

Plainview-Old Bethpage Promotes Future Ready Students.

Our focus is on how our students learn and develop the skills needed to become lifelong learners. We want our students to be passionate, curious, innovative, knowledgeable, connected, collaborative, and resilient. Our instructional program has set the groundwork for students' future success.

POB Students are our most valuable asset and our goal is to help them compete in the 21st Century.

"The future of the world is in the classroom today."

- Ivan Welton Fitzwater, American Educator

Letter to our community,

In Plainview-Old Bethpage, our students come first and we realize that it takes a village to provide a well-rounded education. Therefore, we are constantly shifting and transforming our work to meet our students' needs. Our Board of Education, administrative team, faculty, and parents foster student achievements in all areas so that our students are able to reach for their dreams.

Education is at a crossroads today. The information revolution changed the world forever. Now, we live in a global, knowledge-based service economy that emphasizes ideas and innovations. We face complex political, scientific, health and environmental problems that need solutions. These societal changes and challenges impact how we define student readiness and the education required to prepare our students for their futures.

This brochure highlights what we are doing district-wide to offer a variety of academic, social and emotional experiences as well as the resources needed to help our students reach their greatest potential. In this document, we share what it means to have a growth mindset, the important role of the 4 C's, and the habits of learning which are all key to helping our students succeed. We share our past successes and reveal what we are doing in POB schools today to support our students as they go forward. In addition, our students share some of their thoughts about how POB has helped them prepare for their futures. Ultimately, our district goal is for every graduate to take their place as an active, productive, citizen in society. We hope this brochure provides you with an overview of the work we are doing to ensure success for each one of our Plainview-Old Bethpage students.



Plainview-Old Bethpage Mission Statement:

The mission of the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District is to provide an academically challenging and stimulating environment for all students, and to enable them to realize their full potential to be happy, ethical and analytical citizens of the world.

We do this by:

- making tolerance, acceptance, respect, honesty and kindness expectations for all students, and for members of the Plainview-Old Bethpage school community;
- identifying each student's academic, social-emotional, aesthetic and physical needs, and striving to meet those needs; and
- encouraging communication between and among students, teachers, parents, administrators, and community members.

I-Tech, I-Innovate, I-Empower

At POB we are focused on preparing our students for the demands of the 21st Century by providing them with opportunities to learn the skills they will need in order to be successful. We are unleashing the power of learning in our elementary schools by focusing on the integration of technology and the 4Cs, (Critical Thinking, Communication, Collaboration, Creativity) in our classrooms. Our classroom teachers are using Google Classroom applications, SOLE, (Self Organized Learning Environment), flipped classrooms, Padlet, Green Screen, Dolnk, 3D Printing, Mystery Skype, z-Space, and Independent Investigative Methods to motivate our students to take ownership over their work, collaborate with others, and seek and give feedback to their peers. We are incorporating STEAM thinking to support 21st Century Skills, ISTE standards, and inspire budding engineers!

Students are an integral part of the team as we demonstrate the direct impact they have on their own learning and achievement when they are engaged in the process. There is choice and voice, and students are able to set the conditions for what is possible. We are implementing methodologies to engage learners, instill a growth mindset, and create lifelong critical thinkers.

A strong link between Plainview Old-Bethpage schools and our local community extends our work to the world and pushes our learning beyond our school walls. All of our students' experiences provide a myriad of tools that help them prepare for their futures.







Do you have a growth mindset? Our students do!

Our school community believes that students develop skills over time and purposeful learning is at the core of all lessons. Students use the "Power of Yet" to accept challenges and take risks. Failures are an opportunity for a student to learn from his or her mistakes. Students test situations themselves and find a "Plan B." When there is a setback, students reflect, brainstorm new ideas, and use their strategies as resources to find solutions. Students often recognize their peers as a resource which leads to true collaboration and communication. Our goal is to have every student be in charge of his or her own learning process. We celebrate the process of cultivating lifelong learning.







21st Century Skills: The 4 C's

Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "We cannot build the future for our youth—but we can build our youth for the future." It is our duty to do whatever we can to help our students connect learning with real life and to provide them with the necessary skills to prepare them for success. Lead educators agree that certain skills are necessary to build a strong foundation for success. These skills, called The 4 C's, are critical thinking, communication, creativity, and collaboration.

POB teachers support The 4 C's in their classrooms:

Critical Thinking

- Compare evidence, evaluate claims, make decisions, solve problems
- Use various types of reasoning to support claims
- Make decisions by analyzing and evaluating evidence, arguments, claims, and beliefs
- Be open to different points of view
- Recognize and utilize new information and to make connections
- Use your skills and data to problem solve

Communication:

- Express thoughts clearly to explain your thinking
- Use language to motivate and inspire others
- information from a variety of sources
- Ask and answer questions to help you best understand

Creativity:

- Innovate, originate, invent
- Use Design Engineering to learn, plan, elaborate, analyze, improve, and re-build
- Promote and practice a Growth Mindset
- Fail forward, embrace the "Power of Yet"
- Imagine the unseen possibilities

Collaboration:

- Learning extends beyond the walls of the classroom
- Students learn to work together with their peers, global collaborators, and professionals
- Work respectfully within a diverse community
- Be able to analyze and process a multitude of Shared responsibility is valued for each member's individualized contribution
 - Make compromises to reach mutual decisions





"The habits we form from childhood make no small



Digital Literacy

Digital Literacy refers to our students' ability to find, evaluate, produce and exchange clear information through writing and other forms of communication on various digital platforms. Every grade participates in Digital Citizenship Month.



Habits of Learning

A POB goal is to promote education through strong habits of learning. Our teachers support passion for learning and deepening student knowledge, so our students can understand the world around them. We strive for our students to have habits of participation in class, working individually or in groups, discipline to achieve through adversity, and communication of ideas with their peers. Students are encouraged to be adaptable, collaborative, analytical, and strong problem solvers.



Social Emotional Learners

Our students build a foundation of knowledge, apply attitudes and skills in order to understand and manage emotions, feel empathy for others, establish and maintain relationships, and make sound decisions.

Connecting to Stoneman Douglas High School, No Place for Hate programs, Unity Day, and Autism Awareness Week are all district-wide initiatives that help our students develop empathy for others.



difference, but rather they make all the difference." - Aristotle



Knowledge Base

We want our students to have a store of information and data to draw from when they make decisions. Teachers help our students build a thorough and diverse foundation of academic skills that integrate information across all disciplines: the humanities, math & science, world languages, music, art, health, technology, and business.

Knowledge is power!



Service Learning

Provides our students with opportunities to use their knowledge and skills to give back to the community. Hurricane Relief, Relay for Life, Birthday Wishes, Island Harvest, District-wide Veterans Day Events, St. Baldricks, and JJP Community Service Night are just some examples of ways our students made a difference outside of our classroom walls.



Global Connections

Our programs go beyond our classroom walls to connect us to places around the globe. Students explore world languages starting with a study of Chinese and Sign Language in Kindergarten. Challenger Learning Center missions bring real life problem solving directly to the classroom. Class field trips connect our students to what is happening in the world outside of school.



STEAM Successes



Science- Research Program – Regeneron (formerly INTEL) Semi-finalist, First place winners at the NYS Science and Engineering Fair, INTEL International Science and Engineering Award winner in Computer Science, Finalists at I-SWEEP (International Sustainable World (Engineering Energy Environment) Project, Published Authors in scientific journals, JSHS (Junior Science and Humanities Symposium) Finalists, Nassau County Champion in Brain Bee, LISEF (Long Island Science and Engineering Fair) Semifinalists, Little Doctors Program at both middle schools



Technology- Toshiba Exploravisions Competition. State of the art digital television studio, modern manufacturing equipment such as Laser engravers, CNC (Computerized Numerical Controlled) routers, 3D Printers. First District on Long Island to pilot and implement zSpace Virtual Reality Labs, iPads, Chromebooks K-12, Google Classroom platforms



Engineering- FIRST Robotics Competition, FIRST LEGO Robotics Competition, Introduction to Lego WeDo. Outreach Robotics Teams. Engineering Awareness Night, STREAM Day, and POB Family STEAM Night



Music – All-County Music, All-State, All-National, Long Island Scholar Artist Award of Merit for Theater, students in Long Island String Festival Association (LISFA), Participants in NYSTEA Visual Arts - ASA All-County, Long Island Arts Alliance Scholar Artist, Long Island Best Winner, High Arts Showcase winners, Huntington Camera Photo winner



Mathematics- Long Island Math Fair, gold, silver, and Bronze medal winners. AMC 8 (American Mathematics Competition) winners, and AMC 12 winners. Nassau County Interscholastic Mathematics League, Online Math League, Mathletes, Nassau County Math Tournaments, Math Olympiad competitions 5th and 6th grade at SUNY Westbury, Nassau County Math Olympiad Tournament for 7th and 8th Grade at Kellenberg.







Full STEAM Ahead!

STEAM

Did you know that at Stratford Road Elementary School a new STEAM lab/Makerspace has been built as a space for more elaborate lessons focused around the Engineering Design Process? All the STEAM robotics equipment and technology pieces, such as the 3D printer, are housed there for instant use to support all curriculum levels and units of study. This lab, the Imaginarium, gives teachers the space they need to allow their students' creativity and innovation to flourish and the materials to ensure productive critical thinking, and problem solving. The room has been so successful that the other elementary schools have begun work to prepare their own STEAM labs/Makerspaces.

Stratford Road School will also begin housing in-district Elementary Science field trips to its newest room, The Discovery Lab. Here students from all elementary schools will take on The Scientific Method in hands-on experiments that support the curriculum. With the use of a lab, more equipment and higher level scientific experiences can occur.

Computer Science

Did you know that the Math Department at JFKHS offers computer science courses that expose students to a variety of programming languages such as Visual Basic (VB), Python, and Java? Interested in creating games? Try our Advanced Computer Programming course at JFKHS which culminates in game creation projects utilizing Python and Pygame. Pursuing a career in engineering, mathematics, science, technology and/or computer science? Perhaps Data Science is for you! The prominence of data scientists continues to rise as organizations seek to turn raw data into valuable business information. Throughout the study of Data Science at JFKHS, students will learn to manipulate, analyze and showcase data using MS Excel and MATLAB. Interested in coding? Join the Coding Club at JFKHS or POBMS and expand upon your coding experience by taking our Intro to Front-end Web Development course at JFKHS. Students will use HTML5, CSS and/or JavaScript to code a website and construct web apps. This year all 5th graders district-wide will take a course called Codesters, an introduction to coding.

Research

Did you know that POBJFKHS Independent Research program is one of the largest, most successful competition-based Independent Research programs in the Northeast? It is a developmental program open to all students in grades 9-12. Students learn the fundamentals of Research as 9th graders, As 10th graders, students work in teams to develop research projects that they design and execute, in school, under the supervision of Research teachers. As 11th graders, students transition to personal projects that can be done in university settings or within the school's, depending on their field of interest. These students continue their research over the summer and submit their findings in the fall, as 12th graders, to the highly prestigious Regeneron Science Talent Search, and INTEL Science and Engineering Fair

Learning Anytime, Anywhere, Together Using Technology

The overarching goal of our Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District's use of instructional technology is to support student achievement to improve learning for "all students." Identifying and meeting the instructional needs of students and staff is the foundational activity in all technology initiative planning and seamless curricula integration goals to support our vision of students "learning anytime, anywhere, together using technology."

Our aspiration for instructional technology implementations across the district is to provide our students with the 21st-century skills and habits of mind that their futures demand. The work our children do – the data they collect, the ideas they generate, the stories they write, the art they create, the music they compose and perform, the real world problems they solve – will have a profound impact on the future.

The continued implementation of high speed wireless network infrastructure upgrades inside our schools, fueled by district approved funding, provides our teachers and students with the enhanced capacity and ubiquitous access to expanding instructional technology-based 1:1 Chromebook and cart-based tablet teaching and learning experiences. We also upgraded our technology labs, created new science and art classrooms, and added music technology labs to our schools.

Future District Library & Media Initiatives

This is an exciting and transitional time in education. Over the past several years, our library spaces and programs have been changing to facilitate independent exploration and personalized learning. Our district believes that creating lifelong learners begins with giving students the opportunity to take ownership of their learning.

Digital Literacy has become a critical part of our library programs. To help our students develop the ability to distinguish between sources that are up-to-date and reliable and those that are not, we curate high-quality digital resources that are appropriate for our students' needs. We provide access to online databases and software applications based on the specific needs of our faculty, students, and curriculum. We reach our patrons through classroom instruction, student workshops, faculty meetings, staff development and one-on-one support so that our students and staff become efficient users of high-quality online resources. The Library Media spaces and programs are constantly evolving with the goal of equipping our students with future-ready skills.





In Conclusion...

POB students learn to understand and recognize concepts, use knowledge as evidence to back up ideas, and create solutions to problems. These experiences get them ready for their world when they graduate. Lucky for us, over 90% of our student body are with us from kindergarten through high school so our work makes a lasting impact. Growth Mindset, The 4 C's, Digital Literacy, Habits of Learning, SEL, A Strong Knowledge Base, Service Learning, and Global Connections are common threads woven throughout each school year experience. The educational journey is celebrated as a key component to the success which unlocks each students potential. Every child is treated as an individual and as a valuable member of a group. Our goal is to ensure that every student is ready to have a successful future.

Here is what our students are saying about the experience:

"Creativity is the key to every problem in the future and the solutions will come from those who can think."

- Andrew Kholodny 2018.

"What inspires me is that art and engineering and mathematics are all subjects that seem completely different and unrelated, but in an advancing world they can all be combined to do something amazing."

- Juliana Diaz 2020, Biologist

"What inspires me is taking all the experiences I learned in Plainview Old-Bethpage and passing it down to the younger generations. All the skills I learned as a POB student have allowed me to strive as a senior in high school and will help me next year as a college student majoring in engineering."

- Matt Koppelman 2018, Mechanical Engineer

"STEAM allows me to be in charge of my own learning."

- Lily Bedell 2018 Fashion Designer

"Creativity is using your own mind and your own voice to help other people and to create something that makes people happy."

- Lindsay 2024, Toshiba Winner 2018









Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District Central Office and Board of Education 2018-2019

Central Office

Dr. Lorna R. Lewis	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Vincent K. MulieriAssistan	t Superintendent for Human Resources
Richard J. Cunningham	Assistant Superintendent for Business
Dr. Mary T. O'MearaAssistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction	
Christopher T. Donarummo	Assistant to the Superintendent

Board of Education

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