APRIL 2026

SUPERINTENDENT NEWSLETTER

"ENGAGE, EQUIP, ELEVATE TOWARD EXCELLENCE."

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Elmsford Community,

With spring finally here, it's hard not to feel a sense of renewed energy throughout our schools. It has been a busy and exciting time across the district, and April gave us many reasons to celebrate.

At Grady, we were proud to see several of our fifth- and sixth-grade students inducted into the National Elementary Honor Society. Their hard work and determination are something to truly celebrate, and we look forward to seeing all they will continue to accomplish.

Our "On a Roll" celebration was another highlight of the month. It was wonderful to welcome families and friends as we recognized students who made meaningful progress during the second trimester. The smiles, applause, and sense of pride in the room were a great reminder of how important these moments are for our students.

We also had the opportunity to recognize some truly inspiring efforts. Jason R., Jr., one of our second graders, was honored by the Board of Education for organizing a diaper drive to support families in need—a thoughtful act that made a real difference. We also celebrated Gideon G. and Tahjarie B. for being selected to perform in the Elementary All-County Festival, a wonderful accomplishment supported by their teacher, Christopher Funke.

I'd also like to congratulate the AHHS Coding Club for their success at the Siena College Coding Competition, where they placed 36th out of 112 teams—an impressive achievement!

Our arts students had a memorable visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where they explored, learned, and found inspiration. It was especially exciting to see our photography students capturing what caught their eye and building their skills in a real-world setting.

At Dixson, our youngest learners showed just how capable they are during a recent fire drill. Their calm and focused response speaks volumes about the care and preparation provided by our teachers and staff, and I am grateful for their continued commitment to student safety.

At our most recent Board of Education meeting, the proposed 2026–2027 budget was approved. We will continue to share information and keep our community informed as we move forward and information on the 2026-27 budget can be found on our website, https://www.eufsd.org/district-info/budget-information/2026-2027-budget-information

There is much to celebrate, and I look forward to all that lies ahead and to continuing to highlight the great work happening across our schools. I hope you all have the opportunity to enjoy the warmer weather and the season ahead.

Sincerely,

Susan Yom
Superintendent of Schools

MEMORIAL DAY

As a reminder to all our families, our schools and District Offices will be closed on Monday May 25, 2026 in recognition of Memorial Day.



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Board of Education approves 2026–27 Budget

On April 8, 2026, the Board of Education unanimously approved an expenditure budget for the 2026-2027 school year amounting to $48,098,741, an increase of 1.73 percent. The proposed tax levy increase is 1.98 percent.

In a brief presentation prior to the board vote, Superintendent of Schools Susan Yom thanked all the stake holders and the community for their work in shaping the budget.

“Our budget is fixed on our mission, our vision and our values,” Ms. Yom said.

“And we work on our mission every day to optimize teaching and learning, so our students not only excel today but thrive in college and beyond. We are dedicated to this work every day.”

Ms. Yom said the proposed budget would support the district's multi-year priorities that help to achieve the district's vision. Among them are for students to excel in academic achievement, engage every learner in a safe and supportive learning environment, recruit and maintain highly effective staff, and support cost-efficient operations.

Budget priorities, she said include fiscal responsibility, addressing all areas of academic programs and extra curriculars too.

“We feel we will continue to be able to support all the wonderful things we are doing,” she continued, including maintaining small class sizes, the school resource officers and meet all contractual obligations.

Next year, she said, the district will begin to look at updating curriculum, especially in math, and work on the Portrait of a Graduate as well as to consider how the district uses artificial intelligence. The plan is to also introduce a special education 8:1:2 program at Dixson.

The 2026-2027 budget was made available to the public on April 28, and a public hearing will take place on May 6. Eligible voters will have the option to vote on the budget and in the Board of Education Trustees election on May 19, 2026, from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Alice E. Grady Elementary School in the Music Room.

2026-2027 Proposed Budget

2026-27 Proposed Budget	$48,098,741
Budget $ Increase	$818,229
Budget % Increase	1.73%
2025-2026 Budget	$47,280,512
Proposed Tax Levy	$36,411,500
Tax Levy Increase	$708,673
Tax Levy	1.98%

April 28, 2026

Proposed budget available to the public

May 6, 2026

Public Hearing on the Budget

May 19

Board Elections and Budget Vote

For more information on the 2026-2027 Budget, visit the Budget page on our website.

NEHS has a new class of impressive inductees

A special group of fifth and sixth graders were recognized for their hard academic work and commitment to their community after having been selected to be inducted into the National Elementary Honor Society.

The induction ceremony took place on April 23 as family and friends gathered in the AHHS auditorium where inductees received their pins and certificates.

"Their dedication to excellence responsibility, leadership, scholarship and service is simply amazing," said NEHS advisor Christine Budzynski about the inductees. "They have shown us what it means to be a leader, a friend and a person who cares about their school and wants to make our community better."

"Every single day you have the power to make a difference in our world," she continued.

Ms. Budzynski said she has seen first-hand how the students have worked hard not only in their classrooms as inquisitive learners, but also through their time in Drama Club, assisting with school food drives and reading to young second graders.

She anticipates this is just the beginning of great thigs for all these students.

Inductees are selected for the honor not only for their high academic standing, but also because they exemplify the four principles of the NEHS, scholarship, responsibility, service and leadership.

During the ceremony, selected inductees shared with the audience what each principle means as a candle was lit to represent them.

SCHOLARSHIP: A commitment to learning

RESPONSIBILITY: Commitment to doing what you say you will do

SERVICE: Helping others to do what they cannot do alone

LEADERSHIP: Exert a positive influence on your school

The audience was also treated to a special performance by the Grady Band before inductees were called up one by one to receive their certificates and recite the NEHS pledge.

"I am struck by a simple truth," Grady Acting Principal James Yap said. "The future of Elmsford is sitting here in these rows. Tonight they have shown leadership does not have an age requirement."









Congratulations to our Grady Rockland Boulder Reading Challenge Winners

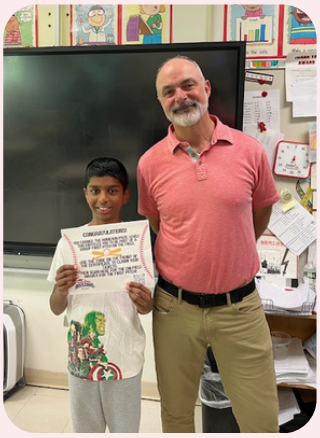
Grady readers really knocked it out of the park during the "Read for the New York Boulders Reading Challenge," sponsored by the New York Boulders baseball team.

The reading program, that ran from February through March, has participants register and encourages them to log how many minutes per day they read or to read for 20 minutes three-times a week. Those logging the most minutes are eligible to win tickets to an upcoming game. Grady students received a certificate, coupon for the game and a bonus coupon to an area entertainment center.

Grady participants read, and kept on reading, racking up a total of **130,779** minutes!

Sixth grader Joewin N., in Mr. Donepp's class was the top reader. He read for 3,928 minutes.

These are the Grady Homerun Readers who read 1300+ minutes:
Joewin N.
Andres V.
Micah C.
Dylan L.
Melany G.
Aldane H.
Valentina A.
Gabriel F.
Matthias R.
Linnea B.
Michael H.
Ethan L.
Aaron A.
Aden A.
Aaron A.
Jocelyn V.













AHHS Codling Club enjoys success at recent competition

Shout out to our AHHS Coding Club!
On Friday, April 17th, our Coding Club students entered the annual Siena College Coding Competition in Loudonville, New York.

Our team placed 36 out of 112!







Always be prepared!

It's a great lesson and one Dixson students recently practiced during a fire drill. Students carefully exited the school buildings and met up at the appropriate waiting areas before returning inside to finish the day.







Fly away!

In Mr. Hopper's science class at Grady, students had fun with flight! They pondered how do birds fly, what is the world's largest animal with the ability to fly, what kind of paper airplane design will fly the farthest and much more!





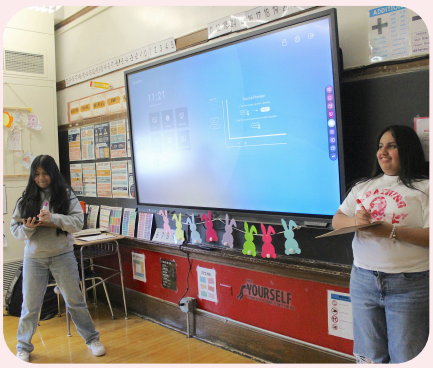






Hurray for Math!

Math can be fun, especially when bragging rights are on the line! One AHHS seventh-grade math class turned into a battle of the brains when students competed with one another to quickly solve problems and beat the competition!





April is Autism Acceptance Month!

A time to recognize and celebrate the strengths, perspectives, and experiences of students on the autism spectrum across our school community. It's also an opportunity to reflect on how we continue to build classrooms and programs where every student feels a true sense of belonging.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a developmental difference that impacts how individuals communicate, interact, and process their environment. Because autism presents differently in every individual, students benefit from supports that are tailored to their unique strengths and needs. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 1 in 36 children in the United States is identified with autism.

Across our schools, this work is carried out every day by our teachers, related service providers, and support staff who collaborate to create structured, supportive learning environments. Whether through specialized programs, integrated classroom supports, or individualized planning through the CSE process, our focus remains on helping each student grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

As part of this commitment, we are continuing to strengthen our in-district continuum of services. In the upcoming school year, we will be adding an 8:1:2 classroom at Dixson, designed to better support students on the autism spectrum. This addition will provide more opportunities for students to learn within their home district while receiving the targeted supports they need.

Families interested in learning more about autism and available supports may find helpful information through organizations such as the Autism Society of America and Autism Speaks.

Autism Acceptance Month reminds us that inclusion is not a single initiative, but an ongoing commitment. We are proud of the work happening across our district and will continue striving to ensure that all students are supported, valued, and positioned for success.

Meet the Met, the Metropolitan Musem of Art!

Students in the AHHS Art Department went on an art adventure recently during a field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art! Students enjoyed a group tour as well as exploring the galleries on their own, with several students from the Photography class documenting the experience from their perspective!













AHHS' Baseball team member recognized

Alexander Hamilton's very own Senior Justin Acevedo was nominated for the LoHud Player of the Week!

Justin is a Grady graduate and now a senior at Hamilton. In the fall, he will be attending SUNY Purchase, majoring in biology while playing baseball!





Plenty of action left in the Spring season!

Varsity Baseball

IRVINGTON - HOME , APRIL 28TH 4:30PM
SLEEPY HOLLOW – HOME, APRIL 30TH 4:30PM
SLEEPY HOLLOW – AWAY, MAY 2ND 3:00PM
WOODLANDS - AWAY (EC), MAY 6TH 4:30PM
TBD @ ELMSFORD CLASSIC, MAY 9TH 9:00AM / 12:00PM
BARACK OBAMA – AWAY, MAY 11TH 4:30PM
***WOODLANDS – HOME,* MAY 12TH4:30PM**
TBD - TBD
TBD TBD
Denotes Senior Game

Modified Baseball

PORT CHESTER – AWAY, APRIL 30TH 4:30PM
PAWLING – AWAY, MAY 7TH5:00PM
POMONA – HOME, MAY 11TH4:45PM
PEEKSKILL – AWAY, MAY 13TH4:45PM
WOODLANDS – HOME, MAY 15TH4:30PM
PAWLING – HOME, MAY 18TH5:00PM
YONKERS CSEE – HOME, MAY 21ST 4:30PM
PORT CHESTER – HOME, MAY 26TH 4:30PM
WOODLANDS – HOME, MAY 29TH4:30PM
POMONA – AWAY, JUNE 1ST4:45PM

Varsity Softball

TBD @ ELMSFORD CLASSIC, MAY 2ND 9AM / 11:30AM
YONKERS – HOME, MAY 4TH 4:30PM
HALDANE – HOME, MAY 6TH 5:00PM
***GORTON – HOME,* MAY 8TH 4:30PM**
LEFFELL – AWAY, MAY 11TH 4:30PM
BRIARCLIFF - HOME , MAY 12TH 4:30PM
BLIND BROOK – HOME, MAY 14TH 4:30PM

JV Softball

MT. VERNON – AWAY, MAY 1ST, 4:45PM

Modified Softball

PORT CHESTER – AWAY, APRIL 30TH 4:30PM
PEEKSKILL – AWAY, MAY 6TH4:45PM
CHESTNUT RDGE – AWAY, MAY 7TH 4:45PM
CHESTNUT RDGE – HOME, MAY 11TH 4:45PM
PEEKSKILL – HOME, MAY 13TH4:45PM
BLIND BROOK – HOME, MAY 15TH4:30PM
LEFFELL – HOME, MAY 18TH4:30PM
YONKERS CSEE – HOME, MAY 20TH 4:30PM
PORT CHESTER – HOME, MAY 26TH 4:30PM
LEFFELL – AWAY, MAY 27TH4:30PM
LEFFELL – HOME, JUNE 1ST4:30PM

Spring Track and Field

Fri. 5/1 - Sat. 5/2, **Somers Lions Meet, Somers HS, 10:00am
2026 Spring Track Schedule
Thurs. 5/7 - Sat. 5/9, **Glenn D. Loucks Games, White Plains HS, TBA
Thurs. 5/14, Peekskill Senior Meet, Torpy Field, Peek, 4:15pm
Fri. 5/15 - Sat. 5/16, **Westchester City Championships, Somers / Hen Hud, 4:30 / 2:00
Tues. 5/19, League J Championships, Briarcliff HS, 4:15pm
Wed. 5/20, JV County Championships, Lakeland HS, 4:30pm
Fri. 5/29, **Class C Championships, Pawling HS, 3:30pm
Wed. 6/3, **NY State Qualifiers - Day 1, Hen. Hudson HS, 4:00pm
Thurs. 6/4, **NY State Qualifiers - Day 2, Arlington HS, 4:00pm
Fri. 6/5, **NY State Qualifiers - Day 3, Suffern MS, 4:00pm
Sat. 6/13 & Sun. 6/14, **NY State Championships Meet, Webster, NY, 9:00am

Check the AHHS Athletic website for schedule changes

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 6, Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., AHHS Auditorium
May 8, Dixson VIP Breaksfast, 8:30 a.m.
May 12, Milt Williams District Spring Concert, 7 p.m., AHHS Auditorium, also enjoy the AHHS Art Show!
May 19, Budget Vote & Trustee Election, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Grady Music Room
May 21, AHHS National Honor Society Induction, 7 p.m.
AHHS Scholastic Awards Night, 7 p.m.
May 29, Dixson/Grady Family Fitness Friday
April 29, 8th Grade Road to Success Night, AHHS Library, 6:30 p.m.

What a night of celebrating some special students!

At the April 8, 2026, Board of Education meeting, several Grady students were recognized for their hard work and community support.
Grady second grader Jason Roberts, Jr. was awarded a certificate of appreciation for his work organizing a diaper drive to collect much needed goods for families in need.
Additionally, fellow Grady students Gideon Geevarghese and Tahjarie Bedward were recognized for being selected to perform in the Elementary All-County Festival. Both students were nominated to perform by their music teacher Christopher Funke.



Jason R., Jr.



Gideon G. and Tahjarie B.