



EAST HAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

East Hampton, Connecticut

Superintendent's Update

Week of December 11, 2017



The vision of the East Hampton Public Schools: Preparing and inspiring our students to be innovative, responsible, contributing members of an ever-changing global society.

As one person I cannot change the world, but I can change the world of one person.

~Paul Shane Spear

This week in our Schools

- **Tuesday, December 12 – Center School Grade 5 Band & Center School Chorus Assembly at the Center School, 2:00 PM.** The Center School students will perform at an in-school assembly in preparation for the evening concert on Wednesday, December 13.
- **Wednesday, December 13 – Middle School PTO Meeting in the Middle School Library, 6:00 PM.**
- **Wednesday, December 13 – Center School Grade 5 Band & Center School Chorus Concert at the High School Auditorium, 6:30 PM.** Come to the East Hampton High School Auditorium and enjoy the musical accomplishments of the band and choir students.
- **Wednesday, December 13 – East Hampton Sports Boosters Meeting in the High School Cafeteria, 7:00 PM.**
- **Thursday, December 14 – Sandy Hook Promise Day, “Make the Promise.”** Sandy Hook Promise is a national non-profit organization founded and led by several family members whose loved ones were killed at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012. Based in Newtown, Connecticut, their intent is to honor all victims of gun violence by turning the tragedy into a moment of transformation by providing programs and practices that protect children and prevent the senseless, tragic loss of life. If you are interested in learning more visit: www.sandyhookpromise.org.
- **Thursday, December 14 – Mohegan Tribal Customs presentation at the Middle School.** Bruce Bozum, who is Chairman of the Mohegan Tribe in Connecticut, will be sharing his tribal customs and traditions with all Grade 7 students during periods 1 and 2 in the Commons. This will provide an enriching experience as students prepare to read a novel set in a Native American culture. Members of the school community can learn more at: <https://www.mohegan.nsn.us/community/involvement/cultural-outreach>
- **Friday, December 15 – National Cupcake Day!**



Saturday, December 16 – Wreaths Across America Day. Each year our own East Hampton VFW with community help supports and donates to wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well all Veterans' graves locally, which are honored with a wreath. The Interact Club at the High School will work with the VFW all morning to provide wreath-laying assistance throughout town. In order to support this cause, students at the Memorial School completed a poster to be forwarded to the VFW and students at the Center School completed an essay, “I am an American...” One student has been selected from each grade level to be recognized at the Board of Education Meeting on Monday, December 18 at 6:30 PM at East Hampton High School. The students selected will be introduced to the VFW and Board of Education and presented with a gift card at the meeting.

Congratulations to the poster winners: Kindergarten-Taylor Karabestos, Grade 1-Matthew Balamucki, Grade 2-Juliana Ware, Grade 3-Nora Hyte.










Congratulations to the essay winners: Grade 4-Chelsea Ryan, Grade 5-Gabriella Wiesner







December Calendar

Get your event on this calendar!

Send additional events and dates to
psmith@easthamptonct.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	 Learning Walks-Memorial	Center School Grade 5 Band & Chorus Assembly 2:00 PM (at Center School)	Middle School PTO Middle School Library 6:00 PM Center School Grade 5 Band & Chorus Concert 6:30 PM (at High School) East Hampton Sports Boosters EHHS Café 7:00 PM	 Sandy Hook PROMISE MAKE THE PROMISE Mohegan Tribe at Middle School Snow date: Center School Concert	National Cupcake Day 	 WREATHS across AMERICA East Hampton Schools supporting our local VFW efforts!
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Board of Education Meeting - EHHS T-Bell, 6:30 PM VFW recognizes Wreath Across America students		 Learning Walks – Center High School Tri-M Music Honor Society Concert 6:30 PM	 Superintendent's Advisory Council 94 Main St. 9:00-10:15 AM First Day of Winter  East Hampton Public Schools Holiday Reception High School Cafeteria 2:30 – 5:00 PM	 Coffee & Chat With the Superintendent 94 Main St. 7:30-9:00 AM Early Release Winter Break Enjoy the Holidays!	Enjoy the Winter Holidays and Vacation! 

January Calendar

31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	No School 	Welcome Back to School! Classes resume in 2018!	Elementary PTO Memorial School 6:00 PM Project Graduation High School Library 6:00 PM			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		 Learning Walks – High School	Middle School PTO Middle School Library 6:00 PM	High School Exams	High School Exams  Coffee & Chat With the Superintendent 94 Main St. 7:30-9:00 AM	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	No School Martin Luther King Day	High School Exams Board of Education Meeting - EHHS T-Bell, 6:30 PM 2018-19 BUDGET PRESENTATION	High School Exams	 Superintendent's Advisory Council 94 Main St. 9:00-10:15 AM		

Notes



East Hampton Board of Education Highlights (12/4/17)

Visit East Hampton

YouTube

You can view this meeting and past meetings at:

<http://www.easthamptonps.org/2017-2018-boe-meetings>

Scroll down the page and click on "VIDEO" of the date you wish to view.

- The Board of Education honored Meghan Ryczek, Kindergarten Teacher at Memorial School who has been recognized as a state-wide Life Changer of the Year.
- East Hampton parents and community members can increase Meg's odds of being recognized as a National Life Changer of the Year with a comment of support at the Life Changer website. It's worth a quick visit to the website! http://app.lifechangeroftheyear.com/nomination_detail.cfm?NominationID=769&NominationYear=2017&SchoolState=CT
- The Board of Education honored the 2017-18 recipients of the Connecticut Association of School Superintendents Award for outstanding academics, school service, and citizenship. This year's recipients from the Class of 2018 are Tyler Seifert and Kathryn Revard-Lentz.
- The Superintendent of Schools reviewed the list of updated Budget Requests made by teachers, staff, students, parents, and administrators as part of the school budget process and during the November 6 public forum. Members of the Board of Education and members of the public are urged to contact the Superintendent with their priorities for the 2018-19 Budget. A list that includes ALL requests will be forwarded to the school community after the meeting on December 5. People will still have time for input as the Budget is presented formally to the Board on Tuesday, January 16 at 6:30 PM in the High School T-Bell (Monday, the typical night for meetings is Martin Luther King Day).
- The Board was given the annual Enrollment Projections completed by NESDEC.
- Director of Curriculum, Mary Clark gave a presentation on updates to Math, Reading, Science, and Social Studies across the district in terms of curricular material used, curriculum writing to be completed, and changes in instruction in those areas.
- The Board approved the following policies:
 - 2120 Organization Chart
 - 2141 Recruitment of Superintendent
 - 4111 Recruitment
 - 4112.2 Certification
 - 6172.6 Online Curses

All district policies are online:

[Click here](#)

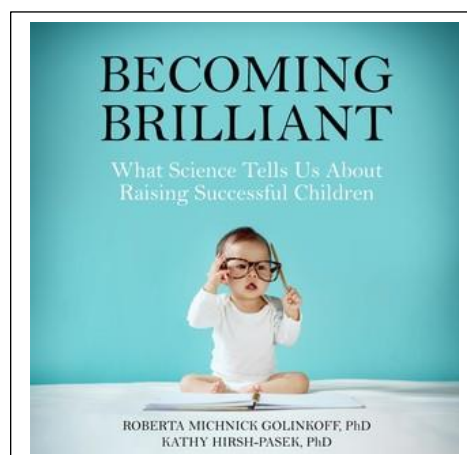
Reminder – Be part of the Book Club discussion.

Please plan to join Superintendent of Schools, Paul K. Smith, for a book discussion at the **February 16** Superintendent's Advisory Committee Meeting, 94 Main Street at 9:00 AM. The date is being given out well in advance so you can order the book and have time to read it.

Even if you don't read it all – or any of it – the discussion will still be great. By participating, you'll understand our important work to develop an **East Hampton Profile of the Graduate** with milestones in each building. Our goal is to move toward a broader vision of success supporting the acquisition of cognitive, personal, and interpersonal skills for all students.

Get the book, ***Becoming Brilliant: What Science Tells Us About Raising Successful Children***. It's a great read:

[Click to order from Amazon on Kindle or paperback.](#)



Thoughts



The East Hampton Profile of the Graduate

I am excited to share the DRAFT version of the **Profile of the Graduate** with our school community this week. The administration will do a formal presentation to the Board of Education next Monday evening, December 18 at 6:30 PM in the East Hampton High School T-Bell. All are invited to attend!

The **Profile of the Graduate** represents the next phase of our district vision, East Hampton 2025. Going back to the survey data that was accumulated as part of the development of our vision, we have built a matrix of the most important skills developed in each school that we feel lead to success as a graduate of the East Hampton Public Schools.

The High School embraced its core values as part of the New England Association of Schools (NEASC) decennial accreditation process. With input from parents, students, teachers, and staff member, a list of values was developed and is now being measured and assessed in the classrooms. Given that information, as well as data from East Hampton 2025, we worked backwards to develop learner-appropriate values for the Middle School, Center School, and Memorial School. These values align with the High School values in terms that match the age development and appropriate skill level for learners in all of our buildings.

We are very excited about this work! Many school districts that are beginning to develop their visions for the graduate tend to choose the same terms that are used in every school regardless of the age of the student. The language and culture of the building is not given any regard, resulting in terms that can have little meaning to students, teachers, or parents. In East Hampton, we have chosen to go a very unique route in that we are clearly differentiating the skills to target the specific audience of learners in each building. The **Profile of the Graduate** is not just the work of the high school, it is the work of all schools – and the work of our district and community-at-large!

I am reminded of a quote by Tony Wagner in *The Global Achievement Gap* that I have used many times in the past:

The rigor that matters most for the twenty-first century is demonstrated master of the core competencies for work, citizenship, and life-long learning. Studying academic content is the means for developing competencies, instead of being the goal, as it has been traditionally. In today's world, it's no longer how much you know that matters; it's what you can do with what you know.

Ultimately we want our students to be able to communicate in common language the skill they are building on during any activity and why it's important to them. The **East Hampton Profile of the Graduate** has identified those skills for learners at every level in our district.

The Graduate Profile as True North (from Edutopia.org)

Unlike a mission or vision statement, a graduate profile is a document that a school or district uses to specify the cognitive, personal, and interpersonal competencies that students should have when they graduate. Co-created with input from key stakeholders, this profile is a clear visualization of priority goals for teaching and learning that can be easily communicated to students, parents, faculty, and staff to align their collective efforts. Until you identify and prioritize these competencies for your school or district, you won't have a shared vision of your destination.

WHY SHOULD WE DESIGN A PROFILE OF A GRADUATE? (from Profileofagraduate.org)

Changes in society are driving the need for change in education. We have experienced an information revolution that has changed the world forever and we now live in a global, knowledge-based economy that emphasizes ideas and innovations. We also face complex political, scientific, health and environmental problems that need to be solved. These societal changes and challenges impact how we define student readiness for the future. To achieve 21st century readiness for every student, developing a shared vision among all key stakeholders regarding the skills that students need to be successful in work, citizenship, and life is critical.

Getting to the Root of the “Why” with a Profile of a Graduate (from knowledgeworks.org)

A profile of a graduate helps the community, district, school and teacher get to the root of the “why.” Why are we shifting our approach to teaching and learning? Why are we shifting our expectations of our students? Why are we creating new and differentiated opportunities for all students?

It’s because we want our children to be prepared for an ever-changing, complex and interconnected world. The world today demands an innovative approach to education that must be undergirded by what we want to see in our future graduates. We must deeply understand and internalize the “why” behind the “what” and the “how” of personalizing education. A profile of a graduate is that “why,” it is the foundation for transforming the education system.

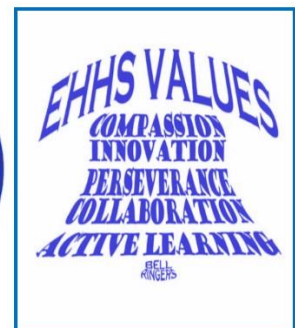
East Hampton Public Schools — East Hampton, Connecticut

Profile of the East Hampton Graduate

East Hampton 2025, the district’s vision of Education, drives our schools toward a broader vision of success supporting the development of **knowledgeable, ethical, self-directed problem solvers and innovators.**



Caring	→	Empathy	→	Responsibility	→	Compassion
Imagination	→	Creativity	→	Initiative	→	Innovation
Confidence	→	Adaptability	→	Resilience	→	Perseverance
Teamwork	→	Community	→	Perspectives	→	Collaboration
Wonder	→	Curiosity	→	Inquiry	→	Active Learning



It's an amazing time to be a learner in the East Hampton Public Schools!



Paul K. Smith



26 Miles of Hope