



Learning in Action



Kindergartners in Heather Goldenberg's class at Washington Drive Primary School celebrated how "We Are All Alike" and "How We Are All Different" with a fun craft activity.



Thomas J. Lahey Elementary School students and staff donated 44 boxes of books to not-for-profit organization The Book Fairies to foster literacy and a love of reading across local communities.



At Oldfield Middle School, students and staff wore the colors that represent their family's heritage in celebration of Languages Other Than English (LOTE) week.

Harborfields HIGHLIGHTS

The Official News Source of Harborfields Central School District

One 'Harborfields Family' Made of Many Different Cultures

At Harborfields, we are one family. Within that family are people of different races and cultures – something that we, as a district and community, take tremendous pride in. To that end, we are constantly looking for new ways to celebrate our diversity.

Our efforts to do so span across our schools, from Washington Drive Primary School to Harborfields High School. The Harborfields Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force brings together administrators, teachers, parents, community members and alumni to develop strategies and best practices to promote respect, equity, dignity and inclusion.

At Washington Drive

Primary and Thomas J. Lahey Elementary schools, we have expanded our classroom libraries, and texts at Oldfield Middle and Harborfields High schools, to include diversity, equity and inclusion, or DEI, booklists.

At Thomas J. Lahey, third grade teacher Sonia Armstrong created a "March Madness Tournament of Books," which is a bracket of books connected to the diversity, equity and inclusion theme. Additionally, kindergartners in Emily Gutheil's class at Washington Drive built portfolios in celebration of their culture, race and unique characteristics.

In continuation of promoting acceptance through our schools, on Feb. 26, Oldfield Middle

School and Harborfields High School students heard firsthand accounts regarding the adverse affects of bullying as part of a virtual assembly, hosted by the Anti-Defamation League's No Place for Hate. Our students learned the importance of acceptance, inclusion and how to embrace their differences and be an ally to their classmates from A-list celebrities, such as Magic Johnson and NFL cornerback Richard Sherman of the San Francisco 49ers.

In March, students districtwide participated in our annual Black History Month celebration. This year's theme of "Dreams" was evident in each of the students' performances, from Washington Drive's original song, "Washington Drive Has a Dream for All," to Thomas J. Lahey's original poem, "Dreams." Students from Oldfield Middle School represented this year's theme through artwork and those at Harborfields High School through music and dance.

The Harborfields School District is thrilled to share our students' voices with the community. We are confident that each of our students will contribute largely to a brighter future, in which diversity, equity and inclusion will shine!



Each Child. Each Day. One Harborfields Family

A Letter from Interim Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rory J. Manning

Dear Harborfields Community,

I would like to congratulate our school community on their hard work and success this year. This has certainly been a different year for all of us, but we remain proud of the accomplishments of our talented students and dedicated staff. As with each year, we continue to work diligently to support our school community through the annual budget development process. This year, our budget mission is to create a budget that will support district goals to provide a caring and motivating environment for our students, while seeking opportunities to strategically reallocate resources to sustain current programs and emerge from the pandemic with a strengthened instructional program in support of all students.

Since assuming the role of interim superintendent, I have held monthly Deskside Chats hosted by the Harborfields Council of PTAs to keep the community informed of issues related to the operation of our schools and the budget development process. This home-school partnership is an essential component of our success, and I would like to acknowledge and thank our PTA membership for their support of our schools and our efforts to enhance district communication.

I continue to be inspired by the daily accomplishments of our students and staff. The learning leaps that our students have demonstrated in the area of instructional technology as they adapted and achieved during the course of this year have been incredible. Our students continue to excel in all areas and receive accolades on the local, state and national levels. Our schools were rated the top school district in Suffolk County by Niche.com for good reason. We have the best students supported by the best staff with the unwavering support of our wonderful families. This recipe for success has allowed us to be successful through the global pandemic and has kept our *Tradition of Excellence* alive and well for the students of the Harborfields Central School District.

I would like to thank everyone for their support of our schools as we work together to care for Each Child, Each Day, as One Harborfields Family.

Wishing you and your family continued good health and happiness, now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rory J. Manning
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Anna G., Grade 11
"Equity, to me, begins with education. Specifically, the education [about] our differences and [about] our past in order to make a conscious effort to do better in the future."



Jazmin M., Grade 3
"Equity means that everybody gets what they need to succeed. At TJJ we all get what we need so we can be the most that we can be."



Starla V., Grade 2
"At Washington Drive we respect others."



Angelo M., Grade 5
"Equity is shown through our kindness to everyone, especially people that are new to our school. Also, being on the No Place for Hate Committee taught me what equality means."



Bayron P., Grade 7
"Equity at OMS is RESPECT for others. It does not matter if you are friends, always show RESPECT. I see RESPECT in the building because students care about each other."



What Does EQUITY Mean to You?

Louis N., Grade 10
"Equity, to me, in my school is the right resources being provided for all children of different colors, races and ethnicities. It's everyone having an equal chance at reaching their maximum potential and being instructed in the right way to build up a foundation for their future."



Kenny G., Grade 1
"We treat people fairly even if they are Black or white people."



Brooke P., Grade 6
"Equity at OMS is seeing friends of all different colors, races and ethnic backgrounds talking, laughing and getting along together."



Sharon L., Grade 11
"Equity is being fortunate enough to attend school with kids from all backgrounds and having the support of our teachers to help us achieve our goals. It gives me comfort knowing that I have such an amazing group of people in my community."



Chloe G., Kindergarten
"If I give you a slice of cake then I should give everyone else a slice of cake."



Emma B., Grade 4
"If you have an issue, you can always talk to a trusted adult like your teacher, social worker or Mrs. Horowitz."



Delilah S., Grade 8
"A perfect example of equity at OMS would be our sports teams. Students from all different backgrounds join together with only one goal in mind: to play the best game that they can. And, win or lose, OMS is there for everyone to celebrate with you and help you get back up when you fall."



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Shining STUDENTS

CLASS OF 2021 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

The Harborfields Central School District is proud to announce Evan Ackerman as the Harborfields High School Class of 2021 valedictorian and Kaitlyn Waring as salutatorian. Both students have been active members of their school community and have earned prestigious accolades during their time here, including National Merit Scholarship commended student titles and Advanced Placement awards. Evan will be attending the University of Notre Dame in the fall. Congratulations, Evan and Kaitlyn!



NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

Congratulations to Harborfields High School seniors Maya Bielawski, Ty Ellenbogen and Jacky Xie who were selected as 2021 National Merit Scholarship finalists. These three individuals are among the top 15,000 students in the nation to be acknowledged for this prestigious recognition and will compete for some 7,500 available Merit Scholarships, totaling more than \$30 million.



DECA NYS FINALISTS

Two Harborfields High School students, Evan Ackerman and Andrew Grover, were recognized as finalists after competing virtually in the DECA New York State Career Conference in March. Evan and Andrew faced off against students from numerous DECA chapters from across New York State. Congratulations!

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