

2023-2024  
CALENDAR



Caleb C., Chatterton



Lily T., Birch



Paige M., Chatterton

**MERRICK**  
**PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
[WWW.MERRICK.K12.NY.US](http://WWW.MERRICK.K12.NY.US)



Juliette R., Lakeside



Dakota S., Lakeside

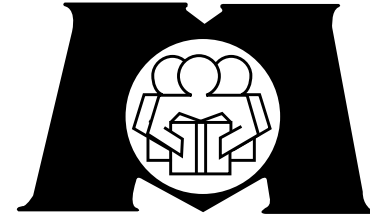


Luella C., Birch

# Merrick Public Schools

## Administrative Offices

Katherine E. Reif Administration Center  
21 Babylon Road, Merrick, New York 11566



Phone: (516) 992-7200  
Website: [www.merrick.k12.ny.us](http://www.merrick.k12.ny.us)

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Jill Levine**, *President* ..... [jlevine@merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:jlevine@merrick.k12.ny.us)  
**Linda Wilk**, *Vice President*..... [lwilk@merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:lwilk@merrick.k12.ny.us)  
**Dr. Nancy Kaplan**, *Trustee*..... [nkaplan@merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:nkaplan@merrick.k12.ny.us)  
**Gina Piskin**, *Trustee* ..... [gpiskin@merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:gpiskin@merrick.k12.ny.us)  
**Jennifer Schatzman**, *Trustee*..... [jschatzman@merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:jschatzman@merrick.k12.ny.us)  
**Nicole Venditti**, *Trustee*..... [nvenditti@merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:nvenditti@merrick.k12.ny.us)  
**Butch Yamali**, *Trustee* ..... [byamali@merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:byamali@merrick.k12.ny.us)

## ADMINISTRATION

**Dr. Dominick Palma** ..... *Superintendent of Schools* ..... Phone: **516-992-7240**

**Dr. Jill Karp** ..... *Deputy Superintendent*..... Phone: **516-992-7283**

**Dr. Salvatore Dossena** ..... *Assistant Superintendent for Student Services and Technology* ..... Phone: **516-992-7293**

**Mr. Ryan Butler** ..... *Assistant Superintendent for Business* ..... Phone: **516-992-7260**



**The 2023-2024 Merrick Board of Education:** From left: Trustee Nicole Venditti, Vice President Linda Wilk, President Jill Levine, Trustee Dr. Nancy Kaplan, Trustee Gina Piskin, Trustee Jennifer Schatzman and Trustee Butch Yamali.

# Merrick Public Schools



**Birch School**  
2400 Central Parkway  
Phone: 516-992-7250

**Kerri Galante** ..... Principal  
**Meredith Kelly** ..... Assistant Principal  
**Danielle Palmer** ..... Secretary  
**Janet Raider** ..... Secretary  
**Jennifer Lopez** ..... School Nurse

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**Roland A. Chatterton Elementary School**  
108 Merrick Avenue  
Phone: 516-992-7270

**Dana Bermas** ..... Principal  
**Chris Hoisik** ..... Assistant Principal  
**Donna Dimino** ..... Secretary  
**Holly Collins** ..... Secretary  
**Joi Kravitz** ..... School Nurse

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**Norman J. Levy Lakeside Elementary School**  
21 Babylon Road  
Phone: 516-992-7230

**Elizabeth Trencheny** ..... Principal  
**TBD** ..... Assistant Principal  
**Joann Yencharis** ..... Secretary  
**Lisa McElroy** ..... Secretary  
**Julie Gross** ..... School Nurse

## Merrick School District Website

For information about the Merrick School District, including our calendar, special events and up-to-date information on school closings in inclement weather, please visit our website at [www.merrick.k12.ny.us](http://www.merrick.k12.ny.us).

## School Hours

All of Merrick's elementary schools are on the same schedule. Children who walk or are brought to school by their parents should not arrive more than 10 minutes before the start of school. Supervision is not provided prior to that time.  
**Grades K-6: 8:40 A.M. – 2:55 P.M.**

## Emergency School Closing

The Merrick School District coordinates closings with the four other component districts of the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District. When schools are closed in an emergency or due to weather conditions, announcements are made on our website: [www.merrick.k12.ny.us](http://www.merrick.k12.ny.us). In addition, we will send a ParentSquare message to all parents and will also notify Channel 12.

A "no school" signal is also given by the Merrick Fire Department, which sounds its sirens at 6:30 A.M. and 7:00 A.M.

*If there is a delayed opening, any before-school activities will be canceled.*

## Key District Phone Numbers\*

Administration.....	516-992-7200
Birch Elementary School.....	516-992-7250
Chatterton Elementary School.....	516-992-7270
Norman J. Levy Lakeside Elementary School .....	516-992-7230

\*Switchboard is open 8 A.M. – 4 P.M. when school is in session;  
8 A.M. – 2 P.M. during July and August.

# Merrick Public Schools

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Beginnings of a Bright Future

## **Welcome to Merrick Schools**

### **About Our Schools**

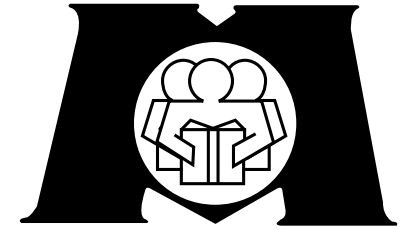
The first public school in Merrick, founded in 1901, was a one-room building which housed 38 students and one teacher. The district now consists of three elementary schools with a total enrollment of approximately 1,500 students. Children receive their secondary education in the Bellmore-Merrick Central High School District, which serves the communities of Merrick, North Merrick, Bellmore and North Bellmore. Two members of the Merrick Board of Education serve on the Central High School District Board.

### **Mission Statement**

The Merrick Union Free School District will provide students with the opportunity to maximize their potential and to become lifelong learners, independent problem-solvers and responsible citizens by working with all members of the Merrick community to create learning environments that support students' social, emotional and academic needs.

### **New Residents**

New residents who are parents of school-age children should register their children as soon as possible at the appropriate elementary school. If you have questions about where to register, contact the Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Business, 516-992-7260.



### **Kindergarten Registration**

Children who are registered for kindergarten must be 5 years of age on or before December 1 of the school year of entry. Registration is held in February of the year preceding entrance into kindergarten, and parents are notified by mail of registration dates. Official birth certificate is required. Proof of immunization as well as a full physical examination is required prior to the start of school.

### **A Firm Foundation for Learning**

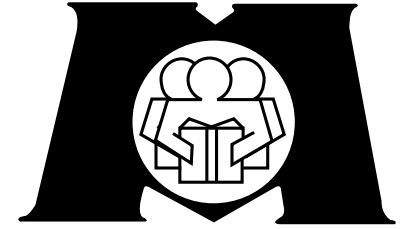
Merrick's public schools offer a diversified educational program with exciting learning opportunities at all grade levels. By offering the most current educational technologies and strategies, while emphasizing our commitment to basic skills, we provide students with a firm foundation upon which all higher-level learning can take place.

Teachers and administrators work together on districtwide committees to review and develop curriculum in each discipline to meet state and district goals. From science to art, technology education to language arts, mathematics to music – Merrick's rich and varied curricula reflect this thoughtful planning process, which helps provide our children with a complete, well-rounded educational experience.

**Experiential learning** is at the core of Merrick's instructional program, with hands-on learning opportunities for students at all grade levels in all subject areas. The curriculum includes four major components: language arts (reading, writing, listening and speaking skills), mathematics, science and social studies. Instruction in the basic skills provides a foundation for learning now and in the future, while enrichment opportunities help to broaden students' horizons and extend learning boundaries. This is accomplished through the guidance and leadership of a talented, caring faculty, administration and staff – committed to the best for our children. A strong emphasis on character education is integrated throughout the school day.



# Merrick Public Schools



## Partners in Education

The Merrick School District welcomes and encourages the involvement of parents in their children's education. Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) provides us with generous and consistent support, which enhances the social, educational and cultural resources at each of our schools. In addition, our PTAs are in touch with our legislators and help keep us abreast of new legislation that has potential impact on the community. Parents, teachers and administrators work together through the PTAs to create a richer environment for children. We urge all parents to become members of these important groups and join the Merrick School District as active partners in education.

### **Birch Parent Teacher Association 2023-2024 Officers**

Jennifer Cohen .....	Co-President
Courtney Ramirez .....	Co-President
Isabel Doerbecker .....	Executive Vice President
Michele Friend .....	Treasurer
Brooke Kelson .....	Cultural Arts Co-Chair
Rachel Cooperstock .....	Cultural Arts Co-Chair
Risa Goldman .....	Committees Co-Chair
Robyn Batnick .....	Committees Co-Chair
Michele Mann .....	Membership Vice President
Samantha LaPella .....	Corresponding Secretary
Lauren Siegel .....	Historian
Rachel Charney .....	Immediate Past President

### **Chatterton Parent Teacher Association 2023-2024 Officers**

Raquel Bodner .....	Co-President
Jackey Cacioppo .....	Co-President
Stacy Finn .....	Treasurer
Anita Roggendorf .....	Recording Secretary
Jen Debrosse .....	Corresponding Secretary
Melissa Trepeta-Terzulli .....	VP Committees
Angela Tomlin .....	VP Extracurricular Programming
Maureen Slattery .....	VP Membership
Jaclyn Tenreiro .....	VP Cultural Arts
Kelly Geller .....	VP Fundraising
Maria Catalano .....	VP Spiritwear
Megan Kantor .....	Co-VP Hospitality
Leti Maltese .....	Co-VP Hospitality
Christine Alonso .....	Immediate Past President

### **Norman J. Levy Lakeside Parent Teacher Association 2023-2024 Officers**

Alicia Forkos .....	Co-President
Andrea Kaplan .....	Co-President
Hayley Phoel .....	Vice President
Lauren Brotz .....	Treasurer
Maya Lerner .....	Recording Secretary
Sandy Thackurdeen .....	Corresponding Secretary
Tara Chase .....	VP Fundraising
Mara Litroff .....	VP Public Relations
Melissa Warshaw .....	Immediate Past President

### **Special Education Parent Teacher Association 2023-2024 Officers**

Kimberly Fox .....	President
Lauren Bertolini .....	Vice President
Jessica Goodhart .....	Recording Secretary
Tiziana Como .....	Treasurer

JUNE 2023						
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# July 2023

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

AUGUST 2023						
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27	28	29	30	31		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 Independence Day	5 Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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30	31					

JULY 2023						
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# August 2023

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

SEPTEMBER 2023						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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6	7	8 Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29 Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	30 B - UPK Orientation C - UPK Orientation All Schools - Kindergarten Visit	31 Superintendent's Conference Day - No School for Students		

AUGUST 2023						
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# September 2023

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

OCTOBER 2023						
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29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Schools Closed	2
3	4 Schools Closed Labor Day	Day 1 5 First Day of School for Students B/L- Lunch Program Begins C - New Parent Tea 9:15 AM	Day 2 6	Day 3 7 L- Welcome Back Picnic	Day 4 8 B - Back to School Fall Festival 4-5:30 PM C- Chatterton's 100th Birthday Picnic	9
10	Day 5 11 B-PTA Chair/Captain Meeting 9:30 AM or 7:30 PM C-Student PTA Lunch Program Begins L- Student Council Lunch Program Begins	Day 6 12 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 1 13 Grade Pre-K-3 Open House	Day 2 14 PDC Meeting	Day 3 15 DRO - Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown	16 DRO - Rosh Hashanah
17 DRO - Rosh Hashanah	Day 4 18	Day 5 19 Grade 4-6 Open House	Day 6 20 Faculty Meeting	Day 1 21	Day 2 22 B - Back to School Fall Festival 4-5:30 PM (Rain Date)	23
24 DRO - Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown	25 DRO - Yom Kippur Schools Closed	Day 3 26 B- PTA Meeting 7 PM C -PTA Captain Meeting 6:30 PM C - PTA Meeting 7 PM L - PTA Captain Meeting 6:30 PM L- PTA Meeting 7 PM	Day 4 27 B/L- Photo Day	Day 5 28 L- Photo Day	Day 6 29 DRO - Sukkot Begins at Sundown L- Photo Day	30 DRO - Sukkot



SEPTEMBER 2023						
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# October 2023

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

NOVEMBER 2023						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 DRO - Sukkot	Day 1 2 National Custodian Day	Day 2 3 Health and Safety Meeting 3:30 PM	Day 3 4 PDC Meeting SEPTA Meeting 7 PM (Birch)	Day 4 5 B - Parent Principal Breakfast 9:30 AM C - Retired Staff Day C - Spaghetti Dinner	Day 5 6 DRO - Shemini Atzeret Begins at Sundown Emergency Drill Early Dismissal - 15 min. early	7 DRO - Shemini Atzeret DRO - Simchat Torah Begins at Sundown
8 DRO - Simchat Torah	9 Schools Closed Columbus Day	Day 6 10 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 1 11 B/C/L - Walk to School Day Faculty Meeting	Day 2 12 C - Alumni Day	Day 3 13 B - Fun Run C - Photo Day L - Fun Run	14
<b>HEALTH AND WELLNESS WEEK - ALL SCHOOLS</b>						
15	Day 4 16	Day 5 17 L- Gr. 3 Sports Night	Day 6 18 Faculty Council All Schools - Unity Day	Day 1 19 B - Photo Retake Day & Gr. 6 Cap & Gown L- Gr. 1 Sports Night 7 PM L- Gr. 4 Sports Night 8 PM	Day 2 20 C - Fun Run	21
<b>SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK</b>						
22	Day 3 23	Day 4 24 L- Gr. 2 Sports Night 7 PM L- Gr. 6 Sports Night 8 PM	Day 5 25 Faculty Meeting-Extended Day	Day 6 26 L- Gr. K Sports Night 7 PM L- Gr. 5 Sports Night 8 PM C - Fall Festival	Day 1 27	28 B - Gr. 6 PTA Halloween Party 7-9:30 PM
<b>RED RIBBON WEEK - ALL SCHOOLS</b>						
29	Day 2 30	Day 3 31 All Schools - Halloween Parade				

OCTOBER 2023						
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# November 2023

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

DECEMBER 2023						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Day 4 <b>1</b> DRO - All Saints Day Faculty Meeting	Day 5 <b>2</b> C- Gr. 1 Sports Night	Day 6 <b>3</b> B- Bingo Night 7 PM	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	Day 1 <b>6</b>	<b>7</b> No School for Students Superintendent's Conference Day Election Day	Day 2 <b>8</b> C - Gr. K Sports Night	Day 3 <b>9</b> L - Veteran's Day Assembly	<b>10</b> Schools Closed Veterans Day Observed	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> DRO - Diwali	Day 4 <b>13</b>	Day 5 <b>14</b> MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 6 <b>15</b> Educational Support Professionals' Day C - Photo Retake Day and Grade 6 Club Photos Faculty Meeting- Extended Day	Day 1 <b>16</b>	Day 2 <b>17</b> C-Principal/PTA Breakfast L- Book Fair	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	Day 3 <b>20</b> B - Book Fair L - Book Fair	Day 4 <b>21</b> Parent-Teacher Conferences 5:30-8:30 PM B - Book Fair L - Book Fair	<b>22</b> No School for Students Parent-Teacher Conferences	<b>23</b> Schools Closed Thanksgiving Day	<b>24</b> Schools Closed Thanksgiving Recess	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	Day 5 <b>27</b>	Day 6 <b>28</b> B - PTA Meeting 7 PM C - Gr. 2 Sports Night L - PTA Meeting	Day 1 <b>29</b> C - Gr. 3 Sports Night L- Picture Retake Day	Day 2 <b>30</b> C- Holiday Boutique C - Gr. 4 Sports Night		

NOVEMBER 2023						
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# December 2023

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

JANUARY 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Day 3 C - Holiday Boutique	1 L - Vendor Fair
3	Day 4 B - Holiday Boutique L - Holiday Boutique SEPTA Meeting 7 PM (Lakeside)	4 Day 5 B - Holiday Boutique C - Winter Concert for School 9:30 AM C - Winter Concert for School 7 PM L - Holiday Boutique	5 Day 6 PDC Meeting L - Holiday Boutique	6 Day 1 DRO - First Night of Hanukkah	7 Day 2 DRO - Feast of the Immaculate Conception	8 Day 3 DRO - Last Night of Hanukkah
10	Day 3 11	Day 4 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	12 Day 5 Faculty Meeting	13 Day 6 MFA/Central Admin Meeting	14 Day 1 DRO - Last Night of Hanukkah	15 Day 2 DRO - Last Night of Hanukkah
17	Day 2 18	Day 3 L - Winter Concert for School 9:15 AM	19 Day 4 L - Winter Concert for School 9:15 AM L - Winter Concert for Families 7 PM	20 Day 5 B - Winter Concert for School 9:30 AM B - Winter Concert for Families 7 PM	21 Day 6 22	22 Day 1 23
24 DRO - Christmas Eve	25 DRO - Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve	SCHOOLS CLOSED - WINTER RECESS					

DECEMBER 2023						
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# January 2024

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

FEBRUARY 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 New Year's Day Winter Recess Schools Closed	Day 1 2	Day 2 3 All-County Rehearsal Division 1 East @ Cantiague Elementary School 4-7:30 PM	Day 3 4 All-County Rehearsal Division 1 East @ Cantiague Elementary School 4-7:30 PM	Day 4 5 All-County Rehearsal Division 1 East @ Cantiague Elementary School 4-7:30 PM	6 DRO - Feast of the Epiphany
7 All-County Concert Division 1 East Tilles Center 11:30 AM	Day 5 8 DRO - Eastern Orthodox Christmas	Day 6 9 Health and Safety Meeting 3:30 PM MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 1 10 Faculty Meeting All-County Division 2 Rehearsal @ Wantagh HS 4-8 PM	Day 2 11 B - Dancing with the Stars C - Gr. 5 Sports Night	Day 3 12 All-County Division 2 Rehearsal @ Wantagh HS 4-8 PM	13
14 All-County Concert Division 2 Tilles Center 11 AM	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Schools Closed	Day 4 16 C - PTA Meeting 7 PM L - PTA Meeting 7 PM	Day 5 17 B - Photo Day Gr. 6 Clubs & Cap & Gown Retakes Faculty Council	Day 6 18 Chatterton PARP Kickoff	Day 1 19 Birch PARP Kickoff	20
21	Day 2 22	Day 3 23 B - PTA Meeting 7 PM C - PTA Book Fair MFA General Membership Mtg.	Day 4 24	Day 5 25 C - BINGO for Books	Day 6 26 C - Community Read	27
	Birch and Chatterton PARP Week					
28	Day 1 29	Day 2 30	Day 3 31 Lakeside PARP Kickoff			
	Birch PARP Week					

JANUARY 2024						
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# February 2024

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

MARCH 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				Day 4 1	Day 5 2 L - Community Read Aloud	3
				Birch and Lakeside PARP		
4	Day 6 5 B - PARP Celebrations SEPTA Meeting 7 PM (Chatterton)	Day 1 6 B - Theatre Residency 7 PM	Day 2 7 DRO - Al-Isra al Miraj Begins at Sundown Faculty Meeting L - PARP Ends	Day 3 8 DRO - Al-Isra al Miraj B - Theatre Residency 7 PM L - Reflections 7 PM L - Founders Day 7:30 PM	Day 4 9 B - Theatre Residency 4:30 PM	10 DRO - Lunar New Year
	Lakeside PARP		KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION			
11	Day 5 12 PDC Meeting	Day 6 13 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 1 14 DRO - Ash Wednesday	Day 2 15 MFA/Central Admin Meeting C- Sweetheart Social (Lower Grades)	Day 3 16	17
18	19 Presidents Day	20	21	22	23	24
	SCHOOLS CLOSED - FEBRUARY RECESS					
25	Day 4 26	Day 5 27	Day 6 28 C - PTA Reflections Ceremony	Day 1 29 B - Founders Day 6:45 PM C - Gr. 6 Sports Night		

FEBRUARY 2024						
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# March 2024

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

APRIL 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Day 2 1	2
3	Day 3 4	Day 4 5 C - Founders Day 6:45 PM L - PTA Meeting 7 PM	Day 5 6 Faculty Meeting Extended Day B - 3rd Grade Dance Performance 6:45 PM	Day 6 7	Day 1 8 C - Principal/PTA Breakfast 9:15 AM	9
10	Day 2 11 C - On Stage Tech	Day 3 12 C - On Stage Tech Health and Safety Meeting 3:30 PM MFA Exec Board Meeting <b>Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM</b>	Day 4 13 Faculty Meeting C - On Stage Performance 6:30 PM	Day 5 14 C - On Stage Performance 6:30 PM	Day 6 15 B - Penny Auction 7 PM C - On Stage Performance 4 PM L - STEAM Day	16
17	Day 1 18 Merrick Blood Drive @ Birch B - PTA Meeting 7 PM	Day 2 19	Day 3 20 Faculty Council	Day 4 21	Day 5 22	23 DRO - Purim Begins at Sundown
DRO - Palm Sunday DRO - Purim 24	Day 6 25 DRO - Holi B - Book Fair	Day 1 26 B - Book Fair Parent-Teacher Conferences 5:30-8:30 PM	27 Parent-Teacher Conferences - No School for Students	28 DRO - Holy Thursday Spring Recess Schools Closed	29 DRO - Good Friday Spring Recess Schools Closed	30
DRO - Easter 31						



MARCH 2024						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

# April 2024

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Transportation requests for students attending private/parochial schools are due no later than April 1, 2024.	1 Spring Recess Schools Closed	Day 2 2	Day 3 3 Assistant Principals' Day Faculty Meeting-Extended Day SEPTA Meeting 7 PM (Birch)	Day 4 4 C - Spring Social Dance (Upper Grades)	Day 5 5 B - Community Read Aloud	6
	7	Day 6 8 DRO - Eid al-Fitr Begins at Sundown B - Kindergarten Performance 9:30 AM & 10:15 AM	Day 1 9 DRO - Eid al-Fitr DRO - Feast of the Ascension Schools Closed	Day 2 11	Day 3 12 All Schools - Kindergarten Orientation	13
14	Day 4 15 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 5 16 NYS ELA Assessment	Day 6 17	Day 1 18 C- Art Show 6:00-7:30 PM	Day 2 19	20
21	22 DRO - Passover Begins at Sundown	23 DRO - Passover	24 Administrative Professionals' Day	25	26	27
28	29 DRO - Eastern Orthodox Palm Sunday	30 DRO - Last Night of Passover	Schools Closed - Spring Recess			
	Schools Closed - Spring Recess					

APRIL 2024						
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28	29	30				

# May 2024

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

JUNE 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Day 3 1 School Principals' Appreciation Day	Day 4 2	Day 5 3 DRO - Eastern Orthodox Holy Friday	4
5 DRO - Eastern Orthodox Easter	Day 6 6 B - PTA End-of-Year Dinner 6:30 PM	Day 1 7 MFA Exec Board Meeting <b>Board of Education Meeting and Budget Hearing 7:15 PM</b>	Day 2 8 National School Nurses Day NYSSMA Chatterton School 4-9 PM	Day 3 9 B - Plant Sale L - Plant Sale NYSSMA Chatterton School 4-9 PM	Day 4 10 All Schools - Plant Sale	11
<b>NYS Math Assessment</b>						
<b>Teacher Appreciation Week</b>						
12 Mother's Day	Day 5 13 C - Spring Concert for School 9:30 AM C - Spring Concert for Families 7 PM	Day 6 14 Health and Safety Meeting 3:30 PM PTA Joint Meeting and Meet the Candidates Night	Day 1 15 NYS Science Assessment Grade 5 Faculty Meeting	Day 2 16	Day 3 17	18
19 DRO - Pentecost	Day 4 20 B - Spring Concert for School 9:15 AM B - Spring Concert for Families 7 PM L - PTA End-of-Year Dinner 6:30 PM	Day 5 21 <b>School Budget Vote and District Art Show 7 AM- 9 PM</b>	Day 6 22 Faculty Council	Day 1 23 B - STEAM Day C - STEAM Day	Day 2 24 *Emergency Make-Up Day	25
26	27 Schools Closed Memorial Day	Day 3 28	Day 4 29 L- Spring Concert for School 9:15 AM	Day 5 30 C- Gr. 3-4 Concert for Families 9:30 AM C- Gr. 3-4 Concert for School 1:30 PM L- Spring Concert for School 9:15 AM L- Spring Concert for Families 7 PM	Day 6 31 Districtwide Gr. 6 Picnic	

MAY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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# June 2024

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

JULY 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	Day 1 3 C - PTA Dinner 6:30 PM	Day 2 4 Districtwide Gr. 6 Picnic (Rain Date) B - Gr. 3-4 Concert for School 9:30 AM L - Gr. 3 Concert <b>Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM</b>	Day 3 5 B - Gr. 3 Concert for Families 9:30 AM B - Gr. 4 Concert for Families 10:15 AM Faculty Meeting SEPTA Meeting 7 PM (Lakeside)	Day 4 6 B - Gr. 6 Awards Assembly 9:30 AM C - Gr. 6 Awards Assembly C - Gr. 6 Dance L - Gr. 4 Concert	Day 5 7 B - Friendship Day C - Gr. K End-of-Year Celebration L - Gr. 6 Recognition Assembly	8
9	Day 6 10 B - 6th Grade Trip to Coleman C - Pre-K Moving-Up Ceremony C - 6th Grade Trip to Coleman L - Gr. 6 Dance	Day 1 11 <b>DRO - Shavuot Begins at Sundown</b> B - Friendship Day (Rain Date) MFA Exec Board Meeting	Day 2 12 <b>DRO - Shavuot</b> MFA/Central Admin Meeting	Day 3 13 <b>DRO - Shavuot</b>	Day 4 14 L- Moving-Up Day Rehearsal	15
16 <b>DRO - Eid al-Adha Begins at Sundown</b> <b>Father's Day</b>	Day 5 17 <b>DRO - Eid al-Adha</b> MFA General Membership Mtg.	Day 6 18 B - Gr. 6 Dance 6-8 PM C - Gr. 6 Moving-Up Day Rehearsal L- Moving-Up Day 9:15 AM	19 <b>Schools Closed Juneteenth</b>	Day 1 20 B - Moving-Up Day Rehearsal C - Gr. 6 Moving-Up Day L - Gr. 6 Trip to Coleman	Day 2 21 B - Moving-Up Day 9:30 AM C - Peace and Friendship Day L - Peace and Friendship Day (Rain or Shine)	22
23	Day 3 24 B - Pre-K Moving-Up Ceremony	Day 4 25	Day 5 26 Last Day of School Student Dismissal 9:40 A.M.	27	28	29
30						

JUNE 2024						
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# July 2024

B- Birch Elementary School  
 C- Chatterton Elementary School  
 L- Levy Lakeside Elementary School

AUGUST 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# Merrick Public Schools



## Parental Involvement in the School Program

**An open house** is held at each school at the beginning of the school year. Parents visit the classrooms, meet teachers and receive an overview of curriculum, homework policy and academic expectations.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences** are held twice during the school year, providing an opportunity to discuss your child's strengths and weaknesses. Parents receive report cards indicating the performance and effort made by children in curriculum areas. If a parent has a specific question about his or her child's education, inquiries should be directed through a specific line of communication:

- 1) The teacher or other appropriate staff member
- 2) The building principal
- 3) The Deputy Superintendent
- 4) The Superintendent
- 5) The Board of Education

All **visitors and volunteers**, including parents and guardians, must call the school to schedule their visit prior to entering the school. In the event of an urgent situation, please call the main office before your arrival at the school. All visitors will be required to provide a valid federal or state-issued photo identification which will be scanned into the visitor identification system upon entering the building. All visitors will receive an identification badge from the greeter which must be worn at all times. After receiving the badge, the visitor must report directly to the main office. While in the school building, visitors should remain in the area designated for their appointment. No one will be permitted to visit other parts of the building (e.g., stop into a classroom or cafeteria, visit another office).

**Homework** is a vital part of the school's total curriculum. The actual experience of completing homework assignments independently is what is of value. Homework is given in a number of different forms, and may be given for completion overnight or for an extended period. The purposes of homework are to reinforce and apply concepts introduced in class, to develop the habit of working and learning, to develop a sense of responsibility, to develop sound organizational and study skills, and to provide a sharing of learning experiences between parents and their child. Parents can assist by providing a specific place for the student to work, free from distractions, encouraging the establishment of a time schedule for homework completion, and by showing interest in homework assignments.

## An Environment Conducive to Learning

The philosophy of the Merrick Public Schools is to help all children develop their fullest potential to the greatest extent possible, so they can take their place in society as productive, well-adjusted, responsible citizens.

In accordance with the requirements of the State Education Department, the Merrick School District established a Code of Conduct designed to promote responsible student behavior. The Code of Conduct includes student rights and responsibilities, and a dress code, along with a range of disciplinary procedures, consequences and procedures for the resolution of discipline problems. The Code of Conduct is explained to all students on an annual basis. Copies of the Code of Conduct are available in each school office for review and on the district website. An emphasis on character education is evident throughout the district.

We have a strong commitment to ensuring that Merrick Schools are **drug-free and weapons-free schools**. Drug and alcohol possession or use is not permitted at our schools or school events.

Regular **attendance** is important to the learning process. While it is recognized that children learn from many sources, the classroom learning environment is a key ingredient in the success of students. State education law defines a legal absence as sickness, sickness or death in the family, impassable roads or weather, religious observance, religious instruction (up to one hour per week) or presence in court. If your child is going to be absent, please call the school nurse. A note explaining the cause of absence, or any lateness, is required when the child returns to school. In the interest of safety, if a child is to be released from school at a time other than dismissal and/or if an adult other than the parent is to take the child from school, prior written notification is required.

The district has recognized a number of **days of religious observance** throughout the year. These days are listed in the school calendar, marked by the symbol (DRO). Students may be excused from classes with a note from their parent or guardian.

# Merrick Public Schools



## ***Serving the Whole Child***

### **Student Services**

In addition to its full instructional program, Merrick provides extensive support services to help meet the needs of our students. The Assistant Superintendent for Student Services supervises these programs which include special education classes, resource room services, placement of students with disabling conditions, psychological services, speech and hearing services, testing, social work services and health services. A Committee on Special Education oversees the program of each child receiving special education services, and a Committee on Preschool Special Education oversees the identification and provision of services to children who require special education services prior to their entry into kindergarten for students ages 3-5. Individuals wishing information about any of these services can contact the Assistant Superintendent for Student Services at 516-992-7293.

### **Child Find**

Consistent with Part 200 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, please notify the Student Services Office at 516-992-7293 if you have a child up to 12 years old with a suspected disability who may require special education services. All information is kept confidential.

### **Summer Instruction**

A Summer Instructional Program is offered to children who need assistance to maintain academic gains made during the regular school year. Daily instruction is provided over a five-week period in areas such as reading, writing and mathematics.

### **Summer Recreation**

A five-week Summer Recreation Program is offered to children who will be entering grades K-6 the following fall. Open to the children of district residents, the program meets Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and offers experiences in art, physical education, music and drama. Registration and fee information is posted on the district website in late winter.

### **Before/After-School Programs**

In response to the needs of Merrick's many working parents, the District provides space at each school for both Before- and After-School Programs. These programs are operated by the Merrick Before/After School Program (BASP) which has been providing quality school-age child care service to the children and parents in the Merrick U.F.S.D since September 1982. The Merrick Before/After School Program Inc. (BASP) is an independent, not-for profit organization governed by a Parent Board of Directors.

The Before-School Program is in session at each elementary school in the district and is open on all school days from 7 a.m. until the start of school. There is a minimum of two days participation per week. Parents must bring their child or children into the school and sign them in each day.

***Important Note: In the event that there is a delayed school opening due to inclement weather (e.g., snow or ice, etc.) the Before-School Program will be closed. Parents will be notified by the school district whenever there is a delayed school opening.***

The After-School Program runs daily from 2:55-6 p.m. at each of the three elementary schools in the district. Time and assistance are offered for completion of homework assignments. Students are also provided with a variety of supervised activities, which include arts and crafts, physical education and computers. Snacks (milk and cookies, etc.) are provided daily to the students. Children must attend a minimum of two days per week. Parents must pick their children up no later than 6 p.m. and must sign them out each day. Parents interested in the Before- and/or After-School Program are invited to call our Program Office at 516-379-4245 or to view their website: **[www.merrickbasp.com](http://www.merrickbasp.com)**.

### **FERPA (The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)**

Consistent with FERPA, and with certain exceptions, the Merrick School District cannot release personally identifiable information from a student's educational records without a parent or guardian's written consent. However, "directory information" may be disclosed, typically by way of a districtwide or school building publication, without written consent unless a parent or guardian provides written objection to the building principal. The Merrick School District has designated the following information as directory information: name, address, telephone listing, grade level, photograph and video image.



# Merrick Public Schools

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## Student Photos

The Merrick School District has designated student photographs and video images as “directory information” pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). As a result, parents/guardians who do not want their child’s photograph and/or video image utilized by the school district or its employees in district publications, news outlets and/or social media sites, should send written notification to the building principal advising the school district that they do not consent to the use of their child’s photograph and/or video image in district publications, news outlets and/or social media sites.

## Transportation

Students who live over 1/2 mile from school are eligible for bus transportation. Busing is also provided for students who attend nonpublic schools located within 15 miles of the child’s home. State law requires that parents annually file, prior to April 1, a written request with the Business Office for nonpublic school transportation.

## Safety First

We want our students’ ride on Merrick school buses to be a pleasant and safe one. Parents are urged to be sure their children understand that disorderly behavior is extremely dangerous on a moving bus. Children must remain seated and obey the driver.

## Bus Safety

- Cross 10 feet in front of the bus, waiting for the driver’s signal to cross.
- Never cross behind a bus.
- Keep head and arms inside the vehicle at all times.
- Remain seated until the bus comes to a full stop.
- Enter and leave the bus only when it is completely stopped.

Some of our students walk or ride bikes to school, with their parents’ permission. Each school has bike racks where children can chain and lock their bikes. Residents should be particularly alert to our young children during the hours of arrival and dismissal from school. Remember, the safety of our students is a cooperative effort on the part of the community, parents and drivers. Let’s all work together to make this a safe year for Merrick students.

## Health Policy

Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, the district implemented modifications to the regulations associated with the student health services policy. To increase food safety, particularly for children with food allergies, these regulation changes were adopted by the Board of Education during the 2016-2017 school year.

Specifically, the regulation (Student Health Services 5075) outlines the following:

### ***Celebrations and Parties***

Celebrations for birthdays, holidays and other special events will focus on acknowledgement of the student(s) and the significance of the event. Foods will not be permitted at celebrations with the following exceptions: Peace and Friendship Day and the Sixth Grade Picnic. For these two events, the selection of foods must include options that are free of target allergens so that all students may be included in the celebration.

### ***Snacks***

Snacks brought from home are for personal consumption only. Students will only eat food from their home or a parent-approved, school-supplied snack. Students will receive instruction about allergy awareness. Teachers will discuss with students, in an age-appropriate manner, the seriousness of life-threatening allergies and the importance of not sharing or trading food with classmates. As a further precautionary measure, if a class has a student with a life-threatening food allergy, parents of classmates will be advised that each student’s snack must be free of the life-threatening food allergen. In all classes, all students’ snacks must be purchased in stores, commercially prepared and packaged, and contain complete ingredient lists. However, fruits and vegetables are acceptable in the classroom without a life-threatening allergy to the fruits and vegetables.

The policy in its entirety can be found on the Merrick website in the Board of Education policy section.

## Pesticide Neighbor Notification

No pesticide applications took place this past year at any of our schools. Individuals may register to receive a written notice within 48 hours prior to a pesticide application. You may request information about the products that were applied, including any warnings that may appear on the pesticide label that pertains to the protection of humans, animals, or the environment. Please contact the Assistant Superintendent for Business at 516-992-7260 if you wish to obtain additional information.

# Merrick Public Schools

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## AHERA Compliance

The district's regular maintenance of schools includes asbestos inspections in all facilities; in compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) the district undertakes the following:

- Performs periodic surveillance and three-year inspections for all asbestos building materials.
- Updates the district asbestos management plan.

Should anyone have questions, they should contact the Director of School Facilities at 516-992-7255.

## Nondiscrimination Policy

The Merrick Union Free School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, military status, or genetic predisposition or carrier status in its educational programs or employment.

The Board of Education of the Merrick School District is committed to providing to its students and employees an environment free from all forms of unlawful harassment, including sexual. Any student or employee who believes that he or she has been subjected to unlawful harassment should report the alleged misconduct so that appropriate corrective action may be taken. The Board of Education Sexual Harassment Policy is available at the District Office. The Deputy Superintendent serves as the District Compliance Coordinator for this policy.

## An Important Part of Community Life

### Get Involved In Education

For our educational system to flourish, it needs the involvement and participation of all members of our community. Each and every citizen of Merrick has an important contribution to make to the effective functioning of our school district.

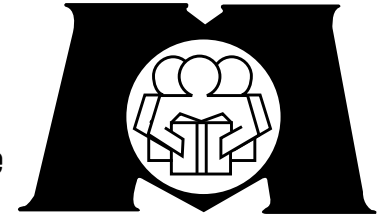
### Community Use of School Facilities

Nonprofit community groups, whose members are primarily residents of the school district, may use school facilities when available for educational, civic and recreational activities. Applications and information may be obtained from the Office of Facilities at 516-992-7255.

### Vandalism Hurts All of Us

Grounds of all three schools close at dusk, except when being utilized for activities approved by the Board of Education and for which permits have been issued. Persons on school grounds without authorization are subject to charges of trespassing. Acts of malicious damage to school property should be immediately reported to the district office or to the police. State law holds parents or legal guardians responsible for damage to school property.

Vandalism in our schools hurts all of us. Students and teachers lose the opportunity to utilize needed equipment, materials or facilities. The community as a whole suffers, not only because the climate of our schools is diminished, but because it is the community that must bear the financial burden of senseless vandalism. Working together as a community, we can help to put a stop to vandalism once and for all.



# Merrick Public Schools

## The Merrick Board of Education

One way to become a part of the educational process is through participation in the meetings of the Board of Education. The seven-member Board serves without pay and is elected by residents to three-year terms of office. The Board generally meets at least once a month on Tuesdays beginning at 7:15 p.m. at the Katherine E. Reif Administration Center. Meetings are listed in the calendar and visitors are welcome.

## Voting and Registration

Residents of the district may vote in May on the annual budget, as well as for candidates to the Board of Education. To vote, a person must be a registered voter of the school district or a currently registered voter in Nassau County, a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years old and a resident of the school district for 30 days prior to vote. For registration to remain valid, a resident must have voted in a school district election or in general elections at least once in the past four years.

## Save Time!

Residents may register to vote at all district schools on all school days of the school year between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. up to five (5) days prior to the budget vote. Additional information may be obtained from the District Clerk. Phone: 516-992-7240.

## Votación y Registro

Los residentes del distrito pueden votar en Mayo sobre el presupuesto anual y elegir los candidatos de la Junta de Educación. Para votar, una persona debe ser un votante actualmente registrado en el distrito escolar o en el condado de Nassau, un ciudadano de los Estados Unidos, tener al menos 18 años de edad y ser residente del distrito escolar durante los 30 días anteriores a la votación. Para que la inscripción sea válida, el residente debe haber votado en una elección del distrito escolar o en elecciones generales al menos una vez en los últimos cuatro años.

## ¡Ahorra tiempo!

Para votar, los residentes pueden registrarse en todas las escuelas del distrito de lunes a viernes entre las 9:30 a.m. y las 3:30 p.m. durante todo el año escolar y tienen hasta cinco (5) días antes de la votación del presupuesto para votar. Si desea obtener más información pueden contactar al Secretario del Distrito al teléfono 516-992-7240.

## Days of Religious Observance 2023-2024

Rosh Hashana .....	September 15*, September 16 & 17
Yom Kippur .....	September 24*, September 25
Sukkot .....	September 29*, September 30 & October 1
Shemini Atzeret .....	October 6*, October 7
Simchat Torah .....	October 7*, October 8
All Saints Day .....	November 1
Diwali .....	November 12
First night of Hanukkah .....	December 7
Feast of the Immaculate Conception .....	December 8
Last night of Hanukkah .....	December 15
Christmas Eve .....	December 24
Christmas .....	December 25
Feast of the Epiphany .....	January 6
Eastern Orthodox Christmas .....	January 7
Lunar New Year .....	February 10
Al-Isra al Miraj .....	February 7*, February 8
Ash Wednesday .....	February 14
Holi .....	March 25
Purim .....	March 23*, March 24
Palm Sunday .....	March 24
Holy Thursday .....	March 28
Good Friday .....	March 29
Easter .....	March 31
Eid al-Fitr .....	April 9*, April 10
Feast of the Ascension .....	April 10
Passover .....	April 22*, April 23, April 30**
Eastern Orthodox Palm Sunday .....	April 28
Eastern Orthodox Holy Friday .....	May 3
Eastern Orthodox Easter .....	May 5
Pentecost .....	May 19
Shavuot .....	June 11*, June 12, June 13
Eid al-Adha .....	June 16*, June 17

\*Holiday begins at sundown on day noted.

\*\* Holiday ends at sundown.



## Merrick Union Free School District

21 Babylon Road  
Merrick, New York 11566  
(516) 992-7200  
[www.merrick.k12.ny.us](http://www.merrick.k12.ny.us)

### **Board of Education**

Jill Levine, *President*  
Linda Wilk, *Vice President*  
Dr. Nancy Kaplan, *Trustee*  
Gina Piskin, *Trustee*  
Jennifer Schatzman, *Trustee*  
Nicole Venditti, *Trustee*  
Butch Yamali, *Trustee*