



SACHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*We Are Sachem*

## Our Story

#WeAreSachem

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### **Creativity Flourishes Through a Foundation in Fine Arts**

Understanding the unique developmental benefits associated with art education, the Sachem Central School District has incorporated a robust art program on both elementary and secondary levels – a program commensurate with the district's goal of providing a well-rounded educational experience for all students.

Beginning in kindergarten, students attend one 30-minute art class per week where they explore a number of artistic mediums for the first time. Through the elementary Studio Art class, a keen focus is placed on developing a strong understanding of the elements of art. Art teachers focus instruction on the inclusion of line, shape, space, value, form, texture and color into the creative projects students participate in throughout the year.

Additionally, art teachers encourage creativity through a vast number of projects that work to improve fine motor skills and spatial awareness. Further reinforcing the elements of design, students connect point-to-point images with lines, work with finger paints, pastels and watercolors, sculpt using clay, and cut and paste shapes to create larger works of art. Further emphasizing a focus on creative problem-solving, elementary art classes also incorporate STEAM activities into the curriculum to engage students in tactile learning.

Each elementary building will be represented through a display of student artwork during the upcoming school budget vote on May 15.



## Colorful Concepts Inspire Student Masterpieces

As students make the transition into middle school, the concepts covered during art instruction expand to continuously provide them with a challenging creative experience.

In sixth grade, students attend a period of Studio Art class every other day for a half-year. As part of the art class, students revisit previous concepts introduced during elementary education to apply more complex techniques. Art history is also explored on this level as students participate in different class projects in which prominent artists are introduced and students then create their own masterpieces inspired by the artists they studied.

Art classes are reintroduced to students' schedules in the eighth grade, when instruction increases in duration to one class every other day for a full year. During this program, students expand further on the concepts and techniques studied previously. Eighth-grade instruction turns its focus to a conceptual approach where students are asked to express a certain feeling or idea through their artwork. Students are challenged to utilize a specific technique to create a piece of artwork that coincides with a current world issue or feeling.

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## Expansive Offerings Help Students Sculpt Their Success

At the high school level, students are required to fulfill one credit of art by choosing either Introduction to Visual Art, Media Arts or Studio Art. Through these courses students begin to develop an individual style while exploring new creative concepts and computer programs.

During Studio Art students continue to extend their understanding of the concepts learned in the previous years. They participate in projects working in a multitude of two-dimensional and three-dimensional mediums with the freedom to incorporate their preferred techniques. Students who choose to take the Introduction to Visual Arts class take part in a hybrid class curriculum that combines elements of Studio Art class with an introduction to media art software. Those who take the Media Arts class are introduced to a number of programs found within the Adobe Creative Suite, including After Effects, Illustrator, Photoshop and Premier Pro, among other computer-based programs, such as the Apple program, GarageBand.

As high school students progress through their education, those interested in

pursuing further art instruction can choose from a number of elective courses that focus on developing one's own style through a creative medium.

"Our program is immersed with engaging and exciting electives," said Art Department Chairperson Kerrin Asner. "Students have the ability to pursue pathways in both fine arts and digital media that feed their interests. Our talented staff awaken the active artists that we once were as children."

Available this year, 10th- through 12th-grade students can participate in a full-year, one-credit Design and Painting 1 class to strengthen drawing skills through unique projects. As an area of importance, students work to accurately portray three-dimensional objects on a two-dimensional surface, learning to utilize a plethora of materials, including graphite drawing pencils, charcoal, pastels and watercolor paints. As they progress through the year, students take on projects in contour line, perspective, portrait and still-life drawing. A number of various painting techniques are also emphasized as students explore the painting pallet and color mixing.

After completion of Design and Painting 1, students who look to increase their experience with the previously covered concepts can enroll in the Design and Painting 2 course. During this class students are challenged further to express themselves through their work as they solve problems creatively. The full-year, one-credit class encourages students to think outside the box as they further their artistic abilities.

Portfolio Development is a full-year, one-credit class that is designed for students who would like to pursue art following graduation. As the culminating class in the Art Department, the focus of the curriculum is to allow students to independently develop concepts and ideas related to the various visual arts. In an effort to elevate student skills to the mastery level, this class cultivates a group of students who provide valuable contributions and critiques to the art community. As part of the class, students compile a portfolio composed of their best artwork to be presented to college boards.





## Art Experiences Let Student Stars Shine

A number of student masterpieces have been displayed at several reputable venues on Long Island recently. Sachem High School student artwork has been displayed at Five Towns College, Heckscher Museum of Art and in the Sachem Public Library. In addition, students actively visit art exhibits to enjoy, critique and draw inspiration from numerous displays of artwork. This year, high school students traveled to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City to view the works of world-renowned artists.

## Student Artwork Spotlight







## Video Spotlight



### Sachem Teams Up for Technology

Technology transcended grade levels at Sachem High School North as students throughout the building explored numerous educational technologies during a collaboration between the library at High School North and the Sachem Public Library. [<Read More>](#)

## Featured News



### Sachem Students Decode Long Island Biodiversity

Six Sachem High School North science research students making up two teams recently worked to expand their genetics knowledge through the Barcode Long Island program.

[<Read More>](#)

### Exploring the Wonders of Wizardry

Magic and mystery filled Allison Poffenbarger's classroom at Grundy Avenue Elementary School as her fifth-grade students participated in multiple engaging, Harry Potter-themed STEAM activities throughout



the day.

[<Read More>](#)



### **Towers Test Students' Teamwork**

Critical thinking fueled student designs recently as all fifth-grade students at Merrimac Elementary School participated in a STEAM activity aimed at enhancing student collaboration.

[<Read More>](#)

### **Sachem Student Named Town of Brookhaven Student of the Month**

Sachem High School North Senior Emma Hirt was named Town of Brookhaven Student of the Month for February by Councilman Kevin LaValle.

[<Read More>](#)



### **Sachem Robotics Update**

After a spirited competition at the FIRST Robotics Long Island Regionals at Hofstra University, Sachem's Aftershock 263 robotics qualified for the world championships.

These talented student-engineers competed at the FIRST World Championships in Detroit from April 25-28. Aftershock was one of 67 teams in the Curie Subdivision and was ranked No. 22 after the Qualification Matches, which placed them as one of the top two ranked Long Island teams that attended the Championships.

[Click Here to Read All News](#)

# **2018-2019 Budget Information**

**MAY 15, 2018**

**BUDGET VOTE AND ANNUAL BOARD ELECTION**

**6 a.m. - 9 p.m.**

[Budget Presentation Schedule](#)

[Proposed Line-by-Line Expenditure Budget](#)

[Budget Adoption Presentation](#)

[Budget Presentation #5 – Finalized State Aid, Draft Budget Recap](#)

[Budget Presentation 3 & 4 – Curriculum and Instruction, Full Draft Recap](#)

[Budget Presentation 2 – Student Activities and Support Services](#)

[Budget Presentation 1 – Non-Instructional Areas](#)

[Budget Preparation Community Newsletter](#)

[Tax Cap – An Initial Overview](#)

The School District is divided into election districts which correspond to the student attendance zones of the District's elementary schools. [Use this link to find your polling place, a map to this location and see if you are registered.](#)

Use this [Absentee Ballot Application Form](#) if you will be unable to travel to your polling place the day of the budget vote



## 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.



### Upcoming Meetings

**May 2, 2018**

**BOE Regular Meeting & Budget Hearing 7:30 PM**  
**Samoset MS- Board Room**

**May 23, 2018**

**BOE Regular Meeting & Budget Hearing 7:30 PM**  
**Samoset MS- Board Room**

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

### Recent Presentations

Seventh Grade World Language Proposal - February 7, 2018

[See the Presentation Here](#)

### 2017-18 Board of Education Goals

[Read more about it here](#)

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## Important Announcements

### SCOPE Summer Enrichment & Extended Day Programs

[Click here to view the flyer](#)[Register Here](#)

### Sports Physicals Information

Click on the appropriate link below to access the necessary medical documents for try outs. These are the ONLY forms that will be accepted by the district for athletic try outs:

Sachem School District [Physical Form](#)  
Sports Medical Update Form ([Green Card](#))

Click on the appropriate link below for important sports physicals information including free physical exam dates/times & paperwork submission dates/times:

[Fall 2018-19 6th Grade Students Trying Out for Arrowettes](#)  
[Fall 2018-19 7th & 8th Grade Students Trying Out for Any Athletic Team \(including Arrowettes and Cheerleading\)](#)  
[Fall 2018-19 9th Grade Students Trying Out for Any Athletic Team \(including Arrowettes and Cheerleading\)](#)  
[Fall 2018-19 10th, 11th, 12th Grade Students Trying Out for Any Athletic Team \(including Arrowettes and Cheerleading\)](#)

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## Full District Calendar

See the full calendar at this link:

<http://www.sachem.edu/Calendar/Default.aspx?period=monthgrid>



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## 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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Sachem Central School District  
51 School Street  
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