

NY Inspires District Spotlight

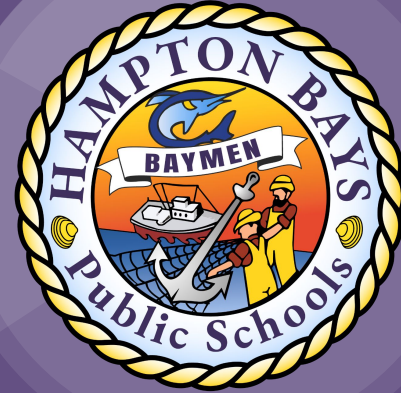
- This Is “My Story”
- Financial Literacy

Michael T. Carlson

*Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum,
Instruction, and Assessment*

Diane Fox

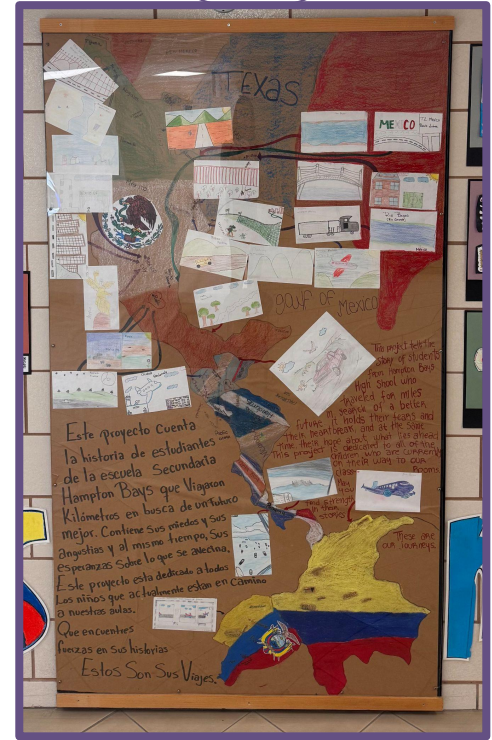
Director of Bilingual and Special Education



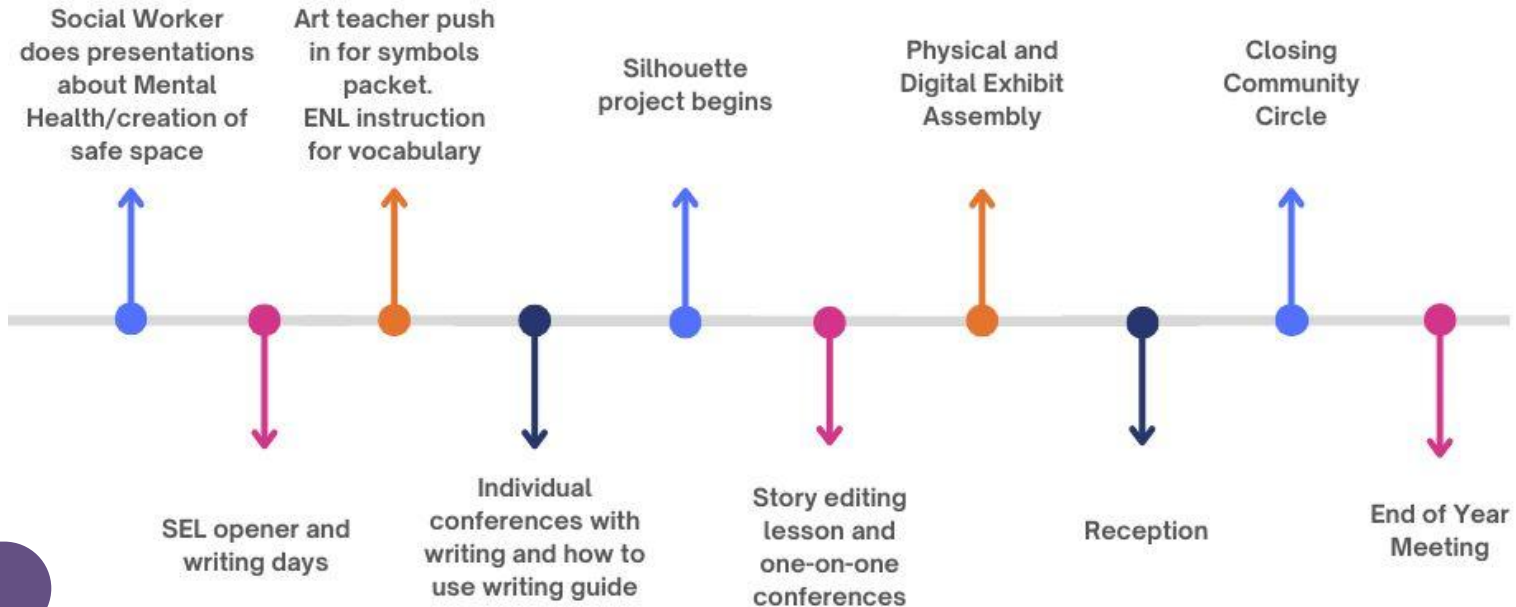
*ESBOCES Curriculum Council
September 17, 2026*

This is My Story Project

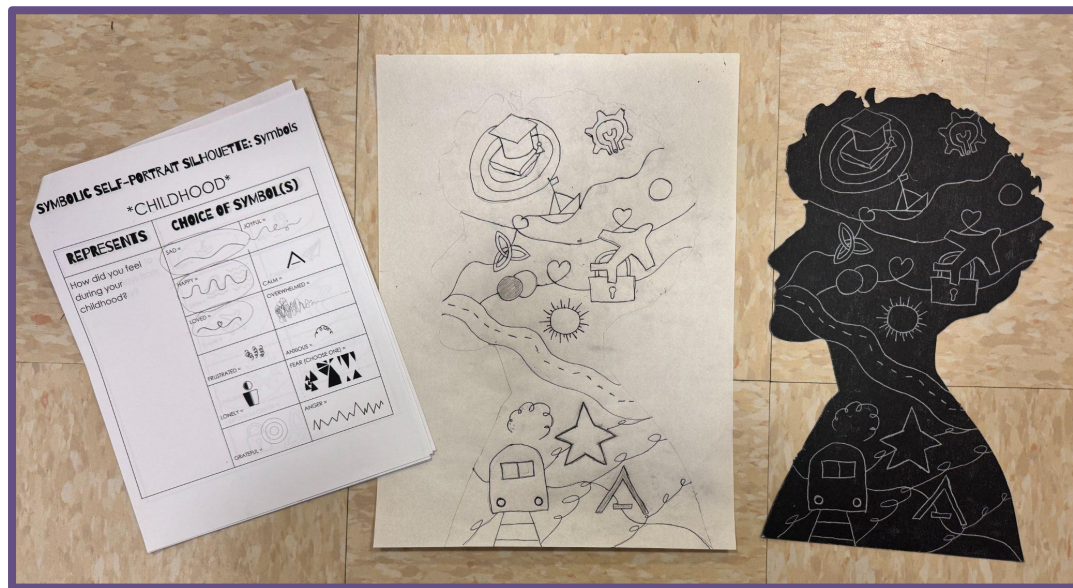
- Began in 2021-22 and continues to evolve
- Incorporates the Writing Process, SEL, art therapy, student presentations, and an online/in-person exhibit
 - **Phase 1:** Writing and ‘getting it out’ like a diary.
 - **Phase 2:** Writing and Editing
 - **Phase 3:** Public showcase for This is My Story
- Awarded “PEACE Project Grant” by Patchogue Arts Council
- Local artist led art installation
 - a floor to ceiling map of their birth cities, areas of Latin America traveled, and images they saw



Timeline of This is My Story



What It's Like To Be Me...



Impact on Faculty, Staff, and Students

- This project provides “a window” and “a mirror”
- It challenges us to reflect on social and political climates, current events and stereotypes.
- Reminds us to have compassion for another human being.
- Our students have a dedicated space that builds a sense of “belonging” which is a critical first step to fostering the learning of immigrant students.



Two Minutes - Turn and Talk!

- Consider how this project might exemplify the **NYS Portrait of a Graduate Attributes:**

- Academically Prepared
- Creative Innovator
- Critical Thinker
- Effective Communicator
- Global Citizen
- Reflective and Future Focused



“This is My Story” and the NYS Portrait of a Graduate



- **Academically Prepared** - Weaving critical writing, editing, and public speaking skills through a multi-phase project connects literacy to real-world communication.
- **Creative Innovator** - Using art therapy and collaborative design alongside a local artist to transform their lived experiences into visual art.
- **Critical Thinker** - Analyzing life experiences to reframe personal narratives, challenge stereotypes, and explore how social/political climates impact their lives.
- **Effective Communicator** - Diary-style writing to structured editing and a public exhibit, sharing their journey with an authentic audience.
- **Global Citizen** - Artwork that challenges stereotypes while fostering empathy
- **Reflective and Future Focused** - Students reframe challenges to reclaim their personal power and build long-term academic and social-emotional well-being.



Financial Literacy Community Partnerships

- In partnership with Teachers Federal Credit Union, Hampton Bays UFSD is able to offer faculty and students the opportunity to open a savings account and access it for deposits and withdrawals in Hampton Bays High School.
- The Baymen Financial Literacy Center helps students save money for field trips, yearbooks, prom tickets, college application fees, exam fees, etc.



Financial Literacy in Practice

- **Bite of Reality Financial Simulation**
 - In partnership with People's Alliance Credit Union.
 - Students learn about different types of money accounts to invest in or use for long-term savings.
 - Students learn about interest rates, credit cards v. debit cards, and loans



Examples of Financial Literacy in HB

- Personal Finance Courses in MS/HS
 - AP Business with Personal Finance
- Virtual Enterprise Business Elective
 - Trips/presentations in Javits Center
 - Students design formal business plans, companies, production to market process
- College Accounting Elective
- Articulation agreements with St. Joseph's University for students to earn college credit
- Trips to HIA-LI Annual Event in Hauppauge



Financial Literacy and the NYS Portrait of a Graduate

- **Academically Prepared:** Evaluate legal contracts, tax documents, and loan agreements to understand their impact on long-term financial stability.
- **Creative Innovator:** Solve problems by allocating resources, developing budgets, and using entrepreneurial thinking to build wealth in Virtual Enterprise.
- **Critical Thinker:** Manage finances using interest rates, inflation, credit terms, and investment risks in personal finance and marketing courses.
- **Effective Communicator:** Negotiate terms, question financial institutions, and articulate post-high school financial goals.
- **Global Citizen:** Understand monetary systems, taxation, market trends, and economic equity to engage in global economic discussions.
- **Reflective and Future Focused:** Practice forward planning, goal setting, and decision-making for higher education, retirement, and home or auto ownership.



“This is My Story”

Student Stories



Personal Finance



#WeAreHB