



Curriculum Enrichment

- Back to School Assembly, this year featuring a vibrant Flamenco Dance Troupe
- Science month in January included weekly interactive science experiences for students from Connecticut Science Center and the Children’s Museum of Bridgeport, plus 2 family Science Nights with the Mad Science company
- Author visits: Shanda McCloskey (October), Troy Cummings (Oct.), Tish Rabe (November)
- Weeklong creative writing program with Writer in Residence Jessie Janowitz (March)
- Books by Shanda McCloskey, Tish Rabe and Jessie Janowitz gifted to every student who worked with and met with those authors
- Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration with Students performance and school assembly
- Additional grade level science and social studies enrichment financial support
- Math Night – PTA sponsored evening event in cooperation with ISD teachers
- High Touch/High Tech interactive presentations for each grade level.
- Classical Café – monthly lunchtime musical performances for all grades with notable performers including a Chinese music ensemble, a world-renowned Indian sitar and tabla duo, an engaging folk musician, a five-person a cappella group and an award-winning performer showcasing instruments from Africa.
- The ISD PTA proudly supports the International Baccalaureate Cultural Partnerships which included financial and volunteer support for programs with:
 - K- Stamford Nature Center
 - 1st Grade – Greenwich Audubon
 - 2nd Grade – Stamford Nature Center*
 - 3rd Grade – IB Ballet Program
 - 4th Grade – SoundWaters
 - 5th Grade – Philadelphia Day Trip*
- Financial support for the Fifth Grade Exhibition production
- Purchased nominated books for all teachers as part of the Charter Oak Book Award

Social and Emotional Learning

There is a large Social and Emotional Learning component imbedded within the IB framework at ISD. The IB Learner Profiles teach the students the value and the skills of being open-minded, caring, balanced, being a risk-taker, being a communicator, complemented with other character traits.

In the 2019-2020 school year, the ISD PTA also supported Social and Emotional Learning through a range of activities and events for the children and families, including:

- Hosted a parent education session on Mindfulness as an Approach to Combat Anxiety, presented by the GPS Psychologist Dr. Fabian Boie
- Hosted parenting workshop based on the book “Peaceful Parent, Happy Child”
- Birthday T-shirts gifted to each student on their birthday, which are decorated and signed by their classmates
- ISD Spirit Wear

* Due to steps taken by the State, the Town of Greenwich and GPS to battle the Covid-19 pandemic, some planned activities were partially completed, or cancelled in progress

**Family and Community Engagement**

- ISD PTA continued the tradition of hosting a number of family events this year to bring the community together and build social connections for the magnet school population. A number of our planned events had to be cancelled due to the pandemic, but for the events we were able to hold prior to the pandemic this year, all were at no cost to the families attending, including:
 - Back to School Ice Cream Social (September)
 - New Parent Coffee (September)
 - Open House Parent Social (September)
 - Monster Mash (October)
 - Family Skate Day (March)*
 - Talent Show (March)*
 - International Family Night at ISD (May)*
 - ISD Beach Party (June)*(For International Family Night we sell tickets for a very nominal fee, primarily to manage occupancy for fire code and other safety reasons.)
- The PTA hosted Parent Socials twice during the year, including Back to School Night (October) and a Gala Parent Party Fundraiser at Innis Arden Golf Club (March)
- The Afters Committee organized two sessions (Fall, Winter) of after school programs for ISD students to explore their various interests. Offerings included sports, arts, creative performance and STEM classes. Our Spring Afters program had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.
- The PTA provided Afters Scholarships to Free and Reduced Lunch students for each session of Afters classes, with those scholarships managed in confidence by the school
- Hosted the 3rd annual Greenwich Color Challenge (fun run), in October. This has become a community-wide event, drawing participants from throughout all of Greenwich and many surrounding towns
- Book Fair with Scholastic Books (November)
- ISD Photo Day
- Continued providing ISDPTA.ORG website – allowing access for all PTA members to ISD activities, events, directories, forms, purchases etc.
- Weekly electronic Dragon Tales newsletter is sent to every parent to keep them informed of ISD and district information and events
- ISD PTA online directory available to all families who joined the PTA
- Welcome Back to School Coffee for all parents on the first day of school
- Buddy Families - Families new to ISD are paired with seasoned ISD families to welcome and assist them with questions related to the school, held in September.
- Health & Wellness Week: activities including smoothie and fruit & veggie tastings with fitness and stretching in the morning announcements
- Donation to Greenwich Alliance “Tuning In To Music Program” in recognition of ISD Music Teachers
- Hosted a parenting workshop based on the book “Peaceful Parent, Happy Child.”
- Holiday Staff Breakfast in December
- Holiday cookie packaging party, which brought parents together for a fun morning to create sweet treat boxes for teachers during parent-teacher conferences
- Financial support for scholarship awards to GHS students and the Distinguished Teacher Awards.

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Facilities & Purchases:

- Installed a new Garden Shed to be used in working with the lower grade students to raise appreciation and awareness of plants, biology, and the environment
- Ongoing upgrades and maintenance to the learning garden, used mainly by the primary level classes
- Awarded Eight Teacher Grants to fund instructional innovations in the classrooms, music, Spanish, and the Learning Commons / Media Center
- Purchased indoor and outdoor recess games and equipment for approximately half of the classrooms
- School beautification committee provides fresh plantings of flowers and seasonal plants to enhance the school appearance, particularly around the first day of school and holidays
- Green Schools Committee provided several education and awareness initiatives to highlight the importance of environmental consciousness to our students and parent body, including the roll out of the Cafeteria Waste Reduction Program, guiding the students in the proper separation and disposal of their trash in four different bins: trash, liquids, compost and recycling
- Purchased a set of traffic safety cones used in the traffic circle in front of the school to improve visibility and safety during daily drop off and pick up of children from school and at the time of family events at the school.
- Amazon Gift Cards presented to all certified teaching staff on the first day of school to assist with supplemental classroom purchases
- Gift cards presented to all non-instructional staff members in December
- Teacher Appreciation Gift Cards presented to all teachers and instructional staff in recognition of their extraordinary efforts throughout the “distance learning” experience (in lieu of recognitions for Teacher Appreciation Week in May which usually includes PTA hosted lunches, breakfasts, cards and small token gifts for the staff)
- Purchased a set of International Flags, replacing a set that had expired Fire Resistance certificates. These flags truly represent the “International” nature of ISD and help raise the students’ awareness and appreciation of their heritages and their connections to the world.

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