



HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ALUMNI





CELEBRATING OUR DISTRICT ALUMNI'S

A growing body of research shows that when graduates return to give back to their communities, it helps to unite the community and bridge some of the educational, social, economic, and political gaps.

I am pleased to announce that we currently have thirty-two (32) District employees that were former graduates of Hempstead High School. One motivating factor particularly that stands out about these employees, is their desire to strengthen and create positive change in the Hempstead UFSD.

Please read below to learn what it means for each of these employees to be a graduate from Hempstead High School and now, as an employee, returning to give back to the students and community.

Rodney Gilmore, Ed. D

Associate Superintendent for Human Resources



1992

RANDY BEDNEAU

Physical Education Teacher

Simply amazing! I have had the chance to guide some of our outstanding students through the rigor of high school. My experience as a student at the high school has helped me give good advice and guidance to the next generation of graduates. The feeling I get when students graduate and see me in the mall and say thanks for the talks and advice. Hempstead for Life!

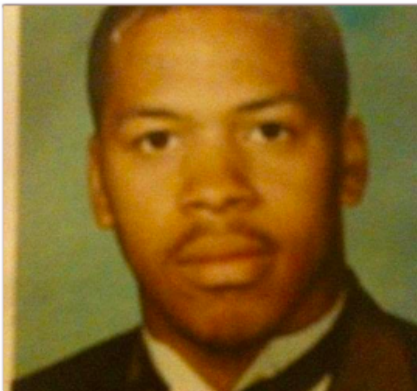


1978

BRIDGET BOUKNIGHT

Teaching Assistant

I'm grateful to be able to help my community in their foundations & be come I intelligent and smart educated young men and young ladies. It's also nice to see them come back & say hello.



1986

DARRYL BURGESS

Teacher

When I left high school I wanted to give back to my community in some way. While in college I found out teaching would be the best way and I enjoy being alumni at the school I came from.



1987

TARA CANADY

Teaching Assistant

It's gratifying to see all of the children that I've helped socially, emotionally, academically and financially become outstanding contributors to society. It is my pleasure to give back to the community that I love.





1976

WILLIAM CHERRY

Physical Education Teacher/Coach

Working here for so many years has been a labor of love. I have stayed here as a teacher and coach because of the students. We have good kids here and all need need some positive attention and mentoring. I did well coming out of this District and I will continue to support our kids in this community.



1977

SHARON EDMONSTON

STEAM Teacher

As a proud graduate of the Hempstead Public School District, I am indeed a Tiger for Life! During my formative years in the HPS district I was blessed to have outstanding teachers that nurtured and molded me to be the person I am today.



1992

TANIKA CULLUM

Information Technology Aide II

It gives me great pleasure working for the district I graduated from.



1974

GALE DEANS-FORRESTER

Teaching Assistant

As a former graduate of the Hempstead School District it has been an honor to return back to where I had my fondest memories. As a former student I remember the joy I had when I went to school to be around my friends, and teachers who I knew cared about me. So returning back to a place of where I felt loved and cared was the ultimate. A place I wanted my son's to receive the same experience I had, so I needed to ensure that their memories and other children would be able to talk about how happy they were while here in the Hempstead School District.





2014

TYERKE GREEN

Attendance Aide

Being a Graduate of Hempstead High School (Class of 2014) and now an employee means a lot to me. This is an opportunity I never imagined and now that I'm here and I couldn't be more grateful. Being an employee, I get to relate (sympathize) with the students on different levels to help them become better young adults.



2022

MICHELLE GREGG

Security Aid

I have a different story from others lol! Ive made many mistakes during my high school years (Class of 2010) and being an employee at Hempstead High School, I know now I missed out on a lot wish I could have did things differently. I am honored to have been given a second chance, receiving my GED with the Class of 2022. That meant everything to me it's never too late. It's honor to protect my district Tiger for life!

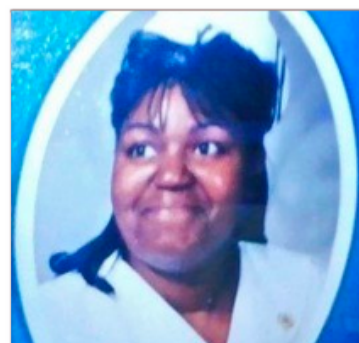


1991

CARLYE GUERRIER

Teaching Assistant

It's a great honor to help the younger generation to reach their full potential.



1987

SYLVIA HARGROVE

Personnel Clerk

As both an alumni and an employee of Hempstead Union Free School District, I am very proud. As a student, I always strived to excel and constantly bragged about having the best teacher. Upon accepting a position with the District, I view the community with a different lens. My mindset is to foster an environment of positivity for all of our students and faculty.



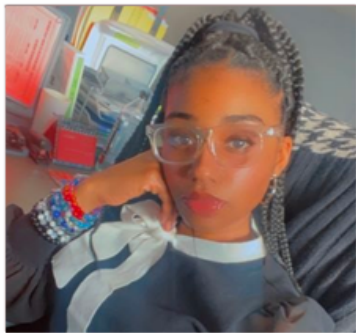


1972

BONITA JOHNSON

Elementary Teacher

As a resident of the Hempstead Community and an employee of the Hempstead School District, I have seen many, many changes throughout the years. I have been to other districts but I always feel the need to return to Hempstead and give back to the students and the community. Through the years I have had the joy and privilege of teaching hundreds of Hempstead children. I have also been able to see them grow into adulthood as well as being able to teach their children. I am truly a TIGER FOR LIFE!



2008

ASHLEIGH LIVINGSTON

Account Clerk

Being a Queens native and coming to the Hempstead School District for High School was definitely a culture shock for me. I couldn't believe that everyone knew each other from elementary school. However, it wasn't that hard for me to assimilate into the culture. Now I have three school aged children growing up in the district and I feel like it is my duty to impact the district by being the change I want to see. I want my children to grow up in the district and be offered all the opportunities that can be offered to them, to make them intelligent, well rounded, and kind little people in this world.



1996

LAQUANA KING

Teaching Assistant

For me to be a Hempstead High School graduate and returning to give back to the community, I look for those "teachable moments" in everyday life of our students. Teaching the students valuable life skills that includes teamwork, communication, responsibility, and goal setting.



1988

STEPHANIE LOCKHART-TURNER

Teacher

I am proud when I can share with students that I am a graduate of Hempstead School District. It gives the students and I a sense of a shared experience. It was with intention that I made the decision to return to the district as a teacher. I knew I wanted to teach, and where better than to do just that in the district that was responsible for the initial stages of my formal education. I truly have a vested interest in Hempstead, the district and village.

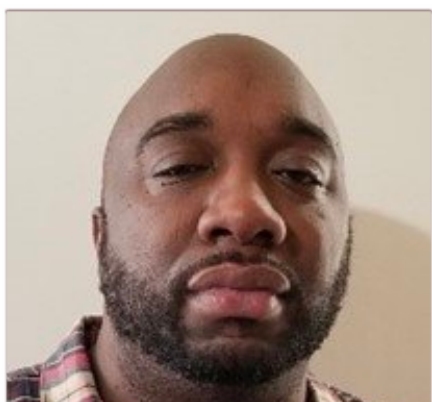


1987

KATITI MAYS

Teaching Assistant

I enjoyed my high school years at HHS! The teachers i had were very supportive. I wanted to be able to give students what the teachers in Hempstead gave me (a chance, their time, respect). I do the same for the students i serve here now, I give them the time, I show them respect and they have a chance to express themselves.

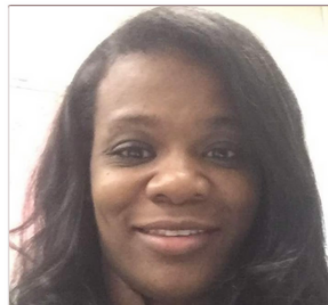


1998

LATEEF MYLES

Teacher

It means the world to me. It's a blessing to come back home to a place that made you to share your experience and give back to the youth to make Hempstead great again.



1993

AMEISHA MOORE

English Teacher

To be a graduate from Hempstead High School and now an employee returning to give back to the community means much to me. I am a success story of how in spite of all of the trials and tribulations I encountered as a student matriculating the Hempstead school district I am an example of how hard work, dedication, and focus can yield spectacular. I can truly identify with the plight of my students because I have a vested interest in their lives; for, I know firsthand what it takes for them to be a success. Thus, my presence gives credence to the fact that anyone who graduates from Hempstead High School should consider themselves battle tested and capable of handling any challenge thrown our way.



1974

ELISE NICHOLSON

Attendance Aide

The fact that I can return to my school district and help students to get a great start in life from high school is a blessing. To help with their social and educational piece, I was not a teacher in the class room, but I was a teacher in the life skills. To know that each and every student that I came in contact with, has made it though in whatever direction they wanted to go. That says a lot for alumni and a still a residence of Hempstead for 59 years.



1997

ARTI OLIPHANT

Teaching Assistant

Being a Hempstead graduate and now turned employee means everything to me. Being able to give back to my community is priceless. As a community we will come together when needed and necessary. As a former student my teachers did more than educate me. I would love see them in the stores, church, or activities here in Hempstead. I know it gave me something I didn't receive at home. I went through a lot as a child being raised by a single mother. There were things I could not dare let leave the home. My mom did the best as she could. My school family brought a light into my life that has never dimmed to this day. I could go on for days about Hempstead. It gives me great pleasure to be able to give back to my community. As our former Mayor Don Ryan once said "Hempstead Born, Hempstead Breed, When I die I'll be Hempstead Dead" Tiger 4 Life!



2008

LETICIA SCOTT

Elementary Teacher

It means a lot to help close the gap in a district that means so much to me.



1995

UNIQUE REDD

English Teacher

To be a graduate from Hempstead High School and now an employee returning to give back to the community means much to me. I am a success story of how in spite of all of the trials and tribulations I encountered as a student matriculating the Hempstead school district I am an example of how hard work, dedication, and focus can yield spectacular. I can truly identify with the plight of my students because I have a vested interest in their lives; for, I know firsthand what it takes for them to be a success. Thus, my presence gives credence to the fact that anyone who graduates from Hempstead High School should consider themselves battle tested and capable of handling any challenge thrown our way.



1985

ERICA SEYMOUR

Teaching Assistant

It means giving back, what I received when I was a student.





1993

LISA TYLER

Lunch Monitor

I always loved going to the Hempstead Public Schools. I have learned so much from the teachers that I have came in contact with in the past. I feel that it is my time to give back to the community of Hempstead. I am hoping to try to help teach these young men and women that education is important in life. Even though, I have only been here since September. I am glad to be one of the branches to this strong tree planted in the Hempstead Public Schools system.



2004

JESSICA VERENE

Teacher

Being a graduate from Hempstead High School and now an employee returning to give back to the community means that I am a successful product of the HUFSD as well as a role model for our students and their families.

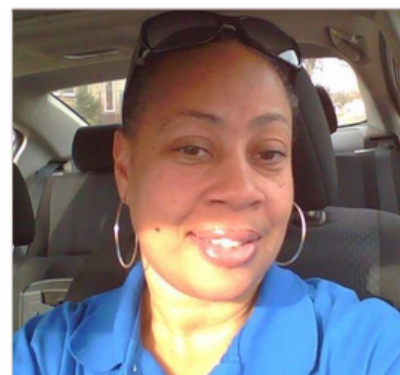


1990

JOSEPH WATTS

Teaching Assistant

It's an amazing feeling to be able give back the community that raised me!!!



1984

SHEILA WILLIAMS

Teaching Assistant

I received a great education from Hempstead School District. It was a rewarding experience.





1989

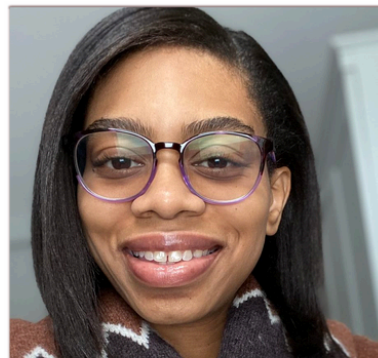
ANITA REYNOLDS WILLIAMS

Teaching Assistant

As a 1989 graduate of Hempstead High School (HHS), and to then become employed by the Hempstead Union Free School District has been more than exhilarating for the twenty-five plus years. Since my hire date back in March of 1998 as a Teaching Assistant, was the beginning of my giving back to the community by helping our children (my babies as I lovingly call them) to achieve and excel. As my journey continued as a teaching assistant, I became more involved in the community by attending Board of Education meetings, PTA/PTO meetings and special events outside of the district which revolved around the children and the community. As a parent of three children whereas all my children graduated from HHS and went on to college to pursue and attain their degrees to be self-sufficient on their own.

I also served as varsity coach of the HHS Lady Tigers Volleyball team from 2007 to 2020. I am now coach of the girls' Junior Varsity volleyball (16 years) and badminton (10 years) program at HHS. We have great student-athletes in Hempstead, my girls participate in community service, and we have participated and raised monies for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk for over 10 years. What makes this so special is that these are the sports that I played while attending Hempstead High from 1985-1989. Ms. Doris Carlson, Ms. Brett Truitt and Mr. Robert Frank set the foundation for me. So, giving back was instilled in me at an incredibly young, so I just pour into our Hempstead scholars daily what was poured into me as a student by some amazing Hempstead educators. I make the environment for learning invigorating for them to learn.

Along with that I serve as President of the Hempstead Teaching Assistant Association. I am on my 3rd term and have served on the executive board since 2007. The HTAA membership continuously places my name in for election as President and I strive to continue to represent the membership and to achieve the best for their benefits and work environment. Being in this capacity allows for those in membership who wish to attend conferences, and this allows them to excel as teaching assistants. Let us continue to "Restore the Roar" and build relationships. Wonderful things are happening for the scholars of Hempstead Public Schools!



2010

STACIA WILSON

Teacher

It's an honor to give back to my community. I'm thankful for the teachers who invested in my education. Now I have the opportunity to educate, inspire, and impact my students positively as my teachers did for me.



2008

RANDY STITH

Former Board of Education President

For me, it is almost full circle. I have always been very vocal and opinionated, and now, as President of the Board of Education, I get to serve in a capacity to where I can directly influence the school culture, programs, and overall experience. It is also rewarding for me to work alongside former teachers and administrators who remember me as a student and can see the maturity and commitment I have for the district, our students, and employees.