



January 23, 2023

Dear Rye Neck Families,

January Staff

Our New Year's staff spotlight features four members of our Rye Neck team. Since the first month of the year is special, I thought we would include members of the special services department from around the district:

- [Jen McCue](#), Daniel Warren
- [Vanessa DioGuardi](#), F.E. Bellows
- [Chris Macli](#), Middle School
- [Dana Prem](#), High School

D.A.R.E.

Rye Neck's partnership with the Village of Mamaroneck Police Department continues. Our 2023 DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program began today with our 6th grade. Officer Christine Belisto-Maikish returns to Rye Neck Middle School to work with 6th graders during their regularly scheduled Character Education classes, once per six-day cycle.

We operate our DARE program during the Character Education class because they are complimentary. Although the original DARE program from the 1980s really focused on drug prevention, it currently includes instruction on decision making, particularly in the areas of responsibility and confidence, peer pressure, and bullying. An added benefit of this program is that the presence of Officer Belisito-Maikish helps build relationships between the police department and our students and community.

Best regards,

Dr. Eric Lutinski
Superintendent of Schools