



Herricks Dateline

WINTER 2024

HERRICKS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Herricks UPK Engages and Inspires Our Littlest Learners

Inside the classrooms at the Herricks Community Center, the district's youngest students are learning, growing and building essential foundations that will prepare them for the future.

The Herricks Universal Pre-K program, which was launched in 2020 and is fully grant-funded by New York State, offers residents of the district

full-day prekindergarten classes for their 4-year-old children.

The program is run by Harbor Child Care, a community-based organization with decades of experience enriching students with a thoughtful and creative curriculum that focuses on all aspects of a child's development.

The program balances academic fundamentals with authentic learning experiences.

In addition to introducing students to the basics of letters, numbers, colors and phonemic awareness, there is an emphasis on using play for learning. This allows our students to have fun while developing large and fine motor skills and learning essential social values and practices, including sharing, respect and teamwork.

UPK Application Process

For more information and to download an application form, scan the QR code or visit herricks.org and click the "Parents" tab. Applications may also be picked up in the Herricks Community Center lobby during business hours.



Applications and mandatory documentation must be received by the curriculum office no later than Friday, Feb. 9. The program has limited space and participants will be chosen by lottery.

Each of the nine classrooms has 15-20 students and is led by a certified teacher with support from an assistant teacher and a teacher's aide.

***Classroom Pride!**
Each UPK room is designated by an animal that also serves as the class mascot. Our students are proud to be ducks, starfish, chipmunks, ladybugs, frogs, owls, monkeys, penguins and llamas!*



A Message from *The Board of Education*

Dear Herricks School Community,

Our community takes great pride in providing students with exceptional opportunities each day. The numerous accolades our students receive reflect the wide range of achievements across diverse areas of the educational diaspora. In this issue, we celebrate the winners of the prestigious Regeneron awards, as well as our elementary students who try new things to build independence on a weekly basis, serving as clear evidence of our commitment to excellence and meaningful engagement. While

acknowledging these accomplishments, it is essential to trace their roots back to a strong foundation.

At the heart of our success lies a vibrant early childhood program, serving as the cornerstone for all our learners. The educational “scaffolding” that progresses from grade to grade plays a crucial role in ensuring student success and readiness. It’s worth noting that our recently expanded full-day UPK program has exceeded expectations in the past year, becoming an integral part of this foundation. Kindergarten teachers

consistently observe the well-prepared students entering our elementary schools, attributing this preparedness to the robust educational foundation laid by our UPK and kindergarten programs. Building a strong educational foundation is paramount to ensuring success, and our community sees the benefits of this strong foundation in the many accomplishments our students achieve from UPK to grade 12. Go Herricks!

Regards,
The Herricks Board of Education

Introducing Our Regeneron Scholars

On Jan. 10, four Herricks High School students were among 300 nationwide to be named Regeneron Science Talent Search Scholars, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors.

Congratulations to Hiuyi Cheng, Heemali Kalpeshkumar Patel, Rebecca Bover and Kishan Shanmuganathan for this well-deserved honor and recognition of your passion and talent.



Portrait of a Graduate Competencies



COLLABORATION

The ability to communicate using listening skills to build trust while demonstrating open-mindedness, flexibility and respect.



COMMUNICATION

The ability to effectively and respectfully exchange ideas through multiple modalities to a targeted audience.



CONFIDENCE

The ability to take risks, be resilient and express oneself in the face of challenges.



COMPASSION

The cultivation of sensitivity and empathy, offering kindness and respect toward oneself and others, without judgement.



CREATIVE INNOVATION

Embracing an overall spirit of curiosity to create change and implement new ideas.



CRITICAL THINKING

Engendering lifelong learners who evaluate information, generate questions and expand on prior ideas to identify new solutions.

Shaping Education Today and Knowledge Forever

The foundation of our district goals reflects our team core values, including trust, integrity, respect, teamwork, creativity and making a difference.

Strategic Coherence Planning

The district partnered with a consultant and the Strategic Coherence Planning Committee to develop the district’s first strategic plan with the goal of identifying opportunities for growth across various areas. The Strategic Plan will anchor our work for the foreseeable future and will guide decision making in all areas from curriculum to budgeting.

Instruction

The district will offer professional development opportunities to enhance current instructional practices, techniques and strategies and cultivating alignment throughout the district. We will focus on implementation of the NYSED Culturally Responsive – Sustaining Educational Framework over the next several years.

Instructional Leadership

Our leadership team is committed to professional learning focused on sound instructional practices, adaptive leadership and feedback to best support students and teachers. Goals include integrating the Portrait of a Graduate 6 Cs into the daily learning experience.



Center Street Students Try New Things

Every Tuesday evening, students at Center Street School get a break from traditional homework to pursue their interests, develop new talents and engage in family activities.

Developed by a Homework Committee consisting of parents and teachers, the Try New Things program (or T.N.T.) offers our K-5 learners the freedom to learn, create, collaborate and be inspired through play, music, sports, mindfulness, family connections and more.

The opportunities are nearly limitless! The only guideline is that the activity must not involve screen time. We also ask that students share their chosen activities in class the following day, fostering communication and offering them time to reflect on their experiences.

The positive feedback from our Center Street families has been resounding! We are excited to continue this program and to share some of the T.N.T. activities that our students have proudly engaged in.



HERRICKS UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
999 Herricks Road
New Hyde Park, NY 11040

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Visit www.herricks.org for more district news and information!

Students and BOE Members Connect for *Fireside Chat*

Prior to the Nov. 16 Board of Education meeting, we held our annual Fireside Chat – a special meeting where high school students are given the chance to stand in front of the Board and discuss any changes they'd like to see made to their school.

Students were honest and eloquent as they presented their suggestions to Board members and confidently engaged in follow-up questions and discussions. The Board takes recommendations from our student body seriously and is committed to taking action when possible and providing timely feedback and updates.



Herricks Council of PTAS
Presents

The World Famous
**HARLEM
WIZARDS**

SCAN HERE
FOR TICKETS!

Watch the Harlem Wizards play
against our Herricks staff and teachers.

Snacks, fun, raffles and souvenirs. All proceeds
benefit graduating Herricks Seniors.

Questions? Contact HerricksDistrictCouncil@gmail.com

TRANSPORTATION REQUEST DEADLINE FOR 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR



All requests for transportation to a NONPUBLIC SCHOOL must be received no later than APRIL 1, 2024, according to state law. Applications may be obtained online at Herricks.org/transportation. For more information, please call 516-305-8950.