
- PTA Administration
- Classroom Basics
- Educational Enhancements
- School Admin & Safety

We will also be focusing on how to spend our budget reserves. State PTA guidance is that we should have budget reserves of 6-12 months, which means we have ~\$200K+ of excess funds saved from past years due to some great fundraising years, tight expense management and smaller expenses during the pandemic.

The Board wants your input during the annual budgeting process on how to spend these funds. Our overall philosophy is to align spend with our mission, reduce fundraising pressure and focus on areas our membership wants to support, using feedback from surveys (advocating for students and families, supporting teachers and school staff, promoting equity and inclusion and having more events). Finally, we will consider any one-time funding requests that are consistent with our mission.

We hope to have all our membership involved in our upcoming budget so we can reflect your input. Thanks!

Community Questions

What is happening with volunteering? Are volunteers allowed back at the school?

While Genesee Hill is not yet an "open campus," volunteers are once again welcome to come into the school with some specific guidance. With this new development, teachers have been asked to consider their needs and communicate with families as needs for volunteers arise. The best source for staying up-to-date for classroom-based opportunities is the weekly classroom email communication. Volunteers must ensure their paperwork is up-to-date and can do so by checking with Pam Jones in the front office.

In addition to potential classroom volunteering opportunities, other opportunities to support the Genesee Hill PTA or school community continue to be highlighted in the weekly Thursday Bulletin. Two examples include the Family and Community Engagement for All (FACE) work group, as well as the Spring Budget Committee. Learn more about these committees and [express interest here](#).

Do you have a question that you would like to see answered in the monthly newsletter? Email your questions to communications@geneseehillpta.org.