

PARTNERING WITH NORTHWELL

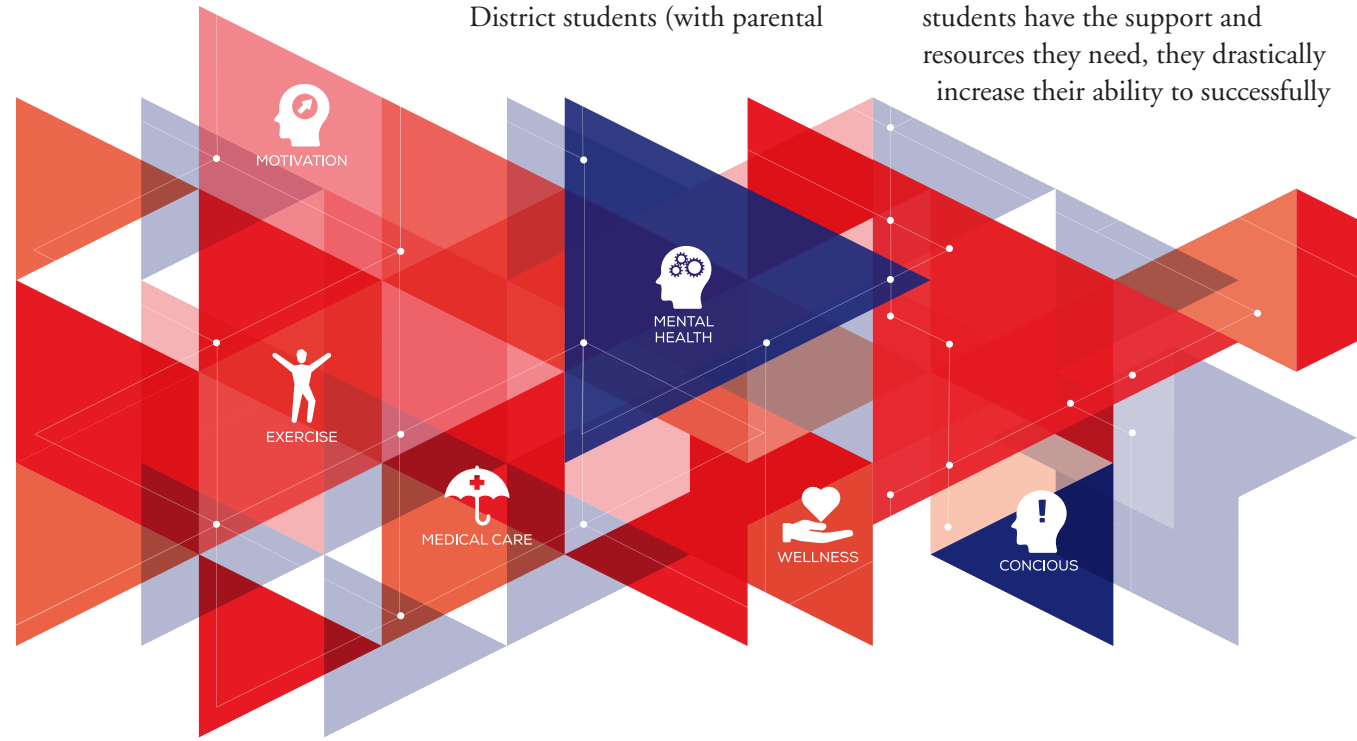
During the 2021-2022 school year, the Smithtown Central School District worked with Northwell Health and other districts to support the creation of a Behavioral Health Center designed to assist students and families with mental health resources and support.

The Northwell Health Behavioral Health Center, located at 2171 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 345, Commack, has been operational since Sept. 1 to support our students and families. Services include assisting students and families in crisis with emergency mental health assessments, referrals, coordination of care and transitional care. Smithtown Central School District students (with parental

consent) can access these resources if needed. It is important to note that these services are confidential and voluntary. Prior parental consent is required before information will be shared with others. Northwell Health will also provide community education for families by offering various tips and strategies on topics to support their children. When students have the support and resources they need, they drastically increase their ability to successfully

navigate the school and the community. Our partnership with Northwell Health supplements the existing support provided by the Smithtown Central School District. Our students have access to school psychologists, school social workers and school counselors in each of our schools. The district provides school-based counseling, assists families with early detection of possible mental health challenges and supports families with community treatment options. With parental permission, we partner with outside therapists and agencies to provide a comprehensive and unified approach to supporting students and their families.

If you need assistance to access the Northwell Health Behavioral Center in Commack or general assistance for a mental health issue, please contact your child's school social worker, school psychologist, school counselor or a building administrator.



LEADING THE WAY Toward the Future

Five-Year Strategic Plan Adopted

At the Board of Education meeting on Oct. 11, the Board voted to adopt the Smithtown Central School District Strategic Plan. For the past 20 months, two Stakeholder Planning Teams consisting of students, parents, community members and district staff have worked to identify the goals that will guide the district for the next five years. The initiative began with the development and administration of a survey to gather the thoughts and opinions of the entire Smithtown school community. More than 4,000 members of the Smithtown community participated in the survey and offered valuable feedback. The results of the student, community member and staff surveys served as the baseline for developing the district's revised mission, vision, beliefs and goals moving forward.

Within the plan, you will

see the five overarching goals, strategies for reaching these goals, an action plan for each strategy, key performance indicators and a timeline. Although the plan is completed, our work is far from finished. The next step in the Smithtown 2027 process is the creation of an Implementation Team consisting of a variety of district stakeholders. They will work to facilitate the implementation of the Strategic Plan and assist in the development of periodic updates to the community.

"We would like to thank all the Stakeholder Planning Team members who have dedicated their time to the successful completion of our Strategic Plan," Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mark Secaur said. "We are confident that the plan reflects the collective vision of the Smithtown school community."

Our Strategic Direction and Goals

Academic Achievement and Growth for Each Student
Our students are provided high-quality instruction and support to ensure the academic growth of each student and prepare them to succeed in their chosen path beyond high school.

Student Belonging and Well-Being
Our students are provided a safe and supportive environment and demonstrate skills and attributes to cope with life challenges and achieve personal well-being.

Positive Working Environment and Staff Engagement
Our staff feel valued, are fully invested in students' success, and feel that they receive the support they need to be highly effective employees.

Stakeholder Involvement and Community Collaboration
Our families and community members are valued and collaborative partners in promoting student success.

District and School Effectiveness and Efficiency
Our resources are maximized to achieve our strategic goals and provide efficient and cost-effective operations, systems, and services.



PTA - Supporting Our Schools and Our Students

Whether it's spirit weeks, book fairs or other great events at our schools, the PTA is usually spearheading the fun!

The PTA is a partnership between parents and educators who strive to enhance student learning and enrich the lives of all the students. It is also a great place for parents to keep up to date with what is going on in the school and to have a way to communicate with school administration. Each of the schools in our district has a PTA or PTSA which is integral in enhancing the lives of all students in the school.

Each PTA focuses on fundraising to provide cultural arts programs to

the students throughout the school year. These programs enhance the curriculum while using new and exciting ways to educate students. Every PTA also raises money to provide scholarships to our graduating seniors each year. The PTA strives to make each school a better place for children to learn.

"Becoming involved in your school's PTA will provide you with a way to further engage in the school community and ensure that all of the children in your school have the best possible school experience," said Michelle Abola, PTA Council president.

Through programs such as P.A.R.P. for reading, spirits weeks,

sports nights, book fairs and many school events throughout the year, the PTA strives to ensure each

student has a productive, happy and successful school year.



SCHOOL & COMMUNITY DIGEST

Published by the Smithtown Central School District

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Academic Achievement and Growth for Each Student

Our students are provided high-quality instruction and support to ensure the academic growth of each student and prepare them to succeed in their chosen path beyond high school. We will identify what students should know and be able to do pre-K-12 and design and deliver curriculum, instruction and assessment focused on content rigor, critical thinking, student engagement and continuous improvement to assure academic achievement and student growth. We will assess and enhance a meaningful curriculum with real-world applications for all students.



More information on strategies and actions to achieve these goals, as well as how we will measure success, can be found in the full Strategic Plan on the district website.

SMITHTOWN

2027

Positive Working Environment and Staff Engagement

Our staff feel valued, are fully invested in students' success and feel that they receive the support they need to be highly effective employees. We will develop and broaden staff and teacher pipeline and recruitment efforts to yield a competent and effective workforce with a diverse set of experiences. A program will be developed and implemented to support and retain high-quality, competent staff with increasingly diverse backgrounds, experiences and perspectives.

Student Belonging and Well-Being

Our students are provided a safe and supportive environment and demonstrate skills and attributes to cope with life challenges and achieve personal well-being. We will create learning environments and curricula that enable staff and students to learn from and reflect on their own and others' experiences; explore multiple perspectives; practice civil discourse; encourage empathy; create interpersonal connections and embrace diverse identities. We will enrich learning and cultivate personal growth for all students through experiences beyond the classroom.

District and School Effectiveness and Efficiency

Our resources are maximized to achieve our strategic goals and provide efficient and cost-effective operations, systems and services. We will perform ongoing reviews of programs to evaluate usage and effectiveness and remove inefficient programs. Current costs will be examined, and budget items will be aligned to goals within the Strategic Plan to ensure alignment districtwide.

Stakeholder Involvement and Community Collaboration

Our families and community members are valued and collaborative partners in promoting student success. We will examine current efficacy of the district-PTA relationship and identify methods to enhance this partnership. There will be increased opportunities for parents to volunteer across all school levels, and the school district will gather feedback annually to gauge perceptions of and satisfaction with district and school communication, as well as family and community involvement.