“They say history teaches us who we are and where we came from.”

Recently Mr. Donnelly, the Jr./Sr. High School Principal, was admiring some pictures displayed in Dr. Fulmer’s conference room, pictures that were found in the basement of the Middle Grade building. Among them a picture of the graduating class of 1915 was found.

Mr. Donnelly is currently working on a display for the high school and was interested in using the photos. These photos would be in addition to the centerpiece of the display, the Most Valuable Student plaque which was recently rededicated by the Class of 1947. Not wanting to remove the pictures from their current location he took a digital photo of the original picture. Curious about the pennant displayed in the picture Mr. Donnelly magnified the area to reveal a crest of Greenwich High School from 1868. With the help of the computer he was able to closely recreate the crest, as pictured below.

A little more investigation was still needed to translate the writing on the perimeter, Nihil Sine Labore. Translated, it reads “Nothing Without Effort”. Ironically, Greenwich Jr./Sr. High School still assigns effort grades for students. It is said that one can have great skill or even great luck, but without effort they have nothing.

Greenwich Central School District continues its long standing tradition of excellent graduates.

School Board Recognition

Each year, during the month of October, school districts in New York State celebrate School Board Recognition Week. This year, we are pleased to honor our school board members once again for their dedicated leadership and their strong support for our efforts to provide excellent educational programs at GCS. Our school board members are: Albert Sykes (President), Joe O’Malley (Vice President), Judy Klingebiel, Susan Percoco, and Katherine Roome. During the past year, we have seen the completion of our $19.4M building project that was approved by the voters in 1998 and 1999. The many improvements in our instructional facilities include the addition of new classroom space, the installation of state-of-the-art technology resources in each building, and a new agricultural science laboratory in the high school. At a time when school districts face many financial challenges, our district continues to enjoy a healthy financial status. Although the New York State tax apportionment system results in variations in school tax rates among the towns within school districts, our school district’s tax rate as a whole has remained stable, with an average tax rate increase of 1.72% for the 2003-2004 school year. We are most appreciative of the dedicated leadership our Board of Education members have shown in making all of this possible, and also in supporting our efforts to continuously improve our instructional programs, as described below.

Meeting High Standards

At GCS, our teachers and students aim to meet high standards that reflect all aspects of the New York State Learning Standards, not just those that can be measured on paper-and-pencil tests. We are continuously working to implement new teaching strategies to assist our students to meet the Standards, to use critical thinking skills, and to apply what they learn to real-world situations. The seven New York State Learning Standards areas are: The Arts; Career Development And Occupational Studies; English Language Arts; Health, Physical Education, And Home Economics; Languages Other Than English; Mathematics, Science, and Technology; Social Studies. At this time, we are embarking on an updated, cyclical process where programs are reviewed by Standards areas in order to evaluate progress toward meeting the Standards. For instance, our music and art departments will complete a program and curriculum review process designed to determine the extent to which our programs are meeting the following four learning standards in the area of The Arts:

Standard 1: Creating, Performing, and Participating in the Arts
Students will actively engage in the processes that constitute creation and performance in the arts (dance, music, theatre, and visual arts) and participate in various roles in the arts;

Standard 2: Knowing and Using Arts Materials and Resources
Students will be knowledgeable about and make use of the materials and resources available for participation in the arts in various roles;

Standard 3: Responding to and Analyzing Works of Arts
Students will develop an understanding of the personal and cultural forces that shape artistic communication and how the arts in turn shape the diverse cultures of past and present society;

Standard 4: Understanding the Cultural Contributions of the Arts
Students will develop an understanding of the personal and cultural forces that shape artistic communication and how the arts in turn shape the diverse cultures of past and present society.

We look forward to documenting the many accomplishments associated with our instructional programs in these areas, and to identifying new goals for future program improvements in each Standards area.

Susanne Fulmer, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION

Please listen to AM Radio 810 and TV Channel 6.

NEWS & NOTES

WEED DELIVER

The Wee Deliver program for the Primary and Middle Grade buildings at GCS is up and running for the second year in a row. Wee Deliver is a nationally recognized postal service program run by students. This year, Mrs. Sorbera’s third grade class runs the postal service. There are four sixth grade students who supervise the process.

On October 9, 2003 Mr. Curley from the Greenwich, NY Post Office had a swearing in ceremony for the sixth grade Postmasters. During the ceremony, Alex Whitaker, Meghan Dusha, Kaitlin Andrews, and Derek Rogers were sworn in as Postmasters and Assistant Postmasters. They vowed to uphold the rules and regulations of the United States Postal Service while working for the Wee Deliver Program in the Greenwich Central School.

15 YEARS WITH PAUL STILLMAN

Through Greenwich P.T.S.A and their Arts in Education Program, Mr. Paul Stillman (Native American of the Seneca Tribe) has been teaching fourth grade Greenwich students about the Iroquois life for the past fifteen years. Through his instruction, the children have learned how to grind corn, create wampum, stretch animal skins, use a pump drill (an actual 800 year old artifact), and throw an Atl-Atl. On the final day the children celebrated what they learned at a pow-wow.

Mr. Stillman has shared Native American legends and artifacts with over 1300 Greenwich children! We wish to thank Mr. Stillman for his years of educating the students of Greenwich and look forward to seeing him again next year!

JUSTIN CHRISTY, AGATE AWARD

The Advocacy for Gifted and Talented Education in New York State awarded the Student Academic Excellence Award to Justin Christy, a Freshmen at the Jr./Sr. High School. Justin was recognized for his leadership and academic excellence. According to one of his former teachers, Gerry Cuite, Justin has a “passion for knowledge,” a “conscientious attitude,” and a “playful and energetic demeanor” which distinguishes his nomination. A $100 savings bond and a certificate of achievement also accompany this award. Congratulations to Justin on his accomplishments and good luck in his future endeavors.

TALENT UNLIMITED

The following students have had their work selected for the 18th Annual Talent Unlimited publication; Jake D’Acchille, Kayla Germain, Graham Johnson, Sam Roos, Mike Shissler Jr., Emilie Simoneau, Aaron Thomas-Bolduc, Jillian Towne, Marissa Wendolowske.

The publication draws from all of the schools in our BOCES, Washington, Saratoga, Warren, Hamilton and Essex counties, for literary and artistic contributions. Most districts have one or two submissions. Greenwich is enjoying nine selections.

We would like to extend our congratulations to the students for their hard work and creativity. It also needs to be recognized that they could never have reached their potential without the inspiration, guidance and hard work (Nihil Sine Labore!) of their teachers.

WORLD QUILT VISIT

The World Quilt is on display in the Middle Grade building until Dec. 9th. Using fabric collected from 75 countries, more than 45 young people from the Saratoga Mentoring Program and the community collaborated with textile artist Franceline Dawkins to create it. This inspiring work of art is being displayed in public places around the world to honor children and to promote peace.
Taking Gold at Empire State Games

Greenwich Junior-Senior High School eighth grader Stefon Stilwell captured a Gold Medal, February 21st in the Slalom Snowboarding competition at the Empire State Games in Lake Placid, New York. Stefon has been snowboarding for the past 2 years. Stefon competed in two heats accumulating the best times. Congratulations.

Grand Opening

On March 15th Greenwich Central School celebrated the Grand Opening of the Jr./Sr. High School Store. Many thanks to Christine Belden and Brenda Lee of the Business Department and the students of the FBLA Club for the organization and fund raising activities in order to open the store. The School Store is open for business and should prove to be a great learning environment for all students.

Once Upon a Lily Pad

During the past three years, Mrs. Durham’s classes have practiced many hours to create an entertaining performance for all to enjoy. The productions provide a strong message that promotes cooperation, self-confidence, teamwork, and respect. This year’s performance, Once Upon a Lily Pad, was no different. Most of the K-6 Children were able to attend. They showed wonderful support and appreciation for their friends. A good time was had by all!
A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

2004-2005 District Budget: Important Dates and Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 19</td>
<td>5:00 PM: Deadline for submission of Petitions for Nominations of Board Candidates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 10</td>
<td>Budget Hearing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, May 18</td>
<td>Budget Vote and Election</td>
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This year, our budget vote and board member election will take place on Tuesday, May 18 from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM in the Primary School cafeteria. In order to provide assistance to disabled citizens and senior citizens, the Board of Education has approved senior citizens tax exemptions, and an exemption of up to 50% of assessed value for eligible disabled persons. Under the New York State “STAR” (School Tax Relief) Program, all primary-residence homeowners who have applied will be able to take advantage of the “basic” or “enhanced” (for senior citizens) STAR exemptions during 2004-2005. School district residents can obtain further information on these property tax exemptions from their local property assessor. You can find your local assessor’s phone number by calling 1-888-697-8275 or you can access a listing of assessors on the Office of Real Property Services (ORPS) web page at http://www.orps.state.ny.us.

On Monday, May 10th, the Board of Education will hold a budget hearing where the three parts of the 2004-2005 Proposed Budget (the program component, the capital component, and the administrative component) will be presented and explained. It is important to note that the purpose of this hearing is not to initiate changes in the budget, since the Proposed Budget will already have been adopted prior to the budget hearing. Rather, this hearing is held in order to provide information to the community so that voters will be informed and have an opportunity to ask questions about the proposed budget before it is presented for voter approval.

All community members are encouraged to attend any or all of our budget sessions, as well as our budget hearing on Monday, May 10th. If you have any questions about the budget, please do not hesitate to call Michael Ouimet, School Business Administrator, or me at 692-9542.

Susanne Fulmer, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Lyon’s Class Celebrates: 
Valentine’s Day, 100th Day of School, 
and Feathered Friends

The kindergarten students in Mrs. Lyons’ room were busy making hundreds of Valentines in the week before the big day. They “didn’t have a name or any other words; the Valentines they made were seeds for February birds.” The children have been learning about the different ways that animals cope with cold northern winters: migration, hibernation, and adaptation. They learned that some animals make changes in their appearance or habits so that they can stay in their homes all winter. The birds that do not migrate can find it difficult to find food at this time of year, so the kindergartners made Valentine projects to give them a helping hand.

Ever since September, the students have been practicing different ways to count to 100 (by 1’s, 2’s, 5’s & 10’s). As Valentine’s Day often coincides with the 100th Day of School, the children were able to put their counting skills to work as they each portioned out ten groups of ten bird seeds for their projects. These seeds went home along with a Valentine poem to hang on a tree or bush over the scattered seeds.

1,700 Valentines in twenty minutes... not bad for a room of five- and six-year olds!

Sweet Heart Luncheon

On Wednesday, February 11th, the Second Grade classes enjoyed a special treat! Each child was able to invite a "Sweetheart" to lunch. The children greeted their sweethearts in the lobby and escorted them to the cafeteria, where they enjoyed a special lunchtime together. The children made their sweethearts special placemats to eat on, as well. Some guests received flowers from their 2nd graders while others were treated to goodies in the classroom afterwards. Readings were shared by some, while others were able to visit the Scholastic Book Fair! It was a wonderful and very special afternoon for the Second Graders at GCS!

2004 Junior Prom

The GCS Junior Prom will be held on Saturday, May 8, 2004. The prom highlights will include:

• 4:00-5:00 pm-Picture taking at the gazebo
• 5:30-7:00 pm-Coronation in the High School Auditorium
• 7:45 pm-Junior Prom at the National Museum of Dance in Saratoga Springs

After Prom Party

Plans are underway for the 4th annual After Prom Party. A committee consisting of students and parents have been working hard to organize this enjoyable event in cooperation with the Greenwich Elks and Auxiliary #2223. It is their hope that by providing this well-chaperoned party they can offer a safe, fun alternative to parties that involve drugs, drinking, and driving. This event is not mandatory; however, the entire junior class and their dates are encouraged to attend.

This year the Junior Class Prom will be held at the National Museum of Dance in Saratoga Springs. The After Prom Party is scheduled to begin after the Prom at the Elks Lodge, free of charge to all Juniors. Some of the activities provided will include: pool, foosball, ping-pong, video games, movies, food, and plenty of door prizes. An early morning breakfast will occur prior to the close of the festivities at 4:00 am.

Sweet Heart Luncheon

After Prom Party

Mrs. Lyon’s Class Celebrates: 
Valentine’s Day, 100th Day of School, 
and Feathered Friends

Notable News
On April 23rd, 2004 the 39th Annual Washington County Dairy Princess Pageant was held at the Kingsbury Firehouse. Five young women went through the process of interviews, interactions and public speaking to earn the right to be part of the Washington County Dairy Princess Team.

Congratulations to Greenwich’s Lesley Saunders on being chosen the 2004 Washington County Dairy Princess. Lesley is accompanied by her court which includes: Miranda Duel (alternate Dairy Princess), Jenni Waite, Tara Nolan and Marta Townsend. Tremendous benefits await Lesley and her court. Some obvious ones include developing leadership skills, self-confidence in communicating with groups and public speaking. Some hidden benefits are teamwork, organization and commitment.

The Washington County Dairy Princess Team receives tremendous support from their families and our local dairy community. This Team will spend the next year interacting with youth, consumers and the public about the advantages of eating at least 3 servings of dairy products every day and promoting dairy as an important part of agriculture.

Congratulations to Lesley Saunders as the 2004 Washington County Dairy Princess.

Four and a half years ago, Ming Hua Chen came from China to live in America. Ming knew little English and found school, as one might expect, very challenging. She has worked extremely hard and for that effort she will be graduating from Greenwich High School on June 27th at 2:30pm. Graduation is a wonderful accomplishment and even more so for an individual who has only been with us a short time.

Along with Ming’s school work she has been working towards her citizenship. We are proud to announce that on May 21st, 2004 Ming became an official citizen of The United States of America. She was sworn in at the New York State Supreme Court in Fort Edward, New York.

Ming is planning on attending St. John Fisher College in the fall. Congratulations and good luck to Ming in her future endeavors.

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The Business and Marketing Education Department of Greenwich High School has been named one of sixteen “Business and Marketing Education Department of the Year” award recipients for 2003-2004, by the Career and Technical Education Team of the New York State Education Department.

Greenwich High School was recognized for its efforts in developing and providing a rigorous and relevant program of study for high school students in the area of business and marketing education. Greenwich’s program was especially cited for the new innovative courses, teaching strategies and creative learning experiences it provides to help prepare its students for success in both postsecondary study and future employment in the global economy of the 21st century.
On May 18, Greenwich School District residents approved the district’s Proposed Budget and a proposition for school buses and equipment for the 2004-2005 school year. Once again, because of extraordinary budget challenges on both the state and local level, our 2004-2005 budget focused mainly on meeting requirements and maintaining programs and improvements supported by the community and implemented in previous years. These programs and improvements include:

☑ Maintenance of Academic Intervention Services to assist students in meeting new academic requirements,
☑ Maintenance of modern instructional technology systems provided through our recent building project,
☑ Maintenance of our expanded school facilities,
☑ The addition of a special education teacher to help meet additional programming requirements,
☑ An increase from a .6 music position to full time to provide increased instruction in the arts,
☑ Additional coaching support for students involved in interscholastic athletics, and
☑ Ongoing curriculum updates and professional development activities to support teacher and student learning.

The continued support of our voters for our school budgets is very much appreciated. We will continue our efforts to provide high quality, cost-effective programs for our students, and to help each student to be successful in meeting high standards for achievement.

**School Board Member Vote**

We would like to congratulate Mr. Joseph O’Malley. As a result of the school board member election of May 18, Mr. O’Malley, who is currently Vice President of the Board, earned an additional 5-year term on the Board of Education.

Susanne Fulmer, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
In January of 2005, I will be retiring from my position as Superintendent of Schools for the Greenwich school district. It has been a great pleasure and privilege to work with such a wonderful community of students, parents, community members, and community leaders. The support for our students and school that we experience in our community is truly extraordinary, and this support has helped enable our fine teaching, support services, supervisory, and administrative staffs to accomplish continuous and significant improvements in our programs and services over the past few years.

I would like to express my gratitude to a Board of Education that has provided the dedication, leadership, and strong support that are needed to assure increasing levels of excellence in our academic programs and our athletic and extracurricular programs, while at the same time enhancing the financial health of our school district.

Between now and January of 2005, I look forward to working toward meeting important goals relating to several initiatives. Among these is the continuation of a comprehensive curriculum and program review process that was initiated during the 2003-2004 school year by our art and music departments in their program review of “The Arts” at GCS. As we continue with this process over the next several years, we will review our programs in all the remaining New York State Learning Standards areas: Career Development And Occupational Studies; English Language Arts; Health, Physical Education, And Home Economics; Languages Other Than English; Mathematics, Science, and Technology; Social Studies.

During the next few weeks, the Board of Education will begin a search process for a new Superintendent of Schools. As they work toward finding the right person for this position, they will, as in the past, solicit the input of diverse representatives of our school community.

I look forward to continuing my work with you over the next few months and, after my retirement, I will look forward to hearing of the many future accomplishments that our students and staff will undoubtedly realize in response to the high expectations and continued support of our school community.

Susanne Fulmer, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
GREENWICH CENTRAL SCHOOL
10 Gray Avenue
Greenwich, New York 12834

Phone: 518-692-9542

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Secondary Principal
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Assistant Principal, Secondary
• Daniel R. LeClaire

Elementary Principal
• Regina Gapczynski

Assistant Principal, Elementary
• Benjamin Pisani

Director, Pupil Personnel Services
• Alison Neary

Business Administrator
• Michael Ouimet

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• Katherine Roome

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