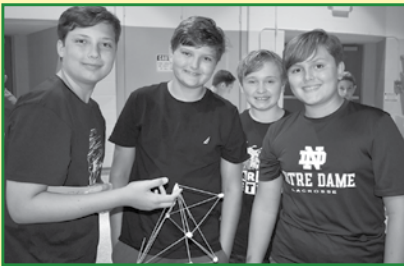




Learning in Action



Seventh graders at Oldfield Middle School participated in a collaborative learning exercise designed to help them develop a growth mindset. Students used uncooked spaghetti and mini marshmallows to build the highest structure in the allotted time.



Kindergartners were welcomed to Washington Drive Primary School with teddy bears that were handmade by middle schoolers last year. Ella, a kindergartner at Washington Drive Primary School, hugged her teddy bear.



Third graders at Thomas J. Labey Elementary School attended the "Start With Hello" assembly on Sept. 17. Students learned how to be inclusive of their classmates simply by approaching them and saying hello.

Harborfields HIGHLIGHTS

The Official News Source of Harborfields Central School District

TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Boost Student Engagement

Harborfields students are soaring to new heights this year thanks to an expansion of the district's Technology 2.0 initiative. This program was launched back in 2017 as a way to provide students with the necessary tools to boost success both inside and outside the classroom.

This year, students in grades 9 and 10 have access to a 1:1 Chromebook device, which are used in various courses throughout the high school, including social studies, English, mathematics and science. In recent years, students have been able to go on virtual field trips, take polls on events and complete quizzes attached to the end of a presentation. This initiative started with the ninth grade students in the 2018-19 school year, and has continued to grow.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Rory Manning said that the district plans to expand the program even further next year and provide



eighth graders at Oldfield Middle School with a 1:1 Chromebook as well. Eventually, every student in grades 8-12 will have access to them.

In expanding the 1:1 Chromebook initiative, the district has also seen a spike in another recently implemented program known as kidOYO – or Kid Own Your Own – an educational infrastructure program that helps teach students computer science, engineering and entrepreneurship.

In K-12 classrooms, students have learned computer coding through programs such as Hatch, Python and Sprite Editor, which offer students the opportunity to earn badges by solving challenges.

In the spirit of the district's "Start With Hello" initiative, Jennifer

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A Message from the Superintendent of Schools

Dear Harborfields Residents,

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year! We are off to an excellent start and are looking forward to an exciting few months ahead. This fall has already brought new learning opportunities, experiences and achievements into our buildings and classrooms, and I hope that it is going equally well for each of you.

As many of you know, our bond vote will be held on December 3rd – all information is available on the district website, <https://www.harborfieldscsd.net/>. Please also keep an eye out for an informative newsletter that will be mailed to homes soon.

We are pleased to provide updates on some new developments that cultivate important skills for success. Specifically, this newsletter highlights the continuation of the Career Transition program, introduced last year, and the expansion of the Tech 2.0 initiative. Through these opportunities as well as many others that our schools offer, Harborfields students will be well-equipped with competencies valuable both in the present and future.

As always, your interest and the involvement in our district is noticed and appreciated. Thank you for the support of our programs and the education of the children in this community. I wish you and your families a safe and fun Halloween, a warm and joyous Thanksgiving and happiness in all other celebrations that encompass this season.

Sincerely,

Dr. Francesco Ianni
Superintendent of Schools

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TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

Boost Student Engagement

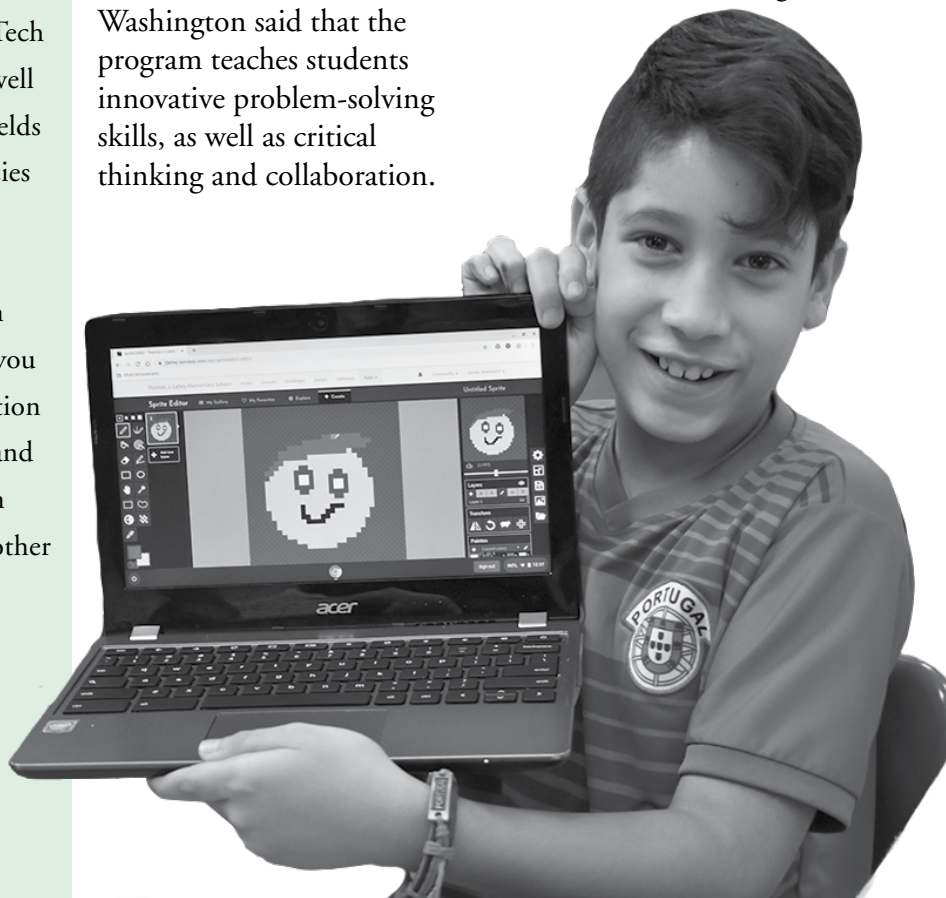
Washington, a fifth grade teacher at Thomas J. Lahey Elementary School, had students create a virtual avatar along with a 5- to 10-second clip introducing themselves. Students who completed the assignment earned their “Hatch About Me” badge.

Ava, a student in Mrs. Washington’s class, has earned 11 badges since beginning the program last year. “It teaches kids not just social studies,” she said. “You get to learn different things. You get to learn to be creative.”

In addition to that, Mrs. Washington said that the program teaches students innovative problem-solving skills, as well as critical thinking and collaboration.

At the middle school level, coding teacher Drew Lockwood has helped students earn badges in an application called Maze Code, which teaches students the basics of Javascript.

Students can showcase those talents at the district’s second annual Family Code Night in the spring, where students in grades 2-12 will have an opportunity to lead their family and friends in coding workshops. “It’s a fabulous program that helps boost students’ creativity and talents,” Dr. Manning said.



HARBORFIELDS EXPANDS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

In an effort to fully prepare students for life after high school, the district has launched a Career Transition program at Harborfields High School. While the program officially kicked off last year, it continues to grow and offer students additional opportunities into the 2019-20 school year. Recently, students applied their academic skills to every day life situations, such as how to balance a checkbook or read a recipe.

The academic component, which includes courses in mathematics, social studies, science and reading, is co-taught by special education teachers Kathleen Bulfin-Rella and Benjamin Bertuch, along with reading specialist Donna Mincieli. This multidisciplinary team collaborates to empower students through project-based learning experiences that apply to the world around them.

However, this year, the school has taken the program one step further and expanded it to include two additional components: adaptive living skills and individualized work-based learning. Learning opportunities include cooking in a new state-of-the-art kitchen, as well as on-site job training, where students are transported to local businesses in the community.

Currently, students are participating in programs at Value Drugs in Greenlawn and Huntington, Independent Grocers Alliance in Northport, Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery and Kiddie Academy. The district is exploring additional work-based opportunities to assist staff at Thomas J. Lahey Elementary School.

At the beginning of the year, the students meet individually with vocational trainer and job coach Richard Loft, who explores the students' interests and hobbies and matches them to their ideal job site, according to Theresa McGuire, the district's Director of Pupil Personnel Services.

Students visit their respective job sites Monday through Thursday and attend a workshop at the school on Fridays to reflect on how they can prepare for the next work week. Ms. Bulfin-Rella described the program as a stepping stone for "students looking to begin their careers," calling it a three-tiered approach to life after high school. "The hope is that when they



Students in the Career Transition class stock shelves at Independent Grocers Alliance in Northport.

graduate here, they're ready," she said.

To help further prepare them, students also work regularly with speech language pathologist Alissa Rosenberg, who visits their job sites twice a week to help foster the students' functional communication skills within the community, on the job and with their peers.

However, to facilitate the adaptive living skills portion of the program, High School Principal Timothy Russo explained that the classroom's physical structure needed a makeover. Now, it's home to a state-of-the-art kitchen and dining room.

Superintendent Dr. Francesco Ianni even visited the space recently to make pizzas, calzones and garlic knots with the students, using ingredients that they purchased earlier in the week from Independent Grocers Alliance. While doing so, Dr. Ianni spoke from his own personal experience working in the restaurant business about the importance of adapting to resources and flexibility in the workplace.

Mr. Russo said that the district worked closely with parents to discuss the shared vision of providing a world-class education, one child at a time, and explained that Ms. McGuire even visited other schools across Long Island to observe similar programs.

"The program is a success and will continue to grow due to the shared commitment, support and vision of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools, administrators, parents and staff in the Harborfields Central School District," Ms. McGuire said.



Students in the Career Transition class made pizza, calzones and garlic knots with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Francesco Ianni, using ingredients that they purchased earlier in the week from Independent Grocers Alliance.

David Steinberg, *President*
Christopher Kelly, *Vice President*
Steven Engelmann
Hansen Lee
Suzie Lustig
Joseph C. Savaglio
Colleen Wolcott
Francesco Ianni, Ed.D., *Superintendent of Schools*

Shining STUDENTS

NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

Harborfields High School seniors Aidan Cordero and Simon Kapen were named semifinalists in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program on Sept. 11. The students are two of approximately 16,000 semifinalists that will compete for 7,600 National Merit Scholarships totaling \$19 million to be offered to graduating seniors for their freshman year of college. To be eligible, students had to score within the top 1% on a preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying test. Aidan and Simon were two of approximately 1.2 million students to complete the test and will continue to compete to become finalists.



TOP STATE MUSICIANS

Six Harborfields High School students will have the chance to perform at the NYSSMA All-State Festival in December. The students – Evangelea Andreadis, Everett Borman, Ty Ellenbogen, Hope Lusby, Angeline Miraglia and Jennifer Mittelman – were selected as some of the top students to perform a Level VI solo for a NYSSMA adjudicator last April. More than 7,000 students compete statewide each year for selection to NYSSMA All-State. This year, approximately 900 students were chosen and will perform with one of eight All-State ensembles.



Welcome to New Administrators

The district is pleased to welcome eight new administrators to the district for the 2019-20 school year.

Sharon Donnelly started in the position of Assistant Superintendent for Business in July. She previously worked as Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations, Director of Accounting and District Treasurer at Connetquot Central School District.

Anne Marie Dunn is also new to the district and is taking her new position as Special Education Chairperson to heart. She previously worked as a special education teacher in the West Islip School District, and she is eager to grow her career here at Harborfields.

Mary Williams, former Assistant Principal at Thomas J. Lahey Elementary School, assumed the position of Principal this year. She started her career with Harborfields in 2003 and brings vast experience to this new position.

After four years with the district, Maribeth Corr joined the administrative team as an Assistant Principal and K-12 District Guidance Administrator.

At Washington Drive Primary School, Kathryn McNally and Kerry Neira are settling into their new roles as the school's Principal and Assistant Principal. They are ecstatic to reconnect after serving together in the office of pupil personnel services several years ago.



Another familiar face tackling a new role is Rose Scammell, who joined the district last year as Special Education Chairperson. This year, she filled the role of Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel Services and is eager to contribute to curriculum development.

We welcome all new administrators and wish them much success!