



MERRICK

PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Alexa Hunt, Chatterton



Celeste DiVico, Chatterton



Olivia Cammarata, Lakeside



Olivia Fisk, Lakeside



Sienna Raphael, Birch

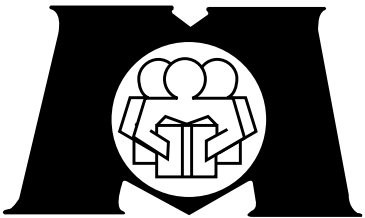


Isabella Marsicano, Birch

2024-2025 CALENDAR

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jill Levine, *President* jlevine@merrick.k12.ny.us
Linda Wilk, *Vice President*..... lwilk@merrick.k12.ny.us
Dr. Nancy Kaplan, *Trustee*..... nkaplan@merrick.k12.ny.us
Gina Piskin, *Trustee* gpiskin@merrick.k12.ny.us
Jennifer Schatzman, *Trustee*..... jschatzman@merrick.k12.ny.us
Nicole Venditti, *Trustee*..... nvenditti@merrick.k12.ny.us
Butch Yamali, *Trustee* 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* Phone: **516-992-7293**
Student Services and Technology
Mr. Ryan Butler *Assistant Superintendent* Phone: **516-992-7260**
for Business



The 2024-2025 Merrick Board of Education: From left: Trustee Nicole Venditti, President Jill Levine, Vice President Linda Wilk, Trustee Gina Piskin, Trustee Jennifer Schatzman, Trustee Dr. Nancy Kaplan and Trustee Butch Yamali.

Merrick Public Schools



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

Kerri Galante Principal
Anthony Fauci Assistant Principal
Danielle Palmer Secretary
Janet Raider Secretary
Jennifer Lopez School Nurse

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
Kelly Lederer School Nurse

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

Elizabeth Trencheny Principal
Chris Colarossi Assistant Principal
Joann Yencharis Secretary
Lisa McElroy Secretary
Kristin Birdie 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**.

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. 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 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

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 1,700 pre-K to sixth grade 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 2024-2025 Officers

Courtney Ramirez	Co-President
Isabel Doerbecker	Co-President
Samantha LaPella	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
Caryn Cohen	Membership Vice President
Danielle Doulos	Corresponding Secretary
Lauren Siegel	Historian
Jennifer Cohen	Immediate Past President

Chatterton Parent Teacher Association 2024-2025 Officers

Jackey Cacioppo	President
Stacy Finn	Treasurer
Anita Roggendorf	Recording Secretary
Jennifer Debrosse	Corresponding Secretary
Melissa Terzulli	VP Committees
Kerry Esmay	VP Marketing
Angela Tomlin	VP Extracurricular Programming
Laura Alexander	Co-VP Membership
Kelly Geller	Co-VP Membership
Jaclyn Tenreiro	VP Cultural Arts
Megan Kantor	Co- VP Hospitality
Leti Maltese	Co- VP Hospitality
Keri Cohen	VP Fundraising and Spiritwear
Laura Panica	VP Fundraising and Spiritwear

Norman J. Levy Lakeside Parent Teacher Association 2024-2025 Officers

Andrea Kaplan	Co-President
Mara Litroff	Co-President
Rachel Goldberg	Vice President
Stacey Bernstein	Treasurer
Janice Hoffman	Recording Secretary
Sandy Thackurdeen	Corresponding Secretary
TBD	VP Fundraising
Alicia Forkos	VP Public Relations
Alicia Forkos	Immediate Past President

Special Education Parent Teacher Association 2024-2025 Officers

Melanie DePascale	President
Kimberly Fox	Vice President
Tiziana Como	Recording Secretary
Jason DePascale	Treasurer

JUNE 2024						
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July 2024

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

AUGUST 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
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JULY 2024						
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August 2024

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

SEPTEMBER 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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4	5	6 Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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25	26	27 Board of Education Meeting (If Needed) 7:15 PM	28 All Schools - Kindergarten Visit All Schools - UPK Orientation	29 Superintendent's Conference Day - No School for Students	30	31

AUGUST 2024						
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September 2024

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

OCTOBER 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>1</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Schools Closed</div> <div>Labor Day</div>	<div>Day 1</div> <div>3</div> <div>First Day of School for Students</div> <div>B-Lunch Program Begins</div> <div>C-Welcome Back Pastries 9:15 AM</div> <div>L-Lunch Program Begins</div>	<div>Day 2</div> <div>4</div>	<div>Day 3</div> <div>5</div> <div>L-Welcome Back Picnic 4-6 PM</div>	<div>Day 4</div> <div>6</div>	<div>7</div>
<div>8</div>	<div>Day 5</div> <div>9</div> <div>B-PTA Chair/Captain Meeting 7:30 PM</div> <div>C-Lunch Program Begins</div> <div>L-Welcome Back Picnic 4-6 PM (Rain Date)</div>	<div>Day 6</div> <div>10</div> <div>MFA Exec Board Meeting</div> <div>Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM</div>	<div>Day 1</div> <div>11</div>	<div>Day 2</div> <div>12</div> <div>Grade Pre-K-3 Open House</div>	<div>Day 3</div> <div>13</div> <div>B-Back to School Fall Festival 4-5:30 PM</div>	<div>14</div>
<div>15</div>	<div>Day 4</div> <div>16</div>	<div>Day 5</div> <div>17</div> <div>Grade 4-6 Open House</div>	<div>Day 6</div> <div>18</div> <div>Faculty Meeting</div>	<div>Day 1</div> <div>19</div>	<div>Day 2</div> <div>20</div> <div>B-Back to School Fall Festival 4-5:30 PM (Rain Date)</div> <div>C-Welcome Back Picnic 4:30-6:30 PM</div>	<div>21</div>
<div>22</div>	<div>Day 3</div> <div>23</div> <div>APEX Orientation 7 PM</div>	<div>Day 4</div> <div>24</div> <div>B, C, L-PTA Meeting 7 PM</div> <div>L-Photo Day</div> <div>C, L-PTA Captain Meeting 6:30 PM</div>	<div>Day 5</div> <div>25</div> <div>L-Photo Day</div> <div>PDC Meeting</div>	<div>Day 6</div> <div>26</div> <div>B-Photo Day</div> <div>L-Photo Day</div>	<div>Day 1</div> <div>27</div>	<div>28</div>
<div>29</div>	<div>Day 2</div> <div>30</div> <div>SEPTA Meeting @ Birch 7 PM</div>					

SEPTEMBER 2024						
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October 2024

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

NOVEMBER 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Day 3 1	Day 4 2 DRO - Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown National Custodian's Day	3 DRO - Rosh Hashanah Schools Closed	4 DRO - Rosh Hashanah Schools Closed	5
6	Day 5 7 B-Gr. 1 Sports Night 7 PM B-Gr. 4 Sports Night 8 PM C-Photo Day	Day 6 8 MFA Exec Board Meeting Health and Safety Meeting 3:30 PM Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 1 9 B,C,L-Walk to School Day Faculty Meeting B-Gr. K Sports Night 6:30 PM B-Gr. 3 Sports Night 7:30 PM B-Gr. 6 Sports Night 8:30 PM	Day 2 10 B-Coffee & Connect with the Principal 9:30 AM B-Gr. 2 Sports Night 7 PM B-Gr. 5 Sports Night 8 PM C-Spaghetti Dinner	Day 3 11 DRO - Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown Emergency Drill Early Dismissal - 15 min. early B-Fun Run	12 DRO - Yom Kippur
	HEALTH AND WELLNESS WEEK - ALL SCHOOLS					
13	14 Schools Closed Columbus Day	Day 4 15 PDC Meeting	Day 5 16 DRO - Sukkot Begins at Sundown All Schools - Unity Day	Day 6 17 DRO - Sukkot	Day 1 18 DRO - Sukkot	19
	SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION WEEK					
20	Day 2 21 L-Gr. 1 Sports Night 7 PM L-Gr. 4 Sports Night 8 PM	Day 3 22 C-Fun Run L- Gr. 2 Sports Night 7 PM L- Gr. 6 Sports Night 8 PM	Day 4 23 DRO - Shemini Atzeret Begins at Sundown	Day 5 24 DRO - Shemini Atzeret DRO - Simchat Torah Begins at Sundown	Day 6 25 DRO - Simchat Torah	26 B-Gr. 6 PTA Halloween Party 7-9:30 PM
27	Day 1 28 L-Gr. 3 Sports Night 7 PM L-Gr. 5 Sports Night 8 PM	Day 2 29 L-Gr. K Sports Night 7 PM	Day 3 30 Extended Faculty Meeting	Day 4 31 All Schools - Halloween Parade		
	RED RIBBON WEEK - ALL SCHOOLS					

OCTOBER 2024						
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November 2024

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

DECEMBER 2024						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Day 5 1 DRO – Diwali DRO – All Saints’ Day	2
3	Day 6 4	5 No School for Students Superintendent’s Conference Day Election Day	Day 1 6 B-Photo Retake Day & Gr. 6 Cap & Gown L-Photo Retake Day and Club Photos Faculty Meeting	Day 2 7	Day 3 8 B-Bingo Night 7 PM L-Veterans Day Assembly	9
NATIONAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST’S WEEK						
10	11 Schools Closed Veterans Day Observed	Day 4 12 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 5 13 Faculty Council	Day 6 14	Day 1 15 C-Pastries with the Principal/PTA 9:15 AM	16
17	Day 2 18	Day 3 19 B- PTA Meeting 7 PM C-Gr. 2 Sports Night 6 PM C-Gr. 3 Sports Night 7:15 PM L-PTA Meeting 7 PM	Day 4 20 School-Related Support Professionals’ Day C-Grade 1 Sports Night 6 PM	Day 5 21 C-Gr. K Sports Night 6 PM	Day 6 22 L-Book Fair	23
24	Day 1 25 B-Book Fair C-Photo Retake Day and Gr. 6 Yearbook Group Photos L-Book Fair	Day 2 26 Parent-Teacher Conferences 5:30–8:30 PM B-Book Fair L-Book Fair	27 No School for Students Parent-Teacher Conferences	28 Schools Closed Thanksgiving Day	29 Schools Closed Thanksgiving Recess	30

NOVEMBER 2024						
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December 2024

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

JANUARY 2025						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	Day 3 2	Day 4 3 SEPTA Meeting @ Chatterton 7 PM	Day 5 4 PDC Meeting	Day 6 5 L-Vendor Fair	Day 1 6	7
8 DRO - Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Day 2 9 C-Winter Concert for School 9:30 AM C-Winter Concert for Families 7 PM	Day 3 10 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 4 11 L-Winter Concert for School 9:15 AM Faculty Meeting	Day 5 12 B-Holiday Boutique C-Holiday Boutique L-Winter Concert for School 9:15 AM L-Winter Concert for Families 7 PM	Day 6 13 B-Holiday Boutique C-Holiday Boutique	14
15	Day 1 16 L-Holiday Boutique	Day 2 17 L-Holiday Boutique Central Admin/MFA Meeting	Day 3 18 L-Holiday Boutique	Day 4 19 B-Winter Concert for School 9:30 AM B-Winter Concert for Families 7 PM	Day 5 20	21
22	23	24 DRO - Christmas Eve	25 DRO - Christmas Day DRO - First Night of Hanukkah	26 Kwanzaa	27	28
	SCHOOLS CLOSED - WINTER RECESS					
29	30	31 New Year's Eve				
	SCHOOLS CLOSED - WINTER RECESS					

DECEMBER 2024						
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January 2025

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

FEBRUARY 2025						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 New Year's Day	2 DRO - Last Night of Hanukkah	3	4
			SCHOOLS CLOSED - WINTER RECESS			
5	Day 6 6 DRO - Feast of the Epiphany	Day 1 7 DRO - Eastern Orthodox Christmas L-PTA Meeting 7 PM	Day 2 8 C-PTA Meeting 7 PM Faculty Meeting All-County Rehearsal Div 1 East @ Cantiague Elementary School 4-7:30 PM	Day 3 9 B- Dancing with the Stars All-County Rehearsal Div 1 East @ Cantiague Elementary School 4-7:30 PM	Day 4 10 B- PARP Kickoff All-County Rehearsal Div 1 East @ Cantiague Elementary School 4-7:30 PM	11
12 All-County Division 1 Concert @ Tilles Center 11:30 AM	Day 5 13 L-PARP Kickoff SEPTA Presentation @ Lakeside 7 PM	Day 6 14 MFA Exec Board Meeting Health and Safety Meeting 3:30 PM Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 1 15 B-Photo Day Gr. 6 Clubs & Cap & Gown Retakes Faculty Council All-County Rehearsal Div 2 (with Jazz Band) @ HB Mattlin Middle School School 4-8 PM	Day 2 16 C-PARP Kickoff	Day 3 17 L-PARP Closing and Community Read Aloud SEPTA Presentation @ Lakeside 7 PM All-County Rehearsal Div 2 (with Jazz Band) @ HB Mattlin Middle School 4-8 PM	18 All-County Rehearsal Div 2 (with Jazz Band) @ HB Mattlin Middle School School 8:30 AM-12:30 PM
	BIRCH AND LAKESIDE PARP WEEK					
19 All-County Division 2 Concert @ Tilles Center 11 AM	20 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Schools Closed	Day 4 21 B-PTA Meeting 7 PM (Zoom)	Day 5 22 C-Book Fair Extended Faculty Meeting	Day 6 23 C-Bingo for Books	Day 1 24 B-PARP Celebrations C-Community Read Aloud	25
		BIRCH AND CHATTERTON PARP WEEK				
26 DRO - Al-Isra al Miraj Begins at Sundown	Day 2 27 DRO - Al-Isra al Miraj	Day 3 28 MFA General Membership Meeting C-Gr. 4 Sports Night 6:15 PM C-Gr. 5 Sports Night 7:30 PM	29 DRO - Lunar New Year Schools Closed	Day 4 30 C-Gr. 6 Sports Night 7 PM	Day 5 31	

JANUARY 2025						
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February 2025

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

MARCH 2025						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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2	Day 6 3	Day 1 4	Day 2 5 B-Theatre Residency 7 PM Faculty Meeting	Day 3 6 L-Reflections 7 PM L-Founder's Day 7:30 PM B-Theatre Residency 7 PM	Day 4 7 B-Theatre Residency 4:30 PM	8
	KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION					
	NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR WEEK					
9	Day 5 10 C-Gr. 3 Dance Performance	Day 6 11 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 1 12 PDC Meeting	Day 2 13 C-Sweetheart Social Pre-K-2	Day 3 14 All Schools - P.S. I Love You Day (Mental Health Awareness)	15
16	17 Presidents Day	18	19	20	21	22
	SCHOOLS CLOSED - FEBRUARY RECESS					
23	Day 4 24	Day 5 25	Day 6 26 B-Reflections & Founders Day 6:45 PM	Day 1 27	Day 2 28	

FEBRUARY 2025						
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March 2025

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

APRIL 2025						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	Day 3 3	Day 4 4 B-3rd Grade Dance Performance C-Founder's Day & Reflections Celebration 6:45 PM	Day 5 5 DRO - Ash Wednesday	Day 6 6 SEPTA Meeting @ Birch 7 PM	Day 1 7 B-Penny Auction 7 PM C-Pastries with the Principal and PTA 9:15 AM	8
NATIONAL SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER WEEK						
9	Day 2 10	Day 3 11 MFA Exec Board Meeting Health and Safety Meeting 3:30 PM Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 4 12 Faculty Meeting	Day 5 13 DRO Purim Begins at Sundown	Day 6 14 DRO Holi DRO Purim	15
16	Day 1 17	Day 2 18 Merrick Blood Drive @ Chatterton	Day 3 19 B- Book Fair Faculty Council Meeting	Day 4 20 B-Book Fair Parent-Teacher Conferences 5:30-8:30 PM	21 No School for Students Parent-Teacher Conferences	22
23	Day 5 24 C-Chatterton on Stage Dress Rehearsal	Day 6 25 B-PTA Meeting 7 PM C-Chatterton on Stage Dress Rehearsal	Day 1 26 C-Chatterton on Stage Performance 6:30 PM L-Theater Performance Extended Faculty Meeting	Day 2 27 C-Chatterton on Stage Performance 6:30 PM L-Theater Performance	Day 3 28 B-Community Read Aloud C-Chatterton on Stage Performance 4:30 PM	29
30 DRO - Eid al-Fitr	31 DRO - Eid al-Fitr Schools Closed	L-PTA Meeting 7 PM				

MARCH 2025						
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April 2025

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

MAY 2025						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Transportation requests for students attending private/pa-rochial schools are due no later than April 1, 2025.		Day 4 1	Day 5 2	Day 6 3 C-Spring Social Dance Grades 3-6	Day 1 4 National School Library Day B-Kindergarten Performance 9:45 AM	5
6	Day 2 7 Assistant Principals' Appreciation Day	Day 3 8 NYS ELA Assessment Grades 3-6 MFA Exec Board Meeting Board of Education Meeting 7:15 PM	Day 4 9 NYS ELA Assessment Grades 3-6	Day 5 10	Day 6 11 Purple Up Day: Celebrating Military-Connected Children	12 DRO - Passover Begins at Sundown
13 DRO - Palm Sunday DRO - Eastern Orthodox Palm Sunday	14	15	16	17 DRO - Holy Thursday	18 DRO - Good Friday DRO - Eastern Orthodox Holy Friday	19
Schools Closed - Spring Recess						
20 DRO - Easter Sunday DRO - Eastern Orthodox Easter DRO - Last Night of Passover	21 Spring Recess Schools Closed	Day 1 22	Day 2 23 Faculty Meeting NYSSMA @ Seaford Middle School Administrative Professionals' Day Board of Education/BOCES Vote	Day 3 24 C-Art Show 6-7:30 PM NYSSMA @ Seaford Middle School	Day 4 25 All Schools-Kindergarten Orientation (Virtual)	26
27	Day 5 28	Day 6 29 NYS Math Assessment Grades 3-6	Day 1 30 NYS Math Assessment Grades 3-6			

APRIL 2025						
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May 2025

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

JUNE 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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29	30					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				Day 2 1 School Principals' Appreciation Day	Day 3 2	3
4	Day 4 5 L-PTA End-of-Year Dinner	Day 5 6 NYS Science Assessment Grade 5 MFA Exec Board Meeting Health and Safety Meeting 3:30 PM Board of Education Meeting and Budget Hearing 7:15 PM	Day 6 7 National School Nurses Day Extended Faculty Meeting	Day 1 8 B-Plant Sale L-Plant Sale	Day 2 9 B-Plant Sale C-Plant Sale L-Plant Sale	10
	Teacher Appreciation Week					
11 Mother's Day	Day 3 12	Day 4 13 Joint PTA Meeting @ Birch 6:30 PM Meet the Candidates Night 7 PM	Day 5 14 C-Spring Concert for School 9:15 AM C-Spring Concert for Families 7 PM	Day 6 15 Law Enforcement Appreciation Day	Day 1 16 B-STEAM Day C-STEAM Day L-Spring Concert for Students 9:15 AM	17
18 National Speech Pathologist Day	Day 2 19 L-Spring Concert for Students 9:15 AM L-Spring Concert for Families 7 PM	Day 3 20 School Budget Vote 7 AM-9 PM District Art Show 4:45-8:45 PM	Day 4 21	Day 5 22 B-Spring Concert for School 9:15 AM B-Spring Concert for Families 7 PM L-STEAM Day	Day 6 23 Emergency School Makeup Day	24
	Mental Health Awareness Week					
25	26 Schools Closed Memorial Day	Day 1 27	Day 2 28 C-Gr. 3-4 Concert for Families 9:30 AM C-Gr. 3-4 Concert for School 1:30 PM SEPTA Presentation 7 PM (Virtual)	Day 3 29 DRO - Feast of the Ascension	Day 4 30	31

MAY 2025						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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June 2025

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

JULY 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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27	28	29	30	31		

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

JUNE 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2025

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

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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
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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

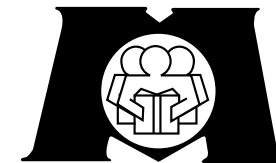
Consistent with Part 200 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, please notify the Student Services Office at 516-992-7293 if you have a child up to 12 years old with a suspected disability who may require special education services. All information is kept confidential.

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.

APEX

The Merrick Union Free School District is committed to an educational program recognizing individual student abilities, strengths and needs. Children who demonstrate superior cognitive abilities, critical and creative thinking, exemplary academic performance, and motivation to be an independent learner require supplemental instruction and exposure to a variety of challenging and higher-order critical thinking experiences. Providing students with enhanced differentiated instruction enables us to nurture and develop students' higher-level thinking skills. The Merrick UFSD meets the needs of these targeted students through differentiated classroom instruction, participation in our APEX program and additional enrichment opportunities. Students are identified for the APEX program through multiple



measures, including the results of the OLSAT, the NWEA and teacher input. Students in third grade are identified in September, and students in fifth grade are identified during the summer prior to their fifth grade year. For more information, please go to our website, www.merrick.k12.ny.us.

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

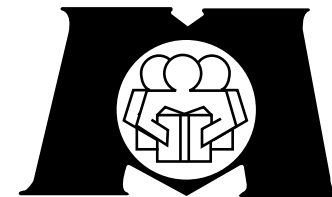
In response to the needs of Merrick's many working parents, the District provides space at each school for both Before- and After-School Programs. These programs are operated by the Merrick Before/After School Program (BASP) which has been providing quality school-age child care service to the children 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.

Merrick Public Schools



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 pertain 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

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.

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.



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 mas información pueden contactar al Secretario del Distrito al teléfono 516-992-7240.

Days of Religious Observance 2024-2025

Rosh Hashanah	October 2*, October 3, October 4
Yom Kippur	October 11*, October 12
Sukkot	October 16*, October 17, October 18
Shemini Atzeret	October 23*, October 24
Simchat Torah	October 24*, October 25
Diwali	November 1
All Saints Day	November 1
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	December 8
Christmas Eve	December 24
Christmas	December 25
First night of Hanukkah	December 25
Last night of Hanukkah	January 2
Feast of the Epiphany	January 6
Eastern Orthodox Christmas	January 7
Al-Isra al Miraj	January 26*, January 27
Lunar New Year	January 29
Ash Wednesday	March 5
Purim	March 13*, March 14
Holi	March 14
Eid al Fitr	March 30*, March 31
Passover	April 12*, April 13, April 20**
Palm Sunday	April 13
Eastern Orthodox Palm Sunday	April 13
Holy Thursday	April 17
Good Friday	April 18
Eastern Orthodox Holy Friday	April 18
Easter	April 20
Eastern Orthodox Easter	April 20
Feast of the Ascension	May 29
Pentecost	June 8
Shavuot	June 1*, June 2, June 3
Eid al-Adha	June 6*, June 7

*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

Board of Education

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