

### STATE OF THE SCHOOL

2024
THESCHOOLHOUSE.ORG

# FROM MIMOSA JONES TUNNEY, FOUNDER & PRESIDENT OF THE SCHOOL HOUSE

Welcome to the State of the School published every January for our community. This year we celebrate 5 years of what we consider to be the best elementary school in America. We say that not only in what we see in the children who run through the Blue Doors every morning, but in our collective effort to keep at the very forefront of what learning should be for children from 3-12 years of age.

As many of you already know, these are the single most critical years in a human's life. Key components of a successful life — one that is full of happiness, productivity, a lifelong passion for learning, big thinking and creativity — start in early development stages. A child's relationship to nature, numbers, reading, peers, adults and their own self-esteem is formed during this time. As well as the ability to make choices, to figure out complex problems and to orate a point of view with grace and perseverance.

We are no longer a memorization economy or world. We are a world of innovators. And no matter a child's future — whether doctor, builder, snowboarding instructor or CEO — it is during childhood that brave, creative and kind men and women are constructed.

The American Emergent Curriculum is a four-lane comprehensive blueprint for school. Fulfilling children in academics, social and emotional health, real-world competency and good old-fashioned fun outside on campus, within their community and while with their families.

You will notice that Parent, Educator and Learner are always capitalized. These are the essential components of a well-rounded, successful partnership in education.

Thank you to the Master Educators and our 5th Year Legacy
Team both in the classroom and at Headquarters who have made
these notions a reality for all our Learners at The School House.
And thank you Ms. Meg — our Principal — who time and again
leads The School House with grace and her whole heart.

Warm Regards,





## THE CURRENT STATE OF LEARNING IN THE UNITED STATES

Since 1969, the National Assessment of Educational

**Progress** - a Congressionally mandated, non-partisan group - rigorously and independently rates private, public and parochial schools throughout the nation. It has been assessing schools across the United States in the form of the Nation's Report Card (NRC). This year marked new results from information gathered by the NRC in 2022.

NRC uses testing data to create its report — which is a single lane of evaluation of competency (imagine hiring a CEO based solely off a test score). However, since our national school system is a teach-to-the-test system, these numbers then accurately reflect how this system is working.

### Here is the data from Elementary and Middle Schools across the nation.

35% proficiency in Science.

A sample question: "What part of the plant helps it receive light?"

**35%** proficiency in Math:

4th grade level sample questions included asking what tool to use to measure a book in length or to identify 1%.

32% proficiency in Reading.

27% proficiency in Writing.

26% proficiency in Civics.

20% proficiency in Geography.

A sample question: "If a person wore light clothing they probably live at the Arctic Circle, South Pole or Equator?"

19% proficiency in History.

## At The School House, in the areas of History, Science, Geography, Civics and Writing, Learners nearly always show 100% proficiency.

At TSH each Spring, we also offer the Reading and Math ERB exam to our Elementary II Learners. We call them puzzles to eliminate anxiety and at no time do we teach to the test. Instead, we provide the best learning environment. The ERB allows Learners to strengthen their executive functioning skills by understanding how to take exams and data is used for the Educators in areas specific to the child. These numbers like those in traditional schools include children with IEPs.

In 2023, Over 70% of our 4th graders were proficient, if not above average, in Reading Comprehension.

And over 85% of our 4th graders were proficient, if not above average, in Math.



The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. ...Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education" -- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## In 2022, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Children's Hospital Association declared a national emergency in child and adolescent mental health.

- 23% of children 3-17 report a mental, emotional or behavioral problem.
- 37% of high schoolers reported pervasive sadness and hopelessness and 19% seriously considered suicide.
- The maximum percentage in screen addition was in the 13-25 age range and heavily slanted towards males.
- 87% of children have screen time exceeding the recommendations of the American Pediatric Academy, much of this due to the prevalence of Chromebooks in classrooms starting in kindergarten.

### There are next to <u>zero</u> behavioral problems at The School House.



"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." -- Aristotle

### An interesting statement from the NCAA regarding school sports:

"When it comes to recruiting, most college coaches, except for football coaches, focus most of their time attending club tournaments because these events allow them to evaluate significantly more athletes in one day. Not to mention, the talent level is generally higher than what they would see at a high school game."

### At The School House, Presidential Fitness in addition to Club Sports is encouraged.

#### And according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

From 2021 to 2023, 300,000 Educators have left their profession in traditional schools.

What reporters called a "mass exodus" in Education.



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Parents, Educators & Learners arrived for the first day of school to a surprise celebration of our 5th Year, with many more to come.

#### THE SCHOOL HOUSE

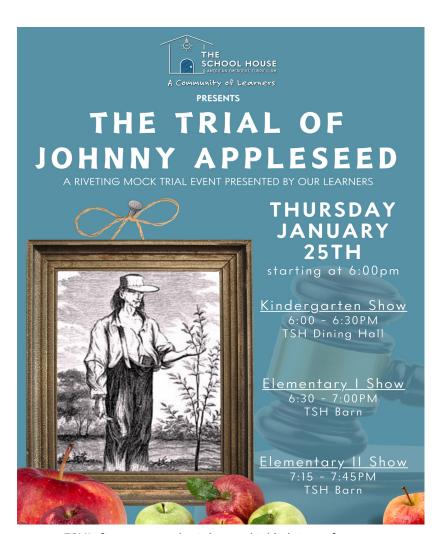
The above reflects our current state of schools across the nation. If you combine this knowledge with the well-known research of how paramount the first 12 years of life are to constructing a happy and healthy human being - along with the fact that 30% of a child's life is spent in school - you can piece together a very clear picture of our current system and how detrimental it has become to American society.

Yet, there is a way to change this. And it involves all of us, looking, understanding and crafting a new view of school.

Curated to take a deep look at how our view of school unfolds each year, here is what The School House believes Learning Environments throughout the nation should look like to rapidly improve the lives of children starting today. There is a reason why The School House runs a considerable waitlist each summer. Parents know that the best school for the child is one that is Learner-first.



Materials for a group lession on tectonic plates and the Earth's evolution since its creaton.



TSH's first-ever mock trial event highlighting a focus on Learning the Judicial System in Practice.

## THE LEARNERS: THE SCHOOL HOUSE ELEMENTARY

From September through December, Elementary Learners are introduced to the environment, the expectations of their roles as Team members and specific lessons in small groups. A dozen stories are shared during this time – from the Story of the Universe to the Story of Geometry, Story of the Early Americas to the History of Writing, Math and Humans. All these stories introduce learning in order to explain the "why" – especially important for children from 6-12 years of age.

Lessons and stories are followed by their choosing what difficult work will follow — whether that is writing a composition on the Iroquois, re-constructing and labeling a refracting telescope or calculating the volume of great water forms. Learners keep track of their accomplishments in their weekly workplan where they practice personal responsibility and meet with their Educator on a weekly basis to make sure they are achieving growth and completion.

All this work takes place between the uninterrupted work time of 8:30 to 11:00. This is critical. As Alexander Graham Bell once remarked – and many have since – the standard 45-minute work period for the human is "the worst idea known". Humans of course work best (and they accomplish more) when they can concentrate for longer periods of time – and this is especially true for children.

At 11 am Mastery Practice is delivered – a two-page traditional worksheet in Math Operations – a category of learning which requires repetition. Spelling is paired with a terrific program called *Words Their Way* which identifies spelling patterns that each individual child finds challenging – "ie" vs. "ei" or single or multiple consonants when adding "ing". Traditionally, a difficult program for Educators to use, *Words Their Way* is well worth the time commitment as rather than simply giving a child a "7 out of 10" on a spelling test, it prioritizes movement, sorting, order and as noted above, specific work for improvement of spelling.

At 11:30, Spanish – with a focus on conversational language – begins including in Primary. Learners have opportunities in the Spring to then practice language within the community, visiting local businesses to order their lunch and confer with Spanish-speaking men and women from many different countries.

Lunch and Recess are paramount at The School House. This hour is critical for moving the body, peer interaction, time in nature on our small farm, pick-up sports like football and soccer and soaking up their vitamin D in the sunshine. According to Dr. David Elkind who wrote *The Hurried Child*, "... children learn the reciprocal nature of contracts (relationships) and how to be on the giving as well as on the receiving end." It's clear that recess has a profound impact on childhood relations from the hundreds of others who have researched the topic.

An old-fashioned hand-rung bell brings them back inside The School House where they either enjoy workshops in music



Jeremy works on intense mapping with his Work Plan, data sets and research nearby.



"There is no greater education than one that is self-driven."
-- Neil deGrasse Tyson

history, chorus, sports of the world including Presidential Fitness, art and hands-on science like probability, botany and coding or a return to their classrooms for another 2-hour uninterrupted work cycle.

Lots of collaboration is necessary for children 6-12 because they are at the development stage for socialization. The elimination of desks or assigned seating allows them to readily work together forming skills in compromise, elevated learning and group dynamics.

It's important to note that although art is listed as a Workshop, this is for technique and art history purposes. Each classroom houses its own Atelier with dozens of mediums for Elementary Children to have access to what is in fact the most creative time of their lives.

The above daily compilation for Learners results in happy children, who are ready to learn anything and who are competent innovators. Learners relate to others with kindness, relate to new material with vigor and relate to the future ready to accomplish big tasks with wonder, an above-average skill set and a math/lanuguage proficiency as noted from our end of year ERB testing.

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P3 Learners during their work cycle, studying River Systems, Skip Counting to 1,000 and Geometry.

## THE LEARNERS: THE SCHOOL HOUSE PRIMARY

In Primary, for children 3-6 years of age, The School House and the American Emergent Curriculum focus on building critical skills which by the end of the day leaves them fulfilled, joyful and tired!

Movement, working the hands, concentration, number sense and building stories — children learn to write before they learn to read so alphabets that move can be placed on a rug and used to facilitate this need. Basic science concepts like hot air rises, gravity, how temperature affects matter, geometric snowflake observation under microscopes, planting and caring for seeds and plants, deeper botany work and anatomy are a big part of the day. Stories and lessons are smaller in Primary with a nod to the "what" instead of the "why" in older grades.

Primary Learners also spend their mornings learning about organization since they are in the development stage of order. Walking to retrieve work, taking it to a child-sized table, concentrating and then returning the work results in a significant change in children. This early responsibility gives them purpose and pride. By October we see that in each room of 24, children are walking, doing, constructing, creating, writing, calculating and producing work with a very rare need for discipline or re-direction.

Reading is encouraged in Primary by the environment which is why and how most children learn to read. Learning to read comes from being read-to, by watching your Parents

read (books not phones), by being surrounded by the printed word and by watching peers. A great disservice was done to children everywhere when the expectation of reading fluently by the end of kindergarten became a national error. This program was unsuccessful as legislators forgot that children don't develop at the will of grown-ups! Or if they do it comes at great cost later to them in their love of reading. Most children will be fluent readers by the end of 1st grade. And their future love of reading is determined not by forcing them to meet a deadline but by giving them a wonderous environment of words and stories.

Mathematics can only be successfully taught in Primary by using physical objects (children at this age do not yet access their reasoning mind)... and so the classrooms are full of them! Counting, grouping, early addition, subtraction and multiplication as well as tactile representations of algebraic equations gives the primary-aged child lots to work on in their mornings.

3's and 4's head home for naps at 11:30 and later 4's and Kindergarteners enjoy lunch, time in the garden and an afternoon filled with additional work time in music, art and Spanish.

Primary children are purposeful, calm and wide-eyed after spending time at TSH. They have directives, take pride in their accomplishments and have a sense of confidence, dignity and self-respect.



Children learn to write before they read. P2 Learners Christopher and Juni use an alphabet that moves to make sentences on Mystery History Day.



The Little House Learner Kaleb enjoys snow ice cream, fresh off the previous evening's snowfall.

#### THE LITTLE HOUSE TODDLERS

The Little House is home to our smallest Learners ages 18 months to 3 years of age.

The reality is that many Parents need to work and many others appreciate a program that is incorporating the very best care, learning and love toddlers require.

The Little House offers the best Educators in the field, providing pincer work, gross motor work, copious outdoor exploration, storytelling, food preparation, nap time, painting and creative work and smaller elements of the American Emergent Curriculum presented in thoughtful and bespoke ways.

Toddlers are busy here... and this captures the need for them to feel accomplished. The terrible 2s mostly occur when toddlers are bored and unable to express their need for movement.



### ALL CHILDREN AT THE SCHOOL HOUSE

All Children at The School House participate in four additional components of the *American Emergent Curriculum*.

It's important to note the interconnectivity of the American Emergent Curriculum. Life does not unfold in segments. Biology is related to history which is related to language and so every lesson does multiple jobs. A lesson about Austria will also engage the plants of the Alps in botany which will also contain lessons about famous Austrian poets in language and the mathematics of mountains. The AEC is also updated every year. Instead of using decades-old textbooks, the curriculum features the latest discoveries in archeology, biology, botany, paleontology, astronomy, physics and many other academic areas.

In doing this, ALL classrooms are enjoying the same cuttingedge, interdisciplinary material at the same time at different levels. This is an immensely successful way of educating from both the standpoint of the child first (friends in the Play Yard have conversations; older children present their advanced work on a subject to younger classrooms), but also from the view of Headquarters where the quality and effectiveness of the subjects can be observed.

Mixed Ages: All classrooms at TSH are mixed ages meaning that Learners 3-6 years of age are in Primary classrooms

together; 6–9-year-olds in Elementary I; and 9–12-year-olds in Elementary II. There are always many questions regarding this arrangement at first, but it is clear in observation (and from nearly 100 years of evidence) that this is the optimal way to group children. Little ones learn best from older children and receive clear mentors; older children get to practice their skills sets which allows them to master a lesson rather than just scratch the surface. In addition to the pride and confidence this instills. Kindergarteners always have access to 1st grade work, 3rd years to 4th grade work and 6th years to middle school work.

All Learners also participate in School Care where 5 children each day upkeep the chicken coup, weed/plant the garden or manage our off-season Food on Mars Grow Room, prepare for Farmstand (our weekly seed-to-market community sales



E2's Atelier, featuring Learner artwork based off their latest Universe and Stars study.

project), clean up, paint, raise the flag, do light carpentry and prepare food. Parents are always invited to join us on these days.

And Project-based Learning begins in late winter where all Learners either create a small business or product. Children learn to design, create, market and fund their ideas — taking out loans, crafting a budget, getting their idea out into the community and in May receiving net profits. Sometimes there are big profit-margins like when a group of 6-9-year-olds created Edible Bubbles; sometimes there is no profit like when Primary 3 created a series of recorded positive affirmations that are now featured when we put callers on hold at TSH and on QR codes around Huntington.



TSH alum John visits TSH and reads to P1 Learner Valerie.



Learners help our Organic Gardening Specialist Mr. Dylan install french drains to save their Farm Stand crops from flooding.

### EDUCATORS AT THE SCHOOL HOUSE

Educators started the 2023-24 School Year 10 days before school began with our Annual Summer Training.

This year, our focus was on Free of Judgement, Introspection, Vision and creating Epic moments. Taken together this represented FIVE – our fifth year at TSH.

We took time to look at our innate judgements swapping them for compassion; we practiced Introspection – the taking of time each day to breathe, take a walk and continue to truly SEE the child; we created Vision Boards for the year and for the Cycle 1 of the AEC which would include the Americas, the Judicial Branch, Innovative Science and literature and mathematics; and we continued our work from last year on creating EPIC moments so children remember lessons at their root – dressing as Archimedes while learning the History of Geometry, donning black Geneva robes while understanding the layout of a courtroom, unfurling a 200 ft black strip to understand the expanse of time and how briefly humans have inhabited the earth.

Educators are trained and work with many different methodologies for all are critical in developing the dynamic nature of the human mind and spirit. Master's degrees and NYS certification are the beginning but Master Educators must also be prolific in conducting successful Socratic Seminars, presenting math materials, setting up Ateliers and letting go of our "control" when facilitating Projects. Educators work hard to go deeper on complicated subjects like holding a Mock Trial with multiple roles for Parent Enrichment,

understanding bacteriology as a look into the future of medicine and presenting basic economics for growing minds.

But it is the love and spirit of the Educator Culture that is paramount to the success of The School House. Shunning an environment that is political or rife with gossip, Educators are committed to the ongoing promise of keeping the things that can easily corrode a school and take the focus off the child out of TSH.

There is a spirit of collaboration, of being heard, of celebration, of hard work and hallways full of kindness and



The 2023 - 2024 TSH Educator Team.



E2 Educator Ms. Olivia discusses Work of the River, River Parts and Rivers of the World.



E2 Educator Mr. John demonstrates units of measurement.

mastery that creates our hallmark environment. Headquarters (a new version of Admin) stands in service of Educators and looks for ways to support them and bring them together frequently. There is an ongoing connection with the Principal to elevate goals, walk through challenges and most of all collaborate.

In January, Educators return early for a one-day Training Session as we begin the second half of the year. This refresher in 2024 focused on Observation. Observing the child is one of three ways we assess Learners and taking thoughtful time during the school week to independently (without interruption) observe how children are working through difficult concepts is essential. After spending the morning working on observation techniques and journaling hands-on observations - as well as setting timelines for observations throughout the upcoming months - Educators were treated to a surprise.

Since productive observation is best done when an Educator is happy and fulfilled, The School House served up professional blow outs, massages, meditation sessions and cooking classes courtesy of one of our current families.

Educators have now six months to deep dive into the curriculum, PBL, Parent Enrichment, Farmstand, our 3rd Annual Invention Fair, executive functioning and the few state assessments we do in 4th through 6th grade.

#### THE PARENTS

First, we must thank the Parents who have been on this journey with us since we opened our doors. These are the early adopters who helped us build TSH. We always ask Parents to be fully educated on the American Emergent Curriculum for they are our partners in every way. Starting in September, Parents are invited to a Parent School Night where Parents participate in a shortened school day complete with lessons, assignments and stories. We follow that with an elegant gathering for our community — a Garden Party hosted by The Shed.

Each Thursday, throughout the Fall and Spring, Parents are invited to our TSH Farmstand from 9:30 to 11:30 am. This is an opportunity to gather for Southdown Coffee, watch Learners organize and sell their produce, baked goods and creations and buy merchandise.

In 2024-25 we will expand our Farmstand Program to include some Saturdays so that more working families can join us.

The mission of The School House is to serve Working Families – to retain the original spirit of public school but to move education forward into the 21st century. We do our best to keep tuition at the very minimum with the help of private funding and to fulfill requests for financial assistance. This puts The School House in a situation of needing to raise money each year from our community. Generous families, community donations, events and in 2024 the implementation



Learner Sienna building an archipelago in Primary.



An Iroquois Long House depicting early Native American life.



This year, all Learners and Educators celebrated Thanksgiving together in our beautiful garden, beginning a new tradition at The School House.

of The School House Anywhere program that gives access to the American Emergent Curriculum to Parents, Educators and Schools nationwide will help us keep our model school in Northport a place for American's finest Education.

The school year continues in January with our 5-month Parent Palooza open to TSH Parents and our larger community. In 2024 this includes *The Trial of Johnny Appleseed* and *The Psychology of the Child* – 3 weeks of evenings with Dr. Joanna Hulton the author of *Parent Fatigue Syndrome*. We continue in March with Math and Language nights presented by Learners, a Reggio Emilia art evening and a Mediterranean Cooking Class to make the cuisine accessible to children. These all take place at The Training House adjacent to the TSH.

Parents always have the opportunity to view their child's work privately through photos and weekly accomplishments via our Transparent Classroom. And our *Look Inside* Event, twice annually, allows us to open our doors to the community – Educators, grandparents, leaders in our area – to see what happens inside TSH.

Our successful JAM program – a program of outside specialists who teach on Friday afternoons when school has completed for the week and Educators attend our 2-hour Professional Development Team meeting – will continue serving working families and expand to feature Sewing and Drama Performance in addition to the highly popular Robotics, Fencing and Tae Kwon Do among others.

#### THE CAMPUS

The School House is comprised of a large central building and an adjacent gym and Training House – for ongoing Education training and Parent and Community Events.

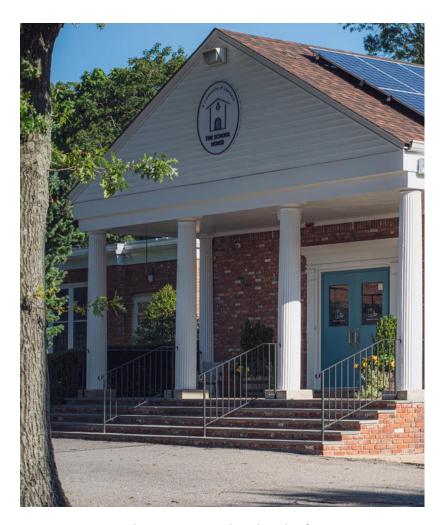
In the 2024-25 school year, TSH will open The Little House next to our central building on Vernon Valley Road. *This gives The Little House program and our toddler Learners access to our Farm and Garden as well as our Outdoor Classroom.* 

The Little House will welcome 20 Full Time Learners in 2024-25 and will serve as a model program for daycares everywhere.

Our Play Yard will expand to include a hand-crafted bridge in the Outdoor Classroom and challenging Hanging Bars for our older children.

The Gym will now occupy our Winter Basketball Program in addition to our spring and fall soccer programs on the outdoor field.

A beautiful pathway will be constructed to connect The Little House to The School House; and our Socratic Room — built so children can practice how to have thoughtful conversations in leadership roles – will be redesigned to reflect the elements of Socrates' teachings.



"Education is our only political safety.

Outside of this ark all is deluge."

-- Horace Mann

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#### THE ALUMNI

The School House Alumni have joined Green Vale School, Northport District Schools, Holy Child Academy, Oyster Bay District Schools, Harborfields District Schools, Cold Spring Harbor District Schools, East Woods Academy and Portledge Academy.

Transitions from 6th (a sensorial, creative mind) to 7th (when children become more cerebral) is part of the process when a Learner leaves elementary school for middle school. The rigor will become more pronounced because they are entering a new developmental stage. Giving our Learners the best possible tools to learn how to learn, think critically, practice and love inquiry is the key to being well-prepared for these transitions as a whole person not just an academic entity.

Each year, we survey Parents on the transition for their child and their engagement in their current schools. There is a misaligned tendency to think that because we focus on ALL the elements of childhood that there may be difficulty with transitions. Our research has shown just the opposite.

Children from TSH perform at the top of the classes, take leadership roles and because they've been in an exceptional environment choose friends wisely, are incredibly creative and handle the move towards copious homework and testing with learned skills of discipline, a passion for knowledge and often a sense of humor. *Organization, Leadership, Academic* 

Achievement and Socialization have been noted as the easiest aspects of their transitions.

We cultivate our Alumni even at 11 and 12 years old and hold events twice a year to keep these exceptional children in touch with one another for future collaboration.

In the summer, all Alumni are invited to our Alumni Surf in *Montauk*, where Learners get to work with some of the best surfers in the world to try it for the first time or perfect their skills. This daylong event will be capped this year with an evening bonfire.

In the winter, we gather Alumni for giving back — either working with Helping Hands of Huntington to assist with Thanksgiving or Christmas or in the case of this year where we'll build a children's library in a local laundromat.



A few of the TSH Summer 2023 Alumni surf squad in Montauk.

### THE SCHOOL HOUSE ANYWHERE

After the beta launch of The School House Anywhere and adjustments to our landing, portal and social components, TSH has set the date of March 1st 2024 for our nationwide launch. We were careful to include all groups that need and want to be a part of this re-creation of school including Parents who homeschool, Educators who have left teaching and Schools and Districts that are looking for a curriculum that serves the child in advanced ways.

Maxburst, Mighty Networks and a few of our top-notch Parents who work in marketing and production have helped us refine the product for launch. The addition of the former VP of Marketing from Nickelodeon and the Director of The School House Anywhere (who has opened her own School House in Vero Beach, Florida) have helped TSH take this program from an idea to one of the most beautiful, fluent and productive sites in Education

The School House Anywhere in its final form will feature nearly 300 instructional films by our Master Educators using the

best techniques to teach specific subject matter, the integrated and multi-disciplinarily American Emergent Curriculum, an



Education Social Network that spans the nation, Live Support, Webinars and many tools for Parents, Educators and Schools to expand their view of the child and to give Learners the best possible environment in the most crucial years.

Parents of TSH and TLH receive this program at no cost. It will be available nationwide for an annual fee and will run alongside our upcoming school year so schools can participate in real-time with TSH. Proceeds will go directly to the non-profit to help subsidize our child-first work at The School House and eventually help to begin lowering tuition at our model school in Northport. Additional funds will assist us with research in Pedagogical Science and assist communities who want to build their own School House — making it the only such program in the United States.



"Real education must ultimately be limited to one who INSISTS on knowing, the rest is mere sheep-herding." -- Ezra Pound

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#### FINANCIALS & DONATIONS

The School House and its parent the American Emergent Curriculum are non-profit 501©(3) entities. The Founder and President continues to donate to The School House and has never taken any compensation.

Our annual budget for 2024-25 is approximately \$2,800,000 and 88% of that goes to Educators and Learners with 12% going to Headquarters for daily operations. The average school in America spends nearly 60% of district budgets on Administration.

At our current tuition we'll raise only \$2,300,000 to cover the budget leaving us with a considerable shortfall of approximately \$500,000.

We rely on all of you receiving the State of the School to generously supply the additional capital we need to cover costs. Please scan the QR code below and consider donating whatever is possible now.



We are grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their generous donations for the current school year. You've helped tremendously.

A special appreciation goes out to The Haugland Family

for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 TSH School Year. The generosity of this Family allowed us to build The Training House, open The Little House, close the gap and fund the the the thick the training the training that the training the training that the training training the training traini

The Tunney Family \$150.000

Clark Gillies Foundation \$50.000

Sean and Deborah Brady The Roth Family \$10,000

> Dr. Marc Henry \$5000

The Tendler Family \$4000

The DeSimone Family \$3000

The Buzzetta Family \$2600

The Giannone Family
The DeSimone Family
The Long Family
\$2500

The Fliedner Family
The Batra Family
The Shack Family
The Morris Family
The Little Family
The Botau Family
\$1,000

The Ducharme Family
The Graceful Body
The Cavanaugh Family
\$500

The Neubauer Family \$400

Savitha Pal
Cataryna Ubertini-Pitts
The Issac Family
The Conte Family
The Federico Family
\$250

Dr. Emmanuil Diamantakis
The Amoruso Family
\$200

The Kirsner Family \$100

The Davino Family \$50



Councilman Sal Ferro, Peter Leonard, Pam Gillies, John Tunney,
Mimosa Jones Tunney & Paul and Kristi Paternoster present a \$50,000
on behalf of the Clark Gillies Foundation to support our mission
- a proud moment in our 5th year!

During our Winter Raise, we'd like to offer a big thank you to our Parent community who collected just over \$30,000 and we're thrilled to be hosting our Annual Event Cocktails & Comedy at the Huntington Crescent Club on May 10, 2024 to further offset our fundraising needs.

Although we would like nothing more than to lower the cost of tuition and open our doors to more wonderful families, this needs to be balanced with the fact that there is still more for us to do to cover our annual budget and to reach our ultimate goal: Change Education by continually operating the best Elementary School in the United States. We undoubtedly have already become that School, but more needs to occur inside these walls so that the change continues seamlessly and so that we are able to offer a multitude of resources to every Learner that is with us.

After many years of relying on The Tunney Family as well as more recently The Haugland Family to close the gap, we will be raising tuition for the 2024-25 school year to continue to have the most exceptional Educators, offer programs to our Learners including visiting scientists and deeper programs that enhance the curriculum and create professional development and ongoing training for our Master Educators. Even with the increase we will still be \$20K lower than the average Independent School on Long Island while offering the single best education possible.

Donations for a private fund will be set up to help families who qualify for assistance so no Learners are turned away from our Blue Doors.

#### THE FUTURE

We study learning and education incessantly.

Nearly 12 years of collaborations with Educators including data and methodologies from over 500 pedagogical books and publications were used to write the American Emergent Curriculum (AEC). The AEC is updated each year to account for the tremendous advancements in the world that children need to be aware of when they are learning.

The School House has built the new American school. And a well-accomplished future would be that this model and curriculum is used throughout the nation, reaching children in every town. Our hope is to share our findings, curriculum, training and results with Parents and Educators everywhere to have a collective and noteworthy impact on humanity.

For our current Learners, we strive to see you as the extraordinary children you are each day. We see your drive, your passion, your abilities in all areas of growth, your confidence, self-esteem, take-charge attitude, keen ability to figure things out, advocate for yourself and most of all the stuff that will take you to places we can barely imagine.

You are a powerhouse of children unlike the country has ever witnessed. And in 10 years, the The School House will display your photos throughout our halls as the changemakers, the doers, the leaders and the kind, considerate people the world needs more of every day.



Learners Iggy, Lily, Bria and Michael have the best day ever during the TSH Fall Festival.



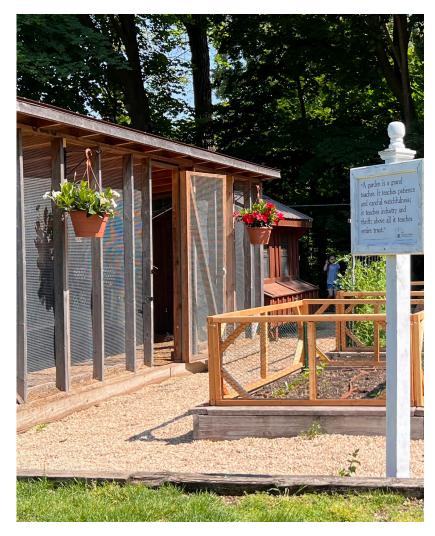
E1 Learners Bradley, Gracie, Gianna, Emmett and Vienna work on sentence analysis, an activity that fosters the creation of more detailed and elaborate sentences.



Learner Ashton, along with other THS Learners and Parents, participate in Sandwich Club in partnership with The Helping Hands Organization to provide local families with meals during the winter months.



Learner Rafael spoons lentils from one bowl to another. This spooning work strengthens the pincer grip and hand for simultaneously learning to properly hold a pencil.



Learners care for chickens, collect eggs and grow fruits, vegetables and flowers that are sold at the TSH Farmstand each Thursday to better understand the seed-to-market process.



Learners Julian, Liora and Bellavanni work in the Food on Mars Grow Room. Here the children learn to grow food using only artificial light and mineralized water. Later in 2024, they will also handle the coding to keep the operation running.



"All children start their school careers with sparkling imaginations, fertile minds, and a willingness to take risks with what they think."

-- Sir Ken Robinson

# be kind.

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