JULY/AUGUST 2025

SUPERINTENDENT NEWSLETTER

"ENGAGE, EQUIP, ELEVATE TOWARD EXCELLENCE."

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Elmsford Community,

Welcome Back to School!

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you back for another exciting year of learning, growth, and achievement.

Although summer often offers a slower pace, it remained a season of meaningful activity across our district. We began with our annual Ed Camp, a valuable opportunity for professional development for our faculty. This year's sessions centered on instructional technology, data-driven practices, and strategies to better serve our English as a New Language (ENL) students.

Our dedicated buildings and grounds staff worked diligently to prepare our schools, while several major capital projects progressed. At Dixson, roof improvements began; and roof work at Grady commenced and at Hamilton, essential repairs were made to sidewalks and stairways.

Several students also engaged in continued learning through our ENL Summer Program. This enriching experience provided our English language learners with opportunities to strengthen their skills through creative, engaging, and educational activities.

As we embark on this new school year, I am proud to share our district theme for 2025–2026: **"Engage, Equip, Elevate toward Excellence."**

This theme reflects our shared commitment to connecting deeply with our students, equipping them with the knowledge and resources necessary for success, and elevating both students and staff to their highest potential.



Superintendent Yom welcomes new staff to the district during the New Teachers Academy.

I extend my best wishes to all of our families as we begin this new chapter together. I look forward to celebrating our students' accomplishments, witnessing their enthusiasm for learning, and continuing our collective pursuit of excellence.

Warm Regards,

Susan Yom
Superintendent of Schools

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

We look forward to seeing all of our students on the first day of school, Tuesday, Sept. 2!



SUMMER FACILITY WORK

Summer was a busy time for our facilities! Many of our capital projects are now nearing completion, including the AHHS parking lot update, new VOIP phone systems, security camera upgrades, Grady ES and Dixson PS roofs. We also completed numerous maintenance and repair projects such as the AHHS front stairs, electronic locks, doors and more.







SPOTLIGHT:
NEW STAFF

During our New Staff Academy, we welcomed several new faces into the EUFSD family!

Joining us this year are:

Leah Zilich – Director of Special Education and PPS
Deborah Earle – Principal of Dixson Primary School
Christina Princiotta - Second Grade Teacher, Grady ES
Alfa Garcia – Second Grade Teacher, Grady ES
Mikaila Hulse – Mathematics Teacher, AHHS
Kaylie Amoriello – First Grade Teacher, Dixson PS
Julian Morales – Bilingual School Counselor, AHHS
Korina Guerra – School Psychologist
Joseph Cartolano – Art Teacher, AHHS
Lisandra Gutierrez – Special Education Teacher, AHHS
Stephanie Espinosa – Academic Intervention Services Teacher, Grady ES
Daniel Corsanego – World Language Spanish Teacher, AHHS
Megha Swamy – Music Teacher (Leave Replacement), AHHS
Nelly Quizhpi - Payroll Clerk
Genesis Jimenez - Secretary, Special Education Office





NEW STAFF WELCOMED TO THE DISTRICT



New teachers and staff settled into their seats in the Alexander Hamilton High School Library ready for a few minutes where it was their turn to be students.

They were here for the district's New Teacher Academy, a time to learn more about the district, each other and expectations.

In addressing those present, Superintendent Susan Yom explained how fortunate they were to be in Elmsford, as she said, it's like no other place they have seen.

"We are the only district in the United States that loves and cares for kids the way we do," she claimed.

That is true too, she said, for the staff.

"We are going to be your biggest champions," Ms. Yom told them. "We want you to soar."

Elmsford, she noted, is a "student-centered" district, a place where the only way to think of students is that every single one of them will succeed. They may differ in where they start and how much they grow, but every single student is capable of growth and development.

She encouraged them to celebrate their students as much as possible.

"Help them think about the good things they are doing," she said.

For their part, Ms. Yom said, the expectation is to maintain a professional demeanor and integrity.

New teachers also received onboarding information on topics from "Teach like a Champion," which supports focusing on routines and procedures by Doug Lemov.

Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, Human Resources and Technology James Yap offered techniques to use for optimum student engagement. Among them were "counting hands," when a teacher will note the number of student hands raised following a question, and build their narrative to inspire more hands to go up over time.

Mr. James' emphasis on helping teachers engage all students are techniques that can best help foster student engagement and check for understanding in the classroom.

He shared too where teachers and staff can find assistance, including with mentor teachers, department heads, administrators or school social workers.

Mr. James also reviewed important Board, Grading and Curriculum policies. He also offered instruction on eSchoolData, the program teacher use for report cards and progress reports.

New teachers also were instructed on communication procedures, from phone calls and classroom newsletters.

Congratulations!

TO OUR LONG-SERVING STAFF MEMBERS!

Here's what some of our staff had to say about their time in the EUFSD or advice for the new staff:

"Never forget how lucky you are. You get to do this better and you get to do this in Elsmford."
Kimberly Breen

"Yes, I've been teaching here for 30 years, but I have also been learning here for 30 years. I want to say, never stop learning about yourself, your students and your colleagues."
Carolyn Hopper

"I look around this room and see friends who have become family, I see past students who are now colleagues. I am grateful for the relationships from the past 30 years."
Mary Potenza

"Newbies, you are going to love it here."
Lisa Watson

"It's a privilege to work in Elmsford."
Richard Vergara

"My word would be flexibility. Be flexible with your colleagues, students and yourself. And have fun, enjoy everyday."
Eugene Donepp

"Find a teacher you can really trust."
Suzanne Egan

"Find your crew, and go out and celebrate, make friends."
Tyler Fernandez

"I knew this was the place where I wanted to be. It felt right."
Beth Fletcher

"Yes, the students will remember what we taught them, but they will also remember who we are. My advice, remember who you are and give that to your students, always."
Andrea Cleveland



30 Years of Service
Kimberly Breen, Carolyn Hopper, Christine Kelly, Mary Potenza and Lisa Watson



25 Years of Service
Richard Vergara, Eugene Donepp, Suzanne Egan, Tyler Fernandez, Beth Fletcher, Leah Sanft and Andrea Cleveland



20 Years of Service
Sonia Rosello, Nathanael Weinberger, Lisa Lanzallotto and Omar Baez (not photographed)



15 Years of Service
Mariana DeLaurentis, Samantha Delaney and Dr. Andrea Hamilton

Superintendent Yom shares district priorities in address to faculty and staff

"Welcome back!" Superintendent Susan Yom announced at the start. "We are so excited to see you. We worked all summer long to be sure you have a successful year."

"We all put a lot of groundwork in," Board President David Hecht said, echoing the sentiment. "We look forward to a great year. We have a great support network for you, and we are striving for some amazing goals this year."

The morning began with a celebration acknowledging the many faculty and staff who have served the district for 30, 25, 20, and 15 years.

"We want to cheer for them really loud," Ms. Yom encouraged as the audience clapped and cheered as individuals were called up to receive their certificate and pin.

That enthusiasm continued as the superintendent shared her vision for the district's future as she outlined specific priority areas that support this year's theme: "Excel, Equip and Elevate toward Excellence."

In her address, Ms. Yom shared what she has learned during her tenure in the district, even pointing out the massive pile of notebooks she used to take notes as she got to know the district, its faculty and staff, families, the broader community and began to plan for the future as part of her C.A.R.E. Entry Plan.

Aligning literacy, tiered systems of support, special education, student supports, providing more rigorous expectations for students, attendance, discipline, the need for more coaches, a desire for more professional development opportunities, and so much more were things that Ms. Yom said were discussed with her during her first 100 days as superintendent.

Among her goals then were to cultivate strong relationships, achieve a smooth transition among leadership, review and gain and understanding of the district and engage stakeholders.

"We want to understand together what our district is really great at, what we are deeply passionate about and what we are going to sustain," Ms. Yom said of her and her leadership team. "We have to exercise level five leadership that is persistent and a vision for the greatness of children and their successes."

"We can't do it all, but what we want to tell you is that we are learning with you," she said, noting the district leadership team, as part of their summer retreat read "Good to Great," by Jim Collins. One thing that stood out to her, Ms. Yom said, was companies that told the author, "They didn't focus on what they did to become great only, but they focused on what not to do and what to stop doing."



Ms. Yom outlined four priority areas for the future:

Excel in student achievement
Engage learners in safe and supportive learning environments
Equip, recruit and retain highly effective educators and staff
Elevate effective, high-quality, cost-effective operations

"All of these priority areas area connected to one another you can't do one without the other," she said. "So, I'm going to keep proposing these questions to you — what are you deeply passionate about with your work with students, where do we excel as a team, and how do we know when our work is having the greatest impact," she said.

Where will the district go from here. Ms. Yom said it's a five-year process. Among the attributes in it, is a to understand Portrait of a Graduate and work to create scholars, embed K-12 literacy in all core content areas, tiered systems of support from academics to behavior, discuss special education, looking at the dual language program, adding rigorous content instruction especially in the areas of STEM, and talk about scheduling.

Safety too will be considered while working with local agencies. This also includes digital safety and using AI with integrity.

"Let's continue to do what we do really well, student connectedness, but let's make it a goal that every student say they have one adult who they say is their person," she said to encourage less absences among students.
In terms of retainment, she proposed more professional development opportunities.

"I'm hoping everyone is feeling pumped up," Ms. Yom said at one point, continuing to the building excitement for the new school year.

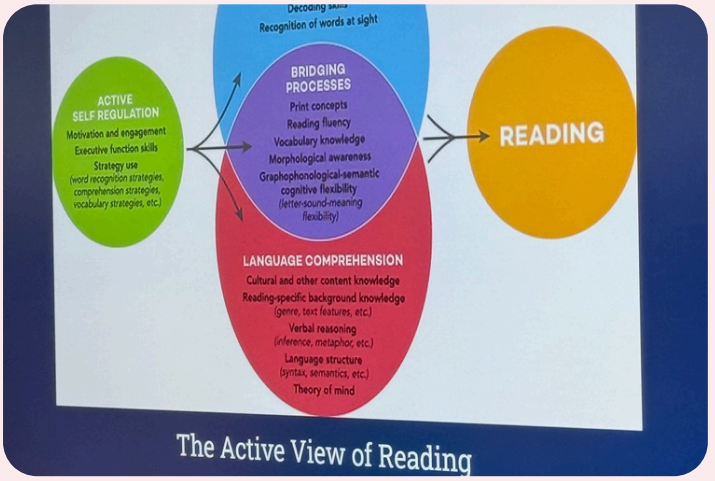
SPOTLIGHT:
SUMMER ED CAMP

Sometimes the teachers become the students, like with the district's recent EdCamp! This summer faculty gathered to engage in several workshops. Sessions included numerous instructional technology workshops, with a strong emphasis on data utilization, as well as workshops on how to meet the needs of our ENL population, and more!













SPOTLIGHT:
ENL SUMMER PROGRAM

Students in our ENL Summer Program had an amazing experience! Not only did they have an opportunity to practice English, they engaged in a number of hands-on, fun science projects: volcanoes, lava lamps, invisible ink, solar ovens, slime, the water cycle, crystallization of rock candy, animal adaptation and a scavenger hunt along the County Trail!









Let's go Raiders!

Alexander Hamilton
2024 Cross Country Schedule

Date	Meet	Location	Time	Bus Time
Tues. 9/10	vs. Albertus, Dobbs, Irvington, Tuckahoe	Irvington HS	3:00pm	3:00pm
Sat. 9/14	Regis Invitational	VCP	TBD	TBD
Tues. 9/17	vs. Albertus Magnus, Leffell, Pleasantville	Woodlands HS	3:15pm	4:30pm
Sat. 9/21	Bob Pratt Invitational	Sunken Meadows	TBD	TBD
Tues. 9/24	vs. Pawling, Tuckahoe, Valhalla	Valhalla HS	3:00pm	4:30pm
Sat. 9/28	Fred Gressler Invitational	White Plains HS	TBD	TBD
Tues. 10/1	Conference 3 XC Extravaganza	Woodlands HS	3:00pm	4:30pm
Wed. 10/8	League Championship Meet	Woodlands HS	4:30pm	3:00pm
Sat. 10/19	Coaches & Officials Invitational Meet	Woodlands HS	TBD	TBD
Sat. 10/26	Westchester County Championships	Milton Sports Dome	TBD	TBD
Sat. 11/9	Section 1 Championships	Bowdoin Park	TBD	TBD

All Meet Times Are Subject To Change & Additional Meets May Be Added
These Meets Are For Athletes Who Meet The Qualifying Standard Times/Distances

Boys Varsity Soccer
ALEXANDER HAMILTON RED RAIDERS
2025

LEFFELL - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 4TH 4:30PM

BRONXVILLE - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 6TH 10:00AM

HALDANE - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 8TH 4:45PM

BRIARCLIFF - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 10TH 4:30PM

IRVINGTON - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 12TH 6:00PM

BREWSTER @ PEEKSKILL
SEPTEMBER 20TH 1:00PM

WOODLANDS - HOME
SEPTEMBER 26TH 4:30PM

CROTON - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 30TH 4:30PM

TUCKAHOE - AWAY
OCTOBER 3RD 7:00PM

PAWLING - HOME
OCTOBER 6TH 5:00PM

WOODLANDS - AWAY
OCTOBER 10TH 4:30PM

CROTON - HOME
OCTOBER 14TH 4:30PM

PUT VALLEY - HOME
OCTOBER 17TH 5:00PM

VALHALLA - HOME
OCTOBER 20TH 4:30PM

Denotes Senior Game

Boys Modified Soccer
ALEXANDER HAMILTON RED RAIDERS
2025

WOODLANDS - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 26TH 4:30PM

YONKERS CSEE - HOME
SEPTEMBER 29TH 4:30PM

BRONXVILLE - AWAY
OCTOBER 3RD 4:30PM

SL. HOLLOW - HOME
OCTOBER 7TH 4:30PM

DOBBS FERRY - AWAY
OCTOBER 9TH 4:30PM

HASTINGS - HOME
OCTOBER 15TH 4:30PM

IRVINGTON - AWAY
OCTOBER 17TH 4:30PM

TUCKAHOE - AWAY
OCTOBER 21ST 4:30PM

LEFFELL - AWAY
OCTOBER 23RD 4:30PM

WOODLANDS - HOME
OCTOBER 24TH 4:30PM

YONKERS MA - AWAY
OCTOBER 27TH 4:30PM

YONKERS CSEE - HOME
OCTOBER 29TH 4:30PM

Check websites for changes @ https://www.eufsd.org/domain/26

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Boys JV Soccer
ALEXANDER HAMILTON RED RAIDERS
2025

HALDANE - HOME
SEPTEMBER 8TH 4:45PM

BRIARCLIFF - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 10TH 4:30PM

IRVINGTON - HOME
SEPTEMBER 12TH 4:30PM

PAWLING - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 18TH 5:00PM

PUT VALLEY - HOME
SEPTEMBER 20TH 11:00AM

LEFFELL - AWAY

WOODLANDS - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 26TH 4:30PM

TUCKAHOE - HOME
SEPTEMBER 29TH 4:30PM

CROTON - HOME
SEPTEMBER 30TH 4:30PM

PAWLING - HOME
OCTOBER 6TH 5:00PM

PUT VALLEY - HOME
OCTOBER 8TH 4:30PM

WOODLANDS - HOME

CROTON - AWAY
OCTOBER 14TH 4:30PM

NEW ROCHELLE - AWAY
OCTOBER 16TH 600PM

TUCKAHOE - AWAY
OCTOBER 20TH 4:30PM

NEW ROCHELLE - HOME
OCTOBER 22ND 4:30PM

Check websites for changes @ https://www.eufsd.org/domain/26

Girls Modified Soccer
ALEXANDER HAMILTON RED RAIDERS
2025

CHESTNUT RG - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 22ND 4:45PM

POMONA - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 24TH 4:30PM

WOODLANDS - HOME
SEPTEMBER 26TH 4:30PM

YONKERS CSEE - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 29TH 4:30PM

PEEKSKILL - HOME
OCTOBER 3RD 4:45PM

WOODLANDS - AWAY
OCTOBER 7TH 4:30PM

YONKERS MA - HOME
OCTOBER 17TH 4:30PM

CHESTNUT RG - HOME
OCTOBER 20TH 4:45PM

POMONA - HOME
OCTOBER 21ST 4:30PM

WOODLANDS - AWAY
OCTOBER 24TH 4:30PM

YONKERS CSEE - HOME
OCTOBER 27TH 4:30PM

YONKES CSEE - HOME
OCTOBER 30TH 4:30PM

Check websites for changes @ https://www.eufsd.org/domain/26

Girls Varsity Soccer
ALEXANDER HAMILTON RED RAIDERS
2025

WOODLANDS - HOME
SEPTEMBER 5TH 4:30PM

POUGHKEEPSIE - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 9TH 5:15PM

MT. VERNON - HOME
SEPTEMBER 11TH 4:30PM

RAMAPO - HOME
SEPTEMBER 15TH 4:45PM

SPRING VALLEY - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 17TH 4:45PM

PEEKSKILL - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 20TH 5:00PM

GORTON - HOME
SEPTEMBER 22ND 4:30PM

WOODLANDS - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 25TH 4:30PM

POUGHKEEPSIE - HOME
SEPTEMBER 27TH 11:00AM

MT. VERNON - AWAY
SEPTEMBER 29TH 4:30PM

PEEKSKILL - HOME
OCTOBER 3RD 4:45PM

RAMAPO - AWAY
OCTOBER 7TH 4:45PM

*SPRING VALLEY - HO
OCTOBER 9TH 4:45PM

PAWLING - AWAY
OCTOBER 10TH 5:00PM

PAWLING - HOME
OCTOBER 15TH 5:00PM

SCARSDALE - AWAY
OCTOBER 20TH 4:30PM

Denotes Senior Game

Check websites for change https://www.eufsd.org/dom

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Varsity Volleyball
ALEXANDER HAMILTON RED RAIDERS 2025

- PLEASANTVILLE - HOME — SEPTEMBER 4TH 4:30PM
- PEEKSKILL - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 5TH 4:45PM
- HASTINGS - HOME — SEPTEMBER 9TH 4:30PM
- MT. VERNON - HOME — SEPTEMBER 11TH 4:30PM
- WOODLANDS - HOME — SEPTEMBER 12TH 4:30PM
- SCARSDALE - HOME — SEPTEMBER 15TH 4:30PM
- LEFFELL - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 16TH 4:30PM
- NORTH SALEM - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 19TH 5:00PM
- TUCKAHOE - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 25TH 4:30PM
- SPRING VALLEY - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 26TH 5:00PM
- GORTON - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 29TH 4:30PM
- ELMSFORD CLASSIC TOURNEY — OCTOBER 4TH 1:00PM
- TUCKAHOE - HOME — OCTOBER 6TH 4:30PM
- HALDANE - HOME — OCTOBER 8TH 4:45PM
- PAWLING - AWAY — OCTOBER 10TH 5:00PM
- YONKERS CSEE - HOME — OCTOBER 14TH 4:30PM
- KEIO ACADEMY - AWAY — OCTOBER 16TH 4:30PM
- BARACK OBAMA - HOME — OCTOBER 21ST 4:30PM
- *KEIO ACADEMY - HOME* — OCTOBER 22ND 5:30PM
- WOODLANDS - AWAY — OCTOBER 23RD 5:45PM

Denotes Senior Game
Check websites for changes @ https://www.eufsd.org/domain/26
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JV Volleyball
ALEXANDER HAMILTON RED RAIDERS 2025

- PLEASANTVILLE - HOME — SEPTEMBER 4TH 6:00PM
- PEEKSKILL - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 5TH 6:00PM
- HASTINGS- HOME — SEPTEMBER 9TH 6:00PM
- MT. VERNON - HOME — SEPTEMBER 11TH 6:00PM
- WOODLANDS - HOME — SEPTEMBER 12TH 6:00PM
- SCARSDALE - HOME — SEPTEMBER 15TH 6:00PM
- LEFFELL - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 16TH 6:00PM
- NORTH SALEM - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 19TH 5:00PM
- TUCKAHOE - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 25TH 6:00PM
- ELMSFORD CLASSIC TOURNEY — SEPTEMBER 27TH 9:00AM
- GORTON - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 29TH 6:00PM
- YORKTOWN - AWAY — OCTOBER 3RD 4:45PM
- TUCKAHOE - HOME — OCTOBER 6TH 4:30PM
- HALDANE - HOME — OCTOBER 8TH 6:15PM
- PAWLING - AWAY — OCTOBER 10TH 6:30PM
- RED/WHITE SCRIMMAGE — OCTOBER 15TH 4:00PM
- BRIARCLIFF - HOME — OCTOBER 16TH 4:30PM
- YORKTOWN - HOME — OCTOBER 20TH 4:45PM
- BARACK OBAMA - HOME — OCTOBER 21ST 6:15PM
- WOODLANDS - AWAY — OCTOBER 23RD 4:30PM
- BRIARCLIFF TOURNEY — OCTOBER 25TH 9:00AM
- RED/WHITE SCRIMMAGE — NOVEMBER 4TH 4:00PM

White Team Red Team
Check websites for changes @ https://www.eufsd.org/domain/26
Follow Us On Twitter: @ RedRaiderAD

Modified Volleyball
ALEXANDER HAMILTON RED RAIDERS 2025

- RED/WHITE SCRIMMAGE — SEPTEMBER 26TH 4:00PM
- DOBBS FERRY - HOME — SEPTEMBER 29TH 4:30PM
- LEFFELL - AWAY — SEPTEMBER 30TH 4:30PM
- YONKERS CSEE - HOME — OCTOBER 3RD 4:30PM
- YONKERS CSEE - HOME — OCTOBER 6TH 4:30PM
- SLEEPY HOLLOW - HOME — OCTOBER 9TH 4:30PM
- RED/WHITE SCRIMMAGE — OCTOBER 10TH 4:00PM
- YONKERS CSEE - AWAY — OCTOBER 14TH 4:30PM
- BRONXVILLE - HOME — OCTOBER 16TH 4:30PM
- HASTINGS - HOME — OCTOBER 17TH 4:30PM
- RED/WHITE SCRIMMAGE — OCTOBER 20TH 4:00PM
- IRVINGTON - AWAY — OCTOBER 21ST 4:30PM
- TUCKAHOE - HOME — OCTOBER 23RD 4:30PM
- POCANTICO - HOME — OCTOBER 24TH 4:30PM
- WOODLANDS - AWAY — OCTOBER 27TH 4:30PM
- DOBBS FERRY - HOME — OCTOBER 29TH 4:30PM
- YONKERS CSEE - AWAY — OCTOBER 30TH 4:30PM
- RED/WHITE SCRIMMAGE — NOVEMBER 3RD 4:00PM

Home Games @ Alice E. Grady Gym
White Team Red Team
Check websites for changes @ https://www.eufsd.org/domain/26
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BRIARCLIFF-HAMILTON VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



= HOME GAMES = AWAY GAMES

ALL GAME TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- ALBERTUS MAGNUS — SEPT 6 @ ALEXANDER HAMILTON HS – 12:00PM
- VALHALLA — SEPT 12 @ VALHALLA HS – 7:00PM
- TUCKAHOE — SEPT 20 @ BRIARCLIFF HS – 12:00PM
- PUTNAM VALLEY — SEPT 26 @ PUTNAM VALLEY HS – 6:00PM
- NANUET — OCT 4 @ NANUET HS – 2:30PM
- WOODLANDS — OCT 11 @ WOODLANDS HS – 1:30PM
- IRVINGTON — OCT 17 @ BRIARCLIFF HS – 6:00PM
- HASTINGS — OCT 25 @ REYNOLDS FIELD, HASTINGS – 3:00PM



Getting Ready for Back to School!

Dixson and Grady students and families had an opportunity to stop by their respective schools a few days before opening day to drop off their school supplies, meet old friends, make some new ones, see their classrooms and meet their teachers! Thank you also to Amazon for the generous donation of backpacks filled with school supplies!








UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 10, Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m.
Sept. 16, Dixson ENL Parent Night, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 16, Dixson Back to School Night, 7 p.m.
Sept. 17, Grady ENL Parent Night, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 17, Grady Back to School Night, 7 p.m.
Sept. 18, AHHS ENL Parent Night, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 18, AHHS Back to School Night, 7 p.m.
Sept. 23-24, Rosh Hashanah, District Office and Schools Closed