

Merrick Messenger

MERRICK NAMED A Best Community for Music Education

The Merrick Union Free School District is steadfast in its commitment to music and the arts, offering students exposure to orchestra, band and choral opportunities.

From concerts to plays, students in Merrick are exposed to various forms of expression, further building self-esteem and promoting creativity, as well as core values such as commitment and cooperation.

We are proud to be among more than 60 Long Island districts – and 830 nationwide – to be named a Best Community for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation.

The districts were selected for their role in supporting music as part of a well-rounded education. Dr. Richard

Nasto, the district's music coordinator based in Chatterton School, called the recognition an honor.

"It acknowledges the dedication and support of our students, parents, staff, school administrators, Board of Education and music department," he said. "It reminds all of us that Merrick is a place where music thrives and plays an integral part in a student's educational success."

The award program recognizes outstanding efforts by teachers, administrators, parents, students and community leaders who have made music education part of a well-rounded education. Designations are made to districts and schools that demonstrate an exceptionally high commitment and access to music education.



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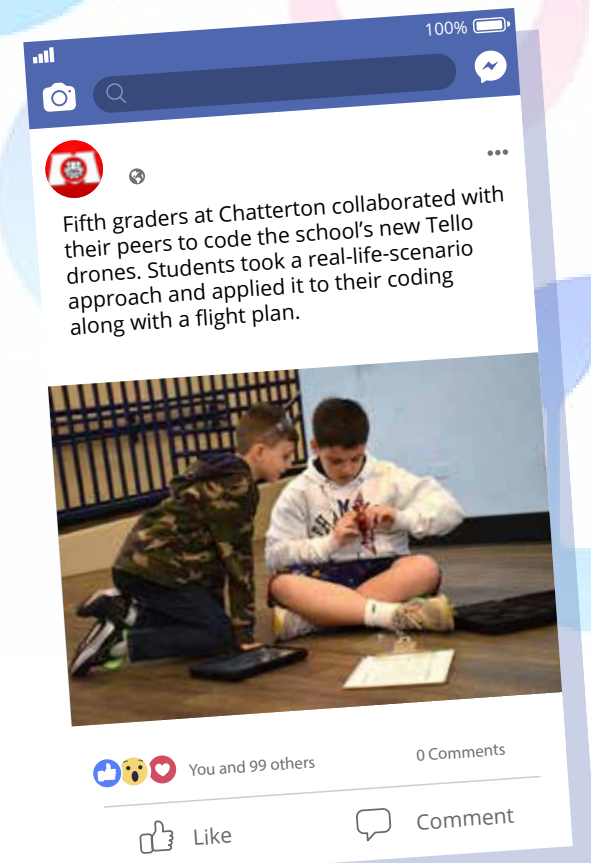
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Music Standouts

Long Island String Festival
6 participants: 3 Birch, 2 Chatterton, 1 Lakeside

New York State School Music Association
78 participants: 22 Birch, 18 Chatterton and 38 Lakeside

NEWS Around the Schools





Merrick Public Schools
Celebrating a Century of Excellence

Merrick Schools Mark 100th Anniversary

The official kickoff to Merrick's 100th-year education activities occurred on the 100th day of school, which was Feb. 13. Children and staff dressed up like they were 100 years old, or from the 1920s.

On that day, teachers treated students across the district to a presentation about "The Velveteen Rabbit," a book written in 1922, the same year

the district was founded.

The district's 100th anniversary committee provided resources relating to themes they should focus on when learning about the past century. All three schools are in the process of completing a timeline activity to learn about the history of Merrick through the decades.

Students were tasked with researching, drawing, writing, interviewing and finding photos that are related to specific decades on this timeline.

The district will end the school year with each building creating a time capsule of items that will be buried on their property.

Levy Lakeside Elementary



Birch Elementary



Chatterton Elementary



**Merrick Board
of Education**

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