

TECHNOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS ADVANCE LEARNING

The 2019-2020 school year welcomes a pair of exciting technology upgrades to our building, designed to bolster existing curriculum initiatives with the assistance of educational technologies that diversify instruction through an increase in hands-on student engagement.

Touchscreen Display Expands Hands-On Learning

This year, 70-inch Promethean Board interactive displays have been installed in each of our classrooms throughout the building, replacing the antiquated SmartBoard technology that was previously in place. The sizeable 4K touchscreen displays serve as an interactive interface which allows students and teachers the ability to simultaneously participate in on-screen lessons and activities. The high-tech teaching tool also provides educators with limitless lesson adaptations at the touch of a button. Users are able to draw, highlight and

annotate directly over the displayed content for the chosen lesson. With the versatility of this classroom addition, teachers are developing new ways to engage students in fully customizable interactive activities that can quickly adjust to support each lesson based on the content area being explored.

At the beginning of this school year, teachers attended a comprehensive training session that explored the multitouch ability of the educational tool. Throughout the year, additional in-depth professional development workshops will be available to further enhance the integration of the Promethean Boards into everyday educational activities.

Google Headsets Bring Destinations to Life

Last May, the East Quogue Elementary School library media center showcased the addition of a Google Expedition Kit which includes 30 Google Grab Virtual Reality headsets, Android devices and one teacher device.

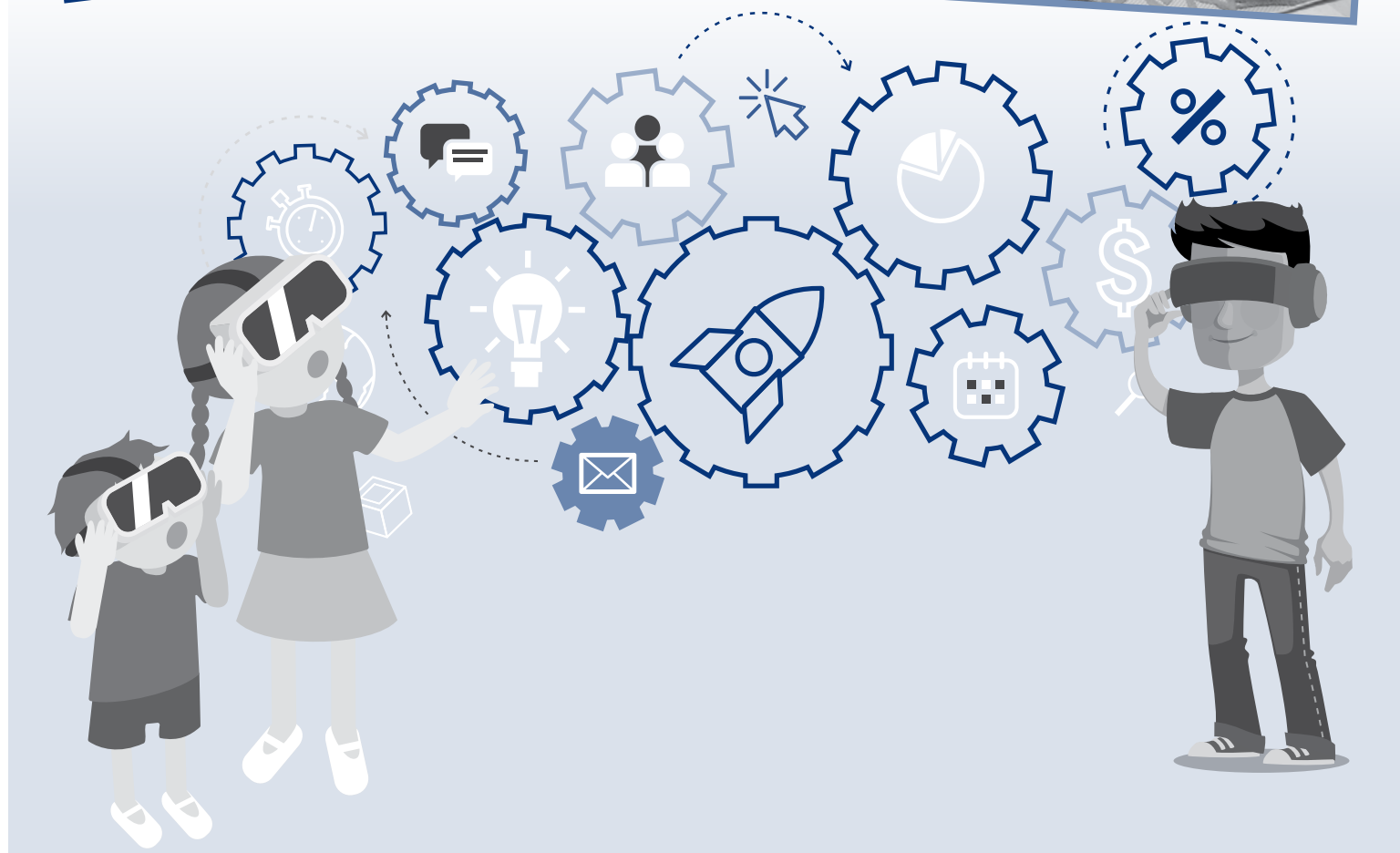
With the addition of this advanced educational tool, students are led on vibrant virtual field trips to diverse geographic locations and historically significant time periods. Utilizing the Google Expedition app, over 900 virtual reality destinations are available to students as they are immersed in virtual field trips that align with a current curriculum lesson. As students

progress through each field trip, librarian Mandy Van Auken uses her device to narrate important points along the way, reinforcing elements from previous lessons and providing unique facts at each destination.

Destinations students have visited include a sixth grade trip to ancient Egypt to explore the Nile River and an Egyptian tomb, a fourth grade trip to

Ellis Island to learn about the lives of immigrants more than a century ago and a fifth grade trip to outer space to study our solar system.

With an ever-expanding list of educational adaptations, students will utilize the headsets for more visual learning opportunities in the future.



CREATING A FRAMEWORK FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS

In a continued effort to offer students an educational experience grounded in engaging academics, a positive school community and effective classroom instructional practices, East Quogue Elementary School is working to implement the Responsive Classroom teaching approach for the second consecutive year.

As part of this approach, each morning all individual classes gather for a meeting where they engage in a greeting, a question, an activity and a morning message, all of which allow students to familiarize themselves with their peers. In addition to the daily morning meetings, each month a schoolwide meeting is held that is hosted by the students.

Through additional well-designed foundational practices implemented through the Responsive Classroom

teaching approach, teachers focus their practices on creating a safe, joyful and engaging classroom environment which aids students in the development of their academic, social and emotional skills.

With a continued emphasis on educating the whole child, teachers assist students in establishing emotional competencies in cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy and self-control, while maintaining an equal focus on academic competencies, including academic mindset, perseverance, learning strategies and academic behavior.



Curriculum Update Enhances the Abilities of Readers and Writers

Bolstering the already rich educational landscape of curriculum initiatives at East Quogue Elementary School, this year the district has implemented the research-based Columbia University Teachers College Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Reading and Writing Workshop to establish a scaffolding for literary excellence that will support our students as they progress through their educational journeys.

In kindergarten, first and second grade students are using the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Reading

and Writing Workshop and in grades three through six, students are using the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Writing Workshop. The dynamic five-part workshop framework offers a balanced collection of whole-class, small-group, one-on-one and independent practice learning environments which allows teachers to closely monitor a student's individual progress and quickly adjust to enhance a student's learning experience to fit their unique needs.



Postal Patron
East Quogue, New York 11942

www.eastquogue.k12.ny.us

Please remember to visit the district website to view all recent school news.

Construction UPDATES

BOND WORK CONTINUES AT EAST QUOGUE ELEMENTARY

Phase 1 of the projects approved as part of the March 2018 bond are underway. The major project taking place as part of this phase is the demolition of the portable and the construction of a permanent fixture which will house two classrooms, one large-group instructional space and two small-group instructional spaces.

As construction continues, the district is remaining mindful of the safety of students by taking several proactive measures. The site is continuously monitored and patrolled by district security staff and is also sectioned off to ensure that no students or staff have access to the construction area. While improvement work will continue throughout the year, please be assured that the district has scheduled active construction times diligently to ensure the work has the least impact on students' daily instruction.



CAPITAL PROJECTS CREATE A SAFE PLACE TO PLAY

As part of capital projects approved in the 2018 budget, the first phase of school playground upgrades was recently completed. The new area provides students with safe, state-of-the-art playground equipment and a new ball court to utilize during outdoor recess. In addition to the recently constructed playground, an artificial turf surface has replaced old pea gravel to create a safer space for our students to enjoy their time at play.

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Universal Pre-Kindergarten Continues for 2019-2020

For the third consecutive year, East Quogue Union Free School District has had the tremendous opportunity to offer a universal pre-K program through state-funded bullet aid that has accommodated all those who have applied.