

Miller Place Board of Education Meeting



September 29, 2026



Pledge of Allegiance





Superintendent's Report



- Communication & Transparency
- Around the District
- 2026-2027 District Focus
- Budget Priorities & Planning
- A Culture of Caring Update

Together (Team)

Learning

Caring



Social Media Presence



WHY?

**Celebrate
Success!**

**Maintain
Transparency**

**Build
Community
Pride!**

District: @millerplaceschools

Supt. of Schools: @dr.ferris.millerplace

MPHS: @MPHS.millerplace

NCRMS: @NCRMS.millerplace

LADSBS: @LADSBS.millerplace

AMPS: @amps.millerplace



COMMUNICATION: TAKE STEPS



**Teacher, coach, advisor or person
closest to the situation**

Guidance Counselor, PPS Staff

Asst. Principal, Asst. Director for PPS, or Athletic Director

Principal, Director of PPS, or Curriculum Directors

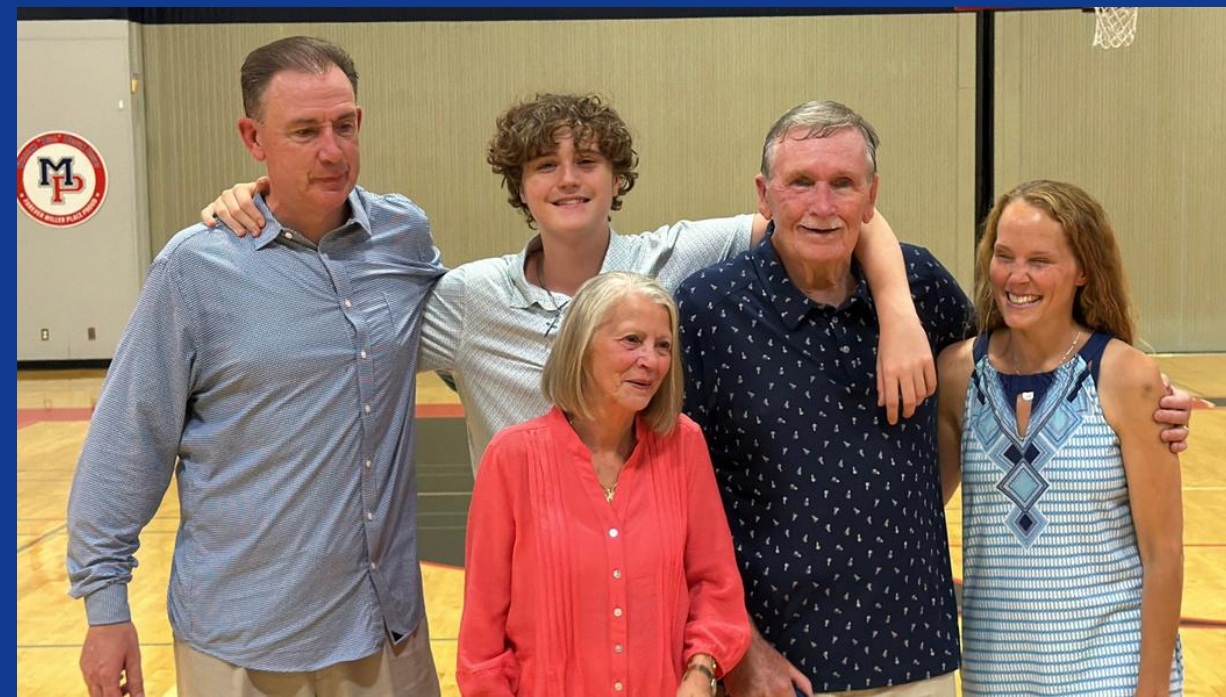
Asst. Superintendent, Director of HR, Director of PPS

Superintendent of Schools

For full directory & guidance details, visit:
<https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/board-of-education/finding-answers>

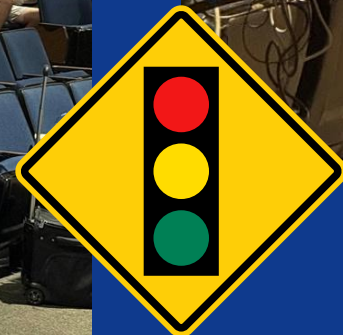
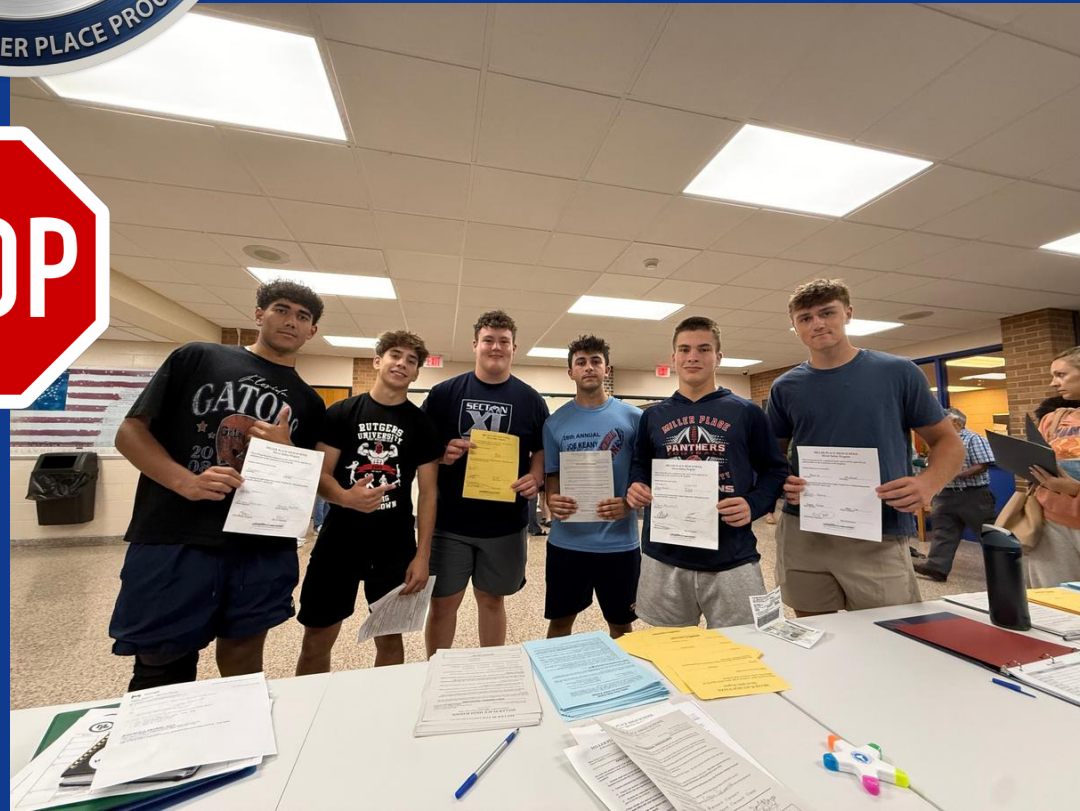


A Special MPHS Court Dedication



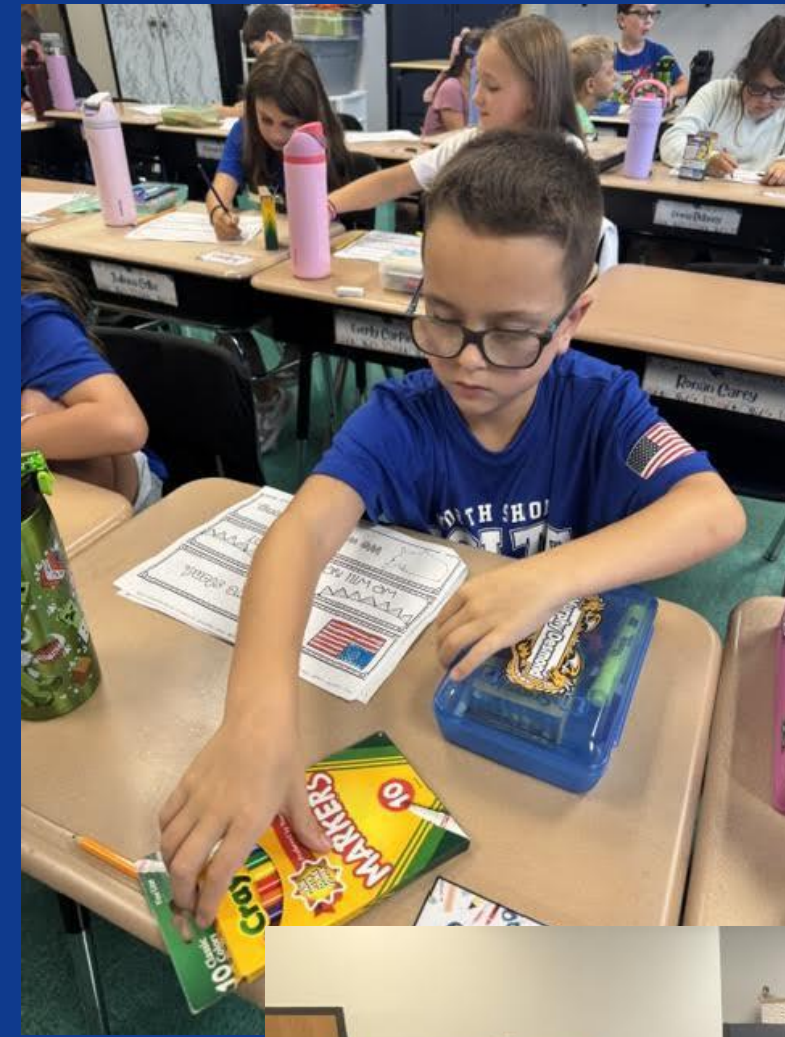


Making Safe Drivers at MPHS



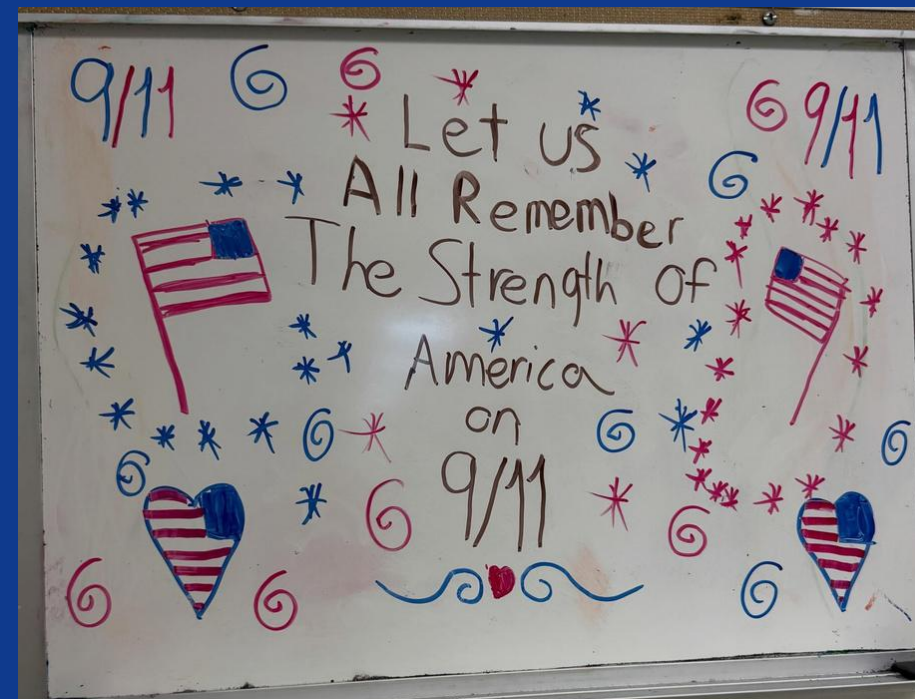


Honoring 9/11 at LADSBS



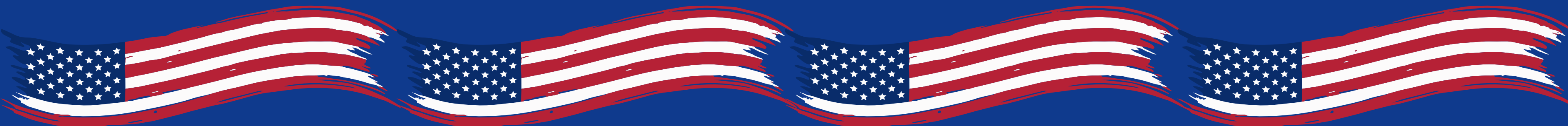
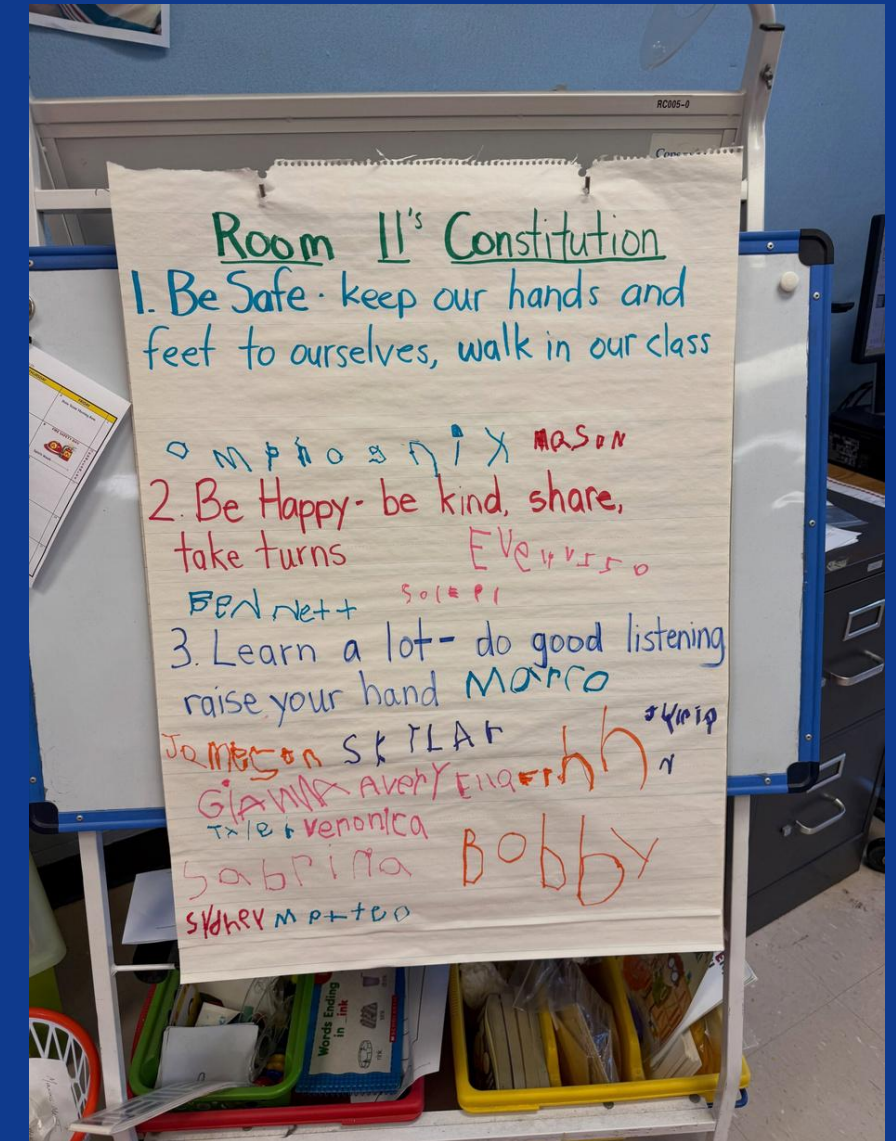
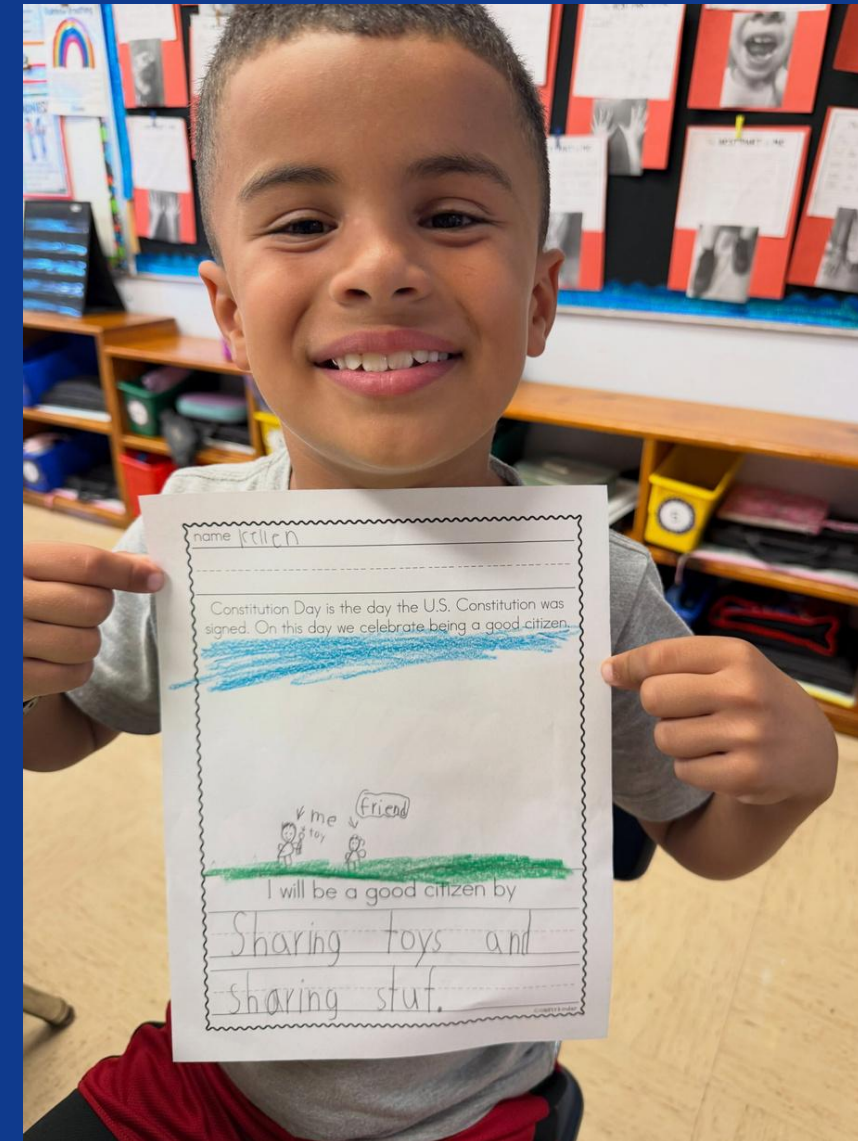
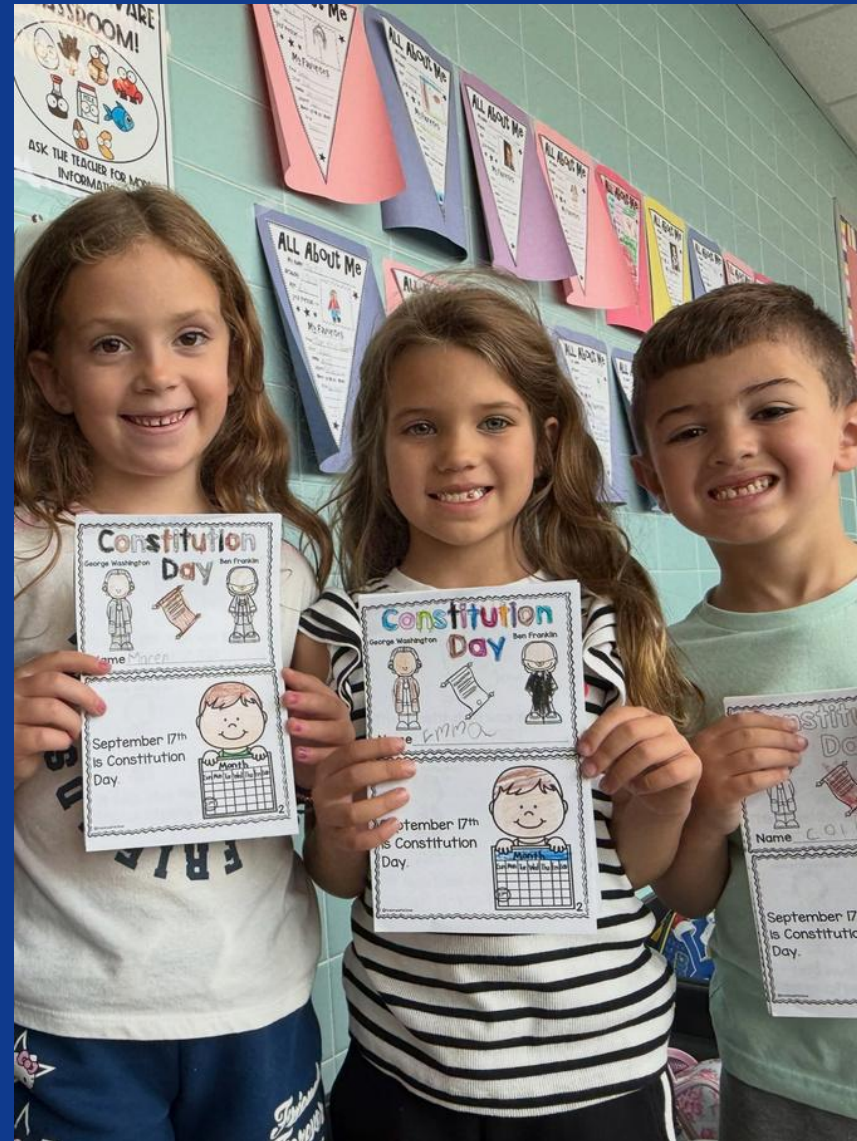
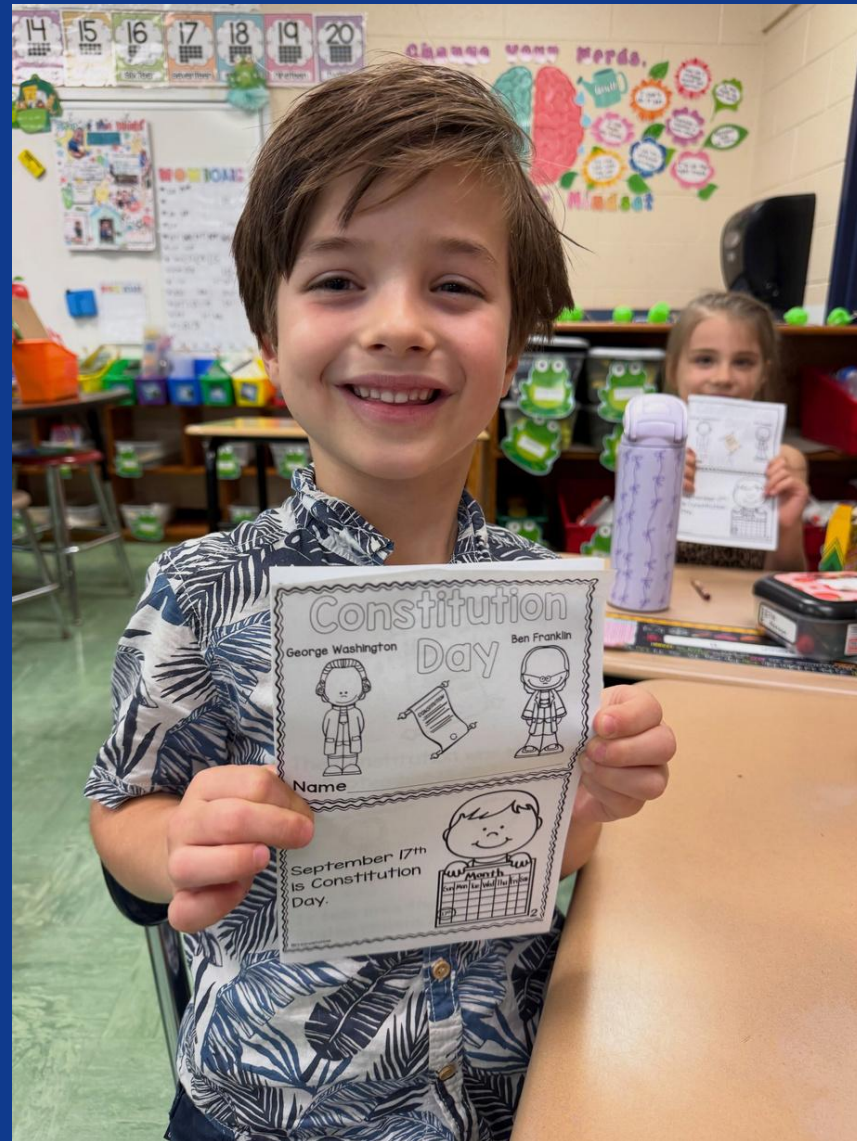


Honoring 9/11 at NCRMS



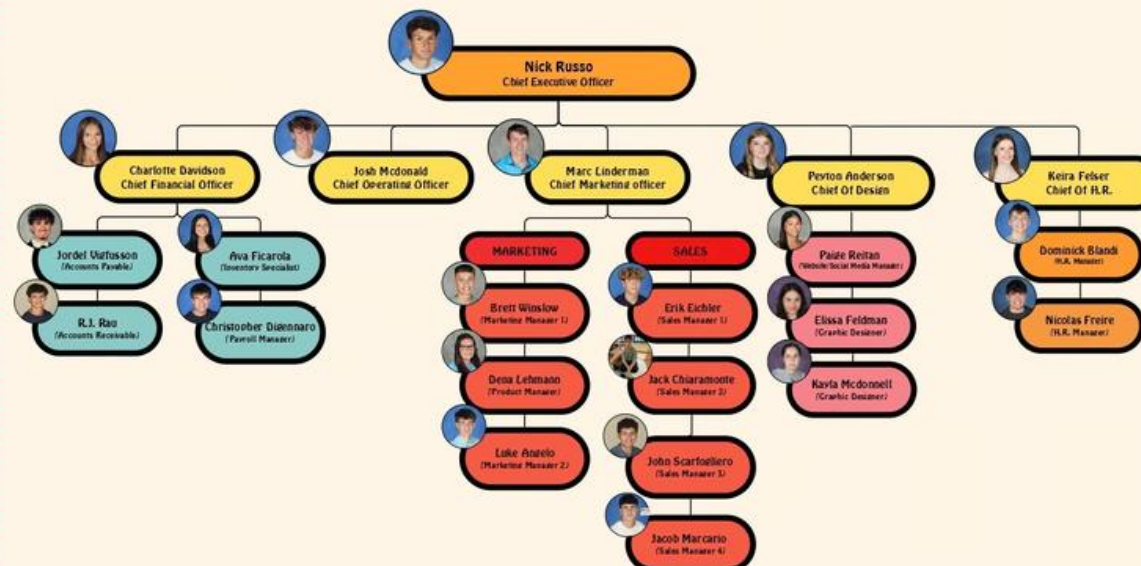


Constitution Day at AMPS



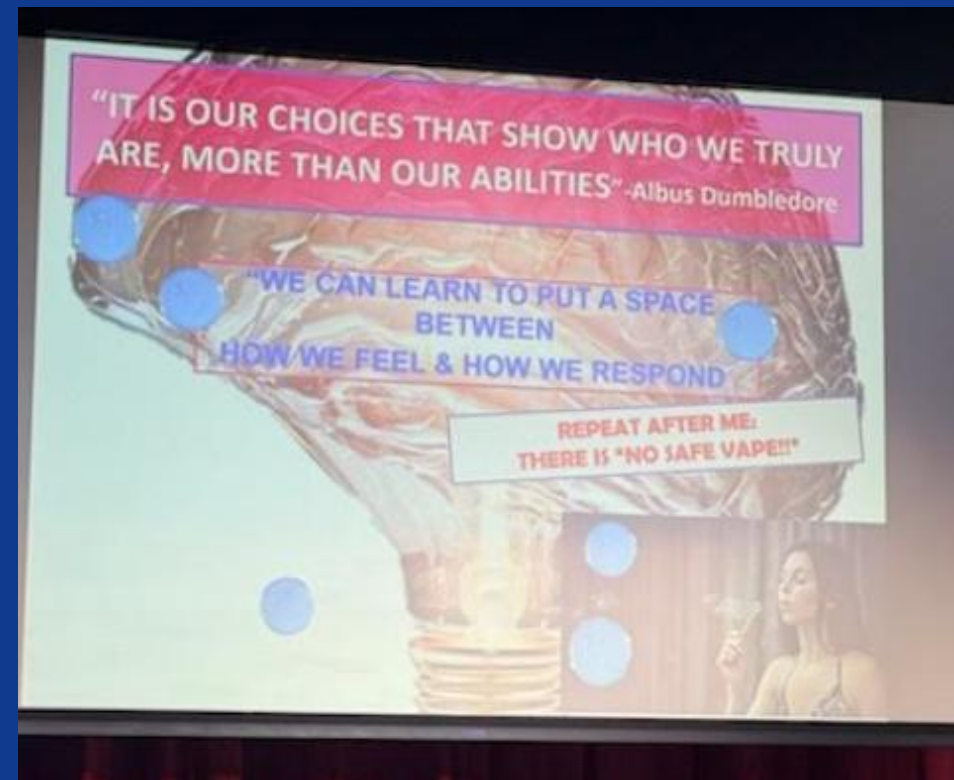
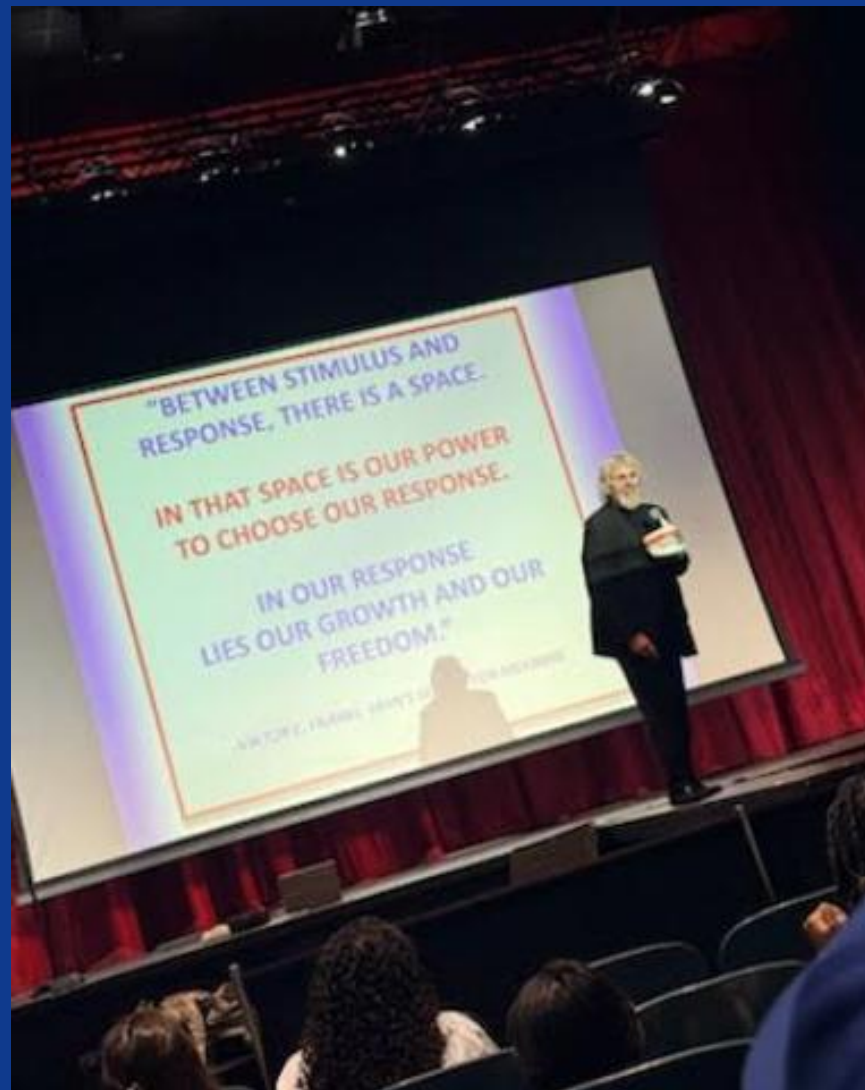


National Recognition for MPHS Virtual Enterprise Students





Suffolk County Youth Bureau Anti-Vaping Event





Congratulations to our Newsday-Recognized Athletes!



Violet Dvorsky



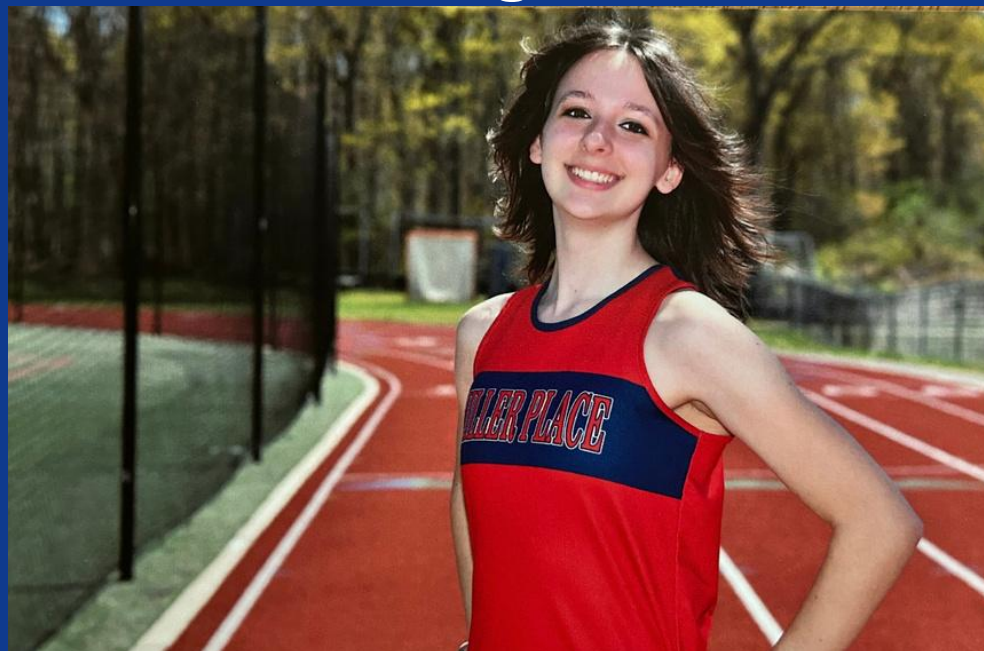
Lorenzo Killary



Kelsey Hoffman



Allison Creighton



Nicholas DiCaprio

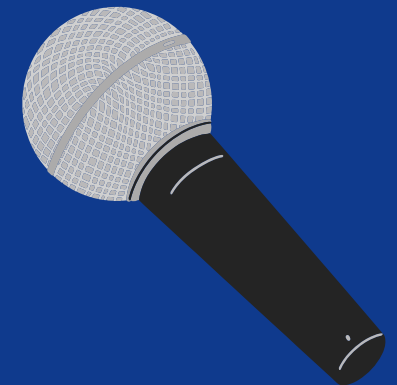




Congratulations to our All-State Musicians!

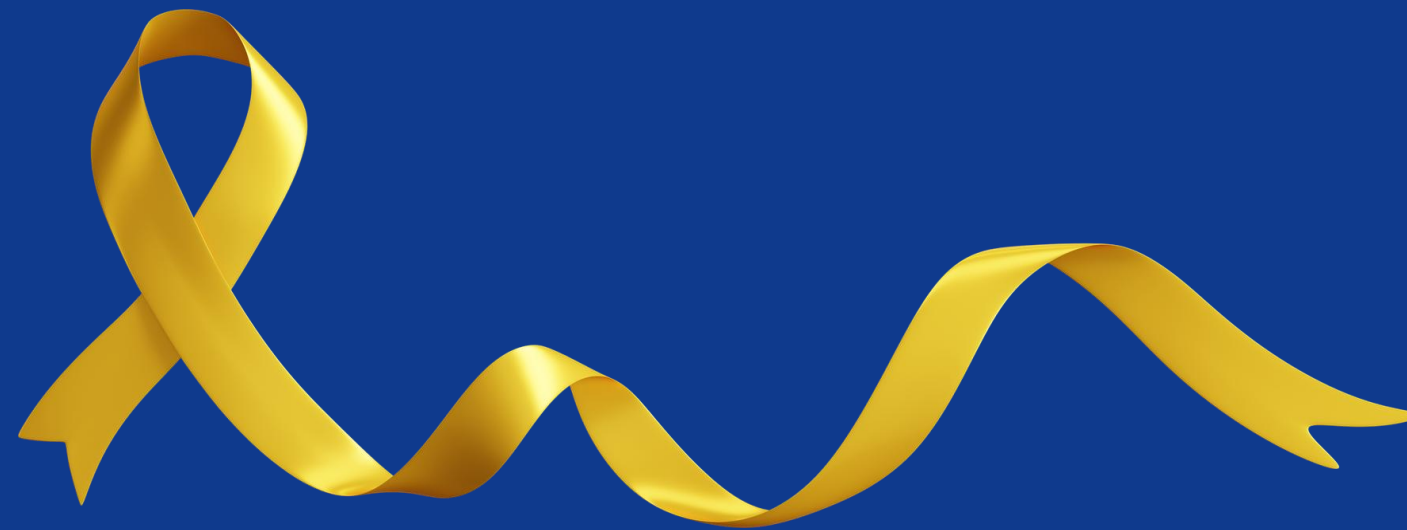


Clarence Yue
Andy Luo
Jay DiBartolo





North Country Road Recognizes Childhood Cancer Awareness Month





Around the School at AMPS





What's Going On at LADSBS





Our 2026-2027 Plan



Together (Team)

Learning

Caring



Miller Place Values



Collaboration

Perseverance

Problem Solving

Pride

Responsibility



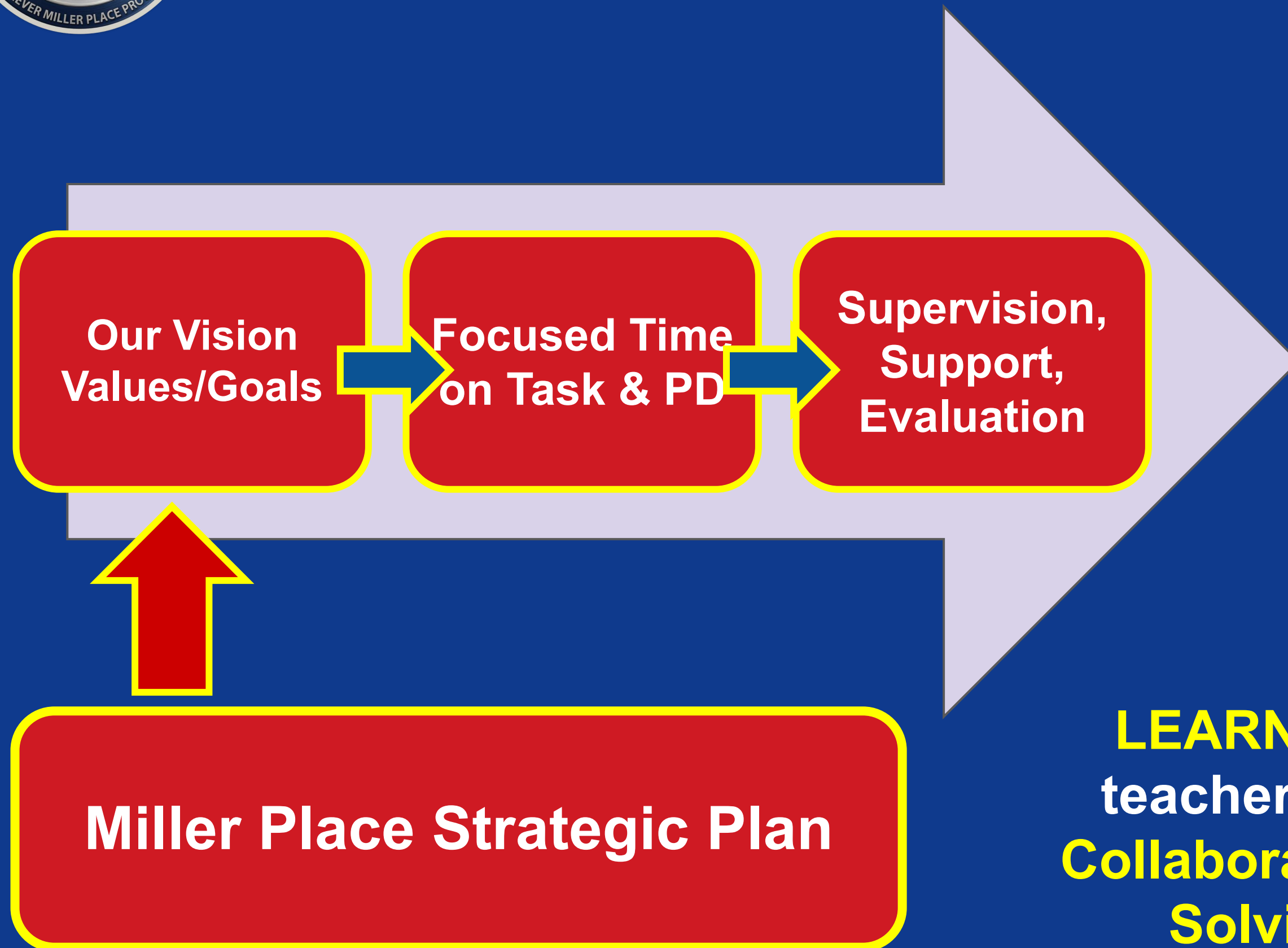
Differentiation

**Essential
Questions**

Rigor



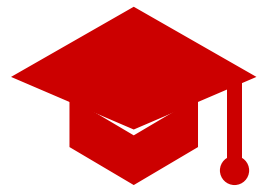
ACHIEVING OUR GOALS TOGETHER



LEARNING goes off the charts for teachers & students in the form of: **Collaboration, Perseverance, Problem Solving, Pride, Responsibility**

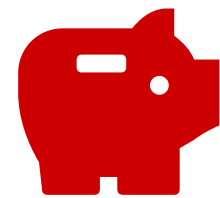


Miller Place Budget Priorities



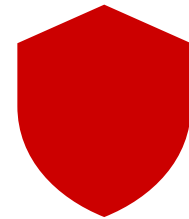
Preserve Educational Programs

Maintain all educational programs for all students preK-12. Make cost effective enhancements when possible.



Maximize Revenue, Reduce Spending

Aggressively pursue all available revenue sources while finding ways to reduce spending in areas that do not affect student experiences.



Protect Reserves

Reduce reliance on reserves in annual budget planning. Build reserves further when possible.



Transparency & Accountability

Effectively communicate Budget information and planning with the BOE & Community at large.



Protect Long-Term Stability

Ensure budget decisions extend beyond balancing a single fiscal year, using long term planning to make projections and plan for the future.



Moody's Credit Rating



Moody's Credit Rating Agency has assigned Aa2 to Miller Place UFSD
2026 General Obligation Bonds

Issuer Rating (Aa2) Drivers

- **Affluent Long Island tax base:** Strong local economic foundation.
- **Modest enrollment declines:** Manageable student population shifts.
- **Stable operations:** Demonstrated history of operational consistency.
- **Healthy reserves:** Strong available fund balance maintained.

Fiscal 2027 Budget Overview

- **Consistent Framework:** Aligned and steady compared to the previous year.
- **Tax Levy Adjustment:** Includes a balanced 2.33% tax levy increase.
- **Strategic Funding:** Utilizes approximately \$4.4 million in fund balance and reserve appropriations for operational balancing.



Miller Place Fiscal Stress Score



OSC Fiscal Stress Score	NYS Designation
0.0 -29.9	No Designation
30-54.9	Susceptible
55-64.9	Moderate
65-100	Significant



Miller Place Fiscal Stress Score



How does NYS evaluate district solvency?



Fund Balances

Maintains healthy unassigned and total fund balances to safeguard against unexpected state aid cuts or unforeseen expenses.

District Score: 0.0 / 50 pts



Operating Deficits

Consistently executes balanced budgets where annual revenues match or exceed operating expenses without deficits.

District Score: 0.0 / 20 pts



Cash & Borrowing

Holds strong cash liquidity and zero dependency on costly short-term tax or revenue anticipation notes (TANs/RANs).

District Score: 0.0 / 30 pts



Miller Place Fiscal Stress Score



0.0

FISCAL STRESS SCORE
(2021-2026)

Rated "No Designation" (Zero Stress)

The NYS Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) ranks school fiscal stress on a scale from 0 to 100 points. Miller Place UFSD has maintained a perfect score of 0.0 points every year.

Outperforming Statewide Benchmarks

While school districts across New York State face tightening budgets following the expiration of federal relief funds, Miller Place UFSD maintains optimal stability and strong liquidity reserves.



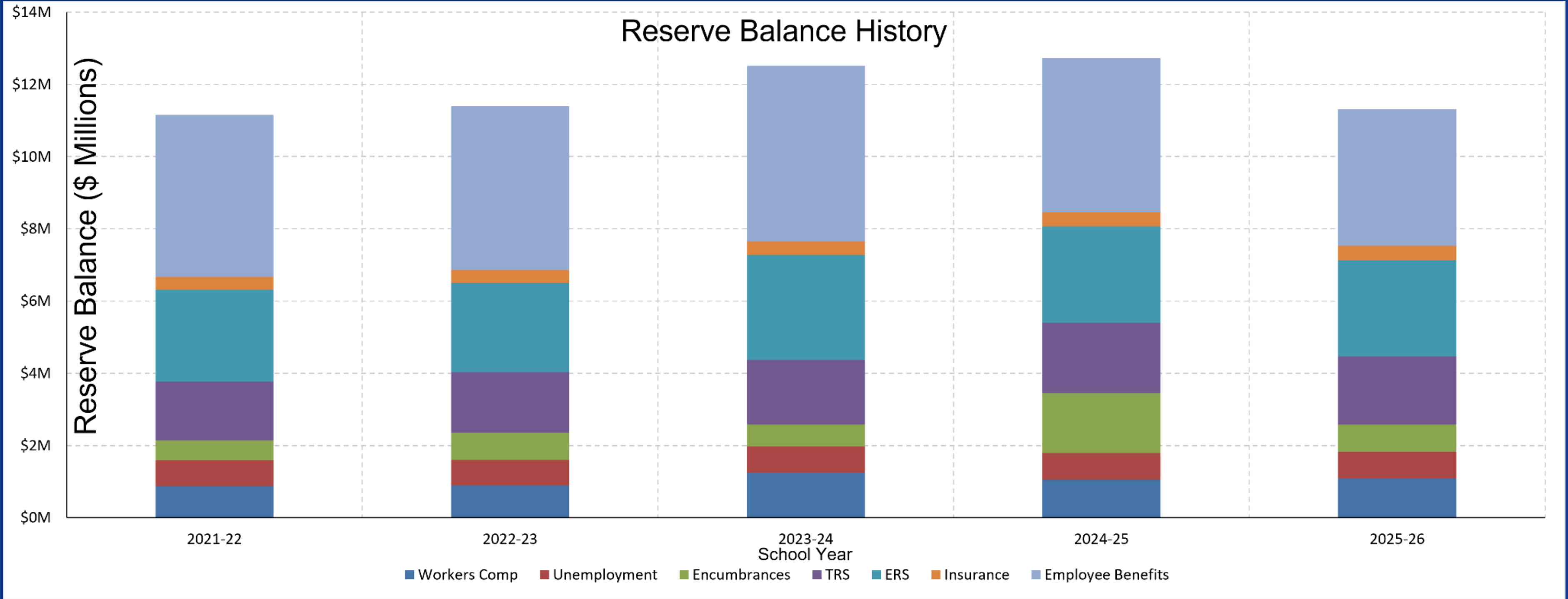
Miller Place Fiscal Stress Score



School Fiscal Year	OSC Stress Score	NYS Designation
2025–26 (SY 2026)	0.0 / 100	No Designation
2024–25 (SY 2025)	0.0 / 100	No Designation
2023–24 (SY 2024)	0.0 / 100	No Designation
2022–23 (SY 2023)	0.0 / 100	No Designation
2021–22 (SY 2022)	0.0 / 100	No Designation
2020–21 (SY 2021)	0.0 / 100	No Designation



Review of Reserves





Replenishment of Reserves



Employee Retirement Contribution Reserve

Increase

\$725,000



Teachers' Retirement Contribution Reserve

Increase

\$550,000



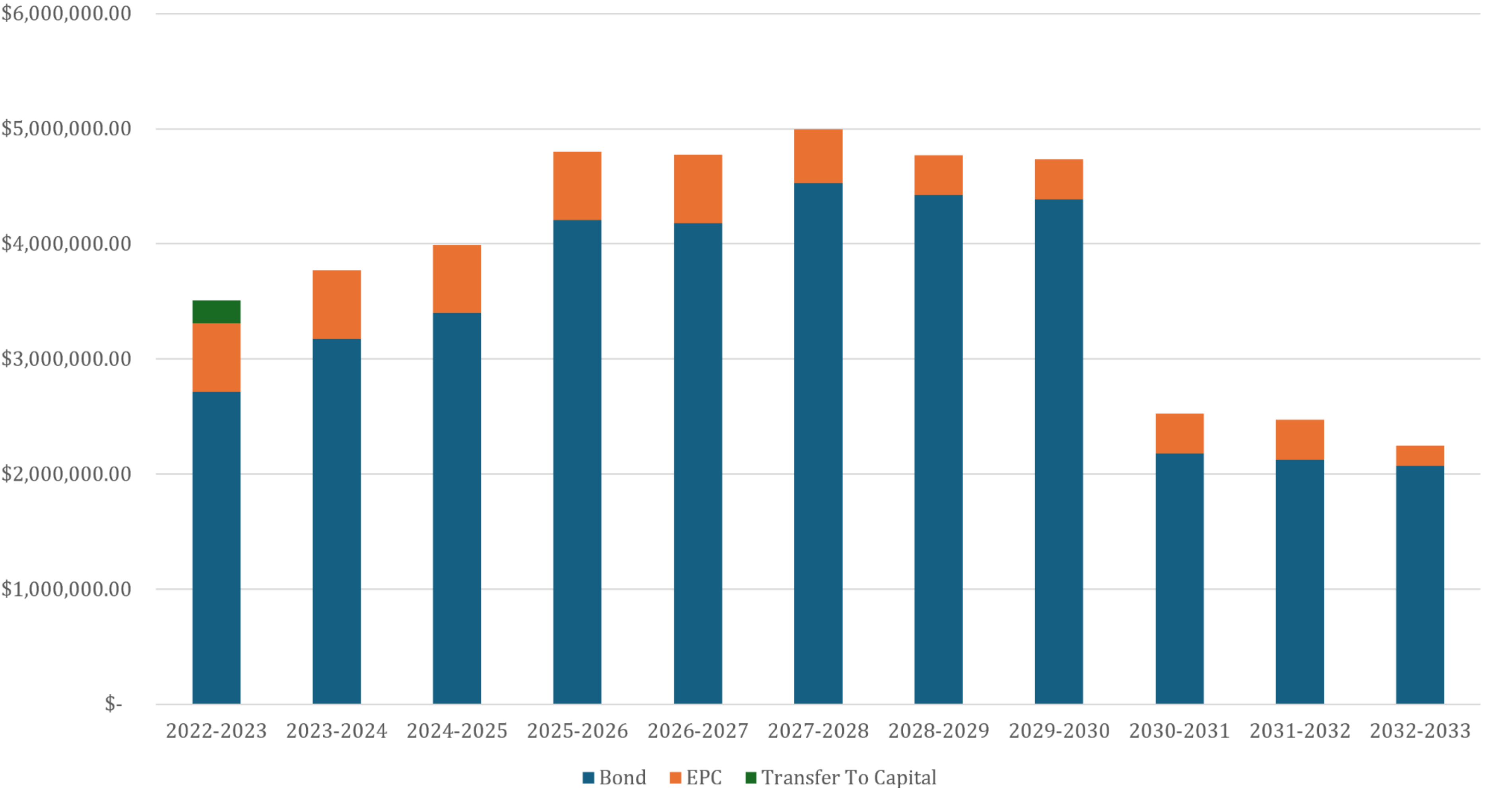
Workers Compensation Reserve

Increase

\$225,000

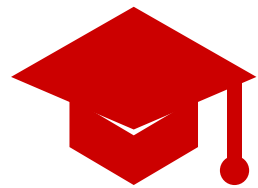


Debt Service



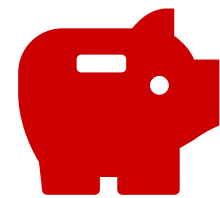


Miller Place Budget Priorities



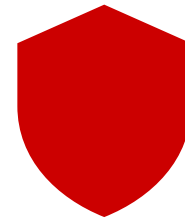
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Maximize Revenue, Reduce Spending

Aggressively pursue all available revenue sources while finding ways to reduce spending in areas that do not affect student experiences.



Protect Reserves

Reduce reliance on reserves in annual budget planning. Build reserves further when possible.



Transparency & Accountability

Effectively communicate Budget information and planning with the BOE & Community at large. Ensure that all proposed budgets are within the 2 percent tax cap limit.



Protect Long-Term Stability

Ensure budget decisions extend beyond balancing a single fiscal year, using long term planning to make projections and plan for the future



Building A Culture of Care: A Continuum of Student Support



Through dedicated staffing, evidence-based Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), targeted safety partnerships, and peer mentoring opportunities, we proactively build a culture of safety, connection, and support.

We have built a comprehensive continuum of care that grows alongside every Miller Place Panther ensuing that they leave our district as resilient, empathetic, and responsible citizens.



District Policies: A Continuum of Support

District policies create a proactive system of care, establishing clear expectations for behavior, protecting students from harassment and bullying, and ensuring every student is respected, included, and supported.



Code of Conduct **Sets the Foundation**

Miller Place UFSD Code of Conduct establishes clear expectations for respectful, responsible behavior and provides a framework for addressing concerns while supporting a safe, orderly, and positive school environment.



Harassment & Bullying **Policy 5020.5** **Protects and Responds**

Emphasizes prevention, early identification, reporting, investigation, and intervention so concerns are addressed before they escalate and students know where to turn for help. Building and District Dignity for all Students Act (DASA) Coordinators and reporting procedures.



Equity, Inclusivity and Diversity **Policy 5010** **Creates Belonging**

Promotes a respectful environment where every student has access to resources and opportunities, feels represented and valued, and their voices are heard.

Together, these policies move us from reaction to prevention aligning with the district's broader mission of building strong connections among students, families, educators, staff, administration, and the community as a foundation for student success.



Building A Culture of Care: A Continuum of Student Support



DEDICATED STAFFING

School	DASA Coordinator	School Counselor (Guidance)	School Psychologist	Behavior Counselor (SCOPE)
AMPS	1.0	0.5	2.0	1
LADSBS	1.0	0.5	1.5	1
NCRMS	1.0	2	1.5	1
MPHS	1.0	4	1.5	1



Building A Culture of Care



Curriculum and Instruction

Dedicated & Evidence-Based Curricula

- **Second Step:** Taught in primary/elementary character lessons (self-awareness, conflict resolution).
- **Too Good for Violence:** Embedded in elementary character instruction at LADSBS.
- **Children in Change:** Supports students navigating family changes in transition groups.
- **Project Wisdom:** Daily messages promoting positive choices, respect, and growth.
- **Lions Quest (SFA):** NCRMS Health classes covering core SEL and service-learning.
- **The Body Project:** NEDA program at MPHS promoting positive body image.

Cross-Curricular Integration

- **ELA & Reading:** Into Reading & Read180 incorporate diversity, anti-bias literature, resilience.
- **Social Studies:** Promotes perspective-taking, civic engagement, and decision-making.
- **Family & Consumer Science:** Practical bully-prevention and empowerment lessons.
- **Health Education:** State-mandated curriculum integrated across all grade levels.
- **Library Media Specialists:** Interactive displays, K-12 instruction, and curriculum support.
- **State Framework Alignment:** NYSED benchmarks and restorative disciplinary practices.



Building A Culture of Care



Interdisciplinary Programs and Assemblies

Daily Messaging & Orientations

- **Daily PA Announcements:** Feature inspirational quotes, diversity awareness, World Language celebrations, and daily character messages.
- **Fall Orientation Assemblies:** Review building expectations, district *Code of Conduct*, and Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) requirements.

Peer Mentoring & Support Groups

- **Natural Helpers Network:** Trained MPHS peers supporting student issues.
- **Athletes Helping Athletes:** MPHS student-athletes mentoring elementary students.
- **Student Groups & Initiatives:** GSA Club tolerance projects, Lunch Bunch, New Student, and Bereavement support groups.
- **Positive Recognition:** Kindness Coupons, R.O.A.R, OAK, and OAR Awards.

Safety & Anti-Bias Presentations

- **Suffolk County Police Dept:** Officer Karl Allison delivers safety (K–2), anti-bullying & kindness (Gr 3), internet safety (4–5), vaping prevention (6–8), and *"The Power of Respect"*.
- **3GNY Holocaust Speaker:** Interactive presentation for Grade 10.
- **Suffolk County Sheriff's Dept:** Distracted Driving courses and SADD *Save a Life Program*.

Assemblies & District Observances

- **Key Assemblies:** Mobile Museum of Tolerance, Rohan Murphy, Jared Campbell, ALS Ride for Life, and *Spirit of Triumph* Auschwitz virtual tour.
- **District Theme Days:** Start with Hello, *P.S. I Love You Day*, *The Joy Effect*, MLK Peace & Kindness Day, Red Ribbon Week, Autism & Down Syndrome Awareness, World Language Week, and Heritage Months.



Building A Culture of Care



Field Trips and Extracurricular Experiences

NCRMS Middle School Experiences

- **Washington, D.C. Trip (Grade 8):** Annual trip visiting the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Lincoln Memorial to instill values of honor, dignity, and tolerance.
- **Theater Three:** *From the Fires* production.

MPHS Field Trips & Conferences

- ***Natural Helpers:*** Training retreat held at Camp de Wolfe.
- ***YOUth Teen:*** Leadership conference for high school sophomores.
- ***Erase Racism LILT:*** Leaders for Tomorrow conference focused on equity and social justice.
- **Anne Frank Exhibition:** New York City excursion (Grade 10 ELA Honors).
- **New England Holocaust Memorial:** Senior trip to Boston, MA.
- **Youth Enlightenment Seminar (Y.E.S.):** Tour hosted by the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office.
- **Historical Landmarks:** Ellis Island and Statue of Liberty.

AMPS Alex's Amazing Lemonade Stand (St. Jude's)



LADSBS R.O.A.R



MPHS Spirit of Triumph



NCRMS Mobile Museum of Tolerance





LADDIE A. DECKER SOUND BEACH SCHOOL

A PROGRAM FOR 5TH GRADE STUDENTS

**THE POWER OF RESPECT:
UNDERSTANDING HATE,
KINDNESS AND STANDING
UP FOR OTHERS**

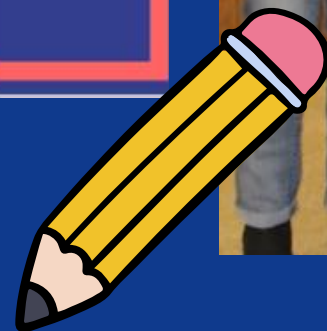
PLEASE WELCOME DETECTIVE RIVERA
SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
CAFETERIA

PERIOD 2 (9:30-9:55 A.M.)
DEFRANK/MURATORE,
WARREN, VOLK

PERIOD 2/3 (10:00-10:25 A.M.)
ASCIOLLA/HOFFMANN, SCHOCK,
ABBRIANO, OTT

RESPECT



LADSBS Library “Kindness” Book Display



LADSBS Rohan Murphy



AMPS P.S. I Love You Day



MPHS 3GNY Holocaust Speaker



AMPS Cooperative Games in PE



MPHS Unity Conference



LADSBS Officer Allison



LADSBS Give Back Day



LADSBS R.O.A.R



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