

ACADEMIC
EXCELLENCE

EQUITY

OPPORTUNITY

BELONGING

BRIGHTER
FUTURES



INNOVATION

COLLABORATION

STUDENT
DISCOURSE

PURPOSE

COMMUNITY



2026–2027 District Goals

FAMILY GUIDE · HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

High-Quality Instruction

A clear look at what your child will experience in every classroom, and how the district supports their success.

WHAT HIGH-QUALITY INSTRUCTION MEANS FOR EVERY CHILD

Every day, in every class, your child will get **challenging, grade-level lessons** and the support to succeed. The district pays attention to how students think, adjusts as needed, keeps expectations high, and makes every child feel welcome and respected.

HOW IT ALL CONNECTS

District Support



Stronger Teaching



Great Lessons Every
Day



Engaged, Successful
Scholars

🐾 ROOTED IN ACCOUNTABILITY, INNOVATION, AND PURPOSE 🐾

What Learning Looks Like in Class



Every Day, Your Child Will Be:

- ✓ **Engaged in academic discourse:** talking, asking questions, reading, writing, creating, and solving problems
- ✓ **Challenged** with grade-level work, with help so everyone can join in
- ✓ **Explaining ideas**, listening to others, and using evidence
- ✓ **Showing learning** in more than one way

And Teachers Will:

- ✓ Notice how your child thinks and adjust the lesson, while keeping expectations high
- ✓ Build a welcoming, respectful class where every culture is valued

THIS YEAR'S FOCUS

Academic Discourse

Students understand more when they talk about what they are learning. In class, your child will:

- ✓ Explain their ideas out loud
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Listen and respond to classmates
- ✓ Respectfully disagree
- ✓ Use content-specific vocabulary
- ✓ Explain their thinking (metacognition)

Teachers practice this together in training, coaching, and team meetings.

Support for Every Learner

- ✓ Every child gets grade-level lessons, with extra help when needed
- ✓ Many ways to take part and show learning
- ✓ Student data shows who needs extra help or extra challenge
- ✓ Inclusive, welcoming classrooms build belonging

Building Strong Readers, Writers & Thinkers



Reading & Writing

- ✓ **Grades K–2:** learning to read and write, while building knowledge and vocabulary through talk, read-alouds, and every subject
- ✓ **Grades 3–5:** reading, writing, and discussing to learn in every subject, with continued skill support as needed
- ✓ **Grades 6–8:** reading, writing, and discussing complex texts in every subject
- ✓ **Grades 9–12:** reading, writing, and arguing like experts in each subject

Why It Matters: strong reading, writing, and academic discourse help scholars understand complex ideas, communicate clearly, and take full part in challenging, grade-level lessons.

Portrait of a Graduate

Skills Your Child Builds from PreK to Grade 12

Innovative Communicator

Shares ideas clearly, works well with others, and uses different tools to share learning.

Lifelong Learner

Sets goals, checks progress, and stays curious and determined.

Academic + Critical Thinker

Uses knowledge and evidence to solve problems and make good decisions.

Hempstead has 6 Portrait of a Graduate skills. This year we start with these 3, giving students, families, and teachers one shared language for success.

Our 6 District Goals

One District Commitment: adults learning together → stronger lessons → greater scholar success.

1 Teacher Learning

Coaching, training, and collaborative planning for all faculty and staff.

Focus: Getting Students Talking About Their Learning

2 Rigorous Instruction

Schools use student data to plan lessons and give extra help, the same way everywhere.

Result: Every School on the Same Page

3 Every Scholar Thrives

Twice a year, educators check that support systems work and review student progress often.

Result: Help Arrives Earlier

4 Attendance & Engagement

Monthly attendance checks, family outreach in many languages, and a warm welcome back.

Result: Better Attendance and Belonging

5 Equity

Every student gets the opportunities, resources, support, and high expectations to thrive.

Focus: Fair Access for Every Child

6 One Shared Vision

Training, coaching, teacher teams, and leaders all point the same way.

Aim: One Clear Plan, Not a New Program Every Year

Behind the Scenes: How We Make It Happen

Teachers Keep Learning

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Teachers and leaders learn together all year: coaching, monthly training for coaches, shared planning, and studying student work.

For Your Child: strong teaching in every class, at every school.

Catching Needs Early

DATA & MTSS

Our Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) looks at grades, attendance, behavior, and well-being. Branching Minds and Bullseye help track support.

For Your Child: needs spotted sooner and help given faster, without lowering expectations.

Smart Use of Technology

TECHNOLOGY

Technology helps students learn, create, communicate, think critically, be safe online, and use district resources.

Our Promise: it supports great teaching and real conversation; it never replaces them.

Safe, Strong Schools

FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

- ✓ ABGS Middle School expansion opens September 2027
- ✓ Building upgrades and energy savings
- ✓ Busing, including curb-to-curb for students who need it
- ✓ Safety and crisis-prevention (CPI) training for security staff

How You Can Help at Home

This year's focus on **academic discourse** helps your child think, work with others, and own their learning. Try these:



Ask for the Thinking

"How did you get that answer?
How do you know?"



Let Them Show You

They can talk, write, draw, build,
or act it out.



Ask Follow-Up Questions

"Why do you think that?" "What
makes you say that?" "Can you
connect it to something?"



Practice Listening & Teamwork

Take turns, listen with respect,
and keep going when it's hard.



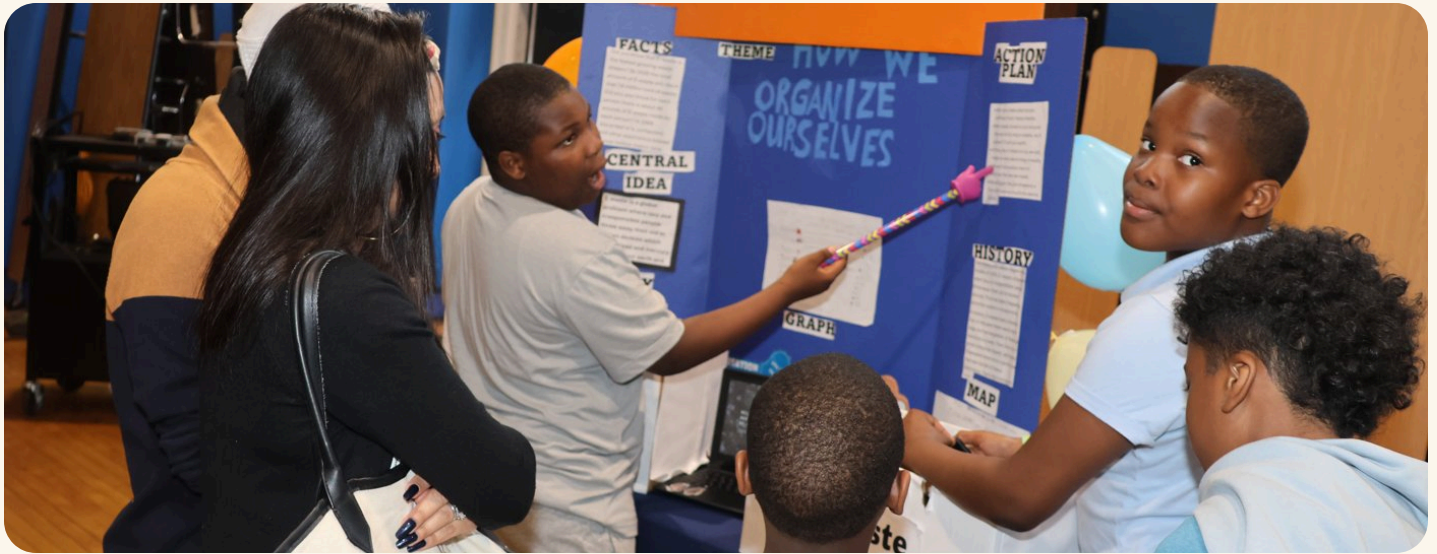
Connect Learning to Life

Talk about family, community,
college, and careers.



Celebrate Growth

Praise effort, progress, curiosity,
and fixing mistakes.



Partners in Your Child's Success

- ✓ Stay in touch with your child's teachers
- ✓ Check grades and attendance in PowerSchool MyPowerHub
- ✓ Get your child to school every day, on time
- ✓ Come to family events and PTA meetings
- ✓ Share your ideas and feedback with your school

Join Us This Year

Families are key partners. Come connect, learn,
share ideas, and support your child.

SEL Night

STEAM Night

Family Workshops

Parent Symposium

Superintendent Community Connection

School PTA

Keeping Families Informed



Stay Connected

Website + Tiger Bot

Answers anytime, in many languages

HPS Mobile App

News, calendars, alerts

PowerSchool MyPowerHub

Grades, attendance, work

SchoolMessenger

Calls, texts, emails

Clear, timely updates build trust and keep you connected.



Hempstead Union Free School District

185 Peninsula Boulevard, Hempstead, NY 11550
(516) 434-4000 · hempsteadschools.org

What We Want for Every Scholar: to be known, challenged, supported, and heard, and ready to communicate, think critically, keep learning, and give back to their community.



ONE DISTRICT · ONE SHARED VISION · GREATER SCHOLAR SUCCESS · A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR EVERY TIGER

