

# SUPERINTENDENT NEWSLETTER

Elmsford  
UFSD

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

*Dear EUFSD Community,*

I want to express gratitude for the warm welcome I have received during this first month. I have enjoyed talking to teachers and staff and meeting students and families. The commitment demonstrated by our staff, our students' hard work, and our families' support have greatly impressed me.

In the weeks and months ahead, I will continue to learn while leading. My goal is to examine the district closely and gain an understanding of its past and future. I will use this study to determine how best to serve the district and our students.

The 2025-2026 budget is being planned and prepared. This past week, we hosted a community forum regarding the budget. This event allowed us to hear from our residents and answer any questions they may have. These budget workshops are one of several stakeholder meetings I plan to host in the upcoming weeks and months.

I hope you enjoy this monthly newsletter. Our students are excelling, and great achievements are being made throughout the District.



Thank you for your support and partnership.

*Sincerely,*  
*Susan Yom*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Registration for Pre-K begins on Feb. 3 at AHHS in Room 103. To register for Kindergarten, registration will take place on Feb. 10, also in Room 103 at AHHS.

For more information on both of these events, please visit our [website](#).

## COMMUNITY SHARES INPUT ON 2025-26 BUDGET

In the first of several budget forums community members were invited by Superintendent Susan Yom and her staff to ask questions and offer ideas for their priorities for the 2025-2026 budget.

"We hope to be able to have an opportunity to get your input on the different things you would like to see in the budget," Ms. Yom said at the January 28th event. "It's an opportunity to hear everyone's voice."

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## EUFSO CELEBRATES NEW ADMINISTRATORS

The Dec. 4 Board of Education meeting took on a celebratory atmosphere as the district introduced the community to new administrators.

Thomas Murphy was selected as the new Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations. Mr. Murphy succeeds Linda Carlin who retired from this position earlier this year.

James Yap was named Deputy Superintendent following a sixth-month stint serving the district as the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Technology and Certificated Personnel.

[Click here to read more](#)



## CONGRATULATIONS DR. HAMILTON ON RECEIVING TENURE!



At the Dec. 4, 2024 Board meeting Dr. Andrea Hamilton received a certificate in recognition of her receiving tenure.

“She excels in all areas of her professional responsibilities,” then Interim Superintendent Dr. Ryan said of Dr. Hamilton, who has served as principal of the Alice E. Grady Elementary School since July 2019. “She’s a highly visible champion of Alice E. Grady staff, students and families who have all benefitted from her enthusiasm.”

[Click here to read more!](#)

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## DR. JEFFREY CAPUANO, AHHS INTERIM PRINCIPAL BRINGS THE JOY

His first week in the role of interim principal at Alexander Hamilton High School consisted of the normal routine of classes. His second week was filled with mid-term exams. No matter what is happening, however, Jeffrey Capuano expects to find joy.

“No matter what the day holds, it will be a good day,” he said. “I have a significant amount of fun no matter what I do. I came here expectant and joyful.”

[Click here to read more](#)



## Lunar New Year Celebration at Grady!

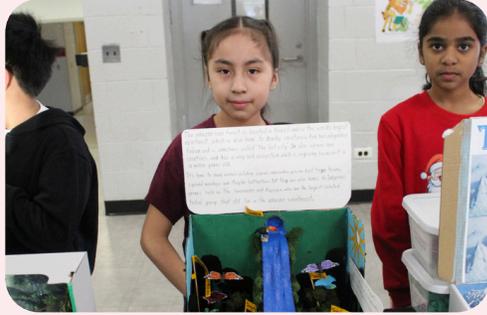
Second grade students in Debbie Barbosa’s class at Grady, and friends, celebrated the Lunar New Year with a traditional Lion Parade! One of her former students lead the parade and stepped in to several classrooms and greeted fellow Grady students with a traditional holiday greeting, “Gung Hei Fat Choi,” wishing everyone best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.



The parade included several Chinese New Year traditional elements, including dragons, drums, ribbon dancers and the collection of red envelopes in which classes wrote out their hopes for the coming year.

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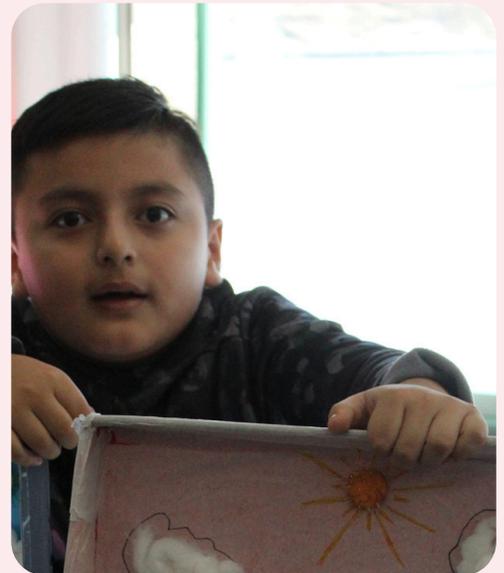


## GRADY THIRD GRADERS LEARN ABOUT DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENTS AND THE CRITTERS THAT LIVE THERE

The cafeteria at the Alice E. Grady Elementary School was recently transformed into an ocean, a frozen tundra and a tropical rainforest thanks to the creativity of third graders.

Students were introduced to the various ecosystems in their classrooms and were assigned a special project – to create a diorama of a specific environment. Students stepped up to the challenge. They created amazing dioramas of their chosen ecosystem, complete with grasses, trees, snow and a menagerie of animals that live in these environments.

[Click here to read more!](#)



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## DR. JAMES RYAN RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Mayor Robert Williams proclaimed January 1, 2025, as “Superintendent Dr. James Ryan Day” in the Village of Elmsford.

Dr. Ryan was presented with a plaque from the mayor in honor of his Outstanding Service to the Elmsford Union Free School District. Dr. Ryan served as interim superintendent for the past year and finished his tenure at the end of December.

[Click here to read more!](#)

## AHHS ALUMNI DISCUSS TRANSITION FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO COLLEGE

In an annual tradition, several alumni from Alexander Hamilton High School returned to their alma mater to meet with current juniors and seniors. The panel discussed what life looks like “on the other side.”

Guidance Counselor Monica Ahern told those assembled that the panel convenes to offer tips and to share their experiences to give them an idea of what they can expect after they leave high school.

This year eight alums returned and discussed what college life was like for them. They were a mix of four-year college students, some who had transferred and one who is currently attending a trade school.

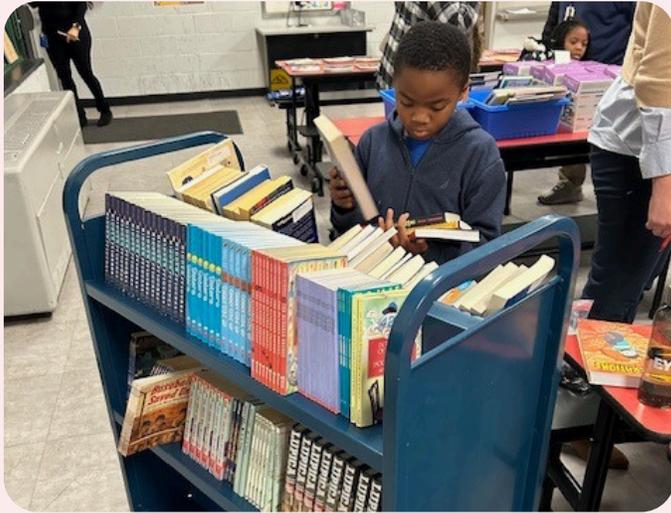
[Click here to read more!](#)



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## BOOKS, BOOKS AND MORE BOOKS!

The night was all about books, books and more books when Grady hosted a Book Borrowing event in January! Thank you to our staff, Ashley Cruz, Laura Wygant, Mary Potenza, Richard Garner, Kim Breen, Penelope Ferreras and Jennifer Iorio for their assistance in helping to organize and distribute books to our students!



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## "COZY UP WITH A GOOD BOOK" AT DIXSON

What could bring out our families on a cold winter night? BOOKS, of course! Dixson students and families enjoyed "Cozy Up with a Good Book," a family reading night event. First, families gathered for a fun read aloud, where teachers shared the book "Peanut Butter and Cupcake," by Terry Border. Students then had an opportunity to select a book to take home and enjoy a sweet treat! Each child received a special book pouch and selected one book to borrow from a variety of options!



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## DISTRICT DOINGS

Here's a look at some of the great things going on in our district!



Members of the Grady National Elementary Honor Society were busy little elves this holiday season! They created hand-made holiday cards and also hosted a hat, scarf and mitten drive! The cards will be shared with residents at the Saint Cabrini Nursing Home and the winter gear will be donated to Lifting Up Westchester, or to anyone in the community in need. Way to go NEHS!



Thank you to Deputy Superintendent James Yap who took time to read to our first graders! Mr. Yap visited classrooms and shared the book "A Little Scribble Spot" written and illustrated by Diane Alber.



Thank you to our AHHS volunteers who visited Grady to lend a hand during the Dixon Holiday Show!

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Feb. 5, Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., AHHS Auditorium*

*Feb. 3, Pre-K Registration begins*

*Feb. 10, Kindergarten Registration begins*

*Feb. 17-21, Winter Recess, Schools closed*

*Feb. 27, AHHS College Information Night (for Juniors), 6:30 p.m.*

*Feb. 28, Dixon Fitness Friday*



Earlier this season, our students entertained with a District Holiday Concert!