

GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Greenwich, CT

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For Immediate Release:

GPS CELEBRATES BE HERE – BEE GRATEFUL DAY
Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Greenwich, CT - Monday, March 21, 2016 – BE HERE – BEE GRATEFUL is one of many Social Emotional Learning activities organized by the Greenwich Public Schools (GPS) this year as a way to promote a safe school climate by fostering social-emotional skills in our students and reinforcing the District Norms. The 2016-2017 school year marks the fourth year of events celebrating the District Norms: *Be Here, Be Safe, Be Honest, Care for Self and Others, Let Go and Move On*. Using lesson plans developed by mental health professionals and teachers, schools across the District will participate in these Social Emotional Learning activities. This is the second year the program will expand into the community with the support of a grant from the Greenwich Alliance for Education.

The GPS Social Emotional Learning events and activities invite the entire community to Dare 2 Care.



www.greenwickschools.org/SEEvents

- WHO:** On Wednesday September 28, a majority of students in the Greenwich Public Schools will celebrate BE HERE – BEE GRATEFUL in school.
- WHAT:** BE HERE – BEE GRATEFUL is a common initiative across grade levels to promote gratitude, mindful living, and effective stress management skills.
- Students will have the opportunity to:
- Learn how the brain reacts to stress
 - Learn how to manage stress through mindfulness
 - Practice being grateful as a stress-management strategy
- WHERE:** Greenwich Public Schools and throughout the community (e.g. YMCA and Boys and Girls Club Staff will wear yellow in support of the BE HERE – BEE GRATEFUL event)
- WHEN:** Wednesday, September 28, 2016 in GPS schools.
- WHY:** The BE HERE – BEE GRATEFUL event is a meaningful initiative as it promotes stress-management skills and an understanding of how the brain and emotions are connected. It also creates an opportunity for social-emotional learning, specifically building gratitude for things that we typically take for granted.

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HOW: Mental health professionals and teachers from all GPS schools coordinated the event with the teachers, administrators and students in their respective schools. Lesson plans were disseminated structured around the theme BE HERE – BEE GRATEFUL, encouraging teachers to implement them in their own creative ways. In addition, all teachers, staff and students in the GPS and at the Central Office are encouraged to wear the color **YELLOW** on September 28, expressing their participation in the event.

Media: The press is invited to attend the BE HERE – BEE GRATEFUL event at Cos Cob Elementary School, Mrs. Lemelin's class.
To confirm attendance, contact: Barbara Oxer, Cos Cob School Assistant Principal
Phone: 203-869-4670
Time: 11:15 a.m.

The press is also invited to join students, staff and parents in the sharing of the hand made “bees” with members of the community as an act of being grateful on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday this week after school. Please contact Alina Agiurgioae-Boie at alina_agiurgioaeboie@greenwich.k12.ct.us or 203-625-7371 for details.

About the Greenwich Alliance for Education (www.greenwichalliance.org)

The Greenwich Alliance for Education mobilizes community resources to provide opportunities and services that foster educational success for all Greenwich Public Schools students. We define “educational success” for students as the ability to pursue further education and/or to work to support oneself after graduation.



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