



# HERRICKS HERALD

HERRICKS SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

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## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS CELEBRATE NATIONAL READING MONTH

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Herricks High School students put on an amazing, sold-out production of the musical *Newsies*!

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## HERRICKS HOMEGROWN

Take a moment to get to know some of our amazing staff members who are also alumni of the district!

## Center Street PARP Week Kicks Off With a Bang

Center Street students read as many books as they could to help save the day!



When a dastardly villain kidnapped their teachers, the students of Center Street Elementary School were recruited and asked to read as many books as they could to help save them! This was the story that unfolded during a special assembly on March 11th, as the staff at Center Street Elementary School dressed up as characters from the movie *Despicable Me* and put on a special show for students to help them get excited for their weeklong Parents as Reading Partners program!



## SEARINGTOWN CELEBRATES NATIONAL READING MONTH



Searingtown Elementary School celebrated National Reading Month with all different kinds of literary fun—including a weeklong book fair, read alouds from special guests and even dress-up days where students wore costumes based on their favorite books!



# Herricks Gets a New Superintendent (For a Day)

Meet GG, the Denton Avenue student who spent March 26th working alongside Dr. Sinanis as Herricks' "Superintendent for the Day!"

**I**t may have been a busy day at Herricks, but it wasn't anything this dynamic duo couldn't handle! The day kicked off with breakfast, as GG and Dr. Sinanis visited each department in the district office and invited everyone to come eat bagels that GG had brought in to share with everyone. After that, the two superintendents facilitated a leadership team meeting focused on reintroducing the Protrait of a Graduate and finalizing plans for an upcoming Professional Development Day. Once that was wrapped up, they filmed the newest Herricks' Happenings Video Update (which you can watch now on our district website) and hit the road for a special McDonald's lunch—GG's favorite! With their hunger satisfied, the team ended the day with a visit to the high school, where GG got to meet with various faculty, staff and students!



## HERRICKS MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARIAN JODI THOMPSON NAMED TEACHER OF THE YEAR!

Congratulations to Herricks Middle School Library Media Specialist Jodi Thompson, who was recently named Junior Division 2024 Robbie Harte Teacher of the Year Award by the Advisory Board of Long Island History Day!

Jodi has been recognized for her “diligent work in providing Herricks students with the opportunity to engage in historical learning through the innovative use of primary sources, to foster historical thinking skills and to experience defending their research as they compete with students from across Long Island.”



# The Curtain Rises on HHS's *Newsies*

**H**erricks High School was buzzing the weekend of March 22nd-24th, as students put on an electrifying production of their spring musical, *Newsies*! Our students performed spectacularly—acting, singing, and dancing their hearts out—to a sold out crowd on all three dates!



## CAREER & CARE DAY AT HERRICKS HIGH SCHOOL

On March 15th, students at Herricks High School had the opportunity to meet and speak with professionals from a wide range of careers—including firefighters, EMTs, judges, FBI agents, teachers, and many more. Some of the visiting professionals were even alumni of the district!



# Herricks Homegrown

**H**erricks Homegrown is a regular feature where we highlight members of the Herricks staff who are also alumni of the district! This month we'll be featuring two terrific educators from the elementary school level—Samantha Hersch and Lisa Iuculano from Denton Avenue. Additionally, don't forget to keep an eye on our social media channels, where we'll soon be sharing video interviews with our each of the staff members featured here!

## Samantha Hersch

*5th Grade Teacher, Denton Avenue*

### **Where did you go after graduating from Herricks?**

*After graduating from high school, I went to Adelphi University where I completed a 5 year bachelors and master program in psychology and childhood education. I grew up in a family full of educators, so I was interested in becoming a teacher from a young age. Throughout my education journey at Herricks, all the way from kindergarten to high school, I had so many influential and supportive teachers—and that's what really solidified my desire to pursue a career in education.*

### **What brought you back to Herricks, specifically?**

*To be honest, I feel like I never left. After high school, I spent many summers volunteering at the Herricks Summer Rec program and I was lucky enough to be able to complete my student teaching at Denton Avenue. When it came time to begin my professional career, I couldn't envision myself anywhere else but Herricks.*



## Lisa Iuculano

*ENL Teacher, Denton Avenue*

### **What brought you back to Herricks, specifically?**

*When I got my degree in teaching, I started out subbing and I subbed in a few districts. Of course, I eventually came back to Herricks because I knew the quality of education here was amazing and I wanted to get experience here. I did a leave replacement for an ENL teacher and I absolutely fell in love with the job and with working in small groups and helping students learn to speak english and succeed in school. From there, I went back to school and got another degree to be certified to teach ENL. I started off with a part-time*

*position here at Denton Avenue, which grew to full-time and now here I am! I started subbing in 1991, so I've been here a long time. I actually moved out of Herricks after I got married, then later moved back so my kids could attend this school district—so, not only did I graduate from Herricks, but my daughter and son did as well.*