

# Babylon Union Free School District

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## Welcome Back!

August 2019

Dear Babylon Families:

On behalf of the Babylon educational community, I welcome you back to the 2019/2020 school year! The start of the new school year is just days away and we are very enthusiastic as to what opportunities the new school year will offer. Please take the time to note some very important information in this welcome letter pertaining to the opening of our schools this fall.

**The first day of school for all students will be Thursday, September 5, 2019.** Please be advised of school hours and information specific to each school, noted below. **I further encourage you to attend our various “Meet the Teacher” nights** to help you become acquainted with your child’s teachers and instructional routines. The dates and times for our “Meet the Teacher” nights are below, which can also be found in the school district calendar mailed to all residents as well as on the District website.

### **Babylon Elementary School, Grades K-2**

Principal: Mr. Travis Davey  
School Hours for Students: 8:25 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.  
“Meet the Teacher” Night: September 12, 2019.  
(Kindergarten & Grade 1 at 6:30 p.m./Grade 2 at 7:00 p.m.)

### **Babylon Memorial Grade School: Grades 3-6**

Principal: Mr. Steven Goldberg  
Assistant Principal: Ms. Lauren Fretto  
School Hours for Students: 8:20 a.m. – 2:35 p.m.  
“Meet the Teacher” Night: September 10, 2019  
(Grades 3 & 4 at 6:30 p.m./Grades 5 & 6 at 7:30 p.m.)

### **Babylon Junior/Senior High School: Grades 7-12**

Principal: Mr. Al Cirone  
Assistant Principal: Ms. Jennifer Mangone (on leave)  
Acting Assistant Principal: Mr. Keith Fasano  
School Hours for Students: 7:34 a.m. -2:30 p.m.  
“Meet the Teacher” Night: September 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.  
JSHS Parent/Teacher Conferences: Monday November 4, 2019  
(day & evening Parent/Teacher conference appointments on 11/4 will be available; scheduling information to follow in the mid-fall)

Together we begin the 2019/2020 school year with a continued opportunity to create another wonderful chapter in the history of our school district. While we have said our “goodbyes” to many cherished educators, we have spent the necessary time this summer hiring promising candidates who have joined our leadership and instructional teams.

Please give a warm welcome to the following newcomers to our Babylon instructional staff:

Babylon Junior-Senior High School:

Mrs. Kaitlyn Loos, Special Education Teacher  
Mr. Michael Sinclair, Physical Education Teacher  
Ms. Allison Waters, School Psychologist

Babylon Grade School:

Ms. Lauren Fretto, Assistant Principal  
Ms. Kara Bochicchio, Physical Education Teacher  
Mrs. Amy Malone, Elementary teacher  
Ms. Ashley Belmonte, Elementary Teacher  
Ms. Nicole Cupo, Special Education Teacher  
Ms. Samantha Czczotka, Special Education Teacher

Babylon Elementary School:

Mrs. Leova Manbhat, School Library Media Specialist  
Ms. Lindsay Carbone, ENL Teacher  
Ms. Megan Connolly, Leave Replacement

With the hiring of important members of the faculty and staff, we continue to prepare our campuses and classrooms for your child’s happy arrival on opening day. Specifically, the 2019/2020 school year will continue to champion impressive additions to our facilities and enhancements to our strong instructional, artistic and athletic programs. Here are some updates:

✓ District-Wide Technology

- The District has purchased all remaining 75” LED interactive TV’s for instruction and learning; every classroom throughout the district will be equipped with this new technological tool come September!

✓ Curriculum & Instruction

- The District is launching a new science curriculum in grades 3-6, an extension of the curriculum that aligns with the K-2 science curriculum we implemented last year. Both levels align with the NextGen Science Standards.
- A new hydroponics STEAM Center has been created at Babylon Junior-Senior High School. This will be a living laboratory that we anticipate will eventually serve as a STEAM center for all K-12 students to enjoy!
- The new year will also mark the 7<sup>th</sup> year partnering with Columbia University’s Teachers College Reading & Writing Project, as well as the 4<sup>th</sup> year partnering with “Project Lead the Way” through the Rochester Institute of Technology. Several engineering and computer science offerings within our PLTW pathways provide students an opportunity to earn college credit.
- This September also marks the fall expansion of FLES, K-6 instruction (Foreign Language in the Elementary School), with a focus on the Spanish language.

The District's Strategic Plan, titled "The Way Forward", is now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year of implementation. This document, by design, has the overarching goal of creating a set of long-range educational goals for our students, all designed to educate the "whole child" while embracing academic rigor, educational opportunities and enriched experiences for all children. The plan's priorities and anchor goals continue to drive all we do and all conversations we have. I look forward to sharing our past successes, the year's vision and long-term vision later in the fall. Please also join me during the four scheduled "Coffee with the Superintendent" day and evening sessions noted in the district calendar throughout the year.

Finally, with the start of a new academic year comes the time when we annually remember and commemorate **National Patriot Day on Wednesday, September 11, 2019**. It will be a day of remembrance as well as an opportunity to honor the brave men and women who continue to serve in our communities.

Please take the time to visit the District and individual school websites in order to stay connected! The District website can be accessed by going to [www.babylonufsd.com](http://www.babylonufsd.com). We are constantly working to make it even more interactive and informative. Additionally, we will update you often through our newsletters, social media, out-dials and text messages.

I further invite you to attend many of the student performances, District-sponsored and athletic events held throughout the year. Most importantly, please be involved! I welcome your thoughts and suggestions as to how the District can better serve your needs, and I encourage you to contact me through email at [lrozzi@babylonufsd.com](mailto:lrozzi@babylonufsd.com) or by phone at 631-893-7925.

Join me as we celebrate another school year together. I look forward to partnering with you as we continue to offer our students a terrific school experience grounded in strong academics, positive advocacy and meaningful collaboration. I extend only my best wishes for a spectacular 2019/2020 school year!

Very truly yours,

*Mrs. Linda J. Rozzi*

Superintendent of Schools

