

# Genesee Hill News

February 1, 2022 | Volume 2, Issue 6



[PTA Facebook](#) | [PTA Website](#)

## Mark Your Calendars

**Jan. 31 – Feb. 4:** Black Lives Matter at School Week

**Feb. 8:** 6:30pm – PTA General Membership Meeting

**Feb. 15:** Family Committee for Equity and Inclusion at Genesee Hill Meeting

**Feb. 21 - 25:** No School, Mid-Winter Break

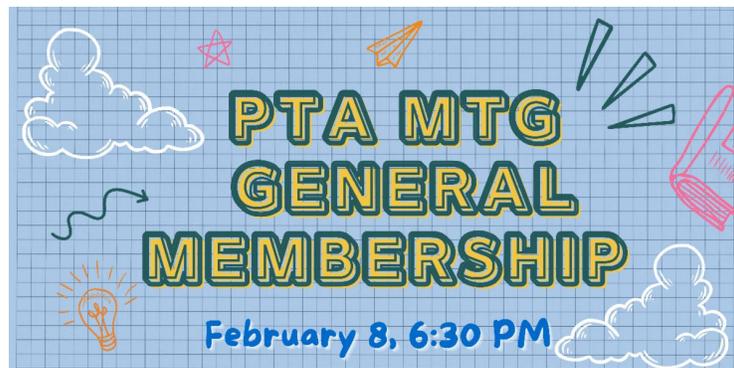
**Feb. 21 - 25:** 3:00-10:00pm, School Nights @ the Good Society

**March 12:** Genesee Hill Auction



## Black Lives Matter at School Week

This week is Black Lives Matter at School Week! Students will be engaging in learning throughout the week. Check out the Equity section below for more details on how your whole family can get involved.



## PTA General Meeting

All are welcome and invited to attend the next PTA General meeting, which will take place virtually February 8 at 6:30 PM. Discussion topics include: principal updates, the auction, planning and engagement for next year, the nominating committee, and more. Check the Thursday Bulletin for the link to join.

## PTA News

### Letter from PTA Co-Presidents

Hello Foxes,

We hope you savored time with family and friends and enjoyed winter break. This certainly wasn't the new year we were all hoping for! With covid numbers rising along with stress levels we want to make sure that we recognize and thank our teachers, administrators, and staff at Genesee Hill. Their leadership and ability to make school a safe and welcoming place for our kids never ceases to amaze us. However, they are stretched thin every day and in real need of extra support. This is the time to come together as a community and support our teachers and staff when they need it most. They have asked specifically for volunteers at lunch and recess. If you have any availability, consider lending a hand and helping them through this challenging and stressful time. [Sign up here](#).

Even for those of us at home or in quarantine, you can still participate in some upcoming events from the PTA. Please join us in celebrating Black Lives Matter Week of Action in schools January 31-February 4th and our General Membership meeting is coming up on February 8th at 6:30pm. We look forward to seeing you there. Be well and stay healthy,

Merrick Bodmer and Greg Deviny



### Playground and Lunch Volunteers

Fri Jan 21, 2022 - Fri Jun 17, 2022

Hello and Thank you for considering being a volunteer during lunch recess and lunch. We need people every day of the week from 10:30 to 12:00. Volunteers can be on the playground or helping at lunch cleaning tables or opening items for students.

[Share this Invite](#)

## Staff Spotlight

**For this month's spotlight, we are excited to feature Genesee Hill's Assistant Principal Lisa Clayton!**

### **What drew you to this type of work?**

When I was a child I wanted to be a nurse and a teacher. I became a pediatric nurse first and then a teacher. I enjoy working with students, learning how to support them, seeing them grow, and hearing the fabulous stories from kindergarten. To be able to know students over multiple years is a true blessing.



### **What is your favorite part of your work?**

My favorite part of work is knowing I'm doing the right thing for students. Helping to support good teaching and keeping our students safe is very important to me. I also love connecting with students. I have a fourth-grade student who always has two milks because he wants to grow up as big as his brother. I know a kindergarten student who saves her cheese to give to her dog. I love hearing students tell jokes, and even more importantly I love to see what they are reading.

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

When I'm not at school I have a fun social (covid-safe) life. I play Mahjong, visit my two college girls – Go Huskies! – and I love to read. I am a very animal-centered

person with four dogs who demand quite a bit of my time. Their names are Figgy, Lyric, Dragon, and Nessa. Someday I hope to travel again!!

### Anything else?

I have been in education for 32 years and am proud to be at Genesee Hill. It is a great school!!

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## Spotlight on Black Lives Matter at School Week

### Black Lives Matter at School Week is This Week!

[Black Lives Matter at School](#) is a national coalition organizing for racial justice in education that began in Seattle in 2016. During the first week of February, Genesee Hill teachers will support learning around BLM principles, and families are encouraged to [engage in the actions listed in this document](#) to support this learning. A few activities of note:

**All Week:** Peruse our [BLM at School Week Virtual Living Room](#)! There are a lot of fun and educational links for kids, as well as resources for adults. This year we updated the room with content related to microaggressions in order to relate to the Monday workshop from Families of Color Seattle. Enjoy!

**THURSDAY:** Join Genesee Hill community members for a socially-distanced demonstration in support of Black Lives between 5:00-6:00pm, outside at **Dakota Place Park**. Don't have a sign? We'll have poster materials available to make signs when you get there! *Remember to wear your mask and maintain 6 feet between others.*

**THURSDAY:** Meet-up! – *for Black families of Genesee Hill* Let's gather to support each other and our kids. Join us for food, drinks, and connection. Thursday, February 3rd, 6pm at [The Good Society](#) outdoor seating area. *This is an affinity event hosted by and for Black families at Genesee Hill.*



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## Genesee Hill PTA Auction Update

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Genesee Hill Auction survey that was sent out last week. While the auction team has been working hard all year to plan an in-person event, the emergence of Omicron has caused us to revisit our initial plans. All of the thoughtful input from the survey was greatly appreciated!

Survey results were varied; about half of respondents favored an in-person option, while the other half preferred a virtual or hybrid option. As you can imagine, our auction team is working hard to consider how to best plan a safe and engaging event

while factoring in the community input.

While we're firming up a plan, here are **four things you can do** :

1. Stay tuned to the Thursday bulletin. We hope to have more updates to share in the 2/10 Thursday bulletin.
2. Pencil in 2/15 on your calendar. This is when we anticipate tickets will go on sale.
3. Start talking to your fellow Genesee Hill friends about forming tables for an in-person event or planning a watch party group.
4. Finally, and most importantly, **get excited** to support our amazing school!



## Community Question

**How is enrichment different this year? When do we think it will be in person again?**

*Thank you to our enrichment team, Megan Muhlenkamp and Julie Phares, for answering this month's community question!*

Hello Genesee Hill Foxes! Our winter Enrichment program is officially up and running. Although we would love the opportunity to be in person we will continue to run our programs virtually until the school district gives us the green light. The great thing about our virtual program is that we offer a wide variety of classes. Everything from MineCraft, Jump Rope, Sewing to Acting. These classes tend to be smaller than in person which means your student is getting more 1:1 attention.

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