



# May, 2017 PTA Newsletter

Prepared by PTA Corresponding Secretary Erin Fortunato  
 Comments, suggestions, corrections - please send to greenptanj@gmail.com

## May: Save the Date

12 \*SPIRIT DAY\* Wear your shirt inside out or wear PJ pants!

29 Memorial Day – school closed

## June: Save the Date

2 Field Day, wear GHS apparel! – early dismissal at 12:50 pm

6 Exec Board mtg, 8:30am, Green Municipal Building

9 Rain Date - Field Day

20 Last day of school! - early dismissal at 12:50pm

## START THINKING ABOUT NEXT YEAR - HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED WITH THE PTA?

There are so many ways and so many reasons to get involved with the PTA. Whether you can dedicate one hour during the year or several hours every week, we have a way for you to connect with GHS, share your talents and skills, and make a difference. **Why volunteer with the PTA?**



See below for details on PTA leadership opportunities available starting this summer!

## Want to help out with Field Day on Friday June 2?

To take part in a favorite GHS tradition, please email Claudia Ernst at erniesfam@verizon.net.

**Get involved with the PTA!** The PTA is looking for 3 active, involved members to fill Executive Board positions for the next 2-year term beginning 7/1/2017. If you would like to play a role in something great for the children, get involved. It is fun and rewarding! Positions available are **President, 1st Vice President & Recording Secretary**. Responsibilities for each officer position can be found in the bylaws article VII at [www.gtpta.com](http://www.gtpta.com). Please email [Jodiwfinn@ptd.net](mailto:Jodiwfinn@ptd.net) with letters of intent to run and contact information. If you have any questions, please phone Jodi at 908-914-2316. Thank you for volunteering and considering a position on the PTA Executive Board.

**Tricky Tray, our biggest fundraiser of the year, was a huge success!**

**THANK YOU GHS community!**

Thank you to the parents, friends, families, staff, teachers, and businesses who donated terrific prizes. Your generous, continued support is what makes our Tricky Tray so successful.

Thank you to our amazingly supportive GHS staff. The Main Office staff and the Grounds and Custodial staff make it possible for us pull the event together. We couldn't do it without you!

Thank you to all our volunteers who worked before (some for many months!), during and after the event to ensure our Tricky Tray ran smoothly, was fun for all, and raised funds for GHS.

**Grand Raffle update** - The Grand Raffle is a big part of Tricky Tray. This year, it made 3 very LUCKY winners very happy! We appreciate every ticket bought and sold! Please send any "wishes" for prizes for next year's Raffle and Mystery Prizes to Grand Raffle Chair Stephanie Srangeway, [Stephanie.Strangeway@hanes.com](mailto:Stephanie.Strangeway@hanes.com).

**Zoobooks**, a Tricky Tray supporter who donated a year's subscription to their magazine, is now doing their own fundraiser to start a new dinosaur series for kids. They need Zoobooks fans to help them create it by supporting and publicizing their Kickstarter page at [www.zoobooks.com/dino](http://www.zoobooks.com/dino). Backers get rewards, like getting the new series early!

## **The new playground is here!!!**

After more than a year of intense planning, fundraising, designing, and finally building and mulching, the playground is ready for playtime. This major undertaking was a true community effort.

**Thank you to everyone who bought bricks or donated time, expertise, and funds.**

**Thank you to every volunteer** who worked during build week to tirelessly ensure we met our deadline and thank you to the families of our volunteers who gave up family time for this playground! Our build volunteers demonstrated amazing dedication to their jobs, whether they were organizing food and drinks, raking mulch, operating equipment, or building.

**Thank you to the members of the Playground Committee** who worked long and hard and often behind the scenes for well over a year.

**We are especially grateful to our sponsors who collectively contributed more than \$75,000!** Without the generous support of our sponsors, this playground would be still just a dream. Check out our list of sponsors, below, and be sure to show them some GHS love!

# MUSTANG PLAYGROUND

The Green Township Parent Teacher Association is honored to donate this playground to the Green Hills School. The playground was funded and built by the community of Green Township and dedicated in April 2017.



The overall purpose of the Green Township PTA is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

## DIAMOND SPONSOR

Green Township PTA

## GOLD SPONSOR

The Lombardo Family

## SILVER SPONSORS

Anonymous Donor

First Hope Bank

Green Township Board of Education

## BRONZE SPONSORS

Anonymous Donor

Cliff's Homemade Ice Cream

Frieda Lewis, MD FACOG

The Murphy Family

Rhys & Ryn

## FAMILY SPONSORS

Flyte Tyme Worldwide

for the Rose Family

The Mills Family

The Morris Family

## COMPONENT SPONSORS

### Benches:

Roof 4 Roof

### Buddy Bench:

JRF Magnetic Sciences

The Rose Family

### Bus:

Roger & Suzanne West

(in celebration of  
our grandchildren)

### Climbing Wall:

The Eisenmenger Family

### Dynamic Discs:

Jeff Lake Camp

### Firefighter's Pole:

Nolan Plumbing & Heating

### Fun Phone:

Natural Image Skin Center

### Low Monkey Bars:

The Fortunato Family

### Rope Climb:

Q Kettlebell

**THANK YOU TO THE PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE, VOLUNTEERS,  
AND SUPPORTERS. EVERYONE'S EFFORTS TURNED OUR  
CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND DREAM INTO REALITY.**

**VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:** This month we shine our spotlight on the woman who stepped in to lead the PTA...before she even had a child in the school! While their daughter, Lexie, was still in pre-K, **Jennie Eisenmenger** and her husband Shawn excitedly looked through a packet of information they received about Kindergarten registration. A flyer about the Playground Project caught Jennie's eye and she joined the Playground Committee. Jennie heard about the PTA President position becoming available unexpectedly last spring, when the previous President's family relocated out-of-state. "When I heard the discussion about the need for a new PTA President, I actually didn't realize at first that they were talking about the coming term. I spoke up and said that I wouldn't mind running for the position when Lexie was older, maybe in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. But they needed someone immediately, and well, the rest is history!" Jennie became President with a year left in the previous President's term.

Before Lexie's first day in Ms. Franchino's Kindergarten class, Jennie had already gotten a thorough orientation to GHS. "Though I hadn't pictured myself being so involved until Lexie was older, I always knew that I wanted to give back to the school and learn as much about it as possible through volunteering. Being President early on has enabled me to do that and more." As President, Jennie also delights in "...watching the children find joy in the programs that the PTA provides. The value in knowing that you helped toward their enrichment is so rewarding." That reward helps Jennie get through the busy times when she can find it challenging to juggle her PTA tasks with her home, family, and personal responsibilities.

The entire PTA is grateful to Jennie for leading us through this past year. She approached the position with enthusiasm, a dedication to the children, faculty and staff of GHS, and a humble appreciation for all she had to learn as a new member of the GHS community and first time PTA member. Her thoughtful, kind, and tactful demeanor allowed her to work effectively with individuals throughout our community, while her attention to detail ensured that everything she was involved in came together beautifully.

A native of Union County who lived in Hunterdon County before settling in Tranquility about seven years ago, Jennie has a professional background that made her very well suited to run our PTA. She has worked in communications, sales, and event planning at companies in NJ, including pharmaceutical maker Merck and Mondelez, best known for making Oreos! When she isn't

volunteering with the PTA or spending time with her husband and daughter, Jennie enjoys training for triathlons and beekeeping.

Thank you Jennie for your hard work and dedication throughout the last year and for setting us up for a great future!

## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Thank you to our MANY PTA Members who volunteered at PTA events and activities in March and April! \*\*\*If your name should be included here and isn't, please let us know and we'll be sure to thank you next month.

**Teacher Appreciation Week:** We made sure the teachers and staff felt the warmth of our appreciation, even with the snowstorm that came during the week. Thank you to everyone who made and donated treats and to the following volunteers for setting up and making sure everything looked beautiful: Kristin Blodnick, Claudia Ernst, Kristen Post, Cheryl Rhine & Nicole Vidal.

**Tricky Tray:** GHS you made this year's Tricky Tray another huge success! **Thank you to the following teachers who donated to the Spirit Tier:** Aimee Castellana, Connie Dudas, Barbara Edwards, Mary Faulkner, Mary Fox, Sara Franchino, Sandy Franciosi, Lisa Guzzo, Chris Hitzel, Tara LaValley, Eileen Maffei, Brian Martin, Kerstin Martinka, Beverly Meyer, Diana Minervini, Kyle Mirena, Samuel Morales, Jennifer Richardson, Debbie Ronsini, Michael Scott, Kim Scudieri, Lisa Sprofera, Susan Stobie, & Dara Wohl. **And, thank you to our hardworking volunteers:** Kathy Argobright, Onni Chan, Jackie Chastain, Jennifer Cinotti, Michael Cinotti, Seth Cohen, Amy Cole, Connie Dudas, Elizabeth Efremov, Shawn Eisenmenger, Claudia Ernst, Erin Fortunato, Dawn Geisinger, Mia Gnecco, Lisa Guzzo, Scott Guzzo, Sue Hildebrant, Chris Hitzel, Nicole Humphries, Donna Janiszewski, Brad Jones, Denise Kelly-Jones, Melissa Lewandowski, Kerstin Martinka, Priscilla McCarthy, Beverly Meyer, Jessica Meyer, Sharon Mills, Kyle Mirena, Sam Morales, Katherine Morodan, Laurie O'Gorman, April Orozco, Jessica Quinn, Catherine Regenthal, Elisa Rose, Charlene Rubino, Danielle Scerbo, Lisa Sprofera, Debbie Simmons, Stephanie Strangeway, William Strangeway, Gavin Stobie, Sue Stobie, Allyson Tudda, Annemarie Vena, Nicole Vidal, Jeremy Vince-Cruz, Jen Wible, Julie Willis & Pamela Yacuk.

**Playground Build:** Wow! What a huge community effort. We are fortunate to have so many people to thank for helping to build the playground, as well as families and businesses to thank for supporting our volunteers with food donations! Thank you to The Ambjor Family, Madyson Beck, Tyler Bender, Richard Blaszak, Giancarlo Calamusa, Seth Cohen, Brian Corbett, Michael Corino, Dawn Costello, Mallory DeGennaro, The Eisenmenger Family, Jennie Eisenmenger, Emiliano Franco, Kevin Franco, Erin Fortunato, Kevin Fritz, Chris Garibaldi, Adam Garafano, Jim Gates, The Geisinger Family, Dawn Geisinger, Greg Geisinger, Joe Gigante, Louis Gnecco, Mia Gnecco, The Guzzo Family, Lisa Guzzo, Scott Guzzo, Eileen Herron, Susan Hildebrant, Peter Johnson, Denise Kelly-Jones and her inventory assistants, John Leo, Melissa Lewandowski, John Lombardo and his team, Traci Marotta, Samuel Morales, Katherine Morodan, Michael Murphy, Newton Pizza, Jack Niemynski, John Nittolo, The Orozco Family, April Orozco, Peg Phillips, The Post Family, Kristin Post, Steven Post, Jessica Quinn, Michael Quinn, The Regenthal Family, Cathy Regenthal, Kurt Regenthal, Mike Rose, Kim Scudieri, Brian Smith, Lisa Sprofera, Leslie Still, Susan Stobie, Tranquility General Store, Matt Trout, Rick Van Haste, Brian Vaughan, Douglas Vaughan, The Vena Family, Raymond Vena, Remi Wojdala, & Chris Wojtach.

**Spring Clothing Drive:** Donations from the GHS community raised over \$200! Thank you to our volunteers: Jodi Finn, Candy Groth, Scott Guzzo, Yvonne Kamphausen, Ursula Leo, April Orozco & Megan Riley. And, a special thank you to 8th graders Maggie Golder-Ryan and Alexa Zupkay for helping to promote the clothing drive and encouraging donations.