



**SACHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*We Are Sachem*

## Our Story

#WeAreSachem



### *Staff Gathers for Superintendent's Conference Day*

The Sachem Central School District began a new tradition on Sept. 5, as the entire faculty and staff from all 15 buildings gathered for an inspirational Superintendent's Conference Day at Sachem High School North.

A sea of red Sachem apparel blanketed the bleachers of the High School North football field as more than 1,000 staff members listened to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kenneth Graham address the crowd. Dr. Graham began by thanking all members of the faculty and custodial and security staff, whose tireless efforts make the success of the district possible.

[Read More](#)

## Curriculum Update

### **A Look Inside our Literacy Program**

As a district, we are focused on teaching our students the importance of literacy and providing a solid foundation that will carry them through their learning experiences, as well as ensure future success. The following information gives our community a look inside our program.



In Sachem, we utilize the Balanced Literacy instructional framework when teaching reading and writing in grades K-12. At the heart of this framework is the belief that every student is on an individual continuum to reach their potential as a successful reader and writer. There are eight components of a Balanced Literacy approach: Read Aloud, Guided Reading, Shared Reading, Interactive Writing, Shared Writing, Reading Workshop, Writing Workshop and Word Study.

Our students are taught these literacy techniques using a Gradual Release Model, which allows them to take greater ownership over the learning process as they become more independent or knowledgeable. Typically, this model of teaching has three phases of instruction: teacher-guided lessons, students working collaboratively in small groups and independent practice.

"Research shows that the foundation of a successful education is a strong literacy program, namely one that enables students to grow independently and provides continuity across and between grade levels," said Erin Hynes, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. "The ability to read, write, listen and speak proficiently provides students with the essential skills needed to succeed."

### **Elementary Level (K-5)**

Our reader and writer workshop program offers students the opportunity to work in units that best suit them in their literary journey. Within the workshop structure, teachers are able to address whole class needs as well as differentiate instruction for small groups. By utilizing this instructional practice, our educators have the ability to provide students with the time and support they need to grow into fluent readers and writers.

Each student is assessed by their teacher to identify their instructional reading and writing level at the beginning of the school year. From there, whole class mini-lessons are taught to engage and model grade-level content. Students then work independently or collaborate with others to practice what they learned, while teachers work with small guided reading or writing groups to expand on particular concepts. At the conclusion of the exercise, the class comes back together to share and reflect.

### **Secondary Level (6-12)**

Our students at this level continue to expand upon their reading and writing skills through an abbreviated model designed for more experienced learners. Students expand their repertoire of English classics and modern-day writers as they foster an understanding of high-quality mentor texts and develop original pieces of writing. This framework for teaching and learning is one the district supports in all classrooms regardless of curricular content.

In an effort to help support our families throughout their child's literary journey, we will be expanding the content included on our curriculum and instruction web page in the coming months. I encourage our parents to visit this page often for updates and to engage their children in regular conversations about their learning experiences.

A strong home-to-school connection is of paramount importance, and we thank you for remaining our partners in education.

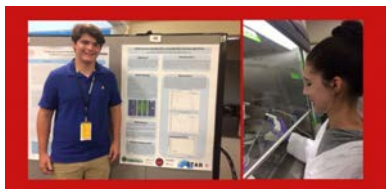
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## **Featured News**

Sachem High School East senior Tharini Prakash and High School North senior Paige Menneci have been selected as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

[<read more>](#)





Two Sachem high school science research students excelled in their respective concentrations over the summer as they furthered their research initiatives at Stony Brook University and Brookhaven National Laboratory. [<read more>](#)

High Schools North and East will be well represented at the 2017 New York State School Music Association's All-State festival, as a total of 10 student-musicians were selected to perform during NYSSMA's annual Winter Conference. The event will take place at the Rochester Convention Center in Rochester, New York, from Nov. 30 to Dec. 3. [<read more>](#)



[click here to see all school news](#)

*We would like to welcome back our students, staff and parents!*



[see additional photos from the first day](#)

## Board of Education

The Board of Education is composed of nine community members elected by district residents to serve overlapping three-year terms of office. The Board has the responsibility to ensure that all students receive the best education possible, as well as to express and represent the views of the community in matters affecting education.

[Click Here to View All Agendas and Minutes](#)

On September 27, 2017, the Board of Education voted to adopt their goals for the 2017-2018 school year. To view the presentation from the meeting, please [click here](#). A full recap of the goals will be shared in a special e-newsletter, as well as on the website and social media.



You may also view the presentation on the districtwide safety plan, as well as the plan itself, here:  
[District Safety Plan Presentation](#)  
[District Safety Plan](#)

# Upcoming Events

Click on the calendar below to view the calendar on the website.

Oct, 2017									
today									
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Day	Week	Month
01 Oct	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Marshall Band @ Huntington	Senior Portrait Retakes @ East			Marshall Fall School Pictures		SAT TEST			
	Marshall Fall School Pictures		Marshall School Store is Open	Friday is Marshall Spirit Day! Be sure to wear your Marshall T-shirt every Friday					
			Marshall Family Connect Night	North Homecoming Dance 7 PM	EMERGENCY DRILL				
			BOE Regular Meeting 7:30 PM @ Somerset MS Board Room		North Homecoming Football vs. Central Islip 8 PM				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
	SCHOOLS CLOSED COLUMBUS DAY	PTSA General Meeting - 7 pm in Sagamore Library	PEAT/MSQT for 11th Graders @ East & North	Marshall Emergency Drill 15 minute early dismissal	Friday is Marshall Spirit Day! Be sure to wear your Marshall T-shirt every Friday				
		Marshall Yoga/Arts Program for 5th Graders	PTA Council President Roundtable @ BOE Annex Room A 7:30 PM	Marshall Too Good for Violence Program begins for grade 4	Secondary Progress Reports Posted to Parent Portal after 3 PM				
		Underclass photo session @ East		Open School Night @ East & North 7 PM	Seniors Program @ North 7 PM				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
Marshall Band Home Show @ East		Financial Aid Night for Parents of all College-Bound Seniors North 7:30 PM	BOE Regular Meeting 7:30 PM @ Somerset MS Board Room	Marshall Singing Bus Drive A	Marshall Special Assembly on Peer Stop Peer Abuse	MARCHING BAND @ SOMERSET			
				Marshall PTA Meeting 7:00pm SMP	Marshall SPRINT Day-Grade Level Color Day				
					Senior Trip Registration Deadline				
					Breast Cancer Awareness Day! Wear jeans and a white or pink shirt to show your support.				
					Armed Service (VNB @ East & North 8 AM)				
					Middle School Student Govt Activity 7 & 8 PM				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
	Marshall UPV School Pictures		Family Connect Night - No fee	Boat Drive @ East	Friday is Marshall Spirit Day! Be sure to wear your Marshall T-shirt every Friday	ACT Test			
	Thanksgiving Food Drive Begins @ North		Tale Halloween @ Middle Schools			SOMERSET PEAK Festival			
	SEPTA Meeting @ BOE Annex Room A 7 PM		PTA Council Leadership Training @ BOE Annex Room A 7:30 PM						
29	30	31	01 Nov	2	3	4			
Marshall Band Championship @ Syracuse	Thanksgiving Food Drive Begins @ East	Marshall Halloween Parade	Marshall School Store is Open	Friday is Marshall Spirit Day! Be sure to wear your Marshall T-shirt every Friday		SAT Test			
			BOE Regular Meeting 7:30 PM @ Somerset MS Board Room		SOMERSET Day of Tube	SEPTA Family Photo Event @ BOE Annex Room A 8 AM			
					Grange Comedy @ East 7:30 PM				

# Mission Statement

The Sachem Family (students, parents, employees and residents) works interdependently to develop leaders of great character who are highly competent, confident and caring. Most importantly we are motivating our students to become the best possible version of themselves.

**WE ARE SACHEM!**

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[Website](#)

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