



Smithtown Central School District
Smithtown High School East
10 School Street, St. James, NY 11780

Robert J. Rose
Principal
(631) 382-2700

Mark Secaur, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

April 18, 2023.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are thrilled to share with you that there will be a four-legged, furry friend joining our Smithtown High School East community! His name is Ralphy and he is a certified therapy dog with Therapy Dogs of Long Island. We are proud to offer our students, faculty and staff this wonderful experience. Ralphy will be providing social-emotional support once a week on Thursdays at school. He will be available in the counseling center. Plus, dogs are fun and exciting to be around and promote positivity! Our school initiative is "Relaxation with Ralphy".

Spending time with a therapy dog leads to more benefits than you may realize. Therapy dog organizations have reported that these very special pups can boost self-esteem, reduce anxiety and stress, uplift one's mood, enhance social interactions, have a calming effect on their humans and give unconditional love.

If you would like further information regarding the Therapy Dogs of Long Island organization, we have included their website for your convenience. <https://therapydogsl.org/>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding "Relaxation with Ralphy", feel free to contact Mrs. Robin Warren, School Psychologist at 631-382-2728.

We hope that you are as excited as we are about Ralphy joining the Smithtown High School East family!

Sincerely,

Robin Warren, M.S.
School Psychologist

