

Levittown School District  
150 Abbey Lane  
Levittown, NY 11756  
(516) 434-7000

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# A Summer of Fun IN LEVITTOWN

Each year, a variety of fun programs are available to Levittown students during the summer. These enriching experiences are always excitedly anticipated by the students involved. The programs include:

## College Tour Camp

From June 24 to 26, Levittown Public Schools will be going on a Summer College Tour of colleges and universities in the New England Area. Students will get an opportunity to explore a variety of schools to help them narrow down what kind of campuses and size schools they like the best!

## Camp Invention

Camp Invention is the only nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment program that is inspired by the brightest thinkers around – the inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Open to all Levittown students entering third, fourth or fifth grade in the upcoming 2023-24 school year, students will engage in hands-on activities that promote engagement with STEM through the lenses of invention and entrepreneurship.



## Summer Scope Program

Levittown Public Schools and SCOPE Education Services unite every summer to offer exciting educational opportunities for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Hosted at Abbey Lane Elementary School are several classes that keep students' minds engaged throughout the summer. One week courses are designed for a variety of ages and cover many subjects, such as coding and robotics. Students can also explore their creativity through pottery, culinary arts and painting camps. A two-week Broadway and theater camp will also run this summer.



## STEM Camp

Middle school students will focus on their science, technology, engineering and math skills through highly engaging activities. Participants will be taught by certified Levittown Schools teachers as they work to create multiple projects over a two-week period. Students entering sixth, seventh or eighth grade in the upcoming 2023-24 school year can participate in hands-on activities that promote engagement as they work cooperatively to problem-solve.



## Adventures in Local History

Students in the Adventures in Local History summer program have enjoyed several trips to nearby historical sites, helping shed light on the significance of these important landmarks. Students have visited the Holocaust Museum and Tolerance Center, the Old Bethpage Restoration, the Smithtown Historical Society and Walt Whitman's birthplace, with a conclusion to the program at the Cradle of Aviation Museum. The week of trips enriched students' understanding of local Long Island history.

## Marine Biology Camp

Marine Biology Camp is a one-week program run by Nassau BOCES Outdoor and Environmental Education in which students can explore Long Island's north shore marine environment. Each day of the camp, students are bused to Caumsett State Park to participate in various marine biology experiences such as a salt marsh hike, fish dissection, horseshoe crab study, fishing trip and more!



Winter 2023

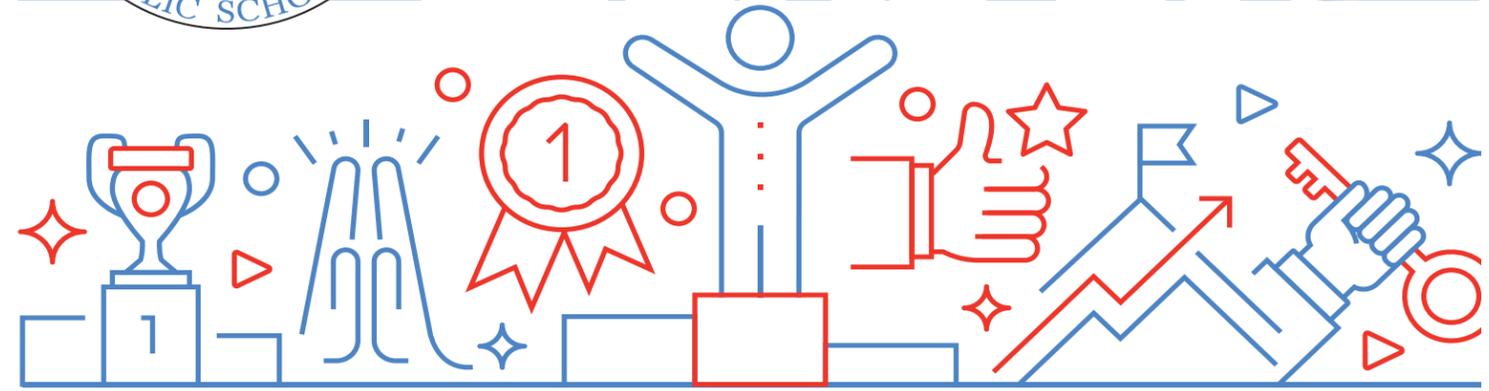
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# FUELING LEVITTOWN STUDENTS' Pursuit of Success

No matter the path they choose to travel, it is the goal of Levittown Public Schools to ensure our students are equipped with every tool they will need to reach success. Regardless of how niche their interest may be, there is an opportunity for every student's needs to be met.

There is no "right" way to succeed, however – success is different for each individual when it comes to the diverse interests found in all our 10 schools. While we always strive for the highest of academic accolades in each of our core subjects, a plethora of success can be found as we dig deeper into what is offered to students every day.

Through engaging courses that focus on a less-than-typical lesson plan, the chance for students to find their passion is nearly limitless. The life skills picked up in these courses go beyond the walls of the classroom and create

an educational environment that students can feel value in. These enriching elective classes welcome any student who wishes to participate and hone their skills in a particular subject.

Across all of the district's departments – from math to business and from music to technology – state-of-the-art courses are developed and offered to both prepare students for the modern world and fuel their growing academic interests. Not a single beat is missed in the daily drum of the Levittown student body.

The myriad electives offered at Division Avenue and General Douglas MacArthur high schools are, of course, paired with the courses through which our students often find success. Advanced Placement and dual-enrollment college credit bearing courses are often key in students'

transition into college and are found throughout every subject. Students are always encouraged and supported to go above and beyond to find success in these academic pursuits.

Clubs and sports, such as the often-successful Science Olympiad team at Division Avenue or the cheer teams at MacArthur, also extend students' time engaging with their interests and provide more avenues to shine in the spotlight.

Electives, however, are a unique opportunity to practice hidden skills not often thought about at school. Residential Structures, for example, a new course offered this year, teaches attendees how to properly care for a home, including its plumbing and electrical systems. This course covers many essential yet often untapped skillsets.

In Child Development, students gain basic knowledge

in the development of children from birth through early childhood. This class offers students an important glimpse at parenthood and is also a great experience for students who wish to pursue careers in early childhood education.

College Robotics is another exciting class that was first introduced as an elective this year. In this course, students will pick up college-level skills in designing, coding and operating various state-of-the-art robotics.

Because of these and many more versatile electives, students are equipped with skillsets that will be utilized throughout their entire lives. When a challenge comes their way, they will be prepared.

Continue reading for a deep dive into a sample of several courses offered at Division Avenue and MacArthur!



Winter 2023

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# Just a Taste... A SAMPLING OF OUR HS ELECTIVES

Courses available at Division Avenue High School and General Douglas MacArthur High School not only include those required for graduation, but also electives that may inform students' choice of study in college or career choice after graduation. All our high school students are encouraged to explore these and more wonderful opportunities!

## Child Development

Child Development provides students with practical experience in child development. The simulated experience runs from the prenatal period through preschool and focuses on the students' role as a family member. One of the highlights of this class is the RealCare Baby Simulation. Each student gets to experience the many responsibilities required of a caregiver of an infant. The RealCare Baby is computer programmed to follow the actual schedule of a newborn. Students are responsible for keeping the baby happy, understanding the full-time commitment of child care and the persistence needed through parenthood. This class is offered as a dual enrollment class through which students may receive three credits from LIU Post.



## Spin Class

Physical education programs at both Division and MacArthur began expanding their offerings about six years ago with Bootcamp, Competitive PE and Spin. These courses have grown in popularity over the years. Through three sections, roughly 35 MacArthur students participate in Spin class under the direction of Ms. Pagano, Mrs. Paprocky and Mrs. Vaiano. Each session, students enter the weight room with the spin bikes lined up ready for use. Class lessons include group rides, individual rides, a race for miles or a class led by video or one of the instructors. These students learn a life skill in a smaller group environment and can take this course as an alternative to the traditional physical education class. Options such as Spin class allow students of all ability levels to have a unique and positive high school physical education experience.



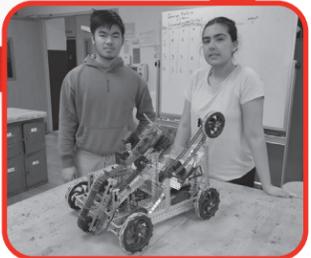
## Financial Literacy

The Financial Literacy course, open to juniors and seniors, is designed to alert, inform and educate students in concepts of personal finance and money management. Students begin to develop the skills and strategies that promote personal and financial responsibility related to financial planning, savings, investment and charitable giving in the global economy. They explore and investigate different careers and educational requirements and acquire the skills necessary to understand the use of credit and the incurrence of student debt, and understand basic principles of saving and investing. Students make real-world decisions while competing in the Stock Market Game to explore the world of finance and the fast-paced environment of Wall Street.



## College Robotics

College Robotics uses Vex Robotics to teach students about manufacturing robotics and programming. Students work in teams to design, build and program robots that can accomplish a number of tasks. Students learn to apply basic engineering principles and technical skills in developing and using industrial robotics. Through the design process, students develop problem-solving, decision-making and critical thinking skills. Students in College Robotics are encouraged to join the Robotics Club and participate in the Vex Robotics competitions.



## 21st-Century Leadership Skills

This is an exciting course in which students develop leadership, professional and business skills. They learn to foster a healthy self-concept and healthy relationships, and to understand the concept of personal responsibility and social media's impact on image. Students will develop an understanding of emotional intelligence and the skills it measures, which include self-awareness, self-control, self-motivation and social skills. Students also develop skills in public speaking and communications.

One of the highlights of the class is the "Handshake Lesson," in which students learn how to give a proper handshake, formally introduce themselves, make eye contact with one another and practice positive body language. The "Buddy Walkers Lesson" is an interactive activity that teaches students effective methods of leadership. The students are asked to discuss what they believe to be the most important characteristics that make someone a leader. The students then put those qualities into practice by leading their teams across a designated area. Following their walk, the students will assess the effectiveness of the characteristics and reassess their list.

## Residential Structures

Residential Structures is designed to provide an overview of basic home construction, repair and maintenance. Students will learn framing, electricity, plumbing, roofing and masonry while also learning to follow the appropriate safety protocols. The goal of this course is to give the student the necessary skills to work on a home, while also allowing students to see what vocational fields they may be interested in pursuing. In the "Corner Wall" lesson, students learn of important tasks that they might run into as future home owners, such as framing a wall using 2x4s, installing electrical boxes and cutting and hanging sheet rock.

## Photography

This course sets the foundation for students' skills in photography. It covers the fundamentals and techniques of black and white photography and the proper use of darkroom techniques associated with processing film and enlarging prints. Students use their own cameras or those provided to create art in photography form. Photography II and III are also offered to continue the development of those skills, as well as Digital Photography, which utilizes digital cameras to create professional-level work.

## Guitar

Bringing over their established musical skills from previous years of playing, students in the Guitar course build up a new skill with the stringed instrument. They gain a solid foundation of open chord shapes and transitioning between them using a pick. This is accomplished through a variety of rhythmic strumming patterns that are learned through playing popular songs from artists such as Bob Marley, Green Day, Los Lobos and The Beatles. Students also work with the guitar notation system known as tablature, the musical alphabet and how it relates to the guitar, and power chords. The year culminates with the introduction of fingerstyle guitar and the fingerpicking technique.

