

The Best in...



East Meadow Union Free School District

Guide to Our Schools 2010/2011

Leon J. Campo Salisbury Center

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<http://eastmeadow.k12.ny.us>

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The history of East Meadow is a long and storied one, dating back to the 17th century.

In 1643, a small group of colonists from Connecticut decided to cross Long Island Sound and create a new settlement on Long Island. They purchased land from Native Americans and named it Hempstead Town, after their birthplace in England. One year later, in 1644, Governor Kieft gave them a patent, and the colonists claimed the land as their own.

In 1655, surveyor Thomas Langdon reported at the Hempstead Town Meeting that the "east meadow" was suitable for grazing. Cattle and sheep, that would graze there for years, were East Meadow's primary residents in its early days. The sheep supplied much of the colonies' wool.

On the last Monday in October, the sheep would be driven to East Meadow's public pen from all sections of the Hempstead Plains. They were identified with certain marks on their ears and sent home with farmers.

Unmarked sheep were auctioned off. The day became something of a celebration with merchants, acrobats, clowns and politicians attending the auction. It eventually became an annual holiday called Parting Day.

The first school in East Meadow was a one-room schoolhouse at Front Street and Newbridge Avenue at the present site of the East Meadow Public Library. It soon proved to be overcrowded, so East Meadow Hall was established at the turn of the century, which was a two-room schoolhouse right next to the post office.

In 1922, the school was said to be overflowing with pupils, and East Meadow established another school on Newbridge Road, called the Newbridge Road School. In 1950, overcrowding became a problem again, and the Prospect Avenue Elementary School was established. By 1955, East Meadow High School was established, headed by principal Edward I. McCleary. Two years later, in 1957, the first senior class graduated from East Meadow High School.

After World War I, East Meadow became large enough to start running public buses to and from Hempstead. After World War II, East Meadow's population skyrocketed --increasing by 376 percent. In 1951, there were 25,000 residents living here, and that number more than doubled within the next six years.

Veterans Memorial Park was established in April of 1963 as the first park and pool in East Meadow.

Condensed and Reprinted from *East Meadow Almanac* (2002). Written by Amy Schoenberger



LOTE (Languages Other Than English)

A language other than English is offered in grades 6-12. Students are introduced to American Sign Language, French, Italian and Spanish in grade 6. At the end of the language rotation in grade 6, the students select a language to pursue for their formal study. The state assessments are administered in grades 8 and 10 and the students are expected to pass them in their chosen language to achieve level-appropriate proficiency. By the time students graduate high school, they can also acquire college credit through advanced placement or college credit courses.

Physical Education

This program offers challenging and innovative activities for students in grades 1-12. Emphasis on lifelong fitness and healthy behaviors including proper nutrition, cooperation through adventure education, Project Adventure, sport skills, and physical fitness are key components of the curriculum. In addition, character education by way of sportsmanship and team concepts, are key areas of emphasis in the gymnasium.

Quest/Metamorphosis

The district offers a program for gifted students in grades four through eight. At the elementary level, students enrolled in the Quest program attend classes once every sixth day in their respective schools. The curriculum is built on a Talents Unlimited model and provides the foundation for beginning research. In the middle school Metamorphosis Program, students begin to explore topics of more personal interest using the research process. Their investigations may be in science, mathematics, the humanities, or the arts.

Art

The goal of the East Meadow Art department is to provide comprehensive art education within the context of the school system, as well as, a liberal arts experience for all its students. The result is to educate students to be capable, knowledgeable, and fully prepared for the professional artistic domain; to have an understanding of the visual arts in relation to other human endeavors; and to become creative and contributing members of society.

Academic Honors

At the middle and high school levels, students receive academic honors for course work. To meet the criteria for the Honor Roll, students must maintain an 89.5 cumulative average for all subjects. To meet the criteria for the Scholastic Roll, students must maintain between an 84.5 and 89.4 cumulative average for all subjects.

Computer Technology

All classrooms are equipped with networked computers linked to the Internet. Computer technology is integrated into all curriculum areas. Students are introduced to a variety of programs that will enhance their learning experience. The district is expanding its technology with regard to distance learning and videoconferencing.

Library Media Centers

Each of the district's libraries offers a warm, supportive environment that promotes literacy and stimulates a passion for reading. In addition, all of the libraries have computerized collections and a large variety of online databases available to faculty and students.



Performing Music

The district is committed to providing students with a comprehensive music experience. More than 4,000 students participate in various musical ensembles. Through the processes of practice, rehearsal and performance, students develop self-discipline, enhanced cooperation skills, and increased ability to listen and follow directions.

Summer School Program

The East Meadow School District offers a summer music program for East Meadow residents and students from surrounding Nassau school districts. The program provides group lessons for beginners and a large ensemble experience for students at the beginning, intermediate and advanced levels.

Advanced Placement

The Advanced Placement Program, sponsored by the College Board and administered by the Educational Testing Service, offers secondary school students the opportunity to participate in challenging college-level course work and to receive college credit and/or advanced placement credit. (See The Best in... College Preparation for additional information on advanced placement courses.)



Pre-Kindergarten

A new world awaits the child who begins school for the first time. To ensure that the school experience will be as rewarding as possible, the district offers a voluntary program available to all district residents whose children will be enrolled in kindergarten in September. This program was designed to acquaint your child with his/her new school and to make the transition from home to school as comfortable as possible. In addition, activities are planned around the concepts and language skills necessary for future school success. The Pre-Kindergarten program also enables a screening process to take place that identifies those children with potential learning difficulties. Further diagnosis and follow-through then continue during the kindergarten year.

Continuing Education

The East Meadow Board of Education sponsors a diversified education program for adults. Catalogs are mailed to residents each fall and spring. For more information, please call 228-5211.

The **Human Dignity Committee** is a district-wide initiative devoted to facilitating activities specially designed to promote the acceptance of diversity, the reduction of prejudice, and the elimination of bias incidents. The committee sponsors such activities as the annual Humanitarian Awards, staff development opportunities, and middle and high school peer trainers for the 'A World of Difference' program.



SCOPE

In cooperation with the Suffolk County Organization for the Promotion of Education (SCOPE), the district offers a school-aged child care program. The goal of the program is to provide quality child care for elementary school students in a supervised setting before and after the school day. Children have a choice of indoor and outdoor activities which may include sports, arts and crafts, story-time, music, games, and homework.

Service Learning

Service learning is an innovative teaching method where students are provided with opportunities to apply what they are learning in class to the community at large. The program fosters a sense of caring in our students and has built a successful partnership between school and community.

Robotics/Electromechanical Technology Pre-Engineering Program

This program is designed to prepare students for all college engineering disciplines. Principles learned in class are applied through the design and construction of projects.

Summer School

The East Meadow Summer School program provides support for students who have not passed all of their courses during the school year. Summer School meets during July and August. Middle school and high school programs are offered.

CAPE

The Creative Arts Program of East Meadow (CAPE) offers youngsters ages 4 through 12 a variety of craft, physical exercise and educational courses. The program's after school, Saturday, and summer classes are held at McVey Elementary School. For further information, please visit the CAPE website at <http://eastmeadow.k12.ny.us/cape>.

Visiting Artists Program/Artists in Residence Program

These programs consist of performances, workshops, residency programs and field trip experiences for students. These experiences enhance the district's art programs by incorporating music, dance, theatre, and visual arts into other curriculum areas.

Most colleges use standardized tests as part of the admissions process. Listed below are some of the standardized tests offered to assist students with the college admissions process.



College Entrance Exams

PSAT

In preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT I), the Preliminary Scholastic Achievement Exam (PSAT) is offered each October. Juniors who achieve very high scores on the PSAT may be considered for National Merit recognition. Sophomores in accelerated math who have very strong verbal skills, are encouraged to take this exam. Information about the PSAT is available in the guidance office.

SAT I

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT I) measures verbal and mathematical reasoning. The SAT I includes and essay and grammar section, as well as, additional reading comprehension passages. The analogy portion of the test has been discontinued. The SAT I is taken by most students in May of their junior year, though some students elect to take it earlier. Students looking to improve their scores may take the SAT I again during Fall of their senior year. SAT I materials are available at each high school guidance office.

SAT II

Students applying to more selective or competitive colleges will need to meet SAT II requirements. Specific achievement exams are offered in core academic subject areas.

ACT

The American College Testing Service Exam (ACT) is a test of skills in English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning. Students should discuss the differences between the SAT I and the ACT with their counselor.

NCAA Requirements

Students who plan to participate in Division I or II athletics as freshmen in college must meet certain criteria, as outlined by the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse. Guidance counselors should be consulted by students early in their high school careers to see that their course selections meet NCAA requirements.

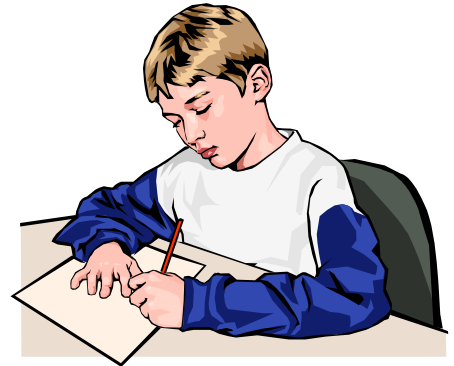
The district provides students with opportunities to experience college-level courses while in high school. A summary of college-level courses is provided.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT OR COLLEGE-AFFILIATED COURSES

<i>DEPARTMENT</i>	<i>COURSE TITLE</i>	<i>COLLEGE AFFILIATION OR AP EXAMINATION</i>
ART	Advanced Placement Studio Art (2-D Design, which includes Photography, 3-D Design, or Drawing) Computer Graphics/Digital Illustration (SCALE)* Studio Art 4 (SCALE)*	AP Portfolio C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W Post College/Long Island University
BUSINESS	Business Law (SCALE)* College Accounting (SCALE)* Computer Literacy (SCALE)* Introduction to Contemporary Business and Economics/Government (SCALE)* Legal Environment of Business (SCALE)* Multimedia PC Applications 3 (SCALE)* Multimedia PC Applications 4 (SCALE)* Personal Finance (SCALE)*	C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University
ENGLISH	Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition American Literature (SCALE)* English Literature (SCALE)* Syracuse University Project Advance	AP Examination AP Examination C.W Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University Syracuse University
LOTE	Advanced Placement in French, Italian, and Spanish Languages French, Italian, Spanish (Level 4) French, Italian, Spanish (Level 5)	AP Examination in Level 5 Course Adelphi University St. John's University
MATH	Advanced Placement Calculus AB/BC Advanced Placement Computer Science A Advanced Placement Statistics Basic Calculus Pre-Calculus	AP Examination AP Examination AP Examination SUNY Albany SUNY Albany
SCIENCE	Advanced Placement Biology Advanced Placement Chemistry Advanced Placement Environmental Science Advanced Placement Physics B/C Earth Science (SCALE)* Forensic Technology and Criminal Law Marine Biology (SCALE)* Science Research in the High School Syracuse University Project Advance: Forensic Science	AP Examination AP Examination AP Examination AP Examination C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W Post College/Long Island University SUNY at Albany Syracuse University
SOCIAL STUDIES	Advanced Placement Comparative Politics and Government Advanced Placement European History Advanced Placement Psychology Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics Advanced Placement U.S. History Advanced Placement World History Forensic Technology and Criminal Law Introduction to Contemporary Business and Economics/Government (SCALE)* Legal Environment of Business (SCALE)* The Civil War: America's Turning Point (SCALE)* U.S. History (SCALE)*	AP Examination AP Examination AP Examination AP Examination AP Examination AP Examination C.W Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W. Post College/Long Island University C.W Post College/Long Island University
TECHNOLOGY	Electromechanical Sequence	N.Y Institute of Technology OR SUNY Farmingdale

*NOTE- SCALE = Secondary Collegiate Articulated Learning Experience at C.W. Post College/Long Island University

HOOPS (Homework Offers Opportunities Promising Success) provides an opportunity for students to begin their homework assignments under the mentoring of eight East Meadow High School teachers. With copies of most textbooks available, students can spend one hour in a pressure-free setting getting advice and guidance from a cadre of teachers as they begin their nightly homework assignments. HOOPS will meet 40 times over the academic year in room 214 at East Meadow High School.

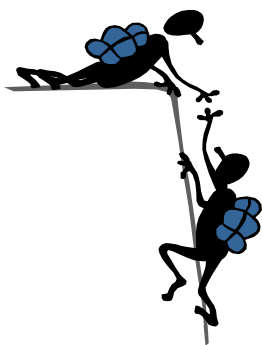


BEACON (Basics Enabling Academic Confidence)

The BEACON Program is an academic intervention program designed to meet the needs of 7th and 8th grade students who, for a variety of reasons, have not found success in the regular educational setting. The program, housed at Woodland, targets the motivational, academic, social and emotional needs of each student. BEACON incorporates service and experiential learning to promote a sense of responsibility toward self, family and the broader school community. It includes group and individual counseling with the program social worker and mandatory monthly parent meetings that are held in the evening.

Peer Helper Program

Peer Helpers are a group of seventh and eighth grade students who are caring, good listeners and strong leaders. They assist with new student orientation by conducting building tours and providing companionship. Peer Helpers are also trained to provide peer mediation to resolve conflicts involving students who have either been referred by teachers and/or administration or who have requested mediation themselves.



Transitional Advisory Group (TAG)

The Transitional Advisory Group (TAG) is a ninth grade transitional program designed for an identified group of at-risk incoming ninth grade students. The primary focus of the program is to provide individualized support for those students who participated in the BEACON Program. The goal of the TAG program is to further insure the overall success of the students in their first year of high school.

Woodland Mentoring Program

Woodland's Mentoring Program is an outreach program that brings in volunteers from the community to meet with students twice a month during extended homeroom. Each student is paired with a caring adult who takes a relatively non-judgmental role in the life of the student. The goal of the mentor is to offer friendship, encouragement and support to the student.

Peer Leadership

East Meadow High School's Peer Leadership Program includes juniors and seniors who are trained in decision-making, communication, relationships, drug/alcohol abuse, depression and stereotyping. Peer leaders share their knowledge and expertise during freshman English or social studies classroom presentations. Peer Leaders assist in helping others make well-informed decisions.

English Language Learners/English as a Second Language

Curriculum and instruction in the ESL classroom in grades K-12 are aligned with the NYS Standards with a specific focus on the standards of English Language Arts and English as a Second Language. The four language competencies of listening, speaking, reading and writing are integrated during instruction and are addressed in the classroom through a variety of differentiated activities to meet varying ability levels and learning styles.

Evening High School Program

This program allows a selected group of students to complete high school by attending classes on Monday through Thursday evenings.

Academic Intervention Services (AIS)

AIS is designed to help students achieve the learning standards in English Language Arts and mathematics in grades K-12 and social studies and science in grades 4-12. These services include additional instruction that supplements the general curriculum and/or support services to improve academic performance.

Early Intervention

The Early Intervention Program provides selected children in grades K-2 with the foundational skills necessary to make progress in reading, writing, and mathematics. Students are provided with extra support in language concepts, phonemic awareness skills, letter/sound relationships and math vocabulary through movement and visual presentation.



Section 504

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities. Section 504 protects individuals who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. The district is obligated to identify, evaluate and provide appropriate accommodations, modifications, specialized aids or equipment as deemed necessary to meet the educational needs of students with disabilities. These accommodations are usually for students whose needs are not severe enough to require direct special educational services.

Committee on Special Education

This committee recommends a continuum of services for *school-aged students* with disabilities designed to provide students with the least restrictive environment. Related services are offered as needed in all schools. Resource room, consultant teacher services and special education teacher support services are available throughout the district. Self-contained special education classes, departmental special education classes, and collaborative classes are offered.



Committee on Preschool Special Education

Preschool services for 3-5 year olds are available throughout Nassau County and are accessed by contacting the Committee on Preschool Special Education through the Special Education Office. Students found to have substantial developmental disabilities will be recommended for related services and special class programs, where appropriate, at various sites throughout the county.

Speech/Language Services

Speech/Language Services are available to students with disabilities as recommended by their Individual Education Programs. These services address developmental deficits in articulation, expressive and receptive language and social skills.

Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy is provided by a licensed professional to students with disabilities to develop or maintain adaptive skills designed to achieve maximum functioning in the school setting. Areas of focus generally involve fine motor and visual perceptual skills.

Physical Therapy is provided by a licensed professional to students with disabilities focusing on a student's ability to navigate and move throughout the building in a safe and effective manner.

Adaptive Physical Education is provided to groups of students who exhibit gross motor skills substantially below those of their peers. This service offers a more individualized physical education program enabling students to progress in their motor development.

Counseling is provided by certified school psychologists and social workers to improve academic and emotional functioning.

Psychological Services are provided by certified school psychologists who conduct psycho-educational evaluations and consultations. As appropriate, intervention strategies are recommended to teachers and parents to improve the child's educational and behavioral functioning both at home and school.



Social Worker Services are provided by certified school social workers who consult with parents and staff to effect positive behavioral changes in students. They conduct individual and group counseling sessions for a variety of concerns and offer numerous classroom presentations on such issues as personal safety, drug use, peer pressure and decision-making.

Itinerant Services for the Vision Impaired and Hearing Impaired are provided for students with significant limitations in these areas to enable them to make educational progress through the utilization of various accommodations, modifications and the teaching of compensatory techniques.

Extra Help

Extra help is available before, during, and after school. Special regents review classes are held after school in the eight weeks prior to the January and June regents exams. These review classes run independently from the normal extra help sessions offered by teachers.

Athletics

The East Meadow School District boasts one of the most comprehensive interscholastic athletic programs in Nassau County with a vast variety of athletic opportunities in team and individual sports. There are more than 150 athletic teams for boys and girls in grades 7-12. The district is represented at both the local and state levels in all areas of competition. It has received tremendous recognition by New York State in the realm of scholar athletes with the overwhelming majority of the varsity teams qualifying as New York State Scholar Athlete Teams.



Clubs

A wide variety of clubs exist in all schools, including geography, chess, art, music, drama, Math Olympiads, homework, and school newspapers.

PTA/PTSA/SEPTA

Parents actively involved in their children's education offer the best chance for student success. Each school in East Meadow, from elementary to high school, has a PTA/PTSA including SEPTA (Special Education PTA). PTA meeting and special event dates are listed in the district calendar.



Founders Day

PTA Council's annual Founders Day Dinner recognizes the child advocates throughout our district. Through the generous community support of this fundraiser, Council is able to award scholarships to graduating seniors from both W.T. Clarke and East Meadow High Schools.

Terrific Kids Awards, sponsored by our local Kiwanis Club, are given to middle school students in recognition of their efforts to be responsible citizens and students.



East Meadow Public Library

The children's room offers a variety of programs featuring book discussion groups, storytellers, musicians, craftspeople and magicians. All of those activities support a circulating collection of books, magazines, audio books and videotapes. A Summer Reading Program is open to pre-schoolers through 6th graders. Computers with Internet access are available for research.

For grades 7 and up, the Young Adult department offers summer reading programs and college and career information, clubs, films, and special programs. Visit the library website at <http://www.nassaulibrary.org/emeadow/index.html> for more information.

Club S.L.I.M.E. (Service Learning in Motion Everywhere) and **Key Club** are junior Kiwanis organizations at the middle and high school levels. These clubs focus on community service.

ACCESS

Project ACCESS (A Community Committed to Educational Success for Students) is a sub-committee of the PTA Curriculum Council that sponsors educational workshops for parents throughout the school year. The main goal of ACCESS is to provide parents with hands-on strategies that they may use to help their children achieve the highest level of social, emotional and academic success. ACCESS is a cooperative effort among the district administration, staff, parents and community.

Parent Outreach

The Parent Outreach Committee fosters the home/school connection through its translator program, curriculum workshops, parent buddy program, faculty strategies guide and parent resource center.

Parental Involvement in Athletics

The Clarke Parents and Booster Club, the East Meadow High School Parent Athletics Club (EMPAC) and the Parents of Woodland Athletics (POWA) are parent organizations that support the entire athletic programs in each of the buildings, both at the middle and high school levels. These organizations work in partnership with the athletic programs and are responsible for things such as scholarships for athletes, end of year awards dinners, and concession stands at athletic events

Curriculum Council Committee

The Curriculum Council is part of PTA Council. The committee consists of a PTA representative from each school in the district and members of Central Administration and the Board of Education. The Council's monthly meetings highlight current district curricula, programs and projects.

Planning & Management Teams (PMT)

The Planning & Management Team (PMT) is a site-based team at each building. The team is composed of administrators, teachers, staff, community members, parents, and at the secondary level, students. PMTs work throughout the school year to address issues relevant to their particular building.

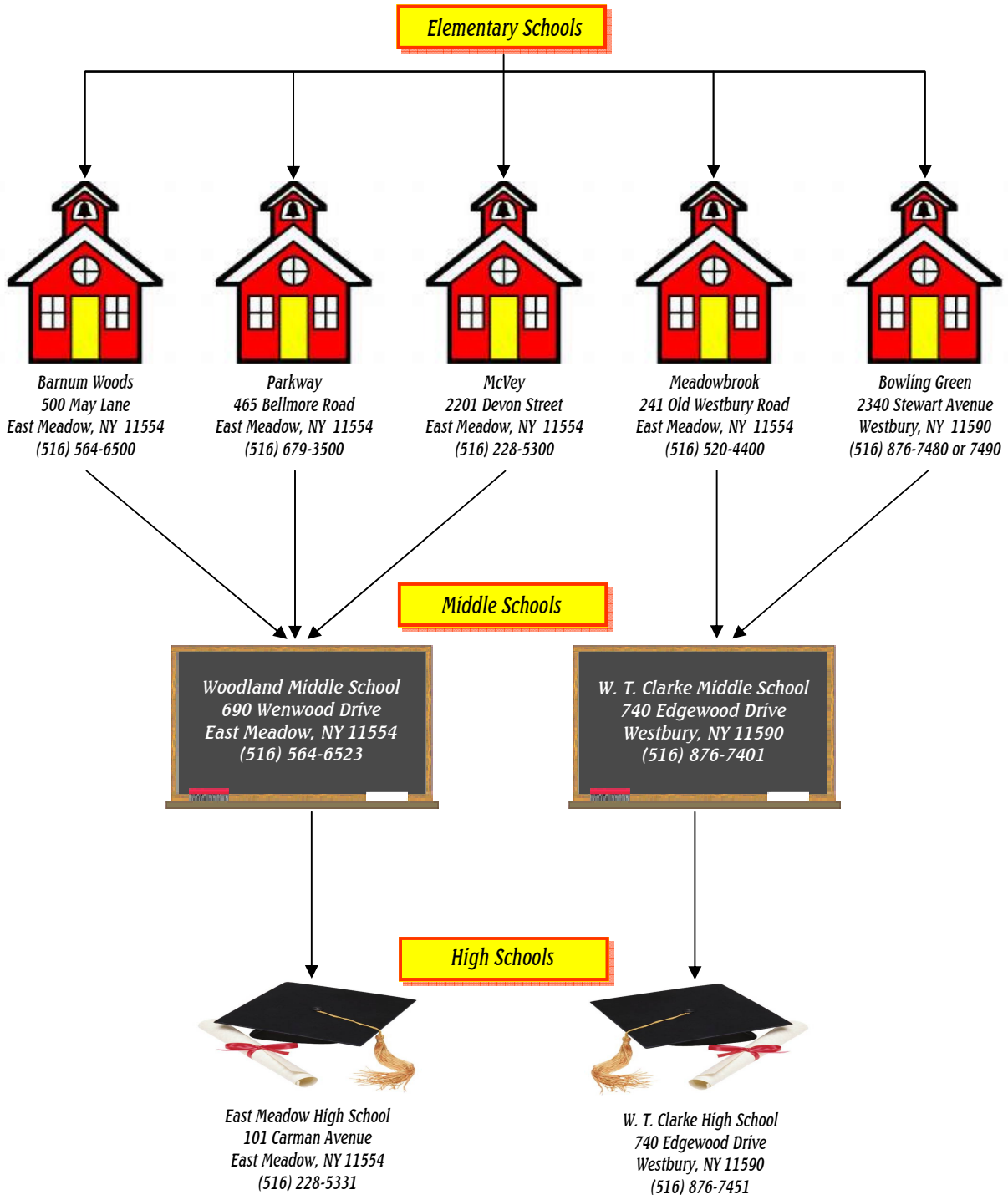


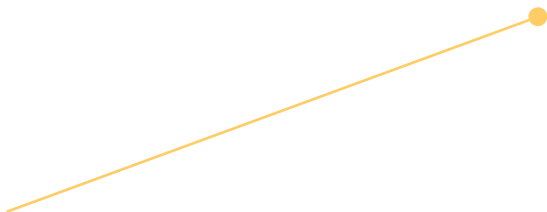
Special Education Resource Center and Library (SERCL)

This resource center and library provides information, resources and emotional support to our families, professionals and community members in all aspects of special education needs.



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