



# Horizons

*Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow* 

*Volume 6, Issue 10 - December 1, 2023*

## MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS COMPETE IN SECOND ANNUAL "CODE/CLASH HACKATHON"

Hauppauge Middle School students competed in the second annual Code/Clash Hackathon, an inner-district coding competition. The coding conquest, organized by kidOYO, involved four teams of ten students, collaborating to conquer a virtual map of their school in a game reminiscent of "Risk." Each team chose their own team color and name. This year, "The Cheese Pizzas," "The Kool-Aid Kids," "The Pickled Turtles" and the "Eggplant All-Stars" faced off in this engaging competition.

To claim territories on the map, students submitted coding programs in languages like Python, Hatch or Sprite Editor, adhering to challenge criteria unique to each territory. The team that produced the most effective program for a given territory accumulated points, and the team with the highest overall score at the end of the two-hour event claimed victory in the game. This year "The Cheese Pizzas" prevailed as the winning team!

Here are some photos from all of the action!





***"Middle School Code/Clash Hackathon"***



***"The Eggplant All-Stars"***



***"The Pickled Turtles"***



***"The Kool-Aid Kids"***





# BRETTON WOODS STUDENTS COMPETE IN GoIT CHALLENGE IN NEW YORK CITY

By: Veronica Weeks, NYS Master Teacher  
Bretton Woods, Grade 5

On Friday, November 3rd, we had 4 teams compete in the TCS GoIT App Design Contest at the Marathon Pavilion in Central Park. The teams had to pitch their app prototypes on stage in front of an audience and panel of judges. They were the only elementary-aged students competing against Middle School and High School Teams.

Students created and coded an app that would help to solve the United Nations Sustainability Goal #3, to create a digital innovation that improves physical, mental, or emotional health, and promotes well-being for students of all ages. The students pitched their app and then had to answer challenging questions from the panel of judges.

Our team, Nature O'Clock, won 2nd place! Their app design focused on getting kids outside and off of their devices in order to lower stress and improve emotional and physical health. We are very proud of all of our students!

Teams and Members:

Nature O'Clock: Maxim Torpey, Zachary Romano, Aiden Rose, Vincent Fernandez

Holli: Kayla Gentile, Anthony Lombardi, Noelle Perez, Olivia Sharrer

Peaceful Minds: Riona Mittal, Samantha Zoupas, Nisha Murugan, Alexa Hart

My Stress: Ella Oury, Grace Passannante, Brody Mannino, Lucas Coffey

Bye Stress: Matthew Vasquez, Eve Vitale, Charlotte Engelhardt, Mason Choi.

(This group did not compete in person but will be included in the December virtual challenge.)

Tara Dungate and Veronica Weeks also ran the NYC Marathon as part of Team TCS Teachers again this year. Veronica said, "It is an honor to represent teachers and combine the things that we are passionate about. We want to continue to show our kids that we can accomplish anything that we put our minds to."



**Tara Dungate and Veronica Weeks**



**2nd Place Team  
"Nature O'Clock"**





## UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY MIDSHIPMAN, AND CLASS OF 2022 GRADUATE, RETURNS TO SPEAK TO STUDENTS ABOUT HER EXPERIENCE

Hauppauge High School Principal, Joseph Wieckhorst, and Assistant Principal, Joy Ferrara, were happy to welcome recently Class of 2022 Graduate, Melody Zhu, who is now a Midshipman attending the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

Principal Wieckhorst said, "When we say "Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow," this student here is the embodiment of that."

Thank you, Melody, for coming to speak to our students about your experience.



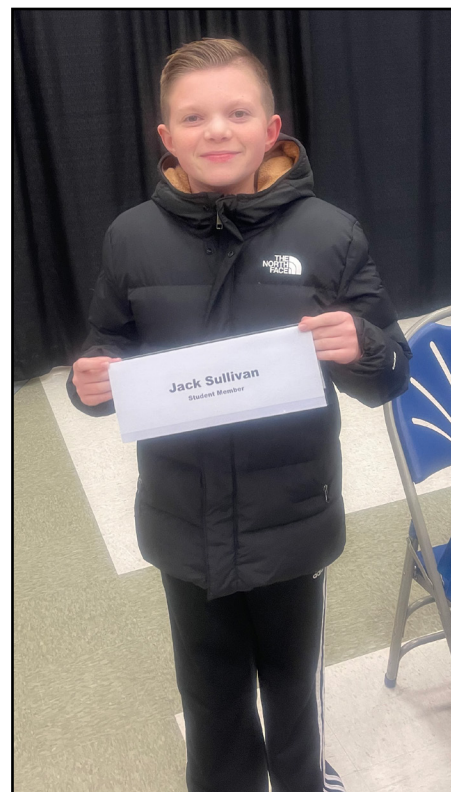
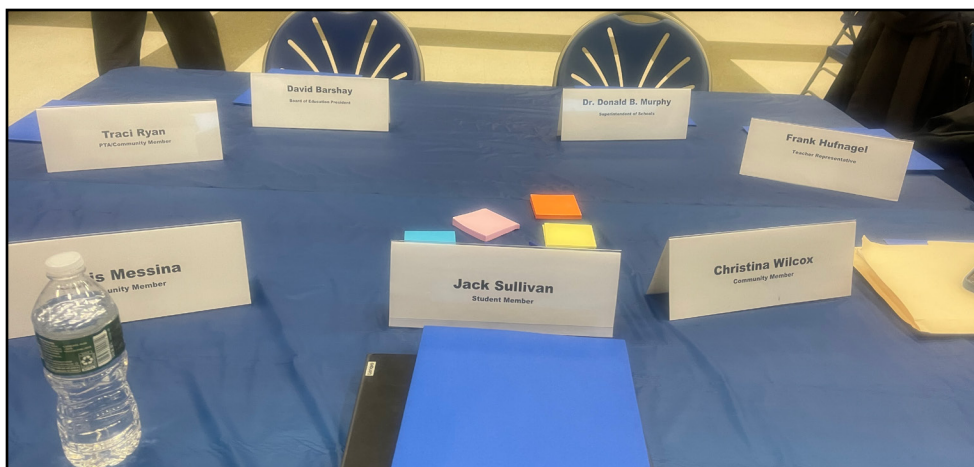
*Melody Zhu, with  
Joseph Wieckhorst and Joy Ferrara*



## MIDDLE SCHOOL EIGHTH-GRADER JOINS THE HAUPPAUGE BOND SUBCOMMITTEE

Middle School eighth-grader, Jack Sullivan, joined the Bond Subcommittee as a new member on Tuesday evening, November 28th. He spoke to the group about his passion in upgrading the high school athletic complex. He believes with the right improvements more students will play sports, join Kickline, and attend games in the stands.

Dr. Donald Murphy, Superintendent, said the following about Jack's first meeting, "He spoke enthusiastically about his vision and we were thrilled to have him speak to the committee. Such a confident young man!"





# FOREST BROOK FIRST-GRADERS HAVE GREAT THANKSGIVING SHOW

Forest Brook Elementary School held its annual first grade Thanksgiving show ahead of the holiday. The students, dressed as Native Americans and pilgrims, narrated the show, explaining the origins of Thanksgiving and gave examples of what they're thankful for this year. They also performed Thanksgiving-themed songs such as "Pilgrim's Parade," "Ha-Ni-No," "Things I Am Thankful For" and "Let's Be Thankful."

Here are some cute photos.





*"Forest Brook Thanksgiving Show"*





## BALLOONS OVER BRETTON WOODS

Ahead of Thanksgiving, fourth-graders at Bretton Woods paraded around the school with handmade “balloons” for their annual event, “Balloons over Bretton Woods.”

The students first read “Balloons Over Broadway”, a nonfiction story about the master puppeteer who invented the first balloons for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. After learning about the parade’s history, the students made their very own “balloons” out of paper and stuffing before decorating them with fall and winter themes, as their favorite superheroes, cartoon characters and more. The entire school watched in awe as the fourth-graders paraded around the school’s front circle with their colorful creations.

Here are some cute photos of this fun event!





## FOREST BROOK FIRST-GRADERS LEARN ALL ABOUT LIFE IN COLONIAL TIMES

As part of their social studies “now and then” unit, first-graders at Forest Brook learned all about life in colonial times with the help of the “Suffolk County Archaeological Association.” Rotating between a handful of hands-on learning stations, students first learned how to comb wool to make yarn for a loom before trying the loom out firsthand. They then practiced with various woodworking tools before creating their own spinning tops.

Students also learned how to cook, grinding wheat, churning butter and mashing apples to make apple pancakes. The first graders left with a better understanding of the tools of the time period and got to taste test the fruits of their labor!

Here are some photos of this students hard at work!





## BRETTON WOODS STAFF ENJOYS A “MOOD BOOST”

The Bretton Woods Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Committee has brought back Mood Boosters. Periodically on a Friday, a grade level will boost everyone's mood by providing snacks, treats, fun activities, etc., for the staff to enjoy and start their weekend off on a good note. This week's mood boost was sponsored by the second-grade teachers. Here is what their letter to staff said:

*“Join Second Grade’s Mood Booster this Friday! Please bring in a family photo by Thursday, and drop it in the mail-box. The faculty room will be decorated with all those we are grateful for. Let’s kick off the holiday season together with some treats and fun! Your presence will make it even more special. See you there!”*

Here are some photos from this enjoyable event!

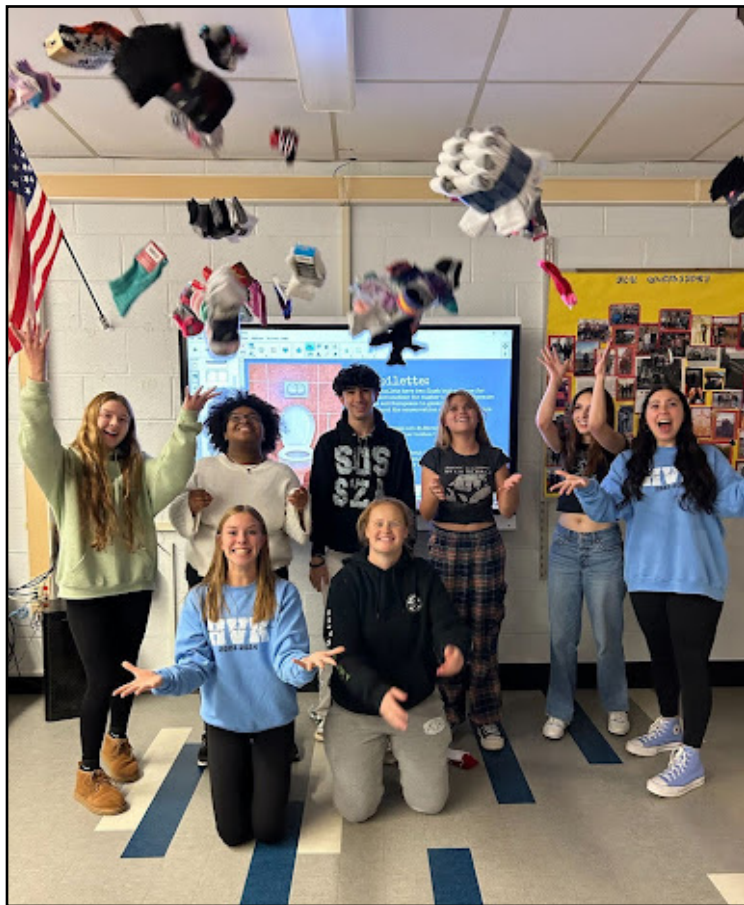




## GERMAN CLUB STUDENTS HOSTS “SOCKTOBERFEST” EVENT

“Socktoberfest” is a charity event that the German Club hosts. The German Club collects donations of socks for the “Hauppauge Closet.” This is the first year German Club hosted the event, rallying generous donations from the community, and overseeing the collection process for the “Hauppauge Closet,” which gathers winter coats, prom dresses, and various clothing items to support students and families in need. “Socktoberfest” this year collected 100+ pairs of socks during October for families and students in need.

It is important to be involved in the community. Charity drives like the one hosted by the German Club build help to strengthen the community and bring people together. Hauppauge HS runs multiple charity drives and donates whenever they can so they can give back to the community that they are involved in. Great job!





## PINES FIRST-GRADERS BECOME “WORD DETECTIVES”

First-graders at Pines Elementary School were recently chosen as potential Word Detectives by the Super Secret Detective Agency because of their hard work as both readers and word solvers. They were given five word-solving missions to complete in order to be chosen as Word Detectives.

Each day, students were given a word solving tool to help them with completing their missions. This past week, it became official! After successfully completing their five missions, our first-graders were chosen as official Word Detectives by the Super Secret Detective Agency! They were awarded with certificates, as well as official detective badges, and were also invited to a very special reading celebration to celebrate their hard work.

Congratulations to our Pines First-Grade Word Detectives!





## MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TAKE A DIFFERENT APPROACH IN PRESENTING SCIENCE PROJECT

Eighth-grade students, Giovanni LaSpina, and Ryan Lodico, in Mrs. Silbert's and Mrs. Caffrey's Science class, presented their Science project in a very professional manner. The project was on creating a tsunami warning system. The boys took the "Shark Tank" approach when presenting and even dressed the part. Everyone thought they did an amazing job! Congratulations!





## THE MIDDLE SCHOOL HOLDS FIRST “KINDNESS MEET & GREET” OF THE YEAR

The Middle School had its first “Kindness Meet & Greet” of the year. The following students won an exclusive “Meet & Greet” with Ms. Olivero and Ms. Lynch, and were acknowledged with special certificates and a mini ceremony. The winners were randomly chosen after being awarded a kindness raffle ticket in the first marking quarter and are listed below.

### Grade 6

Joell DeJesus  
Lilianna Hughes  
Danielle thomas  
Charlie Montano  
Adriana Darcy  
Sebastian DeCicco  
Alex Filipe  
Aarav Mehta  
Kevin Luna

### Grade 7

Jack Kugler  
BrendanMagill  
Aiden Golemi  
Vinny Sellitto  
Samantha McDonough  
Paolo Clemente  
Zach Berg  
Jack Collins  
Ashlyn Mathew

### Grade 8

Anthony Barbera  
Jenna Aversa  
Emma Musto  
Keith Anderson  
Maylee Chin  
Richard Hock  
Ashley Romero Villacorta





## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENJOY TOUR OF FIVE TOWNS COLLEGE

On Friday, November 17th, a group of our high school students toured the Five Towns College campus and were invited to attend their fall production. At the conclusion of the tour and the play, the students indulged and socialized over pizza!

Here are some photos from their visit.





## POWER OF ONE TURKEY TROT

On Saturday, November 18th, the Wellness Committee held the "Power of One Turkey Trot." All members of the Hauppauge School District Community were invited to participate and run, or walk, this two-mile race. The proceeds benefit the P.O.W.E.R. Scholarships for our high school seniors.

Congratulations to the High School for having the most participants in the Power of One Turkey Trot! Their awesome trophy is proudly on display in the high school main office.

It was a great morning to exercise and a fun-filled event for all. Special thanks to the staff and student leaders who helped on the course. Here are some photos from the event.





## "Turkey Trot"





## HAUPPAUGE DANCE PROGRAM STUDENTS HAVE HAD A BUSY YEAR SO FAR

The Hauppauge Dance Program has been busy this year! So far, the dance students have performed their annual “Thriller” dance at Safe Halloween, enjoyed a workshop with Hauppauge alum, and current LIU dance team member, Dale Console, spent the day “Staging a Change” with “Dance Theater of Harlem,” and took master classes in NYC at “Broadway Dance Center.” All of this while working on dances they will perform at the upcoming Winter Concerts!

Here are some photos of this active group!





## HYO CHEERLEADING TEAM “THE 11s” HAVE A LOT TO CHEER ABOUT

Hauppauge’s Youth Cheerleading Organization has a lot to cheer about as the Fall 2023 season comes to an end. This year has proven to be the sport’s most successful season yet. With unconditional support from their dedicated youth cheer coordinators and coaches, the program successfully grew to five times its size! Prior to this season Hauppauge was home to just 1 youth team. This year 67 athletes were put on the mat, spread among 5 youth teams. Hauppauge 5s, 6s, 7s and 9s were developed following in the footsteps of the original competitive youth cheer team...this year’s Hauppauge 11s.

Everyone is so proud of the amazing accomplishments shown by every cheerleader on every team, and cannot wait to watch both the athletes and program continue to grow. GO EAGLES!!

The team is coached by Jen Gallarello and Nina Laurenzano.

The team 11s team members are:

Ava Boayke  
Lennox Catanzaro  
Juliette Conte  
Marina D’Alessandro  
Chloe Dolan

Mia Gallarello  
Victoria Gomez  
Layla Kennedy  
Taylor Lombardi  
Sophia Nehr

Adelise O’Brien  
Vivienne O’Brien  
Angelina Pring  
Brooke Schuyler  
Peyton Smith

This season The Hauppauge Youth 11 Cheer Team proved what being a cheerleader is all about! The team consists of 15 talented, committed, hard working Role Models. They competed all over Suffolk County and week after week held their own...often placing top three in their age group. These girls were able to advance into an elite category by practicing hard while maintaining a level of professionalism uncommon for athletes that young. Sky is the limit for this group!

The girls also participated in several community events: “Varsity Cheerleader for a Day,” “Hauppauge Youth Athlete Night,” and “Kicks For Cancer.”





***“HYO 11s Cheer Team”***





# HYO BOYS' 10U FOOTBALL TEAM CAPTURES THE "DIVISION 1 SUFFOLK COUNTY PAL CHAMPIONSHIP"

Congratulations to the HYO Boys' 10U Football Team! They captured the "Division 1 Suffolk County PAL Championship" recently. They are an incredible group of boys who have played with grit and determination to be the first team in Hauppauge history to win a "Division 1 Suffolk County PAL Championship!"

With an undefeated season, the 8-0 Eagles trounced the Huntington Bulldogs 40-0 on Sunday, November 19th at the PAL Complex, to capture the first-ever "Division 1 Championship" title for Hauppauge.

Congrats to the following boys:

Nicolas Baldinucci, Mason Davis, Daniel DiLorenzo, Brady Finn, Billy Gravos, Andy Graziano, Joseph Importuna, Paul Kelsey, Gavin Leonard, Kaleb Mallon, Marino Martello, Brody Meyer, Matthew Miller, David Moglia, Ian Reed, Dylan Reyes, Lucca Salvaggio, Michael Salzillo, Jake Sordi and Jax Zuckerman.

Thanks to their Coaches for all of their dedication, support and training:

Jesse Zuckerman, Head Coach; Steven Davis, Offensive Coordinator; Pat Finn, Defensive Coordinator; and Assistant Coaches, Joe Sordi and Tommy Leonard.

Here are some photos of the team from their awesome season!





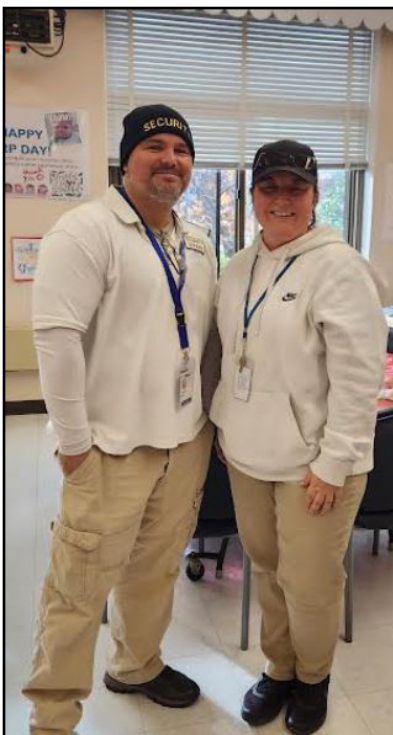
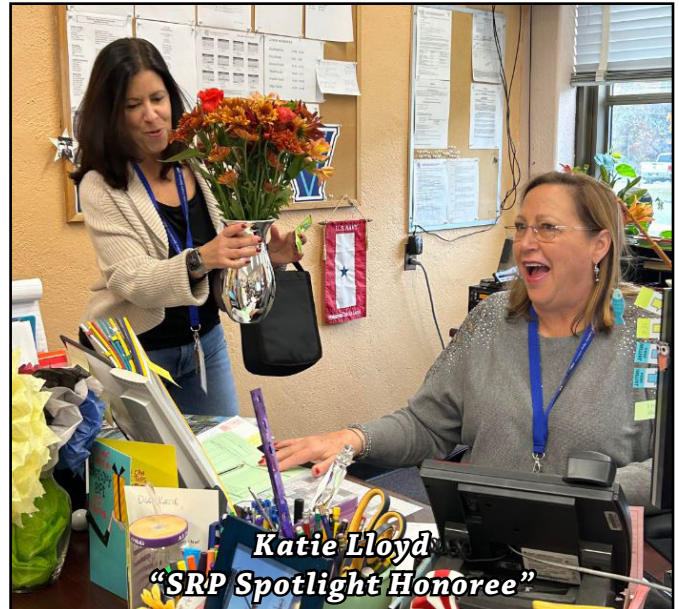
*"Boys' HYO Football"*





## BRETTON WOODS CELEBRATES “SRP DAY” AND NAMES AN “SRP SPOTLIGHT HONOREE”

On Tuesday, November 21st, Bretton Woods celebrated “SRP (School Related Professionals) Day.” Their SRP’s were given a beautiful spread of food and they felt the love and appreciation for all that they do. Katie Lloyd, Senior Office Assistant, was named “SRP Spotlight Honoree.” The following was said, in part, “Mrs. Lloyd is a shining example of the kind of person who not only excels professionally, but also enriches the lives of those around her. Her positive influence and tireless efforts have undoubtedly contributed to the success and vibrant spirit of Bretton Woods. We all feel privileged to have had the opportunity to witness her impact firsthand.”





## PINES THIRD-GRADERS CELEBRATE “HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD”

On Monday, November 20th, Pines third-grade classes celebrated “Holidays Around the World.” They traveled to America, Brazil, China and Israel. Each student had a Passport that was stamped as they entered each country. The day was filled with fun activities and cultural foods. The students learned about the customs and history that makes the holiday in each country special.





## "Pines - Holidays Around the World"





## PINES KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS CELEBRATE THE “50TH DAY OF SCHOOL”

On Friday, November 17th, Pines Kindergarten students celebrated the 50th day of school. Students and teachers dressed in 1950s attire such as poodle skirts, white t-shirts and leather jackets. Many different activities took place such as learning the hula hoop, making a root beer float craft, and watched a video of what children did for fun in the 1960s. Students played with toys such as Lincoln Logs, Barbie Dolls and Play Dough. Fun was had by all.





*"Pines Kindergarten - 50th Day"*





## BRETTON WOODS STUDENTS LEARN ANTIBULLYING STRATEGIES THROUGH SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

To wrap up “Kindness Month,” students at Bretton Woods Elementary participated in a special assembly, “Stop Bullying Now” by host, the Great and Powerful Dave.

“Stop Bullying Now” is a show filled with magic, puppets, comedy and audience participation. Every routine in the show teaches important bullying prevention lessons. Students learned what bullying is and the different forms it can take as well as safe responses to bullying. They also learned about being a upstander, how to help someone else who is being bullied, how to recognize one’s own bullying behavior and how to change.

Here are some photos from this informative assembly.





## HAUPPAUGE HIGH SCHOOL ACTORS PUT ON ORIGINAL PERFORMANCE FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

On Nov. 29, 10th graders in Hauppauge High School's acting ensemble performed an original show, "Fractured Fairytales," for the elementary students to both pique the younger students' interest and introduce them to the world of theater.

During the first quarter of the year, the high school students were tasked with scripting, designing costumes, designing sound, producing and directing the original piece before also acting in the performance. It's a win-win for both the high school and elementary students as the high schoolers gain hands-on experience with all they've learned so far in the year, and elementary students get what may be their first introduction to live theater.

The show was a mash-up of classic fairytales such as "Cinderella" and "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" with fun, modern day twists, including references to popular shows "Judge Judy," "The Dating Game" and "Dr. Phil." The show's underlying message was all about helping one another and treating others with kindness.

Here are some photos from this great show!





# Hauppauge High School Youth & Community Join us for a **Holidays & Heroes Festival**

Our HHS Share & Care and Youth & Community Alliance announces our first annual Holidays and Heroes community event. Please bring the family and help us kick off the Holiday season from 2:30 - 5:00 p.m. in the high school commons. Games, crafts, movies & concessions sales. Decorate your vehicle for a culminating "parade of lights" and most festive/creative contest. All proceeds benefit Friends of Families, which helps our local families in need.

For more information, please email Joy Ferrara @ [ferraraj@hauppauge.k12.ny.us](mailto:ferraraj@hauppauge.k12.ny.us).



Please join us for an incredible afternoon of Holiday Festivities and more!

Letter Writing to Santa and Holiday Cards to US Military

Toys for Tots Campaign & Gift Card donations - HS Commons

● 2:30 ~ Crafts, Movies, Concession, Raffles, and Games

● 4:00 ~ Fire Department Parade and Santa Send Off - HS Circle

● 4:30 ~ Community "Parade" of Lights around the High School

● 5:00 ~ Most Festive Car Contest and Judging - HS South Lot

Proceeds benefit HHS Share & Care's Friends of Families

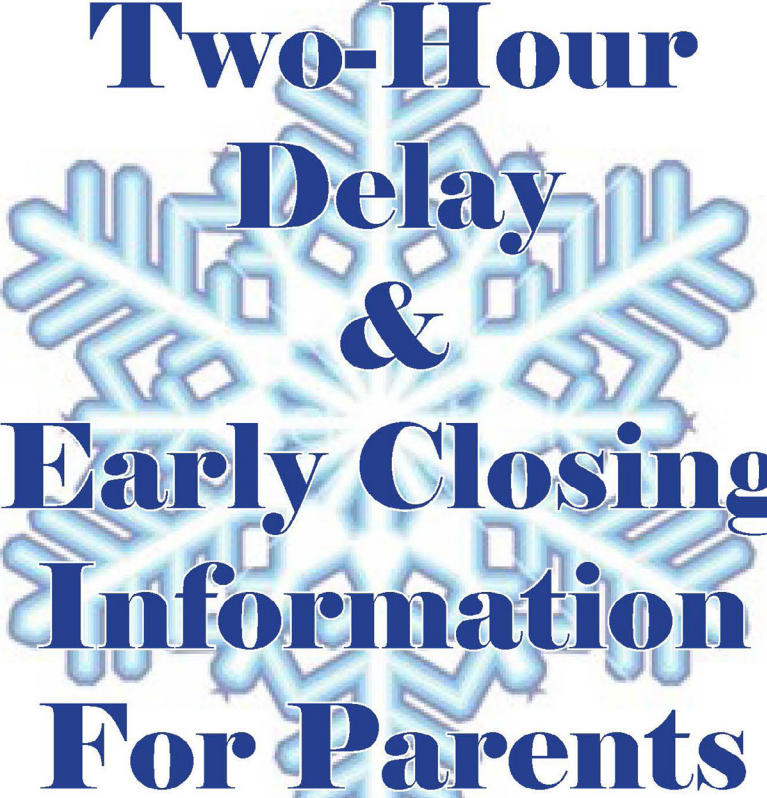
**\$5.00 per child**

This activity is not endorsed by or affiliated with the Hauppauge School District.



## TWO-HOUR DELAY & EARLY CLOSING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The cold weather is here! In order to be prepared for those days when we may have a two-hour delay or early release, please [click here](#) to see a “School Delay and Early Release FAQ for Parents.” You can also view High School and Middle School Delay Schedules. This information is also available on our website.



**Two-Hour  
Delay  
&  
Early Closing  
Information  
For Parents**



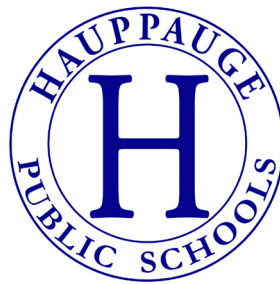
2023-2024  
Board of Education

David M. Barshay, Esq.  
President

Rob Scarito  
Vice President

Michael Buscarino  
Colleen Capece, Esq.  
Dr. Lawrence Crafa  
James Kiley  
Gemma Salvia

Lori DeGeorge  
District Clerk



Central Office

Dr. Donald B. Murphy  
Superintendent of Schools

Joseph C. Tasman  
Deputy Superintendent

Brigid Siena  
Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations

Dr. Tim McCarthy  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction & Technology

Rebecca Bilski  
Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services

Dr. Christopher Smalley  
Executive Administrator of Information Technology and Security Initiatives