



Inspiring all children to be resilient, confident, respectful, and prepared to discover and follow their dreams!

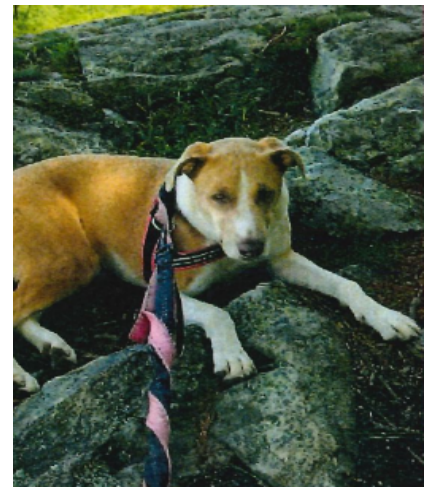
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## District Advancement Plan

The [District Advancement Plan](#) is our roadmap for continuous improvement. We update our plan to reflect the work completed and adjustments to action steps for the new school year. Each month we present an update on a goal or action step at our regular Board of Education meeting and then provide a brief summary in this newsletter, Bright Futures. [Additional information and archived issues of Bright Futures can also be found here.](#)

## Spotlight On: Sheena the Therapy Dog

Last June the Board of Education approved a [new policy](#) outlining our procedures for welcoming therapy dogs to our schools. Properly trained therapy dogs can have a calming impact for students. Care will be taken concerning students and staff with allergies and fear of dogs. Sheena and her handler have already made some visits to Gilead Hill School this summer during our summer school program. Welcome Sheena!



## District Advancement Plan Update: Major Facilities Projects Underway

This summer we have been busy preparing for the new school year including moving forward with multiple facilities projects. Design work is underway for our roofing projects for both schools scheduled for completion during the summers of 2025 and 2026. Funding was secured to complete HVAC designs to address our heating challenges and add cooling systems to both schools. After the designs are complete, we will need to secure Town funding, likely to include bonding and a referendum vote during 2025. Our timeline includes a December 2025 submission to the state for matching grant funds with installation beginning in summer 2026. Recently, we secured funding to replace our public address (PA) and clock systems at both schools. This work will happen during this school year in the evenings after students have left for the day. We are also excited to be adding an additional playscape to our GHS campus soon thanks to federal grant funding. This playscape will be used during recess and the placement will be great for children to access while siblings are engaged in afterhour athletics on the fields while still in the eyesight of their families. We thank the Town for their partnership to move forward all of these important projects.